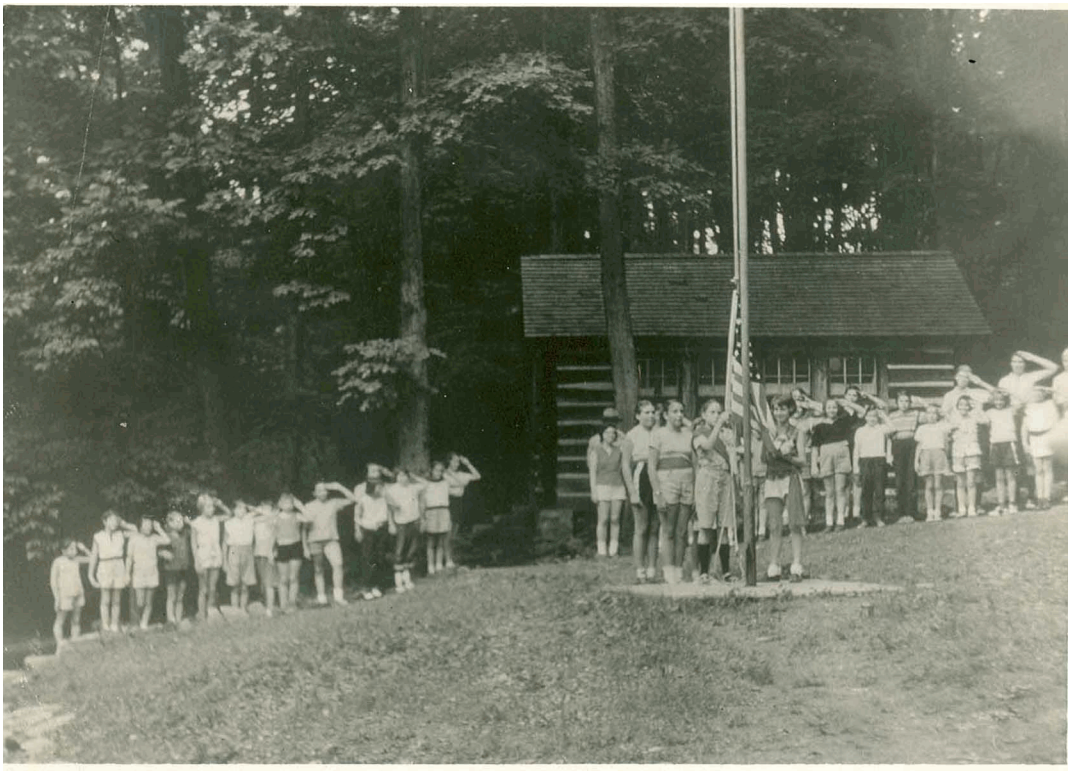
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2006



Camp Misty Mount
Catoctin Mountain Park

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Inventory Summary

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

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Purpose and Goals of the CLI

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI), a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the national park system, is one of the most ambitious initiatives of the National Park Service (NPS) Park Cultural Landscapes Program. The CLI is an evaluated inventory of all landscapes having historical significance that are listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources through a public planning process and in which the NPS has or plans to acquire any legal interest. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into a national database. In addition, for landscapes that are not currently listed on the National Register and/or do not have adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Keeper of the National Register.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures, assists the NPS in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2006), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that respond to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two GPRA goals are associated with the CLI: bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (Goal 1a7) and increasing the number of CLI records that have complete, accurate, and reliable information (Goal 1b2B).

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries and archives and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the site's overall significance. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features, and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's overall integrity and an assessment of the landscape's overall condition. The CLI also provides an illustrative site plan that indicates major features within the inventory unit. Unlike cultural landscape reports, the CLI does not provide management recommendations or treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape.

Inventory Unit Description:

Camp Misty Mount is a cabin camp, originally called an "organized group camp," one of about a hundred such camps built by the Park Service during the New Deal of the 1930s as part of what were termed "recreational demonstration areas" (RDAs). It is located within Catoctin Mountain Park, originally Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area, in the mountains on the western edge of Maryland's Piedmont region, near the Maryland/Pennsylvania border. Called Organized Group Camp 1-C when built, it was the first of three group camps built in the Catoctin RDA. It opened in 1937 and was followed in 1938 and 1939 by two other camps. The town of Thurmont is at the eastern foot of the mountain; the closest city is Frederick, Maryland, 15 miles to the south; and the cities of Baltimore and Washington, D.C., are within a 50-mile radius of the park.

Recreational demonstration areas were a type of project that the National Park Service drew up in 1934 as part of the continuing response by the Roosevelt Administration to the social and economic crisis of the Great Depression, specifically in connection with agricultural reform. Since the 1920s, agricultural economists and academicians had been discussing problems of agriculture, one of which was the problem of economically obsolete farms. The momentum of New Deal reform offered an opportune moment to create a land utilization program through which unproductive or underproductive farm land (called "submarginal") could be retired from cultivation by federal purchase and the farmers living there resettled. Government agencies were encouraged to propose uses for this land. Among the participants, the Park Service proposed to develop recreational demonstration areas on land relatively close to urban populations, which were seen as a demographic not well-served with parks in natural areas. The construction of facilities for the RDAs would address the Administration's greatest preoccupation: putting people back to work.

The Land Program, or Submarginal Lands Acquisition Program – a more self-explanatory title – was initially coordinated by the Rural Rehabilitation Division of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) and the Land Policy Section of the Agricultural Assistance Administration (AAA). The role of the Park Service was to chose and develop some lands purchased as recreational sites. In mid-1935, the activities of FERA and the AAA relating to rural resettlement and submarginal lands were reorganized and consolidated into the Resettlement Administration. By the time the first camp at Catoctin was begun in late 1936, the recreational demonstration projects of the Land Program had been turned over to the sole direction of the Park Service.

Chief among the RDA facilities to be built were organized group camps, an obscure term today, but one that meant something very like "summer camp" at the time. The word "organized" referred at various times either to the organization that would sponsor the camp, the physical layout of the camp, or the organized program and objectives of the camp. Camps could be built for children or adults and variations thereof; there would be camps for boys, girls, co-ed camps, camps for adults, families and even some for mothers and small children. Sponsoring organizations were to be a nonprofit group, educational, health, welfare or religious in orientation, or a social club – organizations which were unable to finance the purchase of land and construction of their own camp facilities, but which could organize and run a summer program. The focus on children's camps was particularly strong. Camping advocates impressed upon the Park Service the character-building and health aspects of children's camps, and the slogan "a camp for every child" expressed the sense of mission felt by some. (NPS, Yearbook: Park and Recreation Progress, 1937, Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office:

38-40.)

The submarginal land program called for state cooperation in choosing eligible land. Maryland's head of the Cooperative Extension Service at the University of Maryland proposed the Catoctin Mountains as a potential site. Though the percentage of farmland was small, the area was economically troubled and its forest overworked. For roughly a hundred years, the forest there had supplied a nearby iron furnace with charcoal. In more recent times it had been home to much logging and had borne the effects of the chestnut blight. A Park Service inspector visited in the late fall of 1934 and described the area this way:

"rather mountainous, covered with good timber. Interspersed over the plateaus and valleys are farm lands which are not productive. Toward the eastern end of the area there is some very beautiful scenery and I believe possibilities for the creation of lakes. The altitude is rather high making it cool in the summer time, a very desirable point to consider for a recreational area to serve people from cities during the summer months." (Tell W. Nicolet to A.E. Weatherwax, 19 November 1934, RDA Program files, box 61, National Archives.)

Approval was given for the purchase of 10,000 acres and appraisers arrived to select and purchase tracts of land. This proved to be a slow process and it was a year before work on the project began.

The site chosen for the first camp, Camp 1-C (Misty Mount), is an east and south-facing slope, on the east side of the mountains. It is fairly steep in sections with rocky outcrops and lies just above the headwaters of a small tributary (first order) stream. The camp's elevation ranges from 1100 to 1200 feet, which is about 700 feet above the adjacent Monocacy Valley. It is likely that the site was at the periphery of the original charcoaling area but later became part of furnace-owned land. Very likely it was logged after furnace operations ceased. During Prohibition, an illegal still was set up close by. In spite of these uses, the site was covered with what was classified in the 1930s as a mixed-age forest.

The camp had no defined boundaries; it blended into the larger park landscape and still does. Some job orders of the time cite an area of 30 acres, which was the figure given for any developed zone. The historic district delineated in the National Register nomination uses the park road for one side of the boundary and three additional lines at right angles to each other to create a polygon that measures 72 acres. (Sara Amy Leach, "Camp (1) Misty Mount Historic District," National Register of Historic Places, October 11, 1989.)

Camp Misty Mount was designed as a camp for children and was built on a "unit plan," as were all the organized camps. This meant that that camp was divided into several smaller units that could operate independently at certain times of the day or week; these were dispersed like "satellites" around a central administrative core of camp buildings. Each unit (there were generally three or four units to a camp) was comprised of sleeping cabins for campers and camp leaders, a lodge and a latrine/washhouse. The central core of buildings was made up of a dining room/kitchen, staff and help quarters, camp office, infirmary, central wash/shower house, a building for crafts and other activities and at least one building for equipment storage. A footpath connected the units to each other and to the dining hall and other centralized use areas. Since swimming was such an important and loved

activity of summer camps, either a lake was created by damming a stream or a swimming pool was built. Camp Misty Mount has a pool. Another feature of a camp was its campfire circle.

The organized camps of the RDAs, like all the extensive park work carried out during the 1930s by relief workers and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) under the direction of the Park Service, were built in the rustic style, an aesthetic approach favoring buildings "plain and simple in form, rude or primitive in workmanship, and constructed with materials in their natural or roughly worked state." (Wesley Haynes, Adirondacks Camps National Historic Landmarks Theme Study, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, March 28, 2000: 18.) The rustic style also implied a certain kind of landscape treatment, naturalistic and picturesque in approach, with features sited to preserve the natural topography and vegetation. Use of regional forms, especially from an area's pioneer or settlement period, was another aspect of the rustic style.

Organized camping as a beneficial activity for young people first emerged after the Civil War. Camps at first were few and were started by such groups as the YWCA (1874), the YMCA (1885) and the Boys' Club (1900), among the more recognizable organizations. The sense of there being a summer camp movement does not begin until the early 20th century, with the founding of scouting and other organizations that included camping as part of their activities. The experience of the woods was a central theme in camping, as was, for a long while, the focus on pioneer and Indian skills.

