### NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK NOMINATION

NPS Form 10-900

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form (Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

Page 1

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

### SAGAMORE LODGE

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

### 1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic Name: SAGAMORE LODGE

Other Name/Site Number: Camp Sagamore; Sagamore Lodge and Conference Center

| <b>1</b> | T | $\boldsymbol{\wedge}$ | $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ | • | T | $\mathbf{r}$ | . 7 | т. |
|----------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|---|--------------|-----|----|
| 7.       |   |                       |                       | Д |   |              | ш   | М  |
|          |   |                       |                       |   |   |              |     |    |

| Street & Number: Sagamore Lake | Not for publication: |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| City/Town: Long Lake           | Vicinity:            |

State: New York County: Hamilton Code: 041 Zip Code: 13436

### 3. CLASSIFICATION

| Ownership of Property | Category of Property |          |  |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------|--|
| Private: X            | Building(s):         |          |  |
| Public-Local:         | District:            | <u>X</u> |  |
| Public-State: X       | Site:                |          |  |
| Public-Federal:       | Structure:           |          |  |
|                       | Object:              |          |  |

Number of Resources within Property

| Contributing | Noncontributing     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 24           | <u>0</u> buildings  |
| _1_          | <u>0</u> sites      |
| _12          | <u>3</u> structures |
|              | objects             |
| <u>37</u>    | <u>3</u> Total      |
|              |                     |

Number of Contributing Resources Previously Listed in the National Register: 22

Name of Related Multiple Property Listing: Adirondack Camps

Designated a
NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK on

MAY 1 6 2000

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

# STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

| As the designated authority under the National Historic Procertify that this nomination request for determination and the National Register professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In not meet the National Register Criteria. | ination of eligibility meets the documentation er of Historic Places and meets the procedural and |
|--|---|
| Signature of Certifying Official   | Date  |
| State or Federal Agency and Bureau   | -   |
| In my opinion, the property meets does not me  | eet the National Register criteria.   |
| Signature of Commenting or Other Official  | Date  |
| State or Federal Agency and Bureau   | _   |
| 5. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION   |   |
| I hereby certify that this property is:  |   |
| Entered in the National Register  Determined eligible for the National Register  Determined not eligible for the National Register  Removed from the National Register  Other (explain):   |   |
| Signature of Keeper  | Date of Action  |

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

### 6. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic:

Domestic Landscape

stic

Sub: camp

forest

natural feature

Current:

Education Landscape

Sub:

education-related

forest

natural feature conservation area

### 7. DESCRIPTION

Architectural Classification: OTHER: Adirondack Camp

Materials:

Foundation:

Stone, Concrete

Walls:

Wood, Brick

Roof:

Metal, Asphalt, Wood, Asbestos, Synthetics

Other:

Stone (chimneys), Brick (chimneys), Log (porches)

NPS Form 10-900

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

### **Describe Present and Historic Physical Appearance.**

Sagamore Lodge, the historic summer retreat and private forest preserve of William West Durant (1898-1901) and the family of Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt (1901-1953), is located in the central Adirondacks township of Long Lake (formerly Arietta), Hamilton County, New York. The heavily forested property is situated east of Raquette Lake, a large body of water which has been a center of resort activity since the 1850s. Sagamore Lodge is the original name of the 1,526 acre forest preserve centered on its own private Sagamore Lake as well as the name of its main building, an imposing rustic Swiss chalet sited on a peninsula overlooking the lake. Near the lodge (1897) is a group of 14 buildings, called the guest complex, including a separate dining room/kitchen (begun 1897), a boat house (1898), recreation hall (1901), bowling alley (c1915), and several sleeping cabins and dormitories for family guests and servants. Behind the guest complex and to its immediate southwest is the caretaking complex, a cluster of 11 support buildings originally used in the stewardship of the preserve. Dispersed discretely around the shore of Sagamore Lake are the sites of three outlying recreational structures used by the Vanderbilt family and their guests. North of the lake, sited on a southerly facing rise, is the site of a farm and pasture established by Durant to provide food for the family, guests and staff of the preserve. Water was supplied to the guest and caretaking complexes from a group of spring houses and reservoirs, now in ruinous condition, situated in a remote location south of the caretaking complex. Power was supplied to the site by a hydroelectric plant, also in ruinous condition, situated at a remote site three-quarters of a mile away from the guest complex along the outlet from the lake. The lands of the former preserve are owned by two parties. The standing buildings of the guest complex and caretaking complex, constituting the bulk of the built resources, are situated on 17.91 acres owned by Sagamore Institute and used as a conference center. The remaining acreage, which includes the ruins of the hydroelectric and springwater structures are owned by the State of New York and managed by the Department of Environmental Conservation as a public forest preserve. Forest preserve lands are protected from development by the State constitution.

The boundary of the nominated property conforms with the original property lines established by William West Durant in the 1890s. The property is essentially rectangular in plan with an additional, smaller rectangular stem centered on South Inlet near the center of the northern edge. The property was organized around Lake Sagamore (elevation 1,904 feet, formerly called Shedd Lake), an irregular-shaped 158 acre sheet of water contained entirely within the southern half of the property. The lake is part of the St. Lawrence watershed, fed by an inlet through wetlands at its east end. The lake discharges through an outlet at its west end, which flows westward beyond the property line, then bends back and re-enters the property as a wider stream, called South Inlet (of Raquette Lake), situated north of the property. South Inlet drops to the level of the lower Raquette Lake at a falls situated within the property near its northernmost boundary. The predominant topography around Sagamore Lake is gently undulating interrupted by a steep ravine along the outlet near the main core of buildings, and elsewhere by low but abrupt hills. A south shoulder of Estelle Mountain rises to a height of approximately 2,400 feet within the property to the lake's northeast.

Internal circulation within the property, historically and at present, has been by road from Raquette Lake. The original road of 1895, identified on maps as South Inlet Road, began at a

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

steamboat landing on South Inlet immediately below the falls, and followed the east bank of the stream southward through the property's stem. From there it continued southward through the forest to the lake, diverging from the stream where the watercourse bends westward. This road reached the west shore of the lake, which it followed southward toward the camp complex. The road crossed the South Inlet (being the outlet of Sagamore Lake) by a bridge which is herein identified as Bridge #1, now a replacement structure and non-contributing. From there it passed inland of the peninsula between the buildings of the camp or Guest Complex and the caretaking complex to the west of the main lodge, continuing southward beyond the property to the neighboring preserves, Camp Uncas on Mohegan Lake and Kamp Kill Kare on Summer Lake, which were also developed by Durant. The road was abandoned as the primary route when the existing road, known as Raquette Lake Road or Sagamore Road, was built after the arrival of the railroad c1900. The newer road is routed in a southeasterly direction from the hamlet of Raquette Lake, situated west of the earlier steamboat landing. The road traverses neighboring lands before entering the property from the west. It crosses the meandering South Inlet twice before passing the west edge of the caretaking complex and proceeding to Uncas and Kill Kare. These bridges, respectively Bridge # 2 closer to the caretaking complex and Bridge # 3 further from the caretaking complex, are both replacement structures and are non-contributing. The route of the original South Inlet Road is largely used for internal circulation between the caretaking and guest complexes, and elsewhere remains passable as foot paths now called Powerhouse Trail (along South Inlet), Lake Trail (along lake), and Big Slope (between the two). The original South Inlet Road and the existing road, Racquette Lake Road or Sagamore Road, together count as one contributing structure separate from the overall site.

Sagamore Lodge retains its original 1,526 acre site, which remains remarkably intact as a forest preserve and contains Sagamore Lake, the site of the building compound. This large, exceptionally intact and undeveloped landscape makes an extraordinary contribution to Sagamore Lodge's historic wilderness setting and is one of the most important and character-defining features of this Adirondack camp. The property has 27 contributing buildings, 9 contributing structures, 1 contributing site, and 3 non-contributing structures. These are grouped in seven geographically and/or functionally related clusters:

- A. Guest Complex (or main camp)
- B. Caretaking Complex
- C. Outlying Recreational Group
- D. Farm Group
- E. Water Supply Group
- F. Hydroelectric Group
- G. Transportation Group

#### A. Guest Complex

The Guest Complex (formerly called the Camp) is a group of 14 contributing buildings and three contributing structures occupying a peninsula and open ground immediately inland at the west end of the lake. The buildings in this group were used by the families, guests and domestic servants for dining, sleeping, sitting, recreating and domestic work. The buildings

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

include the core of the original Durant camp (Lodge, Dining Room Complex and Ice House, and Boat House). The programmatic arrangement of the guest complex during the Durant period was an early and prototypical demonstration of the clustered compound site plan that would come to dominate Adirondack Camp developments. The Durant buildings represent an early and fully developed appearance of the rustic Swiss chalet form in American architecture and a creative and extensive use of slab siding, or logs sawn in half that are used as cladding. The guest complex also includes buildings introduced prior to Alfred Vanderbilt's untimely death on the Lusitania in 1915 (Wigwam, Casino, Lakeside, New Laundry, Pump House, Bowling Alley, and additions to Dining Room complex), and buildings introduced by his widow, Margaret Emerson, prior to 1953 (George's, Alfred's, Gloria's cabins, Wigwam leanto, additions to Lakeside and Dining Room complex). The Vanderbilt and Emerson period buildings continued in the rustic tradition established by Durant and exemplify the programmatic flexibility of expanding the Adirondack Camp plan with new functions over time. The buildings are generally in good to fair condition and retain a great degree of integrity.

The main buildings are ranged along the shore to take advantage of views across the lake except for those housing noisier activities: the Casino, a recreation hall and the adjacent Bowling Alley, and Wigwam, a bachelor's hall and its adjacent lean-to. These are sited in from the shore to segregate noise. The original Durant buildings are connected by a dirt carriage drive loop approached from the South Inlet Road. The loop is bisected by an original footpath, now graveled, that runs southward from the boathouse to an original terraced garden situated east of the South Inlet Road near the intersection with the service drive to the Caretaking Complex. The footpath subsequently provided access to the New Laundry, Casino and Bowling Alley in-between. Additional footpaths, some of which have been enlarged as service roads, were extended from the original carriage drive and footpath toward Wigwam, Lakeside and Alfred's and Gloria's Cabins following their construction.

The buildings are intentionally rustic in appearance, with natural bark being the predominant surface material. They are mostly constructed of framed wood above concrete slabs and exposed rubble stone foundations and footings. Built at different scales, the buildings are unified by gable roof massings, stone chimneys and white cedar and red spruce bark sidings and trim. Two types of bark siding are used: slab log siding with the bark remaining applied to resemble log construction (the Lodge, the Durant period north and south elevations of the original dining room which remain exposed, and the Vanderbilt period Casino, designed by architect William Coulter); and sheet bark siding fastened by limb or sapling battens over board sheathing and arranged as panels (the Durant period ice house and the remaining Vanderbilt-Emerson period buildings and additions). Apart from the centerpiece of the complex, Durant's original Lodge which is an imposing Swiss chalet, the stylistic elements are not archaeologically-derived. Door treatments are unmatched, and include stock paneled and site-built batten units. Fenestration is not regular among the buildings, but is generally horizontal in orientation to maximize views toward the landscape. Sash includes casement, horizontal sliders and stationary multi-pane sash. The boat house, bowling alley, a covered walkway between the kitchen and ice house and several verandas are open structures constructed of log poles. Roofs, originally surfaced with wood shingles, are now largely covered by ashphalt and fiberglass shingles.

