OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

Name of Property				
storic name	St. Croix I	Recreational Demor	stration Area	
her names/site number	St. Croix S	State Park CCC/WPA	Rustic Style	<u>Historic R</u> esourc
Location				
reet & numberClove	Mn. Hwy. 48	Crosby, Munch and		not for publication N/A
ty or townChen	gwatana Towr	nships	Hinckley	☑ vicinity
ateMinnesota	codeM	N county Pine	code115_ ;	zip code <u>550</u> 37
State/Federal Agency (Certification			
M meets ☐ does not me ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☐ Signature of certifying office	et the National Register Composally. (See Compo	ofessional requirements set forth in a criteria. I recommend that this prontinuation sheet for additional companion of the co	operty be considered signification (in the considered signification in the considered signific	
In my opinion, the property comments.)	y	ot meet the National Register criter	ia. (See continuation shee	t for additional
Signature of certifying office	cial/Title	Date		
State or Federal agency ar	nd bureau			
National Park Service	Certification			
nereby certify that the property from entered in the National R See continuation	Register.	Signature of the Keep	per	Date of Action //31/97
determined eligible for the National Register	е			
determined not eligible for National Register.				
removed from the Nation Register.	al	· .		
other, (explain:)				

t. Croix Recreational Demonstratio Name of Property		Pine Co County and	ounty, Minneso State	ota
5. Classification				
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) Category of Property (Check only one box)	N (C	umber of Res	sources within Properviously listed resources in	erty the count.)
☐ private ☐ building(s) ☐ public-local ☑ district	į.	ontributing		buildings
□ public-State □ public-Federal □ structure □ object	-		4	
				objects
		164	26	Total
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) Minnesota State Park		lumber of con the National	ntributing resources Register	previously listed
CCC/WPA/Rustic Style Historic Res	ources	0		•
6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		rent Functions r categories from		
LANDSCAPE/park	LAN	DSCAPE/pa	ark	
<u>·</u>				
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			Type which we display the property of the control o	
7. Description				
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		erials r categories from	instructions)	
Other: NPS Rustic Architecture	foun	dationSto	one	·
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Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Pine County, Minnesota County and State

8. Statement of Significance	
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
for National Register listing.)	Politics and Government
A Property is associated with events that have made	Social History
a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	Conservation
-	Architecture
□ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	Landscape Architecture
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and	Period of Significance
distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.	1934-1943
individual distinction.	1734 1743
□ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	www.
Criteria Considerations	Significant Dates
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	1936
Property is:	
☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	
☐ B removed from its original location.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
☐ C a birthplace or grave.	
□ D a cemetery.	Cultural Affiliation
\square E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	
☐ F a commemorative property.	
☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance	Architect/Builder
within the past 50 years.	National Park Service
	CCC and WPA
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets	.)
9. Major Bibliographical References	
Bibilography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on o	one or more continuation sheets.)
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:
 □ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested □ previously listed in the National Register □ previously determined eligible by the National Register □ designated a National Historic Landmark □ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey 	☐ State Historic Preservation Office ☐ Other State agency ☐ Federal agency ☐ Local government ☐ University ☐ Other Name of repository:
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	

Name of Property	County and State
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property33,074	
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)	
1	3 Zone Easting Northing 4 See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	
Boundary Justification () 19 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	6
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Rolf T. Anderson	
organization	date September 1, 1995
street & number 212 West 36th Street	telephone 612/824-7807
city or townMinneapolis	state MN zip code 55408
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	State
Continuation Sheets	34.44
Maps	
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the pro	
Photographs	
Representative black and white photographs of the pro	perty.
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)	
Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)	
name	
street & number	telephone
city or town	_ state zip code
Banamusek Badustian Ast Statement: This information is being collected for a	unnications to the National Degister of Listeria Places to neminate

Pine County, Minnesota

St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area

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

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

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				St.	Croix	Recreational	Demonstr	ation	Area
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Description

The St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area is located in Pine County in east central Minnesota, off State Highway 48, and strategically positioned between the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul and Duluth, the state's principal metropolitan areas of the period. The park consists of an historic district encompassing over 30,000 acres, characterized by two contiguous, triangular-shaped tracts of land bordering the St. Croix River, which separates Minnesota and Wisconsin.

The St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area includes five areas of concentrated development; the Park Headquarters which includes the Contact Station, a residential complex for park staff, and the service yard; the Riverview Campground which also serves as the Public Use Area; and the park's three group camps, St. John's Landing, Norway Point, and Head of the Rapids. Each of the developed areas is positioned on or near the St. Croix River, but all are located at least several miles apart, resulting in a decentralized design providing sufficient separation from the various use areas and also taking full advantage of the site's scenic and recreational opportunities. Located inland and to the north of the developed areas is the park's extensive circulation system, consisting of nearly thirty miles of roads. Additional resources are scattered throughout the historic district and include a scenic overlook, a fire tower, several bridges, a manmade lake, a fish-rearing pond, and a number of Adirondack shelters. One hundred sixty-four contributing resources, which were designed in the Rustic Style, are included in the district. Building materials include sandstone, quarried at nearby Sandstone, Minnesota, and local white pine.

Now known as St. Croix State Park, the site was one of forty-six Recreational Demonstration Areas in the United States whose purpose was to retire submarginal agricultural land and develop the lands for recreational use. A number of New Deal agencies were involved in the development, with the National Park Service providing the overall technical supervision and the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration providing the manpower for the extensive development.

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For purposes of organizing the descriptive portion of the nomination, resources are listed based on their geographic location within the park beginning with the park entrance, continuing to the Headquarters and Public Use Area, moving to the north to St. John's Landing Group Camp, and then extending to the south and west to Norway Point and Head of the Rapids Group Camps. In order to distinguish between resources which are not directly associated with a collection of buildings from the five areas of concentrated development, separate headings are used to identify either a single resource or a developed area. Department of Natural Resources building identification numbers are placed after the name of each building.

Entrance Portals

1. Structure: Entrance Portals Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1938

Two identical stone portals flank the entrance road to St. Croix State Park. Each portal consists of a 28'6" long wall constructed with battered sandstone. The wall is divided into three distinct sections with those sections adjacent to the road standing 6' high while each successive section is reduced in height and stepped back. Lettering stating "St. Croix Area" was attached to the stonework although this has been replaced with the words "St. Croix State Park." An original drawing of the portals specified that the "smooth appearance of the cut stone be modified by chipping edges, corners, and faces; the length of all stones should exceed height by one third," and there should be a "1 inch batter per each vertical foot."

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Park Headquarters

The Park Headquarters includes the Contact Station, a residential complex, the service yard, and a CCC camp site. Eleven buildings, one structure, and one site are included as well as three non-contributing buildings. The Headquarters serves as the park's principal control point with roads branching out to the Public Use Area and the Group Camps. Service buildings are organized around a rectangular courtyard while buildings in the residential complex are positioned immediately to the south along a circular roadway. The developed area extends from the Contact Station to an area along the St. Croix River known as the Yellowbanks.

2. Building: <u>Contact Station</u> 3-288 Builder: CCC
Architect: Edward W. Barber Date: 1937 & 1940-41

The Contact Station was first constructed in about 1937 and consisted of an 18' x 22' structure containing a small office, porch, and a vault placed at the back of the building. In 1940-41, a 61'4" x 23' addition was constructed which resulted in a T-shaped design and included a large office area, lobby, and rest rooms. The building is constructed with native sandstone laid random ashlar although the section of the Contact Station containing the office is faced with stone to the sill level with board and batten siding above. The building is covered with an intersecting gable roof. Original windows were four, six, eight and ten light casements although all have been replaced. A massive split log bench is located on the porch.

3. Building: <u>Superintendent's Cabin</u> 3-274 Builder: CCC & WPA Architect: E.T. Walley Date: 1937-38

The Superintendent's Cabin is an L-shaped gable roofed structure with overall dimensions of $41'9" \times 46'11"$. The living room and dining room are located in the short section of the building

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while the kitchen and bedroom wing occupy the adjoining space. The exterior walls of the entrance and living room are constructed with native sandstone while the remaining walls are sheathed with board and batten siding. All window openings are casements except for those on the rear facade which are double hung sash.

The living room features finely crafted detailing including an open beamed ceiling, a stone fireplace flanked by windows with wooden grills, and a corner alcove with built-in seats. Horizontal boards infill the gable area above the fireplace.

In 1965 the bedroom wing was extended as a result of an 8' addition along the east facade.

4. Building: <u>Custodian's Garage</u> 3-275 Builder: WPA Architect: Edward W. Barber Date: 1938

The Custodian's Garage is a 25'6" x 24'8" frame structure resting on a stone faced foundation. The building is sheathed with rough board and batten siding with horizontal siding used to infill the gable areas. The garage features nine light casements, a plank door with strap hinges, and a gable roof. The original rough board garage doors have been replaced.

5. Building: Employee's Family Residence Builder: WPA Architect: V.C. Martin 2-276 & 277 Date: 1938

Two identical houses were constructed adjacent to one another in the residential complex. The residences are 38'6" x 24' rectangular structures with board and batten siding and intersecting gable roofs. Each house contains a living room, dining room, one bedroom, and a bath. Window openings are double hung sash. In 1965 the bedroom wings were extended as a result of 16' x 13' addition. Initial designs specified a stone fireplace and a stone faced entry for at least one of the houses, although these details were never executed.

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6. Building: <u>Garage</u> 3-278 Builder: CCC Architect: Dept. of the Army Date: 1940

This four stall vehicle garage is one of two buildings which survive from CCC camp NP-1 which was located at the site of the present day All Seasons Trail Center. The garage is a long rectangular building which is sheathed with board and batten siding and covered by a gable roof. Four nine light casements are placed along each of the sidewalls. The building was moved from the CCC camp site to the Headquarters Area in the 1960s.

7. Building: Residence 3-279 Builder: CCC Architect: Dept. of the Army Date: 1940

This building is second of two structures which survive from CCC camp NP-1. The building was moved to the Headquarters Area and is used as a residence. The building was originally a 31' x 20'6" rectangular structure with a gable roof and board and batten siding. In 1962 a 15' x 22'6" addition was made to the rear. The entrances are covered with gable roofs supported by brackets and all window openings are double hung sash.

8. Building: <u>Garage</u> 3-280 Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1960s

This two stall vehicle Garage is a rectangular structure sheathed with board and batten siding and covered by a gable roof. It is believed the garage was constructed from a building located at CCC camp NP-1. However, due to alterations, and because the building does not retain sufficient integrity to reflect a building associated with the camp, it is considered non-contributing.

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9. Structure: <u>Water Tower</u> 3-273 Builder: WPA Architect: Edward W. Barber Date: 1939

The Water Tower is a 40' high structure constructed in a block house style. The structure consists of a lower section built with native sandstone, an intermediary section sheathed with 1" x 12" rough horizontal siding, and a projecting tower with 1" x 10" rough vertical boards with 1" x 2" battens. This outer structure conceals the water tank which rests on a platform supported by 10" x 10" cross braced posts 17' high.

The tower is 17'8" square at the base with a one story pump house with a shed roof built to one side. The entry door is built with rough planks and is sheltered by a canopy supported by timber brackets resting on stone corbels. Each of the four sides of the tower is battered one full foot from the ground level to the base of the tower. Louvered openings for ventilation are placed under the eaves of the hip roof.

10. Building: <u>Ice and Wood House</u> 3-282 Builder: WPA Architect: V.C. Martin Date: 1939

The Ice and Wood House is a 1,900 square foot T-shaped structure covered with an intersecting gable roof. The 43'6" x 28'6" Ice House is constructed with native sandstone with four stone piers with stone caps located along the side walls. The adjoining 20' x 32'6" Wood Shed is constructed on a low stone base followed by 1" x 10" rough horizontal boards. The Wood Shed originally featured a dirt floor and a 17' wide open entry while the Ice House contained a sand and gravel floor and entrance doors 14'3" high built with diagonal planks.

11. Building: <u>Lumber Storage Bldg</u> 3-297 Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1974

Described as a Lumber Storage Building, this 74' x 30' frame structure includes a 6 stall vehicle garage. Because the building was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

NPS Form 10900-a (8-86)

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12. Building: <u>Warehouse</u> 3-283 Builder: CCC Architect: H.M. Davidson Date: 1942

The Warehouse building is a 77' x 34' rectangular structure built with native sandstone. The building is covered by an uneven gable roof which drops to just 6'6" above the floor level at the rear of the building. An eight foot wide, 4' high, loading dock with steps placed at each end runs the entire length of the building. The dock is sheltered by a canopy supported by timber brackets resting on stone corbels. Window openings are nine or twelve light casements.

Load capacity of the building varies from 175-200 pounds per square inch. In 1942, the estimated cost of the building was \$7,914.00. The Warehouse has been covered with a new cedar shingle roof.

13. Building: Shop Building 3-281 Builder: CCC Architect: Edward W. Barber Date: 1940

The Shop Building is a T-shaped structure constructed with local sandstone laid random ashlar which is covered with an intersecting gable roof. The overall dimensions of the building are 63'6" x 38'6". The building contains garage space for three vehicles, a shop area, a large work bench, a stock room, a heater, a fuel room with a coal chute, and a toilet. A blacksmith's forge is also included. All window openings are six light casements and the gable areas are infilled with horizontal siding.

In 1962 a 29' x 8'9" addition to the rear of the building was constructed utilizing 1" x 12" clapboard siding. The original garage doors have been replaced.

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14. Building: Oil and Paint Bldg 3-284 Builder: CCC Architect: Edward W. Barber Date: 1942

The Oil and Paint Storage Building is a 21' x 14'6" rectangular structure constructed with native sandstone. The building is divided into two separate sections each with an entrance door. Window openings are three over three light casements and both gables are infilled with horizontal siding. The building has been covered with a new cedar shingle roof.

15. Building: Shop/Garage Builder: Unknown Architect: DNR Date: 1987

The Shop/Garage is a large, rectangular metal-clad building covered with a low pitch gable roof with overall dimensions of 41' by 180'. It includes a 42' by 72' heated storage and shop area. Because the building was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

16. Site: CCC Camp Site Builder: CCC Architect: Dept. of the Army Date: 1934

A large clearing along the St. Croix River in an area known as the Yellowbanks marks the location of CCC Camp SP-6. The site retains integrity of setting and the space evokes the dimensions and character of the camp. A fieldstone fireplace from the camp's Recreation Hall and a flagstone walkway, approximately 50' long, are the only known surviving structures and remain defining elements for the camp. The camp originally contained 37 buildings and was built on a site which had been occupied by an Indian village as late as 1915. No archaeological survey was conducted at the site.

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Riverview Campground

The Riverview Camparound is located along the banks of the St. Croix River, northeast of the Park Headquarters, and constitutes the principal Public Use Area of the park. It includes six buildings and five structures. A visitor first arrives at the St. Croix Lodge with the campground positioned to the north followed by several rental units. Shelter and service buildings are sited in an asymmetrical manner throughout the area. rental units were constructed with plans to build at least another 20. However, the CCC program came to an end before these plans could be realized. Alterations to the Riverview Campground include the removal of one two-unit cabin and two single cabins. Two additional campground areas, known as the Paint Rock Spring and Old Logging Trail Campgrounds, were also constructed to the west of the original development in the modern era and incorporated a portion of the historic picnic ground. As a result, four non-contributing buildings and one non-contributing structure have been introduced to area, although all are essentially located to the west of the historic development and do not impact its integrity.

17. Building: St. Croix Lodge 3-264 Builder: CCC/WPA Architect: V.C. Martin & Edward W. Barber Date: 1937-38

The St. Croix Lodge is a large 106' long rectangular building located on a high bluff above the St. Croix River. The building contains a centrally located shelter area which is flanked by rest rooms in one wing and a concession and storage area in the other. The building is constructed with local sandstone although the flanking wings are built with stone to the sill level and 10" log construction with saddle-notched corners above. All window openings are six or eight light casements separated by log mullions. The lodge is covered with a gable roof.

Four battered stone piers are placed along the principal facades of the shelter. Paired log brackets rest on each pier and support an entrance canopy. The interior of the shelter contains

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a massive sandstone fireplace, an exposed log truss system, and several massive rustic style tables and benches built with logs, split logs, and slab seats and table tops. The building was originally stained with "pitcairn weathered gray penetrating stain."

A 33'2" x 21' flagstone terrace defined by a low stone wall was constructed along the south side of the building adjacent to the concession. However, in 1964 a 31'2" x 19'8" addition was made along the south elevation to provide a public lounge and a larger concession and souvenir area. Existing stonework from the terrace was incorporated in this addition which consisted of frame walls with vertical siding resting on a low stone base. The space is now used for interpretive purposes and has again been expanded.

