890

NRNPS Form 10-900
(January 1992)

OMB No. 10024-0018

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 Region Nine Training School

other names/site number Trees For Tomorrow, Inc.; FS 09-06-02-252

2. Location

street & number 611 Sheridan Street N/A not for publication

city or town Eagle River N/A vicinity

state Wisconsin code WI county Vilas code 125 zip code 54521

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 ✓ nationally __ statewide __ locally. (__ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Evan I. DeBlonay, Preservation Officer 6/25/96
Signature of certifying official/Title Forest Service Date
~~State Historic Preservation Officer-WI~~

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

4/2/96
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State Historical Preservation Officer-WI

State of Federal agency and bureau

Region Nine Training School — Vilas County, Wisconsin
Name of Property — County and State

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.
  - __ See continuation sheet.
- __ removed from the National Register.
- __ other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

Edson H. Beall — 6-8-96

Entered in the National Register

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply)
- __ private
- __ public-local
- __ public-state
- x public-federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)
- __ building(s)
- x district
- __ site
- __ structure
- __ object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
9	4	buildings
2	0	sites
0	4	structures
0	5	objects
11	13	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

None

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school
EDUCATION/education-related

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school
EDUCATION/education-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
walls Weatherboard
roof ASPHALT
other STONE

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

Region Nine Training School
Name of Property

Vilas County, Wisconsin
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 the National Register listing.)

_x_ 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 of age achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)
CONSERVATION
GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance
1937 to 1941 (1)

Significant Dates
1937-1938 (1)

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Coleman, H., Forest Service
Sweitzer, M.D. Forest Service

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

9. Major Bibliographic References

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

Region Nine Training Center
Name of Property

Vilas County, Wisconsin
County and State

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:
_x_ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State Agency
_x_ Federal Agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other
Name of repository:
Nicolet National Forest, Rhinelander

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 19 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / / /
2	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / / /
3	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / / /
4	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / / /

_x_ 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 Nancy J. Hubbard, edited by Joyce McKay
organization _____ date 2/20/94
street & number 1707 Elmwood Avenue telephone 708-491-1555
city or town Wilmette state Illinois zip code 60091

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)

Region Nine Training School
Name of Property

Vilas County, Wisconsin
County and State

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

name USDA, Forest Service, Nicolet National Forest
street & number 68 South Stevens Street telephone 715-362-1300
city or town Rhinelander state Wisconsin zip code 53501

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.

7. Description

The Region Nine Training School (FS Site No. 09-06-02-252) is an intact Forest Service educational facility primarily built between 1937 and 1938 and open until 1941 for the training of Region Nine personnel from national and state forests (USDA Forest Service 1934-81). The property was also known as the Eagle River Training School which became Trees for Tomorrow, Inc. in 1946 (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: Progress Report, 1946]). Totaling 25.83 acres, the property is located within the developed area of the City of Eagle River. It contains six cleared acres and 19.83 wooded acres as well as 1440 feet of river frontage. Excluding post-1944 woodlands to the west (Haskell 1993) and a Scotch Pine plantation acquired in 1952 (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: Progress Report, 1953; Baker 1964: 15), the district occupies 19 acres of this total. The Training School is located five blocks northeast of the Eagle River business district. The site is approximately bounded by North First Street on the west, Sheridan Street on the south, Lake Shore Drive on the southeast, and Eagle River, part of a chain of twenty-seven lakes, on the north.

The property includes eleven contributing resources: nine buildings and two sites and thirteen non-contributing resources determined by date of construction or installation: four buildings, four structures, and five objects. A vernacular interpretation of the Rustic Style of architecture influenced the design of the buildings. The elements of this style were frequently included in the design of the post-1944, non-contributing resources. This approach provided stylistic consistency across property. The limited number of elements common to the Rustic Style illustrated in these buildings include low building massing, broad overhanging roofs, rough-cut board and batten siding, the use of natural colors and materials, and simple brackets and carved motifs (Draeger 1993). The vernacular Rustic Style utilized in the original buildings of the property is typical for Forest Service facilities from the late Depression Era. However, the very strong geometric form and axial arrangement differs from the common designs for Forest Service administrative and recreational facilities of the period. Site designs normally related to site conditions such as bodies of water, land contours, and roads (Norcross 1938; Good 1938 (3)). Although facilities of a similar function did exist for other Forest Service regions, the absence of Forest Service design guidelines or models for such a training school may explain this departure (Vilas County New-Review 1936 [6/25:1]).

The Forest Service used the Training School for the training of Forest Service personnel between 1938 and 1941. This function ended after 1941 as the agency reduced training activities in response to the nation's preparation to enter World War II. In 1946, Trees for Tomorrow, Inc., a non-profit, environmental education organization, received a special use permit from the Forest Service to use the property. As an environmental training center, this organization evolved from an initiative established in 1944 by the nine power and paper companies in northern Wisconsin to promote reforestation and proper management of forest resources. This organization continues to utilize the buildings on the property for the same purpose.

Setting

The west edge of a pine plantation purchased in 1952 by Tree for Tomorrow (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1952]) defines the east boundary of the district (see figures 4-5[1]). The east portion of the district includes the original campus of the Training School which is arranged around an oval lawn and drive. The campus area is generally open. Scattered single or clustered pine and deciduous trees stand outside the central oval. Some plantings were planned at the construction of the site (USDA Forest Service 1935-78 [plans, 1936]). Many were placed as demonstrations or commemorative plantings during its ownership by Tree for Tomorrow. A mixed forest used as a demonstration forest (#24) for training and educational programs beginning in the late 1930s composes the west half of the district. Along the south side of the forest at 511 Sheridan Street lies an administrative dwelling (#22) and garage (#23), both built for the Training School in 1938. A 1.5 acre residential lot located on Sheridan Street between the administrative dwelling to the west and the entrance road into the building complex to the east is excluded from the site. The house on this lot belonged to Alexander Higgins, who sold the site of the Training School to the Village of Eagle River in 1936. The village in turn donated the property to the Forest Service in January, 1937 (Vilas County News-Review 1936 [7/14:6]; USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [deed, 1937]).

The campus is entered from the south at Sheridan Street (figures 4-5). This entrance drive establishes a north-south axis which runs through the main entrance toward the south elevation of the Administration Building (#1). The drive divides to form the oval south of this building. The north side of the oval drive ends just south of the Dining Hall (#6). The rear or north elevation of the Dining Hall faces a lawn which falls away to the south bank of Eagle River. Within the drive lies an oval lawn (#4). No buildings stand along the east edge of the oval west of the Pine Plantation. A six-vehicle parking area extends off the east side of the drive just beyond its southeast curve. Another similar parking area is located north of the southwest curve, west of the Administration Building (#1).

Except for the Administration Building and the Dining Hall, buildings are clustered along the west side of the drive. Built in 1960 (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1960]), the Old Library (#9), is located in the northwest corner of the campus at the edge of the mixed forest. It faces north to the river. Built in 1956-1957 (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress report, 1956-57]), Dormitory #1 (#10) stands at the northwest curve in the oval drive. Located along the south elevation of this building, the Kiwanis Bathhouse (#11) was built in 1981 (Haskell 1993) as a connecting link to the north elevation of Dormitory #2 (#12). Erected in 1938, Dormitory #2, is located at the mid-point of the west side of the oval drive. A service road runs west from the oval drive on the south side of Dormitory #2 and north of Dormitory #3 (#13) which was built in 1937-38. This road acts as a secondary east-west axis

[1] The map numbers identified by # refer to figure 5, a map of the property, which is shown in its larger local context in figure 4.

to the property. The service road terminates in a courtyard-like area enclosed on the north and south by the former North Garage (#15) and South Garage (#16), both built in 1938-1939. Planned in 1938 and built in 1941, the former Bathhouse (#14) forms the west end of this courtyard (USDA Forest Service 1934-81; 1935-78). A Classroom Building (#17) which was built in 1978 (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [plan, 1978]) is located southwest of the former Bathhouse. Constructed in 1970 (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1970) and later, a Pole Shed (#18) stands west of the former Bath House. Additional, secondary east-west axes are established by the long dimensions of the Administration Building (#1) and the Dining Hall (#6), both of which almost span the width of the oval lawn at the north and south ends. Several site plans prepared between 1936 and 1938 (USDA Forest Service 1935-78 [plans]) illustrate two dormitories that were never built on the east side of the oval drive exactly opposite the existing Dormitories (#12-13) on the west side. This arrangement creates an axially symmetrical plan uncommon to the National Forest Service landscape designs during the Depression Era. Rather than such an artificial arrangement, the typical design remade the landscape surrounding newly constructed buildings to resemble their original natural setting (Good 1938 [1]).

Description of the Resources

Administrative Building (#1, Photo No. 1-3,11) Contributing

The Administration Building lies within the south end of the oval drive directly north of the entrance from East Sheridan Street. Erected in 1937, the building follows USDA Forest Service Plan No.B79 prepared in the Regional Engineer's office in Milwaukee in March, 1937 (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memorandum 1937]; 1935-78 [plans, 1937]). In 1963 (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1963]), Trees for Tomorrow placed an addition beginning north of the west side door across the classroom wing along the north elevation of the building.

The one-story and partial basement, T-shaped, symmetrical building measures overall 61 feet (east-west) by 64 feet (north-south). The building's facade with its centrally located main entrance faces south toward the entrance road. The classroom along the north elevation of the building extends north into the open area of the lawn. The south, rectangular main wing houses an entrance foyer flanked by two offices; a library, now offices, on the east end; and a restroom and stairs to the basement on the west end. The north, rectangular wing encloses a single classroom. The basement occurs under the main wing. Providing strong axial symmetry, the main wing is visually divided into three sections. The roof of the center portion which includes the offices is raised slightly above the roofs of the east and west ends which contain the former library and restrooms.

The structure of the entire building is balloon frame placed on poured concrete foundation walls. Four horizontal bands of 12" wide drop siding cover the lower portion of the exterior. A drip molding along the top of this siding continues around the entire building and serves as the sill for all windows. Board and

batten finishes the area between the drip molding and the eave line. Horizontal lap siding clads the gables along the east, west, and north elevations. All siding is roughly cut and stained brown. Asphalt replaces the original wood shingles of the multi-gable roof. A rubble stone chimney rises along the interior wall between the west office and the restroom area and pierces the ridge where the roof height steps down from the higher center, office section to the west portion of the building.

The double-door, main entrance is approached from a flagstone-paved, three-step entry stoop flanked by low, rubble side walls. Window units composed of two four-over-four, double-hung windows and a six-over-six, double-hung window flank the main entrance. The east and west portions of the building have a single six-over-six, double-hung window in the center of their south elevations. Two identical windows occur along the east and west elevations of these end sections. A rear entry with flagstone-paved stoop enters into the north side of the west end section.

The narrow dimension of the rectangular, classroom wing abuts the center of the north elevation. Its north elevation lacks windows. Placed along the east and west elevations, tall twelve-over-twelve, double-hung windows extend from the drip molding to the eave line. Seven such windows occur along the east elevation, and six pierce the west. Along both elevations, the four southernmost windows are spaced close together and the northernmost windows are more widely spaced. An entry with a flagstone-paved stoop is located in the west elevation. The main roof of the wing projects beyond the eave line to shelter this entrance.

Commemorative Marker (#2, Photo No. 20) Non-contributing

A low boulder with a surface-mounted plaque is located south of the Administration Building (#1). The National Association of Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni erected the commemorative plaque on June 6, 1987, to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of the Region Nine Training School by the National Forest Service (Kurlinski 1993; date on plaque). Post-dating 1944, the object is non-contributing.

Flagpole (#3, Photo No.2) Non-contributing

The Flagpole is located south of the Administration Building (#1), southwest of its main entrance. It is visible from the entrance to the property. The Flagpole is a peeled, heavily knotted log set upright between two log supports. The emphasis on natural materials and the visual connection to the pines in the adjoining forest relate it to the natural use of the materials in the buildings of the training school. Because the date of the flagpole's construction remains unknown, the object is listed as noncontributing.

Oval Drive and Lawn (#4, Photo No.11-12) Contributing

Surrounded by a macadam, oval drive, the lawn is the principal organizational element for the buildings of the training school with all major, indoor activities occurring along its periphery. The first site plan prepared for the property during the planning stages of the project in September, 1936 (USDA Forest Service 1935-78 [1936]) incorporates the Oval Drive and lawn. Despite subsequent derivations from this initial plan, the drive and lawn remain a constant feature of the site.

Enclosed by the eighteen foot wide drive, the lawn is a completely open, oval-shaped expanse of grass which extends from the entrance road on the south to the Dining Hall (#6) on the north. Facing south toward the drive, only the Administration Building (#1) stands within this space at its south end. Located along the west and north exterior edge of the drive and linked by it, the Dining Hall (#6) and three dormitories (#11, 12, 13) also face onto it. Its much greater north-south dimension of 640 feet as compared to its width of 140 feet reinforces the principal north-south axis of the overall plan. The 1937 plan shows the current parking areas along the southwest and southeast side of the Oval Drive. The word "parking" is indicated for the general area east of the two dormitories (#12-13), but its exact location is not shown.

Commemorative Sign (#5, Photo No. 21) Non-contributing

Four, approximately six foot by six foot wood panels supported by log posts are arranged in an irregular half-circle to the east-southeast of the Dining Hall (#6) between the northeast side of the drive and the pine plantation. The panels list contributors to the Wisconsin Newspaper Association Memorial Grove planted seven miles to the south of Eagle River. Because they were vandalized, Trees for Tomorrow moved the signs to their current location in the early 1970s (Haskell 1993). The resource is therefore non-contributing.

Dining Hall (#6, Photo Nos.4-5, 12) Contributing

Located on the north side of the drive, the Dining Hall faces south onto the drive. Its 1937 construction follows USFS Plan No. B80-81 prepared by the Regional Engineer in March, 1937. It originally measured thirty feet north-south by eighty feet east-west. Designed by Eric Friis, architect of Eagle River, and erected in 1978, the 20 by 21 foot west addition to the Dining Hall provided additional space for the kitchen and storage (USDA Forest Service 1935-78 [plans, 1937, 1978]). The Dining Hall is a one-story, side-gabled, rectangular building. Its massing and details resemble the Administration Building (#1). The dining hall section of the building is placed in a central block with a slightly higher asphalt, gable roof. Covered with a lower, asphalt, gable roofs, the current administrative office, a former apartment for staff, and the kitchen form side wings to the east and west respectively.

Four horizontal bands of 12" wide drop siding cover the lower portion of the

exterior walls. A drip molding wraps around the entire building above the horizontal siding. It forms a sill for the windows and acts as a base for the board and batten siding which extends from it to the eave line. Horizontal lap siding protects the gables. Asphalt replaces the wood shingles on the roof. The rubble stone chimney of the dining room fireplace straddles the ridge at the west end of the raised, center section of the roof.

The main entrance is through an exterior vestibule which projects from the center of the middle section. Originally, the entrance vestibule was on the interior of the building. The 1978 remodeling removed this area and rebuilt the vestibule along the exterior. Window units composed of four-over-four, double-hung windows flanking an eight-over-eight, double-hung window occur along either side of the main entrance. Along the north elevation of the center section, three sets of double doors open onto the lawn which extends north to the bank of the Eagle River. Two six-over-six, double-hung windows are located along the south elevation of the east section, and two such windows flank a side entry in the east elevation. A shed roof supported by horizontal brackets shelters this entry. The north elevation of the east section has one six-over-six, double-hung window along the east end and one four-over-four double-hung window in its west end.

Boat Dock (#7, Photo No. 22) Non-contributing

The Boat Dock is located northwest of the Dining Hall in the Eagle River. It is accessible by wood stairs along the river bank. Replacing an earlier dock, the wood frame and steel post structure was a gift to Trees for Tomorrow, Inc. in 1978 (Haskell 1993; USDA Forest Service 1935-78 [plans, 1936]). Because of its date of construction, it is non-contributing. Its presence is hidden by the high bank behind it.

Bridge (#8, Photo No. 23) Non-contributing

The Foot Bridge is located west-northwest of the Dining Hall and north of the Old Library. It crosses a drainage swale along a footpath following the edge of the river. The simple, wood frame structure measures approximately four feet wide and ten feet long. Since it was constructed in the early 1970s (Haskell 1993), it is considered a non-contributing, recent resource.

Old Library (#9, Photo No.6) Non-contributing

The Old Library is located near the northwest corner of the building complex southwest of the Dining Hall (#6) and the northwest of Dormitory #1 (#10). The twelve foot by twenty-eight foot building rests on a balloon frame placed on a concrete slab. Its simple form, asphalt, gable roof, and brown-stained lap siding resemble the vernacular interpretation of the original Rustic Style buildings. However, the eighteen-light, double entry doors in the north elevation and the triple combination, fixed-glass and awning window units along the east and west elevations are not characteristic of this style. Dating to

1960 (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1960]), the building does not contribute to the district.

Dormitory #2 (Pine) (#12, Photo No.9) Contributing

Dormitory #2 is centered along the west side of the Oval Drive (#4). It lies south of Dormitory #1 and the Kiwanis Bathhouse and sixty feet north of Dormitory #3. Designed in September, 1937 by the Regional Engineer, USFS Plan No. B80 provided the basis for its construction in 1937-1938 (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memoranda, 1937-38]; 1935-78 [plans, 1937-38]). A small bathroom extension was added to the rear in 1956 or 1963 (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [letter from E.B. Hurst, Pres., Trees for Tomorrow 1964; memorandum, 1956]).

