National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2006

Revised: 9/2021



Seawall Campground

Acadia National Park

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Introduction

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the National Park System. Landscapes that are listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources and in which the National Park Service has, or plans to acquire, legal interest are included in the inventory. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, and condition. Cultural landscapes have approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS-CL) database. In addition, for landscapes not currently listed on the National Register and/or without adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, or the Keeper of the National Register.

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is compiled from primary and secondary sources and through on-site surveys of the landscape. The level of investigation is dependent upon scoping the need for information. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's integrity and an assessment of the landscape's condition. The CLI also includes historic maps, drawings, and images; photographs of existing conditions; and a site plan that indicates major features. The CLI documents the existing condition of park landscape resources and identifies impacts, threats, and measures to stabilize condition. This information can be used to develop strategies for improved stewardship. Unlike a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), the CLI does not provide management recommendations or treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape, but it may identify stabilization measures.

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) replaces three legacy inventory systems: ASMIS (archeology), CLI (cultural landscapes), and LCS (historic structures); and it reinstates the former ERI (ethnographic resources). This Cultural Landscape Inventory document reflects the information in a corresponding CRIS Cultural Landscape record.

Statutory and Regulatory Foundation

The legislative, regulatory, and policy directives for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are:

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)) Sec. 110
- Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3 (a and c)
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs
- Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Std. 2
- Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22; issued pursuant to Director's Order #28 (DO-28)

The NHPA requires the identification, evaluation, and nomination of historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places and the maintenance and expansion of an inventory of cultural resources. DO-28 requires a cyclic assessment of the current condition of cultural landscapes based on an assessment interval, with a default of six years.

Use

Beyond fulfilling legal and policy requirements, park staff can use the Cultural Landscape Inventory in the following ways:

- To learn about park cultural landscapes (all staff)
- To inform management decisions (park managers)
- To inform project planning and development (park managers, facility managers, project managers, compliance specialists)
- To monitor the condition of the cultural landscape and take measures to protect its significance and integrity (cultural resource managers, facility managers)
- To recognize the stabilization and treatment needs of landscape features and plan work within cultural landscapes to address the needs (facility managers, cultural resource managers)
- To understand the cultural value of natural systems in a cultural landscape (natural resource managers)
- To create programming and educational materials based on site history (interpretation and education specialists)
- To recognize impacts within cultural landscapes and enforce protection measures (visitor and resources protection staff)

General Information

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name: Seawall Campground

Resource Classification: Cultural Landscape

CLI Identification Number: 650068

Parent Landscape: 650068

Inventory Status: Complete

Park Information

Park Name: Acadia National Park

Alpha Code: ACAD

Park Organization Code: 1700

Park District: ACAD

Region: Northeast

Restricted: No

Landscape Description:

Seawall Campground is one of two campgrounds located in Acadia National Park, Maine. Acadia was the first national park established east of the Mississippi River and today encompasses over 50,000 acres across Mount Desert Island, the Schoodic Peninsula, and other smaller islands. The campground encompasses 160 acres on the western half of the island, around 4 miles southeast of the Town of Southwest Harbor. Seawall was built according to the principles and practices of rustic park landscape design implemented by the National Park Service (NPS) and Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the 1930s and 1940s, which harmonized manmade development with natural topography and the surrounding landscape. The Seawall Campground is farther away from the popular attractions of the eastern side of the island, making it less heavily used than the park's Blackwoods Campground.

Seawall Campground consists of four camping loops (Loops A, B, C, and D) organized along a central entrance road. Marked by a stone and wood gate at its intersection with State Route 101A, the entrance road leads to a Checking Station dating to 1941, and then the four loops. Camping is assigned to numbered campsites that are identified with painted numerals at the edges of the paved camp roads. A separate entry road from Route 102A leads to two buildings constructed in 1941-1942 for the Seawall Naval Radio Station; a barracks now used as seasonal park housing, and a garage.