18. Structure: Stone Curb Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1938

A parking area adjacent to St. Croix Lodge is defined by a low Stone Curb. The parking area is approximately 80' long.

19. Structure: <u>Drinking Fountain</u> Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1938

A Drinking Fountain is located adjacent to St. Croix Lodge. The fountain is constructed with native sandstone and rests on a base of stone flagging. The fountain is 2'6" square at the base and rises to a height of 3' with a slight batter. Two steps are placed along one side so that children might reach the bubbler.

20. Structure: <u>Water Tower</u> 3-299 Builder: CCC Architect: Edward W. Barber Date: 1936

The Water Tower is 12'6" square at the base and rises to a height of 23'4". The lower section consists of a combination of split

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fieldstone and sandstone, 7'8" high, while the upper section is constructed with log palisades, 10'8" high. The tower is covered with a hip roof supported by 6" log rafters. Louvered openings placed under the eaves provide ventilation for the tower. The entrance door is built with rough boards.

A one story pump house is constructed at the side of the tower and is covered by a gable roof.

21. Building: <u>Pump House</u> 3-296 Builder: WPA Architect: Edward W. Barber Date: 1938

The Pump House is a small rectangular, 13'6" x 11'6" building constructed with local sandstone. The one story building features a gable roof supported by log rafters, four light casement windows, and a plank entrance door built with rough boards.

22. Building: <u>Combination Building</u> 3-266 Builder: CCC Architect: Edward W. Barber Date: 1937

The Riverview Combination Building is a large 72' x 23'2" rectangular building containing rest rooms, showers, a laundry, a kitchen, and a utility room. The building is divided into five distinct sections defined by building materials or variations in the gable roof. Flanking sections of the building are constructed with 10" peeled logs with saddle-notched corners while the central divisions are built with local sandstone. The entire building rests on a stone faced concrete foundation.

The building features a recessed entrance flanked by 12" log posts, casement windows with log mullions, 6"-8" rafters, and 10"-12" purlins. Window openings in the showers and rest rooms are six light casements while those in the kitchen are nine light. The kitchen shelter once contained built in cast iron cook stoves as well as sinks and counters.

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23. Building: <u>Four Unit Multiple Cabin</u> Builder: CCC Architect: Edward W. Barber 3-268 Date: 1940

The Four Unit Cabin is a 74'4" x 23'4" T-shaped structure resting on a poured concrete foundation. Each of the four identical units contains one large room, a small kitchen, and a bath. The building is sheathed with 1" x 10" rough horizontal siding to the sill level and board and batten siding above. Bands of four or six light casement windows are arranged along the facades. The cabin is covered with a hip roof.

24. Building: <u>Two Unit Cabin</u> 3-267 Builder: CCC
Architect: Edward W. Barber Date: 1940-41

The Two Unit Cabin is a 42'6" x 14'5" rectangular building covered by a hip roof. The building rests on a poured concrete foundation and is sheathed with 1" x 10" rough horizontal boards to the sill level and board and batten siding above. Each unit contains one large room, a small kitchen, and a bath. Four or six light casements are arranged along the facades.

25. Building: <u>Caretaker's Cabin</u> 3-270 Builder: CCC
Architect: Edward W. Barber Date: 1940-41

The Caretaker's Cabin is a 23' x 14' rectangular structure resting on a poured concrete foundation. The building features a recessed entrance, 1" x 10" rough vertical board siding with 1" x 2" battens, and a hip roof. Window openings are four or six light casements. The cabin contains one large room, a small kitchen, and a bath.

26. Structure: <u>Campsites</u> Builder: CCC
Architect: National Park Service Date: c1937

The Campsites are located to the southwest of the Combination Building along three gravel roads running nearly parallel to one NPS Form 10900-a (8-86)

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another, roughly 100 feet apart. Further access was provided by additional roadways linking the three roads at intervals. In the modern era the linking roads were eliminated and spurs for the individual campsites appear to have been more clearly defined; however, the overall design and configuration of the campsites remains intact.

27. Structure: Retaining Wall Builder: CCC
Architect: National Park Service Date: c1940

Located along the St. Croix River, the Retaining Wall is a stone structure approximately 40 feet long which terminates in a curve at its eastern extremity. The wall is built with stepped limestone and is about five feet tall at its highest point. The top two courses were added in 1969 during a landscaping project in order for the wall to retain more earth. Immediately to the west is a wooden boat ramp built in the modern era and which appears to rest on the stone footings of the original ramp and dock built during the historic period.

28. Building: <u>Campground Registration Bldg</u> Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1967

Located on the median of the main entrance road, the Campground Registration Building is a one-story, T-shaped building covered with a cross-gable roof. The building features clapboard siding to the sill level with board and batten siding above. This building was originally constructed during the historic period as the watchman's cabin at the Firetower. However, because the building was moved to its present location and remodelled and expanded in 1967, it is considered non-contributing.

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29. Building: <u>Campground Store</u> Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1985

The Campground Store is a rectangular building constructed with textured concrete block. The building is covered with a cross gable roof which projects over the main entrance. Because the building was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

30. Structure: <u>Wood Shed</u> Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1965

Located adjacent to the Campground Store, the Wood Shed is a octagonal structure built with staggered timber which is covered with a hipped roof. Because the structure was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

31. Building: <u>Sanitation Building</u> Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1967

Located in the Paint Rock Spring Campground, the Sanitation Building is a rectangular building constructed with concrete block which is covered with a gable roof. The roof was replaced in 1990. Because the building was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

32. Building: <u>Sanitation Building</u> Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1973

Located in the Old Logging Trail Campground, the Sanitation Building is a rectangular building constructed with concrete block which is covered with a gable roof. Because the building was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing

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St. John's Landing Group Camp

Named for a logger who had lived at the site, St. John's Landing Group Camp is located six miles northeast of the Park Headquarters and includes forty-five buildings, one structure, and three objects associated with the first of three organized group camps to be built in the park. Two non-contributing buildings are also included. As described in the Multiple Property Documentation Form under the context of Landscape Architecture, the group camp features a decentralized design considered a major achievement of the landscape architects of the National Park Service and includes four independent cabin colonies, known as units, which were organized around a central administrative core. Each unit contains a lodge, six cabins, a latrine, and counselor's quarters. The administrative core consists of a mess hall, office, infirmary, craft shop, staff and help's quarters, a shop and warehouse building, and wash house. A complex network of paths links the various components of the This is the only group camp in the park where a number of the cabins directly overlook the St. Croix River. The group camp was built in order to provide a healthy outdoor experience for children from urban families on relief. The camp opened on August 3, 1936 and was operated through a cooperative effort between the State Emergency Relief Administration and the Recreation Division of the Works Progress Administration. as the Girl's Camp, the first campers were young girls from ages nine to fourteen who came to the camp from metropolitan areas.

33. Building: Administration Bldg 3-178 Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1936

The Administration Building is a 28' x 14'8" rectangular structure built with peeled logs with saddle-notched corners. The gable roofed building was designed to include a director's office, clerk's office, and a canteen. The recessed entrance porch features log posts and brackets and the canteen service counter originally opened directly to the exterior along this facade. All window openings are six over six double hung sash.

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34. Building: <u>Director's Cabin</u> 3-175 Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1936

The Director's Cabin is a T-shaped structure sheathed with board and batten siding and covered by a gable roof. A central entrance on the north end wall is flanked by paired eight light casements while the remaining windows are similar casements or small openings placed beneath the eaves. The interior contains a living room with a stone fireplace and two bedrooms.

35. Building: Mess Hall 3-173 Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1936

The Mess Hall is a T-shaped building consisting of a 68'2" x 25'4" dining room joined by a 24' x 42'4" kitchen wing. The building is sheathed with board and batten siding and is covered by a hip roof. Fenestration includes continuous bands of casement windows. A central entrance capped by a gable roof projects from the principal facade.

The kitchen is particularly well-zoned with several functional work areas and an efficient circulation system. A sandstone chimney is located along the east facade of the kitchen wing and a cold storage cellar with poured concrete walls is located at the rear of the building. A fireplace appears to have been designed for the dining room but was never executed.

36. Structure: <u>Drinking Fountains</u> Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1936

Three Drinking Fountains are located at St. John's Landing Group Camp. They are located adjacent to the Administration Building, the Mess Hall, and the Recreation Field. The fountains are constructed with native sandstone and rest on a circular base of stone flagging. The structures are 1'10" square at the base and rise to a height of 3' with a slight batter resulting in dimensions at the top of the fountain which are 1'6" square.

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37. Building: <u>Infirmary</u> 3-177 Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1936

The Infirmary is a rectangular frame structure resting on a concrete foundation with screened openings for ventilation. The building is sheathed with rough board and batten siding and is covered with a gable roof. The building may be entered from both the north end wall or the east side wall. Window openings are eight over eight or six over six double hung sash.

38. Building: <u>Garage and Shop</u> 3-174 Builder: CCC Architect: National Park Service Date: 1940

The Garage and Shop is a 24' x 34' rectangular building sheathed with board and batten siding and covered with a gable roof. The building includes a two stall vehicle garage, a shop, toilet, and area for coal storage. A third stall has been added to the north elevation and the original garage doors have been replaced.

39. Building: <u>Help's Quarters</u> 3-176 Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1936

The Help's Quarters is a rectangular frame structure resting on a concrete foundation. The building is sheathed with rough board and batten siding and is covered with a gable roof. A central entrance is located on the south side wall and large screened openings line the remaining wall areas. The window openings may be closed with wooden shutters which hinge at the top.

40. Building: Shed Builder: Unknown Architect: Unknown Date: 1950s

A small frame shed is located across the service yard from the garage. The building is sheathed with horizontal shiplap siding and is covered with a gable roof. Because the building was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

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41. Building: <u>Male Employee's Quarters</u> Builder: WPA Architect: E.T. Walley 3-357 Date: 1937

The Male Employee's Quarters consists of a 20' x 12' rectangular frame structure resting on a concrete foundation. The building is sheathed with board and batten siding and is covered with a gable roof. The entrance is located on the north end wall and is flanked by eight light casement windows. Paired casements are located along both sidewalls and two windows are placed on the south end wall. The interior consists of a living room, bedroom, and two closets.

42. Building: <u>Pump House</u> 3-207 Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1936

The Pump House is a 14' square building sheathed with board and batten siding and covered by a hip roof. The Pump House was constructed at the base of a water tower which featured an exposed tank supported by a braced structure composed of 10" x 10" timbers. The structure was dismantled in 1969 and the tower legs were sawn off just above the roof line.

43. Building: <u>Sanitation Bldg</u> 3-179 Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1981

The Sanitation Building is a 32' x 28'8" gable roofed structure sheathed with 1/2" rough fir plywood with battens. This non-contributing building replaced the original Central Wash House located at this site.

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44. Building: <u>Craft Building</u> 3-180 Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1936

The Craft Building features a standard design consisting of a 18'4" x 29'2" rectangular structure covered by a gable roof. The building is sheathed with horizontal siding to the sill level and board and batten siding above. Double doors flanked by nine light casement windows form the entrance on the east end wall. A continuous band of seven casements is placed along each side wall. The interior features built-in work tables along the exterior walls.

45. Building: <u>Unit Lodges</u> 3-197,198,208,294 Date: 1936 Architect: National Park Service Builder: WPA

Four Unit Lodges are located at the St. John's Landing Group Camp, one at each of the four cabin clusters. The lodges are rectangular buildings constructed with peeled, milled logs with saddle-notched corners resting on concrete foundations. The buildings are covered with gable roofs supported by a log truss system. The principal facade features a central entrance flanked by pairs of six over six light double hung sash while the opposite side wall contains three pairs of window openings. The interior contains a single room with a massive sandstone fireplace located on an end wall and also includes built in benches.

46. Building: <u>Unit Cabins</u> Builder: WPA 3-182-186, 188, 3-189-194, 3-201-206, 3-210-215

Architect: National Park Service Date: 1936

Twenty-four identical Unit Cabins are located at St. John's Landing Group Camp, six in each of the four cabin clusters. The cabins are 18'8" x 12' rectangular frame structures resting on concrete foundations. The cabins are sheathed with rough board and batten siding and are covered with gable roofs with projecting lookouts. A centrally positioned entrance is located

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on an end wall while each of the four facades contains large screened openings which may be closed with wooden shutters which hinge at the top. Each cabin originally contained four cots, spaced at recommended distances, and four small closets. The cots have been replaced by bunk beds.

47. Building: Counselor's Cabins Builder: WPA

3-187, 195, 200, 216

Architect: National Park Service Date: 1936

Four Counselor's Cabins were constructed at St. John's Landing, one at each of the four cabin colonies. The cabins are 18'8" x 12' rectangular frame structures resting on concrete foundations. The cabins are sheathed with rough board and batten siding and are covered with gable roofs with projecting lookouts. The Counselor's Cabins are identical to the campers' cabins, however, the entrance door is shifted from an end wall to a central position on a side wall. The entry is also protected by a projecting shed roof canopy. Large screened openings are placed on all four facades and may be closed with wooden shutters which hinge at the top.

48. Building: <u>Unit Latrines</u> Builder: WPA

3-181, 196, 199, 209

Architect: National Park Service Date: 1936

Four identical Unit Latrines were built at St. John's Landing, one for each of the four cabin clusters. The buildings are 21' x 8'8" rectangular structures with a combination of enclosed toilet stalls and an open wash porch. The entire building is covered by a gable roof with projecting lookouts which is supported by squared posts. The enclosed section is 8'9" square and is sheathed with rough board and batten siding and contains one casement window. The wash porch is 12'3" x 8'9" and originally contained a trough lavatory resting on concrete supports. Each open wash porch has been infilled with concrete block and frame walls although the original structural members remain exposed.

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49. Structure: Recreation Field Date: 1936
Architect: National Park Service Builder: WPA/CCC

Located along the banks of the St. Croix River, the Recreation Field is a large clearing encompassing about two acres. The field was used by the campers for various athletic and recreational games. The CCC were involved in surveying and clearing the land.

Crooked Creek Pool

50. Structure: <u>Crooked Creek Pool</u> Builder: CCC
Architect: National Park Service Date: c1940

The Crooked Creek Pool is located approximately one mile north of St. John's Landing Group Camp and was intended to provide swimming facilities for the campers. The pool is a 130' long oval shaped excavation which is 9' deep at the lowest point. Crooked Creek was diverted to fill the pool. Although the pool is no longer in use, it continues to retain water. A landscape scheme dated November 5, 1940 called for the following trees and shrubs to be planted in the Crooked Creek area:

Shrubs: Dogwood, Willow, Sumac, Blueberry, Cranberry,

Juneberry, and Rose.

Trees: Elm, Birch, Spruce, Norway Pine, Fir, and Maple.

The design also specified that the shrubs and trees should be collected from the surrounding area and that a natural blending should be maintained.

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Adirondack Shelters

51. Building: <u>Adirondack Shelters</u> 3-301-302 Date: 1936 Architect: National Park Service Builder: WPA

Two Adirondack Shelters are located at a campsite approximately two miles north of St. John's Landing Group Camp which were built for campers on overnight excursions. The shelters are 32'6" x 9'8" rectangular structures resting on stone faced foundations. They are constructed with 8" square posts covered with rough 10" board siding. Six timber brackets support a 4' overhang along the principal facades while the roof slopes gently to the rear of the structures. Both the side and rear walls are enclosed while the main elevation is screened. Each shelter could accommodate 12 bunks.

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All Seasons Trail Center

The All Seasons Trail Center was built in the modern era on the site of the Fleming CCC Camp NP-1 for equestrians and other large groups. New construction has obscured the integrity of design, feeling, and setting. There are no apparent surviving remnants from the camp although no archaeological survey was conducted to identify any below ground resources.

52. Building: <u>All Seasons Trail Shelter</u> 3-293 Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: c1975

The All Seasons Trail Shelter is built with one duplex cabin and two single cabins which were removed from the Riverview Campground. New construction connects the buildings. Although the Trail Shelter is built with three buildings which were contributing properties, because they were removed from their original location and because of modifications resulting from the new construction, the All Seasons Trail Shelter is considered non-contributing.

