

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

RECEIVED 2280

OCT - 9 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Loleta Recreation Area

Other names/site number: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: Along SR 3002 approximately 1156 feet northwest of its intersection with Millstone Road

City or town: Millstone Township State: PA County: Elk

Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

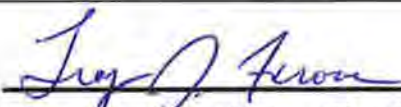
I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A ___ B X C ___ D

 Signature of certifying official/Title: <u>USFS - EASTERN REGION FEDERAL PRESERVATION OFFICER</u> State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	<u>10/1/95</u> Date
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In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Andrea McDonald June 23, 2015

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Preservation Services Division Manager PA Historical and Museum Commission

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

4. 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:)

For Eason H. Beall 11.24.15
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
Public – Local
Public – State
Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
District

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Site

Structure

Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>8</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/Outdoor recreation
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/Waterworks
LANDSCAPE/Street Furniture/Object

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/Outdoor recreation
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/Waterworks
LANDSCAPE/Street Furniture/Object

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: Rustic Style

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: STONE:Limestone, CONCRETE, WOOD:Log, ASPHALT

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary of Loleta Recreation Area

The Loleta Recreation Area is located in Millstone Township, Elk County, Pennsylvania, between State Route (SR) 3002 and Millstone Road in the southern portion of the Allegheny National Forest (Photo 1). The area is approximately 10.7 acres in size and includes the confluence of Sugar Camp Run and Millstone Creek. The Loleta Recreation Area, hidden away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life, hosts swimming, picnicking, and camping facilities for families looking to spend a day outdoors. Surrounding the recreation area is forested land. The landscaping, including plantings, sand beach, and cleared area was created by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The site, previously Loleta mill and lumber town, was rehabilitated into a recreation area by the CCC from 1933 through 1937. On the eastern side of the property is a moderately straight line of pine trees planted by the CCC during the 1930s that forms a natural boundary between the heavily wooded forest and cleared recreation area. The property consists

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of 9 resources: 1 contributing building, the CCC bathhouse; 1 noncontributing building, a modern bathhouse constructed in the early 1990s; 1 contributing site, the pond and its sand beach; 6 contributing structures, 2 CCC picnic pavilions, 2 CCC dams that form the pond, and 2 CCC footbridges, one across Millstone Creek and one across Sugar Camp Run,¹ both south of the pond. All resources are built in the Rustic Style of architecture.

The property centers on the swimming pond created by the two dams along the northwest to southeast flowing Millstone Creek, just north of its confluence with Sugar Camp Run. The swimming pond reaches about seven feet at its deepest. The swimming area is surrounded by grass except for a small sand beach on the eastern edge of the pond (Photo 2). The dams are concrete faced with stone and include stone retaining walls (Photos 3 and 4). The construction of the dams began in 1933² and the other contributing resources were built between 1933 and 1937. The contributing frame, 1 story, rectangular, log CCC bathhouse is roughly west of the pond (Photo 5) and one contributing, square, 1 story log pavilion with concrete flooring finished to resemble fieldstone (Photo 6) is located roughly north of the CCC bathhouse³. The 1 noncontributing frame, 1 story, rectangular, log bathhouse (Photo 8) is located roughly east of the pond and sand beach, and the second contributing, square, 1 story log pavilion with concrete flooring finished to resemble fieldstone (Photo 7) is located roughly north of it. A parking area, which is considered an uncounted landscape feature, is located roughly south of the modern bathhouse. The two footbridges are located just south of the pond, with one crossing Sugar Camp Run and one crossing Millstone Creek. A third pavilion and a tool shed/office building once on

¹ E-mail from Allegheny National Forest Archaeologist Amanda Glaz to Keith Heinrich, March 26, 2015. The bridges appear on the 1938 Final Design Plan for the Loleta Recreation Area and, based on information in Allegheny National Forest files, neither has been replaced.

² Frye, Lori; Deborah Dobson-Brown; Herb Beamer, Robert Corso. *A Cultural Resource Examination of the Loleta Recreation Area, Millstone Township, Elk County, Pennsylvania*. (Columbus, OH: ASC Group, Inc., 1993; on file at Allegheny National Forest, Warren, PA), page G-3.

³ For ease, the removed pavilion will be referred to as picnic pavilion A, the picnic pavilion near the CCC bathhouse will be referred to as picnic pavilion B, and the picnic pavilion near the modern bathhouse will be referred to as picnic pavilion C.

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the property were both removed in 1994 due to deterioration.⁴ Despite the loss of two CCC-era resources and the addition of a modern bathhouse, the property retains integrity.

Narrative Description

The Loleta Recreation Area Overview

Nestled in the center of the recreation area are the upper and lower dams and swimming pond. The swimming area is surrounded by grass except for a small sand beach on the eastern edge of the pond. Secluded in the northwestern area of the recreation area is Picnic Pavilion B. This pavilion is shaded by pine and oak trees and holds four picnic benches. Directly across the river from Picnic Pavilion B is Picnic Pavilion C. It is situated in the northeastern side of the recreation area and sits in a grassy area that includes oak and pine trees. To the east of the pond and behind the small sand beach sits a current and functioning bathhouse, built in the 1990s when the bathing facilities in the CCC bathhouse were removed. This bathhouse was not built by the CCC; however, it features similar materials and was constructed in the Rustic Style. Just behind the new bathhouse is the previously-mentioned line of pine trees planted by the CCC. In the southeastern part of the recreation area, slightly hidden by trees, is the parking lot for visitors to the area. Also to the south of the pond and the new bathhouse are the two footbridges.

Just beyond the parking lot is where the office/tool shed once stood. In the lower loop of the recreation area past the lower dam is an open grassy spot where Picnic Pavilion A was once located. According to the Final Design Plan (Figure 1) in the southwest section of the Loleta Recreation Area there was a cleared area set aside for sporting activities. Today surrounding the Recreation Area are designated places for camping in upper and lower camping loops. The upper loop camping area is recommended for tents and small RV trailers, while the lower loop can accommodate tents, RV's, and larger trailers. Both were added in the 1950s and 1960s. In the western area of the site is the original bathhouse; it is situated behind the grassy swimming pond bank.

⁴ Historic Resource Survey file for Loleta Recreation Area. (On file Harrisburg, PA: Bureau for Historic Preservation).

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Aside from constructing the two dams, the picnic pavilions, and the bathhouse, the CCC also landscaped the recreation area. The planting plan for Loleta Recreation Area (Figure 2) consisted of existing trees and shrubbery to which the CCC added more plantings. The Forest is known for its hardwoods such as black cherry, oak, and beech. Studying the current landscape, the CCC planted pine, maple, black cherry, and beech trees in the area. From the original drawings, the CCC chose to build the pavilions among existing mature trees. This gave the illusion of privacy since the pavilions were isolated from the beach and swimming area. The natural boundary of pine trees behind the new bathhouse is also a testament to CCC landscaping. The CCC may have planted these trees to segment the rest of the Forest from the recreation area. Currently, the Loleta Recreation Area is the only space in the surrounding area to be clear of trees. Looking up or down Millstone Creek a visitor would notice the creek is lined with dense trees and shrubbery (Photo 13). The CCC purposefully allowed trees to re-grow there, while maintaining the open grassy recreation area. The present landscape and layout is similar to the original landscape plan.

Upper and Lower Dams, Swimming Pond, and Beach

The most notable feature of the Loleta Recreation Area is the two dams (Figure 3) that form the park's swimming area. In 1933, the CCC joined the Civil Works Authority (CWA) on the project to complete the dams. The style of Rustic Architecture is demonstrated by the use of natural rough cut stone (Figure 4). The walls of the dams were built with rough cut stone, filled in with concrete grout, and reinforced with steel mesh. The upper dam spans Millstone Creek and measures twenty-six feet, eleven inches wide and seventeen feet in length (Photos 3 and 14). At the north end of the upper dam is a sluice. The upper dam features retaining walls that measure 9 feet in height (framed with rectangular cut limestone). The lower dam slows the flow of water to create a calm stream and is ten feet, two inches by ten feet square and six feet tall (Photos 1, 4, and 10). The lower dam is divided into halves by a masonry pier which contains a sluice. The apron of the dam is constructed out of concrete, with limestone at the base to dissipate water energy. Over the years the dams have been periodically repaired and repointed, especially after damage from flood events. These two dams form the central swimming area. This swimming area was constructed from the remains of the mill pond found at the lumber town of Loleta from 1889 to 1914. The swimming pond is deepest in the center at seven feet and spans 170 feet

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across from shoreline to shoreline (Photos 2 and 5). Along with the repairs, stone and wire gabions were added over time, most recently in 2013, to shore up the swimming pond's bank. The sand beach connects to the swimming pond across from the CCC bathhouse.

CCC Bathhouse

The CCC-built bathhouse is an excellent example of the high quality construction of the CCC (Photos 1, 5, 11, and 17). The building sits on a concrete base and measures forty-eight feet, ten inches by fifteen feet, eleven inches. It consists of half-logs of uniform shape and sizing set in a horizontal pattern to form the exterior of the structure. The roof, which is covered in asphalt shingles over original cedar shingles, is hipped with a projecting center cross-gable supported by four log columns. The original fenestration and wane-edged siding of the bathhouse are all present today. Originally the east and west portions of the bathhouse were two separate changing facilities for men and women (Figure 5). In 1936, however, a center section was added to combine the two buildings (Figure 6 and 7). This middle section housed toilets and sinks.

Overall the front façade of the bathhouse is symmetrical. There are four evenly spaced doors, two under each side of the central cross-gable, and one on each end of the building, leading into the former men's and women's changing facilities. Between the outer doors and the central cross-gable are two sets of horizontal two-paned windows. These windows are quite small and are even with the tops of the doorframes. The side elevations are also symmetrical: there are two small windows centered in the middle of the walls on each side of the building. The rear elevation features a projecting center section with two small windows flush with the far side of the projection (Figure 8). Historic photos (Figures 6 and 7) show that the men's and women's sections of the bathhouse originally had skylights; however, 1979 plans drafted for interior renovations to the bathhouse (Figure 8) show no skylights. Based on those plans and the 30-40 year lifespan of cedar shingles⁵, it is likely that the skylights were removed and the bathhouse was reroofed with asphalt ca. 1979 when renovations were undertaken.

⁵ Cedar Shake and Shingle Bureau. Online.
<http://www.cedarbureau.org/frequently-asked-questions/product/longevity.asp>.
Accessed March 18, 2015.

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The interior of the bathhouse currently consists of three large open rooms. Originally, the bathhouse consisted of open men's and women's dressing rooms on either side with a central bathroom section (Figure 9). In 1979, sinks and benches were added to the men's and women's changing rooms and private changing stalls were added to one of the changing rooms. In addition, concrete wheelchair ramps were added to the entrances to the changing rooms (Figure 8). In 1990 the interior of the bathhouse was gutted for an anticipated museum; however, the museum was never created. Currently the interior is devoid of all benches, plumbing, and interior wall decoration except for a few one-bulb light fixtures (Photo 15). The changes to the interior of the CCC bathhouse do not greatly affect integrity since the building, according to the historic plans, was fairly spare, accommodating only bathrooms and changing rooms. It also is likely that the space would not have been divided by full-height walls since it was used for only toilets and changing rooms. The exterior of the bathhouse today is without the concrete wheelchair ramps.