In the 1910s and 1920s, a large number of public camps were built by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission at Bear Mountain and Harriman State Park in New York/New Jersey. These were a prototype for the camps the Park Service built for the RDAs in the 1930s. The camps at the Palisades had drawn their inspiration from the family camps of the Adirondack Mountains in northeastern New York, whose log architecture had earlier been a direct influence on the hotels built by concessioners in national parks, thus becoming a source of the Park Service's own rustic aesthetic. One of the most innovative features of the Adirondack camps was the creation of compounds, with many buildings separated by function. There would be sleeping cabins, dining room, staff housing, nurseries for children, a boathouse, an open air pavilion, etc. The camps were also exceptional for the way they integrated building and site. This concern for the site and how construction could be introduced to it with minimal disruption spread from the Adirondack camps to other types of resorts and to the national parks. (Haynes: 14-16)

Camp Misty Mount was built by local relief workers hired through the Works Progress Administration (WPA), which after 1939 was called the Work Projects Administration. Conrad Wirth, who headed the planning division of the Park Service (at that time called the division of planning and state cooperation), took on the task of running the RDA program. His division was already responsible for the state parks program, under which hundreds of state parks were built in partnership with states and with the labor of the CCC. The CCC also built some of the RDAs, but did not arrive at the Catoctin site until 1939, by which time the three camps there were already built. The designers of the RDA facilities: architects, engineers, landscape architects, planners, etc., in addition to the project manager, resided near the site, while regional offices (Catoctin's regional office was in Richmond, Virginia) reviewed all work.

Wirth was apparently pleased with the camps at the Catoctin RDA. He invited high ranking officials from the Interior Department and the National Park Service to attend weekend outings – at Misty Mount one year and at Camp 2 (Greentop) the next. Use by groups for short term stays outside of the summer camping season was another planned use. Some of the buildings had glazed windows and fireplaces and could be used even in winter.

The Maryland League for Crippled Children, a Baltimore organization dedicated to children with polio and other physical impairments, was among the first to seek a camp at the Catoctin RDA. They sponsored the first camping season at Misty Mount in the summer of 1937, while awaiting the completion of the second camp, which was situated on terrain more suitable for their campers. In the second summer season (1938), and for the next three summers, the Salvation Army sponsored a summer camp at Misty Mount. In 1940 and 1941, two weeks of the summer season were set aside for the Girl Scouts of Washington County.

The country's entry into World War II brought to a close this idyllic first chapter of summer camping at Misty Mount. In the spring of 1942, the entire park was closed and it was transferred to the armed forces for an unspecified term of years. Various military divisions were stationed at different times at Misty Mount. During that time the camp was winterized by glazing or blocking up windows, adding heaters, putting up wall boards and ceilings, blocking off the spaces between the foundation piers and other actions. This may have been when the foot trail between the camp units was first surfaced with gravel.

Most notable of the wartime changes, the third camp was transformed, early in 1942, to become a retreat for President Roosevelt. For some of the same reasons that the RDAs were established where they were – so as to be easily reachable by city dwellers – the Catoctin RDA was also the most easily-reached remote location, with cool breezes, available to the President. Its continuance as the presidential retreat after the war forever changed the park.

In June 1939, the Park Service sought authorization to return the RDAs to their respective states, a process that would continue up to the war. (Sara Amy Leach, "Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) Architecture at Catoctin Mountain Park," Multiple Property Documentation Form, National Register of Historic Places, Section E, 11, October 11, 1989.) Forty Six RDAs had been built in 24 states, 31 of which contained group camps. Two of the RDAs with group camps remained in federal hands: Catoctin RDA because it had the presidential retreat (although this was not the stated reason) and Chopawamsic RDA (now Prince William Forest Park) to continues as a camp and vacation place for organizations from Washington, D.C.

After the war, Camps Misty Mount and Greentop reopened. In 1954, the Catoctin RDA was split in half and the southern portion turned over to the state of Maryland. The new Catoctin Mountain Park, the northern half of the former RDA, which contained the three cabin camp, remained within the national park system. Misty Mount hosted the Washington County Girl Scouts for most summers through the 1970s. Problems with water supply caused closure of the camp in the late 1970s, and when it reopened in the early 1980s, it no longer had a sponsoring organization. Today it is rare for a group to hold a summer camp at Camp Misty Mount for longer than a week. Together, these shorter

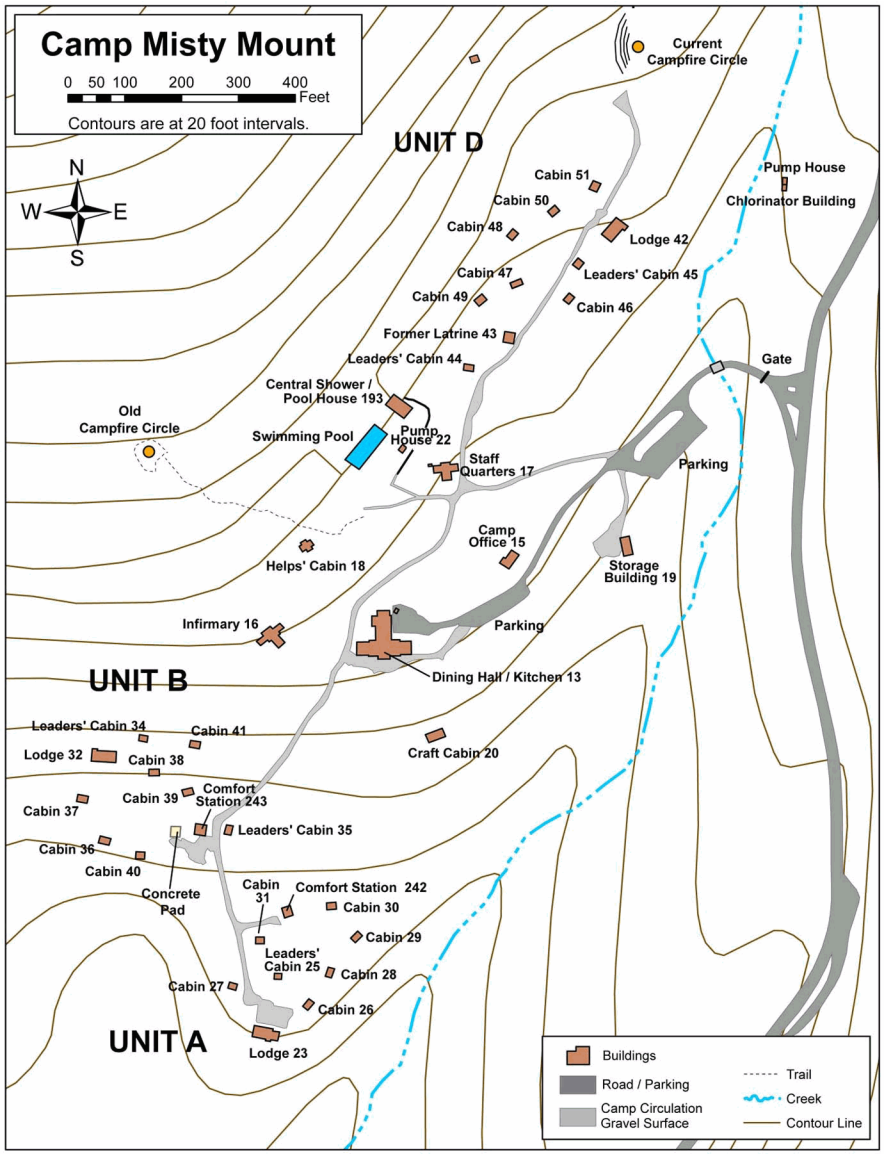
summer camps account for about half the summer. At other times of the summer and throughout the year it is rented for shorter terms to groups and individuals.

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, all surviving park architecture from the New Deal period became eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and subject to the requirements of Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Camp Misty Mount was listed on the National Register in 1989, with significance under Criterion A for its being representative of the human and natural conservation efforts of the New Deal, and Criterion C, related to NPS-sponsored rustic architecture, in concert with the rise of outdoor recreation. The period of significance is given as 1934 to 1938. It is also part of a separate multiple property listing under the theme "Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) Architecture at Catoctin Mountain Park." It is suggested here that the significance period be revised to span the years 1935 to 1941. It is also suggested that areas of significance under Criteria A and C be further amplified. This is discussed later in this report in the "Statement of Significance".

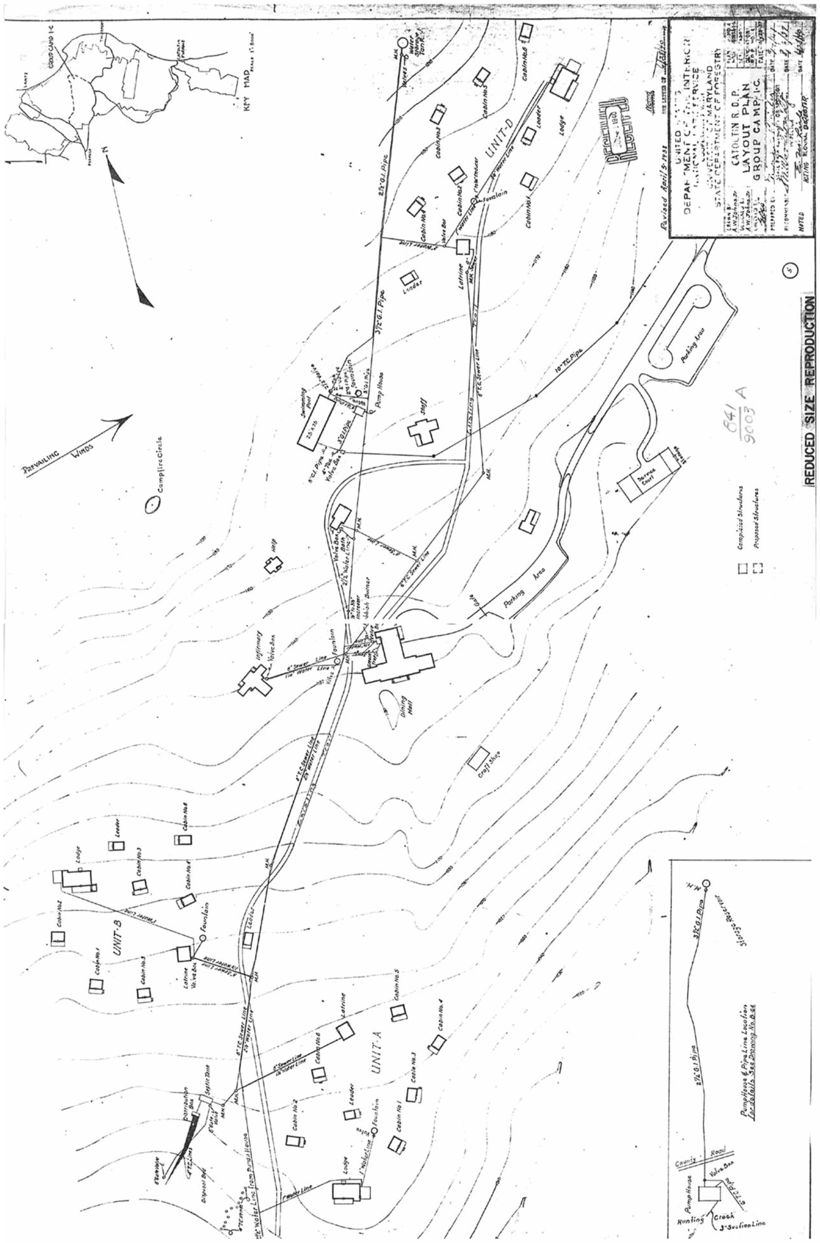
Interest in rustic architecture declined after World War II. In fact, the movement away from it was already occurring toward the end of the New Deal period. Modern architecture, with new materials and a more direct design philosophy, stripped of romance, of detailing, of allusions to the past, and promising good, cheap design for all, had come upon the scene from its origins in Europe. There was neither money, manpower, or interest to build park buildings in a rustic manner again.