53. Building: <u>Pump House</u> 3-295 Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1975

The Pump House is a small frame building covered with a gable roof. Because the building was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing

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Norway Point Group Camp

Located about two miles southwest of the Park Headquarters, the Norway Point Group Camp contains forty-five buildings and three structures associated with the second of three organized group camps built in the park. Four non-contributing buildings are also included. Norway Point Group Camp first opened in the summer of 1938 and was considered the Boy's Camp. The landscape design for Norway Point is very similar to the design for St. John's Landing and features a decentralized layout with four independent cabin colonies, known as units, which were organized around a central administrative core and linked by a series of foot paths. Each unit contains a lodge, six cabins, a latrine, and counselor's quarters. However, each unit lodge was expanded to include a kitchen shelter and thus each cabin colony was able to achieve greater independence than was possible at St. John's. The administrative core includes an office, infirmary, staff quarters, help's quarters, mess hall, craft building, service building, and originally contained a central wash house. Norway Point Group Camp reflects the prototypical group camp design developed by the National Park Service. Many of the camp buildings were designed by E.T. Walley of the Park Service.

54. Building: Administration Building 3-221 Date: 1937
Architect: E.T. Walley Builder: WPA

The Administration Building is a rectangular frame structure, 26'4" x 14'4", resting on a poured concrete foundation. The building is covered with 1" x 12" horizontal siding to the sill level and 1" x 8" vertical boards with 1" x 2" battens placed above. The building features a recessed entrance and is covered by a gable roof. All window openings are six light casements. The interior contains an office and a canteen with finely detailed cabinet work. A service counter along the south facade consists of an unglazed screened opening with protective wooden shutters which is capped by an uneven gable roof.

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55. Building: <u>Staff Quarters</u> 3-220 Builder: WPA Architect: E.T. Walley Date: 1937

The Staff Quarters is a 39'2" x 24' rectangular structure containing a living room, four sleeping rooms, and a bath. The rooms are organized around a 33' long recessed entrance porch paved with stone flagging and covered by a protective overhang supported by 10" square posts. The exterior walls of the living room are covered with board and batten siding while the remaining walls are covered with horizontal siding to the sill level and board and batten siding above. The Staff Quarters building is covered with an intersecting gable roof with all gable areas infilled with horizontal siding. All window openings are four, six, or eight light casements. The interior of the living room features an open beamed ceiling, pine boarding, and a sandstone fireplace.

56. Building: <u>Infirmary</u> 3-219 Builder: WPA Architect: E.T. Walley Date: 1937

The Infirmary is a T-shaped structure covered with board and batten siding and capped by an intersecting gable roof. The overall dimensions of the Infirmary are 47' x 19'. The building features eight light casement windows and horizontal siding in the gables. A covered entrance porch along the south facade is supported by three 10" square posts. The building contains a ward, dispensary, isolation room, nurse's quarters, bath, and utility room.

57. Building: Mess Hall 3-217 Builder: WPA Architect: E.T. Walley Date: 1937

The Mess Hall consists of a T-shaped gable roofed building containing a 68'2" x 25'4" dining hall and a 24' x 42'4" extension for the kitchen. The building features board and batten siding and continuous bands of six or nine light casements. A central entrance is covered by a gable roof

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supported by squared 10" posts. Two massive sandstone fireplaces are located on each end wall of the dining room while a masonry chimney is placed along the east wall of the kitchen. The fireplaces feature segmentally arched openings and wooden mantels. The kitchen is well zoned with several work areas and also includes a small cold storage cellar with poured concrete walls. The Mess Hall contains original tables and benches.

58. Structure: <u>Drinking Fountains</u> Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1937

Two Drinking Fountains are located at the Norway Point Group Camp, one next to the entrance to the Mess Hall and the other adjacent to the Recreation Field. The fountains are 3' high and are constructed with native sandstone which rests on a base of stone flagging. The stonework is 1'10" square at the base and tapers to 1'6" at the top. Two steps are placed at one side.

59. Building: <u>Help's Quarters</u> 3-260 Builder: WPA Architect: E.T. Walley Date: 1937

This building is one of two constructed for Help's Quarters at the camp and is located to the northwest of the Mess Hall. The 30' x 14' rectangular frame structure is covered with horizontal siding to the sill level and board and batten siding above. Horizontal siding is also employed in the gables. The Help's Quarters is covered by an intersecting gable roof which extends to include a projecting central entrance. Window openings are eight light casements. The interior is divided into a central living room flanked by a bedroom to each side.

60. Building: <u>Help's Quarters</u> 3-261 Builder: WPA Architect: E.T. Walley Date: 1937

The Help's Quarters is located to the southwest of the Mess Hall and consists of a 30' x 14' rectangular frame structure with horizontal siding to the sill level and board and batten siding

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above. Horizontal siding is also used in the gables. The Help's Quarters is covered by an intersecting gable roof which extends to include a projecting central entrance. Window openings are eight light casements. The interior consists of a single room.

61. Building: <u>Warehouse</u> 3-218 Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1937

The Warehouse is a 23' x 34' rectangular structure sheathed with board and batten siding and covered by a gable roof. The building contains a two vehicle garage and a shop/storage area. The garage doors have been replaced and a third stall has been added along the east facade.

62. Building: <u>Sanitation Building</u> 3-259 Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1980

The Sanitation Building is a 32' x 28'8" gable roofed structure sheathed with 1/2" rough fir plywood with battens. The building replaced an original Central Wash House which had been located just southwest of this building. Because the Sanitation Building was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

63. Building: <u>Craft Building</u> 3-258 Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1937

The Craft Building is a rectangular gable roofed structure resting on a concrete foundation. The walls are sheathed with horizontal siding to the sill level with board and batten siding above. North facing double doors flanked by paired casement windows form the entrance. Continuous bands of seven paired casements are placed on each side wall. The interior features built in counters along the exterior walls and a central work station.

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64. Building: <u>Pump House</u> 3-353 Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1937

The Pump House is a 15' square building sheathed with board and batten siding and covered by a hip roof. The building was constructed at the base of a water tower which featured an exposed tank supported by a braced structure consisting of 10" x 10" timbers. The structure was dismantled in 1965 and the tower legs were sawn off flush with the roof of the Pump House.

65. Building: <u>Unit Lodge</u> Builder: WPA

3-223, 232, 241, 250

Architect: E.T. Walley Date: 1937

Four Unit Lodges were constructed at the Norway Point, one at each of the four cabin colonies. The Unit Lodge is a 27'6" x 18' gable roofed structure with sandstone walls which rise 2'9" to the sill level with board and batten siding above. The lodge also includes a 10'8" square entrance porch with a gable roof supported by eight 8" x 8" timber posts. Window openings are eight or twelve light casements. The finely crafted interiors include 1" x 3" fir flooring, V-joint pine paneling, and a sandstone fireplace with a wooden mantel with brackets and an adjacent bookcase. The entrance doors are also built with V-joint boarding and feature hand hammered hardware. The exposed 3" x 6" rafters are three feet on center with 3" x 6" collar beams placed every six feet.

A 13' x 11'9" kitchen shelter extends from the end wall containing the fireplace. A stove with a sheet iron top is built into the back of the same masonry mass. The kitchen shelter may be entered from the lodge or through a separate entrance and is only partially enclosed with squared posts resting on low sandstone walls supporting the gable roof. The kitchen shelters have been screened.

The National Park Service considered the design for the Unit Lodge to be the best at any RDA in the region.

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66. Building: <u>Unit Cabin</u> Builder: WPA 3-224-230, 3-233-239, 3-242-248, 3-251-257 Architect: E.T. Walley Date: 1937

Twenty-eight Unit Cabins were constructed at the Norway Point Group Camp. Each cabin colony contains seven cabins, six for campers and one for the counselors. The cabins are 18' x 12'4" rectangular wood frame structures resting on six concrete piers. The cabins are covered with board and batten siding and are capped by gable roofs. A central entrance is located on a side wall with all four facades containing large 3' square screened openings which may be closed with folding wooden shutters. The interiors feature two small closets in each end wall and exposed rafters with collar beams. The cabins originally contained four cots, however, the cots have been replaced by bunk beds.

67. Building: <u>Unit Latrine</u> Builder: WPA

3-222, 231, 240, 249

Architect: E.T. Walley Date: 1937

An identical Unit Latrine is located at each of the cabin clusters. The Unit Latrine is a 23' x 9'6" rectangular, partially enclosed structure with a combination of enclosed toilet stalls and an open wash porch. The entire building is covered by a gable roof with projecting lookouts which is supported by squared posts. The enclosed section is sheathed with 1" x 8" and 1" x 10" rough boards with battens and contains three small screened windows placed under the eaves on each side wall. Each open wash porch has been infilled with concrete block and frame walls and the original trough lavatories have been removed, however, the original structural members remain exposed.

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68. Structure: Recreation Field Date: 1937
Architect: National Park Service Builder: WPA

Located to the east of the administrative core, the Recreation Field is a large clearing encompassing about two acres. The field was used by the campers for various athletic and recreational games.

69. Building: <u>Portable School Buildings</u> Builder: Unknown Architect: Unknown 3-322-324 Date: 1970s

Three Portable School Buildings were installed at the Norway Point Group Camp in order to provide winterized facilities. The buildings are identical one story rectangular gable roofed structures with vertical wood siding and casement windows. The school buildings are located at the eastern edge of the camp and are considered non-contributing because they were constructed in the modern era.

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Hay Creek Bridge

70. Structure: <u>Hay Creek Bridge</u> Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1936

Located on the main park road which extends west from the Headquarters, the Hay Creek Bridge is an 18' long structure resting on stone faced masonry abutments with wing walls which are supported by spread footings. The bridge required 1,600 cubic feet of masonry and 1,200 cubic feet of fieldstone. The bridge deck was originally built with 3" x 8" planks which rested on 12" log stringers. The posts and railings were also built with logs. The bridge deck and railings have been replaced.

Lake Clayton

Lake Clayton is a man-made lake created for recreational use by campers at the Norway Point Group Camp. A public beach was built along the northwest shore in the modern era.

71. Structure: <u>Lake Clayton</u> Builder: CCC Architect: National Park Service Date: 1939-40

Lake Clayton was formed as a result of an earthen dike constructed at the south end of Hay Creek. The artificial lake is 3,000 feet long and 200'-250' wide. A beach was built at the south end for campers at the nearby Norway Point Group Camp, which is within walking distance of the lake.

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72. Structure: <u>Hay Creek Control Dam</u> Builder: CCC
Architect: National Park Service Date: 1939-40

The Hay Creek Control Dam consists of two sluice gates placed on either side of the earthen dike which forms Lake Clayton. The dam is constructed at the original location of the creek bed. The control gate on the south side of the dike is set at the base of a massive masonry abutment with wing walls. This retaining wall is faced with native sandstone and is approximately 12' high.

73. Structure: <u>Hay Creek Spillway</u> Builder: CCC
Architect: National Park Service Date: 1939-40

The Hay Creek Dam contains a 50' wide and 100' long spillway with exposed rock imbedded in the concrete masonry. A 50' long energy dissipator is built at the south end of the spillway and consists of a series of large boulders. Riprapping extends 16' along the banks of the spillway and also extends 80' on either side along the shore. The spillway structure extends 50' into the lake.

A landscaping scheme for the Hay Creek Dam area was designed on May 4, 1940 and specified willows, dogwood, and sod to be installed. The plant materials were to be collected from the project area without scar to the landscape.

74. Structure: <u>Fish Rearing Pond</u> Builder: CCC Architect: National Park Service Date: 1940

Located to the west of the south end of Lake Clayton, the Fish Rearing Pond is a shallow excavation covering approximately 5 acres. The depth of the pond varies from 4' to 6'. The pond can be filled by opening the Hay Creek Control Dam and allowing the the water to travel through a channel to the pond. Sluice gates are located at each end. (It appears that a second pond was developed beyond the west sluice gate but that area is no longer in active use and now resembles a marsh.) The pond is currently used to rear muskie stock.

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75. Building: <u>Picnic Shelter</u> 3-354 Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1973

Located along the northwest shore of Lake Clayton at the public beach, the Picnic Shelter is a 26' by 48' rectangular frame building covered with a gable roof. Because the Picnic Shelter was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

76. Building: <u>Sanitation Building</u> 3-171 Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1973

Located along the northwest shore of Lake Clayton at the public beach, the Sanitation Building is a 24' by 26' building constructed with concrete block and covered with a gable roof. Because the Sanitation Building was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

Sand Creek Bridge

77. Structure: <u>Sand Creek Bridge</u> Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1936

The Sand Creek Bridge is a 52' long, 16' wide, structure which crosses Sand Creek nine feet above the level of the water. The bridge is supported by two abutments with wing walls as well as two center piers, all faced with fieldstone laid random ashlar. A 6" batter in each center pier begins 6" below normal water level and the ends of each pier terminate in a point. The bridge deck was originally constructed with 12" log stringers and 3" x 8" x 1/2" planks. Ten inch log posts and 7"-8" log rails were also constructed. The deck and railings have been replaced.

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Mouth of Sand Creek Bridge

78. Structure: <u>Mouth of Sand Creek Bridge</u> Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1992

The Mouth of Sand Creek Bridge is an arched, steel vehicular bridge. Because the bridge was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

Adirondack Shelters

79. Building: <u>Adirondack Shelters</u> 3-303-304 Date: 1937 Architect: National Park Service Builder: WPA

Two Adirondack Shelters are located roughly mid-way between the Norway Point and the Head of the Rapids Group Camps and were built for campers on overnight excursions. The shelters are 32'6" x 9'8" rectangular structures resting on stone faced foundations. They are constructed with 8" square posts covered with rough 10" board siding. Six timber brackets support a 4' overhang along the principal facades while the roof slopes gently to the rear of the structures. Both the side and rear walls are enclosed while the main elevation is screened. Each shelter can accommodate 12 bunks.

Bear Creek Bridge

80. Structure: <u>Bear Creek Bridge</u> Builder: CCC Architect: National Park Service Date: 1936

The Bear Creek Bridge is a 40' long, 16' wide, structure supported by abutments with wing walls and a battered center pier resting on a spread footing, all faced with fieldstone. The stonework on each end of the center pier terminates in a point.

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The bridge deck was originally constructed with 3" x 12" planks resting on log stringers. Logs were also used for the posts and rails. The deck and rails have been replaced. The original plans for the bridge specified that, "All bolts sunk and holes plugged and pitched."

Fire Tower

81. Structure: <u>Fire Tower</u> Builder: CCC
Architect: National Park Service Date: 1936-37

The Fire Tower is a standard 100' steel tower with cross-bracing. A small enclosure covered with a hip roof completes the structure. A stairway extends to the top.

Maple Island Bridge

82. Structure: <u>Maple Island Bridge</u> Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: c1970s

The Maple Island Bridge is a wooden foot bridge bridge. Because the bridge was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

Kettle River Overlook

83. Structure: <u>Kettle River Overlook</u> Builder: CCC Architect: National Park Service Date: 1940

The Kettle River Overlook was constructed on a scenic bluff overlooking the Kettle River. A small parking lot was built and defined by a dry laid stone curb.

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Head of the Rapids Group Camp

The Head of the Rapids Group Camp includes sixteen buildings and four structures associated with the third of the three group camps constructed in the park. Five non-contributing buildings and one non-contributing structure are also included. Construction of the group camp was begun in 1937 only to be abandoned and then later resumed in 1939. Four buildings were constructed in 1939 by the Works Progress Administration camp, however, the camp was actually completed by CCC camp NP-1 from 1940 to 1942. Unlike the St. John's Landing and Norway Point Group Camps, Head of the Rapids was considered a "Short Term Camp" and its design differs considerably from that of the earlier camps. A somewhat less decentralized plan was designed with three units organized around a central administrative core along a circular roadway, with each unit containing only three cabins and without unit lodges. Each cabin is also considerably larger than the earlier prototypes with space for eight or nine cots and a small room for the counselors often included. camp was used by the handicapped, for whom a more centralized organization might have been considered appropriate.

84. Building: Office & Infirmary 3-168 Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1939

The Office and Infirmary building is a rectangular gable roofed structure with horizontal siding to the sill level and board and batten siding above. A covered passageway divides the building into two sections, one for the office and the other for the infirmary. Window openings consist of paired casements.

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85. Building: Staff Cabin 3-167 Builder: CCC Architect: National Park Service Date: 1941

The Staff Cabin, known as an "8 cot cabin," is a 27' x 19' rectangular structure sheathed with horizontal pine siding to the sill level and board and batten siding above. The building is covered with a hip roof which was originally finished with slate roll roofing. Window openings are nine light casements. The interior is partitioned to include four rooms, a central hallway, and a storage closet.

86. Building: <u>Infirmary</u> 3-169 Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1963

The Infirmary is an L-shaped frame structure covered by an intersecting gable roof with broad overhanging eaves. The building is sheathed with horizontal siding to the sill and board and batten siding above. Casement windows are organized in groups of three. Because the building was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

87. Building: <u>Help's Cabin</u> 3-170 Builder: CCC Architect: National Park Service Date: 1941

The Help's Cabin, also known as a "4 cot cabin," is a rectangular frame structure resting on a concrete foundation. The cabin is sheathed with horizontal siding to the sill level and board and batten siding above. The building is covered with a hip roof which was originally finished with slate roll roofing. Two nine light casements flank the central entrance while three casements are located on the end walls and four are placed along the rear facade. The interior of the 19' x 12' structure is partitioned to include two rooms and an entry.

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88. Building: Mess Hall 3-150 Builder: WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1939

The Mess Hall consists of a T-shaped gable roofed building containing a 74' x 20'6" dining room and a 20'6" x 42'1" extension for the kitchen. The building rests on a concrete foundation with a series of openings provided for ventilation. Horizontal siding with a 9 1/4" exposure rises 4'2" to the sill level followed by 1" x 12" vertical boards with battens. A central entrance porch projects from the south facade of the dining room. The enclosed porch is covered by a gable roof supported by 8" x 8" squared posts. The kitchen wing is characterized by an irregular roofline as a result of a projecting alcove, shed dormers, and a long ridge ventilator. Window openings include bands of six over six light double hung sash.

The interior includes fir flooring and a sandstone fireplace with a flat arched opening located on the east end wall. A cold storage cellar with poured concrete walls is located at the rear of the kitchen.

89. Building: <u>Warehouse</u> 3-151 Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1968

The Warehouse is a 56' x 22' rectangular building with a two stall vehicle garage and a shop area. The building is sheathed with board and batten siding and is covered with a gable roof. Because the Warehouse was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

90. Building: <u>Central Unit Latrine</u> 3-152 Builder: WPA Architect: H.M. Davidson Date: 1939

The Central Unit Latrine provides facilities for not only the administrative core but also Unit-A of the group camp. The latrine is a T-shaped building which is sheathed with board and

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batten siding and covered by a cross gable roof. Casement windows, 2' x 2 1/2', are placed under the eaves. According to the original plans, the Central Unit Latrine was a standard plan for Short Term Camps. The latrine is divided into two separate sections, both of which include toilets and showers.

The plan was extended to the south to provide a wash room and shower facilities for the administrative staff. This addition is also noted on the plans with the comment that "this extension authorized for administrative units only."

91. Structure: <u>Drinking Fountains</u> Builder: CCC Architect: G.F. O'Bryen Date: 1942

Four identical Drinking Fountains are located at the Head of the Rapids Group Camp. One fountain is adjacent to the Central Unit Latrine, a fountain is located at both Units B and C, and a fountain is located next to the Craft Building. The fountains are constructed with native sandstone and rest on a 5'10" square base of stone flagging. The 3' high fountains are 1'10" square at the base and 1'6" square at the top as a result of a slight batter in the stonework. A 8" high stone step is placed on one side.

92. Building: <u>Unit Cabin</u> 3-154 Builder: CCC
Architect: Edward W. Barber Date: 1940-41

Unit Cabin A-1 is a rectangular frame structure covered by a hip roof. Dimensions of the cabin are approximately 30' x 12'. The building is sheathed with horizontal siding to the sill level and board and batten siding above. Four nine light casements are placed on either side of the central entrance and three casements are located on each end wall. The interior is partitioned into three rooms. The original roofing material was slate roll roofing.

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93. Building: Unit Cabins Builder: CCC

3-153, 155, 156, 158, 160, 162

Architect: Edward W. Barber Date: 1940-41

Six identical cabins were built at the Head of the Rapids Group Camp, two in each of the three cabin clusters. The cabins are rectangular frame structures with horizontal siding to the sill level and board and batten siding above. Dimensions of the cabins are approximately 30' x 15'. Four nine light casements are placed on either side of the central entrance and four casements are located on each end wall. The cabins are covered with hip roofs which were originally finished with slate roll roofing. The interior is partitioned into one large room which could accommodate eight cots and a smaller room for counselors.

94. Building: <u>Unit Cabin</u> 3-157 Builder: CCC
Architect: Edward W. Barber Date: 1940-41

Unit Cabin B-2 is a rectangular frame structure covered by a hip roof. Dimensions of the cabin are approximately 30' x 12'. The building is sheathed with horizontal siding to the sill level and board and batten siding above. Four nine light casements are placed on either side of the central entrance and three casements are located on each end wall. The original roofing material was slate roll roofing. The interior is partitioned into two rooms.

95. Building: <u>Duplex Unit Latrine</u> 3-159 Builder: CCC Architect: H.M. Davidson Date: 1941

The Duplex Unit Latrine is located at B-Unit of the group camp. The latrine is a 25'4" x 10' rectangular structure sheathed with board and batten siding and covered with a gable roof. The building features enclosed ends which house the toilets and a central section which is only partially enclosed for trough style lavatories. The wash area is sheltered by a projecting roof supported by timber brackets. Window openings are 2'8" square casements. The open wash areas have been enclosed. An addition

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appears have been made to the south end of the latrine or the original plans may have been extended.

96. Building: <u>Unit Cabin</u> 3-163 Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1959

Cabin C-4 is a rectangular frame structure covered by a gable roof. The building is sheathed with horizontal siding to the sill level and board and batten siding above. Window openings are organized in pairs of eight light casements. The building was moved from CCC camp NP-1 in 1959. However, due to alterations, and because the building does not retain sufficient integrity to reflect a building associated with the camp, it is considered non-contributing.

97. Building: <u>Unit Cabin</u> 3-161 Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1960

Cabin C-2 is a rectangular frame structure with board and batten siding and a gable roof. Window openings are nine light casements. Both principal facades of the building project beyond the foundation walls and it appears it may have been constructed on the foundation of the third original cabin for the C Unit, which is believed to have been destroyed by fire. Because the cabin was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

98. Building: <u>Unit Latrine</u> 3-164 Builder: WPA Architect: H.M. Davidson Date: 1939

The Unit Latrine at C-Unit is a T-shaped building which is sheathed with board and batten siding and covered with a cross gable roof. The building is divided into two sections, each of which provides toilet and shower facilities. Window openings are 2' x 2 1/2' casements which are placed under the eaves. The latrine is identical to the Central Unit Latrine although the addition for the administrative unit is omitted.

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99. Building: <u>Craft Building</u> 3-166 Builder: CCC Architect: National Park Service Date: 1941

The Craft Building is a 18'4" x 29'2" rectangular frame structure covered by a hip roof. The building is sheathed with horizontal siding to the sill level and board and batten siding above. Double doors flanked by nine light casement windows form the entrance on the south end wall. Seven casements are placed along each side wall. The interior features built-in work tables along the exterior walls.

100. Building: <u>Pump House</u> Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1989

The Pump House is a 16' square frame building with board and batten siding and a gable roof. Because the Pump House was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

The original Pump House was a 15' square building with a 4' x 8' projection along the east elevation. The building was sheathed with horizontal siding to a height of 3 1/2' followed by vertical shiplap with battens. The building was constructed at the base of a water tower which featured an exposed tank supported by a braced structure consisting of 10" x 10" timbers. The structure was dismantled in 1969 and the tower legs were sawn off just above the building's hip roof. The Pump House was replaced in 1989 because of deterioration.

101. Structure: Swimming Pool Builder: Unknown Architect: Dept. of Natural Resources Date: 1962

The Swimming Pool is located just to the south of the Group Camp and consists of a 240' by 140' excavation with a sand bottom and side walls. The pool is filled by pumping water from the adjacent river. The original beach was located immediately adjacent along the river. Because the Swimming Pool was constructed in the modern era, it is considered non-contributing.

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Park Roads and Trails

102. Structure: <u>Main Public Roads</u> Builder: CCC
Architect: National Park Service Date: 1935-38

The Main Public Roads consist of the five mile entrance road which extends from Minnesota State Highway 48 to the Park Headquarters and a two mile road which extends to the east from the Headquarters to the Riverview Campground. These roads were intended to handle the bulk of the park's traffic and are noticeably wider than those of the secondary road system. particular interest is the five mile entrance road which roughly follows the course of the old Fleming Railroad which was used for logging, but while the railroad traveled due north, the new entrance road curved gently at least every 2,000 feet to give the road a more natural appearance. Buffer plantings by the CCC further define the Main Public Roads. Alterations to these roads include widening at the Park Headquarters and near St. Croix Lodge in order to incorporate medians, and the introduction of asphalt paving. The Main Public Roads are considered one contributing structure.

103. Structure: <u>Service Roads and Truck Trails</u> Builder: CCC & WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1935-42

Defined historically as Service Roads and Truck Trails, these refer to the secondary road system of roughly 22 miles which extends throughout the park from the Main Public Roads and whose primary destination is the park's three group camps. These include the following:

- A. St. John's Landing Group Camp Road extending six miles northeast from the Headquarters
- B. Head of the Rapids Group Camp Road extending twelve miles west of the Headquarters, and eventually to the south and east. Spur roads off the Head of the Rapids road include:

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- 1. Norway Point Group Camp Road one mile
- Road to Fish Rearing Ponds and to Norway Point - 1.5 miles
- 3. Fire Tower Road one mile
- C. Riverview Campground Boat Landing .5 mile

The secondary roads remain in their narrow, unpaved original condition except for a short paved section which extends from the Park Headquarters to the Norway Point road and the road to the Riverview Campground Boat Landing. These roads also feature gentle curves to provide a more natural appearance. Modern extensions to the secondary road system include the road to the All Seasons Trail Center, a road off the St. John's Landing road to a boat landing, the Mouth of Sand Creek road south of the Fish Rearing Ponds, and the Maple Island road. The secondary roads are considered three contributing structures.

104. Structure: <u>Foot Trails</u> Builder: CCC & WPA Architect: National Park Service Date: 1935-42

Four Foot Tails survive from the historic period largely in their original alignment. These include:

- A. The River Bluff Trail between the Riverview Campground and Norway Point Group Camp
- B. The Nature Trail north of the Riverview Campground
- C. The Bear Creek Trail
- D. The trail which runs north from St. John's Landing Group Camp to the Crooked Creek Swimming Pool and the Adirondack Shelters

The Foot Trails are considered four contributing structures.

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The St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area continues to serve its original function and retains nearly complete integrity to the period of significance. The park's overall design remains intact, including both the developed areas and the circulation system which retains most of its original unpaved roads. New construction has generally occurred in small concentrations apart from the areas of the park which were developed historically. These include the new campgrounds, the All Seasons Trail Center, and the beach area at Clayton Lake, yet none adversely impact the significance of the property. Similarly, few buildings have been lost during the park's history and only a small number of modern buildings, usually of modest scale, have been introduced into the park's historic areas. The park's historic buildings and structures retain a high degree of architectural integrity.

(No archaeological survey was conducted to identify any preexisting Indian or Euro-American sites. Therefore, a discussion of any such resources is not included in the context of this document.)

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Statement of Significance

The St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in the context of Minnesota State Park CCC/WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources and is historically significant under National Register Criterion A in the contexts Politics and Government, Conservation, and Recreation as an example of one of the New Deal's outstanding achievements in land use planning and recreation. The site was established as part of the Federal Government's program to retire submarginal lands from agricultural use and to demonstrate how such lands could be developed and used for recreational purposes. The St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area was one of only 46 such areas established in the United States and consisted of over 30,000 acres which was one of the largest tracts of land in the entire program. The RDA program was considered one of the finest accomplishments of the New Deal and one of the most successful cooperative efforts involving practically every new emergency program as well as the authorities in 24 states. The St. Croix Recreational Area is also significant in the context of Social History for its multi-faceted social agenda of relocating farmer's from submarginal lands, offering recreational opportunities to the underprivileged, and providing employment to the hundreds associated with the three work camps which developed the site.

The St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area is significant under National Register Criterion C in the context of Landscape Architecture as an exceptional example of master planning, one of the stellar achievements of the Landscape Division of the National Park Service. Newly developed planning principles were applied to an immense tract of land including five primary areas of development connected by nearly thirty miles of roads. The high integrity of the site, as well as extensive documentation concerning its construction, reveal an exacting and highly supervised design process which insured that the principles of master planning were properly implemented. The result is among the most successful expressions of landscape design, all while creating facilities which responded to the needs of the public as well as the natural environment. Also significant in the context

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of Landscape Architecture are the three group camps of the St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area, considered a major achievement by the landscape architects of the Park Service. The decentralized designs of St. John's Landing, Norway Point, and Head of the Rapids group camps represent an innovation by the Park Service designers and attempted to address the deficiencies of existing group camp facilities. The camps were built in 34 of the RDAs and were designed to eliminate overcrowding and regimentation yet also emphasize individual needs and healthy social relationships. The built environment was designed to directly influence the individual and thus achieve the ultimate goal of landscape architecture.

The site is also significant in the context of Architecture as the largest collection of buildings and structures constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration in Minnesota. The park contains one hundred sixty-four contributing resources and represents the most complete and extensive assemblage of finely-crafted Rustic Style buildings and structures in the state park system.

As early as January 1934 sites had been investigated throughout Minnesota by National Park Service inspectors as possible locations for park and recreation areas under the submarginal lands program, whose purpose was to retire lands unsuitable for agriculture and convert them to new and productive uses such as recreation. These included proposed acquisitions to expand existing parks such as Scenic and Interstate as well as new

¹Documents concerning the development of the St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area are located at the National Archives, College Park, Maryland, Record Group 79, Records of the National Park Service. These include the following entries concerning Recreational Demonstration Areas: Entry 47. RDA Program Files. 1934-37; Entry 48. Reports on Recreational Demonstration Projects. 1934-36; Entry 49. Land Purchase Control Cards. 1934-36; Entry 50. Records Concerning Land Purchases. 1934-36; Entry 51. Project Records of the Project Planning and Control Section, Land Utilization Division, Resettlement Administration. 1935-36; Entry 52. Narrative and Statistical Reports of Managers. 1941-42; and Entry 53. Land Transfer Records. 1943-50.

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acquisitions. The sites ranged from small tracts for use as waysides to sizeable parcels which could fulfill the primary objective of the submarginal lands program; the establishment of a large regional park which could meet the recreational needs of a sizeable portion of the population. By early February 1934 a final list of over thirty potential sites had been prepared.

State officials were also involved in the well thought-out selection process as noted in a summary report prepared by Park Service inspector Amos B. Emery in April 1934 which stated:

The Governor (Floyd B. Olson), Mr. Theodore Wirth, Director of Parks for Minneapolis, the State Planning Board, the Department of Conservation, and Mr. R.I. Nowell, Representative of the Department of Agriculture on Submarginal Land, have all been contacted and informed of the general intent in reference to recreational areas from submarginal land...

Mr. Paul V. Brown, Second District (Park Service) Office (in Indianapolis), visited St. Paul; met with the Governor, Theodore Wirth, and several State Officials; toured Northern Minnesota, by plane, and interviewed Professor Elwood, Federal Advisor to the Iowa State Planning Board, in reference to proposed submarginal land recreational areas....Many proposed submarginal recreational areas have been visited and preliminary information, in reference to the character of the land, land prices, tax delinquencies, relief, and facility of acquisition have been investigated...

The report went on to describe the St. Croix site as "an extremely large and interesting area. If fits the definition for submarginal land and can be purchased at prices ranging from \$3.00 to \$7.00 per acre....The area is a combination of submarginal and agricultural land and burnt-over timber land....It has high recreational value, excellent camp sites, and its general character is primitive.....Here is a wonderful project to combine all phases of conservation, forests, wild life, and parks."

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In a letter dated April 20, 1934 to the state park division of the Park Service in Washington, D.C., Paul Brown noted that:

This is to advise that Inspector Amos Emery assigned to the Submarginal Land Survey, Minnesota, reports by telephone this morning enthusiastically about an area along the St. Croix River in Pine County, Minnesota.

This area lies approximately an equal distance between St. Paul and Duluth and is the area in which the Governor of the State is particularly interested, and others find to meet the submarginal qualifications. Emery pronounces it excellent for recreational purposes. It is indicated that the prices will run between \$1.50 and \$5.00 per acre and that there is an unlimited amount of land.

That same day at a meeting of the Minnesota State Planning Board at the State Capitol, Governor Floyd B. Olson moved "that the Board recommend purchase (by the Federal Government, National Parks Department) of a large tract of land located one-half between the Twin Cities on the south and Duluth on the north, suitable for recreational uses of industrial workers, the Federal Government maintaining housing facilities and recreational facilities, and that the Board agrees to cooperate in every way in designing the project."

However, state officials favored a large tract of land in the Minnesota River Valley, between Mendota and Shakopee, just south of the Twin Cities, as the principal site for a large recreational development. Park Service officials were considerably less enthusiastic and Amos Emery noted, "This is a great project from the park standpoint. However, the high land valuations and the reluctance of farmers on good land to sell will make it extremely difficult to fit this project into the Submarginal Land Program....The extreme enthusiasm of Governor Olson and Mr. Theodore Wirth for this project make it somewhat difficult to explain the limitations of the Submarginal Program to them and other State Agencies. They have, however, been extremely fine in their co-operation."

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Plans proceeded for the development of the St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area and on August 23, 1934 the State Park Division of the National Park Service applied to the Land Program of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, the New Deal program responsible for the purchase of submarginal lands, for approval of the St. Croix project. The letter, which was signed by Conrad Wirth, stated that the:

Project contemplates the acquisition by the United States of approximately 15,000 acres in the State of Minnesota. The land thus to be purchased is to be used as a recreational area. This project includes plans for the resettlement of those people now living on these lands and the rehabilitation of such people through employment in the contemplated Park or through employment in other suitable industries and activities....

I believe the Project outlined above to be for the best interests of the United States and recommend the same to you and respectively request that you include the same within the projects of the Land Program of the F.E.R.A. and that you make available sufficient funds and take sufficient steps to carry out the plans for the same.

Options were sought for the purchase of lands in the proposed project area and discussions were initiated with the Northern States Power Company which owned in excess of 5,000 acres, much of which was located directly along the St. Croix River. Considerable correspondence exists between the Park Service, the legal division of the FERA, and Northern States Power concerning whether their lands would be purchased outright or leased by the federal government. NSP was particularly concerned about retaining an easement on flowage rights in the event the company decided to construct a dam across the St. Croix.

Another federal agency involved in the St. Croix project was the Land Policy Section of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, a division of the Department of Agriculture which was also concerned with land use issues. Through the USDA regional office

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in Madison, Wisconsin, it appears the AAA worked cooperatively with the FERA on similar projects throughout the region.

Meanwhile, in addition the issues surrounding land acquisition, the Park Service was preparing detailed reports which assessed the suitability of St. Croix as a Recreational Demonstration Project. The land itself was analyzed along with the economic and social status of the families who would need to be resettled from the project lands as well as the cost of resettlement. The recreational needs of those living in the metropolitan areas was also determined through surveys with the St. Paul Community Chest and the Minneapolis Council of Social Agencies, which was a critical element of the RDA program since one of its major goals was to provide recreational opportunities for underprivileged children who would otherwise be denied a healthy outdoor experience.

A telling response came from the Minneapolis Council of Social Agencies dated February 1, 1935 which noted:

The project which you have suggested should be worthy of the united support of all public and private agencies in the City of Minneapolis. During the present economic crisis, it has been impossible for recreational activities to keep pace with the need. At the present time there are approximately 80,000 individuals on the relief rolls of public and private agencies. Due to unemployment, illness, etc., it is safe to say that there are an additional 50,000 individuals who, although not on the relief rolls, are hardly able to obtain the bare necessities of life. These figures show that possibly 28 per cent of the total population of Minneapolis can be classified in the underprivileged group and should be eligible for free or part-pay camp privileges.

One report entitled, "Conditions Justifying Development of the Land Proposed on St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Project LD-MN-7." included a section which addressed the social agenda which resettlement and development of the lands hoped to meet:

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There are ten families living on the land of which eight are to be resettled under the Division of Land Utilization and none will require aid other than the liquidation of their interest in the land. The economic unfitness of this land is demonstrated by the fact that 90% of the taxes are delinquent in this area. The inhabitants do not have proper equipment for farming and in addition the soil is of such character that it will not produce profitable crops. Public ownership of this area would permit the people to be relocate themselves under more favorable circumstances where they may become an asset rather than a liability to the country at large. This project will rededicate this land to a program of conservation and recreation in a region where it can best serve the needs of the people.

In Pine County there are 600 families on relief as well as many others who are able to obtain only the bare necessities of life. The rehabilitation of the people on the purchase area will not only permit them to better their own condition but will have a tendency to improve the general economic status of that vicinity. The large numbers of people who will visit this area will undoubtedly create a market for local produce and stimulate business activity to such an extent that it will be possible for many of those who are now dependent on relief forces to earn their own livelihood.

In a final report prepared February 1, 1935, the Park Service concluded that plans should proceed for the development of St. Croix.

For the following reasons, the undersigned are satisfied that Minn. R-1 meets requirements of the United States Government, both as to submarginal and recreational demands.

1. Offers to sell have been obtained on a approximately 68% of the proposed purchase area. The land is very desirable and adaptable to a regional recreational area.

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- 2. The land tracts optioned are definitely submarginal for agricultural use, but the proper type of land to be rededicated to recreation and related uses.
- 3. The project area is located advantageously with reference to the large urban centers of Minnesota and the neighboring states. It serves a population of 2,000,000 within a radius of 100 miles, 1,200,000 within a radius of 75 miles.
- 4. Development of the project would remove 24,000 acres from uneconomic farm use, rededicating the land to a definite program of conservation and recreation in a region of the state that can best serve the needs of the people.
- 5. The contemplated development of the project would be a definite and permanent benefit to the families upon the area, and would also furnish part-time employment for those surrounding the area.
- 6. Offers to sell begin to expire March 1, 1935. If extensions are necessary, we will find it difficult to secure them at the same price.

We therefore respectfully recommend that proper authorization be given for the immediate acquisition of the tracts as shown in this report.

In a letter dated March 12, 1935 to Harry Hopkins, Administrator of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior stated:

I hereby recommend for purchase a project proposed by the National Park Service for the conservation and development of the natural resources of the United States, within the meaning of Section 202 of Title II of the National Industrial Recovery Act, said project being known as the St. Croix in Pine County, Minnesota.

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The above project comes within the following classification of the memorandum of July 16, 1934, by the Director of The Land Program addressed to me, namely:

"(2) Demonstration Recreational Projects: These include projects in which the land to be purchased is to be used primarily for recreational purposes, as submitted by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior."

This project contemplates the acquisition, by the United States, of a primary purchase unit of approximately 6,903 acres, at an average price of approximately \$3.27 per acre, and at a total purchase price of approximately \$29,139.89; and the additional purchase of lands up to 18,776 acres, provided the average price for all lands of the above project does not exceed \$6.56 per acre, and a total of approximately \$123,295.

I recommend that this project be accepted as a demonstration recreational project of the Land Program, Federal Emergency Relief Administration.

On March 15, 1935 Harry Hopkins formally approved the land acquisition². A formal announcement, which may have been a press release, noted:

Approval was announced today by Harry L. Hopkins, Federal Emergency Relief Administrator, of plans to purchase approximately 7,000 acres of land in Pine County, Minnesota, to be developed as a recreational area...

The planning of the project has been undertaken by the National Park Service, which is cooperating with The Land Program of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration in developing poor lands for recreational use...

²Hopkins would later head the Works Progress Administration (WPA).

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Enthusiastic support of this project has been received from local citizens of Pine County, as well as from both state and private agencies engaged in recreational work for the people of the Twin Cities and Duluth and Superior...

Recreational facilities, particularly for the use of the underprivileged people of the cities near the St. Croix River Project, are inadequate to present needs. It is planned not only to make the St. Croix Project a playground which may be utilized by motorists and others possessing a means of transportation during vacation periods, but also to make special provision to assist people of more limited income to spend two weeks or so during the summer months in this new recreation area at a minimum expense...

A major organizational change occurred when all existing land use programs where transferred to the newly created Resettlement Administration which was established by President Roosevelt on April 30, 1935 by Executive Order No. 7027. On April 30 Roosevelt transferred the Land Program of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration and on May 15 he transferred the Division of Subsistence Homesteads of the Department of the Interior. The Land Policy Section of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration was moved to the Resettlement Administration on June 1, furnishing many of the personnel for continuing the submarginal land program. In reality, this change had little impact on the St. Croix project.

The establishment of the St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area was reported in <u>The Improvement Bulletin</u>, a regional construction periodical, on November 8, 1935 with an article entitled, "New Federal Playground Planned." The article noted:

A new playground and woodland health resort along the St. Croix River in Pine County, Minn., is apparently

³For additional information, refer to the Multiple Property Documentation Form entitled, "Federal Relief Construction in Minnesota," with reference to the section on the Resettlement Administration.

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assured with the approval by President Roosevelt of the purchase of 19,000 acres in the area. About \$126,000 has been allotted from resettlement funds for the land purchase, according to Reynolds I. Nowell, regional director of the Resettlement Administration at Madison, Wis. The project is within 75 miles of the Twin Cities and about as far south from the Head of the Lakes cities. It was originally approved when land utilization work was being carried on under the FERA and the AAA. In the renewed form, the tract has been considerably enlarged over the original size. About 10 families which have been located in this area are to be moved to new sites where they will have advantages not available on their old farms....

Meanwhile, a Civilian Conservation Corps Camp SP-6 had been approved for the site and first occupied the area on October 16, 1934. In time a camp was constructed along the St. Croix River at the site of a former Indian village in an area of the park known as the Yellowbanks. Actual park construction was delayed while the land acquisition continued, although by November 1935 six miles of roads had been constructed, 15 acres had been cleared for the campground, and a wild life study had been completed.

In December 1935, the Omaha Region VI Office of the National Park Service, which had assumed responsibility for Minnesota projects from the Indianapolis office, submitted the master plan for the St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area. The plan was submitted to M.C. Huppuch, the director of Recreational Demonstration Projects for the Park Service in Washington, D.C.

The concept of the master plan was the crowning achievement of Thomas C. Vint, the head of the Landscape Division of the NPS, and consisted of a comprehensive document which would direct and control all development within the park.⁴ The document submitted for St. Croix consisted of five sections entitled:

⁴For additional information, refer to the Multiple Property Documentation Form entitled, "Minnesota State Park CC/WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources," with reference to the section on Landscape Architecture.

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Recreational Aspects of the Area Controlling Factors in Development St. Croix River Probable Use of the Area Main Element in Master Plan

The first section discussed the recreational opportunities available including the scenic qualities of the St. Croix, Kettle, and other rivers, and the possibilities for canoeing, boating, swimming, and fishing. The abundant animal life, vegetation, and the diverse river, creek, lake, pond, and marsh environments were also described as well as the opportunities for their enjoyment, development, and preservation.

The factors controlling development included:

- 1. Seeking to secure the maximum usefulness of the area for vacation camping for the greatest possible number of underprivileged persons living within easy reach.
- 2. Development of the area for this purpose without endangering its service as a wild life sanctuary, and restoration of the plant and animal life native to the area.

The section on the St. Croix River described its physical qualities, the topography of the St. Croix basin, and provided a variety of statistics including average precipitation and snowfall, mean temperature, etc.

Probable uses focused on the need for recreational camps for families and the underprivileged and included statistics gathered from the principal recreational and social welfare organizations in the Twin Cities on the expected use of the proposed group camps.

Finally, the section on the main elements of the master plan included descriptions of the following: Family Camp, Boy's Camp, Girl's and Young Women's Camp, Young Men's Camp, Children's Camp, Picnic Grounds and Tent Camping, Canoeing, Overlooks, Utilities

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(including water, sewage, and telephone systems), Park Roads and Truck Trails, Road and Farmstead Obliteration, Fire Protection, and Custodian's Quarters. Photographs and large scale site plans were included showing the locations of roads, the proposed group camps and other use areas, although detailed development plans had not yet been completed.

A staff landscape architect, L.P. Croft, prepared comments for internal review which were used as the basis for the formal response to the Omaha office dated December 20, 1935 which was signed by both M.C. Huppuch and Conrad Wirth. Concerns were expressed over the proximity of certain use areas and it was suggested that several areas might be combined.

In general we question the relation between the day use and overnight areas and the organized camp areas. The organized camp areas should be located in a section of the area which is entirely separated from any developments which will tend to bring anyone there who is not directly connected with the organized camps, inasmuch as privacy and isolation are absolutely essential to a well planned and successful organized camp...which is the primary objective of recreational demonstration areas...

We do not know just what you have in mind for the developments termed "Family Camp Site." If these developments consist of individual cabins for overnight or other vacation periods, they should be moved to the northeastern section designated for day use...

The children's camp site shown adjacent to the picnic area should be moved to some other location in the organized camp section of the project, which will afford it more privacy and assurance that it will not be interfered with by day users, leaving this section as a buffer area and wildlife preserve...

The young men's camp site might possibly be moved farther south along the river to allow for organized family camps in the vicinity of the young men's camp and

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Hay Creek, and the area along the Kettle River, if suitable, because of its isolation, could be used for the girl's camp...

However, the most strenuous objection to the master plan concerned a proposed park road which would pass completely through the park and resulting in two public entrances:

It is hard to understand the introduction of the through road open to the public from the gateway at the southwestern corner to the gateway at the northeastern section. Such a highway would be very detrimental to the area for the use of organized camping and wildlife and would make control of the day use (area) very difficult.

A through-road had been favored by state officials and the Omaha Office of the Park Service even appealed to Washington to reconsider its decision. The Park Service headquarters remained adamant and refused to approve lineal surveys for the proposed road. The controversy continued for some time but the through-road was never built and access to the park remains from the north.

Decisions continued concerning revisions to the master plan and on February 27, 1936 Herbert Evison, the acting Assistant Director of the Park Service, wrote to the Omaha Office and noted:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 14th, submitting the revised master plan of St. Croix, which is hereby approved, and until additional study shows necessity of revision, it shall be considered the basis for the development of the project. All future submissions of layout plans of sections of the project should be definitely related to this approved master plan unless deviation therefrom is adequately justified...

We await the submission of layout plans for (the) organized camp, or camps, which you plan for immediate construction, in addition to a layout plan showing the

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development of the day-outing and overnight camping area as related to the revised master plan. To date, we have not had a layout of this public picnic and camping area and any approval of project which has been given in connection with this particular area has been done rather blindly...

We question the location of the "Future Local Picnic Area" on (the) Kettle River and we agree with your statement that such an area should be developed only as a last resort. If it does become necessary to include a picnic area here, we might have to make adjustments in planning future organized camp sites to avoid any possible conflict. We are always striving to separate organized camps and public day-outing and overnight areas as much as is reasonably possible in order to allow for a natural expansion of either and a minimum possibility of conflict of the two...

In March 1936, preliminary plans were submitted for the design of the girl's camp, the first of the three organized camps to be constructed at St. Croix. The Washington office of the Park Service noted that the "layout plan is well studied," and recommended only minor changes such as locating a foot trail farther from the infirmary, relocating the council ring to a more secluded spot, suggesting that each counselor's cabin accommodate three counselors as opposed to the one or two noted in the plans, and indicating that it was assumed the central washhouse would be provided with hot showers. Plans were later submitted in April for the development of the public use area.

In June 1936 the Omaha office submitted detailed plans for the girl's camp, or St. John's Landing Group Camp as it was to be called. Actual contours were displayed as well as exact building locations. However, this time the reaction of the Washington office was one of surprise. Comments prepared by Louis Croft included the following:

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This plan is such a great departure from the one originally submitted and approved, that it is very difficult to compare the two...

Unit No. 2 suffers in its relation to the central administrative group more than enough to compensate for its good location on the river. This unit is very scattered and the cabins in this unit, as well as the others, do not appear to take the best advantage of the topography—exposure, prevailing winds, and views—that is, if some of the cabins are located correctly, certainly others are not...

The uneven distribution of the cabins, particularly in Units 1 and 4, is annoying...

Either the central latrine and washhouse should be moved or the helps' quarters should be brought nearer. The designer seems to be under the impression that it is more important to locate the central washhouse with reference to the units than with the central administrative group and particularly the staff and helps' quarters. After all, a few more feet mean nothing to the campers who use this washhouse two or three times a week, where the staff and help, etc., use it constantly...

I believe in very little formal design in a camp, but there is no excuse for slipshod location such as the administration building in reference to the parking space. I do not believe in any balanced and rigid effect in the units, but certainly some sort of order should prevail...

The first layout was apparently prepared as merely a diagram and this one is the result of actually working conditions on the ground. Instead of combining the two, as any good planner would do, they have used each independent, thus destroying the value of both of them.

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A telegram was sent to the Omaha office briefly summarizing these concerns noting that the plans were a radical departure and not satisfactory. Construction status was requested as well as what action would be taken. The telegrammed response stated that construction was underway but the suggested adjustments would be made where possible.

Meanwhile, construction was also under way in the Public Use Area, or Riverview Campground, with the construction of a Water Tower. This work was undertaken by CCC Camp SP-6, which numbered as many as 200 men. An article in The St. Croix Leader, the camp's newsletter, dated August 26, 1936 included a photograph of the log and stone structure and a second view with the work crew standing at its base. The article noted,

The result shows beyond a doubt that the work was done capably and well. And the educational value of the work is obvious. The boys were taught by Mr. Brekke the proper way of cutting and facing stone; they became well acquainted with work in stone masonry and the experience they received in palisading will stand them in good stead in the years that are to come.

However, the work at St. John's Landing was being done by a second work camp, known as the Recreational Demonstration Project camp or the WPA camp since the Works Progress Administration had the responsibility for housing and feeding the men. The camp was located four miles north of the park at Duxbury in an abandoned CCC Camp S-140 which had been working on nearby state forest land. In early 1936 permission had been received to utilize the camp through the coordinated efforts of the National Park Service, the Works Progress Administration, and the Resettlement Administration.

The Resettlement Administration, which had opened an office in Pine City, continued to have overall responsibility for the St. Croix project, including the approval of all expenditures. The RA had expressed concerns about recruiting and housing the labor necessary for the project and had reached an agreement with the WPA to provide the labor. A telegram dated October 25, 1935 from L.C. Gray from the RA's Washington headquarters to R.I. Nowell in

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the Madison, Wisconsin office stated that, "WPA Administrator will certify two thousand relief laborers for Beltrami, Pine Island and St. Croix Projects." The RA was also continuing the land acquisition process.

A "Project Analysis Report" was prepared by the Analysis and Section Unit, Project Planning Section, Land Utilization Division of the RA. All projected costs were itemized with total expenditures for the project estimated at \$489,033. A letter dated April 29, 1936 to Conrad Wirth from L.C. Gray, the RA's assistant administrator under Rexford Tugwell, listed allotments to date for the St. Croix project as follows:

November 15, 1936	\$ 20,000
January 20, 1936	12,240
February 4, 1936	20,000
March 30, 1936	44,860
April 17, 1936	40,800
Total	\$137,900

The letter noted that preliminary approval for the St. Croix project had been granted subject to certain conditions such as requiring approval of all construction of a permanent nature by the assistant administrator of the Land Utilization Division; that development work should be planned such that any current project should be brought to a reasonable stage of completion in the event a further allocation of funds is not obtained; that further information was required regarding revenues and operational and maintenance costs after the project was completed; and a number of proposed projects were listed for which the RA requested a reduction in cost or an explanation justifying the estimate, including the cost of obliterating four farmsteads at \$1,230 each, building five vehicular bridges at \$14,696 each, constructing one dwelling at \$4,365, constructing 76 cabins at the group camps at \$1,126 each, constructing four water systems at \$3,338 each, constructing fifteen miles of park roads at \$4,582 per mile, etc. The Park Service responded to each item and in many cases reduced the cost estimates.

⁵For additional information about the Beltrami Island Project, refer to the National Register Nomination for the Norris Camp.

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Meanwhile about 300 workers had been recruited for the RDP work camp and with such a sizeable labor force St. John's Landing Group Camp was rapidly completed and opened in July 1936. The camp was operated through a joint effort by the Minnesota State Emergency Relief Administration and the Recreation Division of the Works Progress Administration. The first campers were girls ages nine to fourteen from families on relief. Park and Recreation Structures, a Park Service publication from 1938, featured plans and photographs of the Mess Hall, Administration Building, Unit Latrine, and a Unit Cabin at St. John's Landing.

In October 1936 the Omaha office began the submission of plans to Washington for the construction of an organized group camp for boys, which was to be called Norway Point. As was the case with St. John's Landing, a remarkably detailed and exacting design review occurred. An internal memorandum commenting on the design is among the most intriguing documents concerning the development of St. Croix in that it came from the office of Thomas Vint, Chief Architect of the Park Service, and the individual credited with the development of the concept of the master plan. This involvement substantiates the high level of control and approval at the Park Service and a commitment to the highest standards for the design of the group camps, which were considered the primary intent of the RDAs. The comments, which are dated November 4, 1936 and were directed to Conrad Wirth, include the following:

This plan was reviewed and recommended for architectural approval.

In general the plan layout shows evidence of careful study and the following comments offer a suggestion for revision of a minor nature.

⁶Much of the design work for the groups camps appears to have taken place in the Omaha regional office rather than the Central Design Office in St. Paul, which was a branch of the Omaha office. The Central Design Office completed most of the plans for the state parks in Minnesota, but at St. Croix their work appears to have focused on the Public Use Area and the Park Headquarters.

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A slight revision of the central group plan arrangement is suggested to improve the inter-relationship of the individual buildings by relocating the Help's Quarters to clearly express its functional connection with the Main Dining Hall and Kitchen, and the Crafts Building might be relocated to relieve the sense of isolation that is inspired by the proposed location.

The spacing of the cabin elements within the individual unit groups should be slightly increased to avoid a feeling of restriction in most cases, and especially so in Unit C.

Likewise, as previously noted, the distance between the individual unit groups might be increased to the advantage of the development layout with little or no increase of plumbing facilities.

Vint's name appears on the letter and it was signed by Ralph W. Emerson, Reviewing Architect. Additional comments prepared by Louis Croft noted that:

The entrance road should be so designed as to discourage traffic entering the service court of the dining hall. It should definitely stop at the parking space and the administration building. Such an arrangement can be effected by narrowing the road from the parking space to the dining hall and making the alignment from the parking to the dining hall more indirect.

It would seem that the unit lodge might be given a more favorable location by adjusting its location so that it would not be surrounded by cabins. At least the unit lodge should have its principal view unobstructed. The unit lodge should occupy the best and most prominent site for each unit...

In the building of organized camps, it will be necessary to provide construction roads from the central administrative group to the various units, and it is recommended that wherever feasible these construction

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roads coincide with the principal trails from the central administrative group to the units. They should be maintained at sufficient width to allow access by a light pick-up truck or whatever servicing the units will require after the camp is in operation...

However, Harold Lathrop, the Director of Minnesota State Parks, reviewed the proposed location for the Norway Point Group Camp and complained that administration would be difficult since it was located eighteen miles from the St. John's Landing Group Camp. (The Park Headquarters, however, was equal distance between the Ironically, the site was later chosen for the Head of the Rapids Group Camp, but relocation was approved to a site about two miles south of the Park Headquarters, a change which required a corresponding adjustment in the park's master plan. Although it was believed the design could be adapted to the new location, further review occurred with the major comments focusing on a need for changes in location and greater centralization of the buildings in the central administrative core and the location of the service road, as well as comments concerning that the layout seemed to be chiefly controlled by the distribution and shape of areas under (tree) cover.

Norway Point Group Camp was completed in 1938 by the RDP Camp. It's design approached the ideal group camp form as developed by the landscape architects of the National Park Service. Like St. John's, four units, or cabin colonies, are located around a central administrative core, but the overall form is orderly with no evidence of the somewhat sprawling layout that was criticized at St. John's. More importantly, the Unit Lodge was expanded to include a kitchen shelter, allowing each unit to cook a portion of their own meals thus allowing greater independence. The Unit Lodge itself received high praise from the Park Service as the best design at any RDA in the region.

Meanwhile, CCC Camp SP-6 was continuing the development of the Public Use Area with the construction of St. Croix Lodge and the expansive Combination Building in the campground. Work was also begun on the Park Headquarters. On August 3, 1937, the Washington

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office approved the plans for the Headquarters noting that the plan was "very well thought out." It was suggested that construction of the residential buildings proceed slowly and only as needed and that a turnout parking space for the superintendent's cabin should not be located on the main park Then on December 15, 1937, Camp SP-6 closed due to a national decline in CCC enrollment which required each state to close a certain number of camps. The last issue of the camp's newsletter, The St. Croix Leader, was published on December 11, 1937 and included a first page article entitled, "CCC Accomplishments in the St. Croix Recreational Area," which recounted many of the camp's activities such as building roads and telephone lines, completing wild life studies and restoring a fifty acre pond, building the camp ground and constructing the Water Tower, Combination Building, and St. Croix Lodge, fire fighting in cooperation with the state forest service, eradicating poison ivy at St. John's Landing Group Camp, and finding a lost child. A farewell banquet was held on Sunday, December 12, 1937. Work was able to continue in both the Public Use Area and the Headquarters by the RDP Camp.

Administratively, another change occurred in 1937 which transferred all responsibility for Recreational Demonstration Projects from the Resettlement Administration to the National Park Service. Perhaps the most controversial of any New Deal program because of its planned communities, the RA program was transferred to the Department of Agriculture. It's programs were curtailed and it eventually became part of the Farm Security Administration.

In mid-1938 plans were underway for the construction of the Head of the Rapids Group Camp. Considerable correspondence was exchanged between the local park staff, the Omaha regional office, and the National Park Service headquarters. The camp was described as a short-term camp and one which could be utilized by a smaller number of campers than St. John's Landing or Norway Point. For these reasons, the infirmary and administration building were to be combined, the central wash house would also serve unit one, and a maximum of three units were to be constructed. Tent platforms were also contemplated in place of

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cabins. However, the Park Service headquarters expressed concerns about the need for such a short-term camp and there was also confusion about what was to be included programmatically. Yet the most controversial issue was the camp's remote location twelve miles south of the Park Headquarters, which was considered a potential problem in terms of maintenance and protection. It was also noted that the site had previously been rejected for the boy's camp. As result, the Park Service headquarters insisted that all work come to a stop and construction was disapproved.

The regional office tried to justify construction by stating that Minnesota state park officials had only objected to a large camp at the site and that the remote location would be actually desirable for smaller groups, and because of the limited facilities, maintenance would not be a problem. It was also explained that the site had the best swimming area found on the St. Croix River, which had been an issue at the other two camps, and the fact that the term "short-term camp" was chosen because it was a standard name although it was planned that the camp would be leased on a full ten week basis, thus reducing maintenance for park staff. The expenditures to date for the camp were listed and it was also noted that a certain amount of construction had already begun. Even Harold Lathrop, the Director of Minnesota State Parks, wrote a letter of appeal which expressed the need for such a camp. Construction was allowed to continue and in 1939 the RDP camp completed four buildings at Head of the Rapids. group was the least centralized at St. Croix and included three units, each with three cabins (rather than tents), which included counselor's quarters, but the unit lodge was omitted. In fact, each of the three groups differed both architecturally and functionally.

In early 1939 the Omaha regional office began a review of the master plan for the St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area. Such reviews were part of the overall planning process and assured that current needs and conditions were addressed and incorporated into the park's long-range plans. Comments were made by the regional forester, engineer, recreational specialist, landscape architect, as well as the regional supervisor. The topics addressed included land use and acquisition; roads, control, and

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protection; administration and service facilities; public use areas; organized camps; water use; and foot and nature trails. Comments were also made on the presentation of the master plan. Initial suggestions included recommendations for additional land acquisition for control purposes, particularly at the park entrance, and in order to "straighten" certain boundaries. Revisions to the previous master plan were suggested for the western area of the park where a second public use area had been proposed to the west of the Kettle River. It was noted that, "...the immediate demands for services of this kind have not indicated that existing facilities will ever be taxed to capacity. That a second public use area would entail a complete duplication of service and control facilities and also increase considerably the future maintenance costs." It was believed that the site should be left as a wildlife area and that any expansion should occur in the existing Public Use Area. The importance of retaining a single entrance road was also reiterated.

Two proposed group camps located west of the Kettle River were also recommended for elimination on the master plan. Although proposed camps for fishermen and "cripples" on Hay Creek remained. Provisional approval of the master plan was made in February 1939 by the Omaha office contingent on the incorporation of various suggestions and it was also noted that:

Early submittal is to the advantage of all concerned as the master plan is essentially the controlling document for all future planning and it is important that it be prepared far in advance of detailed execution of actual work in the field

The master plan was given final approval in December 1939.

On April 1, 1940 a CCC camp from the Mille Lacs Lake Highway Wayside Project, which consisted of World War I veterans, was transferred to the St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area and completed many of the projects in the park. The camp, NP-1, was located at the present site of the All Seasons Trail Center. The workers built a number of rental cabins in the Riverview Campground, completed construction of the Service Yard, and

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finished the Head of the Rapids Group Camp. This camp was closed in June 1942 just as the entire CCC program was coming to an end.

The National Park Service published a brochure on its Recreational Demonstration Areas entitled, "An Invitation to New Play Areas." RDAs were defined as,

...large tracts of land established and developed by the National Service within range of population centers, to fill outstanding recreation deficiencies.

Purposely located where they would be accessible to large numbers of people, these parks offer new recreational opportunities of the widest possible variety, thus fulfilling their designation as demonstrations in the use of lands well adapted to recreation.

A map located all the RDAs in the country and a chart was included which listed each RDA and the facilities available. The group, or organized, camps were described as well as the standard fees. A camp accommodating 120 campers could be rented for the entire season for \$720.00. For short-term camps the charge ranged from 15 to 25 cents per camper per night. Apparently a page could be inserted to describe a particular RDA and a section on St. Croix was included. Three photographs were displayed, two of scenic views along the St. Croix and one of the Unit Lodge at Norway Point. It was noted that applications for seasonal permits could be obtained from the Park Service office in Omaha.

The three group camps at St. Croix appear to have been in continual use and clearly fulfilled one of the main goals of the RDAs of providing a healthy outdoor experience for the underprivileged. The Minnesota State Emergency Relief Administration applied for a permit to operate St. John's Landing Group Camp from July 1 through September 1, 1936, its first summer of operation. A Camping and Recreational Permit was issued by the

⁷The SERA was the state counterpart of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration and was later named the State Relief Agency (SRA).

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Resettlement Administration on April 23, 1936 and was signed by Donald B. Alexander of the NPS and L.P. Zimmerman, the Administrator of the SERA.

The first campers were girls from ages nine to fourteen from families on relief who would generally attend a two week session. Staff was provided by the Recreation Division of the Works Progress Administration. The camp was also operated in 1937 through the joint sponsorship of the SERA and the WPA, and in both years the standard fee of \$600.00 was waived. During the 1937 season the Park Service completed a Camp Appraisal Report utilizing a form designed for the Recreational Demonstration Areas. The form included a section for general information as well as a section on leadership, health and safety, water safety, food and records, and programs. At the time of the report there were 92 campers at St. John's, just 4 short of the maximum capacity of 96. It was noted that there was one counselor per 4.5 campers.

In 1938 when it appeared the charge would be enforced, Governor Elmer A. Benson sent the following telegram to Harold Ickes, the Secretary of the Interior:

I respectfully request your office to ask (the) National Park Service to waive (the) rental fee on the St. Croix Camp for undernourished and underweight relief children. Minnesota is providing (a) free camp completely equipped and staffed for Chippewa Indian children plus maintenance. If we did not provide this service to Indian children at (the) expense of several thousand dollars we could afford to rent (the) St. Croix Camp or would occupy our own. Last year (the) rental fee was waived.

The SERA continued to operate the camp in 1938. One program offered that summer was a State Highway (School) Patrol Camp for boys which was conducted by the Minnesota Highway Department and the American Legion. In 1939 a camp newsletter called the Wagon Wheel was being printed. By 1941 the camp was leased by the St. Paul Cooperative Camp Committee which included the following agencies: Christ Child Community Center, Central Community House,

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Hallie Q. Brown House, Community Service for Children, Board of Public Welfare, St. Paul Community Service, Children's Service, Bureau of Catholic Charities, Division of Social Welfare, Family Service, Inc., West St. Paul, and Neighborhood House, each of which contributed financially to the operation of the camp. That summer a total of 814 attended the camp in six ten-day sessions, three for girls and three for boys. A total of 27,767 meals were prepared at a cost of .121 cents per meal. A brochure was published about the camp which included a registration form with the title, "For Camping you'll never forget----this year come to St. John's Landing Camp."

An article apparently from the St. Paul Dispatch and Pioneer Press from September 1941 included four pages of photographs of the camp and noted that:

Smoke and noise and heat of the city lose their realism for some 300 underprivileged St. Paul children each summer during the days they spend at St. John's Landing camp near Hinckley. Funds for their outing come from the annual Dispatch-Pioneer Press Fisherman's party, held each spring. Away from crowded corners of the city, the boys and girls thrive on swimming, hiking, good food, long sleeps and sun.

Norway Point Group Camp, originally known as the boy's camp, opened in 1938. The lessee in 1939 was the Minneapolis Section, National Council of Jewish Women and Jewish Juniors. They called Norway Point, "Council Camp on-the-St. Croix" and printed a newsletter called Pine Needle. They returned the next year and noted that, "The 1940 camp season at Council Camp on-the-St. Croix, Hinckley, Minnesota, was helped tremendously by the addition of a waterfront built by damming Hay Creek. The new craft house also contributed to the improvement of handicraft activities and added immeasurably to both the attractiveness and efficiency of the camp."