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

### Sagamore Lodge (1897), map key #1 -Contributing Building.

Sagamore Lodge is an imposing, eclectic building situated prominently on the shore of a peninsula overlooking Sagamore Lake. The lodge combines the form and expresses constructional aspects of the Swiss Chalet mode with native Adirondack rustic materials. The design is attributed to William West Durant. The lodge is generally rectangular in plan and massed beneath a chalet-form roof which projects deeply beyond the wall planes. The longer southwest (called west) and northeast (called east) elevations, face, respectively, the carriage drive and the lake. The narrower end walls face northwest (called north) and southeast (called south). The three-story balloon frame building is clad with spruce slab sidings imitating log construction at the first, second and third stories, and stands on a raised basement built of coursed native granite rubble.

The lodge is constructed with restless but symmetrically arranged cantilevered wall planes and projecting balconies characteristic of the Swiss Chalet mode and expressive of the basis of the building type's structural basis. The lodge's second story is cantilevered beyond the first story at the north and south ends. The cantilevers are carried at the ends of the walls below by consoles constructed of corbeled full radius logs and the tails of the log floor joists between. The first story has a large, one-story projecting bay centered on the east (lake) elevation within the drip of the main roof. The first story is surrounded by a veranda constructed of sawn lumber and faced with log slabs at the perimeter. The veranda projects beyond the drip of the roof on the east elevation. The veranda is supported by masonry piers constructed of coursed native rubble. Second story balconies, contained within the drip, cantilever beyond the planes of the east and west walls. Both are supported at the ends by log piers extending from the veranda below and at the corners of the building by corbeled log consoles. The west balcony is additionally supported by eight intermediate full-radius log joists bearing on the exterior walls and braced by diagonal logs. The east balcony runs above the projecting bay at its center. Short balconies are centered on east and west elevations at the third story. Each is supported by two braced log rafters matching those used on the west, second story balcony. The veranda and balconies are surrounded by rustic cedar railings. Original railings survive at the second and third stories on the east elevation. These are rustic translations of Swiss piercedwork balustrades, here consisting of tightly spaced cedar balusters spaced by stubby pendills with pointed tips against a solid back. Elsewhere, simple open replacement railings are used. The walls of the gable peaks of the east and west elevations are cantilevered beyond the wall planes by unbraced, full radius log joists. These are faced with vertical boards braced by horizontal slab log battens. The vertical boards were originally finished with cedar bark.

The exposed log rafters and rafter tails of the projecting roof eaves are supported by braced log cross beams above the east and west elevations. The roof is surfaced with imitation slate asbestos shingles. These replaced original wood shingles. Two original stone chimneys, constructed of coursed native granite rubble, penetrate the roof. One chimney is built against the south wall of the first story, passing through the cantilevered spaces and roof above. The other passes through the center of the north slope.

Fenestration is symmetrically arranged on the east (lake) and north elevations, and arranged in an orderly but asymmetrical manner elsewhere. Windows and doors are trimmed with coped, half-round narrow width logs. Eight doorways open onto the veranda and balconies. Each of

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

the main entrances, centered at the first story of the east and west elevations, has a pair of vertical plank doors studded with wrought nail heads, hung with heavy hand-wrought hinges and operated by wrought latches. The secondary first story entrance on the west elevation has a vertical plank door glazed with a multi-pane light. The remaining doors include some original two-panel units, with upper multi-pane glazed panels. Windows are grouped in pairs or trios, and hold multi-pane casement sash in 6-, 9-and 12-pane configurations.

The exterior remains largely unaltered from its original appearance with the exception of replacement of some door units, simplification of veranda and balcony railings, change to the roof surface, and addition of a fire escape on the east elevation.

The interior is finished as a living space and retains most of its original plan, volumes and finishes. The plan of the first story is centered on a large, rectangular sitting room with a large fireplace running the full depth of the building. Flanking it on each side is a suite with a sitting or sleeping room to the east, nearly square in plan and with a fireplace, bathroom and small passage. The staircase to the upper stories is located in the passage of the south suite. The second story, reached by the staircase, is arranged along a double-loaded north-south passage, with a large rectangular chamber with fireplace and adjoining bath at the north end, a smaller chamber with fireplace and adjoining bath at the south end, and three smaller chambers on either side of the passage. The smaller plan of the third story is centered on a large, rectangular center room dividing smaller suites of a chamber with bath on either side. The floors are finished with original narrow width matching pine. Walls and ceilings are finished with matching pine boards or beaded board. The peeled log floor joists of the second story are exposed on the ceilings of the first story; elsewhere, framing is behind ceiling finishes. Doorways have site-built plank doors hung and operated with wrought hardware and trimmed with plain fascia architraves. The five fireplaces are built of granite ashlar. The building was originally intended for winter occupancy and retains original cast iron steam radiators. Electrified wrought iron gas sconces and a gasolier also remain.

**Dining Hall Complex** (a.k.a., Dining Room and Kitchen) (begun 1898; enlarged 1901 c1924, and c1927) map key # 2, Two Contributing Buildings and One Contributing Structure. (Ice House)

The Dining Hall complex is a rambling group of buildings, asymmetrical in overall plan that is sited nearly perpendicular to and immediatly southwest of the Lodge along the carriage loop. It housed Sagamore's original service functions. It is a highly picturesque composition of broken roof lines (including six chimneys, five of which are stone and one brick, and two ventilators), projecting porches and walkways and varied cladding materials including barked slabs and cedar and spruce bark with battens. It results from the remodeling of the original Durant period core buildings by additions made during the Vanderbilt and Emerson periods. The Dining Hall Complex originated from three detached component buildings introduced by Durant in 1898. a dining room with attached kitchen wing behind, and an ice house and laundry, each detached but connected to the kitchen by covered walks. Over time, the complex was enlarged and remodeled to accommodate an increased guest capacity. The laundry was superceded by the New Laundry Building in 1915 and subsequently converted to a

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

sleeping cottage for one of the Vanderbilt children (see George's Cottage, map key # 3, below). Around 1927, a lounge for the staff was added to the southwest corner of the kitchen overlooking the lake.

The Dining Room/Kitchen is the main component of the complex. It is a frame building that is one story in the dining room and two stories in the kitchen, each massed below main gable roofs with main east-west ridgelines. A gable-roofed ventilator is located on the kitchen ridge near the center. Built on foundations of quarry-faced native granite (early phases) and glacial erratic (fieldstone) rubble (later phases), there is an excavated basement with a concrete slab below the kitchen and unexcavated crawl space below the dining room. Original wood shingle roofs have been replaced by asphalt and asbestos shingles.

The building grew from a relatively small dining room, rectangular in plan, with its main ridge running north-south. One of its original elevations remains as an end-gable projecting from the north elevation. This original elevation is surfaced with slab logs, arranged horizontally in the gable and as palisades below. It has a horizontally oriented window holding six-pane sliding sash at the first story, surmounted by a four-paned light above, both trimmed with half-logs with coped and mitred joints. The original dining room is entered by a doorway on the east elevation behind a hip-roofed rustic porch with log posts, now partially enclosed by storm windows. On the interior, it has a large quarry-faced native stone fireplace centered on its west wall, and retains its original volume open to the ceiling and horizontal matched spruce board finishes. The larger kitchen wing, surfaced with cedar bark on the exterior, was located immediately to its west. It has a rustic veranda constructed with log posts along the south elevation.

The Durant dining room was doubled in length around 1901 by an addition to the south of similar volume with matching interior finishes and a second fireplace in the southwest corner. The south elevation of this addition matched the slab treatment of the original Durant phase, and is also extant as a projecting end gable overlooking the lake. The kitchen was also enlarged to its present size with the addition of a large cross gable to the south slope of the roof. Work spaces are located on the first story, with sleeping quarters for servants above.

Around 1924 the dining room was enlarged to the east by the addition of a taller, gable-roofed room perpendicular to the 1901 dining room addition. This addition included a third fireplace built of cyclopean glacial erratics occupying its south wall and an engaged, octagonal dining nook with a six-sided hip roof in its southeast corner, providing an expansive view of the lake. The c1924 addition is surfaced with cedar bark divided into panels by carefully joined log trim above a raised foundation of random glacial erratics. The addition has projecting eaves supported by log brackets and large, multi-paned picture windows. The dining room addition retains its original horizontal bevel-edged wall and ceiling surfaces and wrought iron electric chandeliers. The interior of the kitchen has been extensively renovated, but retains evidence of original wood wall finishes. It is served by two chimneys which are built of stone above the roofline.

The ice house is one-and-one-half story bark-sided frame building located west of the kitchen. It was originally freestanding but is now engaged to the west elevation of an addition to the

kitchen. The gable-roofed building is rectangular in plan, long and narrow, with an insulated batten door used to load ice centered on its west, gable end. It is built above a raised quarryfaced stone foundation with walls insulated with sawdust. The exterior is surfaced with cedar bark applied with battens below the gable and wood shingles within the gable end. The roof is surfaced with asphalt shingles over wood shingles. A gable-roofed ventilator is located on the ridge west of center, and a shed-roofed dormer is on the south slope east of center. Fenestration is irregular. Windows have five layers of stationary sash with mult-pane units on the exterior. The interior is a single-room finished with plain boards with sawdust in the wall cavity, and exposed peeled pole joists below and insulated ceiling. It is also connected to the kitchen by a covered rustic walkway built of log posts running to its immediate south.

The staff lounge is built on the approximate site of a Durant period game dressing house and guide's lean-to (see Guest Complex Archaeological Resources, map #15d and 15e, below). The lounge is a small one story bark-sided frame addition built against the south elevation of the kitchen at its west end. The gable-roofed addition building is rectangular in plan, with a doorway and stoop centered on its west elevation. It is built above a raised glacial erratic rubble foundation and surfaced with cedar bark with battens. The roof is surfaced with asphalt shingles and has polework eaves brackets similar to the c1924 dining room addition. Fenestration is symmetrically arranged, with 2/2 double-hung sash windows flanking the entrance on the west elevation, and paired six-pane horizontal sliders with a horizontal orientation overlooking the lake on the south elevation. The entrance door is a stock unit with six-horizontal panels. The interior is a single-room with beaded board walls and ceiling. The addition has a single brick chimney with a woodstove outlet against its north wall.

## George's Cottage (a.k.a. Bedroom/Old Laundry) (begun 1898) map key # 3, Contributing Building.

George's Cottage is a one-story, gable-roofed, bark-sided frame building with a rustic porch sited along the north edge of the Dining Hall Complex and connected to it by a covered walk. The building is situated close to and approached from the carriage drive. It was built in three stages. The present center section is the Durant period core, originally built as the laundry. It is massed under a gable roof which is bisected by a Downingesque gable dormer centered on its north slope above the main entrance, and penetrated by a chimney built of quarry-faced native stone on the south slope behind. A shed-roofed rustic porch, constructed of log posts with log knee braces and a polework railing, is built along the north elevation. It was added between 1916 and 1926. By 1934, the building was adapted as a cottage for George Vanderbilt by the addition of a subordinate wing with a parallel gable and brick chimney to its east and a smaller bathroom addition to the west. The resulting building is generally rectangular in plan with the additional smaller, bathroom extension at its west end. The walls are surfaced with spruce bark sheets with sapling battens and matching corner trim. The roofs are built with exposed rafter tails and surfaced with asphalt shingles. The building's exterior doors are stock, glazed paneled units. Windows hold four-pane horizontal sliding sash in pairs and single four-pane casements. The interior is divided into a sitting room in the east wing and a larger bedroom suite in the original core with a large cut stone fieldstone hearth. The bedroom has one of Sagamore's few open "cathedral" ceilings framed with exposed peeled log rafters. A clothes closet and bathroom are located off the bedroom. The interior walls and ceilings are finished with Durant period beaded board in the core and Emerson period knotty

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

pine boards in the additions. Interior doors include site-built diagonally-laid batten doors in the core and stock paneled units elsewhere, all trimmed with stained wood. The building retains most of its appearance as remodeled from the earlier laundry.