Picnic Pavilions

Picnic pavilions B and C share the same basic log construction. Both measure twenty one feet, six inches, by twenty one feet, six inches square, with an overall height of about nine feet. The pavilions are open with simple pyramidal roofs supported by eight log columns. These log columns, which are located on the corners and middle of each side, act as framing supports for the roof and brace log crossbeams in the ceiling. In pavilion C the log supports sit on fourteen inch high concrete bases (Photo 7) while pavilion B's supports are on square concrete bases directly on the flooring (Photo 6). The interior ceiling is made of exposed wood framing (Photo 12). Asphalt shingles were placed over the original cedar shingles to decrease deterioration during undocumented repair work likely dating to the 1979 bathhouse renovations (see above). Originally both pavilions had fieldstone flooring. This fieldstone flooring had irregular shaped stones ranging from almost three feet to less than one and a half feet. Due to the constant exposure to the elements the fieldstone flooring was replaced with faux fieldstone concrete flooring in both pavilions around 1994 (Photo 16). This loss does not compromise the property's

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integrity because the replacement was sensitive to the original design. Removed in 1994, pavilion A (Figure 11) would have been constructed similarly.⁶

Footbridge over Sugar Camp Run

A small, 22 foot, 4 inch bridge crosses Sugar Camp Run just south of the swimming pond (Photos 17 and 18). It sits on concrete abutments faced with stone on each bank of Sugar Camp Run and is supported by two I-beam stringers with wooden fascia boards on the outside to give the appearance of an all wood structure. It features a wood deck and simple wood railing. It is likely that portions of the decking and railing have been replaced in kind over the years as part of routine maintenance and upkeep, although there are no records of these changes in the Allegheny National Forest's files.

Footbridge over Millstone Creek

A longer footbridge spans Millstone Creek just below the swimming pond (Photos 9 and 17). It sits on concrete abutments faced with stone, which are located in the creek just in front of the banks. Like the bridge over Sugar Camp Run, it is supported by two I-beam stringers with wooden fascia boards on the outside to give the appearance of an all wood structure. It features a wood deck and simple wood railing. It is likely that portions of the decking and railing have been replaced in kind over the years as part of routine maintenance and upkeep, although there are no records of these changes in the Allegheny National Forest's files.

Changes to the Loleta Recreation Area

The office/tool shed (Figure 10) was removed in 1994 due to deterioration of the structure.⁷ It was originally designed to hold construction tools, but was later converted into an office building. Its loss does not greatly impact integrity because it was a small-scale resource built to house workers' tools, and it was not strongly associated with recreation. In addition, when it was converted to an office, it was used only to hold maps and house a person to provide assistance to

⁶ Historic Resource Survey file for Loleta Recreation Area. (On file Harrisburg, PA: Bureau for Historic Preservation).

⁷ Historic Resource Survey file for Loleta Recreation Area. (On file Harrisburg, PA: Bureau for Historic Preservation).

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users of the area. The loss of picnic pavilion A, while unfortunate, does not greatly impact integrity because the other two original pavilions remain. The recreation area also housed a small scale lifeguard stand (Figure 4) which was located on a concrete slab to the south of the sand beach. The lifeguard stand is no longer at the Loleta Recreation Area; however, this is not a big issue for integrity because it was a small-scale feature.

The majority of renovations in the Loleta Recreation Area are due to environmental causes, not man-made causes. Despite the losses of the office/tool shed and picnic pavilion A, the remainder of the Loleta Recreation Area remains intact. Where both structures once stood is now a field or forested land. The most significant alteration has been the building of the new bathhouse in the 1990s. This building was constructed to accommodate the lack of bathroom facilities in the original bathhouse. Overall, design and construction was done with care to ensure new materials imitated CCC Rustic Architecture. The one story exterior of the new bathhouse is lined with similar horizontal wane-edged siding (Photo 8). A centered cross-gable is supported by five log supports. The base is made of concrete and the roof is hipped. These characteristics are very similar to the original bathhouse, and, therefore, do not greatly impact the property's integrity.

Integrity

The Loleta Recreation Area retains integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association. The recreation area retains integrity of location since the original bathhouse, dams, and pavilions have not been moved from their original location. Integrity of setting is present since the physical environment of the Loleta Recreation Area in the Allegheny National Forest has only matured since 1933; there has been no unsympathetic development. CCC photographs document saplings that have now grown into towering oak, pine, and maple trees. Shrubbery and trees in the original planting plan around both picnic pavilions still exist today. Integrity of design and workmanship is present. The layout of the recreation area remains virtually unchanged and the design of the buildings and structures is clearly visible. The changes to the interior of the bathhouse slightly impact integrity; however, based on historic plans (Figure 9) the design was originally fairly spare. In addition, the loss of the tool shed and picnic pavilion A slightly impact integrity of design, but the resources that remain clearly convey the

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significance of the property. In terms of integrity of workmanship, the Loleta Recreation Area clearly shows the craft tradition of Rustic Architecture used by the CCC workers. The architecture reflects the CCC's goals of designing and building structures which stand the test of time and use natural materials. Integrity of materials is retained since all buildings display their original materials with the exception of the roofs. For example, the original wane-edged siding still lines the façade of the bathhouse. Integrity of feeling and association is present because the physical features such as the pavilions, dams, bathhouse, and landscape convey the property's historic CCC character. Furthermore, integrity of feeling and association is enhanced by the fact that the Loleta Recreation Area is not located along a major highway, giving the site a quiet and peaceful air. This recreation area is a direct link to CCC construction and the New Deal program which fueled the Corps and combated the country's worsening economic condition. The Loleta Recreation Area is still a popular area today.

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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.)

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Entertainment/Recreation

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Period of Significance

1933-1965

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)

Civil Works Authority (CWA)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Loleta Recreation Area meets National Register Criterion A for Entertainment/Recreation and Criterion C for Architecture. In terms of the former, the Loleta Recreation Area is significantly associated with the CCC's development of recreational facilities on the Allegheny National Forest during the 1930s and with recreation on the Forest into the 1960s. As one of only two recreation areas with swimming facilities and related amenities, the Loleta Recreation Area provided a level of recreational opportunities not available on much of the Forest. In addition, the fact that the local public advocated for improved recreation here demonstrates its significance. Furthermore, when other recreation areas could not be completed with the allocated funding, their funding was diverted to Loleta. The Loleta Recreation Area remained a significant recreation area into the 1960s. In terms of the latter, the Loleta Recreation Area embodies the distinctive characteristics of Rustic Architecture. The craftsmanship that was a hallmark of this style is readily apparent at the Loleta Recreation Area in the log construction, stonework, and landscaping. The period of significance begins in 1933 with construction of the upper and lower dams and ends in 1965, when the Kinzua Reservoir was completed and became the preeminent recreation resource on the Forest.

Summary History

The Lumber Town of Loleta

In 1895, C.W. Amsler and J.C. Campbell purchased land along Millstone Creek to use for their lumbering operation. A sawmill was built to process logs from a huge tract of the newly bought forest land. By December 1899, the new town of Loleta had this sawmill, two boarding houses, a schoolhouse, a stable, a general store, a blacksmith shop, and a post office. 600 people lived in this little town, with the residents working mainly in the sawmill, as well as in a broom handle factory and a shingle mill. The town of Loleta was originally known as Yankee or Whiskey Town, but when the area needed a formal post office, the official name of Loleta was chosen. In 1913, when all the trees in the area were cut down and processed, the sawmill shut down. The town was abandoned as the residents migrated elsewhere and the buildings were dismantled.

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Archeologist Martin McAllister describes the town of Loleta as a place with “a brief but lively history, though, in and of itself, it was probably not very different from many other logging towns that sprang up rapidly and then disappeared just as rapidly after the timber was gone.”⁸ The main remnant of the town of Loleta was a dilapidated splash dam associated with the sawmill.

The Allegheny National Forest and Loleta

In 1923, a large parcel of land, including the abandoned lumber town of Loleta was acquired by the Federal Government and the Allegheny National Forest was established. Throughout the years locals knew of the abandoned town and many residents of Marienville would go swimming in the mill pond (contained by a dilapidated splash dam) that remained. The area however, was precarious for swimmers because of the presence of debris such as logs and other material from the logging town. Because the Federal Government owned the land, residents petitioned for a safe Loleta recreation area. In 1933, the CWA and CCC arrived in the Allegheny National Forest and began fixing the splash dam (see Figures 4, 5, and 6).⁹

Loleta: A Safe Recreation Area

The Loleta Recreation Area was completed in 1937. It remained very popular with locals and visitors alike into the 1950s and 1960s. This was due to the fact there were not many recreation areas on the Forest that featured camping, recreation, and swimming facilities. In the 1950s, as people would leave the cities and suburbs to vacation in the outdoors, the Loleta Recreation Area became one of the most popular recreation areas in the Allegheny National Forest. The area was visited by families with young children who would spend the day picnicking, swimming, and then camping in the available camping area. Located in the middle of the swimming area was a diving platform and buoys to discourage young children from swimming in the deeper area. There was also a lifeguard on duty near the lower dam. By the late 1960s the Loleta Recreation

⁸ Miller, Terence. *Historical Interpretive Plan for Loleta Recreation Area: Interpreting the Former Logging Town of Loleta, Pennsylvania*. (Unpublished manuscript, Clemson, SC: Clemson University, 1987), page 8.

⁹ Schultz, Jr., Michael. *The Civilian Conservation Corps in the Allegheny National Forest: a Traveling Companion*. (Kane, PA: Kane Historic Preservation Society, 2011), pages 51-52.

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Area became a much less populated recreation area. The construction of the Allegheny Reservoir in the 1960s attracted the once loyal visitors of the Loleta Recreation Area to the Reservoir instead.¹⁰

The Loleta Recreation Area Today

In 1979 and 1994, large renovation and repair projects were conducted. In 1979, the interior of the CCC-built bathhouse was renovated and asphalt shingles were likely placed on all resources. In 1994, picnic pavilion A and the office/tool shed were removed. During this time the modern bathhouse was built and faux fieldstone flooring was installed in the remaining pavilions. Today, the Loleta Recreation Area is moderately used; based on a 1987 interpretive plan for the recreation area, there are only about 4,000 visitors per year.¹¹ Current repair work has included removing vegetation from dams, fixing aprons, and replacing missing concrete. All of these repairs are due to the 2013 flood damage to the dams.