Loops A and B were completed in 1937-1938 and feature typical one-way perimeter loop roads, which provide access to 38 and 27 spur-type campsites, respectively. Loop C was completed in 1940 and features a perimeter road connected to a series of later roads that access 43 link-type campsites. Just to the south of these sites are a pumphouse and toolshed built by the CCC, and just to the north is a group camping area developed in 1960 by the NPS. The three loops are served by four comfort stations, three of which are of the standard design constructed by the CCC. Many of the stone fireplaces are extant, as are the campground's water taps. Only a limited number of other historic site furnishings such as wood signs, stone culverts, and stone and log barriers remain, but those few contribute to the rustic character of the site. Loop d was developed in 1960 with funding from the Mission 66 program that aimed to improve visitor facilities and park infrastructure throughout the NPS. Loop B features 104 walk-in campsites and is organized similar to Loops A and B, with a one-way perimeter loop road. Nestled in between Loops B and D is an amphitheater, originally built in 1962, which hosts evening interpretive programs.

Vegetation at Seawall Campground is generally healthy and provides shade for the majority of sites. A spruce/fir coniferous forest is the dominant vegetative type, with sub-dominant species of mixed hardwoods as well as birch and aspen. The forest cover is characterized as mature, with 75 to 100 percent crown closure. Undisturbed areas of the forest soil are covered with mosses and ferns. A variety of northern temperate shrub species populate the understory of undisturbed areas.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Seawall Campground is locally significant under National Register of Historic Places Criteria A and C in the areas of Architecture, Conservation, Entertainment/Recreation, and Landscape Architecture. Under Criterion A, Seawall Campground is associated with the New Deal programs that provided an infusion of federal funding and labor to develop visitor facilities at Acadia NP and elsewhere. Under Criterion C, portions of Seawall Campground serve as an intact example of NPS Rustic Design constructed during the New Deal era. The period of significance for Seawall Campground is 1935-1942, which encompasses the park's successful effort to expand automobile camping facilities in response to growing visitation and the availability of New Deal funding and labor, including CCC and WPA programs. The period begins with the preliminary investigation of the Seawall area as a potential Recreational Demonstration Project in 1935 and ends in 1942 when physical work by the CCC was completed.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

Seawall Campground meets the registration requirements for the Visitor Facilities and Developed Areas property type outlined in the 2017 National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic Resources of Acadia National Park." The campground retains sufficient integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association to convey its significance, namely through the entrance road, Loop A, B, and C circulation features and campsites, former barracks/seasonal residence, Checking Station, garage, tool shed, pumphouse, four comfort stations, log barriers, water pumps and stone culverts, and stone fireplaces. The Loop D circulation features and campsites, four comfort stations, amphitheater, employee housing, and other small-scale features are not historic, but overall do not appreciably detract from the campground's historic character. Forest vegetation shades much of the campground, but the density of understory plantings that once screened individual campsites has diminished.

The condition of the Seawall Campground is evaluated as "good." The property shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Its cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Landscape Hierarchy Description:

Acadia National Park currently includes 14 landscapes (and eight component landscapes): Baker Island, Blackwoods Campground, Cadillac Mountain Summit, Historic Carriage Road System (four component landscapes), Historic Hiking Trail System (four component landscapes), Historic Motor Road System, Isle au Haut, Jordan Pond House, Picnic Areas, Sand Beach, Schoodic Peninsula, Seawall Campground, Sieur de Monts Spring, and Thunder Hole.

Landscape Type:

Historic Designed Landscape

Other Names:

Other Name: Seawall Campground **Other Name Type:** Both Current And Historic

Site Plan



Site plan for Seawall Campground, 2021.

Concurrence Information

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 09/21/2006

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

The original Seawall Campground CLI was based on the 1996 “Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) for Blackwoods and Seawall Campgrounds- Acadia National Park” by H. Eliot Foulds, Historical Landscape Architect at the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation. The CLR provided the background for field work and field documentation conducted by Olmsted Center intern, Erica Max, in May 2006. The CLI was edited by Olmsted Center intern, Gretchen Hilyard, in September 2006. The original CLI was approved by the park superintendent in 2006, and a condition reassessment for the property was completed in 2012.