Overall, Camp Misty Mount has remained largely intact. It lost three of its historic buildings: the central wash/shower house and two latrines, but 35 others remain, including some very distinctive ones, such as the dining hall/kitchen and three lodges. It is no longer quite as rustic a camp as it once was: electricity has been extended to all buildings and the windows are glazed. Originally only some buildings were outfitted in this way. It is now on a main sewer line, too, operated by the City of Thurmont, rather than using a septic field, as formerly. Water is no longer pumped uphill from Hunting Creek, but drawn from deep wells, and stored in an underground tank. It is gravity-fed through the camp as before. The entrance road and circulation route between the units are in their original locations. The circulation route may have been a pre-existing feature – a woods road or charcoal sled road – in use before the camp was built. It was a foot path in the original design of the camp, and was widened and made into a gravel-surfaced, all-purpose road by the 1950s, if not earlier by its military occupants in the 1940s.

Site Plan



Camp Misty Mount and its features. The camp includes three units, A, B and D, and a central core of buildings, including the dining hall/kitchen, Infirmary, Staff Quarters, Camp Office, etc. (Map from GIS, 2006)



Original Layout Plan for Camp Misty Mount (Group Camp 1-C), dated July 28, 1937, and drawn by A.W. Johns, Jr. It shows the entire camp, the orientation of each cabin, with its porch and steps, the water supply and sewer lines, etc. (TIC 841/9003A)

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name: Camp Misty Mount

Property Level: Component Landscape

CLI Identification Number: 600104

Parent Landscape: 600017

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code: Catoctin Mountain Park -CATO

Park Organization Code: 3200

Park Administrative Unit: Catoctin Mountain Park

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

This inventory is being produced in conjunction with a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR). The CLR differs from the inventory in that it is a treatment document providing guidance on the preservation treatment of cultural and historic landscapes. Some optional fields of the CLI are not presently completed. Since it is a database, these fields can be filled in as time permits. Both the inventory and report were written by Judith Earley, Historical Landscape Architect with the Cultural Landscape Program of the National Capital Region. Research material was gathered from files at Catoctin Mountain Park, including the vertical library files, resource management maps and files, and maintenance division historic drawings files, and from the National Archives, where both textual and cartographic records were reviewed. Plans and drawings were also retrieved from images stored with NPS Technical Information Center (TIC). Many NPS reports and documents were reviewed, some of which were accessed online.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 09/13/2006

National Register Concurrence: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

Date of Concurrence Determination: 09/18/2006

National Register Concurrence Narrative:

The State Historic Preservation Officer for the State of Maryland concurred with the findings of the Camp Misty Mount CLI on 09/18/2006, in accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act. It should be noted that the Date of National Register Eligibility Concurrence refers to this Section 110 Concurrence and not the date of listing on the National Register

Concurrence Graphic Information:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
National Capital Region
Office of Lands, Resources and Planning
1100 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20242

September 6
August 30, 2006

Memorandum

To: Regional Historical Landscape Architect, National Capital Region

From: Superintendent, Catoctin Mountain Park

Subject: Statement of Concurrence, Camp Misty Mount Cultural Landscapes Inventory

I, Mel Poole, Superintendent of Catoctin Mountain Park, concur with the findings of the Camp Misty Mount Cultural Landscapes Inventory as submitted on August 30, 2006.

Mel Poole
Superintendent, Catoctin Mountain Park

9/13/06
Date

Concurrence memo signed by the park superintendent on 9/13/2006.

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
National Capital Region
Office of Lands, Resources and Planning
1100 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20242

September 5, 2006

Memorandum

To: Cultural Landscapes Inventory Coordinator, National Capital Region

From: Maryland State Historic Preservation Officer

Subject: Statement of Concurrence, Camp Misty Mount Cultural Landscapes Inventory

I, J. Rodney Little, Maryland State Historic Preservation Officer, concur with the findings of the Camp Misty Mount Cultural Landscapes Inventory as submitted on September 5, 2006.

Elizabeth Hughes, DSHPO, for
J. Rodney Little,
State Historic Preservation Officer
State of Maryland

9·18·2006
Date

Concurrence memo signed by the MD SHPO on 9/18/2006.

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

Paraphrasing the National Register nomination for Camp (1) Misty Mount Historic District (October 11, 1989), the east boundary of the historic district follows the west edge of Park Central Road, from about 800 feet north of the camp entrance road to 2000 feet south of it. From this point it runs northwest along a straight line for approximately 1800 feet; then northeast, about 2300 feet; and southeast about 750 feet to meet the northern terminus of the boundary at Park Central Road. The

roughly trapezoidal-shaped district encompasses 72 acres. The boundary includes the organized camp buildings and landscape features hat have historically been part of Camp (1) Misty Mount that maintain historic integrity. There are no natural topographical features with which to align the border. Using Park Central Road as the eastern border allows the inclusion of a tributary to Hunting Creek within the district.

State and County:

State: MD

County: Frederick County

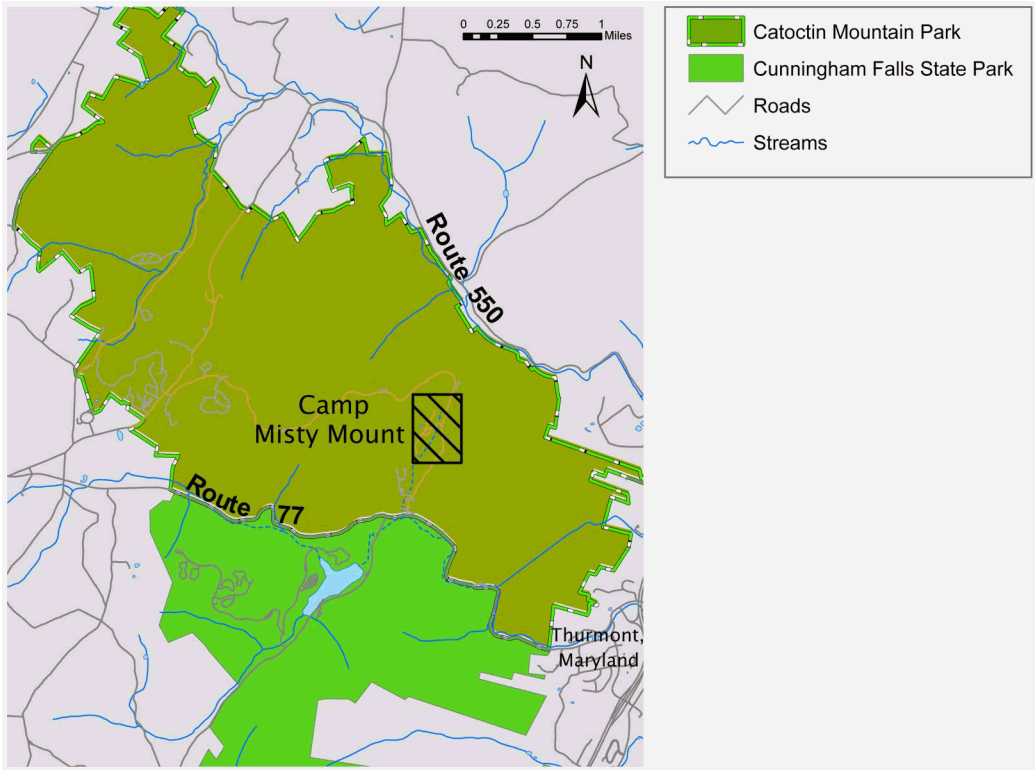
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Boundary UTMS:

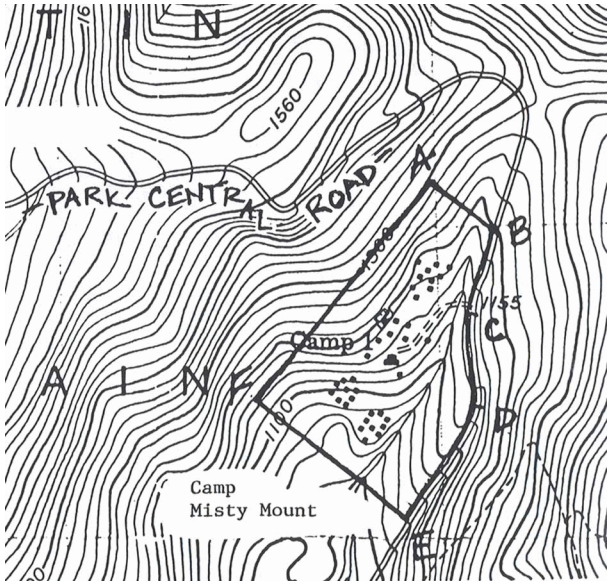
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Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
UTM Easting:	289,980
UTM Northing:	4,391,120
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
UTM Easting:	290,140
UTM Northing:	4,391,000
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
UTM Easting:	290,070
UTM Northing:	4,390,770
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
UTM Easting:	290,090
UTM Northing:	4,390,530
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000

Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
UTM Easting:	289,900
UTM Northing:	4,390,240
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
UTM Easting:	289,510
UTM Northing:	4,390,560

Location Map:



Camp Misty Mount is shown in relation to the rest of Catoctin Mountain Park, which is above Route 77. The closest town is Thurmont, Maryland. The parkland below 77, now Cunningham Falls State Park, was part of the original Catoctin RDA. (GIS map, 2006)



Location of historic district in relation to park road as drawn for the National Register nomination (10/11/89).

Management Unit: Catoctin Mountain Park

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 09/13/2006

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

Camp Misty Mount was listed on the National Register under the name "Camp (1) Misty Mount Historic District" and in a separate multiple property listing, entitled "Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) Architecture at Catoctin Mount Park." Both are dated October 11, 1989.

The Management Category Date is the date the CLI was first approved by the park superintendent.

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access:

Type of Access: With Permission

Explanatory Narrative:

The camp is rented by short-term permits, which is the only way access to it is obtained.

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

National Register Information

Existing NRIS Information:

Name in National Register:	Camp Misty Mount Historic District
NRIS Number:	89001582
Primary Certification Date:	10/11/1989
Other Names:	ECW at Catoctin Mtn (64500257)
Primary Certification Date:	10/11/1989

Significance Criteria:	A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history
Significance Criteria:	C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category:	Politics - Government
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Architecture
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Landscape Architecture
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Conservation
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Entertainment - Recreation
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None

Statement of Significance:

Some of the legacy of the New Deal can be found in the country's built environment. The recreational demonstration areas, with their organized group camps, were one of the products of this time, the result of policies that involved several governmental departments and agencies and addressed many needs. Camp Misty Mount is a significant representation of this moment in American history when these various forces came together.