Criterion A significance for Entertainment/Recreation

The CCC Nationwide

In 1933, as President Franklin Roosevelt began his first term as president, the nation was in the grips of the Great Depression, suffering from about 25% unemployment. To combat these economic problems, Roosevelt's New Deal created numerous Federal programs, including the Emergency Conservation Work (ECW), popularly known as the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and given that name officially in 1937. First led by Robert Fechner,¹² the CCC provided work for unemployed males during the Great Depression and became one of the most popular programs of the New Deal. Aside from providing jobs for young men, the CCC was designed to cope with national conservation needs and was "to be used in simple work, not interfering with

¹⁰ Miller, pages 14 and 16; Schultz, page 51.

¹¹ Miller, page 16.

¹² "Camp Roosevelt, NF-1, First CCC Camp in the Nation." *CCC Legacy*. Online. http://www.ccclegacy.org/Camp_Roosevelt_68B9.php. Accessed April 1, 2015.

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normal employment, and confining itself to forestry, the prevention of soil erosion, flood control, and similar projects.”¹³

The CCC, which was divided into nine regions nationwide—Pennsylvania was in Region 7¹⁴—was the result of the combined effort of many Government agencies, including the Department of Labor, which recruited the workers; the Department of the Army, which provided clothing and ran the camps; and the Departments of Interior, through the National Park Service, and Agriculture, through the U.S. Forest Service, which provided the work projects. Conservation, trail clearing, bridge building, dam building, and other construction were a few of the types of projects the CCC tackled. The basic eligibility requirements for the CCC were that one had to be a single male between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five. Throughout the United States 3,240,393 men joined to work for one dollar a day and free room and board.¹⁵

The CCC in Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania had 151 CCC camps, which was the second highest number of camps, behind California. Pennsylvania’s Governor Gifford Pinchot prepared the state for the CCC camps by having a plan for each camp already in place.¹⁶ A 1936 issue of *Forest Leaves*, the journal of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association, describes in detail the different types of work undertaken by these camps in Pennsylvania:

Fire prevention and suppression have perhaps been the outstanding work of the Camps on forest areas. ... Other works completed by the CCC in Pennsylvania during the period from April 1, 1933, to January 1, 1936, included the conduct of tree and plant disease activities over 151,940 acres, and the carrying on of rodent control work over 92,644 acres, the completion of public camp ground development of 2,038 acres, the planting of 14,078,000 trees, the conduct of forest stand improvement activities over 77,054 acres and the completion of timber estimating survey covering

¹³ Cohen, Stan. *The Tree Army: a Pictorial History of the Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1942*. (Missoula, MT: Pictorial Histories Publishing Company, 1980), page 6.

¹⁴ Frye, et al, page G-3.

¹⁵ Frye, et al, pages 17-18.

¹⁶ Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR). “The CCC Years.” Online.

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/thingstoknow/history/cccyears/index.htm>. Accessed March 20, 2015.

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1,124,465 acres.¹⁷

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In terms of recreational development, the CCC in Pennsylvania created roads "...through areas of exceptional or outstanding beauty," to create "...areas from which the motorists may secure exceptional views of the near countryside," and built dams to create bodies of water for recreation, built picnic facilities, and "greatly improved" other recreational facilities.¹⁸ Specific projects included the creation of "recreational demonstration areas," including Raccoon Creek in Beaver County (National Register listed 1987), which included camping areas, a plant nursery, a "winter sports center and general sports area," picnic facilities, and trails; and Laurel Hill in Somerset County (National Register listed 1987), which included a man-made 45-acre lake, campsites, trails, overlooks, and "a sportsmen's center for fishing."¹⁹ In addition, recreational work was undertaken at Blue Knob in Bedford County and Hickory Run in Carbon County, along with Fort Necessity in Fayette County, the Trexler Lehigh County Game Preserve, and "several municipal parks at Johnstown, Pa."²⁰

The CCC in the Allegheny National Forest

The second CCC camp in the nation (after Shenandoah County, VA's Camp Roosevelt),²¹ Camp Duhring (also known as Camp One), opened on the Allegheny National Forest on April 23, 1933. It was located approximately seven miles north of Marienville and was occupied from 1933-1942. The Forest would eventually host 15 other CCC camps, with some remaining open longer than others. These other camps included Kelletville/Camp 2 (open 3 years), Red Bridge/Camp Three (open 1933-1942), Highland/Camp Four (open 2 years), Sugar Run/Camp 5 (open 2 years)—Camp 5 later moved to Cameron County due to the need for forest fire protection there—Seldom Seen/Camp 6 (open 3 years), Bowman Mills/Camp 7 (open 3 years), Beaver Valley/Camp 8 (a temporary camp), Salmon Creek/Camp 9 (open 3 years), Mill Creek/Camp 10 (open 3 years), Dunkle Corners/Camp 11 (a temporary camp), Lamont/Camp 12

¹⁷ Taylor, Charles H. "Progress of E.C.W. in Penna." *Forest Leaves*. (Vol. XXVI, No.3, July 1936), page 9.

¹⁸ Bogardus, Dr. James F. "The C.C.C. in Pennsylvania." *Forest Leaves*. (Vol. XXVI, No.3, July 1936), page 11.

¹⁹ Taylor, page 10.

²⁰ Ibid.; PA DCNR, "The CCC Years."

²¹ "Camp Roosevelt, NF-1, First CCC Camp in the Nation."

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(open 2 years), Bull Hill/Camp 13 (open 1935-1942), and Corydon or Willow Creek/Camp 14 (open 2 years). Two camps, Hearts Content (open 2 years) and Hoffman Farm Camp (open 1 year), were not numbered.²² Loleta was erected by three CCC camps; Duhring/Camp One, Seldom Seen/Camp Six, and Salmon Creek/Camp Nine.²³

As noted in *Forest Leaves*:

*The advent of Emergency Conservation Work in 1933 permitted the Forest Service to call upon the Civilian Conservation Corps for much of the useful work since performed on this Forest. ...In protecting the Forest from fire, many miles of telephone line has been established between ranger stations, lookout towers, guard station, and Civilian Conservation Corps camps. ...The Forest Service has co-operated in the improvement and maintenance of many miles of rural roads. In addition, a considerable mileage of automobile trails has been constructed. ...The Forest has been keeping abreast of...reforestation of land burned over many years ago.... Improvement work has been carried on ..., thereby reducing materially the extent of diseased and poorly formed trees....*²⁴

Along with this type of work, the CCC also undertook recreational development at Allegheny Forest Camp, which featured picnic facilities (Figure 12), tent camping sites, and "...a scenic trail along the banks of the Allegheny River...;" at Heart's Content Forest camp, which was adjacent to a stand of old growth hemlock and pine, and featured "...picnic tables, a shelter, spring water, fireplaces and sanitary facilities," as well as tent camping facilities; at the "secluded" Kelly Pines Forest Camp, "...a picnic spot where hiking possibilities offer a decided attraction;" at Sandstone Springs Forest Camp, which featured a spring and "...a picnic shelter, fireplaces, tables, sanitary facilities and firewood...for free public use;" and at Twin Lakes Forest camp.²⁵ In addition, Anthony Merrill's *Our Eastern Playgrounds: a Guide to the National and State Parks and Forests of Our Eastern Seaboard* (1950), lists two other recreational areas built or improved by the CCC: Kennedy Springs, "...a wayside picnic convenience," and

²² Schultz, pages 11-35; PA DCNR. *Pennsylvania CCC Online Archive*. Online. <http://www.apps.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/ccc/view.aspx?Topic=camp>. Accessed April 1, 2015.

²³ Schultz, page 51.

²⁴ Frayer, H.C. "Allegheny National Forest: Then and Now." *Forest Leaves*. (Vol. XXVI, No.3, July 1936), pages 13-14.

²⁵ "Twin Lakes is Sixth Forest Camp in A.N.F." (Kane, PA: *The Kane Republican*, Second Section, July 15, 1937), page 7.

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Morrison Run, a camping area. In 1950, Merrill noted, "At those I have visited, I was impressed by the excellent condition of the facilities which looked so new or spruced up that it was difficult to believe that the CCC's had done the job ten years ago."²⁶

Recreational Significance of the Loleta Recreation Area

Built by the CCC between 1933 and 1937, the Loleta Recreation Area meets National Register Criterion A for Entertainment/Recreation as a significant recreational facility on the Allegheny National Forest. After the lumber town of Loleta was abandoned in 1913, residents of the nearby town of Marienville began to use the millpond as a swimming hole, despite the fact that it was contained by a dilapidated splash dam and contained logs and other debris from the lumber town era that could pose a hazard to users. The significance of the recreation area is demonstrated by the fact that residents petitioned the Forest Service to provide safe, upgraded facilities at Loleta. The Loleta Recreation Area's significance is also demonstrated by the fact that work to upgrade the swimming area was undertaken not long after Franklin Roosevelt was inaugurated in 1933 and established many of his New Deal programs, including the CWA, which began work at the recreation area and the CCC which completed the work from 1933 to 1937.²⁷ In addition, when plans were scaled back for the Twin Lakes Recreation Area, money and manpower were diverted to further improve the Loleta Recreation Area.²⁸

The significance of the Loleta Recreation Area is also demonstrated by the range of facilities that it offered. For example, as seen above, of the 8 recreational areas that were either developed or improved by the CCC, only 2 of them, Loleta and Twin Lakes, featured swimming ponds and other resources, such as bathhouses, associated with them. Of the other 6 recreation areas, 4 consisted of only campsites and picnic facilities and 2 consisted of only picnic facilities.²⁹ This range of facilities helps to explain why newspaper coverage from the time noted that "since Loleta Forest Camp has become known, tent colonies are appearing on the areas set aside for this

²⁶ Merrill, Anthony F., *Our Eastern Playgrounds: a Guide to the National and State Parks and Forests of Our Eastern Seaboard*, (New York: Whittlesey House, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc.: 1950), page 185, 187, and 188.

²⁷ Miller, page 14; Schultz, page 51.

²⁸ Historic Resource Survey file for Loleta Recreation Area.

²⁹ Merrill, Anthony F., page 185; "Twin Lakes Sixth Forest Camp to be Opened in Local District," (Warren, PA: *Warren Times-Mirror*, July 20, 1937), page 3.

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use of the recreational area.”³⁰ The range of facilities also explains why the Loleta Recreation Area remained significant into the 1960s. For example, in 1950, Thomas Merrill’s *Our Eastern Playgrounds: a Guide to the National and State Parks and Forests of Our Eastern Seaboard* described it as “...one of the two most popular recreation areas in the forest, largely because of the swimming pool in dammed-up Millstone Creek.”³¹

Criterion C significance for Architecture

Overview of Rustic Architecture

As the United States began to create National Parks in the late 19th century, there was no central overseeing authority. Some parks, like Yellowstone and Yosemite, came to be managed by the Army, while others were managed by the Department of the Interior. Naturally, the lack of a central authority was reflected in the architecture of the parks, with Army-managed parks featuring architecture that ignored its surroundings and Interior-managed parks featuring vernacular utilitarian buildings and structures. As railroads reached the western National Parks, they built facilities, such as hotels, that, at first, ignored their surroundings; however, once the railroads realized that facilities that fit in with the environment were more appealing to customers, the architecture began to take into account the natural landscape. The continued growth of landscape architecture as a discipline also influenced park architecture.³²

By the mid-1910s, most parks were administered by the Department of the Interior, but still lacked a central overseeing authority within that agency, which led to issues such as unsympathetic development in the parks. Park supporters advocated for such an authority and, on August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the bill creating the National Park Service. Large-scale development on the parks, however, was slow-moving. By 1918, National Park Service director Stephen Mather released a “Statement of Policy,” calling on park architecture to

³⁰ “Twin Lakes Sixth Forest Camp to be Opened in Local District.”