The one-story, side-gabled building is rectangular in form and measures thirty-seven feet wide by fifty-five feet long. Twenty-four feet wide and five feet deep, the gable projection is placed north of the building's center along the east facade. This placement creates an asymmetrical facade. The large, 2.5 foot by six foot, rubble stone, fireplace chimney pierces the intersection of the roofs of this projection and the main building. Asphalt replaces the original wood roof shingles.

The balloon frame structure of the building rests on a poured concrete foundation which surrounds a partial basement under the interior lounge. Concrete footings support the remainder of the building. Four horizontal bands of 12" wide drop siding cover the lower portion of the exterior walls. This siding is finished with a continuous drip molding which serves as the sill for the windows and the base for board and batten siding which extends up to the eave line. Horizontal lap siding protects the north and south gables and the gable of the east projection. All siding is stained brown.

The building has three entrances: two in the center of the north and south elevations and a main entrance along the south side of the projection. Flagstones pave the walkways and stoops to the two south entrances. Entrances in the north and south elevations open into the ends of ae corridor which bisects the interior. The restroom leads from the center of the corridor's west side, and two dormitory rooms are located to the north and south of it. Placed on the east side of the corridor, a lounge occupies the east projection. One dormitory room is located north of the lounge, and two rooms occur to its south.

The windows reflect the interior arrangement of the dormitory. Three eight-over-eight, double-hung windows compose the window unit along the east elevation of the projection or lounge. Each sleeping room has two windows. Corner rooms have a single six-over-six, double-hung window in each of the two walls, and interior rooms have a paired unit of six-over-six, double-hung windows.

Dormitory #3 (Spruce) (#13, Photo No.10) Contributing

Dormitory #3 is located west of and faces east to the Oval Drive (#4) and stands sixty feet south of Dormitory #2 and northwest of the Administration Building (#1). It was built in 1937-38 using USFS Plan No. B80 prepared in 1937 by the National Forest Service's Regional Engineer (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memoranda 1937-38]; 1935-78 [plans, 1937]). A small bathroom extension was added to the rear in 1956 or 1963 (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [letter from E.B. Hurst, Pres., Trees for Tomorrow 1964; memorandum, 1956]). The building is identical to Dormitory #2 except that the plan is reversed. The projection along the east facade is south of the center of the elevation rather than to the north of center. The reversal of the plan places the main entry along the north side of the projection.

Dormitory #1 (Hemlock) (#10, Photo No.7) Non-contributing

Dormitory #1 stands at the northwest corner of the Oval Drive (#4) and faces east southeast onto it. To correspond with the curve in the oval drive, it is shifted fifteen degrees out of line from the north-south arrangement of Dormitories #2 and #3. Henry Ries of the Rhinelander Paper Company designed the dormitory in September, 1956. Trees for Tomorrow erected the building in late 1956 and 1957. The construction company substantially completed the 35.5 by 70 foot building with attached concrete block utility room by the end of March, 1957 (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [plans, 1956; memoranda, 1956]; Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1956, 1957).

The T-shaped building stands on a poured concrete slab. Horizontal drop siding placed below vertical board siding and an asphalt, gable roof cover the balloon frame. The main entrance occurs in the side of the gabled east projection along the facade. This massing, plan, materials, siding pattern, and brown color were chosen to resemble the original dormitories (#12-13). However, variations do occur. The three-window unit along the projection of the east elevation of Dormitory #1 is shifted closer to the north, whereas the triple unit of the other two dormitories is centered in the projection. Paired, four-over-four, double-hung windows occur on the east and west elevations, whereas the original dormitories have a mix of paired and single six-over-six windows. The rubble stone chimney found in both original dormitories is eliminated from Dormitory #1.

Kiwanis Bathhouse (#11; Photo No.8) Non-contributing

Funded in part by the Kiwanis, the Kiwanis Bathhouse was built in 1981 (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memorandum, 1981]). The main hall of the Kiwanis Bathhouse which runs along the east side of the building acts as a sixty-five foot connecting link between Dormitory #1 and Dormitory #2. It contains two shower and toilet rooms which extend twenty-six feet to the west or rear of the corridor and away from the Oval Drive (#4). Its balloon frame rests on a concrete slab. The building's set back from the east facades of the two dormitories and its relatively low height minimize its impact on the adjoining buildings. The raised middle portion of the multi-gable, asphalt roof mimics the east-facing gables of the dormitories. The horizontal siding on the lower

portion of the wall continues the lines, color, and material of the dormitories. Similarly, the drip molding above the horizontal siding serves as the sill for six windows along its east elevation. However, the vertical board above the drip molding and the short, one-over-one, double-hung windows do not closely correspond to the siding and windows of the dormitories. Main entry doors into the bathhouse occur at both ends of the east elevation.

Maintenance Building/ (#14, Photo Nos.13-14) Contributing
(Former Bathhouse)

The former Bathhouse is located along the west end of the east-west service drive between the Depression Era dormitories (#12-13) and North Garage (#15) and South Garage (#16). Erected in 1941, the Bathhouse follows USFS Plan No. U-72 prepared by the Regional Division of Recreation and Lands in May, 1938. Approval for construction was given in 1938, but approval of funds for use of Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) personnel did not occur until March, 1941. Forest Service Plan No. U-72 was followed for other recreation facilities such as the Lost Lake Organization Camp in Florence County (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [contracts]; 1935-78 [plans]). The Bathhouse supplemented facilities in the two dormitories and served Forest Service personnel repairing and using vehicles and equipment housed in the two adjacent Garages (#15-16). After the construction of the Kiwanis Bathhouse (#11) in 1981, the original Bathhouse was converted to its present use as a Maintenance Building (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memorandum, 1981]).

The rectangular, one story, side gabled Maintenance Building measures twenty-four feet wide and eighteen feet deep. Its balloon frame rests on a poured concrete footing. Brown-stained board and batten siding covers the walls, and horizontal wood siding closes the gables. Asphalt shingles replace the original wood shingles along the roof. The east slope of the roof projects over the entry. The rafter ends are exposed along the east and west edges of the broadly overhanging roof. The original rubble stone chimney remains, penetrating the roof at the midpoint of the ridge in the south half of the roof.

The entry occurs in the center of the east facade. Short, paired, bottom-hinged windows with three vertical lights flank the doorway. Four similar windows pierce both the north and south elevations. All the windows are placed on the upper portions of the walls. Double doors were installed in the west or rear elevation after 1981 to accommodate movement of equipment.

Library/Former North Garage (#15, Photo No.15) Contributing

The former, five-stall North Garage is located north of the secondary drive which runs east-west between the Depression Era dormitories (#12-13). The garage doors open onto a courtyard shared with the identical, South Garage (#16) located directly to the south on the south side of the secondary drive. The two former Garages (#15-16) and the former Bathhouse or Maintenance Building (#14) form a

three-sided courtyard area located west of the two original dormitories. Erected in 1938-1939, the North Garage follows USFS Plan No. B95 prepared by the Regional Division of Recreation and Lands in September, 1938. The building originally housed vehicles and equipment used for training as well as administrative purposes (USDA 1935-78 [plan, 1938]; 1934-81 [contracts]). Trees for Tomorrow first converted the garage to the Forest Products Exhibit Building, classroom space, and overflow dormitory in 1948. In 1970-1971, the floor was raised, and the floor to ceiling windows installed along the north side. Meyer Construction Company of Eagle River completed the work. The exhibits were then redesigned (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1948, 1970-71]). Trees for Tomorrow subsequently converted the building to a library (Haskell 1993).

Although its use has changed, the Library's original function as a five-stall garage is evident along the south elevation. Here, the five sets of side-hinged, double-leaf garage doors with strap hinges and door pulls remain intact. The rectangular, one-story, side-gabled building measures forty-six feet long by 18.5 feet wide. The balloon frame rests on a poured concrete slab. Brown-stained board and batten siding covers the exterior walls, and horizontal siding closes the gables. Asphalt replaces the original wood shingles on the roof. Exposed rafters elaborate the overhangs of the south and the north elevations. However, a gutter covers the exposed rafters along the east half of the south side.

The remodeling process resulted in the addition of an entry door in the right leaf of the second stall from the southeast corner. Because a large exhibit panel was installed along the interior, east elevation, the two windows along that elevation were closed with board and batten siding which matches the original siding. The windows along the west elevation were also closed. Trees for Tomorrow installed the three narrow, fixed-glass windows along the north elevation to light the interior and provide a view of the Demonstration Forest.

Dormitory #4 (Balsam)/ Former South Garage (#16, Photo No.16) Contributing

The former, five-stall South Garage is located on the south side of the secondary drive which runs east-west between the Depression Era dormitories (#12-13). It faces north onto a courtyard shared with the identical North Garage (#15) to the north and the Maintenance Building to the west (#14). Erected in 1938-1939, the South Garage follows USFS Plan No. B95 prepared by the Regional Division of Recreation and Lands in September, 1938 (USDA 1935-78 [plan, 1938]; 1934-81 [memorandum, 1938]). Trees for Tomorrow first converted the building into a dormitory in 1953. In 1966, the building was remodeled a second time for the same function (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1953, 1966]).

Although the use has changed and windows are installed in the former garage doors along the north elevation, the original function as a five-stall garage remains visible. The five sets of side-hinged, double-leaf garage doors with strap

hinges and door pulls are intact. The rectangular, one story, side-gabled building measures forty-six feet long by 18.5 feet wide. Its balloon frame structure rests on a poured concrete footing. Brown-stained board and batten siding covers the exterior walls, and horizontal siding closes the gables. Asphalt replaces the original wood shingles along the roof. Gutters conceal the exposed rafters along the north and south roof overhangs.

Entry doors are located in the south corners of the east and west elevations. One square, six-light window pierces the north portion of the east elevation. Two similar windows occur along the west elevation. A series of similar windows are evenly spaced along the south elevation. These six-light windows originally lit the garage's interior. Four six-over-six, double-hung windows installed in the garage doors along the north elevation in 1953 or later illuminate the dormitory rooms.

Classroom Building (#17, Photo No.17) Non-contributing

The Classroom Building is located south of the Maintenance Building (#17) in the southwest corner of the courtyard at the end of the east-west service drive. It faces east toward the courtyard. Three different building episodes compose the building. Erected ca. 1978 and designed by Eric Friies, a large, twenty-four by twenty-six foot section to the south forms the main building. The north addition includes a small storage shed and an enclosed wood shed. The end storage shed dates to 1978. The enclosed wood shed connected the two in 1985-1987 (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memorandum, 1978]; 1935-78 [plans]; Haskell 1993). Vertically-grooved, brown-stained, vertical wood siding covers the balloon frame of each section of the building. They rest on concrete footings. An asphalt shingle, gable roof covers each section. The windows along the south building include two light, horizontally sliding lights. The windows in the later additions are six light windows. Although a non-contributing resource because of its construction date, the size, massing, color, and siding blend the building with adjacent resources and setting.

Pole Shed (#18, Photo No. 24) Non-contributing

The open-sided Pole Shed is located west of or to the rear of the Maintenance Building (#14) along the west side of the courtyard. It is composed of two wood frame sections. An asphalt, gable roof running north-south covers the north section, and a similar roof running east-west protects the south section. The shed stores equipment and materials. Its construction occurred in two stages beginning in 1970 (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1970). Erected in the recent past, it is a non-contributing building.

Machine Exhibit (#19, Photo No. 25) Non-contributing

The Machine Exhibit is located on the west edge of the oval drive and west-southwest of the Administration Building (#1). The exhibit measures

approximately five feet wide and ten feet long. A low base composed of a rectangle formed by timbers enclosing one foot square concrete pavers supports a tree planting machine. The Mosinee Paper Company donated the object, one of the first of such tools used by the company in the 1940s, to Trees for Tomorrow, Inc. in 1986. The fire plow was added in 1993 (Haskell 1993). Because the exhibit post-dates 1941, it is non-contributing.

Outdoor Classroom (#20, Photo No. 26) Non-contributing

First constructed in 1966 by Trees for Tomorrow (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress report, 1966), the Outdoor Classroom is located on the southwest side of the Oval Drive (#4) and to the southwest of the Administration Building (#1). A plywood lectern and eight plywood display panels supported on log posts compose the structure. Because its construction post-dates 1941, it is non-contributing.

Identification Sign (#21, Photo No. 27) Non-contributing

The Trees for Tomorrow, Inc. sign is located northwest of the intersection of the entrance drive and Sheridan Street. Resting on wood posts, the wood sign conforms to the shape of the camp emblem which was designed by 1948 (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1948). Because its construction of 1992 post-dates 1941, the object is non-contributing (Haskell 1993).

Administrative Dwelling (#22, Photo No. 18) Contributing

Isolated from the main building complex to its northeast, the Administrative Dwelling is located at 511 East Sheridan Street at the mid-point of the south boundary of the property. The building was constructed in a residential neighborhood. (The residence of Alexander Higgins, an Eagle River banker who sold his property to the village for the Training School site, stands east of the Administrative Dwelling. The Higgins property occupies private property outside the district boundaries.)

The Administrative Dwelling was constructed in 1938 following USFS Plan No. B88. Civilian Conservation Corps enrollees completed the construction. The National Forest Service continued to house its ranger in the dwelling until 1954 when it was added to the property under special use permit. In 1972, Trees for Tomorrow placed an addition along the east end of the building which is not visible from the facade. It also remodeled the interior (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memorandum, 1938, 1953, 1954]; Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1954]). The dwelling closely resembles the dormitory plan (see #12-13) used for the training school in its massing, materials, siding pattern, and chimney location. This building also includes a shallow projection toward the west side of the east facade. The projection's gable roof lies perpendicular to the main roof.

The one-story, rectangular, balloon frame building stands on a poured concrete foundation which surrounds a basement. An asphalt roof replaces the wood shingles covering the multi-gable roof. Four horizontal bands of 12 inch, brown-stained, drop siding covers the lower portion of the exterior walls. A narrow strip of siding and a drip molding form a continuous band around the entire building above this siding and serve as the sills for the windows. Brown-stained, board and batten siding covers the walls at the level of the windows. Brown-stained, lapped horizontal siding protect all the gables. The rubble stone chimney pierces the roof above the intersection of the ridge of the south elevation projection with main roof. The principal door enters into the east side of the south elevation projection. A side entry protected by a lean-to roof elaborated with simple brackets occurs along the west elevation. A pair of four-over-four, double-hung windows is located west of the entrance along the south elevation projection. The other windows along the principal elevation of the south facade include a triple window unit composed of two four-over-four, double-hung windows adjacent to a six-over-six, double hung window to the east of the projection and a single, one-over-one, double-hung window in the southeast corner. Single and paired, multi-light, double-hung windows are found along the east, north, and west elevations.

Garage (#23, Photo No. 19) Contributing

The Garage for the Administrative Dwelling (#22) is placed northwest of the residence so that it is readily accessible from the west side door of the dwelling. The Garage was built in 1938 (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memorandum, 1938]).

The rectangular, balloon frame building stands on a poured concrete slab. Brown-stained lap siding covers the exterior walls, and an asphalt, gable roof protects the building. Two side-hinged, wood garage doors close the south gable end. Each door displays two panels of a crossbuck across the vertical boards. A small, square four-light window is located in the center of both the west and east elevations.

During the Depression Era, the Forest Service erected similar utilitarian service buildings in the Nicolet National Forest. They include the Oil Storage Shed at the Florence Ranger District Administrative Site and the Storage Building at Lost Lake Organization Camp Building in Florence County.

Demonstration Forest (#24) Contributing

The site offered to the Forest Service by the Village of Eagle River in 1936 contained three distinct landscapes: open pasture for construction to the east; a mixed forest, the Demonstration Forest, for educational use in the center; and cutover land for residential and recreational development to the west. According to a 1936 State of Wisconsin land inventory, the Demonstration Forest was of medium density with 3" to 6" diameter timber identified as poppler with white birch (USDA Forest Service 1935-78 [landscape plan, 1936]). The forest also contained hardwoods and conifers including every major tree species native to the area. Never logged, this 11.68 acre, ca. 200 year old forest contained such native trees as white and red pine, hemlock, sugar maple, and yellow birch (Vilas County News-Review 1937 [4/15: 1/6]; Finley 1976; Baker 1964: 15). The Forest Service initially developed it for the Region Nine Training School (Vilas County News-Review 1936 [6/25: 1/7]):

> As outlined at present the plans are to clean out the woods, label all trees and shrubs for identification, put in paths and develop this as a park for observation and training purposes. The park will be open to the public schools for study.

The mixed forest was used for educational purposes by the Region Nine Training School between 1938 and 1941. Trees for Tomorrow continued this use from its initial occupation of the property in 1946 to the present. It established an inventory plot by 1946 and a soil test pit, a tree-planting demonstration area, and a nature trail by 1953 (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1946; 1953; Wolff 1993; Fixmer 1993). Because the Demonstration Forest remained a central educational tool in the programs of both the Forest Service and Trees for Tomorrow, the forest becomes an important element in the understanding of the property's historic function.

