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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Elmore State Park

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 856 VT Route 12 N/A not for publication

city or town Elmore N/A vicinity

state Vermont code VT county Lamoille code 015 zip code 05657

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Suzanne C. Jamelo, National Register Specialist, 2-7-02
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Vermont State Historic Preservation Office
State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

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

[Signature]
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action
3/29/02

Elmore State Park
Name of Property

Lamoille County, Vermont
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	24	buildings
3	1	sites
1		structures
		objects
5	25	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Historic Park Landscapes in National & State Parks 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation & Culture/outdoor recreation

Landscape/Forest

Landscape/Park

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation & Culture/outdoor recreation

Landscape/Forest

Landscape/Park

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: CCC State Park

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls log

wood

roof shingle

other concrete

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1 Elmore State Park
Elmore, Lamoille County, Vermont

The 755-acre Elmore State Park in Elmore, Vermont is south of the Town of Morristown and north of the Town of Worcester along the western side of Vermont Route 12. Situated between the shore of Elmore Lake and the summit of Elmore Mountain, this state park was begun in 1934 under the care of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The CCC transformed this wooded wilderness area into a recreational space easily accessible by automobile with large grassy areas as well as large wooded areas. This transformation of the landscape began with the construction of a bath house (#1), access road (#2), and beach (#3) along the shore of Elmore Lake. After the CCC completed their work in 1936, the park was sold to the State of Vermont for use as a state park. Since 1936, the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation has maintained the park, its landscape, and its structures. The State of Vermont has also increased accessibility to the park and it opportunities for recreation by constructing new structures and buildings, such as the 1939 fire tower at the summit of Elmore Mountain, that are sympathetic to the construction and landscaping of the CCC. For these reasons, Elmore State Park continues to serve its original purpose and possess a high level of historic integrity.

There are three general areas to the park. The original park, or first, area is adjacent to the beach (3#). The Elmore Lake beach (#3) was constructed by the CCC in the 1930s and is accessed by a road off Vermont Route 12 that was also designed and built by the CCC (#2). A bath house (#1) and a 1960s parking area are located adjacent to the beach. To the north of the beach area and up a knoll is the modern park entrance from VT Route 12. This paved road (#4) begins at the stone pillar gate (#6), and provides access to the modern campground. The ranger cottages (#13) and garage (#12) are to the right as you enter. A booth (#6), to collect park fees, is at the center of the road about one eighth of a mile in. At this booth, the road splits. In the center of the split is a firewood shed (#9). A small secondary road branches down to the beach parking area. Along this secondary road are day-use barbecuing sites with metal grills on poles. A picnic shelter (#11) is located along the western edge of the park between the toll booth and the bath house. The main road continues to the west. Off the main road is a secondary road in the shape of a figure eight that leads to the campsites (#7) and lean-to shelters (#10). Within this area are two bathroom facilities (#8), one within each loop of the figure eight layout. This secondary road creates a loop and meets the main road again farther to the north. As the access road continues toward Elmore Mountain, it turns to the north (#4). On the south side of the road is an abandoned bathroom facility (#8). The road continues on and, after about one mile from the gate, the road ends and a hiking trail begins (#4). This is the third general area of the park.

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A picnic shelter (#11) is located to the north of the end of the road. To the south of the road is the area where the Civilian Conservation Corps once was housed. This area has been overgrown with small trees and underbrush. The archaeological potential of the area is high, as there are many visible features present. Cellar holes and metal pipes clearly denote human occupation of the site. At the end of the road, is a trail to the summit of Elmore Mountain (#4). The fire tower (#5) lies at the trail end and the summit of Elmore Mountain at 795 feet above sea level. For many years, this manned lookout functioned as fire tower US #140, VT #03 in an effort to provide advanced warning of and protection against forest fires.