For this CLI Update, field work and mapping was completed by Julia Miller, Conservation Associate, in June 2019, and edits were accomplished by Jeff Killion, R1 CLI Coordinator in February 2021. The park contact for cultural resources is Gail Gladstone, Cultural Resource Program Manager, at gail_gladstone@nps.gov.

SUMMARY OF CLI REVISIONS, 2021
• The management category remains, “Must Be Preserved and Maintained.”
• National Register information is revised. The significance of the landscape is articulated in the National Register documentation approved by the Maine SHPO in 2005 and by the Keeper of the National Register in 2007. Seawall Campground is locally significant under Criteria A and C in the areas of Architecture, Conservation, Entertainment/Recreation, and Landscape Architecture.
• The period of significance remains, 1935-1942.
• The following sections have been reviewed and revised as needed: Chronology, History, Analysis (feature tables and FMSS data), and Impacts.
• Information on the Wabanaki – a group of northeastern Algonquian-speaking ethnic groups or tribal nations today distinguished as the Maliseet, Mi’kmaq, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot – has been expanded throughout the CLI.
• Existing condition photographs are updated, and the site plan is revised and GIS-compliant.
• The landscape condition was evaluated as “Good” in 2006 and reassessed as “Good” in 2012. The proposed landscape condition evaluation for 2021 is “Good.”

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path

Cultural Landscapes Inventory
Condition Reassessment
2012

Acadia National Park
Blackwoods Campground
Seawall Campground

Acadia National Park concurs with the condition reassessments for the Blackwoods Campground and Seawall Campground, including:

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good – Blackwoods Campground
Good Seawall Campground

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the landscape characteristics will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The condition reassessments for the Blackwoods Campground and Seawall Campground at Acadia National Park is hereby approved and accepted.

Superintendent, Acadia National Park — Date 8/21/12

Condition reassessment form, August 21, 2012

ID: SEP 22'06 7:50 No.002 P.02

Cultural Landscape Inventory

Seawall Campground
Acadia National Park

Acadia National Park concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory for Seawall Campground including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements, will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for Seawall Campground is hereby approved and accepted

Superintendent, Acadia National Park — Date 9/21/06

Park Concurrence Form, 2006.

Cultural Landscapes Inventory
CLI Updates Concurrence Form
2021

Acadia National Park
Blackwoods Campground, Cadillac Mountain Summit, Jordan Pond House,
Seawall Campground, Sieur de Monts Spring, and Thunder Hole

Acadia National Park concurs with the CLI updates for the Blackwoods Campground, Cadillac Mountain Summit, Jordan Pond House, Seawall Campground, Sieur de Monts Spring, and Thunder Hole, including:

CONDITION ASSESSMENT:
Good – Blackwoods Campground
Fair – Cadillac Mountain Summit
Good – Jordan Pond House
Good – Seawall Campground
Good – Sieur de Monts Spring
Fair – Thunder Hole

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements, will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values

The CLI updates for the Blackwoods Campground, Cadillac Mountain Summit, Jordan Pond House, Seawall Campground, Sieur de Monts Spring, and Thunder Hole at Acadia National Park are hereby approved and accepted.

KEVIN SCHNEIDER Digitally signed by KEVIN SCHNEIDER
Date: 2021.09.28 09:08:42 -04'00'

Superintendent, Acadia National Park Date

Park Concurrence Form, 2021.