Head of the Rapids, the third of St. Croix's group camps, opened in July 1941 and was leased by the Minnesota Association for Crippled Children and Disabled Adults, Inc. Although construction

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was not yet complete, four two-weeks sessions were conducted based on the age of the campers, which ranged from 11 to 70 years.

Mrs. Michael J. Dowling, the organization's executive secretary, prepared reports in August and October 1941 in which she noted:

The location of the camp is fine, the surroundings natural - wild flowers in abundance, a large variety of trees, grasses ferns, birds, and deer - just such a spot as a lover of nature would pick for a vacation...

Of the 144 campers (in 1941) there were the following cases - Post poliomyelitis - 40, Spastic Paralysis - 31, Spinal Deformity - 6, Cardiac - 13, Congenital Deformity - 3, Amputations - 4, Arthritis - 6, Muscular Distrophy - 4, Dislocated Hips - 2, Spinal Meningitis - 1, Multiple Sclerosis - 2, Sleeping Sickness - 1, Other - 31...

One can express the valuation of a camping program for the handicapped in terms of the many social contacts established (otherwise impossible for the many shutins), the new outdoor experience gained, the happy moments spent in a group whether at the dinner table, in song or in cabin, the visible and expressed changes of mental attitude from embittered expressions to happier ones, and the physical pick-up received by being in the sun of a protected wilderness...

I hope our board of directors will plan for and finance a camp for handicapped people during the summer of 1942. I recommend that this camping period include June, July, and August, - - in order that more adults may have the privilege of such a vacation. As many other groups are anxious to secure this camp for 1942, I recommend that a permit be secured now...

We encouraged visitors because the camp, as far as we know, is the only organized camp of its kind in the United States for men, women and children from eleven years up...

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The cost of operating the 8 week program totaled \$4,410.11, including the camp rental fee of \$240.00.

The Park Service design philosophy for group camps was well-articulated in their 1938 publication, <u>Park and Recreation</u>

<u>Structures</u>. Chapters are included on camp lay-out, administration and basic service facilities, recreational and cultural facilities, cooking and dining facilities, and camp sleeping facilities. Considerable research appears to have been done as noted in statement that:

The history of group camping reveals a continual reduction in the recommended number of campers housed in one sleeping unit. Actual experience with age groups in camp, particularly younger children, shows that as "dormitory" groups were made smaller, many behavior problems disappeared and the campers were happier...It was found that eight campers in a cabin was better than twelve, that six was a still better-sized group, and that four seemed best of all.8

A variety of sites plans were included as well as a chart which was intended to illustrate the factors involved in locating, developing, and operating an organized camp. Site factors were listed as well as the necessary infrastructure, staff, and possible activities. The objectives were safety; physical and emotional health; new interests, appreciations, and skills; social adjustment and growth; spiritual growth; and fun, enjoyment, and adventure. Together all these factors were intended to develop an individual who was a healthy, happy, responsible, member of society.

⁸Good, Albert H., <u>Park and Recreation Structures</u>. p. 173.

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Beginning in 1941 formal discussions began between the State of Minnesota and the National Park Service for the transfer of the St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area to the state, which had been the ultimate intent since the early days of the project. On June 6, 1942 President Roosevelt signed Public Law 594 of the 77th Congress which authorized the conveyance of the recreational demonstration projects, their lands, improvements, and equipment, to the states. On January 27, 1943, a bill was introduced in the Minnesota legislature authorizing both the acceptance of the property and the establishment of St. Croix State Park, which was signed by Governor Stassen on April 5, 1943. On May 13, 1943 a quitclaim deed was signed by Harold Ickes, the Secretary of the Interior, which was approved by President Roosevelt on May 14, 1943. The deed noted:

.....the United States of America...doth hereby remise, release, and quitclaim unto the State of Minnesota, all of the right, title, and interest of the United States of America in and to the lands and all improvements comprised within the project designated and known as St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area, situated and lying in the County of Pine and State of Minnesota...

A bill of sale was also prepared which transferred all the equipment on the RDA. Both documents noted that the transfer was, "made upon the express condition that the State of Minnesota shall use the said equipment exclusively for public park, recreational, and conservation purposes..." Ninety-one parcels of lands were described and detailed listings of all equipment on the RDA were included which itemized everything from lumber and nails to cots and blankets. A certificate of acceptance was signed by Chester O. Wilson, Commissioner of Conservation, and Harold W. Lathrop, Director of State Parks, on September 27, 1943. A press release by the Park Service stated:

Secretary of the Interior Ickes announced Thursday he has signed a deed granting to Minnesota an 18,499-acre recreational area which is to be the major part of the new St. Croix park...

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In addition, some 7,000 acres have been acquired from the Northern States Power Co., and other land will make the park a total of 30,557 acres...

All told there were 46 areas developed in 24 states as part of the Recreational Demonstration Area program. Two sites became new areas in the National Park system, Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park in North Dakota and Hopewell Village National Historic Site in Pennsylvania. Seven sites were extensions of the existing National Park system, including Arcadia National Park, White Sands National Monument, Manassas National Battlefield Park, Shenandoah National Park, Badlands National Monument, Kings Mountain National Military Park, and the Blue Ridge Parkway. Two waysides were also established in Virginia and South Carolina. However, the heart of the program was found in five state park extensions and thirty-one newly established RDAs:

State Park Extensions

Name	<u>State</u>	Approximate Acreage
Alex H. Stephens	Georgia	985
Pine Mountain	Georgia	3,023
Custer Park	South Dakota	20,168
Falls Creek Falls	Tennessee	15,785
Lake Guernsey	Wyoming	1,880
		41,841

⁹The lands owned by Northern States Power, also referred to as the United Power and Land Company, had been leased to the federal government in 1940. This lease was assigned to the State of Minnesota as part of the overall transfer but these lands were eventually conveyed to the state.

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St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area
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Recreational Demonstration Areas

Name	<u>State</u>	Approximate Acreage
Oak Mountain	Alabama	7,802
Mendocino	California	5,425
Hard Labor Creek	Georgia	5,816
Pere Marquette	Illinois	2,205
Versailles	Indiana	5,345
Winamac	Indiana	6,250
Otter Creek	Kentucky	2,455
Camden	Maine	5,153
Catoctin ¹⁰	Maryland	9,988
Waterloo	Michigan	12,105
Yankee Springs	Michigan	4,217
St. Croix ¹¹	Minnesota	<u>18,483</u>
Lake of the Ozarks	Missouri	16,023
Cuivre River	Missouri	5,751
Montserrat	Missouri	3,444
Bear Brook	New Hampshire	6,347
Crabtree Creek	North Carolina	4,986
Lake Murray	Oklahoma	2,230
Silver Creek	Oregon	3,391
Raccoon Creek	Pennsylvania	5,066
French Creek ¹²	Pennsylvania	5,971
Laurel Hill	Pennsylvania	4,025
Blue Knob	Pennsylvania	5,565
Hickory Run	Pennsylvania	12,907
Beach Pond	Rhode Island	1,619
Cheraw	South Carolina	6,930

^{105,659} acres of the Catoctin RDA were set aside in 1942 on which to build a retreat for President Roosevelt, which he called Shangri-La. Later President Eisenhower changed the name to Camp David after his grandson.

¹¹This figure apparently did not include the lands acquired from Northern States Power, which along with state lands brought the total figure to over 30,000 acres by 1943.

¹²This site contains 848 acres retained by the National Park Service to form the Hopewell Village National Historic Site mentioned earlier. Because the land is contiguous, this site was apparently counted as one RDA.

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Kings Mountain	South Carolina	6,069
Montgomery Bell	Tennessee	3,821
Shelby Forest	Tennessee	12,478
Swift Creek	Virginia	7,548
Chopawamsie	Virginia	14,414
		213,829

Of these, 34 included group camp facilities, one of the hallmarks of RDA design.

Conrad Wirth, the director of the State Park Assistance Division of the National Park Service, who later became Director of the Park Service, stated:

I look back on the RDA program as one of the really fine accomplishments of the New Deal. It involved practically every new emergency agency that had funds available for land acquisition and development and the authorities in twenty-four states, as well as the old-line bureaus of the federal government that had continuing responsibilities. Considerable ingenuity was required to bring everything together for the common purpose. This feat turned out to be relatively easy, however, because those in charge really believed in the objectives. 13

Landscape historian, Norman T. Newton, also praised the creation of the RDAs:

But perhaps the most remarkable collateral product of CCC days was the series of Recreational Demonstration Projects in twenty-four states. This endeavor involved

¹³Wirth, Conrad, Parks, Politics, and the People. pp. 189-190.

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government purchase of nearly four hundred thousand acres of submarginal land and use of CCC camps and funds from the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) to plan and develop the areas for recreational purposes under supervision of the National Park Service...

The master-planning of entire RDAs and then the design of the various organized camps within them, in collaboration with the architects and engineers, were among the most interesting and rewarding jobs that faced landscape architects of the Park Service, both in Washington headquarters and in the field. Certainly no problem of landscape architectural design illustrates more clearly the necessary close relationship between physical form and consequent social results...

Fundamental to the layout of an organized camp, as a reflection of the camp's operational program, was decentralization and a scaling-down of the component parts, with the welcome result of minimizing the heavy-handed institutionalism too often found in mass camping. The camps were organized in a unit system, the smallest element being a tent or cabin for four campers. These were assembled in clusters of four, five, six or on rare occasions eight cabins; this group, with accessory structures, was termed the "unit." The unit thus comprised, in multiples of four, from sixteen to thirty-two campers, plus a unit lodge and kitchen, a unit wash-house and latrine, and one or two counselors' cabins...

The most customary size was a camp or ninety-six campers, four units of twenty-four campers or six cabins in each. In every case the units were located out of sight and sound of each other and of an administrative core, which contained the main recreation and dining hall; a central hot-shower house, laundry, and latrine; an infirmary; an administration building; quarters for the director, staff, and helpers...The entrance road of the camp was also allowed to penetrate only as far as an arrival space and parking area at the administration

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building, beyond which a mere service road for trucks extended to the kitchen wing of the dining hall. All other connections among parts of the camp and with the swimming beach were by foot trail only.

In operation, the completed camp functioned as a clear expression of this typical layout. The unit, with a high degree of self-sufficiency, was the camper's immediate focus of action. Within it, each had a personal role, for each was expected to take his turn in preparing the breakfast (or an occasional) midday meal. In its essentials the program was thus sociologically and educationally sound; it inculcated a sense of personal freedom, coupled with equal assumption of personal responsibility. It promoted healthy group loyalties in the child-with a strong aura of belonging, first to the cabin's team of four, next to the unit of twenty-four, then to membership in the wholeness of the camp. In its way it presented a microcosm of life in a viable society...

The RDAs and their exemplary organized camps were obviously a great contribution to the progress of the state park movement. Indeed, the temptation is to evaluate them as the most outstanding accomplishment of the CCC period. But such a judgment would overlook the magnitude of the total ECW program and the enormous production of the CCC camps. 14

¹⁴Newton, Norman T., <u>Design on the Land: The Development of Landscape</u> <u>Architecture</u>. pp. 588-595.

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The St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area meets the registration requirements as established in the Multiple Property Documentation Form entitled, "Minnesota State Park CCC/WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources." Construction was completed with labor and funding from a variety of New Deal programs and includes the most complete and extensive collection of Rustic Style buildings in the state park system. The St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area is an outstanding example of one of the New Deal's most notable achievements which included far-reaching social goals of relocating farmers from submarginal lands that were to be transformed into recreation areas to meet the needs of the underprivileged. Retaining almost complete integrity to the period, the park remains an exceptional example of the innovative National Park Service design principles of master planning and group camp design. 15

¹⁵National Park Service landscape historian Ethan Carr is currently completing the documentation to nominate the St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area as a National Historic Landmark in the theme of landscape.

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St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area Section number 9 Page 82 Pine County, Minnesota

Major Bibliographical References

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 <u>Landscape Architecture</u>. Cambridge: The Belknap Press of the
 Harvard University Press, 1971.
- St. Croix State Park. Site plans and working drawings for buildings and structures at the St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area. Pine County, Minnesota.
- Wirth, Conrad L. <u>Parks</u>, <u>Politics and the People</u>. Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1980.

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St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area Pine County, Minnesota

Geographical Data

<u>WTU</u>	<u>Quadrangle</u>	Zone	Easting	<u>Northing</u>	
1	Cloverdale	15	528130	5095280	
2	Danbury West	15	543300	5095380	
3	Yellow Lake	15	541440	5090700	
4	Monson Lake	15	536620	5091920	
5	Monson Lake	15	534730	5088480	
6	Lake Clayton	15	528010	5085470	
7	Grantsburg	15	519900	5077510	
8	Lake Clayton	15	519900	5083080	
9	Cedar Lake	15	515860	5083080	
10	Cedar lake	15	515850	5089580	
11	Lake Clayton	15	528150	5089580	

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area is shown as the heavy line on the accompanying USGS maps. It is defined by the park's statutory boundary, excluding any privately owned lands or those not administered by the park.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is based on the park's historic boundary, which was determined by the park's master plan as developed by the National Park Service during the period of significance. Land purchases continued into the modern era to acquire all lands within this boundary. However, the park has reached its mature form and no plans exist to purchase additional lands in the foreseeable future. For this reason, all privately held lands within the statutory boundary (all of which are located on the park's perimeters) are excluded from nomination. In addition, a parcel along the northern boundary which is owned by the Mille Lacs Lake Indian Reservation is also excluded. Moreover, these lands are not administered by the park nor may visitors access them.

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No specific boundaries were drawn by the architects and landscape architects of the National Park Service for the park's five developed Rather, each area was selected in order to take full advantage of the park's expansive acreage and shoreline along the St. Croix River and to exploit the recreational and scenic opportunities offered by each location. Practical considerations were also important such as selecting sites with land adequate for building away from the numerous swamp and marsh lands and by logically positioning the Park Headquarters and public use area in the most central and accessible portions of the park while locating the group camps in the more distant The importance of specific features is illustrated by the Head of the Rapids Group Camp in that one reason the remote site was selected was because it offered a safe swimming beach on the river, an issue which had been a concern at the two earlier camps. areas were located at least several miles apart in order to provide sufficient separation between the use areas and to minimize the possibility of any conflict between the various users.

NPS Form 10900-a (8-86)

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or Indian ownership.

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St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area Pine County, Minnesota

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Prior to park development, substantial acreage in the southern areas of the current park was owned by the government or a utility company interested in flowage rights. Park development concentrated on the St. Croix River corridor and, thus, land acquisition along the northern boundary was less critical in achieving the goals outlined in the park's master plan. Therefore, boundary irregularities are more pronounced at the park's northern perimeter where land was in private

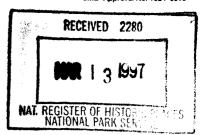
An example of a privately owned parcel still exists on the park's northern boundary (See Section 25, T 141 N, R 18 W, Wilbur Lake Quad). Here a parcel of privately owned property extends in a contiguous line from the southeast quarter to the northeast quarter of Section 25. In our opinion, this represents one contiguous parcel of private property which is connected at a point where two half quarter sections meet and therefore is not encircled by state park land. This condition existed since the park's inception and has no impact on the integrity of the historic district.