As presently listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Camp Misty Mount is an historic district with significance within state and local contexts under two Criteria – A and C. Under Criterion A, the camp is described as representative of the "human and natural conservation efforts of the New Deal," and under Criterion C is found significant for its rustic architecture. Camp Misty Mount is also a part of a multiple property nomination under the theme of "Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) Architecture at Catoctin Mountain Park." (Both October 11, 1989) The period of significance is given as 1934 to 1938. It is suggested that the significant period be revised to span the years 1935 to 1941. The beginning date would be the year the site was approved for development as an RDA and the 1941 date would take in the years when the camp was operated as intended, and

before alterations were made by its military tenants during World War II.

The term "human conservation," as used in Criterion A, was contemporary to the decades leading up to the New Deal, and probably reflected the rise of social science. The human conservation that the submarginal land acquisition program and the RDA program engaged in spread out in many directions. Primarily, "human conservation" would probably have been thought of as applying to the program of camping that the Park Service envisioned – summer camps for city children and vacation spots for others, primarily adults, who would come in smaller groups for shorter stays at other times of the year. City people, especially children, exiled as they were within the confines of cities and away from the natural environment, were seen as needing the restorative benefits of nature which retreats such as these could offer.

"Human conservation" would also apply to the WPA relief workers and even to the technical staff (architects, landscape architects, etc.) that the project gave jobs to during the hard times of the Great Depression.* Putting people back to work was a major focus of the New Deal. "Human conservation" was also part of the efforts directed at the rural and farm populations that occupied part of the Catoctin project area. The submarginal land acquisition program was primarily an agricultural program, addressing rural poverty and farms that had become economically obsolete. Initially, at least, the numerous plans and ideas about how to help poor farmers included their resettlement onto better farmland or into other situations. (*The CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) came to the Catoctin RDA later, after all three camps were constructed. The CCC had limited involvement with Camp Misty Mount, perhaps only pruning the limbs off storm-damaged trees after 1939.)

The natural resource conservation that the submarginal land acquisition program and the RDA program offered addressed eroding farm soils and the continued inefficient use of farmland deemed better suited to other use. The conversion of such farmland to forest was part of the agenda of the land acquisition program. In the Catoctin case, most of the land already was forest, but forest that had been subject to extractive uses for more than a century and more recently had borne the effects of the chestnut blight. Little of it was merchantable timber. Thus, it was not only distressed farms and rural poverty, but the condition of the Catoctin forests, that concerned state proponents of the project and led them to select this site.

Reforestation was not a major activity at the Catoctin RDA; eventually maybe a hundred acres of farm fields were planted with trees and many logging roads were closed up by planting their entrances. Most of the forest work was devoted to clearing debris from old logging sites, creating fire breaks, and culling downed timber for construction of the camp buildings. It was these kinds of forest conservation efforts that directly affected the Camp Misty Mount site. The site was cleared of debris and dead timber, dangerous limbs were pruned and wildlife habitat was preserved. Stream repair and wildlife conservation were another aspect of natural resource conservation that Park Service attention was directed to.

Another area of significance under Criterion A is the land planning and recreational planning aspects of the program. The policies under which land for the RDAs was acquired were land planning policies that were national in scope, one of the first attempts at such policy by the federal government.

And the Park Service's efforts in connection to the RDA program and its state parks program constituted recreational planning that was also national in scope. The RDAs and the camps that are part of them are reflections of these efforts that were so specific to this time.

Camp Misty Mount's rustic buildings and the way the camp is sited gives it significance under Criterion C. To better reflect the historic scope of rustic design, the phrasing used in the existing National Register nomination for this area of significance could be altered slightly. Instead of stating that it is significant in the "development" of rustic architecture, it would be more accurate to say that it is significant as an "embodiment" of rustic styling. This is because the style was not really developing at this time, but in its final period of use within parks. First popularized by the writings of Andrew Jackson Downing and used in urban parks by Frederick Law Olmsted, the rustic style incorporated many influences. Its basic elements were natural materials in a rough or little-manipulated state, used to produce rather primitive forms, which in some cases harkened to regional building styles. After World War II, building in parks followed the precepts of the International style with its cleaner lines and cheaper materials.

As practiced by the Park Service, the rustic style had reached its mature expression between 1927 and 1933, and the New Deal parks and buildings would be its final chapter, although a very full chapter.* There were some outstanding innovations in the style during this period, mostly in state parks in Texas and Oklahoma, under the guidance of Park Service architect and spokesman on rustic design, Herbert Maier. But for the most part, the period was a time when the ideas of rustic styling were learned and adhered to; many expressions of it, differentiated by local building customs and native materials, were found; and a great many buildings were produced. The period produced probably thousands of buildings bearing the imprint of rustic styling in hundreds of state parks and RDAs across the country. The park construction work of this time, carried out by relief workers and the CCC, came to symbolize for great numbers of Americans what construction in parks should look like. (*This analysis is based on the theme study by William C. Tweed, Laura E. Soulliere and Henry G. Law, entitled Rustic Architecture: 1916 – 1942. NPS, Western Regional Office, Division of Cultural Resource Management, February 1977.)

Camp Misty Mount is significant as part of a period when rustic buildings were produced in quantity across the country. However, it is a very well preserved example. In addition, it is among the smaller number of organized camps. Only a hundred of these were produced. Nearly all RDAs were returned to states and their preservation status is not fully known.

Organized camps have a special kind of rustic lineage that comes from the family camps of the Adirondacks in northeastern New York by way of a singular effort in building public organized camps at the Palisades Interstate Park in the 1910s and 1920s. (This has been described previously in the component landscape description.) A unique characteristic passed on from the Adirondack camps to the Palisades camps and from there to the camps of the RDAs was a way of dispersing different functions among many buildings. In the Adirondacks this is described as a compound or cluster plan. The "unit plan" used by the Park Service and other camping advocates, was not exactly the same, but had similarities.

Equally important to rustic styling, besides the materials and the way these were handled in producing a building or feature, is the way any kind of construction was fitted to the landscape. Minimal grading was employed and natural features such as trees and rock outcrops were preserved. Methods of achieving naturalistic siting had been carefully developed over the previous decades by the Park Service and influences in this area extended farther back in time as well. The camp exemplifies principles of naturalistic siting. Some buildings, such as the dining hall/kitchen are exceptional in this regard.

Camp Misty Mount retains 35 of the 38 original camp buildings. They are constructed of V-notched log with cement chinking. Some building sections are wood-framed. Cladding where used is smooth or waney boards in horizontal and vertical arrangements and the gable roofs have cedar shingles (originally red oak). Most buildings are rectangular; some, like the dining hall/kitchen and infirmary are a T-plan; and the camp office is a front gable with side wing. The camper cabins sleep four and the leader cabins sleep two. They have many windows and exposed trusses on the interior. Probably the most impressive buildings are the dining hall/kitchen and the three lodges, one in each unit. The dining hall has two massive stone chimneys, one at each end of the room. Each lodge has a stone chimney, which also opens onto a pavilion-like outdoor kitchen with stone floor and stone stove for outdoor cooking. The camp entrance road and the main circulation between the camp units are in their original location.

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Designed

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function: Camp

Primary Current Use: Camp

Current and Historic Names:

Name	Type of Name
Camp Misty Mount	Current
Camp 1	Historic
Camp 1-C	Historic
Organized Group Camp 1-C	Historic

Ethnographic Study Conducted: No Survey Conducted

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation

AD 1750 - 1800	Explored	Explorers and traders entered the region. Some of the first properties in the mountains are platted during these years.
	Settled	English from eastern Maryland and Germans from Pennsylvania found good mill locations and pockets of farmland in this part of the Catoctin Mountains.
AD 1800 - 1935	Farmed/Harvested	Historically, farming occupied about 10 or 15 percent of present day Catoctin Mountain Park. The rest of the land was forested and used to produce charcoal for the nearby iron furnace, bark for tanning, and timber for local and distant sawmills. A local industry produced barrels and railroad car pins and residents made shingles and sold cordwood. People also gathered chestnuts and blueberries, hogs roamed some areas and fattened on chestnuts, and during Prohibition, the forest provided seclusion for distilling "Catoctin moonshine." Camp Misty Mount (Organized Group Camp 1-C or Camp 1, as it was officially known for many years) lies within the area where charcoaling and logging were active -- an area that never was farmland.
AD 1934	Planned	January 1934: Land Planning Committee set up within Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) to address problems of agricultural lands. National Park Service representatives attend Committee meetings.
	Planned	In July, Land Program (Submarginal Land Acquisition Program) formulated, with money to buy farmland to be converted to other uses. Projects were recreational, general agricultural, biological or related to Indian trust lands. Program was to be run by FERA and Agriculture Assistance Administration (AAA). Park Service state park division began search for suitable land for recreational demonstration projects.
	Planned	In late summer, Maryland's Cooperative Extension Service at the University of Maryland proposed the Catoctin Mountain area for project.

AD 1935	Planned	In early January, Park Service state park division (Branch of Planning and State Cooperation) submitted "A Preliminary Proposal for the Catoctin Recreational Area in Washington and Frederick Counties" to the Land Policy Section of the AAA. Catoctin area is found to have "many submarginal farms" and to constitute "a problem area." Ten thousand acres investigated for demonstration project.
		Conrad Wirth
	Purchased/Sold	Late January. Surveyors from the Land Policy Section arrived in Catoctin area to begin land acquisition.
	Land Transfer	(Program transfer) April 30, 1935: Executive Orders 7027 and 7028 created the Resettlement Administration (RA) and consolidated the Land Program of FERA and the AAA within the RA.
AD 1935 - 1940	Purchased/Sold	In January, a boundary line around proposed project area included 12,456 acres (176 tracts). By October 1935, acquisition restricted to a maximum of 10,333 acres. Lengthy title clearance and other problems, including resistance by some residents, prolonged purchase over several years. By June 30, 1936, 9869 acres optioned (about 130 tracts). By 1939, nearly all 9869 acres purchased. (all from 1939 Master Plan) By 1940, government owned 9878 acres in fee simple. (rev. 1940 Gen Dev Plan)
AD 1935	Planned	March 1935: Project manager for Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area, G.B. Williams, began planning process.
	Planned	July 1935: Preliminary plans submitted to Washington office from NPS regional office in Richmond, Virginia.
AD 1936	Demolished	About seven farmsteads and 25 to 30 other residences razed – almost all were on the west side of the Catoctin project area. No buildings occupied site of future Camp Misty Mount. Iron salvaged from the buildings was refashioned at the project blacksmith into hardware for camp and buildings.

