

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 Lakeside Park Historic District  
other names/site number The Stone Piers

### 2. Location

street & number Third Street from Lake Street to Park Street  not for publication  
city, town Lake View  vicinity  
state Iowa code IA county Sac code 161 zip code 51450

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	_____	_____ buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>4</u>	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
The Conservation Movement in Iowa, 1857-1942  
CCC Properties in Iowa State Parks, 1933-1942  
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] 10/31/91  
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. **Entered in the National Register**  
 See continuation sheet. [Signature] 12/23/91  
 determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.  
 determined not eligible for the National Register.  
 removed from the National Register.  
 other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation

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Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Same

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/Park Rustic

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Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation native fieldstonewalls native fieldstone

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roof other 

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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)

Architecture  
Conservation  
Recreation

Period of Significance

1935-1942

Significant Dates

1935

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Significant Person

n/a

Architect/Builder

CCC Camp SP-8, Company 1776-V

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

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository:

Lake View Historic Preservation Commission

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property Approximately 3 acres

UTM References

A 

1	5	3	3	1	2	7	0	4	6	8	5	5	6	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

1	5	3	3	1	4	4	0	4	6	8	5	7	2	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

1	5	3	3	1	3	4	0	4	6	8	5	5	2	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Rebecca Conard for Lake View Historic Preservation Commission  
organization PHR Associates date June 12, 1991  
street & number 275 Crescent Park Drive telephone 712/657-3347  
city or town Lake View state Iowa zip code 51450

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### *Section 7: Physical Description:*

Lakeside Park is located along the far northwest curve of Black Hawk Lake in an area known locally as the Town Bay. A narrow park, it lays between Third Street (formerly Lake Drive) and the lake. Two recreational piers and a riprap seawall situated within the park were built by CCC Camp SP-8 in 1934-1935. The CCC project was designated as Lakeside Park, but to local residents the park area has always been known simply as "the stone piers," which are the two focal points of the park. Project work included land fill behind the seawall in order to create a shoreline park adjacent to and across the road from Speaker Park, a municipal park developed in the mid-1920s.

Both piers are of solid masonry construction, built of uncoursed rough fieldstone which came from surrounding farms. While they are identical in construction, they differ in design. The west pier, built near the site of an earlier steamer landing, extends about 34' into the water. Its design is a stylized U-shape with two obelisk-like electric light posts near the shore entrance. Between the light posts and the shore there were, as originally constructed, retaining walls on either side and stone steps descending to narrow side decks along the water's edge where there were mooring posts for boats. The retaining wall and side deck on the north side of the pier are intact, but the south side deck has fallen and only its retaining wall remains. The width of the center deck and light posts measures approximately 42'. Including the side decks and retaining walls, the pier measures 83'6" wide. Originally, the decks were constructed of flagstone. According to local sources, the flagstone was replaced with a concrete shortly after the pier was finished because the uneven stones created a hazardous surface during icy weather.

The north pier extends approximately 82' into the water as measured from its farthest point north, which is a curved masonry bench. The foot of this pier is defined by a broken circle of three stone and concrete benches, two of which seem to emerge from the riprap seawall. In the center of the ring is located a large Sioux quartzite boulder which once served as a flagpole base. Building plans (undated but contemporary with construction) indicate that the boulder was to have been used as the base for a drinking fountain, but the existing boulder is much too low to have accommodated this, and there is no physical or anecdotal evidence to indicate that it ever supported a fountain of any kind. Its only function now is ornamental. A finger pier extends from the ring of benches. At the end a tapered electric light shaft rises from a cylindrical base. Originally, the main deck of the north pier also was of flagstone, but it too was replaced with concrete. A lower side deck of flagstone extends along the west side of the pier almost at water level. Many of the stones are missing, though remnants of three wooden mooring posts are still evident.

Both piers retain exceptionally good integrity, although the mortar is beginning to deteriorate rapidly. Several stones have worked loose and fallen into the lake. The only modification to the piers has been the installation of electrical conduit on the exterior of the light posts, done in 1990. The original electrical wiring, installed on the interior of each post, deteriorated beyond safe use; and, as a result, the lights had been dark for several years. The replacement conduit,

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installed on the exterior in order to avoid cutting into the stone structures, allowed the light fixtures, which are original pieces, to be used once again.