Revision:

Revised By	Type of Revision	Revision Date	Revision Narrative
Jeff Killion	Change in Condition	08/21/2012	Condition reassessment completed as scheduled.
Jeff Killion	Other	09/28/2021	CLI Update

Geographic Information

State and County:

State	County
Maine	Hancock County

Size (Acres): 160

Land Tract Number(s)

Boundary Description:

The boundary of the Seawall Campground CLI includes the entrance road, Loops A, B, and C, the group camping area, and the area in which the pump house, and tool shed are located. The boundary follows the path of the entrance road and loop roads, and is drawn 50 feet from the edge of pavement to either side of these roads. The boundary is adjusted for loop roads A and B, around which it extends 150 feet from the edge of pavement to accommodate exterior spur campsites. The width of the boundary is also adjusted to accommodate those contributing resources that lie outside of the campground roads (the tool shed and pump house, as well as the Former Barracks/Seasonal Residence and garage), and is drawn 25 feet west of the pump house, the furthest removed building. Loop D and the amphitheater area do not include any historic resources, but are included in the CLI boundary because they are compatible with the other areas of the campground.

Boundary Coordinates

Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	44.2416209634493	-68.302195119218	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	44.2404598022781	-68.3037116223336	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	44.2388370528271	-68.3033550756831	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	44.2386608184946	-68.3039832937628	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	44.2399272754784	-68.3049702069829	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	44.2390323501765	-68.3058573417328	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	44.2390422308559	-68.3074851966312	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	44.2398456228458	-68.3063487009377	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	44.2403101739354	-68.3087226363351	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	44.2419230487428	-68.3074514039795	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	44.2435624472145	-68.3105631245727	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	44.2450104081037	-68.3117986251978	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	44.2459008431583	-68.310160083347	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	44.2441698884843	-68.3067988474124	

Location Map:



Seawall Campground is located near the community of Bass Harbor in Acadia National Park, Maine, shown at the botton left of this map. (Acadia National Park website)

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Regional Landscape Contexts:

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 09/21/2006

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

As approved by the park superintendent on September 21, 2006, Seawall Campground meets the management category “Must Be Preserved and Maintained” because the property is related to the park’s legislated significance. In the enabling legislation of Sieur de Monts National Monument from July 8, 1916, Congress cited Mount Desert Island’s distinction as Champlain’s landing place and the great scientific interest in its topography, geology, fauna, and flora. The legislation indicated the primary purpose of the monument was to protect these significant resource values, warning all unauthorized persons “not to appropriate, injure, destroy, or remove any of the features or objects included within the boundaries.” Although providing resource-based outdoor recreational opportunities was not specifically stated in the enabling legislation, such was the intent of the many people who donated thousands of acres for creation of the park.

Through the 1933 Federal Emergency Relief Act (FERA), the National Park Service (NPS) assumed new responsibilities for nationwide recreational planning. The submarginal lands program of FERA held the NPS accountable for the development of any recreational potential of the submarginal lands acquired by the federal government. These lands were developed as model parks or, “Recreational Demonstration Areas.” The FERA submarginal lands program had under study approximately 8,000 acres on the western side of Mount Desert Island as a potential Recreational Demonstration Project (RDP). These lands were purchased and developed for their recreational value as an extension to the holdings of Acadia National Park. In addition to the acquisition of land, RDP funds were expended for development of recreational facilities in the Seawall area, near lands already owned by George Dorr, and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. (Foulds 1996: 16,18)

Management Agreements:

Type of Agreement:

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Type of Agreement: None

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative:

Located in managed wilderness?: No

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? No

Adjacent Lands Narrative:

Adjacent lands are lands outside the cultural landscape boundary, including lands inside or outside the park. The boundary includes the structures, sites, and surrounding landscapes that are historically associated with Seawall Campground and that maintain its integrity as a historic resource. The boundary also includes the non-historic structures, sites, and surrounding landscapes of Loop D and the amphitheater area. The boundary is sufficient to establish the woodland setting and reinforces the landscape design intent to create a sense of separation and seclusion from both Route 102A and in the layout of the individual campsites. There are no views from within the campground other than of the woodland itself.

National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Documentation Status: Entered Documented

Documentation Narrative Description:

Maine's Acadia National Park officially began with the proclamation of Sieur de Monts National Monument on July 8, 1916. The park was established as Lafayette National Park on February 29, 1919 and renamed Acadia National Park on January 19, 1929. Documentation of the Seawall Campground's historic significance began in 1997.

