

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 90001675

Date Listed: 11/15/90

Pikes Peak State Park
Property Name

Dickinson
County

IA
State

CCC Properties in Iowa State Parks MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Beth Boland
Signature of the Keeper

11/15/90
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

NOTE: This property is not part of a discontinuous district.

Item #1, Name: The correct name of this property is Pikes Point State Park Shelter and Steps.

Item #8, Significance: Architecture is an area of significance.

References to this property are found in Section 7, pp. 1-2, 4, and 7; Section 8, pp. 2-4, 10, 12; and Section 10: pp. 1-3.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

1675

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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Pikes Peak State Park
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number STH 9 and STH 71 not for publication N/A
city, town Spirit Lake vicinity
state Iowa code IA county Dickenson code 059 zip code 51360

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

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

Category of Property

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
CCC Properties in Iowa State Parks; 1933-42

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

[Signature] 9/17/90
Signature of certifying official Date
State Historical Society of Iowa
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

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

Both Boland

11/15/90

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

LANDSCAPE/park

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

LANDSCAPE/park

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)OTHER: Rustic Architecture

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls Limestone

roof ASPHALT

other Log

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
SOCIAL HISTORY
CONSERVATION
RECREATION

Period of Significance

1933-35

Significant Dates

1933

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Central Design Office, Ames

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

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2. Addresses

State Park	County	County Code
Gull Point State Park Route 2, STH 86 Milford, Iowa 51351 (in Wahpeton)	Dickenson	059
Wanata State Park CTH M27 and STH10 Peterson, Iowa 51047 (in vicinity of Peterson)	Clay	041
Tappers Bay State Park Route M32 Lake Park, Iowa 51347 (in vicinity of Lake Park)	Dickenson	059
Pikes Peak State Park STH 9 and STH 71 Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360 (in vicinity of Spirit Lake)	Dickenson	059
Pillsbury Point State Park STH 71 Arnolds Park, Iowa 51331 (in Arnolds Park)	Dickenson	059

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Table 1
Contributing/Noncontributing Properties
in the Northern Iowa Lakes State Parks

No.	Common Name	Property Subtype	Contributing/ Noncontributing	Category
Gull Point State Park: 3.87 Acres				
Area A: Bathing Area: 2.46 Acres				
GUL5	lodge	refectories & con- cessions	contributing	1 building
GUL6	boathouse	boathouses	contributing	1 building
Area B: Custodial Group: 1.41 Acres				
GUL2	residence	custodian's & staff residence	contributing	1 building
GUL1	service building	equipment & main- tenance building	contributing	1 building
-	storage shed	post-CCC building	noncontributing	1 building
-	fence	post-CCC structure	noncontributing	1 structure
GUL4	portals	entranceway & che- cking stations	contributing	1 structure
Pikes Peak State Park: .37 Acres				
GUL18	picnic shelter	picnic & kitchen shelters	contributing	1 building
GUL19	stone steps	trail steps & trails	contributing	1 structure
Trappers' Bay State Park: .18 Acres				
GUL22	picnic shelter	picnic & kitchen shelter	contributing	1 building
Wanata State Park: .19 Acres				
GUL24	picnic shelter	picnic & kitchen shelter	contributing	1 building

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Pillsbury Point State Park: 1.83 Acres

GUL21 overlook	trailside seats, contributing	1 structure
	shelters & overlooks	
- metal bench	post-CCC structure noncontributing	1 structure
Total		13 structures

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7. Description

Materials:

Roof: Shingles

Statement of Description

The Northern Iowa Lakes State Park Districts focus upon CCC buildings and structures erected in five state parks including Gull Point State Park, Milford, Wanata State Park, Peterson, Trappers Bay State Park, Lake Park, Pikes Point State Park, Spirit Lake, and Pillsbury Point State Park, Arnolds Park. These parks were all constructed by CCC company 778 encamped first at Spencer and then at Milford. They occur in the Iowa Great Lakes area in the north central park of the state. All are small parks ranging between 6.48 and 181.43 acres in 1942 and located adjacent to or in and closely associated with municipalities. Like municipal parks, they tended to serve a limited number of recreational functions, a combination of picnicking and hiking and less frequently camping. Gull point also offered bathing and boating. Four of the parks lay directly adjacent to the lakes. The larger three are wooded parks while the other three are composed of lawns. Terrain ranges from relatively flat lake-side lands to rolling hills with ravines. Thus, the parks share similar developmental backgrounds and periods of construction locations, and functions.

Because the focus in this discontinuous district is primarily the built environment as examples of resource subtypes, properties tend to lie in areas denoting single buildings and structures except for Gull Point. With this emphasis, landscaping is less central to the district than other parks developed by the CCC with the exception of Pillsbury Point. The ten contributing resources include the portal, service building, custodian's residence, lodge or refectory, boathouse, picnic shelter, and overlook. With such a focus, boundary lines are drawn tightly around each area in the district.

The contributing buildings and structures follow the guidelines of the mature rustic style as it developed during the CCC period in general shaping, floor plan, materials, decorative elements, functions, property subtypes, and setting. CCC Company 778 arrived at Spencer to work at scattered parks across north central Iowa on June 1, 1933. It moved to camp SP9 at Milford on October 23, 1933 and remained through the fifth period which ended September 30,

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1935 (Alleger and Alleger ca. 1935: 41-42; U.S. NPS, Project Supervisor 1933-47 [3/35, box 76]). These resources belong to the property type CCC Resources in Iowa Parks which are presented in section F. Resources are described by park.

Gull Point State Park lies on the west shore of Lake Okoboji in Wahpeton. A wooded park of gently rolling terrain, it contained 77.80 acres in 1942 (Iowa State Conservation Commission 1935-42 [1942: 127-28]). Located along the lake, area A contains the lodge (GUL5) (refectories and concessions, IIB) and boathouse (boathouse, IIF). At the west entrance, area B includes the custodian's residence (GUL2) (custodian and staff residence, IE), service building (equipment and maintenance building, IF), and west entrance portals (entranceway and checking stations, IA). These groups of buildings and structures are surrounded by lawns and in area A lie adjacent to the lake.