Built	Beginning in February 1936 and continuing through winter, central garage unit – also called the administrative area or utility group designed and constructed. Unit located on west side of project area, later named Round Meadow. Sawmill and rock crusher set up there.
Removed	In March 1936, workers began to clear optioned tracts of stumps, downed timber, and slash from past logging operations. Clearing for Camp Misty Mount began in September on tracts 3, 98, and 146b. Stumps and rocks were removed only where they interfered with building foundations and the pool. Grading conducted at larger buildings and pool sites, preserving natural features.
Farmed/Harvested	Timber harvest on leased mountain tracts throughout project area began in April 1936 and continued through year. One of tracts on which Misty Mount was built (tract 96a) was part of first timber harvest. Only dead standing or fallen chestnut and other hardwoods "killed by drowth or fire" culled. Logs squared at sawmill. Other lumber milled into boards and tongue and groove flooring. Wood shakes split from red oak for roofs.
Designed	Water supply and distribution system for Misty Mount designed. It was comprised of a pump house by Hunting Creek, a water storage reservoir on a high point within the camp, and underground pipes. Drawings: water storage reservoir (9/17/36); pump house (not the pool pump house) (10/14/36); water supply system (9/17/36)
Developed	Ten miles of four-foot wide foot trails developed to take in vistas and other points of interest throughout RDA. Trails connected to organized camps were to be separate from those developed for the day-use areas to ensure privacy for the camps. Work entailed clearing brush, removing rocks and debris and establishing easy grade. No fills or surfacing required except in few cases. Job approvals dated 2/19/36, 3/3/36 and 3/10/36.
Developed	Eight miles of six-foot wide horse trails cleared, many on abandoned logging roads. Horse trails to reach points of interest, also for future policing and fire protection. Brush, rocks and other debris removed, some light grading and relocation in some cases. Job approvals dated 2/27/36 and 3/12/36.

Designed	Preliminary drawing of Camp Misty Mount (6/25/36). Drawing # A-69.	
		A.W. Johns, Jr.
Designed	Structures for Camp Misty Mount designed. Drawing dates indicate order of design: overnight cabin (6/8/36); leader's cabin (6/23/36); infirmary (7/31/36, rev. 8/23/36); unit lodge – Unit A (8/6/36); unit latrine (9/1/36); leader's cabin (9/11/36); administration building (10/14/36); swimming pool (10/15/36); staff quarters (10/30/36); dining hall (11/13/36); overnight cabin (11/20/36); central wash house (12/4/36); help's quarters (12/17/36).	
		A. R. Vanston
		J. W. Schnebly
Engineered	Grading plans prepared for park road leading to organized camps. Located largely on an old wagon road. Drawing of road sections: #A-79, dated July 1936, later numbered 6.6 158 (1-6).	
		H. E. Neighbours
Engineered	Grading plans prepared for larger buildings at Camp Misty Mount: the dining hall site (8/4/36) and the three unit lodge sites (8/26/36). Grading plans probably also prepared for infirmary, staff quarters, central wash house and, possibly, for latrines. Cabins small – could be leveled by adjusting height of their pier foundations.	
		A. W. Johns, Jr.
Land Transfer	(Program transfer) November 14, 1936: Executive Order No. 7496 officially transferred authority over recreational demonstration projects from the Resettlement Administration (RA) to the Secretary of the Interior. Various Park Service histories state that this action took effect on August 1, 1936, before the date of the executive order.	

AD 1936 - 1938	Designed	Roads, trails, parking areas and playfield for Camp Misty Mount designed: entrance road to camp called “truck trail” (7/36). Other drawings include an unidentified truck trail (8/5/36); parking area (11/9/36); parking area (2/15/37); parking area and locust guard rail (3/11/37); miscellaneous entrance and service court (for storage building) (2/14/38); Camp 1 playfield (on tract 98), and improvements to existing trail from playfield to Unit B (3/15/38).
AD 1937	Designed	Additional plans for Camp Misty Mount structures prepared: Lodge for Unit B (rev. 1/11/37); garage (not built) (3/29/37); equipment and supply house (storage building) (5/16/37). Drawings for other features: dining hall seating – tables and benches (1/21/37); swimming pool grading plan (2/8/37); swimming pool (2/10/37); drinking fountain (5/17/37); hardware for pedestrian gate (no date).
	Planned	Master Plan prepared for Catoctin RDA. Drawing # 9014-1-1 (3/17/37).
		A. W. Johns, Jr.
	Designed	Layout plan for Camp 1 (Misty Mount). Drawing #9003A-1-1 (7/28/37). Camp was already built by this date.
		A.W. Johns, Jr.
	Built	Majority of structures for Camp Misty Mount completed by June 30 before summer 1937 camping season. Structures included dining hall/kitchen, central wash house, infirmary, staff quarters, camp office, help’s quarters, 3 unit lodges, 3 unit latrines, 5 leaders’ cabins, 18 overnight or camper’s cabins (6 per unit). (Uncertain whether pool completed by first season. Craft cabin was not.)
		A.R. Vanston
	Built	Work carried out on first section of park road, from Blue Blazes to the entrance to Camp Misty Mount. (Job 91, completion report, dated 8/20/37)
	Built	Water distribution system (8/17/37) sewer system using a septic field (8/17/37), drinking fountains (8/17/37), swimming pool (9/14/37 also 5/16/38) built for Camp 1. Dates are probably from completion reports.

	Built	Above-ground electrical lines extended to just south of the camp, buried in underground cable through camp, and extended to the administrative unit (dining hall/kitchen, infirmary, staff quarters, helps' quarters, central wash house, and camp office). Unit latrines were wired "if cost not excessive" and unit lodges "if not too far" away. One light could be put outside the latrine. (June 1, 1937 letter from Evison, CATO files)
	Inhabited	The Maryland League for Crippled Children used the camp during the first season – July and August of 1937. The League made recommendations for the second camp, which it hoped to make its permanent summer camp.
AD 1938	Built	Additional structures and features were built by the camp's second season, including craft shop, storage building, rubbish burner (near the kitchen), and swimming pool. The campfire circle was also probably built at this time.
AD 1938 - 1940	Planned	Although most features constructed by this time, a Master Plan for entire RDA prepared, with separate sheets for different elements and with different dates: Property Map, dated 2/3/39 (#9073-A); General Development Plan, dated 6/30/39 (#9074-A); Roads -Trails and Fire Control Plan, dated 6/30/39 (#9015-A); Vegetative Cover Map 6/1/38 (#9076); Layout Plan, Group Camp 1-C, rev. 4/5/38 (#9003-A-1-1); Layout Plan, Group Camp 2-C, dated 7/12/38 (#9007-C), and Layout plans for Camp 3-B, West Picnic Area, and Manor House Day Use Area. Engineer: W.H. Wagner, A.W. Johns, Jr. Approved June 23, 1940 by regional office. In 1940, there were plans to build 9 or 10 organized camps in the Catoctin RDA. "Report to Accompany Master Plan" prepared by G.B. Williams, submitted February 24, 1942. W.H. Wagner A.W. Johns, Jr.

AD 1938 - 1941	Inhabited	A group of the Salvation Army rented Camp Misty Mount for the summer seasons of these four years. In 1939, the Girl Scout Council of Hagerstown, Maryland, occupied the camp for 2 weeks of season. During the off season, short-term permits allow rental of camp for weekends and other short periods.
AD 1939	Designed	Architects and draftsmen no longer working at Catoctin RDA. Drawings generated at regional office in Richmond. Project architect A.R. Vanston moves to a regional office, perhaps to Richmond.
	Land Transfer	Park Service sought legislation to orchestrate the return of most RDAs to their respective states.
AD 1940	Built	Overhead power line constructed to southern edge of Camp 1. Electricity for swimming pool operation and lighting the various buildings was distributed through underground lines. (1942 report by Williams to accompany Master Plan)
	Developed	Telephone lines strung throughout project area. Overhead wires attached to power line poles. Underground cable used within group camps. (1942 report by Williams)
AD 1942	Land Transfer	April 4, 1942: special use permit issued to Army for use of Catoctin RDA.
	Inhabited	April 24, 1942: FDR chose the third camp, Camp 3-B as his retreat.
	Land Transfer	June 6, 1942: Secretary of the Interior authorized to convey or lease all the RDA projects to their respective states, except Catoctin and Chopawamsic RDAs, the latter in Virginia, near Washington DC, a wayside at Manassas battlefield and Hopewell Village in Pennsylvania.
	Inhabited	Summer camping season cancelled. Camp 1 to be used by Army.

AD 1942 - 1947	Inhabited	Units of the armed forces, including a special detail of the Navy assigned to the President, the OSS, Marines and other military, were assigned to the Catoctin RDA during the war and for some period after. Most were housed in the cabin camps. Marines occupied Camp 1 (Misty Mount) during some part of 1945.
AD 1942	Altered	October 1942: Camp 1 winterized by armed services. "Sun ray" windows (or lattice as in latrines and central wash house) were replaced with glazed windows and some windows boarded over in all buildings but the 3 lodges, infirmary, staff quarters, and camp office, which already had glazed windows. Ceilings installed in dining hall/kitchen, central wash house, camp office, 18 overnight cabins, 5 leaders' cabins, and the 3 latrines. Open ends of latrines enclosed and interior walls installed. Space between the foundation piers of cabins and quarters, the infirmary and camp office boarded up. All buildings, except the 3 unit lodges got barrack heaters. The infirmary and central wash house got electric heaters in addition to barrack heaters. The craft shop and storage building were unaltered.
AD 1943 - 1946	Land Transfer	August 30, 1943: FDR approves addition of Catoctin RDA to national park system.
AD 1946	Inhabited	U.S. Marines vacated Camp 1 in January 1946 and moved to Camp 2.
AD 1947	Land Transfer	March 18, 1947: Special use permit for Army terminated.
	Inhabited	Camp at Misty Mount resumed during summer of 1947. (Correct date?)
AD 1949	Stabilized	All buildings (121 of them) in park reshingled, including the 38 buildings in Camp Misty Mount. Asphalt shingles purchased by train load. (Williams interview, CATO files)
AD 1950	Abandoned	c. 1950: Use of Camp Misty Mount playfield, reached by trail south of units A and B, did not resume after the war.
AD 1952	Altered	Flagstone deck around pool and flagstone walk from pool to central wash/shower house removed and concrete substituted.

AD 1953	Paved	Road System Plan (841/20012), part of master plan, instituted new nomenclature of park roads. The foot path that linked the different units within the cabin camp (essentially unsurfaced, except where wet ground required some treatment), was now shown as a secondary road that was "base-surfaced" (i.e. graveled). Its width was probably more than the original 4 feet. The entrance to the camp was still a graveled road, but now called a primary road, rather than a truck trail.
AD 1954	Land Transfer	June 1954: 4445 acres of Catoctin RDA, south of Route 77, transferred to State of Maryland. July 12, 1954: What remained of the RDA (the northern part) was redesignated Catoctin Mountain Park.
	Built	Water supply system for Camp Misty Mount expanded with the addition of a 25,000 gallon water tank (9/54). The original reservoir, with storage for 10,000 gallons was still in use. Both tanks were positioned at the northeast end of the camp, near Unit D.
AD 1956	Developed	126 foot-deep well dug near the entrance to Camp Misty Mount.
AD 1956 - 1966	Maintained	Decade called Mission 66 in Park Service history – a service-wide period of repair and expansion after reduced budgets of war years. Park designers and planners rejected the rustic idiom of past park-building.
AD 1956	Developed	A 126 foot well was dug near the entrance to Camp Misty Mount in order to supply more water.
AD 1962	Abandoned	Original campfire circle is abandoned by this date. Half-round logs have decayed. At some point in the future, perhaps within the 1960s, the same campfire circle was refurbished with new benches made of boards and concrete block supports. The fire ring was defined by concrete blocks laid in a circle
AD 1963	Altered	Kitchen is modernized: ceiling installed, wood floor covered by a concrete floor; kitchen fireplace covered over; new stove and refrigerator installed; new lighting installed; all surfaces, counters and walls painted a light color.