³¹ Merrill, page 187.

³² National Park Service. “In the Beginning: 1872-1916.” *Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942*. Online. http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/rusticarch/part1.htm. Accessed April 2, 2015.

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be in harmony with the landscape; however, development continued to move slowly. That same year, a National Park Service Landscape Engineer, Charles Punchard, was appointed.³³

In 1920, an assistant for Punchard, Daniel Hull, was brought on. When Punchard died soon after, Hull became the National Park Service Landscape Engineer. Under Punchard, and then Hull, “Rustic Architecture” began to take hold in the Park Service; facilities were designed individually to fit in with their specific park and, in addition to seeking harmony with the landscape, they also sought harmony with an area’s local history. By 1923, draftsman Thomas Vint became Hull’s assistant and, in just 3 years, he was basically overseeing the landscape engineering program.³⁴

From the late 1920s to the early 1930s, funding for individual parks, the source of funds for facilities construction, began to increase, along with funds for the Park Service as a whole. With this increased funding came increased staff for the landscape engineering program; however, since there were almost no courses for non-intrusive Rustic Architectural design, training of this staff fell on the Park Service. With the increased funding and staff, there was something of a building boom in the National Parks, especially those in the west. Working together, the architects and landscape architects were able to design numerous facilities that blended in with their surroundings, whether they were in the desert southwest or the mountain west. In cases where non-native materials had to be used, the designers still found ways to blend them with the environment. For example, the El Capitan Bridge at Yosemite was supported by steel I beams on concrete piers; however, the bridge was clad with a veneer of boulders on the piers and abutments, and used large logs to conceal the steel I-beams, making it appear to be made of local materials. Along with all of this construction, long-term plans were also developed for the western parks.³⁵

³³ National Park Service. “The Landscape Influence: 1916-1918.” *Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942*. Online. http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/rusticarch/part2.htm. Accessed April 2, 2015.

³⁴ National Park Service. “The Formative Decade: 1918-1927.” *Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942*. Online. http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/rusticarch/part3.htm. Accessed April 2, 2015.

³⁵ National Park Service. “Maturity Achieved: 1927-1932.” *Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942*. Online.

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When the CCC was created under the Roosevelt administration, the Park Service decided that its work would fall under the landscape engineering program. Training the large number of CCC workers was a challenge so, by 1935, the Park Service had created a textbook for Rustic Architecture,³⁶ which defined the style in this way:

Successfully handled, it is a style which, through the use of native materials in proper scale, and through the avoidance of rigid, straight lines, and over-sophistication, gives the feeling of having been executed by pioneer craftsmen with limited hand tools. It thus achieves sympathy with natural surroundings and with the past.”³⁷

Considerations in design included “...sensitive use of native and planted vegetation and...the incorporation of natural colors into the building’s exterior.” In addition, design needed to ensure that the scale of the facility fit in with its surroundings and to avoid removing imperfections from the materials, such as removing knots and so forth from wood cladding.³⁸ Naturally, these same requirements were applied to CCC work for the Forest Service. With increased park visitation, less funding, and the rise of modern architecture, the use of Rustic Architecture declined through the late 1930s and 1940s, however.³⁹

Architectural Significance of the Loleta Recreation Area

The Loleta Recreation Area meets National Register Criterion C for Architecture because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of Rustic Architecture. For example, the log construction of the CCC bathhouse and picnic pavilions blends in with the surrounding forested environment

http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/rusticarch/part4.htm. Accessed April 2, 2015.

³⁶ National Park Service. “Roosevelt’s Emergency Programs: 1933-1935.” *Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942*. Online.

http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/rusticarch/part5.htm. Accessed April 2, 2015.

³⁷ National Park Service. “Apologia.” *Park Structures and Facilities*. Online. http://npshistory.com/publications/park_structures_facilities/apologia.htm. Accessed, April 2, 2015.

³⁸ “Roosevelt’s Emergency Programs: 1933-1935.”

³⁹ National Park Service. “The Decline: 1935-1942.” *Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942*. Online.

http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/rusticarch/part6.htm. Accessed April 2, 2015.

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and its dark color complements the surrounding trees. In addition, these resources are of a scale where they do not overwhelm their surroundings and the logs used for the bathhouse and picnic pavilions are not perfectly uniform, so they appear as if they were created by only hand tools. Aside from fitting in with the natural surroundings, the log construction of the bathhouse and picnic pavilions also harkens back to the history of the area as a lumber processing area. Also, the siting of the picnic pavilions amongst mature trees quite literally blends them into their surroundings, while the landscaping includes types of trees that are common in the rest of the Forest.

Other resources on the site, such as the two bridges, also clearly exhibit the characteristics of Rustic Architecture. For example, as with the bridge at Yosemite mentioned above, the bridges at Loleta are constructed of steel and concrete; however, they are clad in wood and natural stone that makes them appear as if they were constructed entirely of natural materials from the surrounding area. Furthermore, the swimming pond harkens back to the history of the site, since it is located where the sawmill's splash dam was originally.

Comparisons

Although there are several recreation areas either built or improved by the CCC on the Allegheny National Forest, only one, the Twin Lakes Forest Camp, located approximately an hour northeast of Loleta and built by CCC camps 7 and 12 beginning in 1936, is comparable to the Loleta Recreation Area. Like Loleta, Twin Lakes features a large (7 acre) pond with sand beach; it was created by an earthen and log dam, as opposed to the concrete and stone dam at Loleta. Also like Loleta, it featured a bathhouse (though much larger than that at Loleta and including a pavilion and caretaker quarters), picnic pavilions (2 with stone fireplaces), and log footbridges. Like Loleta, it was built on the site of a former millpond and it remained popular well into the mid-20th century.⁴⁰

⁴⁰ Schultz, page 58-59; "The Forest Camp at a Glance." (Kane, PA: *The Kane Republican*, Second Section, July 15, 1937), page 7; Merrill, page 188.

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In terms of recreation, Twin Lakes was much larger than Loleta; however, unlike Loleta, it was never completed to its original plans. The original plans called for two lakes at the site (hence the name), but only one was ever completed due to budget constraints.⁴¹ In fact, the unspent money at Twin Lakes was diverted to Loleta.⁴² In addition, work at Loleta began in 1933, while work at Twin Lakes began in 1936. In terms of architecture, both Loleta and Twin Lakes were executed in the Rustic Style and both fit in with the surrounding natural environment and with the history of their sites. While half-logs were used in the construction of Loleta's bathhouse, however, the bathhouse at Twin Lakes used unfinished planed lumber for cladding (Figure 13).

In conclusion, the Loleta Recreation Area represents a significant recreation area in the Allegheny National Forest. The site is a significant example of CCC construction that has stood the test of time and is a prime example of Rustic Architecture. It demonstrates the dedication of the CCC to a local public who needed a safe recreation area. Over seventy years visitors can still see the impact the CCC had on the Forest through the Loleta Recreation Area.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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⁴¹ Schultz, page 58.

⁴² Historic Resource Survey file for Loleta Recreation Area.

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“Twin Lakes Sixth Forest Camp to be Opened in Local District.” *Warren Times-Mirror* (Warren, PA), July 20, 1937, page 3.

“Twin Lakes is Sixth Forest Camp in A.N.F.” *The Kane Republican* (Kane, PA), Second Section, 15 July 1937. Page 7.

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 # PA-5963
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # PA-279
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: Allegheny National Forest

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 10.7

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: CORS 96

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 41.404881 N Longitude: -79.085587

2. Latitude: 41.404803 N Longitude: -79.078834

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3. Latitude: 41.397842 N Longitude: -79.077616 W

4. Latitude: 41.397785 N Longitude: -79.085426 W

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:

2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of Loleta Recreation Area is shown on the map entitled "Loleta Recreation Area Site Plan" at a scale of 1" = 125'.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries of Loleta Recreation Area were chosen to correspond with historic site drawings from the original CCC plans for the recreation area. They were drawn to encompass all resources and planting shown on these plans and included all resources originally associated with the property.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Amanda Hinkel

organization: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

street & number: 180 Hinkel Road

city or town: Ashland state: Pennsylvania zip code: 17921

e-mail: ahinkel@m.marywood.edu

telephone: 570-933-1271

date: _____

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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Loleta Recreation Area

City or Vicinity: Millstone Township

County: Elk County

State: Pennsylvania

Photographer: Amanda Hinkel (1-16) and Amanda Glaz (17-18)

Date Photographed: 2 July 2014 (1-16) and 23 March 2015 (17-18)

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photograph 1 of 18: View of Loleta Recreation Area including Original Bathhouse and Lower Dam looking Northwest.

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Photograph 2 of 18: View of Swimming Pond and Beach Area looking Southeast.

Photograph 3 of 18: View of Upper Dam looking Southeast.

Photograph 4 of 18: View of Lower Dam looking Northeast.

Photograph 5 of 18: View of original Bathhouse and Swimming Area looking Northwest.

Photograph 6 of 18: View of Picnic Pavilion B looking North.

Photograph 7 of 18: View of Picnic Pavilion C looking Northwest.

Photograph 8 of 18: View of Functioning Bathhouse looking East.

Photograph 9 of 18: View of Bridge over Millstone Creek looking Southeast.

Photograph 10 of 18: View from Bridge over Millstone Creek of Recreation Area looking Northwest.

Photograph 11 of 18: View of original Bathhouse looking Northwest.

Photograph 12 of 18: View of interior of Picnic Pavilion C looking Northwest.

Photograph 13 of 18: View of Millstone Creek looking Southeast.

Photograph 14 of 18: View of Upper Dam and Swimming Area looking Northeast.

Photograph 15 of 18: View of interior of original Bathhouse looking West.

Photograph 16 of 18: View of Picnic Pavilion C flooring looking North.

Photograph 17 of 18: View of Bridge over Millstone Creek and CCC Bathhouse looking Northwest.

Photograph 18 of 18: View of Bridge over Sugar Camp Run looking North.