The seawall is actually a riprap berm built of boulders. As such, the shoreline probably looks similar to the naturally walled shoreline which existed around the lake prior to Euroamerican settlement. Early-day settlers often used lakeshore boulders as material for building foundations, gradually changing the rocky appearance of the shoreline. The riprapping extends the entire distance between the two piers and a short distance beyond both of them. This structure appears to have been constructed before the piers, and it was sited at a distance varying between 75' and 100' into the lake from the shoreline, which roughly paralleled Lake Drive (now Third Street) at that time. The area behind the seawall was then filled with dirt to create the narrow strip of park land between the two piers. Newspaper accounts written at the time of construction indicate that plans called for a more formal seawall with a walkway along the top. A photograph taken shortly after the piers were finished, however, shows the original structure to have been of riprap construction. It remains unchanged, although many of the boulders have settled into the lake, and the shoreline eventually will need rebuilding in order to forestall bank erosion.

Contemporary newspaper accounts indicate that Lakeside Park was landscaped with log slab benches and graveled footpaths. A historic postcard view of the west pier also reveals that a long bench was built into the main deck along the south side. A footpath still extends between the two piers, but it is no longer graveled. The log benches which once sat alongside the pathway are no longer extant.

Lakeside Park incorporates a small open pavilion with brick end walls inset with dark green glazed tiles. Covered by a side gable roof, the structure resembles a wishing well (without an open well). It sets on a concrete slab floor which incorporates steps to the lakeshore on the east side. The date of its construction is undetermined, but it is believed to have been sometime during the 1920s; in any case, the structure was there by 1930. It marks the site of a mineral spring which was a popular visitor attraction in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. At one time, the pavilion housed a hand pump over the mineral springs well. The wellhead is now covered by the concrete floor, and pump has been replaced with a park bench.

The boundaries include the two stone piers, the riprap seawall, the mineral spring pavilion, and the surrounding open space as delineated on the attached map. These boundaries represent the full extent of the 1934-1935 CCC project.

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*Section 8: Significance Statement**Summary Statement*

Lakeside Park is significant under National Register Criteria A and C within two contexts developed for Iowa: "The Conservation Movement in Iowa, 1857-1942" and "CCC Properties in Iowa State Parks: 1933-1942." Under Criterion A the park demonstrates the fluid nature of the Civilian Conservation Corps and other New Deal relief and conservation agencies with respect to project operations. Technically sited on municipal property, the park structures were constructed by CCC crews in conjunction with the development of Black Hawk State Park during the mid-1930s, development which continued when the Town Bay was dredged in 1938. The latter project was funded by the Works Progress Administration. Lakeside Park also highlights the economic development side of New Deal conservation programs inasmuch as its creation was intended to enhance Lake View's amenities as a summer resort. Under Criterion C, the stone piers and the seawall in Lakeside Park are significant as unusual examples of Park Rustic architecture. They were designed to serve three functions: boat mooring, fishing, and small group assembly. Boats can no longer dock at the piers, but the piers remain popular fishing spots and still serve as staging areas for special events.

*Criterion A*

Lakeside Park is significant under National Register Criterion A for its association with the Civilian Conservation Corps Company V-1776 in Lake View, which helped to develop the recreational potential of the city's lakeshore both on municipally owned land as well as state-owned land. As noted in the National Register Registration Form for Black Hawk State Park ("CCC Properties in Iowa State Parks: 1933-42" [1990]), development of this state park varied from that of most state parks in Iowa because the town of Lake View is situated on the shores of the lake, and much of the shoreline was already used for recreational purposes when state park development began in 1934. As a result, the state park tended to function much like a municipal park, with small areas set aside for picnicking and swimming. CCC crews were assigned to build park structures on city as well as state property, as evidenced by the piers and riprap seawall. Even today, outsiders usually cannot distinguish state park areas from city-owned recreational areas.

The park reflects an important resort focus of the local economy. From the early 1890s until the late 1920s, steamers docked in the vicinity of the present-day west pier, providing transportation for local residents who lived around the lake as well as visitors frequenting Lakewood Park on the north shore and Cottage Grove on the east shore. Both of these areas were developed with hotel accommodations, rental cottages, and recreational facilities. During the early twentieth century, visitors came by railroad to drink the mineral waters which flowed near the Town Bay. The springs became so popular that for a short time a local firm bottled the water for export. The mineral springs and the steamer traffic may have inspired those local citizens who worked to clear residential dwellings from the Town Bay during the 1920s in order to create a municipal park (Speaker Park) overlooking the bay. Development of Lakeside

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Park in 1934-35 complemented Speaker Park. Together, they formed a landscaped open space which helped to separate the town, both visually and functionally, from the lake, thus preserving unrestricted public access to most of the shoreline laying nearest the town.

Lakeside Park was begun in late 1934, when CCC operations resumed full force in Lake View, and the project was completed by early summer 1935. When the project got underway, its organizers at Camp Liberty CCC hoped that their work would yield "one of the most beautiful lake improvements in the state." When the park was completed, Lake View's residents agreed that the goal had been achieved. "This sea-wall with its attractive piers," wrote the local editor, "arouses admiration in all who view it. It is a beautiful and permanent piece of work which will stand long after the men who fashioned it have passed from this earthly scene."

*Criterion C*

Lakeside Park is also significant under Criterion C as an interesting use of the Park Rustic architectural style. Although no development plans seem to have survived for this project, except for one construction drawing that was never used, contemporary news accounts suggest that the design evolved as the project progressed. Plans for a rather formal seawall, perhaps of mortared stone, gave way to construction of a less formal riprap structure which was more in keeping with the natural appearance of the lake.

Black Hawk Lake has had a number of names. Originally it was called Boyer Lake, then Walled Lake, and then Wall Lake. The latter two names reflect the geologic process by which the lake was formed. Located along the southern edge of the Wisconsin Glacier, the lake and surrounding area contain numerous deposits of rock and gravel. Over time, the annual round of freezing and thawing pushed loose boulders to the edges of the lake, forming a rocky wall along the shoreline that is said to have reached as much as six feet high in places. The name was changed to Black Hawk Lake in 1932 in order to avoid confusion with two other lakes in the state and the nearby town of Wall Lake. Settlers used the boulders freely as construction materials, and much of the natural supply is believed to have ended up in house foundations. By the 1930s, the shoreline near the town of Lake View had been nearly stripped of boulders and rocks. Thus, the riprap seawall probably resembled the type of shoreline that once existed, although the new shoreline was moved farther into the lakebed.

In keeping with the riprap seawall, the piers seem to emerge from the rocky shoreline. Although they are of mortared construction, the stones were left rough cut and laid in an uncoursed fashion. Thus, they are truly rustic in appearance and highly compatible with the natural surroundings. Their design also reflects the variety of users the piers apparently were intended to serve: boaters, fishermen and women, and lakeside strollers. Although Park Rustic architecture became progressively more standardized during the 1930s, one of the basic tenets was to fit manmade structures into their natural surroundings. The ideosyncratic design of the two piers accomplished this goal and at the same time provided structures that were multifunctional.

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The stone piers also complement the design and construction of stone portals built at each of the four corners of Speaker Park as well as stone portals located at the entrance to Crescent Park Drive near the east edge of town.

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### *Section 9: Bibliography*

Alleger, C.N. and C.A. Alleger. *Civilian Conservation Corps: Iowa District History*. Rapid City, S.D.: Johnston & Bordewyk, Inc., ca. 1935.

"A Beautiful Lakeshore Improvement." *Lake View Resort*, June 6, 1935.

"Lake View, Iowa - SP-8 - Lakeside Park Drinking Fountain, Project No. 141 [no date]."  
Construction Drawing located at Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Engineering Department.

*Lake View Resort*. Various clippings of "Camp Liberty News," 1934.

Lake View, Town of. *Lake View Centennial Book*. Lake View, Iowa: 1980.

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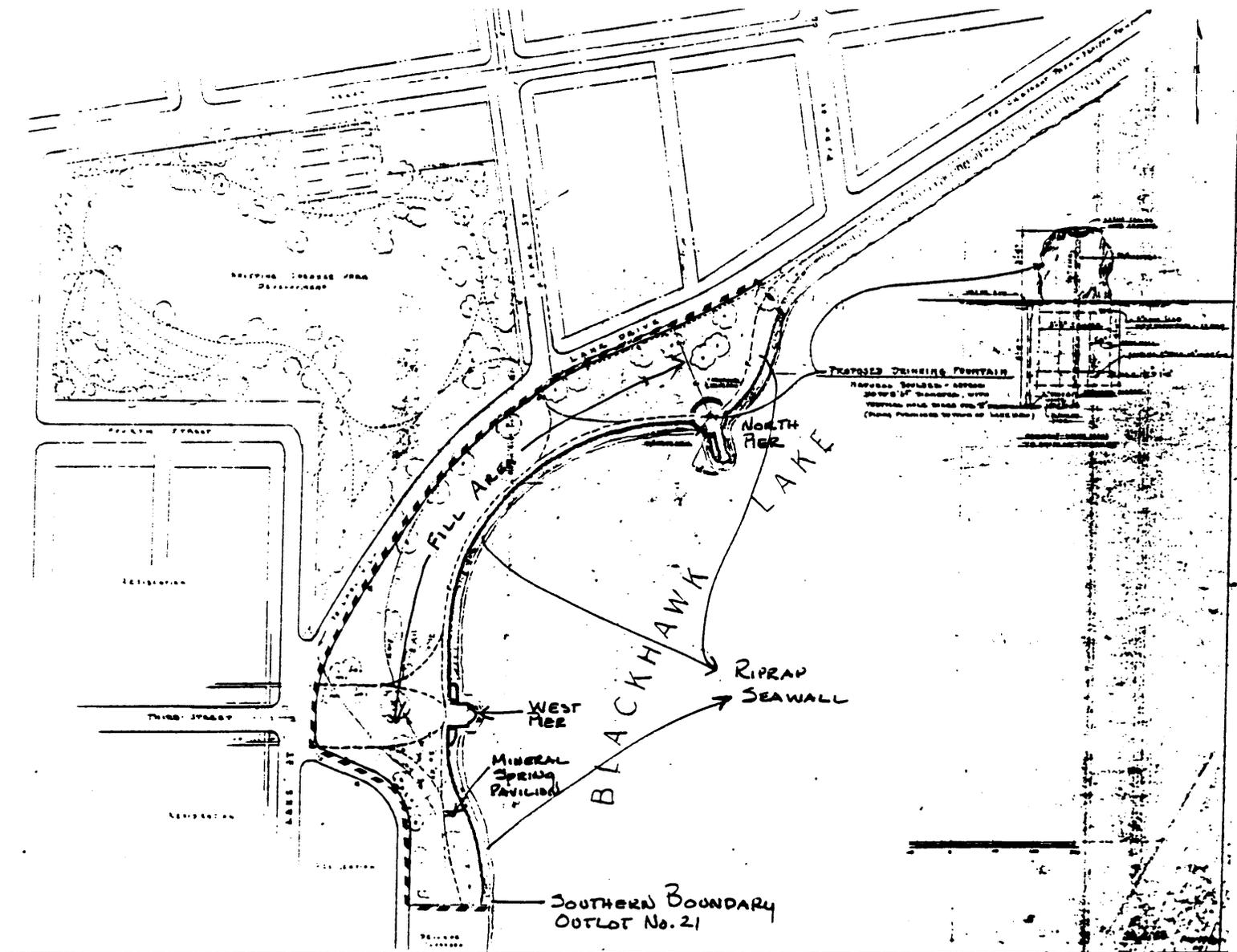
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## Section 10: Geographical Data

**Boundary Description:** Beginning at the intersection of Third Street and Lake Street, the boundary follows the curve of Third Street in a northerly and northeasterly direction to a point west of Park Street. From there, the boundary line continues southeast to a point on the shoreline marked by the easternmost extent of riprapping. The boundary then continues along the shoreline in a south and southwesterly direction to the southern boundary of Outlot 21, then continues along a private drive in a north and northwesterly direction to the point of beginning.

**Boundary Justification:** These boundaries reflect the limits of the 1934-35 project, and the southern boundary marks the limit of city park land along the Town Bay.



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*Vicinity Map*  
*Source: Lake View Quadrangle, 7.5', 1980*