On October 4, 1995, the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) titled "Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks" was approved by the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places. The MPDF identified a historic context, property types, and registration requirements with which to evaluate park resources. The context was "The Historic Landscape Design of the National Park Service (1916-1942)." The two property types were: National Parks, Parkways, and Monuments; and State Parks, County Parks, and Recreational Demonstration Areas. Registration requirements for listing properties in the National Register under this multiple property group included meeting Criteria A and/or C in the areas of Architecture, Community Planning and Development, Conservation, Engineering, Entertainment/Recreation, Landscape Architecture, Politics/Government, and/or Social History.

On July 1, 1996, the Maine State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurred with the NPS that a portion of Seawall Campground met the registration requirements defined in the 1995 MPDF and was eligible for listing in the National Register under Criteria A and C in the areas of Conservation, Entertainment/Recreation, and Landscape Architecture. The evaluation was made under "The Historic Landscape Design of the National Park Service (1916-1942) historic context and the National Parks, Parkways, and Monuments property type. Contributing resources at Seawall included the campsites at Loops A, B, and C; pumphouse; Ranger Station (unclear if Checking Station or Former Barracks/Seasonal Residence); water tower; tool shed; and restrooms #s 102, 103, 104, and 105. The Maine SHPO did not object to the exclusion of group campsites at Loop C, built in 1960-1961, or campsites at Loop D, constructed in 1961.

On October 25, 2005, the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) titled, "Historic Resources of Acadia National Park" was approved by the Maine SHPO. The MPDF identified historic contexts, property types, and registration requirements with which to evaluate park resources. The contexts were "Community Development and the Origins of Acadia National Park (1890-1937)," "John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and the Development of the National Park System (1913-1958)," and "Rustic Design (1890-1958)" and its subthemes, "Picturesque Style (1890-1950)" and "Rustic Design of the National Park Service (1916-1958)." The three property types were: Circulation Systems, Visitor Facilities and Developed Areas, and Park Administration and Support. Registration requirements for listing properties in the National Register under this multiple property group included meeting Criteria A, B, and/or C in the areas of Architecture, Community Development, Conservation, Engineering, Entertainment/Recreation, Landscape Architecture, Other (Philanthropy), and Transportation.

Concurrent with Acadia's MPDF, on October 25, 2005, the National Register Registration Form titled, "Seawall Campground" was approved by the Maine SHPO. Under the framework of the MPDF's "Rustic Design (1890-1958)" context and its subtheme, "Rustic Design of the National Park Service (1916-1958)," and under the Visitor Facilities and Developed Areas property type, significance was identified under Criteria A and C in the areas of Architecture, Conservation, Entertainment/Recreation, and Landscape Architecture. The period of significance was identified as 1935-1942. Contributing features described in the 120-acre historic district included the Checking Station, Ranger Residence (now Former Barracks/Seasonal Residence), garage, comfort stations (#s 102, 103, 104, 105), tool shed, pump house, road system (entrance road, Loop A, B, and C loop roads, parking links and spurs, pedestrian pathways,

stone headwalls, drop inlets), campsites (Loops A, B, and C), and site furnishings (rustic gates, stone and log barriers, wood signs, stone fireplaces, steel fire rings, water taps). Non-contributing features within the historic district included the Loop C group campsites (1960), restroom #181 (1960), and employee housing (1990). Non-contributing features identified outside of the historic district included Loop D campsites and roads; comfort stations #s 178, 179, 180; amphitheater; and the Doliver (Dolliver) cemetery.

On September 21, 2006, the Blackwoods Campground CLI was approved by the Park Superintendent. The Keeper of the National Register accepted the "Historic Resources of Acadia National Park" MPDF and the "Seawall Campground" Registration Form on June 29, 2007.