District Integrity

Because the Regional Nine Training Center continued to function as an educational facility between 1946 and the present, the buildings within the Region Nine Training Center District have undergone modification to meet their growing needs. Its occupant since 1946, Trees for Tomorrow has added several post-1944 buildings to meet the demands of its program. But because natural resource conservation was the concern of both educational programs which have occupied the district, later changes remained compatible with the original building functions and design.

The post-1944 resource construction within the district includes thirteen resources: the 1956-57 Dormitory # 1 (#10), the 1985 Kiwanis Bathhouse (#11), the 1978 Classroom Building (#17), the 1970 pole shed (#18), the 1960 Old Library (#9), the 1978 boat dock (#7), the post-1942 foot bridge (#8), the post-1946 Commemorative Signs (#5), the 1987 Commemorative Marker (#2), the flagpole (#3), the post 1946 Machine Exhibit (#19), the post-1946 Outdoor Classroom (#20), and the post-1946 Identification Sign (#21). Since the objects and structures are

small and composed primarily of wood, they are unobtrusive. The recent resources are small, low, one story, gable roof buildings, and they are constructed with a wood siding in a similar or compatible pattern and color to the pre-1942 buildings. However, the windows and doors and their position do not always blend with the original design of the campus. While the Old Library, Classroom Building, and pole shed are placed in a less focal position, the Kiwanis Bathhouse and Dormitory #1 do not follow the axially symmetrical plan of the original landscape design. The several major additions, the 1963 rear classroom wing of the Administration Building (#1) and the Dining Hall's 1978 kitchen extension (#6) maintain an exterior design, material, and workmanship similar to the original construction. Although the Maintenance Building (#14), Library (#15), and Dormitory #4 (#16) have undergone a functional change, their exteriors except for the additions of windows and door remain generally unchanged.

The simple interiors of many of the original buildings have also undergone alteration. The original interiors generally include unelaborated wood window and door trim and baseboards, plastered walls and ceilings, and a small number of paneled rooms, for example in the Dining Hall (#6). Modification for new uses altered the interior divisions of Dormitory # 4 or the South Garage (#16) and the Library or North Garage (#15). Except for the lounge and corridor areas, the walls of the two original dormitories (#12-13) were recently finished in pine paneling. Portions of the original walls of the Administration Building were also paneled. The original paneling in the dining area of the Dining Hall (#6) remains. This building and the Maintenance Building (#14) exhibit the least altered interiors.

Because the post-1944 buildings, structures, and objects do blend with the original construction at the property, the integrity of setting has been well maintained. Importantly, at this district whose function has remained conservation education, the natural elements have altered primarily through natural growth as occur in most settings. The oval drive and enclosed lawn remain unaltered except for the inevitable resurfacing of the drive. Scattered new plantings have occurred outside this oval drive as part of the education program or as a commemoration. These activities reflect the overall purpose of the property. The Demonstration Forest has suffered a relatively small number of intrusions. A foot bridge, paths, a sign board at the entrance to the forest from the east, and wood markers compose the major additions. With the possible exception of the paths, many of these changes are easily reversed. The integrity of setting remains quite intact.

Thus, because of the number of exterior and interior building changes and the number of non-contributing resources within the campus, the district does not gain significance in the area of architecture. However, because the overall sensitivity of these modifications to the design, material, workmanship, spatial organization of the setting of the original buildings, the district continues to visually convey its historical function as a conservation education training center.

Resource Inventory

Map #	Resource Name	USDA FS Plan No.	Date	Status[2]
1	Administration Building	B79 (3/37)	1937, 1963	C
2	Commemorative Marker		1987	NC
3	Flagpole		unknown	NC
4	Oval Drive and Lawn	Site Plan (9/36)	1937	C
5	Commemorative Signs		1992	NC
6	Dining Hall	B81-82 (3/37)	1937, 1978	C
7	Boat Dock		1978	NC
8	Bridge		early 1970s	NC
9	Old Library (A.J. Schierl Museum)		1960	NC
10	Dormitory #1/Hemlock (Bronsted-McLaren Hall)		1956-57	NC
11	Kiwanis Bathhouse		1981	NC
12	Dormitory #2/Pine (Mead-Hurst Hall)	B80 (9/37)	1938	C
13	Dormitory #3/Spruce (Everest-Zahn Hall)	B80 (9/37)	1938	C
14	Maintenance Building (Former Bathhouse)	U-72 (5/38)	1941, 1981	C
15	S.B. Buggee Library (Former North Garage)	B95 (9/38)	1938-39	C
16	Dormitory #4/Balsam (Becker Hall; Former South Garage)	B95 (9/38)	1938-39, 1953, 1966	C
17	Classroom Building (K.S. Elliott Hall)		1978, 1985-87	NC
18	Pole Shed		1970	NC
19	Machine Exhibit		1986, 1993	NC
20	Outdoor Classroom		1966	NC
21	Identification Sign		1992	NC
22	Administrative Dwelling (N.S. Stone Hall)	B88 (8/38)	1938	C
23	Garage	no plan no.; 4/27/38	1938	C
24	Demonstration Forest	Site Plan (9/36)	1937	C

[2] Resource status indicates whether the resource contributes (C) or does not contribute (NC) to the district.

8. Significance

Statement of Significance

The Region Nine Training School District in Eagle River, Wisconsin, gains state level significance under National Register of Historic Places criterion A in the areas of conservation and government. The Training School possesses significance in the area of conservation for its association with the American conservation movement. Additionally, because the educational center serves as an example of the involvement of an arm of the national government in the conservation movement, the district possesses significance in the area of government. Because the New Deal magnified many times the Forest Service's role in conservation in part through its creation of the Civilian Conservation Corps, the two historical movements became closely intertwined during the Depression Era. The conservation movement began in the mid-nineteenth century and lead to the creation of the United States Forest Service in 1905. This federal agency was charged with the preservation, maintenance, and management of national forests. The establishment of the North Central Region or Region Nine in 1929 and the subsequent creation of the Nicolet National Forest in the early 1930s extended the Forest Service's conservation activities to northeastern Wisconsin. The New Deal unemployment relief programs of the Depression Era between 1933 and 1942 resulted in one of the most important and productive periods in American conservation. Its reforestation programs heavily impacted the landscapes of the cutover region of northern Wisconsin and reflected a shift in policy from managing existing forests to forest improvement for increased production (Ahlgren 1987: 126-27). Undertaking administrative and recreational projects in the national forests, the USDA Forest Service oversaw the majority of the New Deal conservation projects across the nation. The Forest Service accomplished these projects through the administration and supervision of its technical staff and the labor of the enrollees of the Civilian Conservation Corps and other relief programs for the unemployed.

The volume of work for which the Forest Service was responsible during the Depression Era necessitated an increase in number of forestry personnel and additional training to meet the new demands placed on the agency. Beginning in fall, 1935, Region Nine provided such training for its rangers and assistant rangers through short-term sessions held during the tourist off-season at an Eagle River resort. The Forest Service established permanent training facilities at Eagle River in 1937-1938. Since the Training School at Eagle River became the only such facility to be developed in the eight-state region during the Depression Era, the district gains significance at the state level. Its period of significance, 1937-1938 to 1941, spans the property's construction and use by the Forest Service as a training center. The date of significance, 1937-1938, represents the initial construction phase of the property (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memoranda]; 1935-78 [building plans]; Vilas County News-Review 1936 [6/25:2; 7/14: 6]). Although the building design which follows a vernacular interpretation of Rustic Architecture is contemporary with the period, the property lacks significance in the area of architecture because the buildings lack distinction and because of later changes within the district. Despite these

changes, the property's original function as a training center remains quite recognizable through its design, materials, workmanship, and setting.

Research was undertaken utilizing the National Register area of conservation. The Wisconsin Historic Preservation Division's study unit on Conservation remained incomplete for this area. The study unit, "Architectural Styles," which includes a subsection on the Rustic Style was used to evaluate the buildings of the Region Nine Training School. The study units "Farming the Cutover" and "Logging and Lumber Milling" in Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin were used in the development of the historical contexts for the Nicolet National Forest. Site specific research was undertaken at the Nicolet National Forest Headquarters in Rhinelander, Wisconsin; the Eagle River Ranger District Headquarters, Eagle River; the Lakewood Ranger District Headquarters, Lakewood; and Trees for Tomorrow Environmental Center, Eagle River. Research for the development of the context dealing with the history of the American conservation movement, the U.S. Forest Service, and Depression Era relief programs in the national forests occurred at the Library and Archives of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and the University of Wisconsin Memorial and Steenbock libraries, Madison.

Areas of Significance: Conservation and Government

The Development of the Conservation Movement in the United States

Both the National Forest Service and the Civilian Conservation Corps had their origins in the American conservation movement. This movement can trace its own beginnings to the Romantic movement in literature by the early and mid-nineteenth century writers. Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau eulogized nature and questioned the supposed benefits of civilization. However, George Perkins Marsh's 1864 Man and Nature Or, Physical Geography as Modified by Human Action advanced a much more specific and scientific discussion of the exploitation of natural resources. Particularly concerned with the ecology of forests and the consequences of deforestation, Marsh argued even by this early date that human activities can harm the environment. His book became an international classic within ten years. It tremendously influenced the formation of a favorable public climate toward the role of the Federal government in forest conservation during last quarter of the century (West 1992: 1-2; Nash 1967: 44-66, 84-95; 1990: 13-18; Huth 1957: 30-57; Davis 1983 (2); Clepper 1971: 14-15).

In 1867, Increase Lampham prepared an equally significant report on the condition of Wisconsin forests. Commissioned by a special conservation commission created by the Legislature, his Report on the Disastrous Effect of the Destruction of Forest Trees Now Going on so Rapidly in the State of Wisconsin clearly stated the potential for serious environmental and economic consequences if lumbering continued uncontrolled by the state (Carstensen 1958: 6-9). The report brought no change in Wisconsin during the nineteenth century. Among the consequences which Lampham had found in his study was the increased potential for disastrous forest fires. The Peshtigo fire in northeastern Wisconsin in October, 1871, was

one of the most destructive fires in American history (West 1992: 3).

Forest fires such as the one at Peshtigo led many public leaders to call for governmental action concerning American Forest lands. In 1873, Franklin B. Hough, a scientist and physician, spoke at the 1873 meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science on the duty of governments to preserve forests. In 1876, the United States Congress directed Hough, the head of the new Division of Forestry in the Department of Agriculture, to prepare a study on the conditions of American forests. The findings of Hough's study confirmed the growing concerns over the rapid depletion of forests and heightened pressure for Federal control of forests (Huth 1957: 174; Clepper 1971: 17-19; Williams 1989: 277-78, 376-77, 400, 449-50).

In 1886, a permanent Division of Forestry was established in the Department of Agriculture under the direction of Bernhard E. Fernow. A Prussian professional forester, Fernow had been active in American forestry since his arrival in the United States in 1876. Fernow and his colleagues in the American Forestry Association worked within government for the protection of the forests. This work culminated in a central piece of legislation in the history of American conservation, the Forest Reserve Act of 1891 (West 1992: 27-29; Williams 1989: 409-12; Davis 1983: (1): 234; Robbins 1985: 7; Clepper 1971: 23-28). Congress passed the act as a rider to a bill revising land laws. It gave the President authority to create forest reserves from public lands. Within weeks, President Benjamin Harrison set aside the first forest reserve composed of almost 1,240,000 acres of public land known as the Yellowstone Forest Reserve and later as the Shoshone and Teton National Forests in Wyoming. By the end of his term, President Harrison had ordered the withdrawal of 13 million acres of forest reserves. In addition, President Grover Cleveland added over 20 million acres before the close of his term of office in 1897.

Because the Forest Reserve Act failed to define the purpose of the reserves, it frequently barred potential users from their resources. The rapid growth of the forest reserves between 1891 and 1897 and the mounting concern of western landowners for their lack of management led to an appropriations bill amendment, the Forest Management Act. It defined the purpose of the 1891 act as watershed protection and the provision of a source of timber for the nation. Also known as the Organic Act, this act thus authorized logging on the reserves. However, this act omitted other potential uses of the reserves such as forage, recreation, and wildlife management. It gave Congressional authority for the organization and management of Federal forest reserves to the General Land Office in the Department of the Interior. The Forestry Division in the Department of Agriculture provided the technical expertise for its operation. The 1897 Organic Act served as the basis for forest management by the Federal government until the passage of the Multiple Use-Sustained Yield Act of 1960. Only then did the government actually sanction the additional uses of the forest reserves (Williams 1989: 414-16; Steen 1976: 103-45; West 1992: 30-32, 51; Clepper 1971 102-34; Davis 1983 (1): 222; Robbins 1988: 8; Smith 1930: 20-22).

The General Land Office administered the forest reserves by grouping them into eleven districts and appointing a superintendent for each district, a supervisor

for each reserve, and rangers for work within the reserves. When Gifford Pinchot was appointed head of the Division of Forestry in 1898, he developed more efficient management policies for the reserves in the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture. Pinchot was a fellow conservationist and close friend of Vice-President Theodore Roosevelt. After Roosevelt became president following the assassination of President McKinley in September, 1901, Pinchot and Roosevelt worked closely together on conservation policies. Pinchot soon recognized that the national reserves possessed many uses each of which required management to fill both current and future needs.

By the beginning of 1902, Roosevelt was considering the transfer of the forest reserves from the General Land Offices to Pinchot's Bureau of Forestry in the Department of Agriculture. In that year, the Department of the Interior issued an administrative manual which reflected Pinchot's theories on forest management. In effect, Pinchot was directly heading the Division of Forestry in Agriculture, and indirectly controlling the operations of the Forestry Division in Interior. By early 1905, Congress approved the transfer of the forest reserves from Interior to Agriculture, and on July 1, 1905, the Bureau of Forestry became the United States Forest Service. The new agency gained responsibility for the administration of 63 million acres in sixty forest reserves, all located in the western United States. In 1907, the forest reserves were renamed national forests. But, legislation ended the presidential authority to create national forests and forbade the creation or enlargement of forests in six western states without Congressional approval. However, Congress continued to expand the national forests. Between 1905 and 1907, Roosevelt and Congress added over 130 million acres to the 1905 transfer acreage of 63 million acres. At the 1908 Conservation Conference of Governors, Roosevelt stressed the need to manage natural resources including soil, water, forests, and minerals, and at this early date he advised the creation of a national resources plan (Nash 1968: 59; West 1992: 30-32, 37-39; Steen 1976: 69-103; Smith 1930: 27-34; Elliott 1977: 35; Pinkett 1970; Otis 5, 40-45; Wirth 1980: 17,43).

The national forests had been created from lands located entirely in the western states and held in the public domain. To protect forested watersheds and meet the recreational needs of large urban populations, influential political groups in eastern states pressed the federal government to create forests in the eastern states. Federal acquisition of eastern forest lands was possible only through purchase. However, since the federal land policy had been one of disposal rather than acquisition, the Constitution failed to provide the government explicit authority for land purchase. Passed in March, 1911, the Weeks Act authorized the federal purchase of lands at the headwaters of navigable streams. The specified location of land purchase recognized the importance of forests in flood protection. Popular support grew from a desire for government involvement in forest fire protection. The first instance of federal funding of non-federal programs, the law also provided matching funds to create state forestry agencies who became involved in fire control programs. National forests had been created in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, and Oklahoma from lands remaining in the public domain. The Weeks Act permitted additions to these forests and the creation of new national forests through purchase (Steen 1976: 122-31; Robbins 1985: 50-84; West 1992: 41-43).

As head of the Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot had established a decentralized structure for the agency so that personnel in each forest possessed the authority to manage it. Pinchot's Use Book provided the rules and regulations to guide actions and decisions in the field. It clearly stated the function of the reserves including the preservation of a continual supply of timber for industries, the maintenance of a forest cover which naturally regulated the flow of streams, and the protection of the interest of local communities adjacent to the forest reserves. To ensure effective operation of this decentralized organization, Pinchot divided the country into forest districts whose headquarters oversaw inspection and review of individual forest management. The districts were subdivided into national forests, each headed by a forest supervisor, and forests were divided into districts headed by district rangers. The districts which became regions in 1930 played a central role in the supervision of Civilian Conservation Corps activities (Pinkett 1970: 67; Steen 1976: 76-81; Smith 1930: 75; West 1992: 39).

Because of Pinchot's conflicts with Richard A. Ballinger, an official in the Department of the Interior, President Taft removed him from his position in January, 1910. Pinchot's successor, Henry S. Graves, then dealt with these concerns which primarily involved the administration of recreational activities in the national forests. Recreational use rose as the government increased accessibility to and through the national forests. The recreation uses of public lands had increased rapidly after 1910. Both professional organizations and the public directed the Federal government to create a parks bureau to deal specifically with recreation on Federal lands. The government responded to this demand for recreational oversight of public lands by the creation of the National Park Service in 1916. Its functions potentially competed with those of the National Forest Service. In 1917, Frank Waugh completed a study of recreational facilities in the National Forests for the Forest Service. He counted three million visitors to the forests in that year. While Waugh found their recreational potential a valuable use, from the perspective of the Forest Service, this function was clearly secondary to timber, watershed, and grazing land management. While the Forest Service continued to provide some recreational services through the 1940s, the Park Service assumed the primary role in this area (Steen 1976: 113-22; West 1992: 51-54; Williams 1989: 456-58).