New Laundry (a.k.a. Laundry and Dwelling, Conference Building) (1915) map key # 4, Contributing Building.

Besides the Lodge, the New Laundry is the largest and most decoratively surfaced building of the Guest Complex. Sited immediately west of the Dining Hall Complex, the building is a detached extension of the service wing. Beyond providing expanded laundry facilities, it was built to provide comfortable, seasonal housing for the domestic staff of the Vanderbilts and their guests, and eventually became the seat of the property's year-round superintendent. The New Laundry is a large, two-story bark-sided building, L-shaped in plan and massed under an intersecting gable roof with shed roof dormers. The building's rectangular east wing measures 28'-10" east-west by 56'-10" north-south. Extending westward from its south end, the rectangular west wing measures 26'-10" north-south by 27'-9" east-west. The building has a large veranda overlooking the lake, and is sensitively sited with its longest south elevation facing the lake, both of which are uncommon amenities in staff housing. The veranda, and smaller entrance porches on the east elevation and at the intersection of the wings, are rustic shed-roofed features constructed on rubble stone footing piers with log posts and knee braces and bark-covered railings.

The walls are surfaced with cedar bark sheets with watertable and cornerboard log trim and intermediate sapling battens arranged in a more ornamental manner than was typical. Beyond dividing the walls into square panels, horizontal trim is applied in parallel bands at the sills and lintels of the first story windows, and at the sills of the second story dormers. The dormer belt is further subdivided by short vertical battens throughout, above which additional intermediate vertical battens are added. Wall surfaces between the first story windows on the east and west elevations are subdivided by crossed diagonal battens. The roof eaves project beyond the wall with exposed log rafter tails and the roof is surfaced with standing seam metal over original wood shingles. A single rubble stone chimney emerges from the west slope of the gable roof. Exterior doors are stock glazed and paneled units. Fenestration is regular, with windows holding three-paned casement sash which are grouped in bands on the first The interior, now used for administrative offices, conferences and guest housing, retains its original plan with the exception of the addition of bathrooms. The first floor contained a large laundry room (now conference room) in the northeast corner, a staff living room with fireplace (now office) in the southeast corner, and sewing and valeting rooms, a barber shop and stair hall arranged along a double-loaded corridor in the west wing. The layout of the second floor plan, originally containing eleven bedrooms and two bathrooms arranged along double-loaded corridors, remains evident. Unlike the other buildings of the Guest Complex, but typical of staff quarters in other Adirondack camps, the interiors are finished with plaster walls and ceilings and furnished with four-panel stock doors. The building is an important social document and survives in a well-preserved state.

Casino (a.k.a. Recreation Hall, Playhouse) (1901) map key # 5, Contributing Building. The Casino was designed by William Coulter, a prominent regional architect, and is the most sophisticated architectural composition apart from the Lodge. The one-story, gable-roofed

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

building was used as the camp's living room during the Vanderbilt and Emerson periods. It is sited along the Guest Complex's original path, between a tennis court and the Bowling Alley. The north facing building is rectilinear in plan, made up of a rectangular room measuring 29'-4" east-west by 39'-3" north-south, with an additional, smaller rectangular service wing containing a toilet and utility closet at its rear. The composition of the front elevation is similar to the proportions and detailing of a Swiss chalet. It has a small, shed-roofed balconette centered in the gable peak, log brackets supporting the raking eaves, and a prominent gable roof profile, here deeply overhanging the east and west elevations to shelter rustic verandahs. The verandas and a gable-roofed front entrance porch are built with log posts, knee braces, purlins and exposed rafters. The roof is surfaced with asbestos shingles. The building is built on quarry-faced stone foundations and clad in spruce slab logs applied horizontally and terminating in mitred corners. The building has an entrance centered on each of its elevations, each of which has a site-built batten door hung with hand-forged iron hardware. Fenestration is regular. First story windows hold paired nine-pane or four-pane horizontal sliding sash, and the balconette window has a fixed six-pane sash. The interior space is open to the underside of the roof decking, featuring four curved hammerbeam trusses of heavy peeled logs supported on unusual through-wall log corbels which are coped into log posts placed against the exterior walls. A massive stone fireplace is centered on the south wall, and built-in banquettes are ranged along the north wall. The floor is finished with yellow pine and the walls finished with horizontal pine boards. The interior retains original lighting fixtures, including a wrought iron electric chandelier and matching wall sconces. The building's original character is well preserved.

### Bowling Alley (c1915) map key # 6, Contributing Building.

The Bowling Alley is a largely open, rustic pavilion sited adjacent to the Recreation Hall and approached by the original footpath. The long, narrow building is rectangular in plan, one bent wide by seven bents long, measuring approximately 21'-2" (east-west) x 90'-0" (north-south). The pavilion is constructed over a concrete slab faced with fieldstone rubble of exposed log piers, purlins and rafters which are tied together by exposed braced-king-post log trusses. Column to purlin connections have log knee braces. All logwork retains its bark. The end gables of the north and south elevations are enclosed with cedar bark siding applied with battens to vertical boards, and a continuous matching bark-clad spandrel wraps the base of the building. The north elevation is further enclosed by a massive rubble chimney with fireplace facing the interior west of center flanked by a batten door to its east. The two northern bays of the east and west elevations contain fixed, multi-pane sash above the spandrels. The original shingle roof was resurfaced with metal roofing in the late 1960s. The interior is an undivided open space containing two maple bowling lanes with an original manual ball return. Apart from the change in roof materials, the Bowling Alley is largely unaltered from its original appearance.

Lakeside Cottage (a.k.a. Cabins, Nursery) (begun c1901; enlarged c1925, c1940 and c1978) map key # 7, Contributing Building.

Lakeside Cottage is a one story, asymmetrical plan, gable roof, bark-sided frame cottage with a rustic front porch. It was planned as a nursery to house infants, small children and their nannies. Sited on the shore of the peninsula, it faces east and is approached by a footpath which doubles as a service drive. The building was enlarged three times following its original

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

construction. The original core was symmetrical in arrangement, measuring approximately 50'-6" north-south and 23'-9" east-west, with a center bay projecting 4 feet from the east elevation behind a veranda. The main gable ridge runs north-south. The core contains two suites of rooms, each containing sitting or nurse's room with closet at the front center, a child's bedroom with closets forming bed niches at the outer ends, small passages, and bathrooms at the rear. Around 1925, a rectangular addition measuring approximately 32'-7" by 23'-0" was added to the south of the core. It contains a suite of three rooms, the southernmost containing a stone fireplace. A lean-to addition of approximately 12'-5" in depth

was added to the rear of the c1925 addition around 1940. The final addition was made around

Except for the kitchen addition, the building is constructed on a rubble stone foundation and walls are surfaced with cedar bark sheets with sapling battens and matching corner trim. The asphalt shingle roof is penetrated by eight shed-roofed dormers and terminates in exposed rafter tails. The building has two stone chimneys. Exterior doorways have stock glazed-paneled units. Windows hold multi-pane casement sash. The kitchen is built on concrete piers, clad in spruce bark and rough sawn boards, and roofed with metal.

The interior has matched, narrow width floor boards. Walls are finished with stained horizontal bevel-edge boards. Ceilings are finished with beaded boards. Rooms in the original core are furnished with handsome site-built doors with diagonal board panels. The interior of the core is trimmed with coped, half-round narrow width peeled logs and saplings. The building retains most of its appearance as remodeled in 1915.

#### Boathouse (1898) map key # 8, Contributing Structure.

1978, when c1940 addition was enlarged to the south for a kitchen.

The Boathouse is an open, rustic pavilion built on footings above a dock that projects into the lake. It is an original Durant-period feature sited close to the Lodge on the peninsula's north shore near the intersection of the carriage drive and original footpath. The end-gable building is rectangular in plan, measures approximately 24'-0" x 26'-4" and is one bent wide by three bents long. The boathouse stands on six concrete footings poured in corrugated pipe which replaced the original stone cribs. It is constructed of exposed cedar log piers with spruce purlins and rafters which are braced by cross ties above the purlins. Column to purlin and column-to-sill connections have cedar knee braces with additional cedar buttress braces used in the corner columns. The landside elevation (southeast) is subdivided by log columns into three bays centered on a pedestrian portal. The lakeside elevation (northwest) is a single open bay. All logwork retains its bark. The upper areas of the end gables above the cross ties are enclosed with cedar bark siding applied to vertical boards. The original shingle roof was resurfaced with the existing shingles in 1993. The interior is an undivided open space floored with wood planks. It provides storage for row boats along the sides. Apart from the replacement of the footings, which included the addition of steel I-beams concealed below the floor, the Boathouse is unaltered from its original appearance.

### Alfred's Cottage (c1938) map key # 9, Contributing Building.

Alfred's Cottage is a small one-story, transverse gable-roofed, bark-sided frame cabin built on concrete piers that is sited close to the lake on the peninsula's north shore. The building is situated close to the carriage drive but is approached by a footpath along the shore. It is

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

roughly T-shaped in plan measuring roughly 34'-0" x 27'-11" with an additional small, single room utility closet at its southwest corner. A rectangular plan porch carried by log posts is built along the north elevation facing the lake. The walls are surfaced with spruce bark sheets with sapling battens and matching corner trim. The wood shingle roof terminates in exposed rafter tails and is penetrated by a stone chimney serving two hearths. The building has six exterior doors, each of which is paneled. Windows hold four-pane horizontal sliding sash. The interior of the core is divided into a sitting room and larger bedroom suite, each with a large rubble fieldstone hearth. A clothes closet and bathroom are located off the bedroom. The interior walls and ceilings are finished with beaded board in the bathroom and knotty pine elsewhere, and furnished with stock paneled doors trimmed with stained wood. The building retains most of its original appearance.

### Pumphouse (1915) map key # 10, Contributing Building.

The Pumphouse is a simple, small one-story, bark-sided frame utility building used to house equipment to pump water from the lake in emergency situations. It is constructed on a concrete slab on grade faced with stone and sited close to the lake on the peninsula's north shore between Alfred's and Gloria's Cottages. The end-gable building faces east and is approached by a footpath. It is rectangular in plan measuring 12'-4" x 18'-4" and the interior contains a single room. The walls are surfaced with cedar bark sheets with sapling battens and matching corner trim. The roof is surfaced with asphalt shingles and terminates in exposed rafter tails. The building has one exterior batten door placed off center on the east elevation. A window, holding paired four-pane horizontal sliding sash, is centered on each of the other elevations. The interior is finished with plain board walls and ceiling. The building retains most of its original appearance and pumping equipment.

### Gloria's Cottage (late 1930s or 1940) map key # 11, Contributing Building.

Gloria's Cottage is a small one-story, transverse gable-roofed, bark-sided frame cabin built on stone piers. Sited close to the lake on the peninsula's north shore, the building is approached by a footpath along the shore. It is roughly T-shaped in plan measuring roughly 40'-2" x 28'-0" with an additional small, single room utility closet projecting from the south elevation. An L-shaped porch carried by log posts wraps the north and east elevations facing the lake. The walls are surfaced with spruce bark sheets with sapling battens and matching corner trim. The asphalt shingle roof terminates in exposed rafter tails and is penetrated by a stone chimney. The building has six exterior doors, each of which is paneled. Windows hold fourpane horizontal sliding sash. The interior of the core is divided into a sitting room and larger bedroom suite, each with a large rubble fieldstone hearth. A clothes closet and bathroom are located off the bedroom. The interior walls and ceilings are finished with beaded board in the bathroom and knotty pine elsewhere and furnished with stock two-panel doors trimmed with stained wood. The building retains most of its original appearance.