1. Bath House, 1936, contributing

Exterior

The plans for the bath house were developed in 1935 after the federal government purchased the land. The building was to serve as a point at the park that would allow visitors to access Elmore Lake. In 1936 the Civilian Conservation Corps began construction of the structure completing it later that same year. The ground plan of the gabled-roofed bath house is "H" shaped with the centerline measuring 92' and the flanking loggias measuring 40' in width. Walls are covered with split log siding while the roofs consist of shallow gables covered in wood shingle. The centerline of the H is one-story plan with seven bays on the front, or south, facade and four bays on the rear, or north, facade. The primary entrance is the center bay on the front facade. There are two smaller doorways on the north facade. The symmetrical wings flanking the center section are one by four bays with shallow gable roofs. The siding is stained a dark brown. Windows have white wood frames and sash with six over six pane, double hung construction. Most of the doorways and windows are boarded up for the winter with plywood stained to match the siding. The roof line is trimmed in thin white molding strips. A light brown wood shingling covers the various roof pitches without a break in consistency except for two fixed skylights on the south side of the gable. In the center of the north facade, a massive rubble-stone chimney projects through roof line.

Interior

The center of the building is entered through a primary entrance on the south facade. The central lobby is square in plan and measures approximately 30' by 30'. The walls are stained dark brown split log construction. The roof is open to the gable and covered in much the same manner as the walls with wood structural supports clearly visible. The room is open with the exception of a concessions counter on the east side of the room.

The counter is no more than two feet in width and fifteen feet in length, approximately three feet from the wall. A small storage closet is located off the north end of the concession area.

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Elmore, Lamoille County, Vermont

The rest of the room is furnished with tables and benches and little else. A massive stone fireplace dominates the center of the north wall. The base of the fireplace is in the shape of a "C" with two projecting arms. This fireplace tapers upward slightly and lacks a mantle. To each side of the chimney are smaller doors to the lobby. To either side of the lobby are locker rooms. The door to a women's locker room is located in the southwest corner of the lobby while the door to the men's locker room is located in the southeast corner of the building. The walls and roof of the locker rooms are similar to the lobby space with the exception of the presence of toilet stalls. The locker rooms are sparse and are only intruded upon by toilet stalls and sinks along the walls. The bathroom fixtures are porcelain, stalls are metal, and glass mirrors are hung on the walls.

2. Beach Access Road, 1934, contributing

When the Civilian Conservation Corps began work at Elmore in 1934, one of the first projects that had to be undertaken was a way to access to the property. The road that connects the bath house to Vermont Route 12 was built by the CCC to provide automobile access to the park. Photographs taken at the time the bath house was under construction indicate that road leveling work was also occurring at the same time. There is no evidence to suggest that the road has changed much since the date of its construction. The surface is still gravel and the level appears to be the same as indicated by the photographs. The road appears to have been extended recently past the bath house to provide access to private properties adjacent to the park. The road's integrity remains, as does its original association with the bath house.

3. Beach, 1934, contributing

Beach landscaping work came with the construction of the bath house. In 1934, when the bath house was begun, CCC workers began to reshape the land adjacent to the new bath house to provide easy automobile access as well as easy access to the beach. Large rocks were removed and sand was brought in to smooth out the shore line. Landscaping timbers denote where the grounds of the bath house end and the sandy beach area begins. The beach maintains its integrity as it does its original association with the bath house. While landscaping timbers may have been replaced, the physical contouring of the shore line and the sandy soil are little changed.

4. Access Routes, 1934, contributing

The Civilian Conservation Corps needed to provide access to their living quarters and the areas in which they worked. With the beginning of construction in 1934, the CCC carved out routes of access to their camp from Vermont Route 12. The archaeological remains of the CCC camp are located at the top of the modern access road. While the modern access road is paved, it is likely that an unpaved primitive path may have originally existed underneath the

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Elmore, Lamoille County, Vermont

present road. The modern road begins at Route 12 and continues westward through the park to the beginning of the trail to the fire tower. Since the road to the bath house was under construction at the same time as the CCC, it is probable that the CCC had another way to access their camp. The route of the modern road was likely this route of access to the camp from 1934 until work was finished in 1936. With the end of the CCC work, the construction of the fire tower began in 1939. It was probably at this time that the primitive access road was extended upward to the summit of Elmore Mountain. This route would have been necessary to deliver the steel beams for construction to the summit. Today, the summit is accessed by a dirt hiking path that begins at the end of the modern access road. Originally, the access road was probably little more than a primitive dirt road. In this manner, the path to the summit still maintains its integrity and its relationship to the landscape while the modern access road maintains only its historic relationship with the landscape. It should be noted that all other trails and forms of access within the park are of recent construction and therefore non-contributing resources due to age.