The Clarke-McNary Act of 1924 continued the growth and improved management of the national forests through the 1920s. The act permitted the purchase of forest lands which were within watersheds of navigable streams rather than just at the headwaters as specified under the Weeks Law of 1911. The Clarke-McNary Act also authorized appropriations for cooperative programs with state agencies for fire control, farm forestry extension, and production and distribution of forest planting stock. This act thus emphasized cooperation rather than coercion of private interests in the forests (Smith 1930: 63, 90; Steen 1976: 185-95; Davis 1983: 86; West 1992: 54). By the 1920s, Forest Service policies not only recognized multiple uses of the forests but also varied treatment depending on the available resources and environment. Congressional acts in 1924 and 1925 permitted donations of land to the national forests as a third means of expanding the forests in addition to reserving lands from the public domain and government purchase. For example, in 1936, the donation of land to the Forest Service by

Eagle River located the Region Nine Training School within the village (Vilas County News-Review 1936 [2/6: 4; 6/25: 1; 7/14: 6]).

The Creation of the Nicolet National Forest in the Cutover Lands

In 1929, the National Forest Service established the North Central National Forest District and placed its regional headquarters in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This new district oversaw national forests in the Great Lakes area of the country. The forests in Minnesota then included the Superior National Forest established in 1909 and the Chippewa National Forest created in 1928 from the former Minnesota National Forest formed in 1908. National forests in Michigan included the Michigan and Marquette National Forests created in 1909 and the Huron National Forest established in 1928. In 1930, the forest districts were renamed regions. The former North Central National Forest District became Region Nine of the United States Forest Service. The region grew with the creation of new national forests in the early 1930s including the Hiawatha and Ottawa national forests in Michigan established in 1931 and the Nicolet and Chequamegon national forests of Wisconsin created in 1933.

On March 2, 1933, presidential proclamation created the Nicolet National forest from cutover timber lands purchased in northeastern Wisconsin (Elliott 1977 [1989]: 35; USDA 1949: 373). The origins of the Nicolet are found in the history of the lumber industry in Wisconsin. Because of the extensive pine forests across the northern part of the state, Wisconsin became a leading lumber-producing state in the second half of the nineteenth century. The state lead the nation in this industry between 1900 and 1904. However, production fell steadily, and by 1920 Wisconsin ranked tenth in the nation (Lusignan 1986 (5): 14-15). Harvesting patterns, fires, and the absence of reforestation policies contributed to production decline and increase in cutover lands in the state.

The Wisconsin lumber industry harvested pine in the second half of the nineteenth century. After the pine stocks became depleted, the industry began to harvest hemlock and cedar as well as hardwoods such as basswood, elm, and ash. Fire protection was virtually non-existent as the lumber companies left behind slash after cutting over the forest land. By 1923, fires and uncontrolled cutting left less than two million acres of usable timber from the almost thirty million acres of forests which had covered the state in the mid-nineteenth century (Wisconsin Committee on Land Use and Forestry 1932: 17-18; Becker 1952).

Logging in the area of the Nicolet National Forest began in the 1850s along waterways to facilitate movement of the logs. Movement through the forest was hastened by the building of roads such as the 1864-1870 Military Road heading from Fort Howard north of Green Bay to Fort Wilkins in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The building of such railroads into the area in the 1880s allowed logging operations to penetrate beyond the timber-depleted waterways and stimulated the growth of permanent communities. In this period, the north-south Milwaukee Lakeshore and Western served Vilas County. It connected to the south with the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault St. Marie built east-west across northern Wisconsin in conjunction with the Canadian Pacific. It primarily

carried lumber, pulpwood, and minerals. Lumbering of pine reached its peak by 1899 when the cutting of hardwoods increased. By the 1920s, the disposal of slash in some areas through controlled burning had established the growth of pioneer species such as aspen, white birch, jack pine. Without use for such woods at the time, the area continued its economic decline (Walker 1959: 2; Becker 1952; Lusignan 1986 (5): 15; Fay 1986 (6): 1, 6; (7): 1; Elliott 1977 [1989]: 35).

Attempts to farm the cutover lands failed because the land and the climate were not suitable for crops. The inability of farmers to support themselves in the area increased the number of tax delinquent properties. In 1927, nearly twenty-five percent of the land in the northern seventeen Wisconsin counties had become tax delinquent. In that year, Wisconsin voters approved an amendment to the tax clause of the state constitution, the Forest Tax Law which permitted a taxation method for forest property different from that of non-forest property. It distinguished between land as capital and timber as income. This unique tax structure alleviated some of the problems in the area, but did not stop the rise in tax delinquency. This tax delinquent property effectively created a new public domain administered by the counties (Brown 1986 (4): 3; Sylvester 1992: 34-36; West 1992: 3; Wisconsin Committee on Land Use and Forestry 1932: 84-95). The Depression accelerated the reversion of land to the counties, even as counties, towns, cities, and school boards were establishing forests of their own (Becker 1952).

The state of Wisconsin had responded to the reduction of the northern forests by the creation of a state forestry commission in 1903 and the appointment of a state forester in 1904. But, the state did not begin to set aside forest reserves until 1924 (Walker 1959: 2; Wisconsin State Conservation Department 1955). The paper companies led the reforestation of the pine lands in 1920s. By 1910, Wisconsin ranked third in the production of paper and soon faced a growing scarcity of pulpwood. In that year, the industry consumed 350,000 cords of wood including hemlock, balsam, and fir from Wisconsin's forests. Shortly after the turn of the century, the paper industry first dealt with the problem by shifting its source of lumber to Minnesota, the Far West, and Canada. However, by the 1920s, the Nekoosa Edwards Paper Company became the first such company in Wisconsin to develop experimental tree farms from which it began the reforestation of its own woodlands. Founded in 1925, its Woodlands Department became the first established industrial program to practice forest management in the Great Lakes area (Lusignan 1986 (6): 5).

The purchase of forest lands by the Federal government under the Weeks Law of 1911 and the Clarke-McNary Act of 1924 provided one solution to the management of the cutover lands. Both the Weeks Act and Clarke-McNary Act permitted the purchase of forest lands by the Federal government if the forests lay at the headwaters or within the watersheds of navigable streams. The presence of the Eastern Continental Divide within the Nicolet National Forest clearly qualified the forest for purchase. The first purchase within the Nicolet National Forest was the Oneida Purchase Unit acquired by the federal government from the Thunder Lake Lumber Company of Rhinelander in December, 1928. This unit consisted of 151,680 acres in Oneida, Forest, and Vilas counties. In March, 1932, the Forest

Service acquired 68,000 additional acres in the Oneida Unit and gained 204,800 acres of the Oconto Unit in Forest, Vilas, Oconto, and Langlade counties. The National Forest Service established its headquarters in Rhinelander in March, 1933. In March, 1934, the National Forest was extended into Florence, Forest, Oconto, and Vilas counties (Elliott 1977 [1989]: 35, 37).

Forest Conservation Through the Civilian Conservation Corps

The creation of the Nicolet National Forest coincided with the 1933 publication of the Copeland Report on American forestry and the creation of the Emergency Conservation Works program by Franklin Roosevelt in March, 1933.

On March 13, 1933, the Forest Service issued its National Plan for American Forestry in the Copeland Report (USDA 1933). This report resulted from discussions in the U.S. Senate recommending the use of reforestation as a source of work for unemployed Americans. The final report added fire protection; flood control; soil erosion; forest research; wildlife, timber and range management; and recreation to the Forest Service's Depression Era agenda. However, the report clearly stated that the protection of these resources depended on federal-state control of forestry on private lands. Congress rejected the report on this basis. Its historical significance lies in its linkage between resource conservation and work relief. In this capacity, it served as the basis for the New Deal forest conservation program (Steen 1979: 199-204; Leake 1980). During the Depression Era, the general understanding of resource conservation finally reflected the ideas of Gifford Pinchot at the turn of the century. Rather than the hoarding of resources, Franklin Roosevelt advocated the protection and prudent use of the resources in a manner which would benefit a majority of the nation. Such an approach required the national planning of resource use, a major objective of the Roosevelt administration. The National Plan of the Forest Service thus represented such a national-level planning effort to ensure the proper utilization of the nation's forests and address their recreational potential (U.S. Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works 1934: 75; Owen 1983: 82, 102; Ahlgren 1987: 11).

In 1932, twenty percent of the American work force or 28 million were jobless and millions were homeless. Estimates indicated that over half of the young men between 15 and 24 were either unemployed or working only part time. Thus, Franklin D. Roosevelt faced tremendous economic and social problems as he began his presidency in early 1933. In response to this emergency condition, he developed the New Deal composed of a package of emergency legislation to both improve economic conditions and the nation's natural resources. A series of recent natural disasters underscored the long-term deterioration of these resources. The package addressed the problems of the cutover forests of the north and the dust bowl of the Plains and provided labor to resolve them. The acts which composed the legislation had been tried before in isolated instances.

However, it was the rapid expansion of the federal bureaucracy in recognition of the government's responsibility to the welfare of its citizens which was innovative. This role had traditionally belonged to the family or at most the local community not the federal government (Ahlgren 1987: 10-12).

On March 15, 1933, Congress convened to act on emergency legislation. The following one hundred days of the Roosevelt administration produced a model for the legislation which followed and remained in effect during the 1930s and early 1940s. Later acts defined and supplemented this legislation, but they did not alter their substance (Schlesinger 1940: 1; Cohen 1980). In this legislation, Roosevelt attempted to effect the recovery for a major portion of the economy including agriculture, industry, and banking as well as provide relief to the unemployed and disadvantaged members of society (Otis 1986: 5-6). Because of the variations in the types of individuals who required relief and the multiple causes which gave rise to their needs as well as the fluctuations in the public attitude concerning how to meet those needs, the solution for welfare was equally complex.

In response to the Forest Service's National Plan and based on his own personal interest in conservation, Roosevelt announced his intent to develop an Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) program on March 21, 1933. It would enroll young men in a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) to undertake conservation and recreation work in the national parks and forests. Rather than offering doles to the unemployed, the program's funds supported projects of public benefit to employ those needing work. The program lifted morale and sustained the skills of many American workers who had lost their jobs because of the state of the economy rather than their own negligence. The program also provided some training to those reaching the age of employment. By March 31, Congress passed the necessary legislation to establish the program. This legislation provided the president with broad authority to execute the act. On April 5, 1933, Roosevelt signed Executive Order 6106, Relief of Unemployment through the Performance of Useful Public Works which further defined the parameters of the legislation (Paige 1985: 7-19; Salmond 1967: 3-25; Wirth 1980: 67-70; Rawick 1957: 35-56; Owen 1983: 84; Isakoss 1938: 19-22).

The program remained formally titled the Emergency Conservation Work program until 1937 when it became the Civilian Conservation Corps program. Robert Fechner, a labor union official, directed the CCC and coordinated the program with other Federal agencies. Representatives of these agencies composed an advisory council which recommended policies to the director and oversaw the program's budget. The organizational structure of the ECW program mobilized four existing departments of federal government. The Labor Department undertook the selection of the enrollees from state relief records. The War Department provided staff for basic conditioning programs at the CCC district headquarters and for the operation of the CCC work camps. The Departments of Interior and Agriculture, known as the technical services, supervised the work projects. The National Park Service in the Department of the Interior served as the technical agency overseeing national and state park projects. The Department of Agriculture was responsible for soil conservation and, through the Forest Service, for fire protection, reforestation, and recreation projects in national

and state forests. Nation-wide, the National Forest Service directed 82 percent of all the work projects in the first year. Both technical services were responsible for planning and executing the work projects, furnishing the equipment, tools, and supplies, and providing transportation to the projects. Although the technical services did not run the camps, they did locate each camp adjacent to a work project with which it was associated.

The act required that CCC enrollees be between the ages of 18 and 23 and unmarried and come from families on relief. In 1937, the government broadened the age limits. Enlistment lasted six months with the opportunity for re-enlistment. During this period, enrollees received clothing, food, shelter, education, job training of varying quality, and a thirty dollar per month allowance of which twenty-five went to their families. Effectively, this program put young men to work, provided funds to economically-distressed family members, brought money into communities near the location of camps and projects, and accomplished a tremendous amount of conservation work throughout the nation. The CCC program eventually enrolled 75,000 men from Wisconsin, and 92,000 enrollees served in Wisconsin.

After entrance into the program, the CCC assigned enrollees to one of nine Army Corps centers for basic training and physical conditioning. Most of the CCC camps operating in Wisconsin were formed from enrollees processed through the Sixth Army Corps headquarters located at Fort Sheridan, Illinois, near Chicago. The army subdivided each Army Corps area into districts whose sizes depended on the number of camps managed in the district. By 1935, the Sparta District included the CCC camps working on the Nicolet. Headquartered near Sparta, the district served northern Wisconsin north of an east-west line through Baraboo.

After completion of their basic training, CCC enrolles were assigned to camps. An advance group of enrollees and military staff proceeded to the camp site to prepare for the arrival of the remaining members of the 200-man companies. The early CCC camps used tents for housing. Later, prefabricated, permanent structures or "rigid camps" were built. Towards the end of the 1930s, the CCC employed movable units or "portable camps." Frequently, the CCC used small subcamps or side camps to reduce travel time from the main camp to the project site or to undertake small, short-term projects. Once the camp became operational, civilian technical staff from either the Forest Service or the National Park Service assumed supervision of the enrollees' work program. The federal agency provided all the design, planning, and technical background for projects. The CCC enrollees supplied the labor force available to the technical agencies for the completion of the projects (Ermentrout 1981: 11; Cohen 1980: 155; CCC Sixth Corps Area 1937: 23; Wirth 1980: 76-99; Rawick 1957: 56-63; Salmond 1967: 26-32; Paige 1985: 52-64).

For the most part, communities benefitted from the presence of CCC camps in their areas. The CCC engaged a small number of locally unemployed, skilled men called Local Experienced Men (LEM). The construction and conservation projects improved the community and often attracted revenue from travelers using new recreational facilities. To assist local businesses and maintain a positive image, the CCC directed the army to purchase many of the camp supplies including food, tools,

and building materials locally. The five dollars per month allowance to the enrolles was usually spent locally on entertainment. Because of these benefits including the approximately 1000 dollars spent per month at local businesses, the CCC camps retained a popular public image. The presence of a CCC camp considerably reduced the economic crisis faced by the local community (Salmond 1967: 35; Paige 1985: 73-79; Wirth 1980: 105-08, 111; Rawick 1957: 64). These benefits explain the eagerness with which the Eagle River village board pursued the location of the Region Nine Training School in their community (Vilas County New-Review 1936 [6/25: 1/7]; 1936 [7/14: 6]).

As the CCC matured, additional legislation and executive action soon corrected some of the deficiencies in its original organization. The vast majority of the CCC enrollees were unskilled laborers from urban areas. Construction and forestry projects required experienced workmen with sufficient technical skills. On April 22, 1933, the president approved the hiring of Local Experienced Men (LEM) who were unemployed foresters and construction workers from communities near the proposed projects. They provided additional technical skills and leadership as foremen. The Forest Service camp thus included the camp superintendent; three to six foresters; three to four construction foremen, the LEM's; two to three subforemen, experienced enrollees; and the enrollees. The army added an educational advisor. By 1934, the CCC also hired local college students majoring in landscape architecture, engineering, forestry, geology, history, and science during the summer to provide added technical direction. The regional office in Milwaukee also employed individuals skilled in these areas to review project proposals; provide the necessary oversight, design, master plans, and individual building plans for the projects; and inspect their execution. The planning of each project to fit within the existing environment and meet the local needs was an important initial step in each project (Paige 1985: 44-45, 50-51, 69; Leake 1980; Wirth 1980: 111-14; Tweed 1977: 91; Elliott 1977 [1989]: 43).

On May 11, 1933, the president approved the creation of separate CCC camps for veterans of World War I then in their thirties and forties. The Veterans Administration and the Labor Department selected the enrollees. These camps operated with more lenient rules and represented approximately ten percent of the total CCC enrollment. The Phelps Camp, CCC Company 1680 and National Forest Camp 26 (CRIF 09-06-02-237), was a veterans camp which operated on the Nicolet. It arrived at Camp Phelps on November 1, 1934. Between 1935 and 1937, the company constructed many miles of truck trails, improved timber stands, and planted trees in the Nicolet Forest. Beginning in 1937, Herman Korth from the camp also supervised the construction of buildings at the Region Nine Training Center. After the closing of the camp, buildings were removed and surface features of the camp were obliterated (Salmond 1967: 35-37; Paige 1985: 73; Leake 1980; Applin 1983; CCC Sixth Area District 1937: 116-117; USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memoranda, 3/29/1937, 4/26/1937, 9/9/1937]; USDA Forest Service 1985; Nicolet News 1988 [April, no. 93]). States also operated their own relief camps which housed and fed unemployed transients in return for work on state and county highways. Wisconsin operated Camp Imogene for transients from 1935 to July, 1937. It was placed at the site of a former logging camp owned and used by the State of Wisconsin as an honor prison camp. It was located approximately twelve miles northeast of Eagle River near Imogene Lake. After removing the prisoners,

the state provided work projects to the transients in 1934. Between 1935 and 1937, the Forest Service operated the camp. The 250 men ranged in age from thirty to seventy. According to correspondence from Forest Service officials in 1937, members of the camp participated in the first phase of construction at the Region Nine Training School at Eagle River, and they worked nearby at Anvil Lake campgrounds and the Franklin Lake Campground (Elliott 1977 [1989]: 43, 47-48; USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memoranda, 3/29/1937, 4/26/1937, 9/9/1937]; Elliott 1977 [1989]: 47-48).