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. 460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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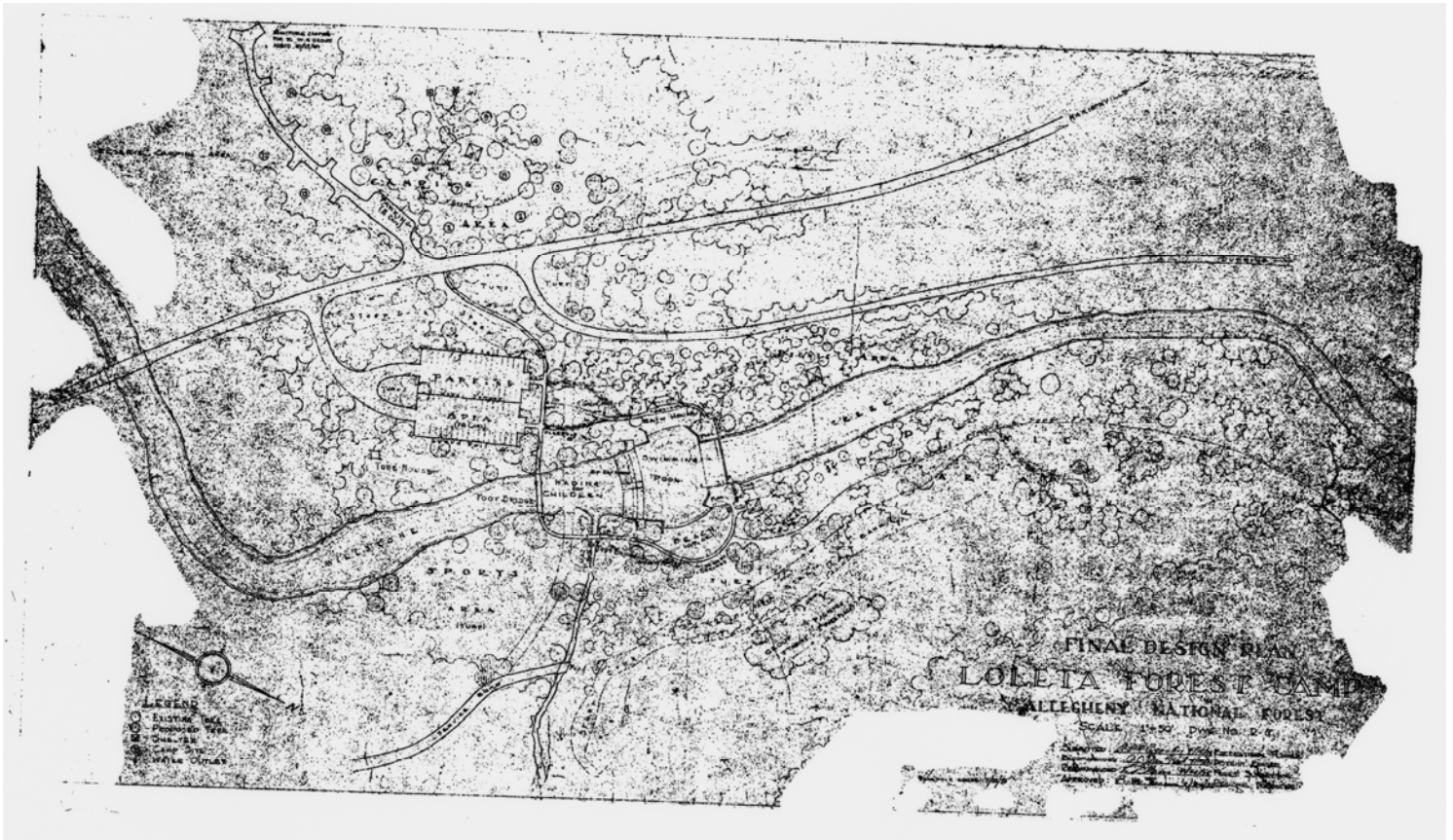


Figure 1: 1938 Final Design Plan for Loleta Recreation Area. From HABS PA 5963, online, <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/pa2801.photos.357191p/>, accessed April 1, 2015.

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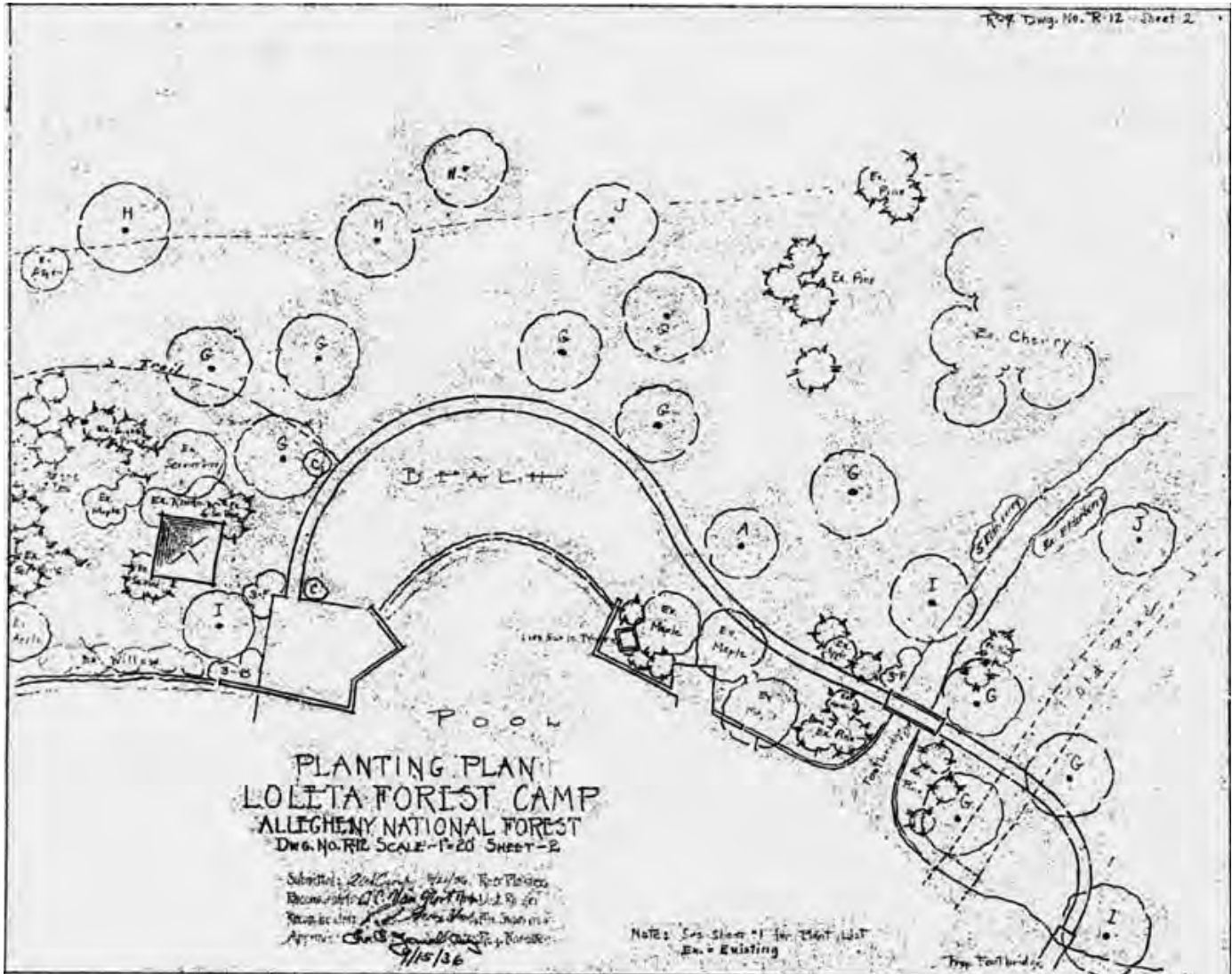


Figure 2: 1936 Planting Plan for the Loleta Recreation Area. From HABS PA 5963, online, <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/pa2801.photos.357192p/>, accessed April 1, 2015.

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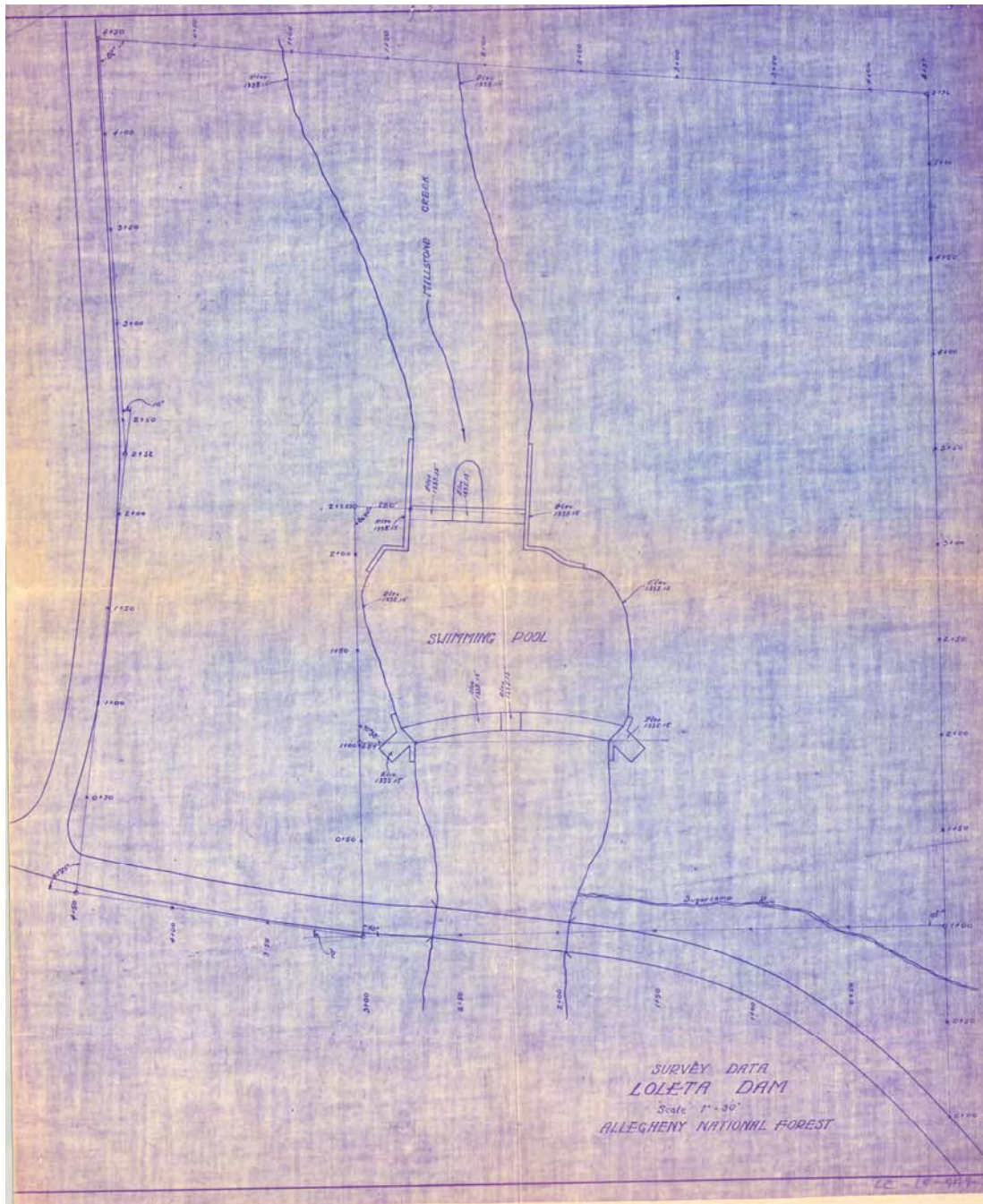


Figure 3: Original CCC Drawing for Upper and Lower Dam. From HAER PA-279, Online, <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/hhh.pa2806.photos.357246p/>, accessed April 1, 2015.