Ian R. Stewart

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

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Additional Documentation

Photographs of non-contributing resources

A set of maps which depict the location of resources that have identical identification numbers. Photographs of these resources were submitted with the original nomination

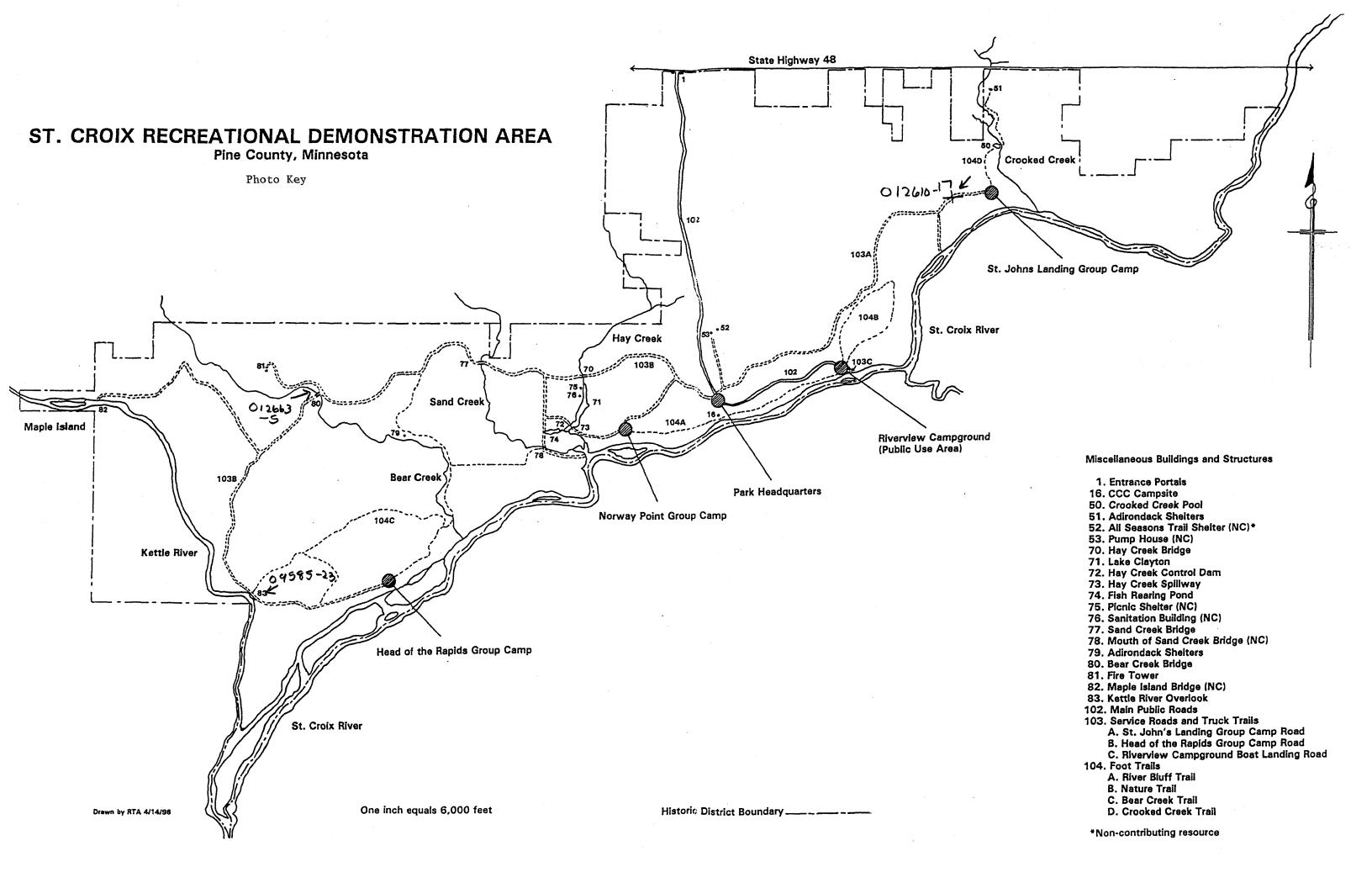
The photograph depicting Trail #49 shows the trail leading to the recreational field. The field is the small open area in the center of the photograph

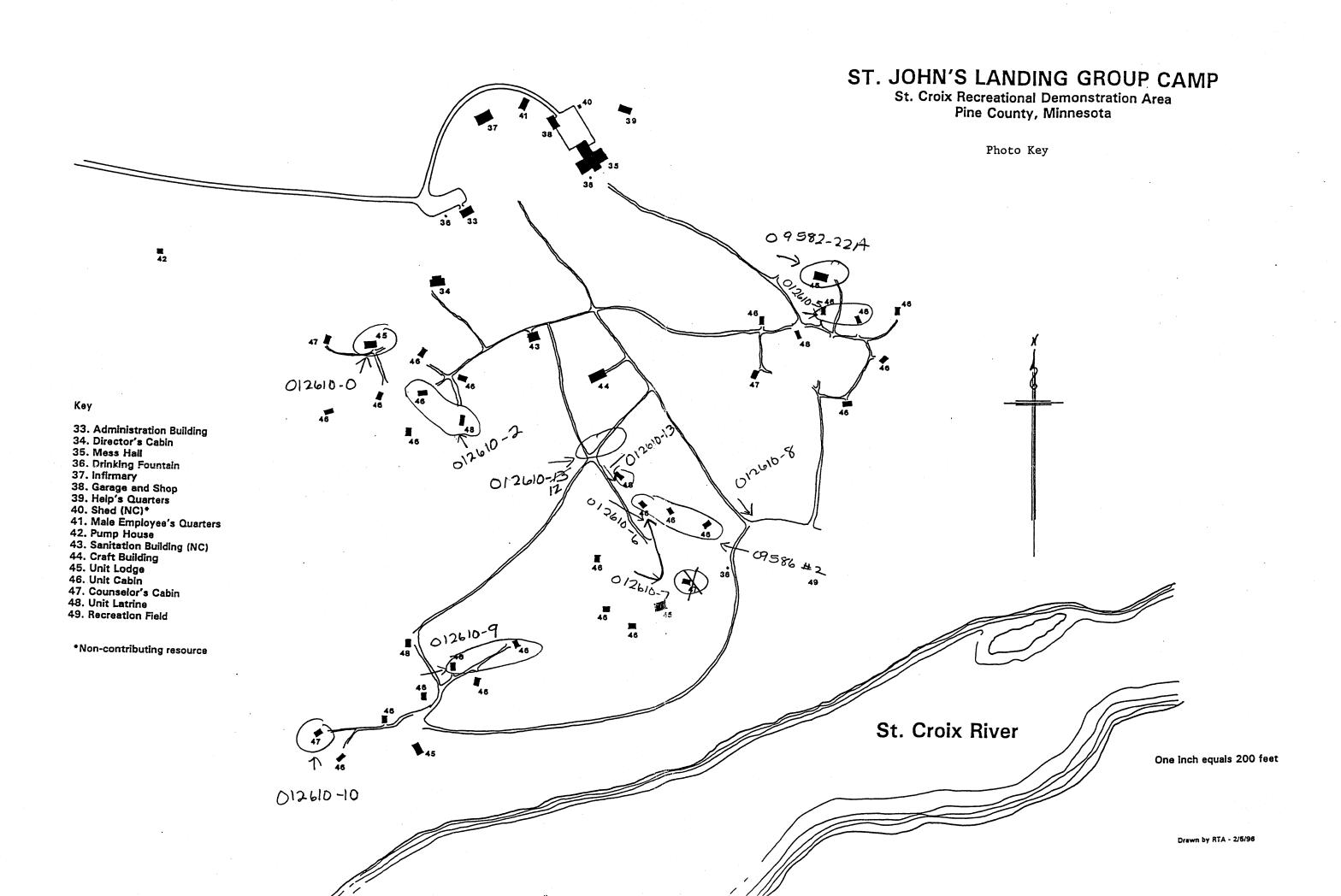
Tan R. Stewart

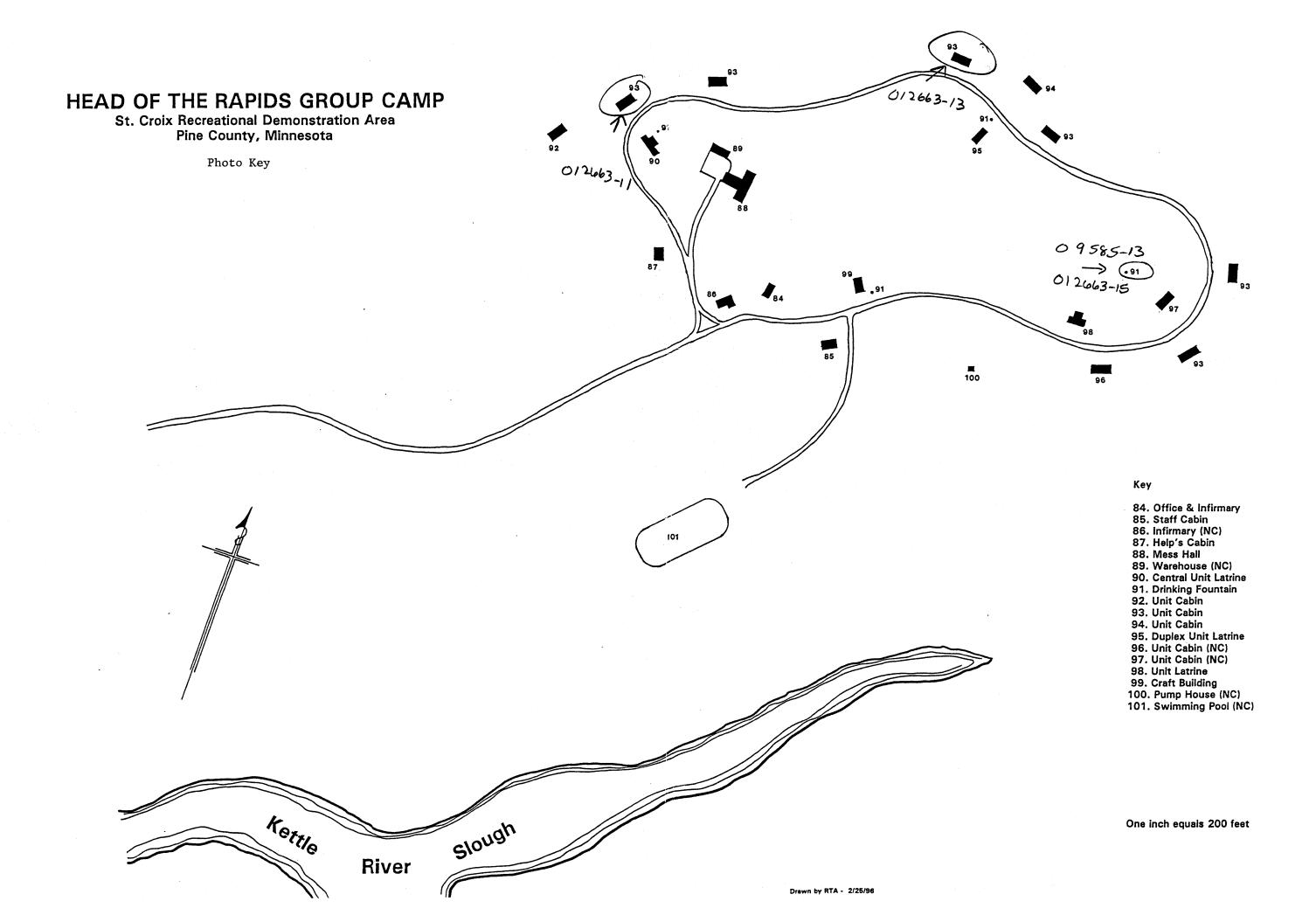
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Minnesota Historical Society

3/3/97







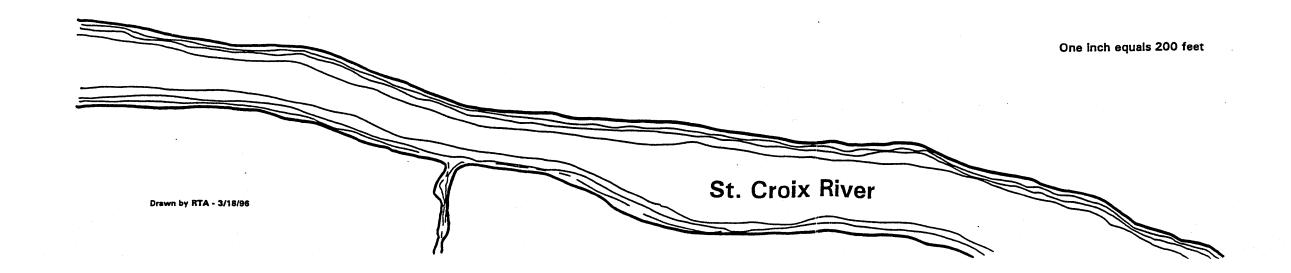
NORWAY POINT GROUP CAMP St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area Pine County, Minnesota Photo Key Camp Entrance Road To Lake Clayton 012662-23

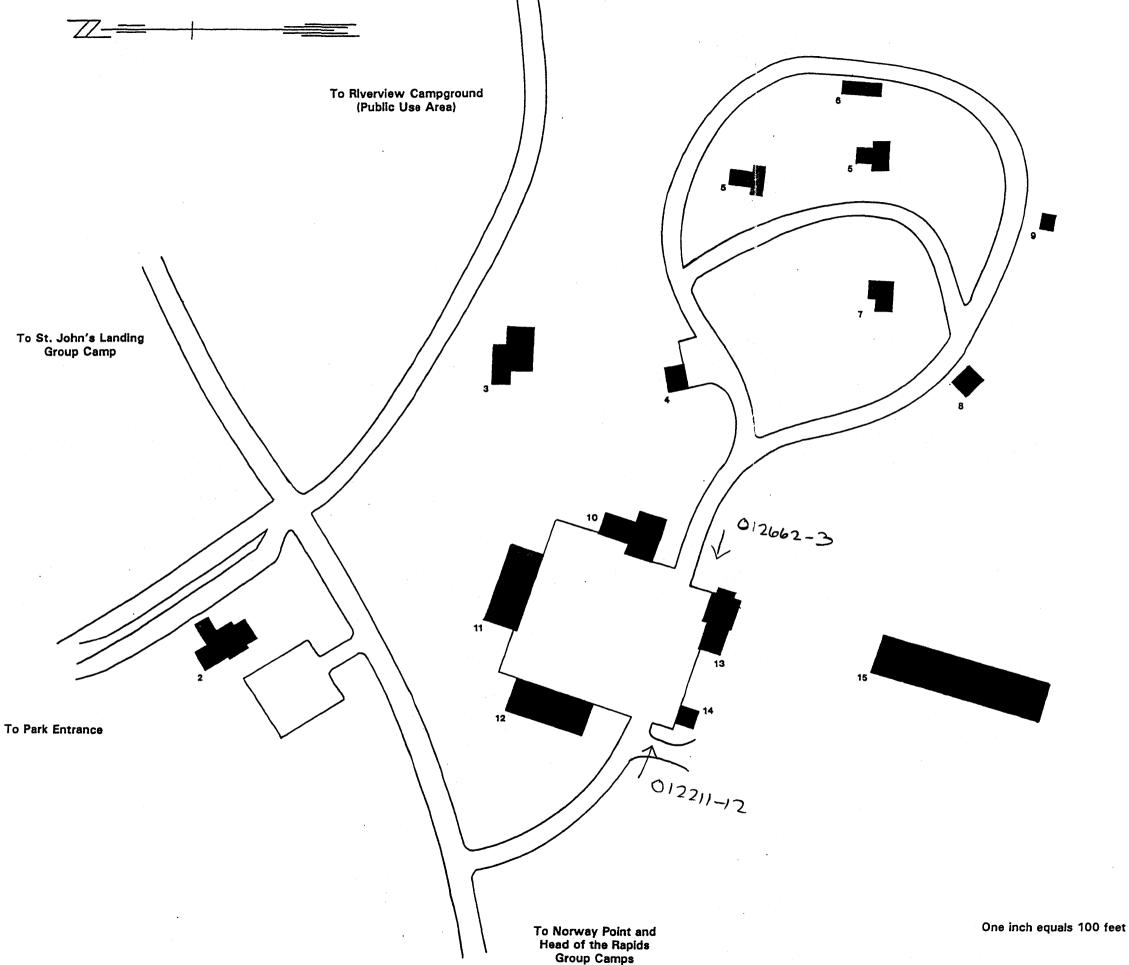
Key

- 54. Administration Building55. Staff Quarters
- 56. Infirmary

- 56. Infirmary
 57. Mess Hall
 58. Drinking Fountain
 59. Help's Quarters
 60. Help's Quarters
 61. Warehouse
 62. Sanitation Building (NC)*
 63. Craft Building
 64. Pump House
 65. Unit Lodge
 66. Unit Cabin
 67. Unit Latrine
 68. Recreation Field
 69. Portable School Building (N 69. Portable School Building (NC)

*Non-contributing resource





PARK HEADQUARTERS

St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area Pine County, Minnesota

Photo Key

Key

- 2. Contact Station
 3. Superintendent's Cabin
 4. Custodian's Garage
 5. Employee's Family Residence
 6. Garage
 7. Residence

- 7. Residence
 8. Garage (NC)*
 9. Water Tower
 10. Ice and Wood House
 11. Lumber Storage Building (NC)
 12. Warehouse
 13. Shop Building
 14. Oil and Paint Building
 15. Shop/Garage (NC)

Drawn by RTA - 3/5/96

^{*}Non-contributing resource