5. Fire Tower, 1939, contributing

Completed shortly after the Civilian Conservation Corps left the area, this fire tower was constructed by the Vermont Division of Forestry at the summit of Elmore Mountain. The construction was part of a federal forestry mission to rehabilitate the forests of the area after a 1938 hurricane caused extensive damage to forests throughout New England. A cabin, which is no longer standing, was completed the following year to provide a manned lookout at the summit. No traces remain of the cabin. This lookout remained active as US #140, VT #03 until 1974.

The structure is a square skeleton steel tower that reaches a height of roughly forty-six feet, has four legs that taper upward from a fourteen-foot square concrete base to a seven-foot platform on top. The framing is steel angle stock of differing gauge and weight. The legs are of the heaviest weight, horizontal braces are of a medium weight, and braces are the lightest. The steel is bolted together using steel plates at major connections. Within the skeleton of the tower, an open steel and wood stair rises to the viewing platform.

The stair consists of five diagonal flights with latticed steel stringers, wood treads, and steel angle stock hand rails.

A single room observation area is located at the top of the tower. The room is entered at the top of the stairway through a trap door in the room's wood plank floor. The observation area is square in plan, single story in elevation, and projects slightly from the steel frame skeleton of the tower. The lower halves of the walls of the room are steel bolted to vertical angle stock

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Elmore, Lamoille County, Vermont

at the corners. The upper half of the walls are lined with metal-framed sash mounted windows (two per wall). The hipped roof of the room is constructed of sheets of steel with a center cylindrical vent. Any fire viewing equipment that may have once been present has now been removed.

6. Toll Booth and Gate, 1963, non-contributing due to age

The current entrance to the park is through a pair of stone pillars located along VT Route Twelve. These pillars are made of fieldstones piled on top of each other and bonded with concrete. The base of the pillars is square and they taper upward. Wood planks are attached to the top of the pillars by metal pins. These planks swing together to block access to the road. Once a car has passed through the gates, a toll booth in the middle of the road is the second point of access control. The booth is a rectangular 15' by 17' one story structure. The wood siding is of board and batten construction and employs a dark brown stain. The roof is gabled with light brown wood shingles. The width of the east side of the building faces the road. This east façade has one fixed center window flanked by a one over one double hung window on each side. A small-hipped porch roof projects from the side of the main structure's gable. Two dark brown wood posts support the light brown wood shingled porch roof. On the north and south facades of the building, a single sliding window is present for the purpose of collecting park fees. A metal door is located on the west side of the building for entry. Two flag poles are located immediately adjacent to the east side of the building.

7. Campsites, 1963, non-contributing due to age

These 45 campsites are open-air, cleared, grassy areas scattered throughout the second part of the park. Characteristics that denote these areas are small natural brown numbered plaques and fireplaces in a cleared 100' by 70' grassy area. Fireplaces are of a simple stone and concrete construction that are square in plan with one side of the square and the interior open to a metal grill. The side opposite the open side of the square has a small, tapered chimney. These campsites are unobtrusive to the landscape and therefore in keeping with the historical character of the park.

8. Bathroom Facilities, 1963, non-contributing due to age

There are three bathroom facilities within the park. One facility is located in the tent site area while a matching facility is present in the lean-to area. An abandoned bathroom facility, dating to the 1960s, is in serious disrepair and is located north of the campground along the road to the fire tower. All of the bathroom facilities are rectangular in plan and 50' by 15' in dimension. The siding is a dark brown stained board and batten construction in an effort to create an unobtrusive design and keep with the historical nature of the park. The roofs are gabled with light brown wood shingles. Two doors are located along the length of the

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building, leading to separated men's and women's facilities. Windows are small rectangular metal-framed sash mounted windows that are irregularly placed along the top of the walls. All of the bathrooms are equipped with shower facilities, at least three toilets, and three sinks. The bathroom fixtures are porcelain while interior dividing walls are metal.

9. Wood Shed, 1963, non-contributing due to age

This 15' by 20' service shed is a one and a half story storage facility adjacent to the modern park entrance. The foundation is concrete piers and the floor is wood plank. The wood siding is board and batten stained a dark brown so as to keep a low profile and to keep with the historical character of the park. The roof is gabled with light brown wood shingles. A single entrance is located on the north side of the building and consists of two large hinged wood doors with x-shaped braces. The interior of the shed is open and used for the storage of firewood. Campers often buy wood at this shed to build camp fires during the summer months. There is a basketball hoop on the west façade. Two bike racks are located immediately adjacent to the north façade of the building.