Utility Shed (a.k.a. Paint Shop) (c1898) map key # 12, Contributing Building. The Utility Shed is a simple, small, one-story, bark-sided utility building constructed with planks and flat studs on stone footings. It is a surviving feature from the Durant period that was relocated to its present site and resurfaced on the exterior to blend in with the buildings of the Guest Complex. It is sited in from the peninsula, above the outlet ravine adjacent to the Transformer House. The end-gable building faces northwest and is approached by the

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

carriage drive. It is rectangular in plan measuring 12'-3" x 13'- 4" and the interior contains a single room. The walls are surfaced with spruce bark without battens. The roof is surfaced with asphalt shingles and has exposed rafter tails. The building has a single older exterior batten door centered on the southeast elevation, paired doors of recent construction centered on the northwest elevation, and one window holding four-pane casement sash placed off-center on each of the side elevations. The interior is unfinished. Remnant wood floor joists are evident. A concrete slab pad on grade is situated in the center of the interior. The building was used to house a generator in the 1960s. It has been subject to some changes and is in a distressed condition, but retains integrity of form, structure and original materials.

**Lean-to** (after 1916-by 1926) map key # 13, Contributing Structure.

The Lean-to is a typical three-sided Adirondack open camp. Sited to face northwest above the outlet ravine, it is rectangular in plan measuring 18' wide by 10' deep. The Lean-to is constructed on shallow granite footings of half-sawn logs, set horizontally with bark-side out and joined with corner lap joints. Its catslide roof is constructed with log purlins and rafters, has exposed rafter tails, and is surfaced with wood shingles installed in 1980. The interior contains a single room floored with a sawn wood deck. The lean-to is approached by a path from the carriage drive leading to the Wigwam.. The Lean-to is the only structure at Sagamore of true log construction and retains integrity of form, structure and materials.

The Wigwam (by 1911, possibly 1901) map key # 14, Contributing Building. The Wigwam is a large, one-and-one-half-story, bark-sided dormitory originally built as a "bachelor's hall" to house single male guests. It is approached by a footpath along the shore. The building was built in two episodes. The original core was rectangular in plan and symmetrical in arrangement, sited to face north overlooking the ravine of the outlet creek. It measured approximately 40' east-west by 28' north-south, and was internally organized around a narrow center stair hall/bathroom spine flanked by wider sitting and bedrooms. The main gable ridge ran east-west, and had a veranda along the north elevation. Around 1915, the west wing, measuring approximately 30'-6" north-south by 25'-6" east-west was added to the southwest corner. The resulting composition was roughly L-shaped in plan, with a new north-south gable bisecting the original, and an extension of the veranda in the northeast corner. The design of the addition and attendent remodeling is attributed to J. W. Bishop on the basis of similarities to the New Laundry Building.

The building is constructed on ashlar stone foundation walls pointed with ruled joints. The piers below the veranda match. The walls are surfaced with cedar bark sheets with sapling battens and matching corner trim over board and battens on the original core and over diagonal sheathing on the addition. The piers of the veranda are rustic logs. The asphalt shingle roof is penetrated by eight shed-roofed dormers and terminates in exposed rafter tails. The building has one brick chimney running through the interior and three stone chimneys engaged to the exterior walls. Exterior doorways have stock glazed-paneled units. Windows hold four-pane casement sash.

The interior has a large, rectangular plan sitting room centered on a large stone fireplace. There are five similar nearly square-planned bedrooms equipped with stone fireplaces in the core, two larger two-room bedroom suites (each with a stone fireplace in the larger room

### United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

overlooking the outlet) in the west wing, and five bathrooms. Matched, narrow width floor boards are present throughout. Walls and ceilings are finished with stained beaded board and furnished with stock six-panel doors. The building retains most of its appearance as remodeled in 1915.

The Guest Complex site contains the following resources (various dates), map keys #15a - 15h, Contributing to the overall Site.

- a. Front Boat Dock site (Durant period) The site of an open dock on the lake shore southeast of the Lodge, demolished in the Emerson period. (Not on Map)
- **b. Old Dock** (Durant period or earlier) The site of an open dock near the present Lakeside dock, demolished in the Emerson period.
- **c.** Side Bathing Dock (Durant period) The site of an open dock southeast of the kitchen, demolished in the Emerson period.
- **d.** Open Camp site (Durant period) The foundation of an Adirondack lean-to near the staff lounge, demolished in the Emerson period.
- e. Game Dressing House site (Durant period) The site of a small building redeveloped with the construction of the staff lounge in the Emerson period.
- f. Wigwam Kitchen site (Vanderbilt period) The site of a bark-sided building southeast of the Wigwam, relocated for use as the gate house during the 1920s according to oral tradition (see Transportation Group map key # 42b)
- **g.** Lakeside Lean-to site (Emerson period) The site of an Adirondack open camp near Lakeside, demolished at an undocumented date.
- h. Greenhouse (a.k.a. hot bed) foundation (Durant period) The concrete foundation of a cold frame used to start seedlings for the garden, south of the Bowling Alley.

## **B.** Caretaking Complex

The Caretaking Complex is a cluster of ten contributing buildings and two contributing structures situated in from the lake, south of the outlet and within 400 feet to the north and west of the adjacent Guest Complex. This service group occupies slightly higher ground which, together with intervening forest, screens it from view and sets it apart from the Guest Complex. The buildings are organized along an unpaved drive that runs east-west between the main road and the drive of the Guest Complex.

The character of the buildings is generally vernacular. Except for the shingled siding of the New Men's Camp and small Ice House, and exposed log construction in the Woodshed, the predominant exterior materials are vertical board or board-and-batten siding above rubble wall, rubble pier or concrete foundations. Differences in the size, spacing and chamfering of battens indicate different periods of construction. Most roofs are gable forms surfaced with standing seam metal. Door treatments are unmatched, including paneled and batten units. Fenestration includes square windows with six-pane sash, horizontally proprtioned windows holding nine- and twelve-pane sash, and vertically oriented windows with six- and twelve-pane sash.

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

### **Blacksmith Shop** (c1899) map key # 16, Contributing Building.

The blacksmith shop is a small 19' by 16', one-story, gable-roofed vernacular board-and-batten frame building built on stone piers. Its end gable faces the road. The standing seam metal roof is penetrated by a brick chimney near the rear. The north elevation has a wood ramp, plank door and a window with paired six-pane casement sash. The east elevation has an identical window. The interior is an unfinished one-room workspace containing a forge. The building retains much of its original appearance. The forge bellows, quenching bucket and racks for horseshoes are missing.

Annex (a.k.a. School House, Guide's House) (c1911) map key # 17, Contributing Building. The annex is a rectangular, two-story, gable-roofed vernacular board-and-batten frame building built on a rubble stone foundation. The standing seam metal roof is penetrated by a brick stove chimney near the front. The symmetrical north elevation has two doorways flanked by windows behind a one-story, hip-roofed porch at the first story, and two windows at the second story. There are eight windows on the east and west elevations. All windows hold 6/6 double-hung sash. The interior is divided into small rooms which are extensively finished with narrow-width beaded-board. Originally built as a men's camp, the building appears to have been moved from its original site near the New Men's Camp to its present site between 1913 and 1915. The front rooms of the first floor were used as a schoolhouse from 1915 to the 1930s. The building retains much of its appearance of c1915 with the exception of the removal of a wraparound hip roof porch, the ghost of which remains on the west elevation.

### Hen House (c1899) map key # 18, Contributing Building.

The hen house is a long, 17' x 63' rectangular, one-story, gable-roofed, vernacular board-and-batten frame building built on a concrete foundation. Five small louvered vents are placed on the ridge of the standing seam metal roof. The front (west) elevation has six full length windows with 9/6 double-hung sash. The rear (east) elevation has five windows with 12-pane hinged sash and one plank door. The end elevations each have one window with 12-pane hinged sash. The building is the third hen house of the complex. It was moved to its existing site between 1913 and 1916. The hen house had a 60' x 40' fenced poultry yard perpendicular to the west elevation. The interior equipment and pens have been removed. The building retains much of its appearance of c1916.

### Ice House (after 1916-by 1926) map key # 19, Contributing Structure.

The ice house is a small, rectangular, one-story, gable-roofed, vernacular frame building with insulated, cedar-shingle clad walls. A louvered vent is placed on the ridge of the asphalt shingle surfaced roof. The south elevation has a pair of hinged barn doors and the north elevation has a single door. The interior is divided by fiberboard partitions. The south doors and partitions were added by New York State in 1979-80.

New Men's Camp (a.k.a. Chalet, Men's Camp B, Staff /Caretaker's House) (c1915) map key # 20, Contributing Building.

The stylistically eclectic New Men's Camp is a large, three story shingle-clad frame residential building built on a concrete foundation. The building combines elements of the Shingle, Bungalow and Swiss Chalet styles. The longer east and west elevations are massed under a large chalet-like gable which is bisected by large gable dormers above the end walls. The

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

main entrance is located, facing the access road, on the narrower north elevation behind a full-width porch which is recessed, bungalow-like, under the eaves of the main gable. Originally roofed with shingles, it is now roofed with lapped metal panels. A massive fieldstone chimney with a cast stone cap, serving a fireplace inside, penetrates the ridge of the north dormer. Windows hold 12-, and 6-pane outswing casement sash. One-story, gable-roofed storm porches enclose the west and east entrances. These and the recessed porch have plain 6x6 piers and solid, shingled railings. A large, one story shed-roofed addition (after 1930s) is built against the south elevation.

The interior, constructed to house the caretaker and male staff, is now used as a dormitory, cafeteria and gift shop. The plan is arranged along a double-loaded corridor divided into sleeping, living, and dining spaces. The building retains much of its original outward appearance, with the exception of a fire escape added along its west elevation. The interior has been subject to some plan and finish changes. The original program for this building was to include a larger men's living area and recreation hall situated to the east, but these plans were abandoned upon Alfred Vanderbilt's death. The backfilled concrete perimeter foundations of this uncompleted project, as well as internal subdivisions, extend the full depth of the building and some seventy feet to the east.

Paint Shop (a.k.a. Carpenter's Shop) (c1915) map key # 21, Contributing Building. The paint shop is a small, rectangular, one-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed vernacular frame building clad with vertical flush boards and built on stone piers. The standing seam metal roof is penetrated by a brick chimney at the ridge. The front (south) elevation has two large door openings with plank doors hinged and operated with forged hardware. Windows hold 6/6 double-hung sash. The unfinished interior is divided into two work spaces with an overhead loft. The building was the third paint shop built in the complex, and retains much of its original appearance.

"Dwelling" (a.k.a. Storage Shed) (c1915) map key # 23, Contributing Building. The dwelling is a small, rectangular, one-story, gable-roofed vernacular board-and-batten frame building built on stone piers. The roof is surfaced with standing seam metal. It faces south, with its ridge parallel to the road. The front (south) elevation has a plank door on center flanked by windows with 12-pane casement sash. The building's original use is enigmatic. It first appeared on the 1915 site plan when it was designated as a dwelling. It is, however, not in keeping with the scale or finish level of residential construction elsewhere at Sagamore.

Wood Shed (c1899) and Tool Shed (a.k.a. Coal Bin) (c1899) map key # 24, Two Contributing Structures.

The wood shed is a large, rectangular, one-story, gable-roofed rustic building supported by peeled log posts at the perimeter over a dirt floor. The building is eight structural bays wide east-west and two bays deep. The gable ends are sheathed partially with board-and-batten siding, but the structure is otherwise open. The roof is supported by large cross bents and is surfaced with standing seam metal. The plan was originally open, but is now interrupted by intermediate posts installed around 1980 to support the cross bents.

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

The tool shed is a small, rectangular, one story, shed-roofed vernacular frame building clad with horizontal flush boards and built on stone piers. It is closely associated with the adjacent woodshed.