The lodge (GUL5) in area A overlooks Lake Okoboji from the rear of the building with its entrance to the west facing a circular park drive. It is an irregularly shaped, low, rambling, massive random rubble sandstone building standing on a concrete foundation. It stretches 150 feet in length and measures 80 feet at its greatest width. The main section containing the dining and meeting room is ell-shaped. The rectangular wing to the north contains the kitchen. Separated from the main room by the long entry hall with the main entrance at the west end, the south wing is angled to the west and includes four smaller rooms, the men's and women's restrooms, a coat room, and a lounge or women's powder room. Basements for storage and the furnace occur below the kitchen and the south end of the building. Asphalt shingles cover the intersecting gable roof which is supported by timber framing. The irregularly spaced windows include eight hopper windows in the restrooms and 51 casement windows in the remainder of the building. Double and triple windows and bands of windows add to the building's horizontal thrust. Wood lintels occur above most of the windows. An exterior chimney dominates the center of its front while the other chimney is placed between the kitchen and main room. Additionally, a three-sided bay covered by a pyramid roof in the main room overlooks the lake. A relatively ornate CCC building, the bay displays exposed timber purlins, log buttressing, and floor length windows outlined by several half-logs on each side. Exposed rafters and purlins appear under the broad overhang. Segmental window and door lintels accent important openings. The roof extends over two porches along the rear of the lodge and is supported by vertical timbers with bracing. The porches are

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partially closed with stone walls on their east side. Rough, knotty pine paneling covers the interior walls. The timber roof supports are visible under the roof. Wrought iron light fixtures and furniture fashioned by the CCC remain. Alterations include the asphalt roof and some interior remodeling in the restrooms.

The boathouse (GUL6) is located adjacent to the lodge on its north side just south of a park boundary. Despite its tower, the boathouse has a low, massive appearance created by the use of large split sandstone boulders in fabrication and its general portions. The rectangular building with hexagonal, tower on its northeast corner stands on a concrete footing. Each side of the tower measures 9 feet and the main portion of the building is 28.5 by 25 feet. Asphalt shingles cover the gable and six-sided roofs. Twelve light casement and six light awning windows pierce the building. A wood paneling with a herring-bone motif remains between the glassed doors and 12 light casement windows on the east side. While the first floor of the tower is enclosed, the second is open above the waist-high wall. Wood stairs ascend to the second floor of the tower along the north wall. Peeled timbers partially exposed at their ends under a broad overhang support the main roof. A timber framework with timber bracing placed on stone extensions from the upper wall of the tower hold its roof. When the function of the boathouse altered to the lake patrol headquarters in 1987, the interior was remodeled. Alterations in the building in addition to asphalt shingling and the interior remodeling include the replacement of the side-hinged, wood doors with a set of glassed entry doors and a double casement window. The window panes have been replaced, and the window on the south end has also been shortened the addition of stonework.

In area B, four entrance portals (GUL4) mark the west entrance to the park at the intersection of the park road with STH 86. At the mouth of the entrance, the road splits to form a grassy triangle with the main road. One set of portals flanks either side of the park road at both ends of the triangle. All four are composed of split sandstone boulders. The set to the east at the base of the triangle consist of a main rectangular pillar which descends and curves to the east. The portals at the apex of the triangle are composed of a squarish pillar with a shorter buttress projecting at right angles to the pillar. Overall, the west portals measures 11 by 4 feet each while the east pillar are 11 by 8 feet each. The 12 foot high by 14 foot long log gates are no longer present and were being rebuilt during the summer of 1989.

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The custodian's residence (GUL2) stands northeast of the entrance portals and northwest of the service building (GUL1). Several recent service buildings lie beyond the district boundaries to the east of the dwelling. Facing west, the one story, 47.5 by 36.5 foot dwelling is approximately ell-shaped. Standing over a basement with a poured concrete foundation, the residence is composed of random rubble and covered with an intersecting gable roof shingled with asphalt. Primarily double hung windows with 4/4 lights are placed singly and in groups of two and three thus adding to the horizontal extent of the dwelling. The two front windows which flank the end chimney are finished with segmental arches. Purlins and rafters are exposed. The front entrance opens out onto a small stone patio. An entry porch with stone side walls occurs on the south side of the house. Remodeling of the interior includes the covering the pine panelling with more recent paneling and the removal of some interior partitions.

The service building (GUL1) is located south of the custodian's dwelling. A recent, small frame shed and chain link fence stand adjacent to the rear or west side and the north side of the building. Standing on a poured concrete footing, the single story, rectangular, random rubble building measures 22 by 34 feet. Asphalt shingle covers roof supported by timbers exposed both on the exterior and interior. Two double hung windows with 1/1 lights and three casement windows with 4 lights pierce the wall. A segmental arch extends over the double window on the south side. Two wood overhead garage doors close the front facade at the north end. The broad overhang of the eaves and verge partially protect exposed purlins and rafters. The interior is divided into a two stall garage on the north end and an office at the south end, and it remains unfinished. The exterior remains intact except for the replacement of the shingle roof and the side-hinged garage doors, and the covering of one rear window from the interior. The north office partition has been added to the interior.

Pikes Point State Park lies just south of Spirit Lake on a point of land projecting into West Okoboji Lake. The picnic shelter (GUL18) is built at the base of the slope down to the lake. The rear or west wall and stepped end walls are composed of random rubble stone. The gathered stone is at least partly limestone. Four rounded timber posts with bracing hold the timber roof supports and shed roof which is covered with asphalt shingle. Log bracing occurs along the rear or west wall. Purlins and rafters are exposed. On the interior are a fireplace with a segmental opening and two stone benches flanking it. A seven foot overhang braced

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with timber extends from the rear of the shelter over a stone patio. An exterior fireplace occurs in the center of this wall. It is flanked by two stone benches which run the length of the shelter. The patio extends from the shelter into the hillside ending in a curved stone bench. Both the seat and back of the bench are composed of faced, random rubble. At the southwest corner is inscribed "ECW/SP9/1934." A set of 29 stone steps (GUL19) ascend 25 feet up the hillside just south of the shelter. The four foot wide, cemented random rubble forms fairly regular steps generally placed in picnic areas. Several railroad ties have been added to the south side of the steps. The few modifications at Pikes Point include the replacement of wood with asphalt shingles on the roof, the addition of the poured concrete over the stone floor, and the placement of ties adjacent to the steps.