10. Lean-to shelters, 1979, non-contributing due to age

Within the second area of the park are fifteen shelters that are 12' by 15' in plan and constructed of logs with concrete bases. One of the short sides is open to the air while the other three sides are stacked logs that support a shed log roof covered with wood shingles. The shelters have concrete bases which anchor two log columns that support the highest point of the roof.

11. Picnic Shelters, 1983, non-contributing due to age

There are two picnic shelters that are 16' by 40' skeleton constructions with open walls that consist only of regularly spaced posts. The first shelter is located between the old access road and the modern access road. The second shelter is located at the foot of the path to the fire tower within the third part of the park. These stained brown log posts that support the wood shingled, gable roof are anchored in a concrete slab.

These structures are in keeping with the historical character of the park by maintaining an unobtrusive profile.

12. Garage, 1984, non-contributing due to age

Located between the modern gate to the park and the toll booth are the rangers' quarters and the garage. This simple square plan structure is one story in height with a window in each bay with the exception of the east facade where a garage door is present. The roof is gabled with light-brown wood-shingles. The siding is vertical shiplap clapboard that is stained dark brown

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to keep with the historical character of the park. Six over six double hung windows are trimmed in white. The garage door is paneled and stained white. A simple trim board work stained white sets off the roof line.

13. Ranger Quarters, 1984, non-contributing due to age

Two identical cottages, single story, three by two bay homes are on the eastern edge of the park between the gate and the toll booth. The homes are side gabled with vertical, shiplap clapboard that is stained dark brown to keep with the historical character of the park. The roofs are light brown wood shingled with white trim. Primary entrances are on the south facades through a metal storm door with a center pane of glass. To either side of the door are paired six over six double hung stained white wood windows. White novelty shutters flank all windows. The gable ends are covered in white clapboard.

Elmore State Park
Name of Property

Lamoille County, Vermont
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Entertainment/Recreation

Landscape Architecture

Period of Significance

1934-1939

Significant Dates

1934

1935

1936

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

US Department of the Interior

Civilian Conservation Corps

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

VT Dept. of Forests, Parks & Recreation

Elmore State Park
Name of Property

Lamoille County, Vermont
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 755

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	695325	4935962
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2	18	696544	4935032

3	18	695000	4932807
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4	18	693928	4933330

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sarah MacCallum

University of Vermont

organization Graduate Program in Historic Preservation date May 11, 1999

street & number Wheeler House telephone (802) 656-3180

city or town Burlington state VT zip code 05405

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name VT Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation, c/o Larry Simino, Director, State Parks

street & number 103 South Main Street telephone (802) 241-3700

city or town Waterbury state VT zip code 05671-0603

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Register of Historic Places
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Elmore State Park
Elmore, Lamoille County, Vermont

The Elmore State Park in Elmore, Vermont, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under the Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks MPDF and clearly meets the state parks, country parks, and recreational demonstration areas property type registration requirements. Elmore State Park is a property of local and state significance as it is associated with the Civilian Conservation Corps' (CCC) contribution to the history of Vermont and the nation and it embodies the distinctive characteristics of architecture, landscape architecture, and recreation areas created by the CCC. While the area has been traversed perhaps since prehistoric times, the park's period of significance dates from the time the CCC began work at the park in 1934. The CCC was created during a national depression to undertake public works projects in the 1930s throughout the United States. The CCC's work at Elmore is thereby significant under the category of social history. The park was completed in 1936, when ownership was taken over by the State of Vermont. The State built a fire tower on the summit of Elmore Mountain shortly after. While there has been new construction at the park, the work of the CCC has formed a lasting impression on the landscape. The Vermont State Parks system has respected and upheld the goals of the CCC to increase access to recreational opportunities within the natural landscape. The nomination of the park to the National Register is part of the Vermont State Park's attempt to document and maintain its historic resources.