Barn (a.k.a. Horse Barn) (begun c1899) map key # 25, Contributing Building. The barn consists of three major components: a large horse barn (begun c1899, enlarged by 1915) a cow shed (c1899), and a wash room addition for washing carriages and later automobiles (after 1916). The horse barn is a large, rectangular, two story, gable-roofed vernacular board-and-batten frame building built on a rubble stone foundation. Its standing seam metal roof is interrupted by a square louvered ventilator and a stone chimney at the ridge. The cow shed is a one-story, shed-roofed addition built against the horse barn's west wall. The wash room is a one-story, gable-roofed addition projecting from the horse barn's north wall. Both additions are finished with wall and roof materials matching the horse barn. The front (south) elevation has a large door opening with an overhead garage door. Other doorways have batten doors. Windows hold multi-pane sash, some indicating box stalls inside. The horse barn's evolution, beginning at the present west end and extension eastward (beyond the large south doorway) is evident on the interior. The interior is divided into two levels, with a hayloft at the east end and living quarters above the west end. The ground floor was partitioned off to contain tack rooms and storage. The ground floor has been renovated as an auditorium/orientation center. The barn retains much of its outward appearance as developed over time by c1916.

Vegetable Cellar (a.k.a. Root Cellar) (c1899) map key # 26, Contributing Structure. The vegetable cellar is a small, rectangular 24' x 28' masonry building built into the bank of a hill. Walls are laid with quarry-faced, coursed ashlar native stone. A single rectilinear doorway is centered on the north-facing front wall, the only one above grade. The building was originally covered by a rustic gable roof framed with peeled poles and surfaced with shingles. The roof was raised and open above the masonry for ventilation. Its gable end faced the road. The original roof was replaced with the existing flat concrete slab which is topped with grass and spruce seedlings.

Carriage Shed (c1899) map key # 27, Contributing Building.

The carriage shed is a long, rectangular, one-story, gable-roofed vernacular board-and-batten building built on a loose stone foundation formed as piers. The east end of the south elevation has vertical flush board siding. The roof is surfaced with standing seam metal and deeply overhangs the north (front) elevation. The building is seven structural bays wide east-west and two bays deep. The older, east three bays (c1899) are of hand-hewn, heavy-timber framing above a dirt floor. The west three bays (by c1915) have log framing and a plank floor. The windows in the west end hold paired or single 12-pane casement sash. The entrance bays have paired plank doors hung with forged hinges.

The Caretaking Complex site contains the following resources. map keys # 28a - 28c, Contributing to the overall site.

**a. Foundation** (date unknown) Remains of an unknown small building southeast of Ice House.

#### United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

- b. Foundation (date unknown) Remains of an unknown small building south of 28a.
- c. Foundation (date unknown) Remains of an unknown small building south of Schoolhouse.

### C. Outlying Recreational Group

This group of three known post-Durant sites are dispersed around the lake. They served as satellite destinations for day trips or overnight excursions from the Guest Complex.. The sites of these buildings are on State land.

The overall Site contains the following **Outlying Recreational Resources** (various dates) map keys # 29a - 29c, Contributing to the overall site.

- a. Gazebo site (late Vanderbilt or Emerson period) The remains of an open pavilion or gazebo used by family and guests of the Guest Complex are situated in a clearing on the south shore of the lake near the west end within view from the Dining Room.
- **b. Hunting Camp site** (Emerson period) The foundation of an enclosed cabin equipped with a kitchen is situated on the south shore of the lake near the east end.
- **c.** Gloria's Lean-to site (Emerson period) The ruin of a three-sided open camp or lean-to is situated in from the north shore at the east end of the lake.

### D. Farm Group

Little is known about the Sagamore farm, but farm operations were common in Adirondack camps. By 1899, Durant had established a farm pasture on a southerly facing upland above the lake along the route of the old carry from the South Inlet to the lake, and a sugar camp directly below. The Vanderbilts further developed the farm, adding a milking shed and wagon barn. The farm group includes the sites of four known structures in the area of the former pasture, which remains largely open today. The sites of the Farm Group are on State land.

The overall Site contains the following Farm Group Resources (various dates) map keys # 30a - 30d, Contributing to overall Site.

- **a.** Sugar House site (c1899) Remains of an enclosed agricultural building used to boil sap for maple syrup is situated in the farm group.
- **b.** Lineman's Cabin site (c1899) Remains of a presumably enclosed dwelling used seasonally by farm staff is situated on the lake's north shore below the farm group.
- c. Milking Shed site (early Vanderbilt period) Site of a small agricultural outbuilding used for milking pasture stock is situated in the farm group.
- **d.** Wagon Barn site (early Vanderbilt period) Site of a small agricultural outbuilding used to shelter equipment is situated in the farm group.

### E. Water Supply Group

Water was originally piped to the buildings of the Guest and Caretaking Complexes from springs. During the 1915 infrastructure improvements, the water supply was switched to the

Page 21

#### United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

lake, drawn by a pump to a new reservoir near the springs and controlled by a valve near the camp. The ruins of the spring houses and the reservoir are on State land and are unattended.

Spring House No. 1 ruin (c1899) map key # 31, Contributing to overall site.

The spring house ruin is a small, rectangular, half-story, gable-roofed utility building built on a low masonry foundation near the reservoir in the southwest corner of the property. The plan measures 14' wide and is divided into two cells, the south measuring 13'-6" long and north measuring 18'-4" long. The roof, which has collapsed, is framed with sawn lumber and surfaced with solder seam plate metal. The roof structure is raised above the foundation on three-course log knee walls. The end gable walls are open to the weather. The spring house is no longer used as part of the water supply system.

Spring House No. 2 ruin (c1899) map key #32 (Not on the map), Contributing to overall site. The spring house ruin is a small, rectangular, half-story, gable-roofed utility building built on a low masonry foundation near the reservoir in the southwest corner of the property. plan measures 15'-5" wide east-west by 23'-0" long north-south. The roof, which has collapsed, is framed with sawn lumber and surfaced with shingles. The roof structure sits on the foundation. The end gable walls are recessed behind the eaves and are surfaced with boardand-batten siding. Paired, outswing batten doors centered on the south elevation provide access to the interior. The spring house is no longer used as part of the water supply system.

Concrete Reservoir and Valve House (c1916) map key #33 and #33a, Two Contributing Structures.

The 100,000 gallon tiled inground reservoir is located near the road to Uncas in the southwest corner of the property. It is circular in plan, measuring 42' in diameter and 13' deep, and appears above grade as a raised curb surfaced with a flat roof. The reservoir is filled from the lake by use of valve controls in the valve house, a former shed previously located near lakeside in the Guest Complex and now located in the Caretaking Complex. Access to the reservoir is through a manhole on the roof. The reservoir is in working condition, but is no longer used as part of the water supply system.

Garden Tank (pre 1915) map key #34, Contributing Structure.

The Garden Tank is a holding tank situated at a high point above the garden and formerly used to irrigate crops.

### F. Hydroelectric Plant

Electricity was introduced to the site with the addition of the Hydroelectric Plant in 1915. The plant is a group of four related resources, three of which are located in a cluster along the South Inlet approximately 3/4 of a mile downstream from the Guest Complex.. These are located on State land and are not maintained.

**Power Dam Ruin** (c1915) map key # 35, Contributing to overall site. The dam is a concrete ruin spanning the South Inlet upstream from the sluice and power house.

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

### Power House (1915) map key # 36, Contributing Building.

The power house is a one-story, flat-roofed brick utilitarian building. It is rectangular in plan, measuring approximately 26' by 33' and faces east. It is built on and roofed with concrete slabs. The walls terminate in a simple corbeled cornice. There are three 15-pane sash on the north elevation and paired iron shutters on the east elevation. Water from the raceway enters through the south wall and exits through a culvert below the north elevation. The building retains its generating equipment but is not in working condition.

Sluice Gate House and Raceway (c1915) map key # 37, Contributing Building and Contributing Structure.

The raceway runs from a gate house to the power house along the river. The gate house is a one-story, flat-roofed brick utilitarian building. It is rectangular in plan, measuring approximately 12'-6" by 9'-0" and faces south. It is built on and roofed with concrete slabs. The walls terminate in a simple corbeled cornice. There is a single door on the south elevation. A manual screw valve controls the flow.

### Transformer House (c1915) map key # 38, Contributing Building.

The transformer house is located in the Guest Complex It is a one-story, flat-roofed brick utilitarian building with a hip-roofed ventilator. It is rectangular in plan, measuring approximately 11'-5" by 27'-2" and faces northwest. It is built on and roofed with concrete slabs, the latter surfaced with a latex acrylic membrane. The walls terminate in a wood overhang with steel brackets. It is now used to house the electrical service main and emergency generator.

### G. Transportation Group

The Transportation Group includes three replacement wood deck bridges, the site of the original steamboat landing, and the sites of two known buildings at the gate house.

**Bridge** # 1 (c1960) map key # 39, Non-contributing.

Bridge # 2 (c1960 and 1983) map key # 40, Non-contributing.

Bridge # 3 (c1915 and 1993) map key # 41, Non-contributing.

The overall Site contains the following **Transportation Group Resources** map keys # 42a - 42c, Contributing to overall Site.

- a. South Inlet Boat House site (c1915) It is situated on the east bank of the shore below the falls where the steamboat docked at the head of the old South Inlet Road. This was the primary means of arrival to Sagamore prior to the railroad. The building, in plan, had the shape of a flattened "V" and was probably also used to store pleasure and work boats used on Raquette Lake. The dock was demolished during the late Vanderbilt period.
- **b.** Gate House/ Watchman's Camp site (c1915) It is situated on the east side of the Raquette Lake Road immediately within the property line at the present Cascades trailhead.

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

According to oral tradition, the bark-sided Wigwam kitchen (see resource 15) was moved here for use by a watchman who greeted arriving guests.

c. Gate House Garage site (Emerson period) It is situated adjacent to the Gate House. It appears to have been a two- or three- bay garage.

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

### 8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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

Nationally: X Statewide: Locally:

Applicable National

Register Criteria: A\_ B\_ C X\_ D\_

Criteria Considerations

(Exceptions): A\_ B\_ C\_ D\_ E\_ F\_ G\_

NHL Criteria: 4

NHL Theme(s): III. Expressing Cultural Values

5. architecture, landscape architecture, and urban design

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Entertainment/Recreation

Period(s) of Significance: 1897- c1940

Significant Dates: 1897, 1898, 1901, 1915, c1924, c1925, c1927, late 1930s, c1940

Significant Person(s):

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Durant, William West; Coulter, William.; Bishop, J. W.

Historic Contexts: XVI. Architecture

Y. Rustic

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

State Significance of Property, and Justify Criteria, Criteria Considerations, and Areas and Periods of Significance Noted Above.

Sagamore Lodge is an exceptionally valuable example of American resort architecture. Located near Raquette Lake in the Adirondack Park, Sagamore retains an extraordinarily high level of integrity of setting, plan, design, style, materials and method of construction. It is an early and outstanding example of a large-scale Adirondack wilderness retreat, a property type that was influential in the development of numerous camps, lodges, organization camps, and state and national parks throughout the country during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Sagamore Lodge was designed and constructed in 1897 by William West Durant, widely regarded as the most important innovator in the evolution of the Adirondack camp property type and a prominent figure in the development of the Adirondacks as a fashionable resort. Inspired by the distinctive rustic architecture created by Adirondack guides and hunters, Durant expanded and transformed this vernacular building tradition into a sophisticated country estate type. The buildings at Sagamore Lodge were increased in size and number in a manner established by Durant by the socially prominent Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt family between 1901 and 1940. At its peak of development, Sagamore Lodge consisted of more than 50 buildings and structures centered on Sagamore Lake and surrounded by more than 1,500 acres of private land managed primarily as forest preserve. Sagamore Lodge remains remarkably intact, including its large and remote wilderness setting, it highly organized, multiple building compound and numerous built features that were constructed using stylized adaptations of regional forms and indigenous materials. Many of Sagamore's built resources exhibit an exceptionally high level of craftsmanship and incorporate imaginative decorative details. Within the Adirondack camp context, Sagamore Lodge is exceptionally significant as one of the most architecturally sophisticated and fully developed examples of the property type.