Trapper's Bay State Park is located along the north shore of Silver Lake adjacent to Lake Park. The picnic shelter lies on a small point of land along the lake. Random rubble stone composes the rear and two end walls. Rounded timber posts with bracing support the timber roof framing along the front. Wood shingling covers the roof and weatherboard closes the gable ends. Exposed purlins extend out under the overhang of the roof. Openings covered by wood shutters pierce the end and rear. The large stone chimney stands in the center of the rear wall. The fireplace has a segmental opening placed under several timbers carrying a mantle of dimension lumber. Modifications include the addition of a concrete floor and probably the replacement of the mantle.

Wanata State Park lies on the extreme south edge of the lakes district just south of Peterson along the bottomlands of the Little Sioux River. The shelter sits along the slope of a hill facing the river. Random rubble stone, primarily limestone, composes the rear and end walls and the lower portion of the front wall. Four stone pillars placed along the front wall support the front of the gable roof which is covered with asphalt shingle. Four vertical timbers with bracing support the overhang of the front eaves and rest on stone buttresses placed just in front of the pillars. A door and window opening with squared timber lintels pierce each end wall. The broad overhang protects exposed rafters and purlins. Two random rubble retaining walls flank each side of the shelter. A chimney is placed on the center of the rear wall. The interior fireplace has a segmental opening. The floor is composed of cemented stone. A small stone basement occurs under the shelter in the northwest corner. Modifications are limited to the replacement of wood with asphalt shingles.

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Pillsbury Point Park is located within the city limits of Arnolds Park on West Okoboji Lake. The narrow park extends along a point of land adjacent to private summer houses. Five stone benches and two steps landscape the end of the point which is primarily planted in cut grasses. A three-sided bench occurs along the shore at the base of the point. Possessing a back and seat of random rubble, it forms a U along the slope and has a center section of 13 feet and two wings of 10 feet. Two steps flanked on either side by two benches are placed on the top of the bank well above the first bench. Both the base and back of the benches are composed of random rubble set in concrete. The four benches above measure between 10 and 11 feet long by 6.3 to 8.3 feet high. The 5 by 13 foot long steps are built of random rubble set in concrete. The steps rise at a regular height and lack side walls. Intrusions into this area include one post-CCC metal park bench adjacent to the steps.

Focusing upon individual or several properties rather than landscapes, the district contains few modern intrusions. Mainly deterioration in part perhaps caused by the original construction techniques and modifications demanded for modern use of the park have caused alteration within the district. Intrusions include a shed and fence adjacent to the service building (GUL1) at Gull Point and the metal bench at Pillsbury Point. Modifications include the replacement of wood with asphalt shingles on roofs and the covering or replacement of stone floor in shelter with concrete except at Wanata State Park. The lodge at Gull Point (GUL5) has undergone limited interior remodeling in the restrooms. Removal of garage doors and replacement of windows and extensive interior remodeling have occurred at the Gull Point boathouse (GUL6). The wood entrance gates at Gull Point's portal (GUL4) are missing. The residence (GUL2) has undergone interior remodeling, and the adjacent service building has received new garage doors and a new partition.

Some deterioration has occurred in many of these resources. However, CCC properties must be viewed as semi-permanent park resources built by essentially unskilled labor under the supervision of trained architects, landscape architects, and craftsmen, primarily locally experienced men. They are also often open to the effects of weathering which promotes deterioration. And, the resources were erected to serve a public with needs differing from current park patrons. Modification derive from these sources. Because the district emphasizes major building elements rather than landscaping, minor intrusions into the setting

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become less important. In general, the integrity of exterior elements is relatively high. However, the need to modify function to retain properties has caused interior changes. A reasonable integrity of workmanship and exterior design and integrity of location maintains association of the resources with their CCC origins.

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8. Statement of Significance

The CCC resources within the five parks of the Northern Iowa Lakes State Park District gain historical significance under criterion A in association with the context Civilian Conservation Corps Properties in Iowa State Parks: 1933-1942 and the property type: CCC Properties in Iowa Parks. The district represents the theme through the areas of CONSERVATION, RECREATION, SOCIAL HISTORY, and POLITICS/GOVERNMENT. The CCC was a national level government program carried out through the state within its parks. It sought to provide recreational opportunities for local communities and conserve the parks' landscapes by utilizing unemployed youths in make-work projects, a move toward social welfare at the national level. Additionally, the resources in the Northern Iowa Lakes State Park District acquire significance under criterion C in the area of ARCHITECTURE as an example of rustic architecture. The buildings, structures, and objects reflect the effort of this landscape movement to blend park amenities into the natural landscape in their material, design, workmanship, and immediate setting and reflect common types developed by the National Park Service for park construction. Thus, the conservation and naturalistic perspective of the CCC relates well to the architecture which it erected in parks such as these. Because the park amenities within this district were constructed for the enjoyment of local communities as well as their tourists and with the exception of the lodge at Gull Point (GUL5) do not contain single examples of exceptionally well preserved, scarce cultural resources or outstanding examples of Iowa state park rustic architecture, the resources of the district gain significance at the local level. The period of significance extends from the commencement of CCC work in the park in 1933 to its close in 1935 (Alleger and Alleger ca. 1935: 41-42; U.S. NPS, Project Supervisor 1933-37 [3/35, box 76]).