The history of Elmore State Park really begins in the region's prehistory. The Green Mountains, which include the Worchester Mountain range, are the oldest mountains in New England. Originally formed over five hundred million years ago by lifting and shifting in the earth's crust, these mountains have been weathered down by ice, erosion, and time. It is more than likely that after the recession of the sheets of ice from the ice age after 7,000 BC, members of the Western Abenaki Archaic people traversed the area of the park. While there is currently no proof of a specific place of habitation of the Western Abenaki people in this area, it is possible that the resources existing on the land were extracted seasonally through hunting and harvesting activities.

The Vermont State Historic Preservation Office has records indicating that prehistoric Native American artifacts have been uncovered at the southern end of Elmore Lake. Further archaeological investigations along Elmore Lake would be likely to yield information on prehistoric use of the land. The land continued to be utilized seasonally by Native Americans

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Elmore State Park
Elmore, Lamoille County, Vermont

in this manner until the seventeenth century when Anglo-Saxon settlers immigrated to the land that shortly thereafter became the State of Vermont.

Martin and Jesse Elmore, sons of the American Revolutionary War Colonel Samuel Elmore, first settled the Town of Elmore in 1790. It is believed that the Elmore brothers came from Ticonderoga Fort in New York State with James and Seth Olmstead and Aaron Keeler. Saw milling was the first major enterprise undertaken by settlers in the area. Elmore Lake was known as Meade's Pond and mountain tributaries were harnessed for their water power. The Town of Elmore remained a small mountain town into the twentieth century. Today, due mostly to its location within the Worchester Mountains, it is still a small and isolated town.

The Civilian Conservation Corps' history began with the stock market crash of 1929. This historic event sent the United States economy into a sustained recession that would come to be known as the Great Depression. President Franklin D. Roosevelt was instrumental in the creation of legislation, referred to as the New Deal, in the early 1930s that sought to address the suffering wrought on so many Americans. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was a job corps created by the New Deal through the Department of Labor and the U.S. Army in 1933. The CCC was funded by federal government grants to states for the purpose of hiring young men to do public works projects, at the same time giving these young men employment and job skills while stimulating civic pride. In Vermont, the Civilian Conservation Corps' created recreational areas in the rural areas of Vermont and significantly assisted the early beginnings of the Vermont State Parks system.

The original property owners of the land that would become Elmore State Park include the McKee, Stafford, and Barrette families of Elmore, Vermont. These families most likely used the land for agricultural or forestry activities. The major scope of the CCC's work dealt with transforming the natural landscape into a recreational area.

Previous to the United States government's purchase of the land in 1934, the only building that existed on the land was an old hotel on the eastern slope of Elmore Mountain. The CCC began to carve a route of access into the park along the lake.

The bath house currently sits prominently along this route. Lodges and facilities for the members of the corps were also constructed within the park at the base of the eastern slope of the mountain. Shortly after the State of Vermont acquired the land from the federal government in 1938, these twenty or so structures were either removed or later destroyed by neglect.

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Elmore State Park
Elmore, Lamoille County, Vermont

At Elmore State Park, the Civilian Conservation Corps' work is still prevalent. The landscape of the park was transformed by the CCC from agricultural production and forestry activities to a seasonal recreation area. The landscaping and construction needed to facilitate this change in use were significant and remain visible still today. The primary access to the beach is still the road constructed by the CCC. The beach itself was most likely worked on by CCC members. Sand was probably imported to the shore line and large rocks were removed to other areas within the park. The bath house constructed by the CCC sits prominently along the access road and is the main structure at Elmore State Park.

The bath house is an excellent example of the rustic architecture constructed by the CCC. The split log siding, massive chimney, and dark brown stain are typical of other CCC structures throughout Vermont and the nation. Though there might have been an architect within the CCC that produced the plans of this building, the name of the individual has been lost. Architects and designers of the CCC often worked in teams and were not individually recognized for their work. The designers of the building were most likely aware of other CCC projects at the time and shared information regarding engineering and materials. This sharing of information is evident in the close resemblance of Vermont's Sandbar State Park bath house to the bath house at Elmore. It is possible that the same team of designers worked on both bath houses. The dissemination of information regarding different CCC projects was possible even in the remote areas occupied by the CCC due to federal government supervision.