Since the completion of the original Seawall Campground CLI in 2006, an amendment and update have been approved for the "Historic Resources of Acadia National Park" MPDF. On June 5, 2013, the Keeper of the National Register accepted an amendment that added Buildings and Structures as a property type to the existing historic context, "John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and the Development of the National Park System (1913-1958)." The amendment did not pertain to the resources at the Seawall Campground. On June 26, 2017, the Keeper approved a comprehensive update, which incorporated the 2013 amendment and added two new historic contexts: "The Rusticator Period (1835-1890)" and "National Park Service Development of Acadia National Park (1916-1958)." The update identified Seawall Campground as part of the new NPS Development context, in addition to the previously identified Rustic Design context.

According to research conducted for the Seawall Campground CLI Update, and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the "CLI Professional Procedures Guide," the areas and periods of significance of the Seawall Campground, and major resources that contribute its significance, have been listed in the National Register. Therefore, for purposes of the CLI, Seawall Campground is considered "Entered – Documented."

Eligibility: Eligible -- Keeper

Concurrence Eligibility Date: 06/29/2007

Concurrence Narrative:

Significance Level: Local

Contributing: Individual

Classification: District

Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:

Seawall Campground is locally significant under National Register Criteria A and C in the areas of Architecture, Conservation, Entertainment/Recreation, and Landscape Architecture. Under Criterion A, Seawall is associated with the New Deal programs that provided an infusion of federal funding and labor to develop visitor facilities at Acadia NP and elsewhere. Under Criterion C, a portion of the campground serves as an intact example of NPS Rustic Design constructed during the New Deal era.

The period of significance for Seawall Campground is 1935-1942, which encompasses the park's successful effort to expand automobile camping facilities in response to growing visitation and the availability of New Deal funding and labor, including CCC and WPA programs. The period begins with the preliminary investigation of the Seawall area as a potential Recreational Demonstration Project (RDP) in 1935 and ends in 1942 when physical work by the CCC was completed and their camp, NP-1, was closed. Seawall Campground retains all the necessary associations and characteristics of the "National Park Service Development of Acadia National Park (1916-1958)" and "Rustic Design in the National Park Service (1916-1958)" historic contexts outlined in the 2017 MPDF, and meets the registration requirements for Visitor Facilities and Developed Areas property type. Note: Park resources associated with Mission 66 were evaluated in 2003 and determined ineligible for listing in the National Register, and are not addressed in the 2017 MPDF.

CRITERION A
Conservation and Entertainment/Recreation:
Seawall Campground is significant under Criterion A for its association with the New Deal programs, especially the CCC, which provided the federal funding and labor force and that made construction of facilities possible at Acadia in the 1930s. This resulted in the abundance of CCC labor necessary to construct the campgrounds and other park amenities according to the rustic standards developed by the NPS. Plans for campgrounds were not systematically executed until the implementation of the New Deal programs in the 1930s. Seawall and its counterpart campground Blackwoods were developed as Recreational Demonstration Projects under the submarginal lands program and reflect the significant impact these New Deal programs had on the park's landscape.

CRITERION C
Architecture and Landscape Architecture:
Seawall Campground is significant under Criterion C as illustrative of the NPS's dual objective to optimize the "wilderness" experience and at the same time provide basic amenities for visitors. The campground is an example of the NPS Rustic Design style constructed during the New Deal. The Meinecke approach of directing foot and automobile traffic into discrete areas to minimize soil compaction was an important step forward in the design of campgrounds and other areas subject to heavy visitor use. Meinecke's ideas were very compatible with the Rustic Design standards already developed and implemented by the NPS, and this cohesion is reflected in the design of the campground. Seawall constitutes an implemented historic landscape design and contains the original entrance road and historic campsites at Loops A, B, and part of C with associated features. Four historic comfort stations remain, although the original watertower has been removed. Post-historic additions at Seawall, including a campsite Loop D and the amphitheater constructed during Mission 66, are generally separated from the campground's historic resources

National Register Significance Criteria:

A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

National Register Criteria Consideration:

National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes):