The CCC projects advanced the cause of conservation many years. Such projects frequently included forest protection, tree planting, game and fish management, disease control, fire fighting in the forests, forest fire pre-suppression, road building and telephone installation across the forests, tree nursery development and maintenance, forest stand improvement through thinning, the protection of lake and stream banks, erosion control, the construction of fire towers and associated buildings, and recreation development. By the 1930s, forests experienced a rising number of visitors. The Forest Service determined that forests should be made more accessible to motorists and developed for recreational activities non-harmful to the natural setting. Forests supported several types of potential recreational areas depending on their natural setting. Most forests were capable of providing hiking, nature study, and camping. Recreational improvements supported by the Forest Service often along with other forestry work included trails, access roads, bridges, administrative buildings, picnic and trail side shelters, dams for the creation of swimming and boating facilities, bathhouses, guest cabins, comfort stations, and water and sewage systems (Kylie 1937: 279-81; Owen 1983: 129; Otis 1986: 1, 10). Between 1935 and 1937, the CCC planted over 40,000 acres of trees, built camp and picnic facilities for over 420 people at six different areas three of which included swimming facilities, participated in game management, constructed over 129 miles of truck and fire roads, installed 54 miles of forest telephone lines, erected lookout towers, built forest service ranger headquarters at Eagle River and Keyes Lake near Florence, constructed additional buildings for Forest Service operation of the forests, fought forest fires, and conducted land surveys on the Nicolet (Vilas County News-Review 1936: [11/2: 3/1; 12/18: 6/1-2] Oconto County Reporter 1935 [12/12: 1/6]; Cohen 1980: 88-89; Pager 1983: 13; CCC Sixth Corps Area 1937).

From the beginning, Congress viewed the CCC as a temporary relief measure. Enacting legislation appropriated money for a two year period. Additionally, each enrollment period for the CCC lasted only six months. The Emergency Relief Appropriations Act of 1935 extended and refunded the CCC until 1937. It expanded the CCC enrollment to 600,000 and raised the enrollee age limit from twenty-three to twenty-five. Peak enrollment occurred in September, 1935 at 505,782 after which the number declined gradually (Ahlgren 1987: 12; Paige 1985: 21). As the economy slowly began its recovery by 1935, the CCC began to shift its focus from relief to training to enable enrollees to better support themselves after their departure. The CCC more closely supervised the army's development of education and vocational training at the camps (Cohen 1980: 13). In early 1936, Roosevelt ordered the reduction of the enrollment to 300,000 by July 1, 1936. Seeking to create the CCC as a permanent agency in the federal government, he reduced its costs to make the proposal more palatable to Congress. Although the legislature

did not favor a permanent agency, this reduction met considerable resistance from midwestern congressmen whose constituents sought its continuation. Faced with opposition, Roosevelt compromised. All camps remained active until the completion of their work projects at which time some were closed. Roosevelt's policy resulted in extensive camp closings. In December, 1935, the Nicolet National Forest included twenty-two camps. By early, 1937, there were forty-five CCC camps remaining in the Sparta District. Of the thirty-two camps assigned to the Forest Service, eighteen were associated with federal projects and fourteen with forestry projects. Nine of the eighteen federal project camps were then located in the Nicolet National Forest: Phelps, Scott Lake, Long Lake, Alvin, Rainbow (Florence), Cavour, Blackwell, Boot Lake, and Mountain (Elliott 1977 [1989]; Rawick 1957: 68-78; Salmond 1967: 63-70; Wirth 1985: 105, 121, 131; Pager 1983: 11; Oconto County Reporter 1935 [12/12/: 1/6; 12/5: 4/3]; Leake 1980).

Congress funded the CCC as a separate agency in June, 1937. Under this act, its name was officially altered from Emergency Conservation Work to the Civilian Conservation Corps, already its popular name. Unlike the 1933 act, the 1937 act incorporated specific directives. It emphasized vocational training rather than work relief by allotting up to ten hours per week to educational activities. The act lowered the enrollment number to 300,000 men between the ages of seventeen and twenty-three and included an additional 10,000 Native Americans. Each enrollee was allotted a term between six months and two years. The CCC remained a temporary agency, now extended for a period of three years (Cohen 1980: 132; Paige 1985: 21). In 1939, the CCC as well as the National Youth Administration, the Social Security Board, the Office of Education, the Public Health Service, and similar agencies were placed within the Federal Security Agency because they shared a similar purpose. They administered public welfare furthering economic and social security, educational opportunities, and health (Ahlgren 1987: 105; Johnson 1941: 150-51).

Despite official recognition of the Civilian Conservation Corps as the successor to the Emergency Conservation Work program on June 28, 1937, camps closed and enrollments declined. Reductions continued from 1937 through 1940 when the program was severely decreased as the Army Reserve officers who ran the camps were called to active duty. In 1940 and 1941, the work of the remaining CCC camps shifted from conservation and recreation projects to the construction of defense facilities. By 1941, the CCC itself experienced labor shortages as young men joined the defense industries. The Civilian Conservation Corps ended on June 30, 1942 after Congress failed to appropriate funding for its activities in fiscal year 1943 (Rawick 1957: 72-94; Wirth 1985: 143; Leake 1980; Ahlgren 1987: 105).

The Founding of the Region Nine Training School

The recently completed National Plan for American Forestry, or the Copeland Report permitted the Forest Service to develop project proposals quickly in response to Roosevelt's 1933 conservation initiatives. However, the Forest Service staff was relatively small in relation to the number of enrollees and the number of projects it could potentially complete. As the Forest Service hired

new staff to cope with the initiative and planned new projects, the agency needed to train personnel as quickly as possible. In June, 1935, the Regional Office in Milwaukee began a series of training programs held at the Virgin Lake Camp near Three Lakes in the Nicolet. Between November and May, the Forest Service moved the winter sessions to the Morey Resort, two miles east of Eagle River. The first session at the new Eagle River Training School began on January 10, 1938. The school's permanent staff included a director and two assistants. Additional temporary teaching staff were drawn from Forest Service personnel. Thirty rangers and assistant rangers from the entire region including Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Missouri, Minnesota, Ohio, North Dakota, and Wisconsin attended the five-week training sessions for "advanced positions of administration in the Forest Service" (Vilas County News-Review 1935 [11/7: 1/7; 11/14: 1/3]; 1938 [1/10: 1/6-7; 5/26: 1/3; 6/9: 1/7; 6/16: 1/6-7, 6/1-3]); Elliott 1977 [1989]: 48).

The personnel attending the school included supervisors, assistant supervisors, rangers, members of the supervisor's staff, forestry and special technicians, CCC camp superintendents, and non-technical foremen, a total of 1200 individuals. Many of these Forest Service personnel were already trained in forestry, engineering, biology, and other technical areas. Planning sessions of one hundred personnel for five week periods, the Forest Service foresaw active use of the facilities during three to four months of the year. It also intended to station personnel working on questions involving reforestation and forest protection at the training school. Because of the scattered and isolated location of its personnel across Region Nine, the training school introduced students to the more practical aspects of their positions, that is the management of the forests, and presented special training courses (Vilas County News-Review 1935 [11/7: 1/7]; see also 1938 [6/2: 1/6]):

> The course of training for the Forest officers will include not only a thorough discussion of Regional policies and objectives, but also instruction in the organization of Forest service work inventories in harmony with a uniform region wide system for finger tip control of the records, their use, revision, and expansion. All of the major problems pertaining to the proper administration of the National forests in the regional will be thoroughly discussed.

During the late 1930s and early 1940s, this training focused on the development and management of CCC projects in the forests (Fixmer 1993). When the school was moved to Eagle River, at least some sessions were oriented toward specific groups. For example, Forest Service employees from five states and the regional office met at the first session in January to study the survey and problems of game management. The training focused on cover and food for game and fish in the woods and waters. Field work covered the browse conditions of swamps providing winter feed for deer. In June, 1938, a session was planned for Nicolet planting reconnaissance crew training. In the same month, a group of rangers gathered to review CCC project work plans and estimates for 1939. Also in June, twenty Forest Service executives met for seven days to discuss fiscal control and executive management. A fire training session was held for Nicolet personnel and then a foremen's training session followed. District rangers and supervisors at

the Nicolet met to discuss the distribution of the work load among the staff. The training included both group discussion and field surveys. The training school also permitted the exchange of information, particularly concerning reforestation (Vilas County News-Review 1935 [11/7: 1/7]; 1936 [1/23: 2/4; 3/25: 1/3; 4/16: 1/1; 6/25: 1/7]; 1938 [1/6: 1/7; 5/26: 1/3; 6/16: 1/6-7, 6/1-3]; Goldsworthy 1993).

Preparation for World War II and the recovery of the economy shifted the CCC into war-related projects, and many CCC enrollees enlisted in the army. When the government discontinued the CCC in 1942, the Forest Service reduced much of the construction and many of the conservation projects. As Forest Service staff was reduced, the extensive need for training ended. Consequently, the use of the Region Nine Training School declined in 1940 and 1941 and was little used by the Forest Service after 1941-1942 (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memorandum by Lyle Wyatt, 5/10/1946]).

The Region Nine Training School was not a unique institution. The Forest Service held the first such school in Flagstaff, Arizona in 1910. Although other regions adopted the approach, financial limitations quickly ended sessions in all regions. Sometime later, the Forest Service sponsored annual supervisor and ranger meetings at which the agency conducted some fire guard training. However, the Forest Service did not again initiate a formal training school until 1924. Also held at Flagstaff, the school trained about thirty personnel in Region 3 twice a year. The Forest Service soon inaugurated other schools the Colorado, California, and Oregon. Eventually, each region held its own training session (Vilas County News-Review 1938 [6/16: 1/6-7, 6/1-3]).

The Building of the Region Nine Training School

Between 1936 and 1938, the Forest Service planned and constructed its new Region Nine Training School at Eagle River. The lumber industry attracted settlement in the area adjacent to Eagle River by ca. 1858. Since lumber mills were moved early to a more central location at Rhinelander, Eagle River did not attract sufficient permanent settlement to incorporate as a village until 1893 when it became the county seat of Vilas County. Although logging declined in the area at the turn of the century, it revived in the second and third decades of the twentieth century as lumber companies sought a wider range of woods. The resort industry was established at and near Eagle River in the 1890s but did not flourish until after the turn of the century. Recreational development in the Nicolet by the CCC was in part intended to enhance the tourist industry (Becker 1952: 43; Dunn 1978: 12, 70-71).

On January, 1936, the Eagle River Village Board offered the federal government "free and without charge" a 25.83 acre tract in the village for the construction of a forestry school (Vilas County News-Review 1936 [2/6: 4/5]; 1937 [4/15: 1/6]). The village described the tract as all of government lot 7, section 28, township 40 north, range 10 east except 1.52 acres of land including the Alexander Higgins house and garage. In June, 1936, the federal government accepted the site for a "permanent school...for the purpose of training forest

supervisors for work in the national forests" (Vilas County News-Review 1936 [6/25: 1/7; 8/6: 6/5]; 1938 [6/16: 1/7]). The Village of Eagle River conveyed the site by a warranty deed dated January 23, 1937. The deed contained a reversionary clause which provided for the return of the property to the municipal government of Eagle River if it was not used by the Forest Service for forestry purposes for a period of five years (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [1937, deed vol. 86, p. 19]). The village board's offer to donate the property in part may stem from anticipated revenues generated by the additional visitors brought to Eagle River by the training school. It also offered possible employment opportunities to local residents and focused national attention on Eagle River and the region (Vilas County News-Review 1938 [6/16: 1/7]).

Although the plans were soon altered, the Forest Service initially proposed to build an administration building, dormitories, a large recreation hall or gymnasium, and two or three private homes for instructors. January and September, 1936, landscape plans indicate two separate areas of development on the site. The Training School occupied the east third of the property. The west third contained a community-oriented development of residential lots backed by athletic fields including tennis courts and a ball diamond. A mixed forest identified as the natural arboretum to be used by both the Training School and the community composed the center third. Designed by R.E. Bassett, a regional engineer from the Milwaukee office, the 1936 landscape plans included five buildings organized around a north-south oval drive. They included the Administration Building at the south end of the oval, the Dining Hall at the north end, one dormitory on the east, and two dormitories on the west (USDA Forest Service 1935-78 [plans, 1/15/1936, 1937]).

Correspondence and drawings at the Nicolet National Forest Headquarters in Rhinelander establish a chronology for the construction of the training center (USDA Forest Service 1935-78 [plans, 1935-38]; 1934-81 [memoranda, requests to build]). Supervising the general layout of the camp, R.E. Bassett from the regional office staked building locations for the Dining Hall (#6), Administration Building (#1), and dormitory #2 (#12) in August or September, 1936 (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memoranda, 9/9/1936, 7/7/1937]). At the end of March, 1937, the Regional Office sent sets of standard plans prepared by H. Coleman, Regional Engineer, to the Nicolet Forest Supervisor for three buildings: Administration and School Building (No. B79) (#1), Dining Hall (No. B81) (#6), and Dormitory #2 (No. B80-81) (#12) (USDA Forest Service 1935-78 [plans, 1937]). Because of limited funds, the Regional Office instructed the Forest Supervisor to build only the Administration Building and the Dining Hall in 1937. It anticipated funding for Dormitory #2 in 1938. Construction of the Administration Building was to occur first followed by the building of as much of the Dining Hall as the allotted funding allowed. All materials were to be purchased "on the Forest" or through Central Purchasing. Shiplap siding (30,000 board feet) ordered in the summer of 1936, was to be used for the exterior of the Administration Building (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memorandum, 3/29/1937]).

The Civilian Conservation Corps and a transient camp operated by the Forest Service by 1935 through 1937 probably constructed at least part if not all of the buildings at the training center except for the two dormitories. Contracted

construction crews probably completed Dormitory #2 (#12) and Dormitory #3 (#13) (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memorandum by Lyle Wyatt, 5/10/1946]). Paul Zimmerman, a Forest Service engineer, oversaw the construction. He supervised and reviewed the work of Herman Korth who directed the actual construction and the ordering of all materials in accordance with standard plans and specifications. Korth was a locally experienced man (LEM) of CCC company F-26 at the Phelps (V-1680) veterans camp located north of Eagle River in section 27, T42N, R11E. The Regional Office directed District Ranger Walter Nicewander to obtain labor for construction of the Dining Hall (#6), Administration Building (#1), and Dormitory #2 (#12) from the Imogene Transient Camp located east of Eagle River (Applin 1983; USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memorandum]; CCC Sixth Corps Area 1983: 193; Elliott 1977 [1989]: 47). Ranger Nicewander of the Nicolet National Forest oversaw the maintenance and operation of the training center after construction. Although excavation was to be done with a ECW power shovel used by the Forest Service, the Emergency Relief Act (ERA) supported the wages for its operation and gas, oil, and minor repairs. ECW trucks and drivers hauled the excavation waste from the site to other construction sites (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memoranda, 3/29/1937, 4/26/1937, 9/9/1937]; Vilas County News-Review 1938 [1/6: 1/7]).

Construction of the first two buildings had begun by April, 1937 when the building crew had excavated the basements for the Dining Hall (#6) and Administration Building (#1). In early July, 1937, the Dining Hall was nearly complete, but a shortage of materials slowed construction. Despite the delayed completion of the Dining Hall, by September, 1937, the engineering staff in the Regional Office in Milwaukee was preparing the working drawings (B80-81) and specifications for the construction of the first dormitory (#12) at the Training School. The financing for this building came from the regular Forest Service budget and did not utilize any CCC or ERA support (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memoranda, 7/8/1937, 9/9/37, 10/16/1937; specifications, 9/24/37]). The Forest Service approved the construction of Dormitory #2 in September, 1937. The building neared completion in late May, 1938 (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memorandum 9/18/1937]). At that time, District Ranger Nicewander notified the Forest Supervisor that there was not enough funds remaining to complete the flagstone paving on the walkways and entry stoops. The district ranger did direct the completion of this work as grounds improvement using CCC labor.

Although the Forest Service had begun to hold training sessions in the buildings beginning in January, 1938, dedication of the Dining Hall (#6), Administration Building (#1), and Dormitory #2 (#12) occurred on June 11, 1938 (Vilas County News-Review 1937 [4/14: 1/6]; 1938 [1/6: 1/6-7; 6/9: 1/7; 6/2: 1/6; 6/16: 6/3]). The Vilas County News-Review described the three newly completed buildings in January, 1938 (1/6: 1/6-7]). The Administration Building (#1) contained a large classroom for training sessions, two offices, a library, and basement. Interior finish included plaster walls; Nuwood ceilings; battleship linoleum floors; and black ash trim in the classroom, knotty birch trim in the offices, and American elm trim in the library. The Dining Hall (#6) enclosed a large kitchen, main dining hall with three French doors overlooking a flagstone, outside dining terrace at the rear, and two extra rooms and bedrooms for the cook and caretaker. The interior of the dining hall was finished in white pine vertical panels.