Sagamore Lodge is an unusually extensive and self-contained example of a solitary Adirondack camp. In the 1890s, William West Durant developed the Adirondack "camp" into a new type of American country retreat of comparable social standing with resort "cottages" developed along the New England coast and in the Berkshire hills of western Massachusetts. His camps combined elements from indigenous Adirondack building traditions with the form of the Swiss chalet and conveniences providing state of the art comforts to attract a larger group of people of means to summer in the region. Sagamore Lodge was one of three major Adirondack camps developed by Durant on large tracts of forested land in the Raquette Lake area. Unlike the "cottages," each "camp" was an isolated retreat sited on its own private lake and buffered from its few distant neighbors by forest dotted with ponds and streams. Its forest was available for private sports hunting and fishing and management as a preserve according to the new principles of "scientific forestry." The program of Sagamore Lodge, like other solitary camps, was similar to that of the Anglo-American country estate, complete with a working farm, in the manner of Biltmore Lodge in North Carolina.

Sagamore Lodge is one of the most architecturally sophisticated and influential of the Adirondack camps. Its buildings and landscape fully express the characteristics that differentiated the Adirondack camp from other types of country estates. The guest complex is organized around a clustered compound plan of separate buildings for separate functions which

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

emphasized outdoor living. Placed on a clearing of small extent within the total context of the preserve, the buildings of the guest complex are sited in subordination to the undulating topography below while providing multiple opportunities for outward vistas across the lake. The buildings of the guest complex are exceptional examples of the rustic aesthetic developed in the Adirondack camp through the creative combination of indiginous building traditions, native materials and idioms from fashionable architectural styles. The pervasive and ambitious use of the Swiss chalet form at Sagamore Lodge was unprecedented in American architecture and influential in the evolution of the Adirondack camp and establishing the chalet as a major form used in resort architecture in the state and national parks. Acquired by the socially prominent Vanderbilt family within a few years of its construction, Sagamore Lodge became well known through the extensive yet close knit network of Gilded Age social circles that included prominent architects and landscape architects and by virtue of the publicity the family attracted in the popular press.

### **Historical Background**

The Raquette Lake area was wilderness except for a few scattered homesteads and logging operations in the 1840s when outsiders began venturing into the region. Situated immediately north of the Fulton Chain of lakes, where tourism first developed in the region, Raquette Lake came to serve as a hub for those who pressed into the interior. By the 1850s it was regularly visited by outsiders and began to develop lodging accommodations in homesteads, many of which were built of logs as well as primitive camps placed along traplines by local guides. After the Civil War, more genteel accommodations were provided in newer, frame buildings, and some long-time visitors to the region began establishing their own primitive camps consisting of log cabins and shanties and modeled on those of the guides on the shores of the lakes in the region. The long and tedious water passage into the region, involving several portages, impeded the region's development as a resort. Although the State, which was the principal landowner, had long encouraged the development of a railroad through the region to carry out iron and logs by offering land for sale under generous terms to incorporated railroad companies, none had been built.

In 1863, Dr. Thomas C. Durant (1820-1885), one of the principals in the Union Pacific Railroad, began to purchase the rights of undeveloped railroads under a new corporation, the Adirondack Railroad, which he hoped to build through the region, with its central hub at the developing resort of Blue Mountain Lake to the north of Raquette Lake. Although never completed, the Adirondack Railroad began operation in 1871 between Saratoga Springs and North Creek as a freight line. In 1876, the railroad became a critical link in improving access to the region. Passengers were conveyed by stage coach from North Creek to Blue Mountain Lake from whence they reached Raquette Lake by steamboat and a brief portage. The improved transportation stimulated a new phase of development by campers. Introduced to the region through the hotels, they began to buy parcels to erect the first generation of simple retreats. While few of these survive, photographs taken during the 1870s indicate that most were similar to simple frame cottages built elsewhere in newly emerging resorts, although a few were modeled after the log and bark-clad shelters of the region. Exceptional among this group was the "artistic camp" begun in 1877 by Durant's son on Raquette Lake called Camp Pine Knot.

William West Durant<sup>1</sup> (1850-1934) arrived in Raquette Lake for the first time in 1876 to assist his father in developing the railroad's passenger service. W. W. Durant's cosmopolitan experience prior to his arrival in the undeveloped Raquette Lake was well suited to this task. He had spent most of his youth in Europe, including boarding school in England, college at Bonn Univerity in Germany, and travels through Switzerland and Italy, and was involved in archaeological research in Egypt when summoned by his father. W.W. Durant envisioned and implemented the multi-modal transportation system. In the process of introducing this new transportation infrastructure. Dr. Durant had amassed a large land holding in the central Adirondacks which was inherited by William. The younger Durant envisioned Raquette Lake, situated near the center of the Adirondack plateau, as the potential hub of a network of waterways navigable by steamboats that would open the wilderness to development, and built upon the estate to amass a landholding estimated to comprise some three quarters of a million acres at its peak. After improving Camp Pine Knot through the 1880s, Durant turned his energies toward new projects, including Sagamore Lodge, in the 1890s. His role as a developer ceased due to financial difficulties stemming from his extravagent lifestyle, ambitious development schemes, overextension of credit and personal law suits involving his sister's claim on their father's estate and his wife's divorce proceeding, resulting in bankruptcy in 1904.

Camp Pine Knot was a place of experiment where Durant advanced the principles of the Adirondack camp. During the 1880s, he built an primitive shelter away from the developing shoreline of Raquette Lake near the future Sagamore Lake, then called Shedd Lake, which he visited for hunting and fishing. Prior to starting Sagamore Lodge, Durant built Camp Uncas (begun 1893), for his personal use as a base of operations. His sale of Pine Knot in 1895 to railroad magnate Collis P. Huntington, helped finance completion of Uncas, which he in turn sold to financier J. P. Morgan on the eve of beginning Sagamore. The sale of his camps following the opening of W. Seward Webb's Adirondack and St. Lawrence Railroad in 1892, (of which Durant, Huntington and Morgan were directors), demonstrated the marketability of the property type, secured the reputation of the region as a fashionable resort, and heralded a new, more active period of camp building. Sagamore, in retrospect, appears to have been a response to this changed market and became the prototype of a second, more ambitious phase of camp development. "William said that he had built Sagamore for his mother and himself," according to Craig Gilborn, an authority on Durant, " but the lodge far exceeded his personal needs and it is likely that he intended to sell Sagamore from the very start."<sup>2</sup> Soon after its completion in 1900, Durant's troubled financial situation led him to sell the property, along with the fully furnished buildings, to Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt and his newly wed wife in June or July of 1901.

Sagamore Lodge was begun by Durant around 1897 as a clustered compound plan with a focal Swiss chalet lodge, a detached rustic dining room /service complex, and a boat house sited prominently on a peninsula jutting into the lake. Behind this was the core of a caretaking complex of barns, shops and men's housing in vernacular buildings concealed from view of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Adapted from Domblewski, pp. 45-51 and Gilborn, *Durant*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 106.

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

the lodge complex. There was also an outlying farm with pasture, a water supply system, and access roads with a steamboat dock connecting it to the world beyond. The property was developed for his own immediate occupancy and likely in part as a speculative real estate venture. Durant occupied the Lodge from 1898 to 1901 when he sold the 1,526 acre property to Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt. Vanderbilt and, later, his widow, Mrs. Margaret Emerson, added to Sagamore's built environment between 1901 and c1940, reinforcing the compound plan and rustic character of the Durant core while increasing its capacity and comfort and improving its infrastructure. In 1954, the property was donated to Syracuse University for use as a conference center. During the Syracuse period, most of the buildings remained intact, although most of the furnishings were disposed of by auction when the property was acquired by New York State for inclusion in the Adirondack Forest Preserve. This acquisition endangered the buildings, which, according to the State Constitution, required the property to revert to wilderness. It was during the ensuing struggle to save Sagamore's buildings from demolition that interest in the Adirondack camps was rekindled. As a result, the 17.91 acres underlying the Guest Complex and Caretaking Complex which contained the bulk of the buildings, were subdivided from the original property in two transactions and conveyed to Sagamore Institute Inc., a non-profit, for use as a conference center. These buildings are actively used and cared for, and remain in much the same condition as left by Mrs. Emerson. The remaining acreage of the property, managed as part of the forest preserve, has been protected from redevelopment, but resources within its bounds have been unattended.

Sagamore Lodge was built upon principles demonstrated by Durant in his earlier projects. Durant's camps subdivided the program of a typical country house into "a Raquette 'camp' .... a shapely villa of solid logs, set beneath the grand old hemlocks and pines, with accessory buildings for cooking, dining, sleeping, the children, the guides, and what not -- a village in rustic" as described in a tourist guide published by his railroad. Sagamore's lodge complex, known today as the Guest Complex, used such a compound plan of discrete, limited-purpose buildings. The Lodge (1897), built with central heating, contained the camp's living room, Durant's office, and bedrooms. Detached from it was the Dining Room (1898) and attached Kitchen. Attached to the Kitchen by free-standing walks were the Laundry (c1898) and Ice House (c1898). Behind the Kitchen were an Adirondack "open camp" (c1898) and a small game hut for dressing game, and on the opposite side of the peninsula stood a rustic Boathouse (c1898).

The guest complex buildings are distinctly rustic in character, clad in bark covered log slabs (logs split in half) and/or surfaced with natural bark, a material that blended seamlessly with the forest. Durant had been introduced to the use of stretched cedar bark held in place by sapling battens in the ramshackle shanties of guides present on Raquette Lake when he first visited the area in 1876. He used it widely, as an exterior finish applied to sheathing and interior finish as well, at Pine Knot and to lesser extents at Uncas and Sagamore. Durant's use of barked, slab logs over frame construction at Sagamore had been advocated by William S. Wicks in *Log Cabins: How to Build and Furnish Them* (1889), a seminal treatise on resort architecture based on indiginous Adirondack traditions, but its use is not known to have been

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Adirondack Railway Company. *Birch Bark from the Adirondacks or, from City to Trail.* New York, Liberty Printing Co., 1886 [Adirondack Museum].pp. 33-34.

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

previously attempted at such an ambitious scale. It was a logical extension of the use of stretched bark, achieving the same desired exterior effect as true log construction while freeing the plan of the limitations of bents, of which he had had first hand experience at Pine Knot. In the early decades of the twentieth century similar types of sawn logs (usually peeled) and imitative novelty sidings, usually installed with mitred corners, would be used in camps and other recreational buildings in forested regions. In the Lodge, Durant created the appearance of overlapping corners by splicing in saddle jointed log stubs. This detail was avoided in the Dining Room by the use of palisade slabs below the end gable.

The lodge was also an early example of a new phase of the Swiss chalet as a model form in the United States. The Swiss chalet, as first introduced to Americans by Downing in The Architecture of Country Homes (1850), was a low-pitched front gable type of small cottage with elaborate cutwork trim deemed appropriate for "bold and mountainous" sites that was more "a romantic borrowing from contemporary Swiss practice" than an archaeologically Durant had earlier explored the Swiss chalet form, stripped to bare essentials, at Pine Knot. Sagamore's Lodge departed from Americanized-Swiss precedents in its greater size and closer attention to specific corbelling and trim details. The source is unknown, but a photograph of the Lodge's living room taken during Durant's occupancy<sup>5</sup> shows a small model of a Swiss chalet on a table next to a photograph of Durant. Buildings more closely based on the chalets of Switzerland and Austria began to appear on the West Coast in the early 1890s, where they were eventually reinterpreted in the craftsman style. Sagamore's Lodge is one of the earliest in the East, and was followed by Swiss chalets of similar scale constructed on Wilmurt, Little Moose and Raquette Lakes. The monumental character of Durant's Lodge, which stood in marked contrast to his earlier projects, was imitated in several other Adirondack camps in the first decade of the twentieth century and was later adapted in resort buildings designed for the national and state park systems.

Sagamore Lodge was remote from the services of a hotel, and required more extensive internal support facilities and infrastructure improvements. The support facilities, clustered in the nearby Caretaking Complex and more remote Farm Group, consisted of barns for wagons, horses and cows, a chicken house, a pig pen, a "hot bed" or cold frame for starting garden plants, gardens for corn, potatoes and other vegetables and a root cellar for storing the harvest, a sugar house for boiling maple syrup, shops for a blacksmith, carpenter and painter, housing for the guides and help, and a large woodshed. In 1901, Durant claimed that Sagamore could be staffed, at a minimum, by a superintendent and his wife, a teamster and two laborers, and worked by two horses and two cows at a monthly cost "without entertaining" of \$450.6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Virginia and Lee McAllester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York, Alfred A Knopf, 1988, p. 231.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Reproduced as Figure 84 in Craig Gilborn, *Durant*. Blue Mountain Lake, NY: The Adirondack Museum, 1981.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Gilborn, *Durant*, p. 97.

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

Sagamore Lodge represents four periods of development following the original Durant period. The Alfred G. Vanderbilt period (1901-1915) and Margaret Emerson period (1915-1953) are characterized by expansion of the property's physical plant in the spirit of and with great sensitivity to Durant's original template. Additions made during these periods are significant. During the Syracuse University period (1953-1975) and Sagamore Institute periods (1975-present), the property has been operated as a conference center. Changes made during the latter have been aimed at remedying the effects of deferred maintenance during the former while bringing the buildings up to code, and are too recent to be considered significant.

A. G. Vanderbilt (d. 1915), a wealthy and socially prominent sportsman, began expanding the facilities to increase the camp's capacity soon after his purchase. At the Guest Complex, he added on to the Dining Room, doubling its size and continuing with the vocabulary established by Durant, and enlarged the Kitchen, both around 1901. The Casino, designed by architect William Coulter, an adjacent tennis court, and Lakeside Cottage were also added around this time. The Casino, inspired by the chalet form and slab siding of the Lodge and initially intended as a play house for children, came to be used as a trophy room, greatly expanding the size of the camp's "living room." Lakeside provided bedrooms for infants and children in a remote location. The bark-sided Wigwam, a "bachelor's hall" used by Vanderbilt for hunting parties and single male guests, with its own detached Kitchen, was probably also started at this time. These new buildings were intentionally sited away from the Lodge, to afford privacy and sound insulation among different types of family and guests, while intentionally or not, preserving the visual impact of the Lodge. At the Caretaking Complex, new housing for the help was built, and additions were made to the Horsebarn, Carriage Barn, and Hot Beds. Out at the farm, a Lineman's Cabin, Milk Shed, and Wagon Barn were added. This initial phase of development appears to have quelled between 1903 and 1911 when the camp was little used. Vanderbilt's divorce in 1908 of his first wife, who disliked the camp, and remarriage in 1911 to Margaret Emerson McKim commenced a new flurry of building and infrastructure projects. At the Guest Complex, a bark-sided addition was made to the Wigwam, and the rustic Bowling Alley was constructed around this time. The largest new buildings added increased the capacity for staff housing. The Guest Complex service facilities were greatly enlarged by the construction of the bark-sided New Laundry, designed and/or built by a J. W. Bishop. At the Caretaking Complex, the Men's Camp, a new shingle-clad dormitory with a chalet profile for male help, was built. It was planned with an attached recreation hall for the staff, the footings of which were built but subsequently abandoned. Both projects appear to have been underway in May, 1915, when Vanderbilt died during the sinking of the Lusitania. A new hydroelectric plant was added to generate power for the property, and the water supply system was reworked, resulting in the additions of a small fireproof brick transformer house and small bark-sided pumphouse at the Guest Complex, a small Valve House at the Caretaking Complex, a new tiled reservoir near the original springs, and a dam, raceway, sluice gate house and power house built at a remote site downstream from the lake.

The property passed to Vanderbilt's widow, who resumed her maiden name in 1928 following a failed remarriage. After a respite following the completion of the major projects underway in 1915, Mrs. Emerson set about to further increase the capacity of the camp and expand its recreational facilities in the 1920s. At the Guest Complex, the Dining Room was once again enlarged to seat 75, a new dining room was added for the staff, an addition was made to

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

Lakeside, and a new Adirondack open camp was constructed near the Wigwam, and the Wigwam's kitchen building was moved to the property line along the road and re-used as a gatehouse. During the 1930s she added private sleeping cottages for her teenaged children, converting the Durant period laundry in the Dining Hall complex to a cottage for her oldest son, and building new, bark-sided cottages on the peninsula along the lake shore for her younger children. Farther out on the lake, a gazebo, hunting camp and lean-to were added for family members and guests. A number of small additions were also made in the Caretaking Complex.

Vanderbilt and Emerson added many new buildings but removed few Durant features. Those they did remove included three docks from the shores of the peninsula, an old lean-to and game dressing room behind the kitchen at the Guest Complex, the steamboat dock below the falls above Raquette Lake, and several small buildings in the caretaking complex. They continued the predominant use of bark surfaces and gable forms introduced by Durant, and reinforced the centrality of the Lodge with the considered use of sheet bark over slabs in all new buildings within its view. The cumulative effect of Sagamore today, which appears much the same as it did prior to World War II, is best summarized in words used in 1888 to describe Pine Knot:

....-well, to tell the truth, these camps are *never* completed, really, for one of the fascinating features of the camp is that it is bound by no rule of time or architecture. It expands and blossoms with the passing seasons, and is never exactly the same one year that it was the year before, but is always finished enough for comfort...

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Seneca Ray Stoddard, *The Adirondacks*. Glen Falls, NY: S. R. Stoddard, 1888.

Page 32

### 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Albany Argus, March 12, 1899.
- "A. G. Vanderbilt Weds Mrs. McKim," The New York Times, December 18, 1911.
- Applegate, Howard Lewis. *The Story of Sagamore*. Series of papers on adult education, no. 19. Syracuse, NY: University College of Syracuse University, 1962.
- Argus Architecture & Preservation, "Horse Barn: Existing Conditions Report," unpublished report, 1990 [Sagamore Institute archives]
- Aslet, Clive. The American Country House. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1990.
- Bacterial Sewage Purification Co., New York City, "Sewage Disposal Plants, Additional Water Supply, Electric Light and Power Lines, Sagamore Lodge, Hamilton County, N.Y.," print, August 1916; also revised print, July, 1954 [Sagamore Institute archives].
- Barnes, Wesley, "Plan of Sagamore Lodge, Sagamore Lake (formerly Shedd Lake), Tonship No. 6, Totten & Crossfield's Purchase, Hamilton County, N.Y., Property of Forest Park and Land Company, W. West Durant, President, from surveys by Hon. Wesley Barnes, in June 1899," print, print, 1899 [Adirondack Museum].
- "A Beautiful Adirondack Home," *The [Utica, NY] Saturday Globe*, Nov. 28, 1908, . [Sagamore]
- Bishop, J. W., New York, N.Y., [Power House], print of construction details, October, 1915 [Sagamore Institute archives].
- Crawford & Stearns, Architects, "Camp Sagamore Caretaking Complex: Historic Structures Report," unpublished report, 1988 [Sagamore Institute archives].
- Crum and Forster, "Margaret Emerson Sagamore Lodge at Sagamore Lake, Hamilton County, N.Y., September, 1941," print redrawn by Crawford & Stearns, Architects, 1987 [Sagamore Institute archives].
- Dix, William Frederick. "Summer Life in Luxurious Adirondack Camps," *The Independent* 55, (July 2, 1903), 1556-1562.
- Domblewski, Mary Ellen. "The Adirondack Camp of the Last Quarter of the Nineteenth Century: A Wilderness Architecture." Unpublished master's thesis, Cornell University, 1974.

- Donaldson, Alfred L. A History of the Adirondacks. 2 vols. New York: The Century Company, 1921.
- Durant, William West, manuscript papers[New Jersey Historical Society, Newark, NJ].
- Gadski [Domblewski,] Mary Ellen. "Sagamore: A Prototypical Adirondack Great Camp," Preservation League of New York State Newsletter, (January-February 1983).
- Gilborn, Craig. Durant: The Fortune and Woodland Camps of a Family in the Adirondacks. Sylvan Beach, NY: North Country Books, 1981.
- "Oh for a Lodge in Some Great Wilderness." Nineteenth Century II (Summer, 1976), 26.
- Hartgen Archaeological Associates, Inc. "Archaeological Assessment: Sagamore Lodge, Town of Long Lake, Hamilton County, New York," unpublished report, February, 1995 [Sagamore Institute archives]
- Hopkins, L.S.R., and H. L Corthell, civil engineers / Thatcher T.P. Luquer, consulting engineer, "Proposed Hydro Electric Plant for Sagamore Lodge, Hamilton County" print, 1915 [Sagamore Institute archives]
- Hotaling, Mary. "W. L. Coulter, Architect," Adirondack Architectural Heritage Newsletter, 4 (December, 1995), 1, 3.
- "William L. Coulter: Adirondack Architect," Preservation League of New York State Newsletter, (Fall, 1989), 4, 5.
- Insurance Comapany of North America of Philadelphia, "Margaret E. Armory, Sagamore Lodge situate Sagamore Lake, Hamilton Co., N.Y.," print of insurance map, 1934. [Sagamore Institute archives]
- Kaiser, Harvey H. Great Camps of the Adirondacks. Boston: David R. Godine, 1982.
- Kellogg, Alice M. "Luxurious Adirondack Camps." New Broadway Magazine, XXI (August, 1908), 207-212.
- Kirkland and Yardley, Brokers "Inspection and Survey Report of Sagamore Lodge," manuscript report, 1934 [Adirondack Museum]
- Kirschenbaum, Howard. The Story of Sagamore. Raquette Lake, NY: Sagamore Institute, 1990.
- Lehman, Arnold. "Great Camps of the Adirondacks." typescript, Adirondack Museum Ms. 73-11.

- Life Magazine, January 2, 1950.
- Lipa, W. [utility plan], print, 1986, redrawn from 1916 base plan [Sagamore Institute archives
- Manley, Doris Vanderlipp, Guest Complex National Register Nomination form, 1975.
- "Mrs. Emerson, 75, of the '400' Dead," The New York Times, January 3, 1960.
- New York Herald Tribune, Jan. 3, 1960.
- Null, Janet A. et al., "Bark Siding at Sagamore Institute," unpublished report of an Association for Preservation Technology /New York workshop, 1993. [Sagamore Institute archives]
- O'Neil and Hale Insurance, Malone, NY, "Property of Mrs. Margaret E. Baker, Sagamore Lodge, Sagamore lake, Hamilton County, N.Y." blueprint of insurance map, August 9, 1926 [Adirondack Museum]
- "Plan of Sagamore Lodge, Sagamore Lake (formerly Shedd Lake), Township No. 5, Totten & Crossfield's Purchase, Hamilton County, N.Y., from surveys by Hon. Wesley Barnes, 10 June 1899, Property of Alfred G. Vanderbilt" print, n.d. [c1911-1913] [Sagamore Institute archives1
- Post-Star (Glens Falls, NY), November 3, 1975.
- Saturday Globe (Utica, NY), November 28, 1908.
- Schieppati, Frank J. / Archeotech, "Men's Camp and Adjoining Foundation," unpublished plan locating archaeological foundations for an unbuilt structure, October, 1986. [Sagamore Institute archives]
- Smith, Raymond W., and Richard C. Youngken, "Great Camps of the Adirondacks Thematic Resources," multiple resource nomination to the National Register of Historic Places prepared by NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, 1986.
- "State Buys Vanderbilts' Adirondack Camp, *The New York Times*, October 7, 1975.
- "Types of Woodland Camps." Town and Country. 63 (August 22, 1908), 12-13.
- Underwriters Association of NY State, L. Daw, engineer, "Property of Mrs. Alfred (Margaret) Vanderbilt, Sagamore Lodge, Sagamore Lake," print of insurance map, April, 1916 [Sagamore Institute archives].
- "Vanderbilt Camp Bought for State," The New York Times, November 9, 1975.