Time Period: CE 1935 - CE 1942

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Expressing Cultural Values	Landscape Architecture	The 1930's: Era Of Public Works	
Transforming the Environment	Conservation of Natural Resources	Scenic Preservation	
Transforming the Environment	Historic Preservation	The Federal Government Enters The Movement	
Transforming the Environment	Conservation of Natural Resources	Origins Of The National Parks Movement	
Transforming the Environment	Conservation of Natural Resources	The Conservation Movement Matures 1908-1941	
Transforming the Environment	Conservation of Natural Resources	The Great Depression And Conservation	

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Conservation

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Entertainment - Recreation

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Landscape Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

NRIS Information:

NRIS Name:	Seawall Campground
NRIS ID:	07000613
Primary Certification Date:	06/29/2007

State Register Documentation:

National Historic Landmarks:

National Historic Landmark? No

Theme:

Contributing:

NHL ID:

NHL URL:

Date:

Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:

World Heritage Site:

World Heritage Site? No

Category:

WHS ID:

WHS URL:

Date:

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape: No

Chronology and Physical History

Chronology:

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
BCE 10500 - 5000	Inhabited	After the Ice Age, the earliest Indian hunting bands move into Maine's tundras in pursuit of caribou, musk ox, mammoth, and other wildlife. (Prins and McBride 2007: xv)
BCE 5000 - 1604	Inhabited	Indian families seasonally fish and hunt sea mammals in Mount Desert Island's coastal waters and collect shellfish on mudflats. Over many generations, shells accumulate at coastal camping sites, forming shellheaps. These sites also contain stone and bone tools, including harpoons, fishhooks, projectile points, awls, and (later) small native copper beads and thin copper blades. (Prins and McBride 2007: xv)
CE 1604	Explored	French explorer Samuel de Champlain names "Isle des Monts Deserts" for its high barren peaks. The Etchemin (later called Wabanaki) Indians guiding him know the island as Pemetic, meaning "range of mountains." (Prins and McBride 2007: i-ii; CLR 2006: 12)
CE 1620 - 1625	Settled	By the early 1620s epidemics and warfare have nearly annihilated the indigenous communities occupying the coastal territories from Mount Desert Island to Cape Cod, leading to European land claims and settlement. (Prins and McBride 2007: ii)
CE 1840 - 1870	Built	In the mid-1800s, Mount Desert Island became a well-known summer retreat and vacation place. Early visitors, known as "Rusticators" lodge in the homes of year-round residents, but in the 1860s many large hotels are built.
CE 1840 - 1925	Inhabited	From the 1840s to around 1925, Indians camp each summer north of the future Seawall Campground, at Clark Point in Southwest Harbor. They collect sweetgrass at Bass Harbor, cut ash for basketmaking and sell baskets, moccasins and birchbark wares. (Prins and McBride 2007: xxii)
CE 1880 - 1885	Built	By the early 1880s summer visitors who return yearly to the island begin building grand summer homes, called "cottages."
CE 1880	Established	Beginning around this time, the groundwork for the creation of the park grows out of civic efforts by the Village Improvement Association and the Village Improvement Society to protect and provide public access to Mount Desert Island's scenic places.
CE 1903	Land Transfer	Under the leadership of Charles W. Eliot, summer resident and president of Harvard University, the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations is chartered for the purpose of acquiring parcels of land on Mount Desert Island, mainly to protect walking trails and scenic vistas.
CE 1909	Land Transfer	George Dorr purchases a small spring in a meadow northeast of Cadillac Mountain.
CE 1913	Land Transfer	By this time, the Hancock Trustees control over 5,000 acres on Mount Desert Island.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1914	Established	George Dorr begins to lobby the federal government to designate land on Mount Desert Island as a national park.
CE 1916	Established	President Woodrow Wilson establishes Sieur de Monts National Monument, with the mission to protect and preserve outstanding scenic, natural, scientific and cultural values for present and future generations. Wilson names George Dorr as custodian. At the time the monument encompasses approximately 6,634 acres, including four lakes and ten mountains, within a contiguous boundary.
CE 1917 - 1919	Established	National Park status is authorized by Congress in 1919 under the name Lafayette National Park.
CE 1918	Built	John D. