

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 92000595

Date Listed: 6/8/92

Scenic State Park...etc...Service Yard; Itasca  
Property Name County

MN  
State

Minnesota State Park CCC/WPA/Rustic Style MPS  
Multiple Name

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

Beth Boland  
Signature of the Keeper

6/24/92  
Date of Action

=====  
**Amended Items in Nomination:**

Several of the buildings have been moved from one location to another within the boundaries. Therefore, criteria consideration B should be checked.

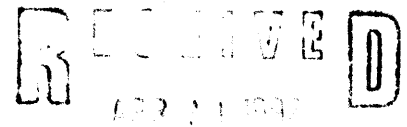
This information was confirmed with Susan Roth of the MN SHPO staff.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

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

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Scenic State Park - CCC/Rustic Style Service Yard  
other names/site number Scenic State Park

2. Location

street & number off County Highway 7  not for publication N/A  
city, town Unorganized Territory Bigfork  vicinity  
state Minnesota code MN county Itasca code 061 zip code 56628

3. Classification

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

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official Ian R. Stewart Date 4/13/92  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
State or Federal agency and bureau Minnesota Historical Society

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

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 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 of the Keeper Beth Boland Date of Action 6/8/92

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION/Outdoor Recreation

LANDSCAPE/State Park

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION/Outdoor Recreation

LANDSCAPE/State Park

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: NPS Rustic Architecture

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Log

roof Asphalt

other

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

See Continuation Sheets

See continuation sheet

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Itasca County, Minnesota

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DESCRIPTION

The Scenic State Park Service Yard includes four buildings located within a two acre site on the western shore of Sandwick Lake among stands of virgin Norway and White Pine. Architects for the park buildings were from the National Park Service.

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

1. Building: Custodian's Cabin 2-123 Builder: CCC  
Architect: G. Iverson Date: 1935

The Custodian's Cabin is a 27' x 22'2" log structure with a 22'2" x 8' partially enclosed porch. The cabin was constructed with 10" peeled balsam logs with saddle-notched corners and rope oakum caulk employed between the logs. Originally constructed on a stone faced foundation, the building contains a living room, dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms and bath. Interior features include maple flooring and V-joint shiplap knotty pine paneling. This cabin may have been under construction when the C.C.C. arrived at the park.

In 1983 the house was placed on a new foundation 24' from its original location. The porch has been completely enclosed and the windows replaced.

2. Building: Equipment Building 2-119 Builder: CCC  
Architect: G. Iverson Date: 1934

The Equipment and Maintenance Building is a rectangular gable roofed structure measuring 49' x 23'4" which rests on a stone faced foundation. The building is constructed with 8" peeled logs with saddle-notched corners and is covered with a gable roof. The building is divided into

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two sections, a 22' section containing a two stall garage and a 27' section containing a single stall garage and an adjoining work shop and office. Interior partitions feature full-log construction. The garages were constructed with reinforced concrete floors, a concrete apron, and overhead doors. The building still retains its original six light casement windows.

Pictured in the National Park Service 1935 publication Park Structures and Facilities, author Albert H. Good commented "A mere facilitating building glorified by the excellent log work almost invariably found in Minnesota. When all structures in parks exemplify the sturdy forthrightness of this example, many existing buildings will have been replaced."

3. Building: Tool & Equipment Bldg 2-122 Builder: CCC  
Architect: National Park Service Date: 1935

The Tool and Equipment Building is a 30'6" x 18' structure constructed with 10" peeled logs with saddle-notched corners. The building contains one garage stall accessed through an overhead door in an end wall as well as storage space. The east sidewall contains two plank doors separated by a casement window while two casements are located on the west facade. The building was originally located immediately adjacent to the Equipment and Maintenance Building. It has since been moved a short distance across the service court and rotated 90 degrees.

4. Building: Ice and Wood House 2-115 Builder: CCC  
Architect: Edward W. Barber Date: 1934

The Ice and Wood Storage Building is a 20' x 16' structure constructed with 10" peeled logs with saddle-notched corners. The building is divided into a wood and tool storage room and an ice house. The wood and tool room is entranced through a plank door with strap hinges and contains paired six light casement sash.

Pictured in the 1935 National Park Service publication Park Structures and Facilities, author Albert H. Good commented that the building is "Obviously close kin to the equipment and maintenance building of this same park through the family trait of excellent log construction. The projecting logs at the corners keep within allowable limits of rakishness and enliven the general effect. The ridge capped with a pole should be

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Itasca County, Minnesota

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noted. Ice, wood and tools are stored in this building. The ice storage room is lined with insulating material."

The building has been moved a short distance within the service court and placed on a new foundation.

**8. Statement of Significance**

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

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
Landscape Architecture  
Recreation  
Government

Period of Significance

1934-35

Significant Dates

1934

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

National Park Service

Civilian Conservation Corps

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

See Continuation Sheets

See continuation sheet

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Itasca County, MinnesotaSTATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Scenic State Park Service Yard is historically significant for its association with the social, political, and economic impact of the Great Depression and the subsequent development of the various Federal Relief Programs which were responsible for its construction. The Civilian Conservation Corps, in particular, is considered the most popular and successful of these programs and is also considered one of the great conservation programs in the history of the United States. The Scenic State Park Service Yard is also historically significant for its association with the development of the Minnesota state park system.

The Scenic State Park Service Yard is architecturally significant for its unique and distinctive Rustic style construction featuring irreplaceable labor intensive methods and finely crafted detailing. These buildings are characterized by nonintrusive and environmentally sensitive designs based on National Park Service design philosophy and master planning. The buildings in the Service Yard are particularly significant for their exceptional log construction which received considerable acclaim from the National Park Service. The Service Yard also contains the only completely log constructed residence in the state park system as well as the state's only surviving collection of log constructed service buildings.

Scenic State Park originally consisted of 2,121 acres when the land was first acquired in 1921. Large scale development began in 1933 when C.C.C. Camp SP-3 Company 1722 was assigned to the park. The camp was occupied on June 21, 1933 and was the first C.C.C. state park camp to begin operation in the state. A temporary tent camp was established south of the park until a permanent facility could be constructed on Lake of the Isles. After just 18 months of operation the Department of Conservation reported "The ECW\* camp has constructed 1.3 miles of telephone lines, 12 miles of fire breaks, 6 miles of road improvement and construction, 7 miles of roadside clearing and 16 miles of foot trails. Eight buildings including shelter pavilion, garage, warehouse, ice house and trail shelters have been erected. Fire hazard reduction has been extended to 295 acres, 6 miles of trail side have been cleared and forest improvement extended to 84 acres. Sixteen acres have been planted to trees, blister rust control extended to 1,327 acres and 35 acres have been landscaped. Bank protection has been carried on to the extent of

\* Emergency Conservation Work



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Itasca County, Minnesota

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1,500 square yards and the equivalent of 1,147 man-days spent on forest fire fighting.....The work already completed by this camp has made this park the most ideal of any now under the control of the Conservation Commission."

The C.C.C. camp was terminated in January 1936 when development of the park was nearly finished. The nearby Link Lake forestry C.C.C. camp completed several projects.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

- Department of Natural Resources. Working Drawings and Specifications for the Buildings at Scenic State Park. Bureau of Engineering. St. Paul, Minnesota.
- Good, Albert H. Park and Recreation Structures: Part I - Administration and Basic Service Facilities and Part III - Overnight and Organized Camp Facilities. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service. 1938.
- Good, Albert H. Park Structures and Facilities. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service. 1935.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Two Acres

UTM References

A 15 457790 5283360  
 Zone Easting Northing

C \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zone Easting Northing

D \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the Scenic State Park - Service Yard is shown as the heavy cross-hatched line on the accompanying map entitled "Scenic State Park." It is defined by Sandwick Lake to the east and the land immediately encompassing the resources on the north, south, and west.

See continuation sheet

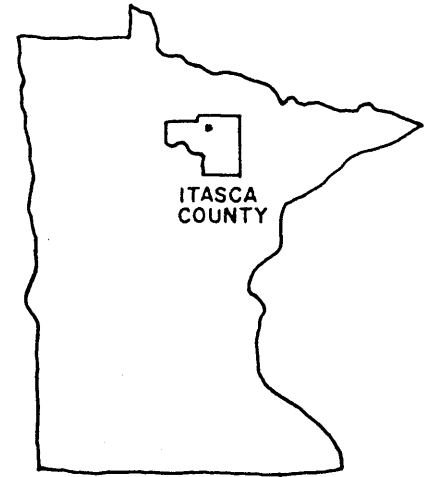
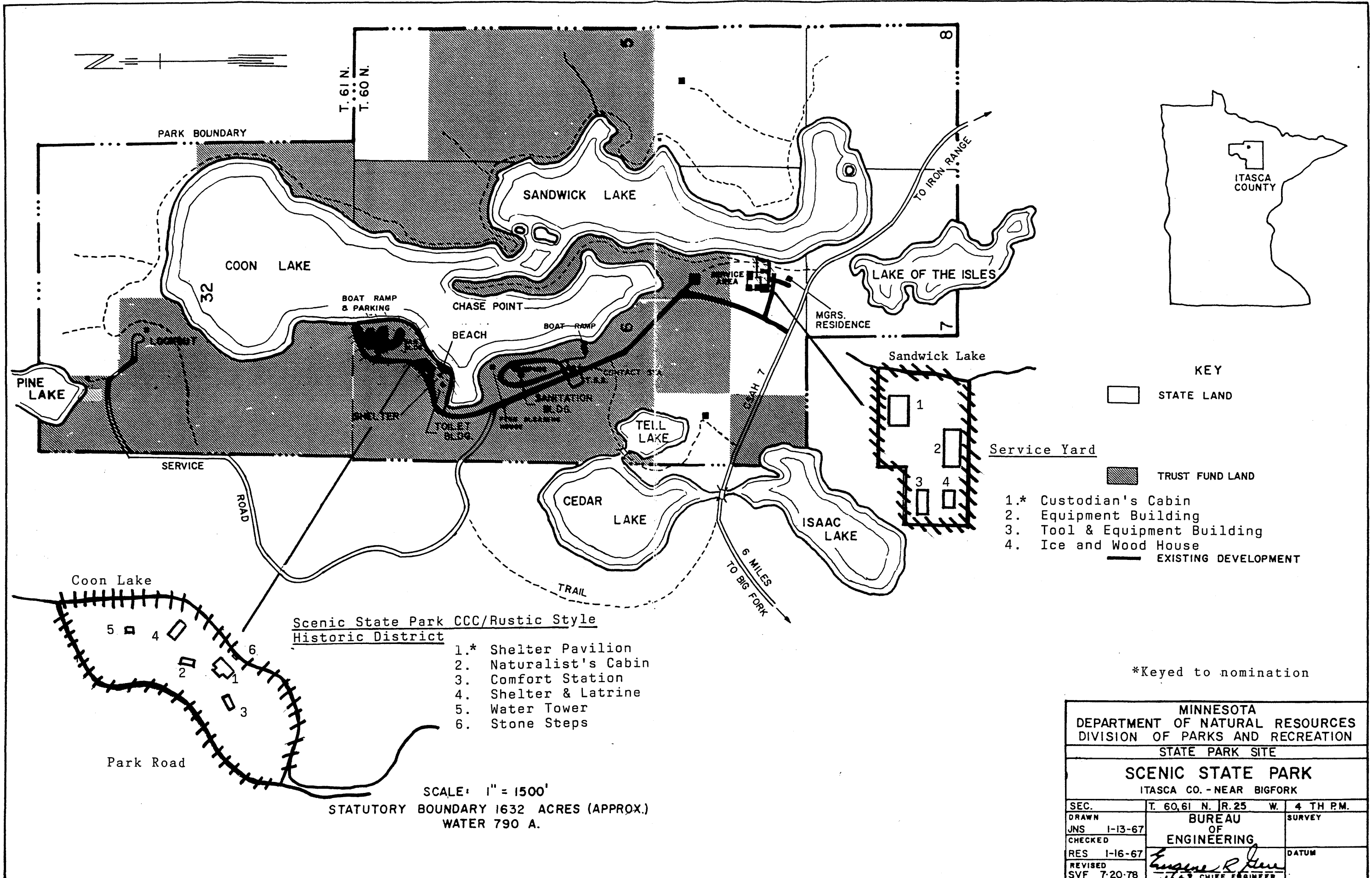
Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the buildings that have been historically associated with the property and that maintain historic integrity. The boundary defines an area of the park developed by the CCC.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Rolf T. Anderson  
 organization N/A date March 8, 1992  
 street & number 212 West 36th Street telephone 612-824-7807  
 city or town Minneapolis state Minnesota zip code 55408



- KEY**
- STATE LAND
  - TRUST FUND LAND
- Service Yard**
- 1.\* Custodian's Cabin
  - 2. Equipment Building
  - 3. Tool & Equipment Building
  - 4. Ice and Wood House
  - EXISTING DEVELOPMENT

- Scenic State Park CCC/Rustic Style Historic District
- 1.\* Shelter Pavilion
  - 2. Naturalist's Cabin
  - 3. Comfort Station
  - 4. Shelter & Latrine
  - 5. Water Tower
  - 6. Stone Steps

\*Keyed to nomination

SCALE: 1" = 1500'  
 STATUTORY BOUNDARY 1632 ACRES (APPROX.)  
 WATER 790 A.

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION			
STATE PARK SITE			
<b>SCENIC STATE PARK</b> ITASCA CO. - NEAR BIGFORK			
SEC.	T. 60, 61 N.	R. 25 W.	4 TH P.M.
DRAWN JNS 1-13-67	BUREAU OF ENGINEERING		SURVEY
CHECKED RES 1-16-67	<i>Engineer R. J. [Signature]</i>		DATUM
REVISED SVF 7-20-78	1967 CHIEF ENGINEER		
REQ.	SHEET	FILE	
66-102	6	P.042.00.01	