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Figure 4: 1933 view of lower dam at Loleta Recreation Area. From HABS PA 5963, online, <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/hhh.pa2801.photos.357189p/>, accessed April 1, 2015.

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Figure 5: Ca. 1933 view of original men's and women's bathhouses at Loleta Recreation Area. From HABS PA 5963, online, <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/pa2801.photos.357186p/>, accessed April 1, 2015.

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Figure 6: Ca. 1936 view of joined men's and women's bathhouses at Loleta Recreation Area. From HABS PA 5963, online, <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/pa2801.photos.357188p/>, accessed April 1, 2015.

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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 7

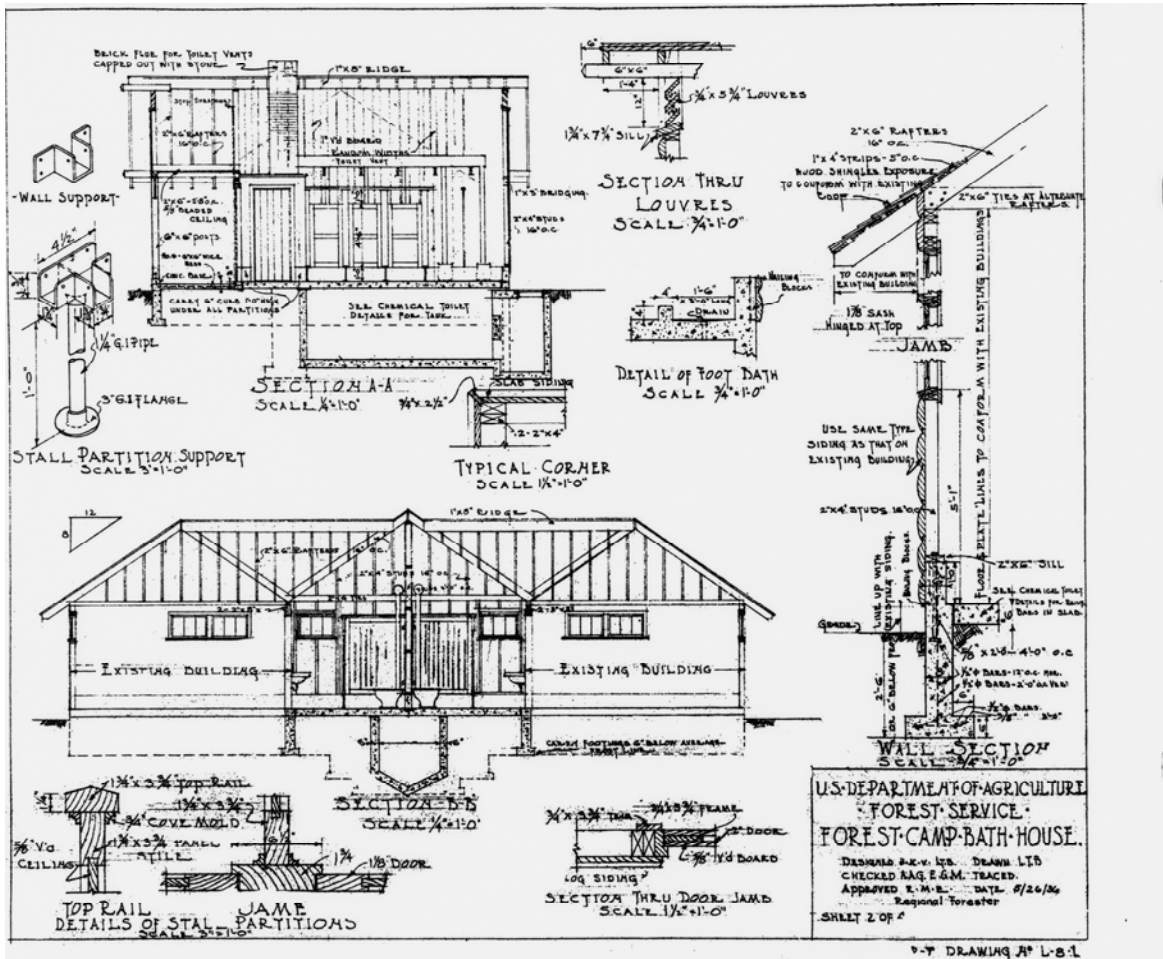


Figure 7: 1936 bathhouse plans showing center section to be added to the building. From HABS PA 5963, online, <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/pa2802.photos.357206/>, accessed April 1, 2015.

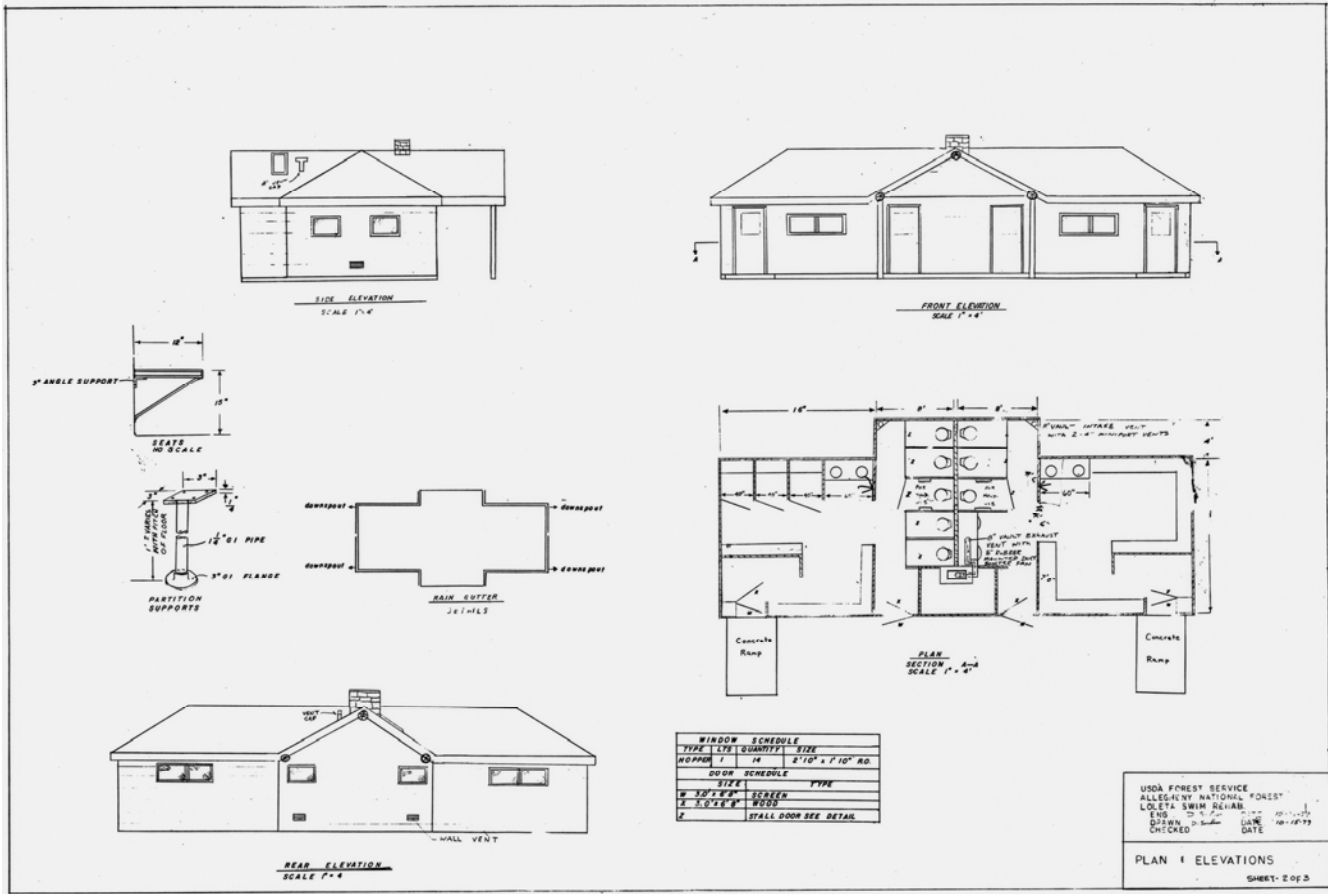
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Loleta Recreation Area
Name of Property
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County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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WINDOW SCHEDULE			
TYPE	LTS	QUANTITY	SIZE
WOOD	1	4	8'10" x 7'10" RD

DOOR SCHEDULE		
SIZE	SCREEN	TYPE
8'0" x 6'0"	WOOD	STALL DOOR SEE DETAIL

USDA FOREST SERVICE
ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST
LOLETA SWIM BATH
END
DESIGN: J. H. ...
CHECKED: ...
DATE: 10-17-79

PLAN & ELEVATIONS
SHEET 2 OF 3

Figure 8: 1979 plan and elevation for the bathhouse. From HABS PA 5963, online, <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/pa2802.photos.357208p/>, accessed April 1, 2015.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Loleta Recreation Area
Name of Property
Elk County, PA
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 9