Battleship linoleum covered all floors. The building also contained a basement with storeroom. Dormitory #2 (#12) included seven bedrooms and a large lounge with large fireplace.

In October, 1938, the Forest Service began construction of Dormitory #3 (#13) following plan B80-0. Since it was similar to plan B80, it appears that M.D. Sweitzer redrew the original plans in August, 1938 (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [Request for Approval, 10/11/1938; memorandum, 9/15/1938]; 1935-78 [plans, 1937]). High attendance at the training sessions required this additional dormitory. The argument for funding of the second dormitory was based on the "unreasonable" cost of private accommodations in Eagle River resort facilities. Records suggest that the CCC was not involved in its construction. CCC enrollees from Phelps Camp assisted with the construction of two five-stall garages following the September, 1937 plans B95 beginning in November 7, 1938. Correspondence indicates their completion in the spring of 1939 (Vilas County News-Review 1938 [6/16: 6/3]; USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memoranda 11/4/1938, 12/6/1939; Request for approval 11/2/1938]).

The Regional Office approved construction of an administrative or caretakers dwelling (#22) following plan B-88 and a garage (#23) in August, 1938. Plans for the garage by H. Coleman labeled B95-01 and dated September 27, 1938 survive (USDA Forest Service 1935-78 [plans for garage, 1938]; 1934-81 [memorandum, 8/9/1938; request for approval 6/17/1938]). The Regional Office allotted seventy-five days for the project. Herman Korth supervised the construction work completed entirely by CCC enrollees. The "veteran company" at the Phelps CCC camp including five CCC enrollees skilled in carpentry provided labor. To complete the dwelling as quickly as possible, the five skilled CCC enrollees were assigned to Korth even during the tree planting season (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memorandum, 8/20/1938]).

By December, 1939, the Forest Service had completed seven buildings at the Training School: Administration Building (#1), Dining Hall (#6), Dormitory #2 (#12), Dormitory #3 (#13) the North Garage (#15), the South Garage (#16) and an Administrative Dwelling (#22) and garage (#23). Two additional dormitories were listed as unbuilt. In March, 1941, approval was requested for the building of a standard Bathhouse (#14) to be built with CCC labor. Construction followed plan #U-72 for the bathhouse designed in May, 1935. Beginning in May, 1941, construction did utilize CCC labor (USDA 1935-78 [plans, 1935]; 1934-81 [Form 106 R-9, March 14, 1941]). The building of the Bathhouse ended construction activity at the Region Nine Training Center until after Trees for Tomorrow began utilization of the site in 1946.

A Vernacular Interpretation of Rustic Architecture

The building designs provided by the National Forest Service for the Region Nine Training School follow a vernacular interpretation of the Rustic style common to the second half of the 1930s and the early 1940s. The Region Nine Training School does not gain significance in the area of architecture because of the simple nature of design and building additions and modification. However, the

use of the style in the design of the original buildings relates to the is historic significance since most of the Depression Era resources constructed under the direction of the National Forest Service and the National Park Service within the national parks and forests by the work relief programs follow this style.

The Rustic Style guided the design of park buildings, structures, and landscaping in national parks and forests from 1916 through the Depression Era in the 1930s and early 1940s. The Rustic Style was a national level movement which provided guidelines for the construction of park facilities in the national and state parks and forests. The style was adapted by the National Park Service for the design of its facilities and adopted by the National Forest Service by the Depression Era. Although the National Park Service did not create the Rustic Style, it did expand the concepts of the Rustic Style as it erected park buildings and structures. The principles reflected by the style meshed with those on which the New Deal relief programs were based. Both were deeply rooted in a naturalistic philosophy and required intensive labor. The large work crews necessary to provide materials, complete the stone work, and process and set the timbers as well as the amount and level of expertise required to supervise construction was financially possible only through such work programs of the 1930s and early 1940s (Missouri Department of Natural Resources 1984).

Buildings erected on the national parks prior to the establishment of the National Park Service in 1916 were generally make-shift ones in which concessionaires provided services. At this time, the Department of the Army patrolled the national parks. Railroad companies contributed the first major development associated with the national parks in the 1890s and during the first decade of the twentieth century. Providing transportation and accommodations for tourists, the railroads erected elaborate hotels following the prevalent Classical Revival Style. Between 1900 and 1910 as the railroad searched for an appropriate style to service their guests, landscape architects began to exert an influence on building design. In an essentially reactionary manner, they drew inspiration from the works of A.J. Downing who had designed picturesque landscapes and dwellings in the middle of the preceding century and from Frederick Law Olmstead who also reinforced the tie between architecture and the landscape. Both their designs called for natural materials native to the surrounding environment. The building form was a part of the overall building site so that landscaping formed an integral part of the whole.

The designs for the railroad companies buildings used adjacent to or in western parks between 1900 and 1910 went further. Every element of their construction including the massing and detailing attempted to harmonize the building with its surrounding. Ornament for its own sake was avoided. Architects heavily employed textural richness based on the juxtaposition of materials and shapes. These park buildings thus combined a romantic and naturalistic philosophy. Because the buildings were to blend with the natural setting, the design of these park buildings also varied by region. Thus, forms varied from southwestern pueblos to the Swiss style in the Rocky Mountains. These concepts heavily influenced the development of Rustic Style by the National Park Service after its formation in 1916 (Tweed 1977: 3-16).

The National Park Service began to formulate its own architectural guidelines in 1918. It retained the harmony of man-made improvements with the natural landscapes. Director Stephen Mather required the consultation of numerous professionals including landscape architects and engineers as well as architects to create a master plan for each park project. The Rustic Style matured quickly in the national parks during the early 1920s and climaxed in 1925 with the construction of Ahwahnee, a five story, irregular stone hotel built against the mountains of Yosemite National Park. It was a structurally modern building with a veneer of stone and logs to retain its romantic aspect. Its tall massing was specifically adapted to the mountainous region. As funding improved through the later half of the 1920s, the National Park Service elaborated but did not alter its vision of the Rustic Style. The funding level and expanded building program continued from its high point in 1927 through the Hoover Administration under the Emergency Relief and Construction Act of 1932. The National Park Service followed a six year development program began in 1931. Each plan for landscaping and building was tailored to the park's region and each park's specific physical features. Essentially competing for development funds with the Park Service, the Forest Service also adopted this approach to park design (Tweed 1977: 23-26, 44-48, 74). Thus, this style reached maturity before the commencement of CCC park development of the 1930s.

The Rustic Style of the 1930s continued to express the design principals set in the preceding decades. Man-made resources were to be non-intrusive producing building forms which were inconspicuous and harmonious with their natural setting. To achieve this quality, the impact of building construction on the environment was minimized (Ahlgren 1987: 28; 1988; Tweed 1977: 63, 77). Design simplicity and the use of native materials became correlates of this principle. Simplicity of design was also suited to the limited skills of the available work force, the CCC enrolles (U.S. Federal Works Agency 1946: 52). Because each region was characterized by different environmental factors, design had to be specific to the region if not the park (Good 1938 (1): 1-3; Ahlgren 1987: 30; Tweed 1977: 55).

The Rustic Style possessed historical allusions through the use of the locale's pioneer building techniques and materials. The buildings and structures in each park were to represent or allude to a unified historical theme. The style thus retained some ties to the romantic movement from which it emerged. It also represented a reaction to the growing urbanism as did the establishment of the parks themselves. Visitors escaped from the cities into nature and the past (Tweed 1977: i, 94, 104; Ahlgren 1977: 28-29).

> This theme of regional cultural context as part of non-intrusive architecture would grow to include not only cabins, but also Indian pueblos, Spanish colonial adobes, and New England colonial frame structures (Tweed 1977: 35).

But, contrasting with the outlook of settlers, the philosophy of the Rustic Style continued to emphasize a respect for nature. Construction was not to overly scar the landscape. Albert Good (1938 (1): 5) who advocated its use and provided three volumes of park designs for the National Park Service espoused the

prevailing philosophy stating that the Rustic Style

> ...through the avoidance of severely straight lines and oversophistication, 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. The scale of structural elements must be reduced proportionately as ruggedness and scale of the surroundings diminish.

Finally, all landscape and architectural design was to be guided by a master plan. The designer assessed the park's physical setting and its scientific, historical, and archaeological values including its wildlife capacities and recreational possibilities during the planning stage. This approach allowed unity of design assuring that buildings, structures, and landscapes reflected similar themes and blended the man-made environment with the landscape. Each built element contributed to the whole plan (Ahlgren 1987: 9, 22, 27, 80). This master plan specified the building form, materials, and the arrangement as well as the system of roads, trails, steps, benches, and other landscape features in proper relation to the natural landscape such as the wooded and open areas, the rock formations, and other vegetation forms. Such planning reduced the clutter of minor buildings by combining functions but was not to produce overly large, intrusive buildings (Ahlgren 1987: 186; Tweed 1977: 2). For example, a loose, uncrowded group of heavily used public buildings was placed in a service area rather than scattered across the park thereby reducing the impact on the environment. The utility area containing maintenance buildings occurred near to but was screened from the service area. The small service court at the Regional Nine Training Center parallels this concept. Recreational areas receiving heavy use such as cabin, camping, bathing or picnicking areas were also placed in well-defined areas in their appropriate setting. Thus, the clustering of the residential and service buildings at the Training Center is not surprising. Development for more extensively defined recreation such as hiking trails, trail shelters, and riding trails was to remain sensitive to the landscape. To fulfill their role, park facilities were to provide an inconspicuous access to landscape features valued for visitor use (Good 1938 (1): 8). Hence, the development of a demonstration forest for both teaching and public use was clearly within the purview of Depression Era park planning.

From the principles of the Rustic Style including harmony of the built environment with the landscape, unity of historical theme, and master planning derived the specific guidelines for park development specific to each region. Forested areas of the Midwest possessed their specific qualities some of which were shared with other regions. The impact of construction was minimized by the use of hand labor when feasible. The blending of man-made resources with the landscape was achieved through the use of native materials such as timber and stone. The CCC enrollees frequently took the building materials from the surrounding area and processed them by hand to leave natural imperfections such as rough edges and knots in the wood. But, logs were stripped of their bark to aid preservation. Buildings and structures were proportionately scaled to the environment. Rough stone was often used as a veneer to conceal modern building

materials. Low, horizontal lines tied the building to the environment as did coloring with grays and warm browns, the placement of native plantings near the foundation, the use of vegetation as a screen, the construction of battered or buttressed walls, and the use of rough stone foundations to ease the transition from the surroundings upward. Severely straight lines were avoided in favor of irregular, "...wavering, free-hand lines" (Good 1938 (1): 8). Regularity of shape was also avoided. Materials were placed in their natural position so that stone was laid parallel to its bedding plane. The size of stone decreased from base to top to ensure a stable appearance. Relatively large timbers covered by heavy shakes often composed exposed roof elements. They were to be heavy and durable to harmonize with the usually heavy building walls (Ahlgren 1987: 5, 56; 1988; Tweed 1977: 30, 35, 54, 71, 93-94).

The use of a single stylistic theme throughout the park presented a less obtrusive presence and achieved unity of design. One theme required the use of fewer construction methods and a smaller variety of materials in CCC construction (Good 1938 (1): 8). Simplicity of design with limited, simple ornament allowed each building to harmonize with its surrounding (Ahlgren 1988: 202-03). Any visible decorative detailing often followed the American Craftsman Style (1900-1930) introduced by Gustave Strickley. Frequently found on Bungalows in the Midwest, such buildings vaguely paralleled the principles of the Rustic Style. Utilizing rectilinear, yet bold motifs, the style was simple in detailing; used brick, stone or stucco; and had broad, low gables, low massing, and large dormers. Decorative details included exposed rafters, purlins, knee braces, king posts, collar beams, tie beams, and additional elaboration in the peak of the roof; brackets; a dominating dormer; and enclosed porches (Gottfried and Jennings 1985: 140, 186, 222-23). Simplicity of style also permitted construction by large crews of unskilled labor (U.S, Federal Works Agency 1946).

The Civilian Conservation Corps and other federal work relief agencies extensively employed the Rustic Style during the 1930s. To cope with the volume of design work required by the large number of projects and maintain the principles of the Rustic Style in their buildings, the Branch of Planning and Design of the National Park Service developed publications to guide design and materials selection. It published Albert Good's 1935 Park Structures and Facilities which was expanded to the three volume edition of 1938 (Good 1938; Ahlgren 1987: 27; Tweed 1977: 93). Although Good advocated the use of master planning, his designs were presented by function rather than as a part of a park plan. These individual designs were to be combined with attention to unity of materials, construction techniques, form, style, and thematic relationship to suit the environment and needs of a particular park (Good 1938). Coming at the end of the era rather than at the beginning, Good's publication summarized the recent work in Rustic park architecture.

The actual guidelines followed in the construction of the Rustic Style altered after 1935. Between 1925 and 1935, the National Park Service and the National Forest Service had rapidly expanded its professional staff to keep pace with rising funding and the demand for park development. In this period, it attempted to follow the guidelines set forth by the National Park Service since 1917. After the reduction of the federally funded work programs in 1935 and the

continued rising demand for park development with expanding visitation, these agencies failed to keep abreast of demand and slowly modified their architectural principles. The large pool of labor under an unusually large number of skilled supervisors required for the hand labor also slowly disappeared.

Great diversity in design and uneven quality characterized park development after 1935. Influences from the International Style which emphasized honesty of design as well as simplicity exerted varying influences. The Rustic Style no longer ascribed to the romantic ideals evident earlier in the decade. It condoned the use of new or modern materials throughout rather than the use of native materials alone or as a veneer. There was an increasing emphasis on simplification, efficiency, and functionalism and fewer concessions to the park setting evident in these later designs. Both the Park Service and the Forest Service tended to adapt prepared designs to new building plans especially for the less public-oriented buildings. Thus, park-specific designs became fewer in number. Frame buildings with rustic siding and stone veneer foundations were a common result. By 1940, the Rustic Style had become outdated. It was viewed as an affectation, as a fictitious rendering of pioneer architecture, and therefore dishonest. In its stead, advocates reinterpreted the meaning of non-intrusive design. During this move toward realism and away from the romantic, harmony with nature was best achieved through modest, functional design (Tweed 1977: 95-104).

The Region Nine Training School buildings belong to the post-1935 era. In these buildings, the Rustic Style is primarily characterized by the non-intrusive quality of the buildings which blend the man-made and natural environments. This goal was accomplished through the use of low building massing; irregular planning through the introduction of front gables and multiple roof levels; broad roofs with wide overhangs; open entry porches with simple brackets; rubble stone chimneys; the stone entrance porch at the Administration Building (#1); simple, regularly-placed windows and doors with multiple lights; natural building materials including the rough-cut horizontal clapboard and vertical board and batten wood siding; and the use of natural or brown color (Draeger 1986 [1993]). The utility building court and clustering of residential buildings were also common to Rustic Style planning. These stylistic qualities clearly relate the buildings to the late or vernacular form of the Rustic Style.

The strong, symmetrical site organization provided by the large oval drive and lawn to which all major buildings are oriented is atypical of the style. Landscaping associated with the Rustic Style was to blend the buildings with the local, natural setting. A memo of early July, 1937 by Forest Engineer Paul Zimmerman to his Forest Supervisor expressed his intent to carefully design the site of the Training School (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memorandum, July, 1937). Zimmerman described the survey work undertaken in August, 1936, to prepare the deed description for conveying the property. He had staked the buildings to face the cardinal directions "as other important structures were in that vicinity," such as the Eagle River High School and nearby residences. However, Zimmerman discovered after the buildings were under construction that the regional engineers in the Milwaukee office had not properly located the buildings on the survey. Therefore, the two main buildings on the site were oriented slightly off true north-south. Zimmerman attributed the error between

the landscape plan and the actual construction of the buildings to the short construction schedule which allowed little time for careful review. However, the oval drive and lawn established in the fall of 1936 have remained the dominant feature of the site since construction began in 1937. The overall plan thus fails to blend the campus with its environment but instead stresses its function as a campus to train personnel. This symmetrical planning establishes a striking contrast between the built environment and the adjacent Demonstration Forest to the west.

Later Functions of the Region Nine Training School After the Period of Significance: Trees for Tomorrow

By 1941, the CCC and other work relief programs shifted from forest and park development, reforestation and other conservation developments, and other public works projects to preparation for World War II. As emergency programs declined in number and staffing in the Forest Service became stabilized on a replacement basis, the need for staff training at the Region Nine Training School also declined (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [letter from Jay H. Price, Regional Forester, 10/1/1952]). Use of the buildings for this purpose soon ended, and they remained idle until 1946 when Trees for Tomorrow established its conservation program at the site.

Although the CCC made substantial contributions toward the reforestation of northern Wisconsin's forests, by the early 1940s the restoration of the 1,800,000 acres of unproductive forest lands in Wisconsin still required much work. And, by the early 1940s, Wisconsin paper companies became severely hampered by the limited man power available to cut pulpwood in northern Wisconsin at a time when the war made heavy demands on paper products. The state's mills were forced to import eighty percent of its pulpwood at high freight costs. The initial task became to convince local farms and owners of wood lots to cut and haul their wood to the mills. As part of the War Production Board's national campaign, a local committee, the Wisconsin Victory Pulpwood Committee composed primarily of mill representatives and newspaper publishers, organized the North Central Wisconsin Pulpwood Roundup at Tomahawk. Directed by M.N. Taylor of the Merrill Daily Herald, the event promoted the cutting and sale of pulpwood for profit and the war. In October, 1943, the effort climaxed with the Wisconsin Valley Victory Pulpwood Campaign in Tomahawk, a parade of one hundred trucks loaded with pulpwood earmarked for the state's paper mills and accompanied by bands and floats. This event demonstrated the importance of establishing a local supply of raw materials for one of the state's top ranking industries. The tremendous success of the event led a committee composed of paper mill executives and industrial foresters to establish Trees for Tomorrow in February, 1944. Main offices were located in Merrill between 1944 and 1971 when they were moved to the Trees for Tomorrow campus at Eagle River. Led by M.N. Taylor, the nonprofit corporation inaugurated a five year experimental program supported by nine Wisconsin paper companies.

Rather than duplicate the federal and state forestry programs, Trees for Tomorrow oriented its program toward private land holders who owned 70% of Wisconsin's forest lands. The organization's main goal became the building of forest resources of Wisconsin. Because a forest crop required twenty-five years to mature, Trees for Tomorrow advocated a very futuristic program, one difficult to sell to the average citizen. It outlined four initial objectives: the creation of a self-sustaining wood supply for the paper industry, the development of an attractive landscape for recreation and tourism, the provision of watershed protection, and the development of a more secure job base in northern Wisconsin. The program combined the promotion of reforestation, actual reforestation projects, and conservation education. It initially concentrated its efforts in six counties in the northern Wisconsin River Valley. In 1949, it expanded its services to additional counties and added to its sponsors by including any industry dependent on large scale resource development, for example power companies. The program's focus reached eighteen counties by the late 1950s (Taylor 1946; Becker 1964; 1952: 45; Walker 1959: i, 2-6, 20; Sylvester 1992: 35,43; Evjue 1944b).

Between 1944 and 1946, Trees for Tomorrow established an annual $2500 forestry scholarship program, helped create nine school and memorial forests, sponsored a reforestation institute and exhibit, and began the "2 for 1" free seedling tree program and tree planting services. Each of these achievements represented a major portion of the future program which Trees for Tomorrow successfully operated to replace the state's northern forests. The Reforestation Institute and Exhibit held in Rhinelander in May, 1944 introduced the conservation orientation of the new organization to foresters in the National Forest Service and State Conservation Department. Under the "2 for 1" plan introduced in 1944 to begin private reforestation programs, Trees for Tomorrow offered farmers, loggers, and timber tract owners two free tree seedlings for each tree harvested between 1942 and 1945. This program was intended to establish the importance of replacing cut trees with new trees to maintain a forest balance. It included planting demonstrations across the nine counties. Additionally, the organization's foresters who were hired in 1946 assisted in the planting of large acreages. Trees for Tomorrow purchased its first tree planting machine for large-scale reforestation in 1950. It furnished a machine, a trained crew, and tractor for these plantings. The organization also awarded annual scholarships to youths in the Wisconsin Valley pursuing a career in forestry. Beginning in 1945, Trees for Tomorrow helped to establish school and community forests. Six school forests were established in the first year. Under this program, a municipality, county, or private individual donated lands earmarked for forest development to schools or governmental units. The responsible committee sponsored planting projects, forest improvement programs, and harvesting. Trees for Tomorrow coordinated the initial establishment of the forest and produced forest management plans. Such tax-free forests provided watershed protection, served as memorials to local citizens, illustrated conservation techniques, and eventually provided income from tree harvests. In 1945, these efforts led to the planting of ten million trees within the targeted six county area.

Its promotional initiatives not only stimulated interest in tree planting through its free tree distributions which it continued to 1965 but established

it as a source of forestry information. Its graduate foresters provided services ranging from forest inspection and advice on management to more detailed forest management plans and planting, care, and harvesting of forest stands. The foresters provided individual services and group clinics. As large open planting sites disappeared by 1960 and other public agencies provided forest management services, Trees for Tomorrow shifted its emphasis to harvesting for income, forest stand improvement, and the preparation of forest management plans (Taylor 1946; 1984; Becker 1964; Baker 1964; Sylvester 1992: 35; Evjue 1944a; Evjue 1944-59 [letter from M.N. Taylor, 1/17/1945]; Trees for Tomorrow 1945; 1944-72 [carton 1: progress report, 1965; Walker 1959: 18).

In August, 1945, Trees for Tomorrow expanded its initial emphasis on reforestation to conservation education. Following the recommendation of the Forest Service, it held its first conservation and forestry education program at its future education site, the Region Nine Training School. The three day program trained forty educators in conservation leadership through demonstrations, field trips, and lectures. Following this program, Trees for Tomorrow resolved to operate special forestry education sessions at the camp each summer. In 1946, the organization signed a special use permit with the National Forest (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [permit, 1946]). In 1954, a thirty-year permit lease replaced the temporary agreement (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1954. Under the initial agreement, the organization was to hold workshops in natural resource conservation and management at the facility.

Although the campus initially served primarily as a location at which these groups met, Trees for Tomorrow gradually developed the staff including graduate foresters augmented by guest lecturers to present the courses and demonstrations. The visiting lecturers came from the Forest Service, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Public Instruction, the Board of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the University of Wisconsin and its extension service, Wisconsin State College at Stevens Points, the paper mills, and utilities. Representatives from these organizations composed the camp advisory council which guided the programming, and they coordinated the training sessions at the camp. Importantly, the camp with its forest and its larger environs provided the necessary environments for a broad range of studies: different forest types, lakes, rivers, reservoirs, dams, different soil types, and the like. Trees for Tomorrow established conservation seminars, field institutes, and meeting for conservation education specialists. The State Teachers College operated its summer camp in field science during 1946. Foresters convened at the camp to hold training sessions in its first year. Organizations such as the Milwaukee Conservation Alliance, Milwaukee Nature Club, game wardens of the State Conservation Department, and the Wisconsin and Upper Michigan divisions of the American Society of Foresters also scheduled sessions (Swift 1948; Taylor 1946; Sylvester 1992: 3, 36; Becker 1952: 47; Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [box 2, news releases; box 1, progress reports, 1/1946]; Baker 1964; Walker 1959: 22).

The educational program at Trees for Tomorrow rapidly expanded in the 1950s, eventually becoming the dominant thrust of the program after 1971. At this time, the main office moved from Merrill to Eagle River and altered its name to Trees for Tomorrow Environmental Center. Initially oriented toward adults, programs

were tailored to the needs of high school students in 1949. By 1952, the camp operated its programs between March and October, and in 1971, it held its first winter workshop, a practicum for University of Wisconsin forestry students. By 1974, the program also reached elementary students. Trees for Tomorrow continued to provide special programming for professionals as well as a more general curriculum about forest dynamics, conservation, and economic and aesthetic concerns to a general audience. Modified according to age group and needs, this programming emphasized that resources are interrelated and interdependent, presented the basic concepts of resource management, and indicated how such management benefitted society through hands-on activities as well as lectures. It continued to hold its training sessions for teachers sponsored by the State Colleges. These sessions prepared the teachers for instruction in conservation education. Interspersed between these training sessions, special groups participated in conservation programming tailored to their needs. For example, beginning in 1966, Trees for Tomorrow acted as a vocational school for lumberjacks training young men in new methods of logging. Additional groups included newspaper men, bankers, the Federation of Women's Clubs, Kiwanis, sportsmen, the Institute of Paper Chemistry, 4-H Club leaders, personnel from the Wisconsin Conservation Department, and the U.S. Forest Service (Trees for Tomorrow 1974; 1948, 1953; Walker 1959: 23-25; Taylor 1984; Swift 1965; Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1971]).

As Trees for Tomorrow established and expanded its program, it adapted the Region Nine Training School buildings to its program. Original properties erected between 1937 and 1941 included the Administration Building (#1), Dining Hall (#6), Dormitory #2 (#12), Dormitory #3 (#13), North Garage (#15), South Garage (#16), and the Bathhouse or Maintenance Building (#14). New construction and remodeling remained sensitive to the setting and the design, materials, and workmanship exhibited by the original buildings.

Trees for Tomorrow first marked a sample plot in the Demonstration Forest (#24) in 1946. By 1953, it had added a soil test pit, a tree-planting demonstration area, and a nature trail (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1946; 1953). In 1948, Trees for Tomorrow converted the North Garage (#15) to an exhibit hall, classroom, and overflow dormitory space. It remodeled the exhibits in what had come to be known as the Forest Products Building in 1970-1971. The Meyer Construction Company of Eagle River completed the work funded by the Kopmeier Foundation of Milwaukee. The company installed the floor to ceiling thermal window panes and raised the floor eight inches (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1948, 1970, 1971]; Stoeckeller 1950).

The creation of additional dormitory rooms became one of the organization's initial tasks. Replacing the temporary quarters in the North Garage, it converted the South Garage (#16) into a dormitory in 1952-53 and redecorated and rearranged these accommodations in 1966 to create additional space (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1952, 1953, 1966]). Trees for Tomorrow also gained the use of the dwelling (#22) on the property in 1954. Until that time, it had owned a house in Eagle River, and a Forest Service ranger occupied the house on the property (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memoranda 1953]).

Trees for Tomorrow purchased the strip of land along the east side of its property, the pine plantation, from Mr. Ted Gira in 1952 (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [letter from Jay H. Price, Regional Forester, 10/1/1952]; Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1952]). The organization placed an addition across the rear ell of the Administration Building (#1) in 1963. At this time, one of the dormitories also received a bathroom extension. The other dormitory had received a similar addition in 1956 (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1963]; USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [letter from E.B. Hurst, Pres., Trees for Tomorrow 1964; memorandum 1956]).

Henry Ries of the Rhinelander Paper Company designed an additional dormitory, Dormitory #1 (#10), in September, 1956. Trees for Tomorrow erected the building in late 1956 and 1957. The construction company substantially completed the 35.5 by 70 foot building with attached concrete block utility room by the end of March, 1957 (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [plans, 1956; memoranda, 1956]; Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1956, 1957]). Members of the Kiwanis Clubs of Milwaukee assisted with the construction of the Library and Storage Building (#9) in 1960. Donations from many sources provided the funding. Bob Fitz, engineer at Owens-Illinois Tomahawk Mill Division, prepared the building plans (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1960]).

The outdoor classroom (#20) located southwest of the oval drive was initially erected in 1966 (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1966]). By the early 1980s, Trees for Tomorrow required additional classroom space. It had constructed a maintenance building (#17) designed by Eric Friis of Eagle River in 1978 which it converted to a classroom in ca. 1981. It also erected a small shed to its north to house maintenance supplies and equipment in 1978 (Haskell 1993; Swift 1968). The classroom and maintenance shed were connected between 1985 and 1987 (Haskell 1993; USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [plans, 1978]. When Trees for Tomorrow moved its offices to Eagle River in 1971, it initially accommodated them in a ten by fifty foot mobile home which was later removed (Trees for Tomorrow 1944-72 [carton 1: progress reports, 1971).

The Dining Hall (#6) received its kitchen addition in 1978. Eric Friis provided the plans (USDA Forest Service 1935-78 [plans, 1978]). At an unknown date, the administrative office was placed in the apartment for the camp cook in its east wing. In 1981, Trees for Tomorrow added the Kiwanis Bathhouse (#11) connecting the 1956-1957 dormitory (#10) to Dormitory #2 (#12). The existing bathhouse was then converted to a maintenance building (#14) (USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memorandum, 1981]; Haskell 1993) which freed space in the 1978 maintenance building for a classroom (#17).

In June, 1987, the National Association for CCC Alumni placed the brass plaque set in a large rock (#2) to commemorate the founding of the Regional Nine Training School in 1937 (Nicolet News 1988 (33)). In the early 1970s, the Newspaper Association erected a commemorative sign board in the Press Forest seven miles south of Eagle River. Because the signs were being vandalized, they were soon moved to Trees for Tomorrow and are identified as the Commemorative Signs (#5). The Mosinee Paper Company donated the tree planter to Trees for Tomorrow in 1986. It was placed in the Machine Exhibit (#19) to which the fire

plow was added in 1993. Additional small objects and structures have been added to the campus after 1946. They include the early 1970s footbridge (#8), the 1992 Identification Sign (#21) which replaces earlier signs extant at that location since perhaps 1946, and the 1978 Boat Dock (#7) which replaces earlier docks extant at the site since the late 1930s (USDA Forest Service 1935-78 [plan, 1936]; Haskell 1993). The construction date of the flagpole (#3) is unknown.

Conclusion

The Region Nine Training School gains significance under criterion A in two related areas, government and conservation. The U.S. Forest Service provided training to its administrative personnel across Region Nine at the Training School. These short seminars concentrated on the administration of government programs as well as topics in conservation. This staff oversaw the conservation programs carried out primarily by Civilian Conservation Corps enrollees as well as participants in other Depression Era work programs. These Depression Era programs presented partial solutions to long-term conservation problems centering on reforestation and appropriate land use. The buildings of the Training Center retain sufficient integrity of design, workmanship, and materials to represent the 1937-1941 building complex. However, the buildings are not eligible in the area of architecture because of post-1943 construction, additions, and modifications. The period of significance, 1937 to 1941 (USDA Forest Service 1935-78 [plans]; 1934-81 [memoranda]) includes the period of significant building construction at the complex and major use by the National Forest Service as a Training Center. Serving as a training center for National Forest Service Region Nine which then included Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Missouri, Minnesota, Ohio, North Dakota, and Wisconsin, the center acquires significance at the state level. Although parallel training centers once existed in other regions after 1924 in Arizona, Colorado, California, and Oregon, only this complex served Region Nine (Vilas County News-Review 1938 [6/16: 1/6-7, 6/1-3]). The status of the other training centers remains unknown. Seemingly similar Forest Service building complexes in the Nicolet National Forest such as the Lost Lake Organization Camp or the Florence Administrative Site, both in Florence County, Wisconsin, did not serve the same educational facilities, but met recreational and administrative functions.

Preservation Activity

Since 1946, Trees for Tomorrow, Inc. has maintained the stylistic consistency of the Depression Era resources of the Region Nine Training School in the maintenance of the original buildings and in the construction of new buildings. Such consistency also results from a similar mission, the training of students in forest conservation. In its educational material, Trees for Tomorrow, Inc. has emphasized the role of the Civilian Conservation Corps in the development of the property and has housed public activities and conferences to promote understanding of the history of the facility.

Archaeological Potential

No information regarding possible prehistoric or historic archaeological remains on the property was found during research. Clearing of the site for pasture, cutting of timber, and construction of the Training School may have greatly disturbed any such remains. No earlier, identified buildings existed on the site which would yield information about settlement in Eagle River.

(1) USDA Forest Service 1934-81 [memoranda]; 1935-78 [plans]; Vilas County News-Review 1936 [6/25: 1/7; 8/6: 6/5]; 1937: 4/14: 1/6]; 1938 [6/16: 1/6-7, 6/1-3].

9. Bibliographic References

The primary sources of property-specific information were the correspondence and drawings files of the Nicolet National Forest Headquarters, Rhinelander; the drawing files of the Eagle River Ranger District Headquarters, Eagle River; the files of Trees for Tomorrow Environmental Center, Eagle River; and the papers of Trees for Tomorrow (1944-72), State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison.

Ahlgren, Carol Ann
1987 A Human and Landscape Architectural Legacy: The Influence of the Civilian Conservation Corps on Wisconsin State Park Development. Master of Arts, Landscape Architecture, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

1988 The Civilian Conservation Corps and Wisconsin State Park Development. In Wisconsin Magazine of History, 71 (3): 184-204.

Applin, Roland
1983 Notes on Civilian Conservation Camps in Wisconsin. Mss., office files, USDA Forest Service Headquarters, Rhinelander.

Baker, John G.
1964 The First 20 Years of Trees for Tomorrow, Inc., Merrill, Wisconsin: A Dramatic Double Decade. Mss., Trees for Tomorrow Environmental Center, Eagle River.

Becker, Folke
1952 Trees for Tomorrow. Wisconsin Magazine of History, 36: 43-47.

Brown, George
1986 Farming the Cutover, Agriculture (section 4). In Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin (volume 2), edited by Barbara Wyatt. Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison.

Carstensen, Vernon
1958 Farms or Forests: Evolution of a State Land Policy for Northern Wisconsin. University of Wisconsin Press, Madison.

Civilian Conservation Corps, Sixth Corps Area
1937 Sparta District, The Annual 1937, Sparta, Wisconsin.

Clepper, Henry
1971 Professional Forestry in the United States. Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore.

Cohen, Stan
1980 The Tree Army, A Pictorial History of the Civilian Conservation

Corps. Pictorial Histories Publishing Co., Missoula, Montana.

Davis, Richard C., ed.
1983 Encyclopedia of American Forest and Conservation History (2 vols.). MacMillan, New York.

Dragger, Jim
1986 The Rustic Style, 1993 Update to Architectural Styles, Architecture (sec. 2). In Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin (vol. 2), edited by Barbara Wyatt. Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison.

Dunn, Michael
1978 Easy Going: Wisconsin's North Woods: Vilas and Oneida Counties. Tamarack Press, Madison.