\_ University

### **SAGAMORE LODGE**

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

"Vanderbilt Family All but Hopeless," The New York Times, May 9, 1915.

"Vanderbilt Saved Woman," The New York Times, May 10, 1915.

"Vanderbilt Will Gives \$26,375,000," The New York Times, May 30, 1915.

| validations with Gives \$20,575,000, The iven fork times, May 50, 1915.         |
|---|
| Previous documentation on file (NPS):   |
| Preliminary Determination of Individual Listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested. |
| X Previously Listed in the National Register.                                   |
| Previously Determined Eligible by the National Register.                        |
| Designated a National Historic Landmark.  |
| Recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey: #                               |
| Recorded by Historic American Engineering Record: #                             |
| Primary Location of Additional Data:  |
| State Historic Preservation Office  |
| Other State Agency  |
| Federal Agency  |
| Local Government  |

X Other (Specify Repository): Sagamore Institute; Adirondack Museum, Blue Mountain Lake, NY

# United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

### 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of Property: 1,526 acres

| UTM References: |              | Zone | Easting | Northing |
|-----------------|--------------|------|---------|----------|
|                 | A            | 18   | 529046  | 4846360  |
|                 | В            | 18   | 529117  | 4847682  |
|                 | $\mathbf{C}$ | 18   | 529706  | 4848138  |
|                 | D            | 18   | 530982  | 4847857  |
|                 | E            | 18   | 532342  | 4846098  |
|                 | F            | 18   | 530405  | 4844601  |

#### Verbal Boundary Description:

The property is situated entirely within Township Number 5 of the Totten & Crossfield patent, incorporating all of lots 61, 64, 65, 69, and 72, the approximate southern halves of lots 60 and 74, the approximate western half of lot 56, the approximate southwestern quadrant of lot 57, and additional small subdivisions within lots 66, 67 and 68.

More specifically the boundary is that tract or parcel of land located in the Town of Long Lake (formerly Town of Arietta), County of Hamilton, State of New York, beginning on the Township line of Township Number Six (6) of the Totten and Crossfield Patent at Southwest corner of lot number Seventy-two (72); running thence North, Twenty-six (26) degrees and forty-five (45) minutes West on said Township line, One hundred and ten (110) chains, fiftytwo (52) links to a stake and stones standing on said Township line; thence North Sixty-three (63) degrees, fifteen (15) minutes East Forty-three (43) chains to stake and stones in lot Sixtyseven (67); thence North Sixty-three (63) degrees, fifteen minutes East Thirty-seven (37) chains to the easterly line of lot Sixty-six (66) to a stake and stones; thence South Twenty-six (26) degrees, forty-five (45) minutes East Forty-nine (49) chains, eighty-four (84) links to a stake and stones on Easterly line of lot Sixty-five (65); thence South Twenty-six (26) degrees, forty-five (45) minutes East One-hundred-and-ten (110) chains fifty-two links to stake and stones on southerly line of lot Fifty-six (56); thence South Sixty-three (63), fifteen (15) minutes West one-hundred-and-twenty-one (121) chains, sixty-six (66) links to the place of the beginning. Containing Fifteen-hundred and-twenty-six (1,526) acres, more or less. (Compass bearings of 1895).

#### Boundary Justification:

The boundaries are those of the original Sagamore Lodge as developed by W. W. Durant and described in the deed of Forest Park and Land Company to Alfred G. Vanderbilt, dated July 29, 1901 and recorded in Book 37 of Deeds, page 333, in the office of the Clerk of Hamilton County, New York.

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

# 11. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title: Wesley Haynes, Historic Preservation Consultant

Address: 349 Gilchrist Road

Argyle, NY 12809

Telephone: 518-854-9572

Date: July 30, 1999

Edited by: Carolyn Pitts and Patty Henry

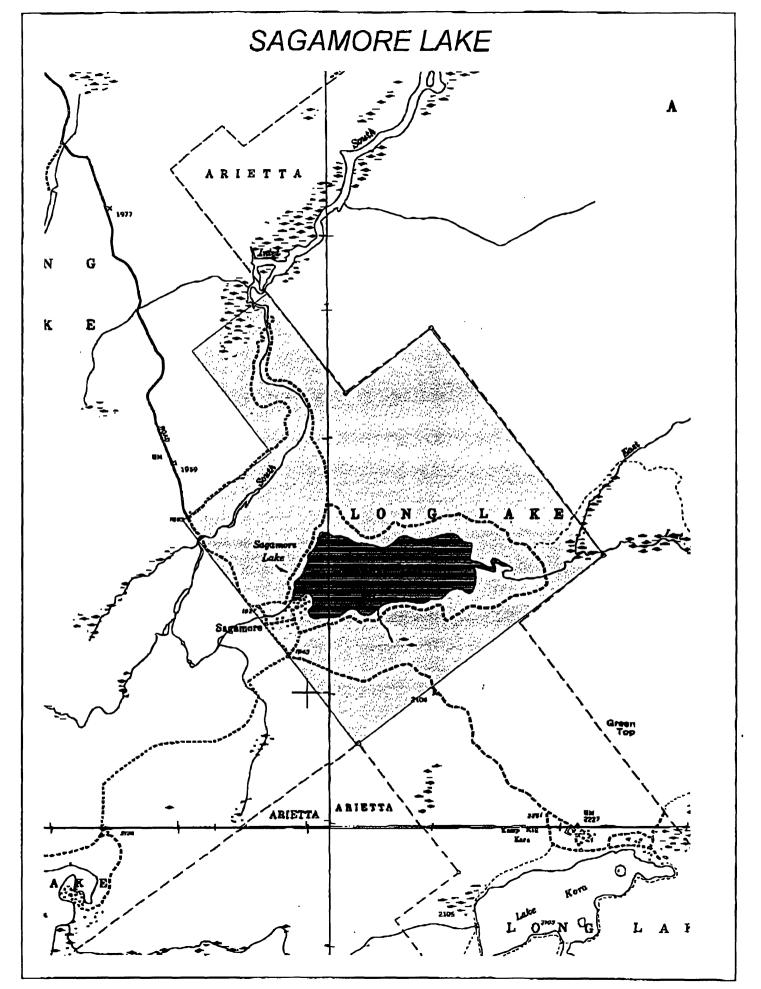
National Historic Landmarks Survey

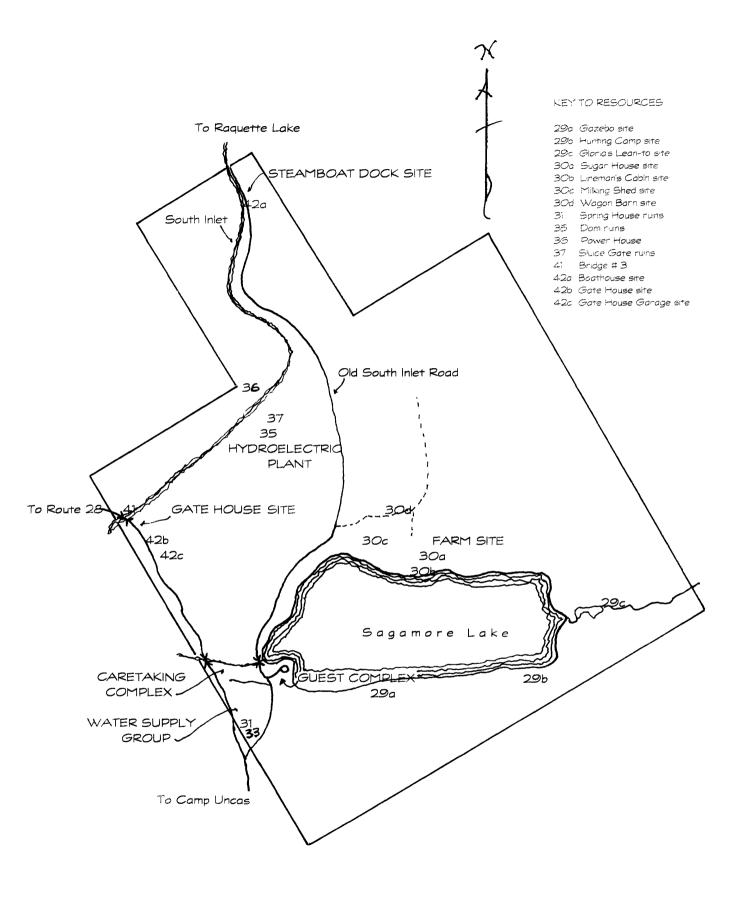
National Park Service

1849 C Street, NW (NC-400) Washington, DC 20240

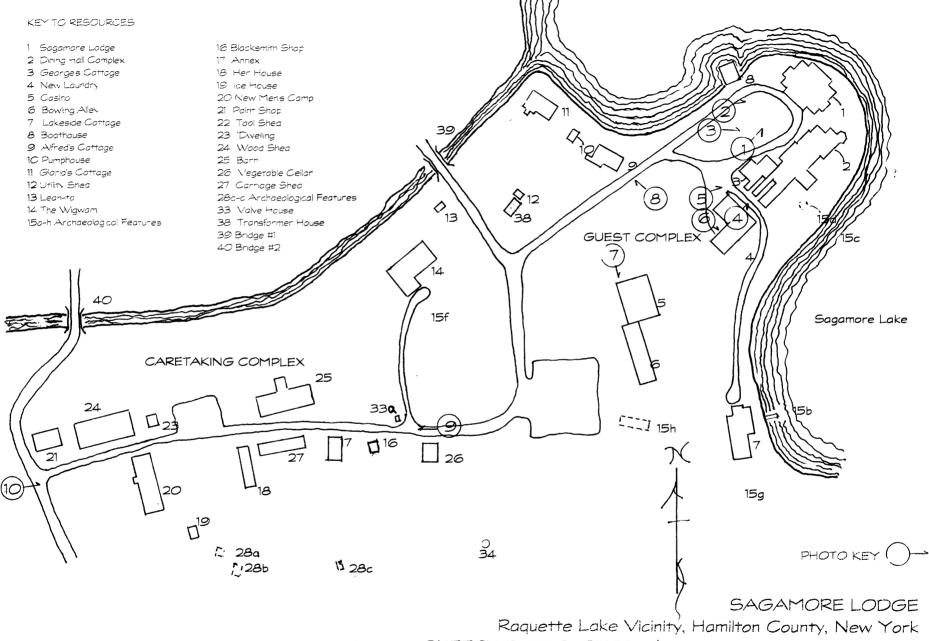
Telephone: (215) 597-8875 and (202) 343-8163

DESIGNATED A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK ON May 16, 2000





SAGAMORE LODGE Raquette Lake Vicinity, Hamilton County, New York SKETCH PLAN WITH OUTLYING RESOURCES W. Haynes, del. 1/2000



SKETCH PLANS: GUEST & CARETAKING COMPLEXES

Universal Transverse Macerator Zone 18 Datum NAD 1927 Units — Meters