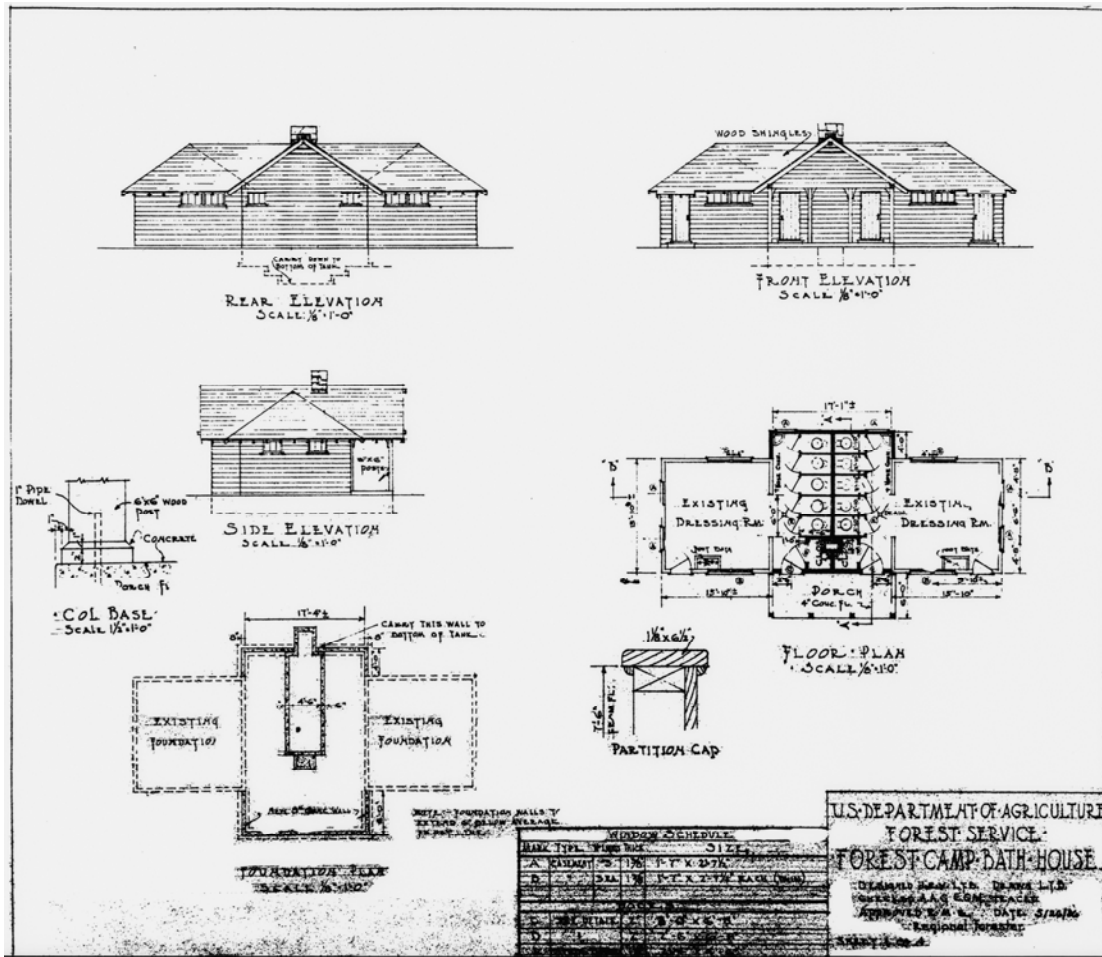


Figure 9: 1936 plan and elevation for the bathhouse. From HABS PA 5963, online, <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/pa2802.photos.357205p/>, accessed April 1, 2015.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Loleta Recreation Area

Name of Property

Elk County, PA

County and State

N/A

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Figure 10: 1993 photo of the office/tool shed. From HABS PA 5963, online, <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/pa2804.photos.357223p/resource/>, accessed April 1, 2015.

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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

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Section number Additional Documentation

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Figure 11: 1993 photo of picnic pavilion A. From HABS PA 5963, online, <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/pa2801.photos.357181p/>, accessed April 1, 2015.

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Loleta Recreation Area

Name of Property

Elk County, PA

County and State

N/A

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Figure 12: 1937 photo of CCC worker finishing stone fireplace at Allegheny Forest Camp. From The Forest History Society, "Camping in the National Forests," *U.S. Forest Service History*, online, <http://www.foresthistory.org/ASPNET/policy/Recreation/Camping.aspx>, accessed April 1, 2015.

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National Park Service

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Loleta Recreation Area
Name of Property
Elk County, PA
County and State
N/A
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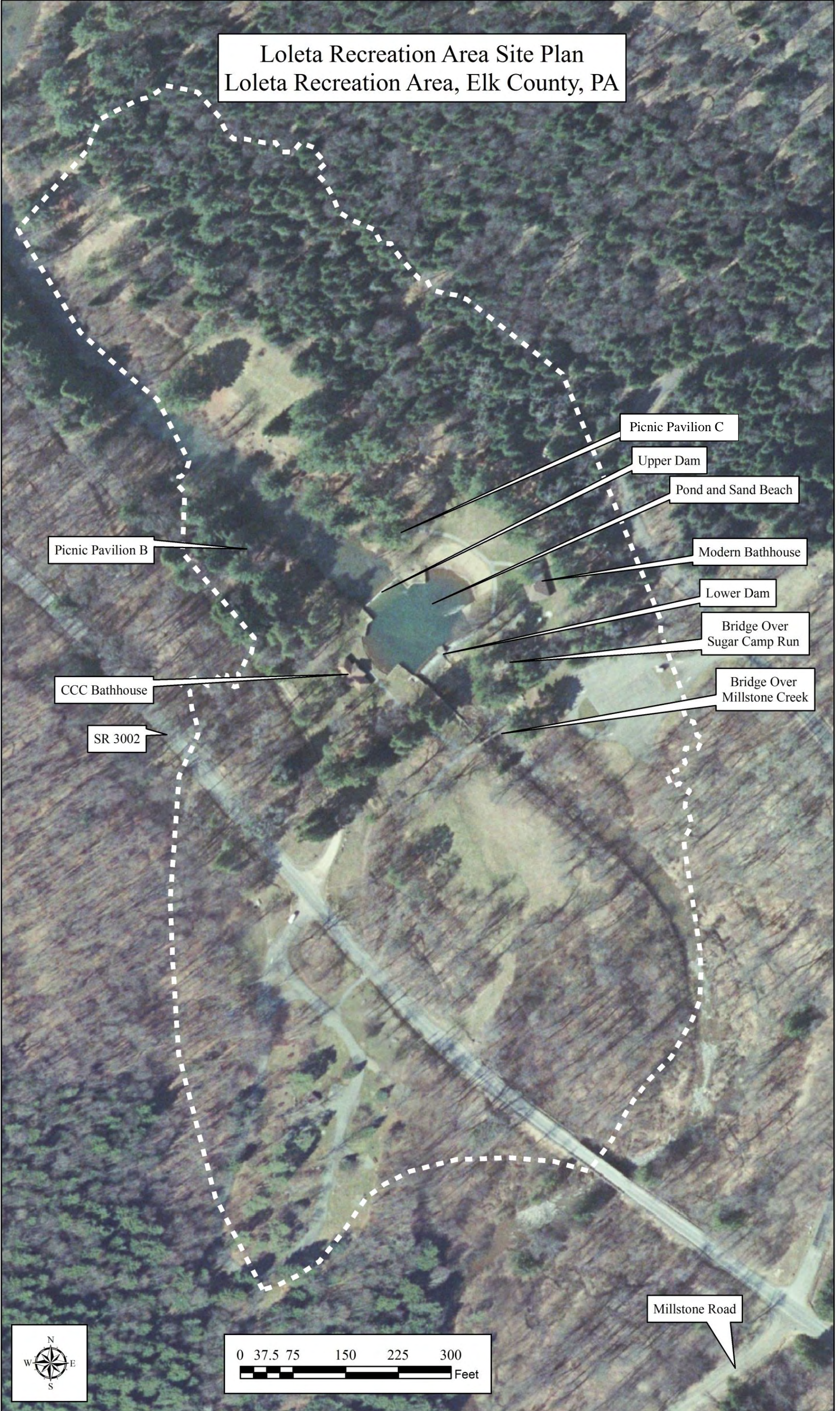
Section number Additional Documentation

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Figure 13: 1992 photo of Twin Lakes Forest Camp bathhouse. From historic resource survey file for Twin Lake Bath House, on file, Harrisburg PA: Bureau for Historic Preservation.

Loleta Recreation Area Site Plan
Loleta Recreation Area, Elk County, PA



Picnic Pavilion B

Picnic Pavilion C

Upper Dam

Pond and Sand Beach

Modern Bathhouse

Lower Dam

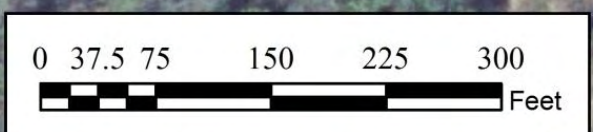
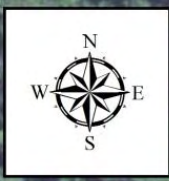
Bridge Over
Sugar Camp Run

Bridge Over
Millstone Creek

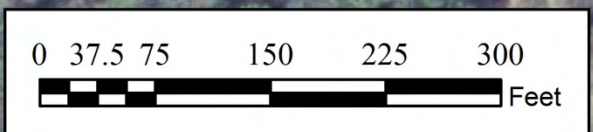
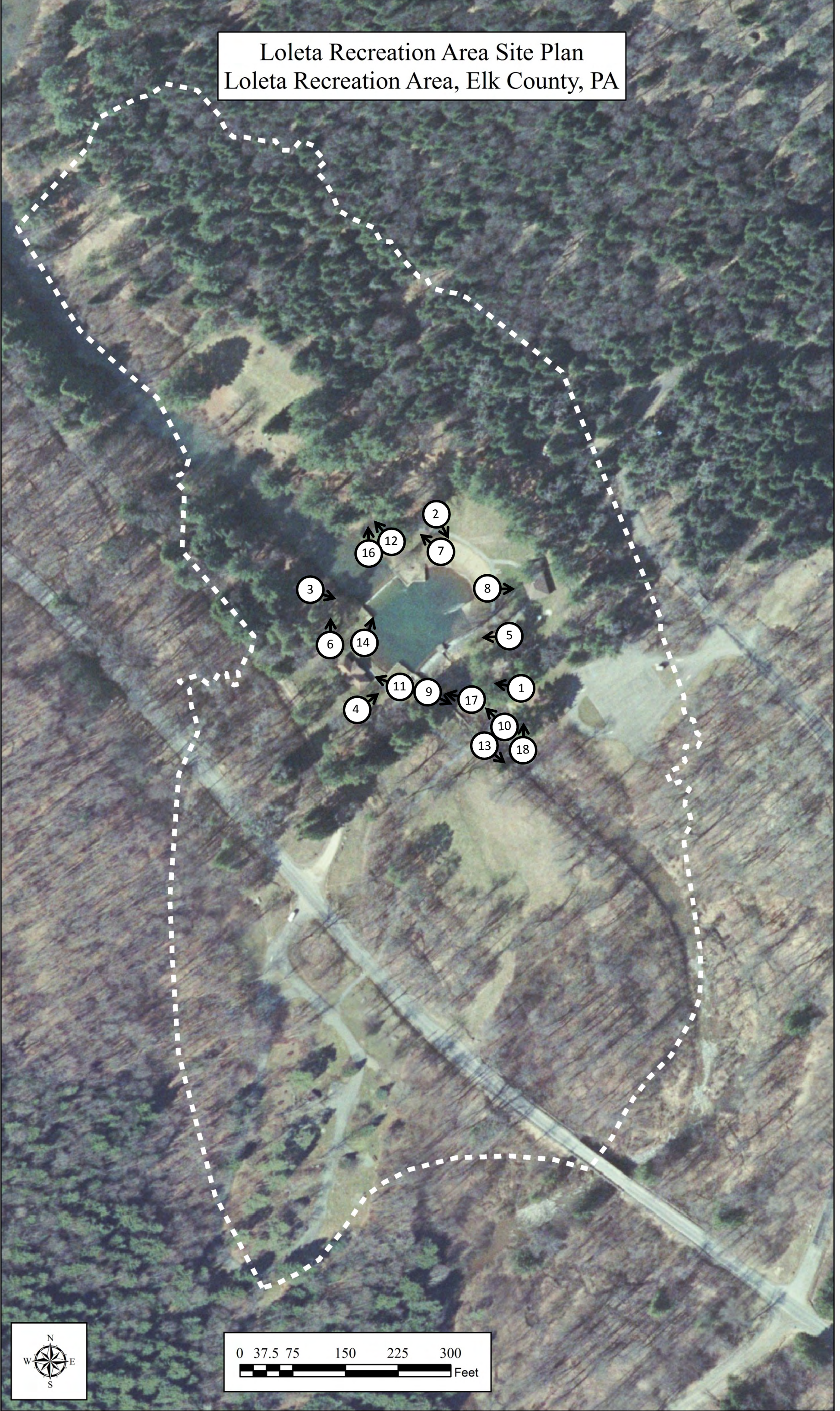
CCC Bathhouse