Background

CCC Company 778 established a camp in the Northern Iowa Lakes area at Spencer in June 1, 1933. Beginning as a Forest Service camp, the company worked on both park and private soil conservation projects within a 50 mile radius of Spencer. During the second period, they worked at Mini Wakan, Pillsbury Point, Rush Lake, Medium Lake, Silver Lake at or near Trapper's Bay, and Lost Island Lake principally on soil erosion or landscaping projects. They moved to the Milford camp SP9 on October 23, 1933. At this time,

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they transferred to the National Park Service. The camp continued to work on multiple projects at widely scattered locations including such parks as Cheever's Lake, Dewey Lake, Fort Defiance, Four Mile Lake, Gull Point, Lost Island, Mini Wakan, Okamanpedan, Orleans Hatchery, Petersen Preserve or Wakan, Pikes Point, Pillsbury Point, Silver Lake, and Rush Lake. Company 778 remained at Milford through period 5 ending their stay on September 30, 1935 (Iowa Department of Agriculture 1935-36 [1935: 30, 206]; U.S. NPS, District Office 1933-37 [11/27/33, 12/2/33, 1/2/34, 3/17/34, 9/30/35, box 2]); Alleger and Alleger ca. 1935: 41-42).

A map of northern Iowa identifies it as the Iowa Lakes region and associates it with the Lake Okoboji CCC camp Company 778 (Iowa State Conservation Commission 1933-42b [map, n.d.]). The Iowa State Conservation Board accepted a donation of \$5000 from local citizens to acquire a tract of land at Gull Point on October 13 to 14, 1933. Counties in the area subscribed \$500 to \$1500 toward the land, and private donations were also accepted. The board pledged \$6000 and purchased the property from numerous owners primarily in 1934. During at least the fourth period, local citizens assisted with some of the CCC building projects in Gull Point and the other lake district parks. These parks also attracted numerous visitors during this period (U.S. NPS, Project Supervisor 1933-47 [3/35, box 76]; Iowa State Conservation Commission 1917-73 [minutes, 10/13-14/1933]; THE NEWS 1933 [10/21, Estherville]; SIOUX CITY JOURNAL 1935 [9/8]). By 1936, the custodian at Gull Point had taken Mini Wakan, Pillsbury Pint, Pike's Point, and Tapper's Bay state parks under his charge (REPORTER 1936 [6/25, Spencer]).

The CCC work at Gull Point was concentrated primarily in 1934 and 1935. The lodge (GUL5) was begun by July, 1934 and finished and ready for use in April, 1935. The scope of the project delayed its completion (SIOUX CITY JOURNAL 1935 [9/8]; U.S. NPS, Project Supervisor 12/34-5/35, box 76]; District Office 1933-37 [7/3/34, 12/16/34, 5/28/35, box 22]). Simultaneously, crews were working on the boathouse (GUL6) beginning September 24, 1934. The boathouse was completed by February, 1935. It provided space for 30 boats and the custodian's office (Iowa State Conservation Commission 1917-73 [letter, 12/12/34]; BEACON 1935 [4/8, Spirit Lake]; U.S. NPS, Project Supervisor 1933-47 [10/34-2/35, box 76]). The concrete footings of the residence (GUL2) were in place by September, 1934. The CCC workmen completed the building which included two bedrooms, a bath, living and dining room, kitchen, and furnace in the basement by May, 1935 (U.S. NPS, Project Supervisor 1933-47 [12/34-5/35]; Iowa State Conservation Commission 1917-73

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[letter 12/12/34]; BEACON 1935 [4/16]). They had begun to collect local stone for the footings of the service building (GUL1) by October, 1934 and completed the building in March, 1935 (U.S. NPS, Project Supervisor 1933-47 [10/34-3/35, box 76]). The construction of the west entrance (GUL4) gates was delayed because of lack of building stone. Although begun and 25% complete by February, 1935, their completion date is unclear (U.S. NPS, Project Supervisor 1933-47 [2/35-3/35]).

✓ The state dedicated Pikes Point State Park in 1931. The CCC constructed the shelter (GUL18) and completed the adjacent steps, trails, plantings, and the footings for the pre-existing latrine by March 17, 1934 (Iowa State Conservation Commission 1933-42a [plans, 1/34]; Alleger and Alleger ca. 1935: 43; U.S. NPS, District Office 1933-37 [3/17/34, box 2]; Project Supervisor 1933-47 [3/34, box 76]; sign on shelter dated 1934). The state acquired 1.59 acres for Trapper's Bay or Silver Lake State Park in 1933. Company 778 began park development constructing roads and a vehicle bridge and riprapping the shoreline in 1933. It completed the shelter and latrines begun in 1933 by March, 1934 (U.S. NPS, Project Supervisor 1933-47 [2/28/34, 3/31/34, box 76; Alleger and Alleger ca. 1935: 43; Iowa State Conservation Commission 1917-73). Dr. E.W. Spaulding of Petersen led the movement to purchase the land for Wanata or Petersen State Park which was dedicated in 1934. Frank A. Ray drew the undated plans for the park shelter. They substantially match the current building except for the presence of the basement. V.W. Flickinger designed the master plan in January, 1934. Although erected by company 778, the date of its construction remains unspecified but probably occurred in 1934 along with the development work in the other small parks (Iowa State Conservation Commission 1935-42 [1942: 127-28]; 1917-73; Iowa State Conservation Commission 1933-42a [map by Ray, n.d.; master plan, 1934]). The State of Iowa purchased the site of Pillsbury Park through quitclaim deed in 1928. During period 2 from October, 1933 to March, 1934, the CCC constructed the walks along the lake, stone steps, and the benches. The work was in progress in March, 1933. Master plans dated February and December, 1934 illustrate the five benches and two sets of steps. The state erected another set of steps to the lake in 1941 (Iowa State Conservation Commission 1917-1973; Alleger and Alleger ca. 1935: 43; U.S. NPS, Project Supervisor 1933-47 [2/34, 3/34, 12/34, box 76]; District Office 1933-37 [3/17/34, box 2]; Iowa State Conservation Commission 1933-4b [master plan, 2/34]).

Visitation in the parks varied according to their size and

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accessibility. Just opened that season, Gull Point officially received 200 visitors in 1934-1935 but in 1935-1936 recorded 54,150 and by 1941-1942 approximately 58,367. However, Wanata, twice the size of Gull Point and also purchased in 1934, received 9970 visitors in 1934-1935 and 11,905 in the next season. It remained relatively isolated to non-local visitors as did Trapper's Bay, a 57.50 acres park located away from the center of the lakes district. It recorded 2500 in 1934-1935 after its founding in 1933 and 3500 in 1935-1936. Visitors rose to 7500 by 1941-1942. Both small parks founded in the 1920s, Pillsbury Point and Pikes Peak received a modest number although near Spirit Lake. Between 1934-1935 and 1941-1942, visitors rose from 500 and 10,000 to 7500 and 20,000 respectively. This variation likely reflects differences in usage and ability to record the number of visitors (Iowa State Conservation Commission 1935-42 [1936: 118-19; 1940: 127-28]).

The Iowa master plan for park development (Crane 1933) suggested the creation of specific types of parks to serve particular purposes. The Iowa State Conservation Commission reclassified these parks several times so that by 1942 four of the parks were lake reserves while Wanata was a forest reserve (Iowa State Conservation Commission 1935-42 [1942: 127-28]). The three smaller parks were primarily created for picnicking but also camping. Arnold's Park residents used Pillsbury Point park primarily for walks. As a larger park in a less accessible area, Wanata offered picnicking and hiking in the forest preserve. The community of Petersen held concerts in their park in the CCC period. More developed and at the center of the tourist area, Gull Point offered more diversified recreational activities: boating, picnicking, hiking, fishing, camping, public dining, and a meeting place for local community organizations. Its concessions included a dining room, refreshments, and the sale of miscellaneous items from 1936 to 1942. The state contracted with a private concessionaire to provide these services. In this period, the lodge served as the focal point of the park (Iowa State Conservation Commission 1935-42 [1936: 118-19, 135; 1938: 135; 1940: 190-91; 1942: 144-45, 173-74]; 1937, 1941 [1941: 14]; 1917-73 [anon. history written in the 1930s]; DNR 1917-89 [concession agreements 1936-42]; SIOUX CITY JOURNAL 1935 [9/8]; U.S. NPS, Project Supervisor 1933-47 [3/31/34, box 76]). Thus, even during the CCC period the four state parks received moderate to heavy public use depending on their size and location. They served their local communities and Gull Point, a large accessible park, very likely served the growing tourist trade.

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Historical Significance

Iowa state parks preserve in a very tangible way evidence of the CCC program. The four areas of significance which relate to the district through criterion A, GOVERNMENT/POLITICS, SOCIAL HISTORY, CONSERVATION, and RECREATION, are tightly intertwined. Thus, the legislation of the New Deal at the national level directed the improvement of state parks to provide welfare in the form of work for the unemployed building facilities. They were in part intended to offer local recreational opportunities for the idle to ensure a smoother recovery from depression.

GOVERNMENT/POLITICS

The national government reached a sufficient level of maturity to create and operate a public works program by the depression era. Although conceived during the Progressive Era, the bureaucratic government came of age to oversee such programs with professionally led government agencies only in the 1930s. Through a bureaucratic government, the nation influenced such areas as social welfare, conservation, and recreation, in, for example, CCC programs. And, through such programs, it heavily influenced the orientation of state and local government in these areas. Where before welfare, conservation, and recreation had been the concern of the individual family or at most the community, they were now influenced by the federal government (Berthoff 1971: 330-38, 342, 357, 359-61; Hays 1957: 48, 140-41, 150; Weibe 1967: 111, 131).

To participate in the CCC program, each state was required to submit a park development plan. Iowa was among a small number of states which had developed such a plan and an organization, what became the Iowa State Conservation Commission, by 1933. By 1934 it created a State Planning Board. This planning allowed State Forester G.R. McDonald to present a proposal for sixteen Iowa camps soon after the creation of the CCC. Like the national level organization, the operation of the Iowa CCC relied upon the cooperation of a multitude of state, local, and private agencies (Iowa Department of Agriculture 1935-37 [1935: 6-7, 191]; Wirth 1980: 150; Merrill 1981: 128). The State Conservation Commission directed the effort, the Central Design Office created many of the plans, and many other state agencies provided services in area of their expertise (U.S. NPS, District Office 1933-35 [12/16/34, box 6]; Iowa State Planning Board 1936-38 [1936: 1 (1): 4]).

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The Iowa CCC was underway by April, 1933 with Company 769 which first worked at Albia (Alleger and Alleger ca. 1935: 14). State park work led by the National Park Service began with two companies and expanded to thirteen by October, 1933, the peak number except in the fifth period (4-9/1935) when it reached fourteen. The number declined to five by the tenth period (10/1937-3/1938), three by the seventeenth period (4/1941-9/1941), and ended with two by the eighteenth period (10/1941-3/1942) (U.S. CCC, Office of the Director 1933-41 [1935: appendix D, 1937: appendix C, 1938: appendix D, 1939: appendix H, 1940: appendix D, 1941: appendix D]). However, the National Forest Service camps also significantly contributed to the state park cause as shown with company 778 but are not included in this count. This work advanced park development greatly in Iowa. The State Conservation Commission was able to complete 75% of its 25 year master plan between 1933 and 1937 (Grieshop 1989).

SOCIAL HISTORY

The bureaucracy of the national government enabled it to become responsible for the welfare of the nation's individual citizens through state and local governments and local representatives of the federal agencies. Again, although such concepts were not wholly new, they had not been activated at the federal level. The context of the depression demanded new solutions to the social welfare problem (Howard 1943: 651-52; Johnson 1941: 48; Scheslinger 1940: 1-4; U.S. Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works 1934: 71-72). The national government created the CCC program to provide temporary relief and secondarily offer training in work skills to destitute young men. It taught them social maturity, new values, and a sense of responsibility, gave them hope for a brighter future, and offered limited education opportunities. And, it purposefully utilized this human resource to conserve the nation's environment (Paige 1985: 126, 132; Holland and Hill 1974 [1944]: 113; Wirth 1980: 100). Between 1933 and 1942, the Iowa program created work for 5% of the male population or 45,846 Iowans. Their accomplishments, the development of state parks, provided recreational opportunities which were utilized soon after construction. It had been one of the goals of park development to create opportunities to engage the idle and boost their sense of optimism and confidence in the future. It also provided economic opportunities for local communities since CCC camps purchased many supplies locally. And, communities reciprocated by gifts of land and materials for the park projects (Iowa Secretary of State

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1939-40: 308-09; Merrill 1981: 128; Wirth 1980: 145; Paige 1985: 127). As noted, some of the communities adjacent to the Northern Iowa Lakes parks provided funding for land or assisted in construction.

CONSERVATION

The conservation projects reaching the scale of those executed by the CCC were economically if not philosophically inconceivable under normal conditions. These projects not only provided a source of make-work projects but began to refurbish the nation's ailing natural resources and as importantly highlighted their deteriorated condition to the nation. These resources could no longer be taken for granted (U.S. Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works 1934: 67; U.S. Federal Security Agency 1941: 3; Owen 1983: 82, 120). The conservation movement in Iowa had slowly begun as early as 1895 (IOWA CONSERVATIONISTS 1943: 2 (2): 9) and reached a clear expression as Iowans gained concern for the erosion of their natural resources in the REPORT ON THE IOWA TWENTY-FIVE YEAR CONSERVATION PLAN (Crane 1933: 2, 13-17). The plan spelled out both the steps necessary to restore the state's resources and to create a state-wide park system which ensured the preservation of these resources. The CCC projects in parks included conservation of the parks' natural resources. Park amenities were not to intrude upon them either visually or physically. Almost all if not all park development required landscaping through the planting of trees, shrubs, and grasses around new construction and many times throughout the entire park. In the Northern Iowa Lakes District, although the focus is upon the buildings and structures, these properties were designed to blend into the landscape and they all received landscaping by the CCC. Pillsbury Point represents a landscaping effort.

RECREATION

CCC park development erected facilities which did not intrude upon the natural setting and thus ensured a healthful environment for the escape of local communities from the circumstances of the depression. Also, in the long run, increasing mechanization created greater leisure time but also increasing stress. To cope, the individual needed to seek relaxation and rejuvenation of mind and spirit in a non-mechanized environment or nature. This increasing mechanization also provided the means to physically

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reach beyond the built environment through the automobile. Parks provided an opportunity to satisfy the immediate requirement created by the depression. As it lifted, they offered an escape necessary because of man's isolation from the inspiration of his natural surroundings (Crane 1933: 144; IOWA CONSERVATIONIST 1941-42 [1941: 1(2): 7]; U.S. NPS 1941: v, 9; Owen 1983: 12). This identified public need became substantiated by the rise in Iowa state park visitation from 1,542,557 to 3,686,481 between 1928 and 1942. It also occurred in varying degrees at the five parks between 1936 and 1942 and most dramatically at Gull Point State Park (Iowa State Conservation Commission 1935-42 [1936; 1942]). Thus, the CCC's activity in state parks provided the necessary opportunity for recreation in the form of picnicking, nature study, bathing, and fishing. Conservation and recreation remained intimating tied in the development of Iowa state parks. Park development for such recreation was not to impair the natural surroundings. And, it became the state's responsibility to provide a wholesome environment in which its citizens could spend its leisure time (Crane 1933: 11; Iowa State Planning Board 1936-38 [1937: 2(3): 7-8]). This philosophy espoused early in Iowa was echoed in the federal government's study of recreation needs in 1934 and 1941 (U.S. NPS 1941: v).

Architectural Significance

The National Park Service developed the basis for park design utilized in state parks during the depression era, the philosophy of rustic architecture, beginning as early as 1917. This philosophy reached maturity by the 1930s and became obsolete by the early 1940s. With its emphasis upon landscaping and strong recognition of the need to conserve and remain sensitive to the natural environment, this design movement dovetailed with the goals of the Roosevelt era. And, because of its demand for intensive labor guided by a carefully prepared master plan for park development, "A work program intended to remedy unemployment and introduce new manual skills was suited to the construction of the architectural designs prescribed by rustic architecture" (Ahlgren 1987: 29).

Stated principles of rustic architecture emphasized that man-made resources be inconspicuous and blend with their natural environment. Design simplicity and the use of native materials, often from the park, furthered this goal. Because each region possessed a different environment, the design was specific to each

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region if not the park. Planning in Iowa was to be sensitive to the rolling hills of prairie and woodland often resulting in low, horizontal massing of buildings and buildings and structures of combined log and stone or frame. Park facilities also often followed a single historical allusion to the areas's past so that the buildings achieved a unity of design and blended culturally. For this reason, rustic architecture did possess some ties to the romantic movement. In Iowa, the historical theme generally referred to the pioneer past through the use of log and stone or to a generalized Native American theme. Study of the natural setting prior to development and the extensive use of master plans ensured harmony within the built environment and with their natural surroundings. Each resource contributed to the whole. Development occurred in areas of concentrated use such as the custodial group, the picnic area or the bathing area rather than being scattered across the park to minimized intrusion upon nature (Good 1938: I; Ahlgren 1987: 30, 78-79; 1988; Tweed 1977: 55, 63, 77, 94, 104). This orientation dictated simplicity of stylistic theme with a limited variety of construction materials and simple ornament. Many times, rustic architecture utilized elements from the American Craftsman style (1900-1930). Detailing often included large dormers, exposed rafters and purlins as well as other exposed building members, brackets, broad overhangs, and porches in addition to its low, horizontal massing (Gottfried and Jennings 1985: 140, 186, 222-23; Ahlgren 1988: 202-03; Good 1938: I, 8).

Specific guidelines for park facilities derived from these principles stressed the minimal impact of construction upon surroundings through hand labor and the use of native materials such as stone and timbers which underwent limited refinement by hand. Modern materials such as concrete were to be covered by a veneer of natural materials. Simple frame buildings were utilized for utilitarian functions. Low, horizontal lines in rolling hills of prairies and scattered woodlands assisted blending. Careful landscaping with native vegetation allowed the building or structure's transition into its setting as did the use of rough stone foundations, battered or buttressed walls, irregular building lines, and native materials placed in their natural position. In stone construction, the stone was laid in vaguely horizontal planes with larger stones toward the base but with a mix of size within general limits. Roofs were often of heavy, exposed timber supports covered with wood shingle. Thus, they blended with the surrounding tree line and the upper portions were heavy and durable like the lower portions of the building or structure (Good 1938: I; Ahlgren 1987: 5, 56; 1988; Tweed 1977: 30, 35, 54, 71, 93-94).

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Such make-work programs as the CCC, the Works Progress Administration, and the National Youth Administration utilized this style extensively across the nation. To meet the volume of work demanded by the broad state park development, the National Park Service published a guide by Albert Good in 1935 and 1938, PARK STRUCTURES AND FACILITIES (1938) which in effect summarized rather than forecasted work in the style. This style is evident in a majority of Iowa parks in which the CCC, WPA or NYA worked. A majority of the architectural designs and master plans were created at the Office of Central Design, Ames. Frank A Ray developed the plans for the Wanata picnic shelter probably in 1934 just after the state acquired the park. V.W. Flickinger prepared the master plan for Wanata State Park in January, 1934. J.R. Fitzimmons also provided the master plan for Pikes Point State Park (Iowa State Conservation Commission 1933-42a [design by Frank A. Ray, n.d.; master plan, 1/34]). No other architects from the office have been specifically identified with plans for these parks.

Northern Iowa Lakes State Park District resources represent the rustic style. Unsigned and usually undated master plans exist for all five parks except Wanata (U.S. NPS, Project Supervisor 1933-47 [1934, box 76]). However, of the four remaining parks only Gull Point is large enough to be divided into specific building groups common to planning in rustic architecture. This park contains the custodian group, boat and lodge area, picnic area, and campground (U.S. NPS, Project Supervisor 1933-47 [12/34, box 76]). Buildings and structures in all the parks use both native stone and timbers. The CCC enrollees gathered, split, and faced boulders from the lake side and fields and peeled logs for the wooden members (SIOUX CITY JOURNAL 1935 [9/8]; BEACON 1935 [4/18]; U.S. NPS, Project Supervisor 1933-47 [10/34, 12/16/34, 2/35, 4/35, box 76]). Buildings have random rubble walls with large roof timbers, materials which blend with the natural surroundings. Open buildings such as the picnic shelters (Gull18, 22, 24) have intricate timber roof supports. Enclosed buildings display exposed purlins and rafters and log bracing, and the timber roof framing is open to view upon the interior. The low, horizontal extent of these buildings, particularly the low, rambling lodge, coupled with their use of native materials does assist their blending into the natural landscape. Company 778 also performed landscaping around them. The benches and steps at Pillsbury Point are essentially landscaping devices. Along with the use of roughly shaped native materials, rather massive design proportions, and the use of subdued decorative techniques, the resources also allude to the romantic aspect of the rustic style more overtly through the

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fixtures such as the wrought iron lighting fixtures and hickory furniture at the lodge and the massive tower of the boathouse. The Spirit Lake BEACON described the tower as possessing "a touch of the medieval." The furnishings and style of the lodge are frequently described as rustic in the contemporary popular media as well as the reports submitted to the National Park Service (SIOUX CITY JOURNAL 1935 [9/8]; Iowa DNR 1917-89; U.S. NPS, Project Supervisor 1933-47 [12/16/34, box 76]). Finally, the ornamentation, the low, horizontal lines, the exposed timbers, intricate log work around the bay of the lodge (GUL5) and the tower of the boathouse (GUL6), the segmental arch which forms the upper portion of the picnic shelter fireplaces, and the boathouse's panels in a herring bone pattern retain the simplicity prescribed by rustic architecture.

Comparative Statement

Because of the general level of resource integrity and the typical property subtypes displayed as well as the local tie of the communities to the parks, the resources within the Northern Iowa Lakes State Park District gain significance at the local level. As noted in the descriptive statement, buildings and structures generally retain integrity of setting, location, exterior design, material, feeling, association, and workmanship. And, except for some general deterioration, all but the residence (GUL2), service building (GUL1), and boathouse (GUL6) retain a high integrity of design. Few alterations have occurred on the exterior of the residence (GUL2) and it retains its basic floor plan, but considerable remodeling, primarily the covering of surfaces, has taken place. Many of the residences in Iowa state parks have experienced such modifications to meet changing functional needs. Alteration of the garage doors on service buildings has consistently occurred with one exception as has limited remodeling of interior spaces within these buildings. Few boathouses were constructed in Iowa state parks. Both at Backbone and Gull Point have suffered modification. While the overall massing has been altered in the example at Backbone, the boathouse at Gull Point retains its sense of design. As frequently occurs with large, side-hinged doors constructed by the CCC, this element has been lost at the boathouse in Gull Point. Functional alterations have also occurred on the interior. However, located adjacent to a second CCC building of high integrity (GUL5) and suffering fewer modifications than the boathouse at Backbone, this example possesses eligibility.

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A majority of the buildings, structures, and objects within the district are relatively common to Iowa state parks which underwent development by the CCC, for example the shelters (GUL18, 22, 24), entrance portals (GUL4), benches and steps (GUL24, 19) lodge (GUL5), custodian's residence (GUL2), and the service building (GUL1). They are therefore locally significant. The boathouse would be significant at the state level. However, its integrity of design has suffered modification. While the lodge itself because of its level of integrity of design, size, and elaboration achieves significance at a state level, overall the district possesses significance at the local level. The district recognizes the contributions made by the CCC in the state parks and therefore gains significance during the period of construction, 1933 to 1935. The significant dates denote the arrival of the company 778 to the area in 1933.

Then, the Northern Iowa Lakes State Park District is a discontinuous district including resources in five separate parks between 1933 and 1935. This framework associates construction by the one CCC company from the same location in generally small parks with limited functions around the northern Iowa lakes region. Much of the development occurred within a short time span during 1934 to May, 1935. Tight district boundaries eliminate landscapes and buildings which fail to contribute to the significance of the district. As a product of the CCC, the district gains significance for its historical associations with the CCC and its contribution to the areas of GOVERNMENT/POLITICS, SOCIAL HISTORY, CONSERVATION, and RECREATION. The park is a direct product of interrelated historical movements in all these areas. It is through the combination of these threads of historical movements that CCC resources gain significance. Under the area of ARCHITECTURE, they also represent the main principles of mature rustic architecture of the 1930s. Despite the district's strong relationship to national and state movements, it possesses local significance. The bureaucratic government allowed movements of national origin to affect local areas. The local communities also became engaged in the movement. The resources while following principles espoused at the national level, generally embody common resource subtypes becoming significant illustrations of CCC state park development in Iowa.

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10. Geographical Data

Boundary Description (see enclosed maps)

Gull Point State Park:

The boundary for area A including the lodge and boathouse (GUL5-6) begins at the intersection of the north boundary with the lake shore and runs south along the shore 500 feet and turns west southwest to the intersection of the road with the parking lot. The boundary follows the east edge of the road verging from it when going north northwest to meet the north boundary of the park at a distance of 80 feet from the shoreline.

The boundary of area B containing the portals, residence, and service building (GUL1, 2, 4) begins at the southern most extent of the park drive and STH 86 following the east edge of the road 580 feet. Here the boundary turns due east to meet the west edge of the driveway 214 feet to the east. It follows the west edge of this drive to the south of the custodian's residence to the main park road and continues along its south edge in a southwest direction to the point of beginning at its intersection with STH 86.

Pikes Point State Park:

The boundaries encompassing the picnic shelter (GUL18) in Pikes Point State Park extend 50 feet around the edge of the shelter.

Trapper's Bay State Park:

The boundaries encompassing the picnic shelter (GUL22) in Trapper's Bay State Park extend 30 feet around the edge of the shelter.

Wanata State Park:

The boundaries encompassing the picnic shelter (GUL24) in Wanata State Park extend 30 feet around the edge of the shelter.

Pillsbury Point State Park:

The area encompassing the benches and steps (GUL21) at Pillsbury State Park lies in the north leg of the park. Its boundaries match those of the district except for the east-west boundary which separates this area from the remainder of the park to the south.

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Boundary Justification:

Relatively tight boundary lines exclude post-CCC intrusions. Arbitrary boundaries for Pikes Point, Wanata, and Trapper's Bay state parks provide a limited amount of associated landscape. Those for areas A and B in Gull Point State Park follow natural and man-made edges as much as possible and include the associated lake's edge on the east side of area A as part of its landscape. Those at Pillsbury Point follow the water line along the point to include the natural setting of the landscaping features and exclude the residential section to the northwest.

The ten contributing resources in the five parks are placed within a single discontinuous district to interrelate the CCC resources constructed by the same CCC company within a short span of time, primarily between 1934 and May, 1935. It allows an overall impression of CCC work done by the company in small parks associated with the Northern Iowa Lakes District. They are generally small parks displaying limited development. Also, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources administers this group as a unit. This approach provides a workable guide for their overall park planning.

UTM References:

Gull Point State Park:

Area A: A. 15-4804100-324350

Area B: B. 15-4804280-324830

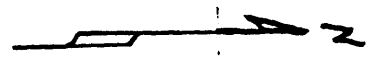
Pillsbury Point State Park: C. 15-4803680-326540

Trappers Bay State Park: D. 15-4813640-311120

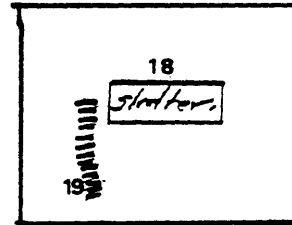
Pikes Point State Park: E. 15-4809070-324990

Wanata State Park F. 15-4753340-309135

WEST OKOZUJI LAKE



district



20

Parking Area

0.1 mi.

0.25 mi.

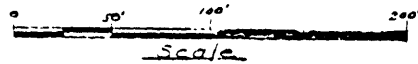
0.25 mi.

PARK IS IN SEC
1-T99N-R37W

Sec. 53 Incl.
Roads in F

Pikes Peak State Park
Section 10 Page 3

County Road



Earth--Unit 19 Gravel--Unit 20

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number photo Page 1

CFN-259-1116

Photographic Identification

Name: Northern Iowa Lake State Park District

Location: Dickenson and Clay counties, Iowa

Negative: Bureau of Historic Preservation, State Historical Society
of Iowa

Photographers: Kevin Pape and Joyce McKay

Date: March 13, 1989 and May 27, 1989

Description:

1. View of the west side of the lodge (GUL5) at Gull Point State Park, Milford facing northeast.
2. View of the east side of the lodge (GUL5) at Gull Point State Park, Milford facing southwest.
3. View of the east side of the boathouse (GUL6) at Gull Point State Park, Milford facing west.
4. View of the front facade of the custodian's residence (GUL2) at Gull Point State Park, Milford facing southwest.
5. View of the west and north facades of the service building (GUL1) at Gull Point State Park, Milford facing northwest.
6. View of the northwest entrance portal (GUL4) at Gull Point State Park, Milford facing east.
- *7. View of the picnic shelter (GUL18) and steps (GUL19) at Pikes Point State Park, Spirit Lake facing southeast.
8. View of the picnic shelter (GUL22) at Trapper's Bay State Park, Lake Park facing northwest.
9. View of the picnic shelter (GUL24) at Wanata State Park, Peterson facing southeast.
10. View of one bench along the overlook (GUL21) at Pillsbury Point State Park, Arnolds Park facing southwest.

* Only this photograph has been submitted with this nomination.