AD 1963 - 1964	Stabilized	Swimming pool (4/1/63) and water pipes (8/64) repaired in camps 1 and 2 (Misty Mount and Greentop). Part of Mission 66 work plan.
AD 1964 - 1966	Developed	Two-year project to wire all buildings at Camp 1 begins.
AD 1965	Planned	December 6, 1965: General Development Plan, part of the Master Plan.
AD 1966	Paved	c. 1966, the entrance road to Camp 1 paved with asphalt.
AD 1967 - 1969	Stabilized	Sewage system at Camps 1 and 2 repaired (11/67 and 10/68). Drawing of new shower house for Camp 1 (1/15/69); topographic plan for new shower house site (4/16/69); topographic plan for septic field at Camp 1 (6/68). New utilities drawn using 1937 Layout Plan for Camp 1, still the most detailed base map. Utility plan probably part of 1964 Master Plan.
AD 1967	Built	c. 1967, chain link fence encircles pool.
AD 1969	Demolished	c. 1969, Central hash house (which functioned as the main shower house and laundry as well), near the pool, is demolished.
	Built	c. 1969, new shower house built, north of pool, rather than south of pool in location of original wash/shower house.
AD 1970	Removed	Eight-light casement windows of kitchen removed and window opening dimensions changed. (Date of installation of casements not certain - there seems to have been no glazing in dining hall and maybe kitchen, orginally.)
AD 1973	Planned	Following construction of dormitories at former utility area (by now called Round Meadow), a preliminary drawing was made that showed the razing of all structures at Camp 1and their replacement with 6 dormitories. (841/41018)

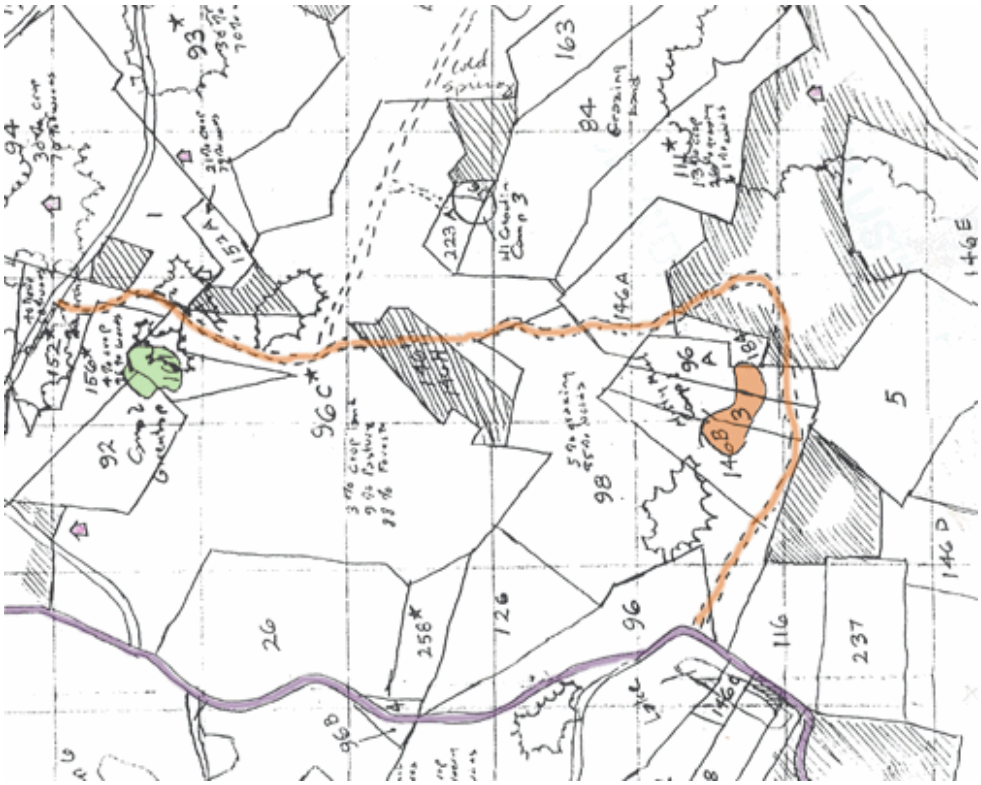
AD 1975	Maintained	Sewer line from camp is connected to Thurmont sewer line, bypassing the old sand filter system south of the camp units A and B.
AD 1979	Stabilized	Water lines in Camp 1 were worked on (7/79).
AD 1979 - 1983	Neglected	Lack of a permanent group to use the camp and other problems forced closure of the camp for almost 4 years.
AD 1983	Inhabited	With help of a "friends" group to manage rentals, the camp reopened.
	Destroyed	Two of the original latrines (in units A and B) demolished. The one at Unit D retained but ceased being used as a bathroom at some point.
	Built	Comfort stations of cinderblock construction built in units A and B
	Destroyed	Five original stone-encased rustic drinking fountains, one in each unit, one by pool, and one between dining hall and infirmary, removed. Replaced by 4 more modern ones.,
AD 1985	Developed	Water supply from Camp 1 further developed by the addition of a 30,000 gallon fiberglass tank, located to the west of the swimming pool. (841/41017)
AD 1988	Built	Ramp for universal accessibility built to Cabin 44 in Unit D.
AD 1989	Preserved	Camp Misty Mount and Camp Greentop recognized as historically significant as expressions of New Deal efforts and Park Service rustic design, and listed on National Register of Historic Places.
AD 2001	Built	Wooden ramp built to Unit D lodge (building 42) for universal accessibility.
AD 2002	Rehabilitated	Work done to make former staff quarters (now host quarters) more livable.
AD 2003	Reconstructed	Rewiring of electrical system for entire camp, including underground lines and transformers.

Damaged	Hurricane Isabel (September 18, 2003) strikes Camp Misty Mount. Many trees are toppled and some cabins damaged.

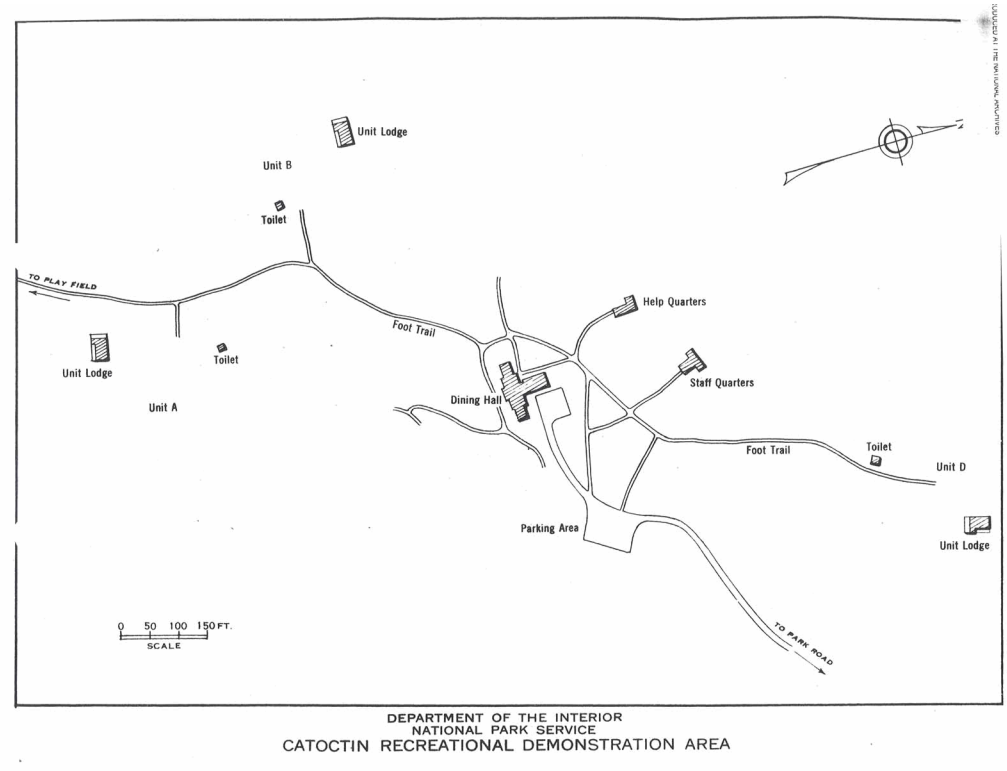
Physical History:

1935-1941

Camp Development



Tract map, circa 1939, with color added to show the park road, Route 77, and Camps 1 and 2 (Misty Mount and Greentop). (Catoctin library files)



Map sent by Conrad Wirth to guests for weekend outing held at Camp 1in spring of 1938. Note that route through camp, connecting units, is called "Foot Trail." (National Archives)

1941-1947

World War II

1948-1970

Organized Group Camps

1970-1980

1980-1989

1989-2006

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

Camp Misty Mount enjoys fairly high integrity, retaining nearly all of its original buildings in good condition. There have been periods during the camp's 70 year history when maintenance slackened, but for the last 20 years, repair has been regular and conscientious. What most affects the camp today is the forest itself; the trees throughout the camp have grown tall, trunk diameters have thickened, and visibility is diminished. When the camp was built, though this was a mixed age stand of trees, many of the trees were less than 20 years old. Now most of them are much older. In addition to the inevitable aging that occurs when trees are not being culled, there is another factor that is causing aging of the forest; this is the large deer population whose predation of young saplings has brought forest regeneration practically to a halt. The problem caused by the large number of deer is one that affects the entire park, and solutions to it have been sought for some time.

The camp sits within the towering trees, to a large degree as it was built 70 years ago. The entrance road leads to the camp office and dining hall/kitchen. The overall impression of hewn log and rough board structures, with uniform V-notches securing the building corners and white-plastered chinking between the logs, must be pretty similar to what it was originally. Each of the units has the same number of cabins, arranged in the same pattern; the units relate to each other from their individual clusters as they did in the past. The cabins themselves are very much the same, though changed on the interior by the addition of hanging fluorescent light fixtures. Over the years, the buildings have withstood and benefited from the preservative functions of various wood treatments, including stains of different hues of brown (presently a reddish-brown). Their roofs, originally of wood shakes made from local red oaks, were redone with asphalt shingles after World War II and remained that way until reshingled with cedar shakes 20 years ago.