The State of Vermont has increased accessibility to the park and it opportunities for recreation by constructing new structures and buildings that are sympathetic to the construction and landscaping of the CCC. The first structure erected by the State of Vermont was the 1939 fire tower at the summit of Elmore Mountain. The tower, US #140, VT #03, was constructed after a 1938 hurricane caused extensive damage to forests throughout New England and increased the risk of forest fires. A cabin, which is no longer standing, was completed in 1940 to provide a manned lookout at the summit. No traces remain of the cabin. The fire tower remains mostly unchanged since its construction in 1939. All fire viewing equipment was removed from the viewing platform of the tower when the fire tower was taken out of service in the 1970s. The fire tower embodies a unique architecture that was tailored to its function and possesses a high level of integrity. It should therefore be eligible under criteria C under the category of architecture.

Since the CCC era, many other structures have been constructed within the park. In 1936, the federal government sold the property to the State of Vermont. Since that time, the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation has maintained the property as a state park and

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Elmore State Park
Elmore, Lamoille County, Vermont

expanded its accessibility to the public. Lean-to shelters, picnic shelters, fireplaces, a firewood shed, several fireplaces, two cottages, and a garage have been added to the park's inventory. Most of the area up-slope from the beach, to the north of the original CCC work, has been landscaped to provide a second point of access. A road and gate now mark the new and primary access point, which is directly adjacent to the campground area and rangers' quarters. Trees and other plantings have been added to this area, as well as day-use barbecue sites. Remarkably, the bath house, the beach, and its access road have remained much the way the CCC left them.

Though the park has continued to evolve, it was the work of the CCC that began the park and transformed the rugged natural landscape into an automobile accessible recreational area. This is perhaps the most significant change to the landscape that the park area has ever undergone. Elmore State Park represents the contribution of the Civilian Conservation Corps to the history of the Vermont State Parks system as well as the contribution by the CCC to national public works improvement. The bath house is an evident reminder of the CCC's distinctive architectural designs and construction. While the park's structural inventory has been expanded since the time of the CCC, it is the beach and the bath house that are still the identity of Elmore State Park. For these reasons, Elmore State Park is a historically significant area that is therefore eligible for the National Register.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1
Vermont

Elmore State Park
Elmore, Lamoille County,

Haviland, William A. and Marjory W. Power. *The Original Vermonters*. Hanover, N.H.: The University Press of New England, 1994.

Norton, Mary Beth et al. *A People and a Nation*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1994.

National Park Service. *National Historic Landmark Nomination: Mendocino Woodlands Recreational Demonstration Area*. Washington, D.C: U. S. Department of the Interior, 1995.

Sanders, Willard K. *The Story of the Elmore Methodist Church*. Elmore, Vt.: Elmore Methodist Church, 1968.

Vermont Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation. "Elmore State Park Archives". Waterbury, Vt.: Vermont Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation, 1999.

Vermont State Historic Preservation Office. Town of Elmore File. Montpelier, Vt.: Vermont State Historic Preservation Office, 1999.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

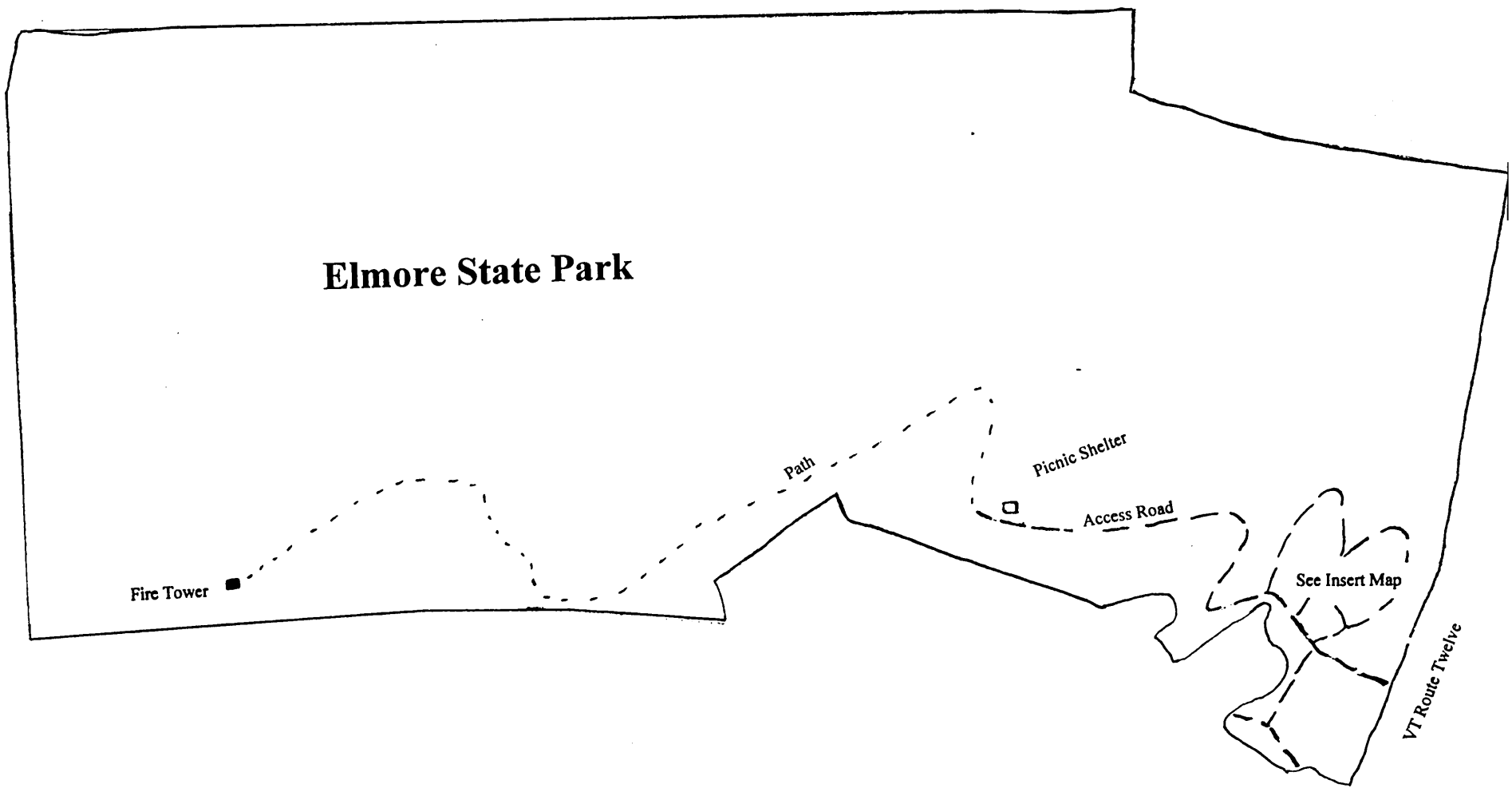
Elmore State Park
Elmore, Lamoille County, Vermont _____

1. Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of Elmore State Park are as stated in the Town of Elmore's Tax Map Three as lots nineteen and twenty.

2. Boundary Justification

This area includes all of the historic park area as it was managed and shaped by the Civilian Conservation Corps. It is therefore sufficient to convey the historic nature of the park.



Elmore State Park

Fire Tower

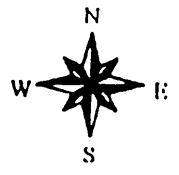
Path

Picnic Shelter

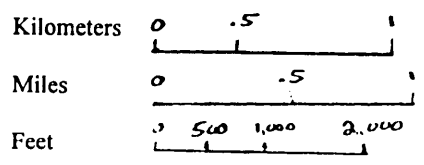
Access Road

See Insert Map

VT Route Twelve

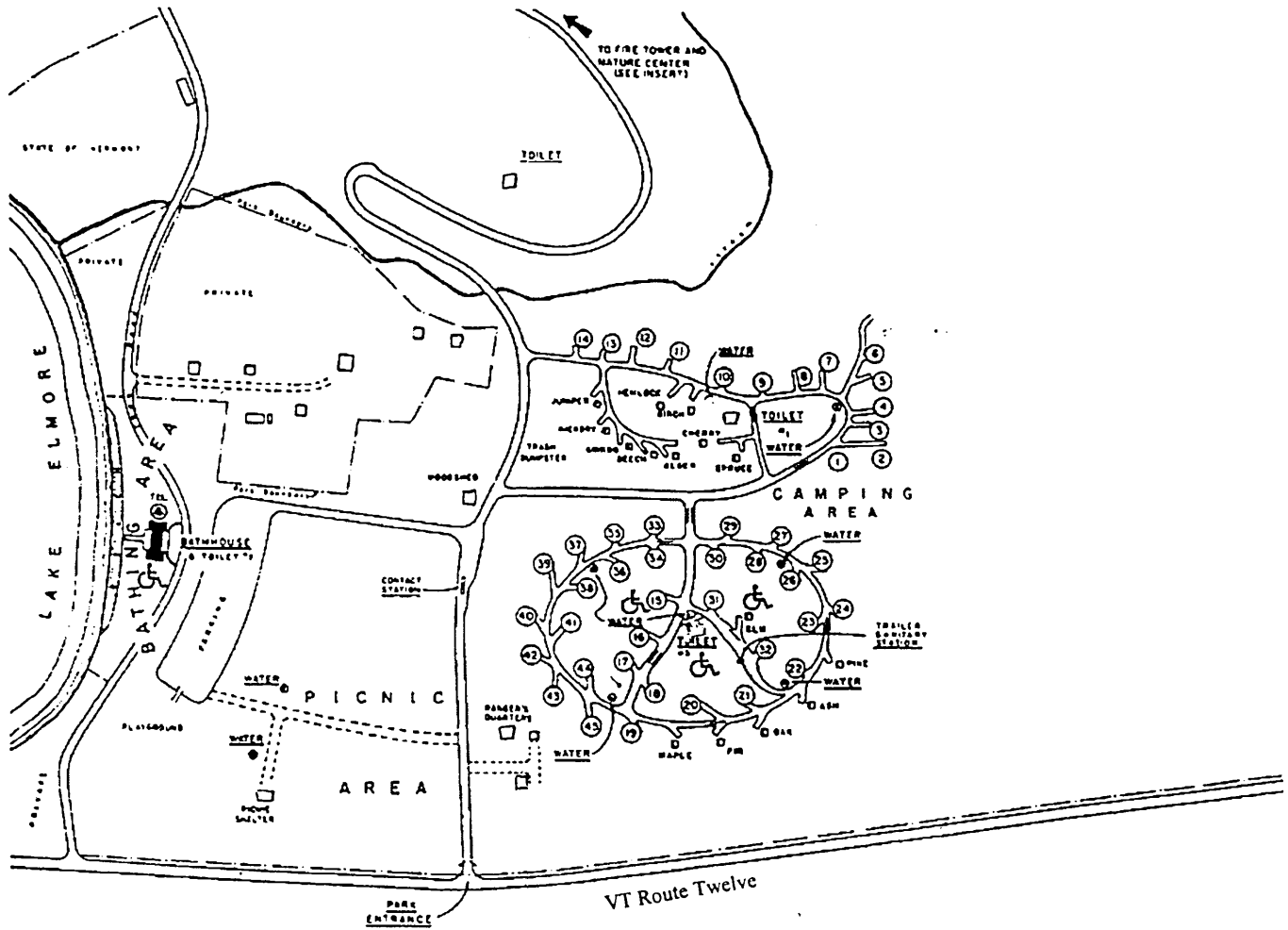


- Contributing
- Non-contributing



Elmore State Park
 Elmore, Lamoille County, Vermont

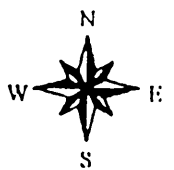
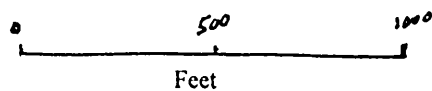
Elmore State Park Insert Map



Legend

- Tent Site..... ⑩
- Lean-to..... □
- Water..... ●

- Contributing
- Non-contributing



Elmore State Park
Elmore, Lamoille County, Vermont

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photo List Page 1

Elmore State Park
Elmore, Lamoille County, Vermont

Photograph List

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Elmore State Park
Elmore, Lamoille County, Vermont
Credit: Sarah MacCallum
Date: May 1999
Negative on file at Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

Photo 1
View looking East of Elmore Lake Beach (#3)

Photo 2
View looking SE of Bath House (#1)

Photo 3
View looking N of Bath House (#1)

Photo 4
View looking W of Fire Tower (#5)

Photo 5
View looking SW of abandoned toilet building (#8)

Photo 6
View looking NE of picnic shelter (# 11)

Photo 7
View looking SW, old CCC camp cellar hole