Elliott, Kennell M.
1977 History of the Nicolet National Forest: 1928-1976 (1989 update). USDA Forest Service and the Forest History Association of Wisconsin, Rhinelander.

Ermentrout, Roger Allen
1982 Forgotten Men: The Civilian Conservation Corps. Exposition Press, Smithtown, New York.

Evjue, William Theodore
1944a Design for Community Forests. American Forests (August) (published by the American Forestry Association).

1944b Editor's views: Trees for Tomorrow, A Practical Proposal. In Rhinelander News, 7/8/1944.

1944-59 Correspondence, Plans, and Maps Concerning Nels P. Evjue Forest. Mss., 1 folder, Manuscripts and Archives, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison.

Fay, Robert
1986 Later Railroad Lines, Transportation (sec. 6). In Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin (vol. 2), edited by Barbara Wyatt. Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison.

Finley, Robert W.
1976 Original Vegetation Cover of Wisconsin. North Central Forest Experiment Station, USDA Forest Service, St. Paul.

Fixmer, Frank
1993 Telephone interview by Joyce McKay with Frank Fixmer, Curator, Wisconsin Forest History Association, 1000 Wiggins Pass Road, Naples, Florida (813-597-6914).

Goldsworthy, Walt
1993 Telephone interview and correspondence by Joyce McKay with Walt Goldsworthy, Three Lakes (715-546-3529).

Good, Albert
1938 Park and Recreation Structures (3 vols.). National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Gottfried, Herbert and Jan Jennings
1985 American Vernacular Design, 1870-1940: An Illustrative Guide. Van Nostrand Reinhold Company, New York.

Groeben, W. Ellis
1938 Acceptable Building Plans. U.S. Forest Service, Division of Engineering, Washington, D.C.

Haskell, Henry
1993 Interview by Joyce McKay and Brian McCormick with Henry Haskell, Director, Trees for Tomorrow Environmental Center, Eagle River (715-479-6456).

Huth, Hans
1957 Nature and the American: Three Centuries of Changing Attitudes. University of California Press, Berkeley.

Isakoss, Jack F.
1938 The Public Works Administration. In University of Illinois Bulletin, 36 (24). University of Illinois, Urbana.

Johnson, Jack
1941 The Iowa Department of Social Welfare. Iowa Journal of History and Politics (April): 146-79.

Kurlinski, Ted
1993 Telephone interview by Joyce McKay with Ted Kurlinski (12/13/93), President of the local chapter of the National Association for CCC Alumni, 5636 Riverview Drive, Rhinelander (715-369-4597).

Kylie, Harry R., G.H. Hieronymus, and A.G. Hall
1937 CCC Forestry. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Leake, Fred E.
1980 Roosevelt's Tree Army: A Brief History of the Civilian Conservation Corps. National Association for CCC Alumni, St. Louis.

Lusignon, Paul
1986 Logging and Lumber Milling (sec. 5); Pulp and Paper Production (sec. 6), Industry. In Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin (vol. 2), edited by Barbara Wyatt. Historic Preservation Division, State

Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison.

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
1984 Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) Architecture in Missouri State Parks, 1933-42. Thematic Resources. Division of Historic Preservation, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City.

Nash, Roderick, editor
1982 Wilderness and the American Mind (3rd ed.). Yale University Press, New Haven.

1990 American Environmentalism, Readings in Conservation History (3rd edition). McGraw-Hill, New York.

Nicolet News
1985-88 Newsletter of the Nicolet National Forest, USDA Forest Service, Headquarters, Rhinelander.

Norcross, T.W.
1938 Acceptable Building Plans, Forest Service Administration Buildings. U.S. Forest Service, Division of Engineering, Washington, D.C.

Otis, Alison, et al.
1986 The Forest Service and the Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1942. United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

Owen, A.L. Riesch
1983 Conservation Under FDR. Praeger, New York.

Paige, John C.
1983 The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933-1942: An Administrative History. National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Pinkett, Harold T.
1970 Gifford Pinchot, Private and Public Forester. University of Illinois Press, Urbana.

Rawick, George P.
1957 The New Deal and Youth: The Civilian Conservation Corps, the National Youth Administration, and the American Youth Congress. Unpublished dissertation, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Robbins, William G.
1985 American forestry, A History of National, State, and Private Cooperation. University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln.

Salmond, John A.
1967 The Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1942: A New Deal Case Study.

Duke University Press, Durham.

Schlesinger, Arthur
1940 The New Deal in Action: 1933-1939. MacMillan, New York.

Smith, Darrell H.,
1930 The Forest Service: Its History, Activities and Organization. Brookings Institution, Washington, D.C.

Steen, Harold K.
1976 The U.S. Forest Service: A History. University Washington Press, Seattle.

Stoeckeler, Hazel Stoick
1950 North Woods Museum. American Forests (Sept.). Published by the American Forestry Association, Washington, D.C (copy, Merrill Historical Society, Merrill).

Swift, Ernest
1968 Trees for Tomorrow. In American Forests (April-May). Published by the American Forestry Association, Washington, D.C.

Sylvester, William
1992 The Early Days of Trees for Tomorrow: 1945-55. Proceedings of the Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the Forest History Association of Wisconsin, Eagle River, Wisconsin. Print Shop, Wisconsin Rapids.

Taylor, M.N.
1946 Trees for Tomorrow. The Paper Industry and Paper World (March).

1984 Trees for Tomorrow, Inc.: Forestry Phase. Copy, Merrill Historical Society, Merrill.

Trees for Tomorrow, Inc.
1944-72 Records. 100 cartons (see cartons 1-2). Manuscripts and Archives, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison.

1945 A Pictorial Review of the First Conservation Leadership Camp, Eagle River, Wisconsin. Copy, Trees for Tomorrow, Eagle River.

ca. 1946 Trees for Tomorrow: Conservation Camp in Cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, Eagle River. Trees for Tomorrow, Eagle River.

1948, 1953 Trees for Tomorrow: Conservation Camp Workshops, Course Outlines. Copy at Area Research Center, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point.

1952 The First 7000. Copy, Merrill Historical Society, Merrill.

1974 Brief Historical Review for New and Potential Members: 1944-74. In Tree Tips [newsletter] (spring).

Tweed, William C.
1980 Recreation Site Planning and Improvements in National Forests, 1891-1942. USDA Forest Service, Washington, D.C.

Tweed, William C., Laura E. Soulliere, and Henry G. Law
1977 National Park Service, Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942. USDA Forest Service, San Francisco.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
1933 A National Plan for American Forestry (Senate Doc. 12.73 Cong., 1 session, 2 vol). Washington, D.C.

1949 Trees, The Yearbook of Agriculture. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

U.S. Federal Works Agency
1946 Final Report on the WPA Program, 1935-1943. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

USDA Forest Service
1934-81 Land Records for National Forest Service Properties, Memoranda, Building Plans, and Work Reports. Mss. Conveyance Office, Supervisor's Office, Nicolet National Forest, USDA Forest Service, Rhinelander.

1935-78 Building Plans for Trees for Tomorrow. Headquarters, Nicolet National Forest, USDA Forest Service, Rhinelander and Trees for Tomorrow Environmental Center, Eagle River.

United States Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works
1934 Final Report of the National Planning Board. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Vilas County News-Review
1936-38 Published in Eagle River.

Walker, David
1959 Trees for Tomorrow: A Case Study in Conservation Relations. Unpublished master's thesis (Journalism), University of Wisconsin, Madison.

West, Terry L.
1992 Centennial Mini-Histories of the Forest Service. USDA Forest Service, Washington, D.C.

Wirth, Conrad L.
1980 Parks, Politics, and the People. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Oklahoma.

Williams, Michael
1989 Americans & Their Forests, A Historical Geography. Cambridge University Press, New York.

Wisconsin Committee on Land Use and Forestry
1932 Forest Land Use in Wisconsin. State of Wisconsin, Madison.

Wisconsin Conservation Department
1955 History of State Forestry in Wisconsin. State of Wisconsin, Madison.

Wolff, William
1993 Interview by Joyce McKay on 10/12 with William Wolff, 1511 State Road, Lakewood 54138-9735 at the Lakewood Ranger District, Lakewood.

10. Geographical Data

UTM Coordinates

A. 16-5087420-325700
B. 16-5087430-325810
C. 16-5087440-325820
D. 16-5087440 325860
E. 16-5087430-325870
F. 16-5087500-325980
G. 16-5087800-325970
H. 16-5087690-325730

Verbal Boundary Description

The Region Nine Training Center District is located within but does not include all of government Lot 7, except a tract of land containing 1.52 acres, City of Eagle River, Section 28, T 40N, R 10E. The east boundary begins at the north curb of Sheridan Road and runs north along the east boundary defined in the 1936 donation from the City of Eagle River to the National Forest Service and thus excludes the 1952 pine plantation purchase to its east. At Eagle River, the boundary runs along the south bank of the river extended north to include the Boat Dock (#7). It continues along the south bank until it reaches the west edge of the Demonstration Forest which is marked by a swale. The boundary follows the swale south to the north curb of Sheridan Road until it reaches the 1.52 acre tract of land excluded from the original donation. The district boundary follows its west, north, and east boundaries, returning to Sheridan Road and runs along the north curb of this road to the beginning (see the USGS and site maps).

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes most of the original property donated by the City of Eagle River to the National Forest Service for the creation of the Region Nine Training School. The lands of this property in the district include the campus and the Demonstration Forest to the west. Initial landscape plans identify the forest as an area of mature hardwood to be utilized as a Demonstration Forest (USDA Forest Service 1935-78 [landscape plan, 1936]). Extant at the time of the Training Center's construction, this area was intended for teaching purposes during its use as a Forest Service training center. It was a vital part of the Training Center's educational program. The district boundary excludes a small, undeveloped triangular piece south of Sheridan Road acquired as part of the 1936 land donation by the city, the Pine Plantation to the east purchased by Trees for Tomorrow after 1944 in 1952, and the cutover area to the west of the Demonstration Forest. Although the 1936 landscape plan illustrated a recreation area on this land, it was never constructed. Trees for Tomorrow has established a small, post-1944 forest in part of this area, and the remainder remains unutilized. Then, the boundary encloses all that portion of land historically utilized by the Region Nine Training School.

Photographic Documentation

Property: Region Nine Training Center
Location: Eagle River, Vilas County, Wisconsin
Photographers: Nancy J. Hubbard and Joyce McKay
Date: July 25, 1992 except as noted
Negative Location: State Historical Society of Wisconsin

Photo 1 of 27: Entrance to property looking north to the oval drive (#4) and Administration Building (#1).

Photo 2 of 27: South facade of the Administration Building (#1) looking northwest.

Photo 3 of 27: North and west elevations of the Administration Building (#1) looking southeast.

Photo 4 of 27: South facade of Dining Hall (#6) looking northwest.

Photo 5 of 27: The north or rear elevation of the Dining Hall (#6) looking southwest.

Photo 6 of 27: The northeast facade and southeast elevation of the Old Library (#9) looking southwest.

Photo 7 of 27: The southeast facade of Dormitory #1 (#10) looking northwest.

Photo 8 of 27: The east facade of the Kiwanis Bath House (#11) looking southwest.

Photo 9 of 27: The east facade of Dormitory #2 (#12) looking southwest.

Photo 10 of 27: The east facade of Dormitory #3 (#13) looking southeast.

Photo 11 of 27: The lawn in the Oval Drive (#4) and the rear or north and west elevations of the Administration Building (#1) looking south, southeast from northwest the parking area on west side of lawn (May 21, 1993).

Photo 12 of 27: The lawn in the Oval Drive (#4) with parking lot to west and the south facade of the Dining Hall (#6) looking north, northeast (May 21, 1993).

Photo 13 of 27: Service road between Dormitory #2 (#12) and Dormitory #3 (#13) ending at the Maintenance Building (#14) to the west with the South Garage (#16) to the left looking west.

Photo 14 of 27: East facade of the Maintenance Building (#14) looking west.

Photo 15 of 27: South facade of the Library or North Garage (#15) looking northwest.

Photo 16 of 27: The north facade of Dormitory #4 or the South Garage (#16) looking southeast.

Photo 17 of 27: The east facade of the Classroom Building (#17) looking southwest.

Photo 18 of 27: The south facade of the Administrative Dwelling (#22) looking northeast.

Photo 19 of 27: The south facade of the Garage (#23) for Administrative Dwelling looking north.

Photo 20 of 27: The Commemorative Marker (#2) southwest of the Administration Building (#1) facing north (October 17, 1993).

Photo 21 of 27: The Commemorative Signs (#5) east of the Dining Hall (#6) facing northeast (October 17, 1993).

Photo 22 of 27: The Boat Dock (#7) in Eagle River facing north (October 17, 1993).

Photo 23 of 27: The Foot Bridge facing (#8) facing northwest (October 17, 1993).

Photo 24 of 27: The Pole Shed (#18) west of the Maintenance Building (#14) facing southeast (October 17, 1993).

Photo 25 of 27: The Machine Exhibit (#19) southwest of the Administration Building (#1) facing northwest (October 17, 1993).

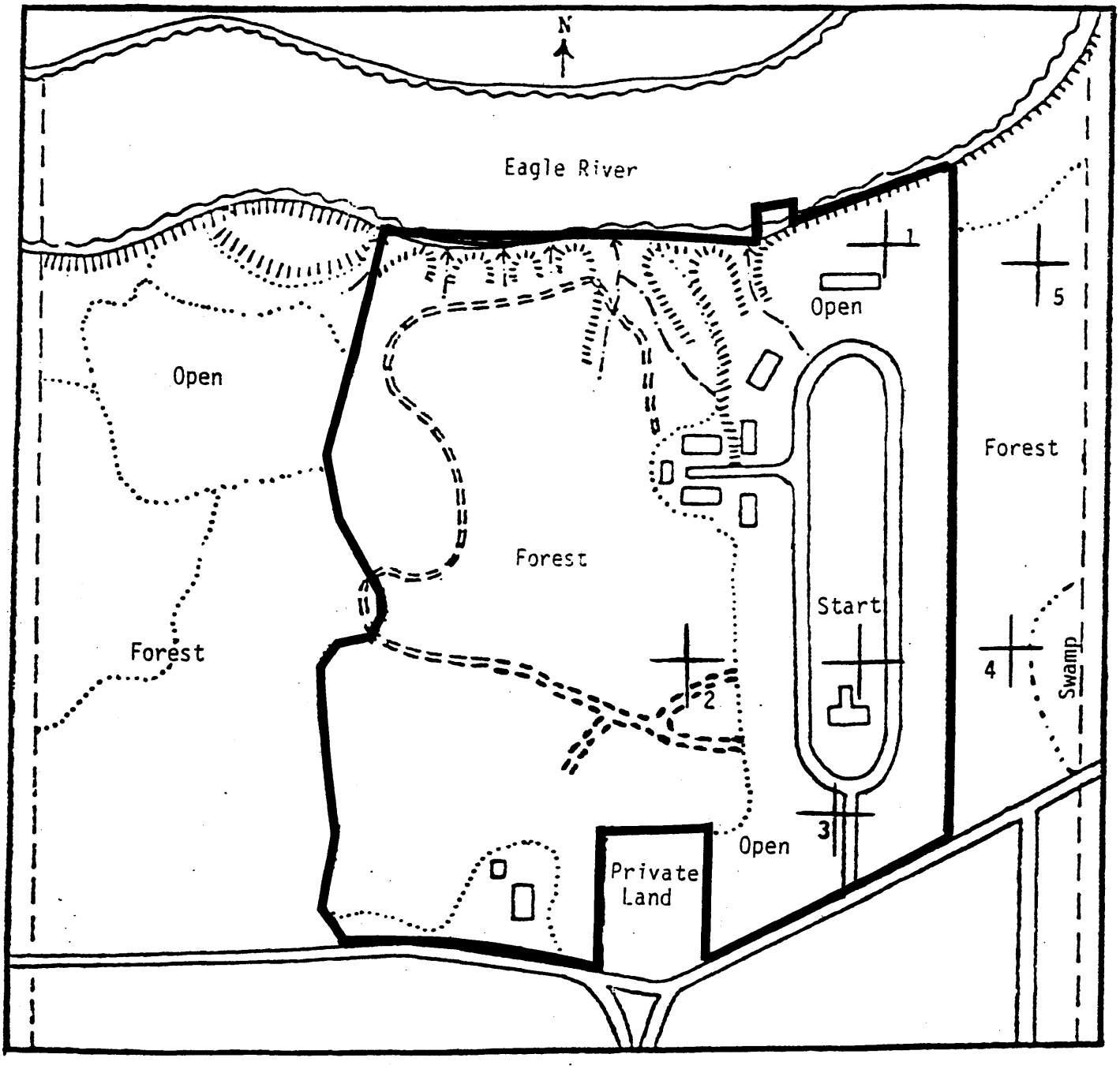
Photo 26 of 27: The Outdoor Classroom (#20) facing northwest (October 17, 1993).

Photo 27 of 27: Trees for Tomorrow Identification Sign (#21) facing northwest (October 17, 1993).

TREES FOR TOMORROW

ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

Region Nine Training School



Not to Scale

MAP LEGEND

District Boundaries

Property Boundary

Drainage Way

Building

Slope

Road

Vegetative Unit Boundary

River

Path