

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



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 Lac qui Parle State Park WPA/Rustic Style Historic District
other names/site number Lac qui Parle State Park

2. Location

street & number off County Highway 33
city, town Lac qui Parle Township Montevideo vicinity
state Minnesota code MN county Lac qui Parle code 073 zip code 56265

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 (3), Noncontributing (0), Total (3)

Name of related multiple property listing: Minnesota State Park CCC/WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources

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 of certifying official Ian K. Stewart
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Date 7/3/91

State or Federal agency and bureau Minnesota Historical Society

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.
determined eligible for the National Register.
determined not eligible for the National Register.
removed from the National Register.
other, (explain):

Entered in the National Register
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action 8/15/91

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION/Outdoor Recreation

LANDSCAPE/State Park

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION/Outdoor Recreation

LANDSCAPE/State Park

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: NPS Rustic Architecture

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Stone/Wood

roof Shingle

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

See Continuation Sheets

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Lac qui Parle State Park WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources, Lac qui Parle Co., MN

Section number 7 Page 1

DESCRIPTION

Lac qui Parle State Park WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources consist of an historic district including three buildings in the public use area of the park, all located adjacent to the Lac qui Parle River. Architects for these projects were from the National Park Service and the Design Office within the Department of Conservation.

Department of Natural Resources building identification numbers are located after the name of each building.

1. Building: Model Shelter 4-94 Builder: WPA
Architect: Petersen & Nielsen Date: 1940-41

The Model Shelter is a 65'8" x 29'6" rectangular building covered with a hip roof. The walls consist of random ashlar masonry rising to a height of 4' with rough board and batten siding placed above. The building may be entered through three 6' openings located on both principal facades or 7' openings on the side walls. All openings are capped with 10" x 10" wooden lintels and are flanked by posts of the same dimension with brackets.

The building was constructed to house a relief map cast in reinforced concrete of the Minnesota River Valley and the Lac qui Parle Flood Control System. The model is 50' long and 2'8" high and consists of an 18' section, 10' wide, which tapers to an 8' wide section, 32' long. The model rests on a concrete footing and a rubblestone foundation wall faced with a stone veneer. The area immediately beneath the model is filled with sand. The model was cast in several sections.

The interior walls are covered with random widths of shiplap siding. Wooden benches which rest on stone supports are built in all four corners of the building. The roof is supported by 2" x 8" rafters with 2" x 6" collars beams, 4' on center.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Lac qui Parle State Park WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources, Lac qui Parle Co., MN

Section number 7 Page 2

2. Building: Kitchen Shelter 4-95 Builder: WPA
Architect: O. Newstrom Date: 1938-39

The Kitchen Shelter consists of a 24' x 43' picnic shelter and a 14' x 23' kitchen which projects from the rear of the building and produces a T-shaped structure. The kitchen is constructed entirely of native split field stone while stone walls rise only to a height of 4' on the picnic shelter with 10" rough boards and battens above. The shelter may be entered through three 7' openings on the principal facade which are flanked by 10" x 12" posts with brackets. Seven foot wide entrances are also located on the sidewalls. A massive split stone fireplace separates the shelter from the kitchen area and features particularly finely executed masonry characterized by paired stonework. The kitchen may be entered through the shelter or from a 6' entrance to the rear. The room originally contained four cast iron cook stoves. The Kitchen Shelter has six window openings, each 3' wide.

3. Building: Sanitation Building 4-91 Builder: WPA
Architect: Taylor Date: 1939

The Sanitation Building is a 21' x 12' rectangular structure covered by a gable roof. Each entrance is shielded by 7'3" x 4' screens. The walls are constructed with local split stone five feet high followed by board and batten siding. Windows openings are 2'10" wide casements. Three lookouts, each 6" x 6", project from the gable roof. Skylights were added to the building during a 1964 remodeling.

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)

Architecture
Recreation
Government

Period of Significance

1938-41

Significant Dates

1938

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

National Park Service
State of Minnesota
Works Progress Administration

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

See Continuation Sheets

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Lac qui Parle Park WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources, Lac qui Parle Co., MN

Section number 8 Page 1

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Lac qui Parle State Park WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources are historically significant for their association with the social, political, and economic impact of the Great Depression and the subsequent development of the various Federal Relief Programs which were responsible for their construction. The park is also significant as the primary recreational facility in one of the most extensive work relief projects in the state. The state park was built as part of the Lac qui Parle Flood Control Project. The project centered on the construction of a dam at the south end of Lac qui Parle Lake which created a 13 mile long widening in the Minnesota River. The project also diverted the Chippewa and Lac qui Parle Rivers into the Marsh Lake and Lac qui Parle Reservoirs for the purposes of water conservation and flood control. A series of projects were executed by the Works Progress Administration which extended the entire length of the lake. These included the Watson Wayside, Lac qui Parle Control Dam, Lac qui Parle State Park, various improvements at Marsh Lake, the Lac qui Parle Parkway, and the reconstruction of the Chippewa Lac qui Parle Mission. WPA work camps at Appleton and Watson provided the manpower for these projects which combined the cooperative efforts of the Division of State Parks, the Division of Drainage and Waters, and the Division of Game and Fish, all from the Minnesota Department of Conservation.

Lac qui Parle State Park WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources are architecturally significant as outstanding examples of rustic style split stone construction featuring irreplaceable labor intensive methods and finely crafted detailing. The buildings are characterized by nonintrusive and environmentally sensitive designs based on National Park Service design philosophy. The Model Shelter in particular, which houses a relief map of the Minnesota River Valley, is one of the most unusual projects in the state park system and has no known counterpart.

The Watson WPA Camp News of January 20, 1940 described the construction of the model as follows:

Predictions are that one of the most interesting features when completed of all projects surrounding Lac qui Parle lake will be the model project under construction by Geo. Andriotti.

The model itself covers an immense territory and is modeled to scale to show all geographical variations and project

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Lac qui Parle State Park WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources, Lac qui Parle Co., MN

Section number 8 **Page** 2

structures. On viewing the model one has the same impression as looking down upon the countryside from a plane at a great height

The modeling in clay of all ground elevations, shore lines of lakes, courses of rivers and structural monuments, requires of course extreme artistic ability and technical skill. But the creation in clay is but the first step in construction of the finished model. After the clay model is completed a plaster of paris mold is made from it. The plaster mold of course is in reverse, and will be used to complete the third stage when a specially prepared concrete mixture is poured into it.

.....The model of the Lac qui Parle projects (will allow visitors to trace their excursions on the model) as roads, rivers, lakes and parks and their topographical relation to surrounding territory is discernible at a glance.

Lac qui Parle State Park was officially established in 1941 although construction had begun as early as 1938.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Brookins, Jean A. and Holmquist, June D. Minnesota's Major Historic Sites. St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society, rev. ed., 1972. Department of Conservation. Quarterly Report. July-September 1941. Department of Natural Resources. Working Drawings and Specifications for Buildings at Lac qui Parle State Park. Bureau of Engineering. St. Paul, Minnesota.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 6 acres

UTM References

A

1	5
---	---

2	7	2	5	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	9	8	9	1	7	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for Lac qui Parle State Park WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources is shown as the heavy, crosshatched line on the accompanying map entitled "Lac qui Parle State Recreation Area." It is defined by the land immediately encompassing three historic buildings.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the buildings developed by the WPA that have been historically associated with the park and that maintain historic integrity.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rolf T. Anderson

organization N/A date March 25, 1991

street & number 212 West 36th Street telephone 612-824-7807

city or town Minneapolis state Minnesota zip code 55408