The dining hall/kitchen and unit lodges are quietly impressive buildings, low slung, with bands of windows -- probably the most successful of the various camp buildings from an architectural standpoint. Their stone fireplaces, one on either end of the dining hall, a single one in each lodge, and one in the staff quarters, are well-crafted examples, made of rough-cut local quartz and greenstone.

A modern central washhouse/showerhouse replaced the original in 1969, just after the conclusion of Mission 66. In its look it reflected the changed direction of park design, stripped of rustic vernacular allusions and aspiring to the more international character of modernism. It is situated differently than the original building, which was south of the pool and accessed by a short half-loop trail; the new building hugs the slope north of the pool and forms one uniform composition with it. Fifteen years later, two of the unit washhouse/latrines were demolished and supplanted by new comfort stations. Rather blank-looking cinderblock buildings, clad in wood siding, these were a step down in design aspirations from the Mission 66 period.

Unifying the camp is a single gravel-surfaced road or path. It connects to the camp entrance road by way of a short spur road, which was not part of the original design. The circulation route long ago gave up its identity as simply a foot trail and began to be used by vehicles, probably mostly service vehicles. Today there is also the not-very-heavy traffic of cabin renters unloading gear and returning

their cars to the parking lot. Nevertheless, this use has taken a toll on the road and surrounding landscape.

Though physically a great deal is intact from the historic period, the camp seems to lack some of the feeling associated with that time. This is because it no longer functions in the same manner as was envisioned 70 years ago. There is no longer a sponsoring agency that uses the camp on a regular basis for the summer months. Groups use it for periods of a week or less, and even that is for only part of the summer. The typical user is an individual or a small group, not a member of a camping group. As a result, there is less of the camp feeling. This kind of use has had some effect on the landscape. The vehicular wear on the camp trail require that more gravel be spread on it and in the trafficked areas around cabins. Because of natural erosion – this is a sloping site – the gravel spills out into other parts of the landscape. There is also more paraphernalia related to each cabin in order to serve individual camping parties than there was historically. For instance, each cabin has a picnic table, a grill and, until recently, a small fire pit (a year ago the fire pit and grill were combined into one appliance). These deviations from the historic appearance and function have some impact on integrity, but since so much is intact, the camp still very complete.

The problem of regeneration of the forest is one that the park continues to explore. Addressing the issue of number of trees, trunk size and visibility, it is possible that some culling would be desirable. However, natural culling happens periodically as different parts of the park get hit by storms. Hurricane Isabel in 2003 downed a dozen trees or more within the immediate camp, some of them damaging buildings. The park is still processing the debris of fallen trees within the camp left by that storm.

Aspects of Integrity: Location

Design

Setting

Materials

Workmanship

Landscape Characteristic:

Buildings and Structures

Buildings and Structures

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Dining Hall and Kitchen

Feature Identification Number: 111840

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100098

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Dining Hall and Kitchen

LCS Structure Number: MM013H

Feature: Staff Quarters (Host Quarters)

Feature Identification Number: 111842

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100101

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Staff Quarters

LCS Structure Number: MM017H

Feature: Infirmary

Feature Identification Number: 111988

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100100

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Infirmary

LCS Structure Number: MM016H

Feature: Camp Office

Feature Identification Number: 111846

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100099

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Camp Office

LCS Structure Number: MM015H

Feature: Helps' Quarters

Feature Identification Number: 111844

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100102

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Help's Quarters (Not Quarters)

LCS Structure Number: MM018H

Feature: Craft Shop

Feature Identification Number: 111850

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100103

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Craft Shop

LCS Structure Number: MM020H

Feature: Pool Filter House (Pumphouse)

Feature Identification Number: 111862

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100104

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Pool Filter House

LCS Structure Number: MM022H

Feature: Storage Building

Feature Identification Number: 111872

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 23355

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Storage Building

LCS Structure Number: MM019H

Feature: Lodge - Unit A

Feature Identification Number: 111858

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100105

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Lodge Unit A

LCS Structure Number: MM023H

Feature: Leaders' Cabin, Unit A

Feature Identification Number: 111884

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100106

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Leader's Cabin, Unit A

LCS Structure Number: MM025H

Feature: Cabin 1, Unit A

Feature Identification Number: 111894

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 23360

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 1, Unit A

LCS Structure Number: MM026H

Feature: Cabin 2, Unit A

Feature Identification Number: 111904

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100107

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 2, Unit A

LCS Structure Number: MM027H

Feature: Cabin 3, Unit A

Feature Identification Number: 111910

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100108

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 3, Unit A

LCS Structure Number: MM028H

Feature: Cabin 4, Unit A

Feature Identification Number: 111914

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100109

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 4, Unit A

LCS Structure Number: MM029H

Feature: Cabin 5, Unit A

Feature Identification Number: 111922

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100110

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 5, Unit A

LCS Structure Number: MM030H

Feature: Cabin 6, Unit A

Feature Identification Number: 111902

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100111

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 6, Unit A

LCS Structure Number: MM031H

Feature: Lodge, Unit B

Feature Identification Number: 111876

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100112

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Lodge, Unit B

LCS Structure Number: MM032H

Feature: Leaders' Cabin, Unit B

Feature Identification Number: 111900

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100113

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Leader's Cabin, Unit B

LCS Structure Number: MM034H

Feature: Leaders' Cabin, Unit B

Feature Identification Number: 111954

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100114

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Leader's Cabin, Unit B

LCS Structure Number: MM035H

Feature: Cabin 1, Unit B

Feature Identification Number: 111956

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100115

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 1, Unit B

LCS Structure Number: MM036H

Feature: Cabin 2, Unit B

Feature Identification Number: 111958

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100116

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 2, Unit B

LCS Structure Number: MM037H

Feature: Cabin 3, Unit B

Feature Identification Number: 111960

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100117

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 3, Unit B

LCS Structure Number: MM038H

Feature: Cabin 4, Unit B

Feature Identification Number: 111962

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100118

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 4, Unit B

LCS Structure Number: MM039H

Feature: Cabin 5, Unit B

Feature Identification Number: 111964

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100119

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 5, Unit B

LCS Structure Number: MM040H

Feature: Cabin 6, Unit B

Feature Identification Number: 111966

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100120

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 6, Unit B

LCS Structure Number: MM041H

Feature: Lodge, Unit D

Feature Identification Number: 111968

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100121

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Lodge, Unit D

LCS Structure Number: MM042H

Feature: Leaders' Cabin, Unit D

Feature Identification Number: 111972

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100130

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Leader's Cabin, Unit D

LCS Structure Number: MM045H

Feature: Leaders' Cabin, Unit D

Feature Identification Number: 111970

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100123

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Leader's Cabin, Unit D

LCS Structure Number: MM044H

Feature: Cabin 1, Unit D

Feature Identification Number: 111974

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100124

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 1, Unit D

LCS Structure Number: MM046H

Feature: Cabin 2, Unit D

Feature Identification Number: 111976

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100125

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 2, Unit D

LCS Structure Number: MM047H

Feature: Cabin 3, Unit D

Feature Identification Number: 111978

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100126

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 3, Unit D

LCS Structure Number: MM048H

Feature: Cabin 4, Unit D

Feature Identification Number: 111980

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100127

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 4, Unit D

LCS Structure Number: MM049H

Feature: Cabin 5, Unit D

Feature Identification Number: 111982

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100128

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 5, Unit D

LCS Structure Number: MM050H

Feature: Cabin 6, Unit D

Feature Identification Number: 111984

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100129

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Cabin 6, Unit D

LCS Structure Number: MM051H

Feature: Former latrine (sink area)

Feature Identification Number: 111986

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100122

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount Latrine, Unit D

LCS Structure Number: MM043H

Feature: Dining Hall retaining wall/breast wall

Feature Identification Number: 112150

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100508

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount, Dining Hall Breast Wall

LCS Structure Number: MM-000-3

Feature: Old Campfire Circle

Feature Identification Number: 112152

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100502

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount, Old Campfire Circle

LCS Structure Number: MM-000-1

Feature: Swimming Pool

Feature Identification Number: 112154

Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature: Pool shower house/restroom

Feature Identification Number: 112156

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Comfort Station - Unit A

Feature Identification Number: 112158

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Comfort Station - Unit B

Feature Identification Number: 112160

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Dining hall and kitchen from camp entrance road. (CLP-5676, 2005)



Infirmary on hillside above dining hall and kitchen. (CLP-5806, 2005)



Gable-front cabin, Unit D. (CLP-5627, 2005)



Gable side cabin, Unit D. (CLP-5714, 2005)



Gable side cabin, Unit B. (CLP-5844, 2005)



Two-person or leaders' cabin, Unit D. Wooden ramp for universal accessibility first installed 1988. This one may be a replacement.(CLP-5706, 2005)



One end of lodge, Unit D. Ramp added 2001. Picnic table and grill are typical of equipment at every cabin, although there in a new style of grill/firepit since this picture was taken. (CLP-5721, 2005)



Outdoor kitchen of lodge, Unit D. (CLP-5733, 2005)



Originally this was the wash house/latrine - Unit D. Now used as pavilion for washing dishes. View here is of back of building. (CLP-5705, 2005)



Dry laid retaining or breast wall along drive. The wall continues and flanks parking area near the dining hall/kitchen. Camp office is in distance. (CLP-5868, 2005)



Dry laid stone retaining wall of old campfire circle, which is now unused. (CLP-5766, 2005)



Porch and ston-and-mortar piers of lodge, Unit D. (CLP-5732, 2005)



Close up view of stone of foundation pier showing that both local quartz (whitish stone) and local greenstone were used. (CLP 5803, 2005)



Comfort station, Unit B, replaced old washroom/latrine c. 1983. (CLP-5812, 2005)

Circulation

Circulation

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Camp entrance road

Feature Identification Number: 112162

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Circulation route between units

Feature Identification Number: 112164

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Spur road to storage building

Feature Identification Number: 112166

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Asphalt path to pool and shower house. One of two paths that meet just beyond the curve in the path shown here. (CLP-5702, 2005)



Same path from farther back with pool filter house (also called pumphouse) in front of pool. (CLP-5704, 2005)



Paved path to back of camp office,constructed c. 2004. (CLP-5665, 2005)





Circulation route uphill to Unit D. (CLP-5699, 2005)



Path descending from Unit D toward dining hall. Beyond that, at a lower elevation, are Units A and B. (CLP-5692, 2005)



Path to dining hall from Unit B. (CLP-5808, 2005)





Circulation route down from dining hall to Unit A and B. Lodge and cabin of Unit A are visible. (CLP-5852, 2005)



Spur road connecting camp entrance road to circulation route between units -- not presently a contributing feature. Staff Quarters in distance. (CLP 5684, 2005)



Social trail which connects entrance road near camp office with circulation system between units has been in place for a long time. It was shown on a small map produced for guests of Conrad Wirth in 1938. (CLP-6427, 2005)

Small Scale Features

Small Scale Features

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Flagpole

Feature Identification Number: 112194

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100509

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount, Flagpole

LCS Structure Number: MM-000-2

Feature: Culvert

Feature Identification Number: 112210

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 100507

LCS Structure Name: Misty Mount, Culvert

LCS Structure Number: MM-000-4

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Non-historic drinking fountains. Stone-encased rustic styled fountains from the 1930s (there were 5 of them) were replaced c. 1970. These are more recent than that. (CLP-5707, 2005)



Table on porch of Unit D lodge may date to historic period and have been built by WPA. It can be confirmed at least to c. 1970. (CLP-5727, 2005)



Hinge on door of lodge in Unit D. Iron for hinge may have derived from salvaged iron pieces of agricultural district. The hinge was produced by WPA workers at blacksmith at utility area (now called Round Meadow). (CLP-5722, 2005)

Archeological Sites

Archeological Sites

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Road trace to old wash house

Feature Identification Number: 112182

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Trace of road that used to loop behind old shower/wash house. Building was removed c. 1969 and another shower house built on northeast side of pool. (CLP-5744, 2005)



Enroute to old campfire circle, this might be a 19th century charcoaling route. (CLP-5764, 2005)



Slightly domed shape of ground looks very much like old charcoal hearth. Located west of old campfire circle. (CLP-5799, 2005)

Vegetation

Vegetation

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Almost all regeneration of trees and shrubs relies on planting because of large deer population. Here, two newly-planted shrubs or small trees are protected by wire cages which will stay in place for a long time. Unit D. (CLP-5713, 2005)

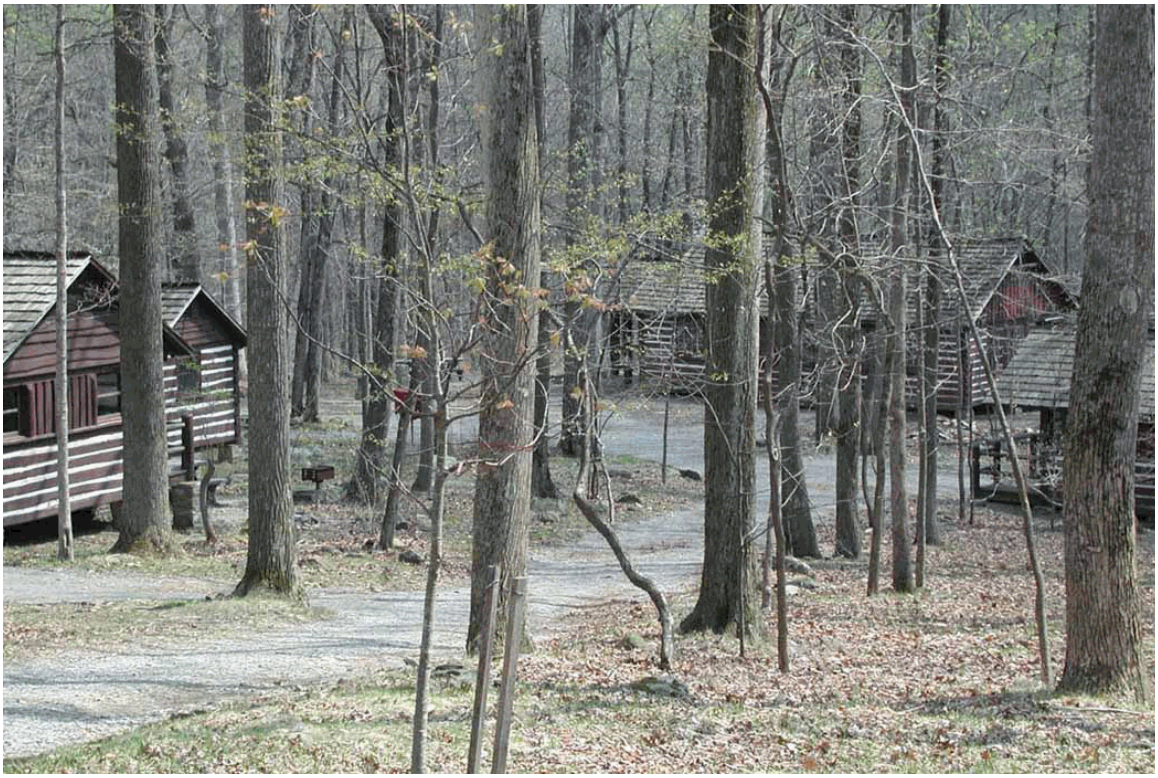
Cluster Arrangement

Cluster Arrangement

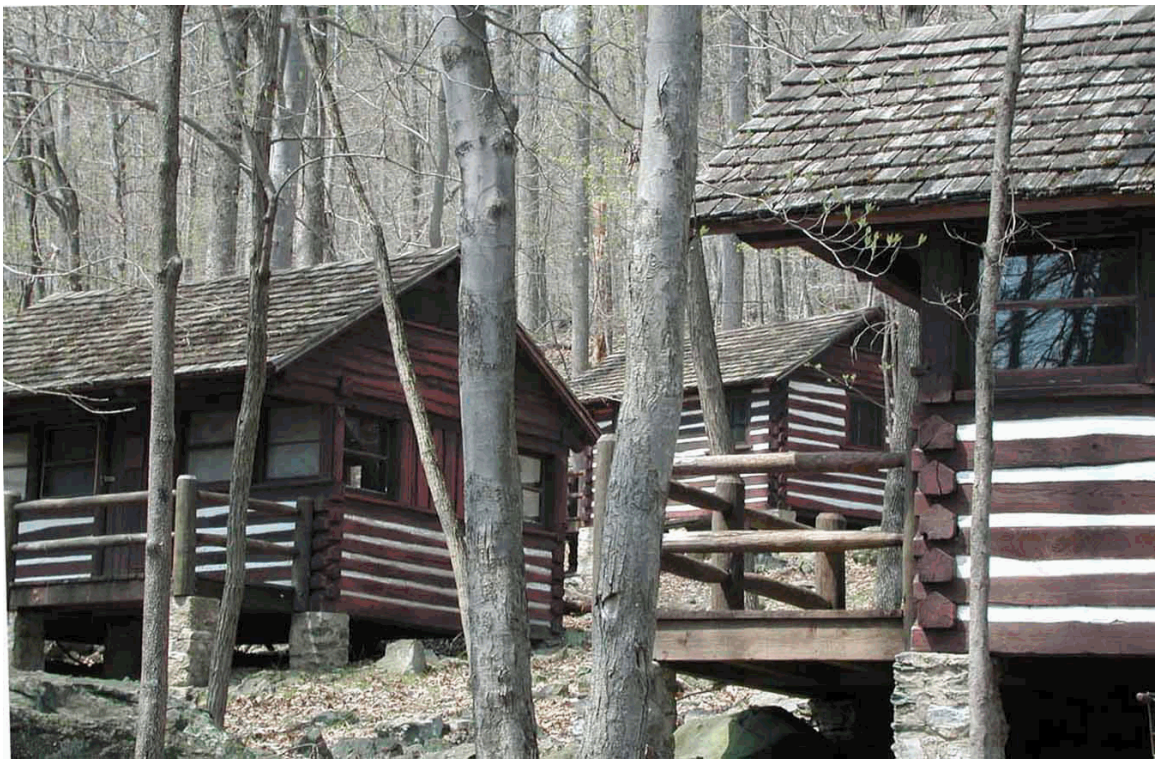
Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Two cabins in Unit B display orientation to the landscape and each other. (CLP-5850, 2005)



Path from dining hall to Unit A. Path diverges to the right in direction of Unit B. Unit D is on a higher elevation, above dining hall. (CLP-5852, 2005)



Another image of relationship of cabins in Unit B. (CLP-5820, 2005)



Image shows relationship of unit D to camp core. Old latrine/washhouse of Unit D is on right, staff quarters is in near distance, and dining hall roof is visible to left. (CLP-6382, 2005)

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/13/2006

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The "Condition Assessment Date" refers to the date that the park superintendent concurred with the Condition Assessment when the CLI. was approved.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 07/24/2002

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Met with Chief of Resource Management, Jim Voight and Maintenance Foreman, Bob Wildhide on July 24, 2002 and visited both Camp Greentop and Camp Misty Mount. Met with Chief of Resource Management, Jim Voight and Maintenance Foreman, Bob Wildhide on July 24, 2002 and visited both Camp Greentop and Camp Misty Mount. An addendum was added by the Superintendent to the concurrence statement that they are concerned by some of the impact statements and will be commenting on them in the next few weeks.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Erosion

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: Because of the nature of the soils and hilly character of the site, the main internal route of circulation, which is the historic route, is eroded in several places.

Type of Impact: Vegetation/Invasive Plants

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Impact Description: Most invasive growth is from internal sources, but external sources also contribute or did in the past. Two examples of invasive vegetation at Camp Misty Mount are Japanese stiltgrass and barberry. The invasive, non-native Japanese stiltgrass becomes dominant on sunny slopes, diminishing the native flora. Other invasives, like barberry, also spring up quickly with natural or unnatural disturbances, such as when trees are downed in storms. The park staff addresses these problems regularly. It is important to keep new invasives from seeding.

Type of Impact: Soil Compaction

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Impact Description: As a result of visitor use of outdoor cooking facilities, and possibly from vehicles loading and unloading at cabins, there is soil compaction around cabins.

Type of Impact: Inappropriate Maintenance

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: The internal circulation road in the camp has a large buildup of gravel, especially along its edges. Vehicles scatter the gravel and it is carried down slope in storms. The road has lost its definition in many places. Gravel is too-thickly laid in front of the dining hall porch.

Type of Impact: Pests/Diseases

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: The great number of white tail deer that eat young trees and shrubs has stopped natural regeneration of the forest. At this point, only the work of park staff in planting trees and protecting them from deer, which the park is doing, is preventing an inevitable aging of the forest.

Type of Impact: Other

Other Impact: Building color

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: Reddish stain on buildings is reminiscent of redwood, a California tree, diminishing the regional character that was intended in the original design. This is a condition that lingers from past practices and more appropriate stains are now used. However, because renewal of paints and stains is not a frequent event, this impact can only be changed over time.

Type of Impact: Other

Other Impact: Window trim color on some buildings

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: The window trim and window frames on some buildings has been painted white, which is not the historic color.

Type of Impact:	Soil Compaction
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	By the upper Misty Mount cabins, the ground is bare and compacted where visitors have worn the area around the picnic tables and campfire rings. (There historically were no defined pedestrian paths for Camp Misty Mount.)
Type of Impact:	Pests/Diseases
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Catoctin Mountain Park has one of the greatest densities of white tail deer for a NPS property. A prominent deer browse line is evident in all parts of the park especially at Camp Misty Mount. Because of the deer population, there is limited natural regeneration of trees and shrubs.
Type of Impact:	Erosion
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Sections of the Camp Misty Mount road have deep ruts.
Type of Impact:	Removal/Replacement
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	The park has replaced the rustic wooden picnic tables with faux wood made out of recycled plastic. This new material is unappropriate within the historic district.
Type of Impact:	Structural Deterioration
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Several of the campfire rings no longer can be used for their intended function, due to their condition.

Treatment

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Supplemental Information

Title: Traditional Bibliography

Description:

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