SR 3002

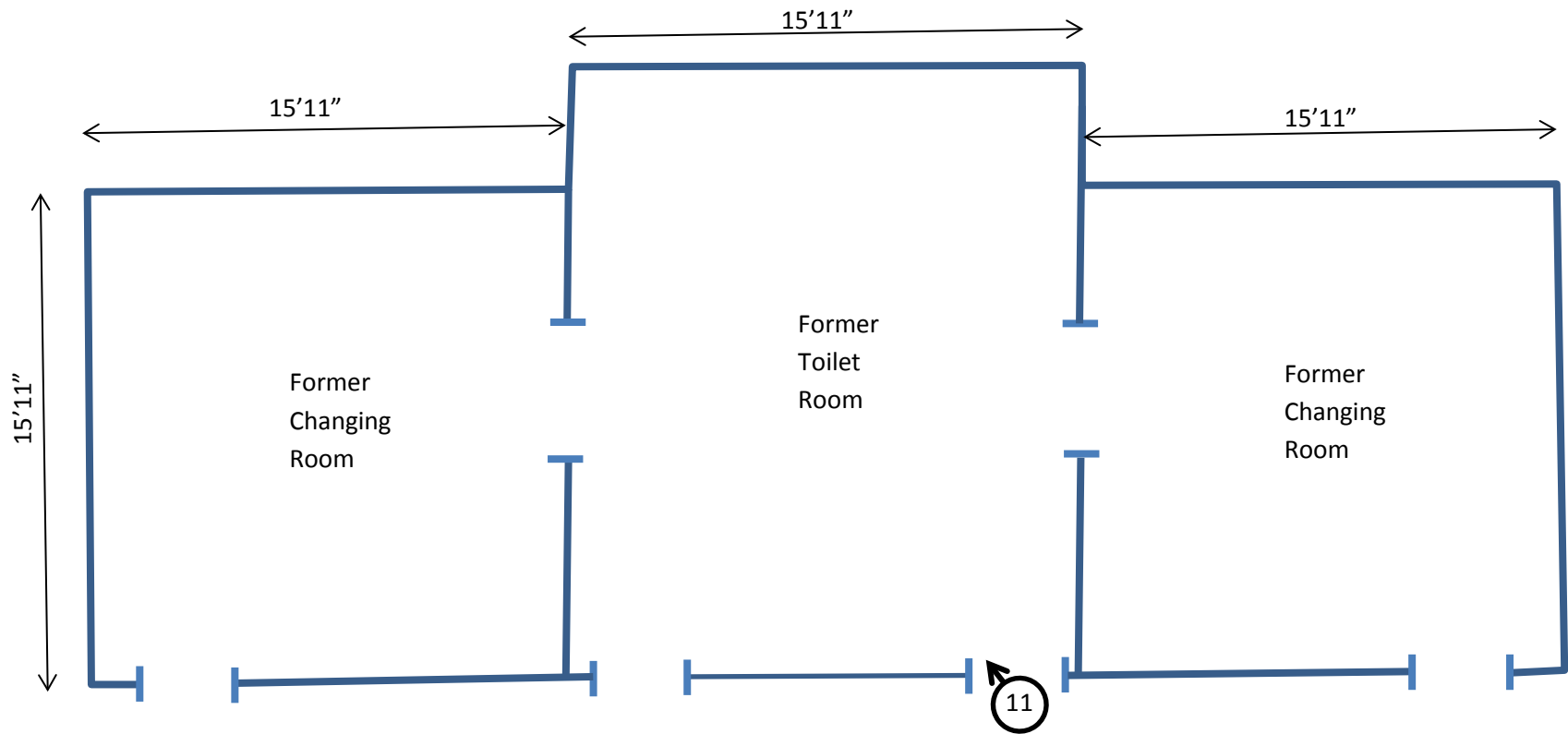
Millstone Road



Loleta Recreation Area Site Plan
Loleta Recreation Area, Elk County, PA



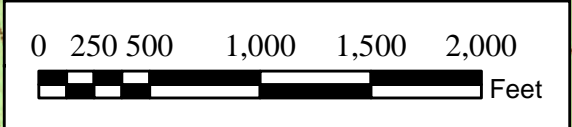
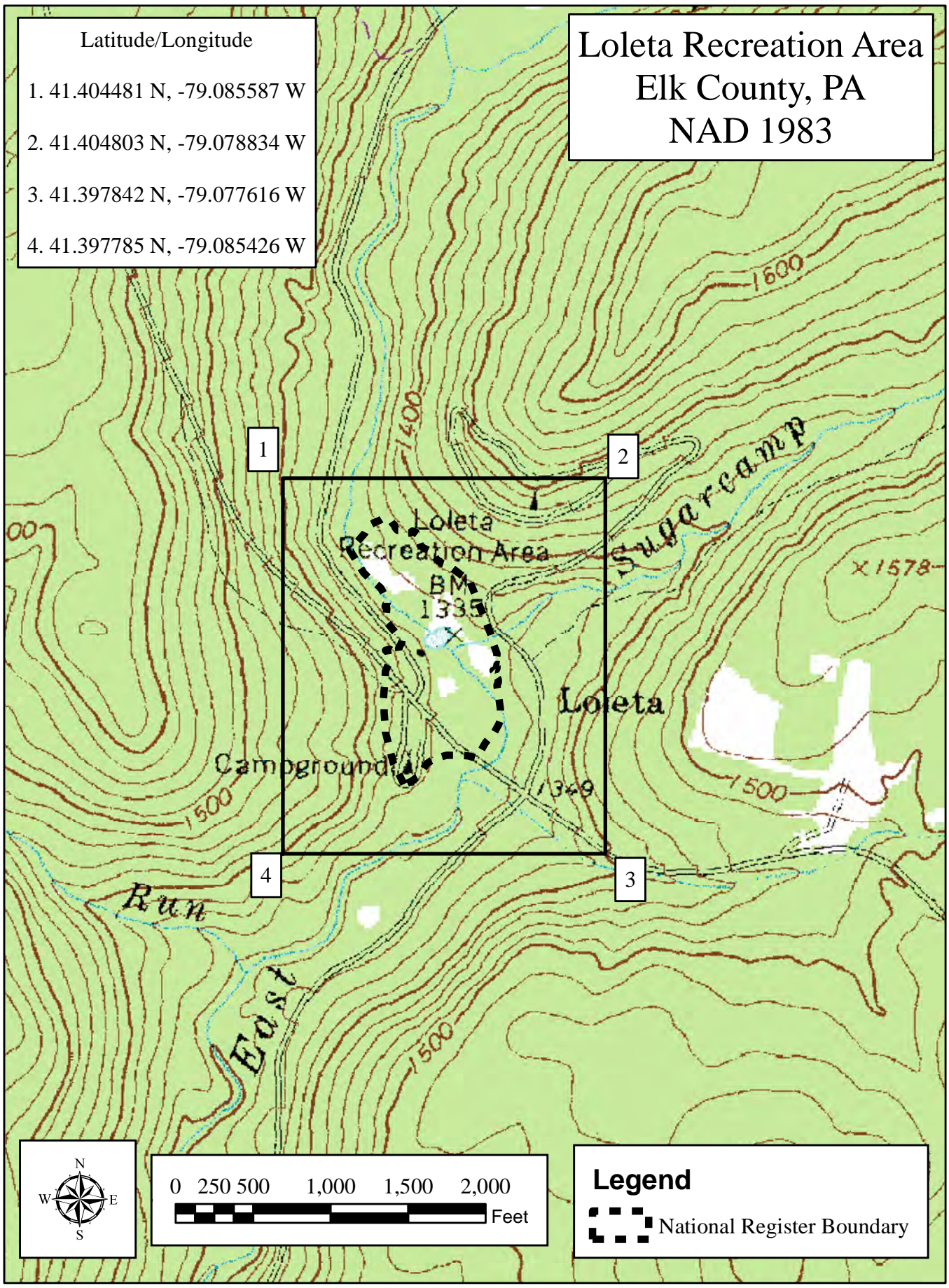
CCC Bathhouse Floorplan



Latitude/Longitude

1. 41.404481 N, -79.085587 W
2. 41.404803 N, -79.078834 W
3. 41.397842 N, -79.077616 W
4. 41.397785 N, -79.085426 W

Loleta Recreation Area
Elk County, PA
NAD 1983



Legend

 National Register Boundary





































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Loleta Recreation Area
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: PENNSYLVANIA, Elk

DATE RECEIVED: 10/09/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/04/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/19/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/24/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000828

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 11-24-15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered to
the National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Eastern Region
Regional Office

626 East Wisconsin Avenue
Suite 800
Milwaukee, WI 53202
414-297-3600

File Code: 2360
Date: OCT 2 2015

RECEIVED 2280

OCT -9 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

Mr. Paul Loether
Chief, National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
12011 Eye Street NW
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

The USDA Forest Service is pleased to submit a nomination to list the Loleta Recreation Area on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The Loleta Recreation Area is located on the Marienville Ranger District of the Allegheny National Forest in Elk County, Pennsylvania.

The Loleta Recreation Area is a multicomponent site comprised of a prehistoric occupation, an historic lumber mill and town site, and a Forest Service recreation area constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) between 1933 and 1936. It is nominated as having local significance due to its association with events which made a significant contribution to broad patterns of our history, and structures embodying the distinctive characteristics of type, period, and methods of construction. The site is nominated to the NRHP for the period of significance 1933-1965 and provides an outstanding example of the Rustic Architecture movement with intact CCC recreational infrastructure on our National Forests in the Eastern Region.

Enclosed is the required National Register documentation certified by our Agency. The nomination form was prepared on behalf of the USDA Forest Service by Historic Preservation Specialist Keith Heinrich of the Bureau of Historic Preservation, Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission. The final draft has been reviewed by Andrea MacDonald, Preservation Services Division Manager of the Bureau of Historic Preservation, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and by our Deputy Federal Preservation Officer Troy Ferone.

We appreciate the opportunity to highlight our National, Regional, and local cultural resources through nomination and listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

For additional correspondence regarding this nomination, please contact Deputy Federal Preservation Officer Troy Ferone tjferone@fs.fed.us at (414) 297-3461 or the address above.

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Borot
for KATHLEEN ATKINSON
Regional Forester Eastern Region

Enclosures

cc: Sherry Tune, Dawn Laybolt, Troy Ferone

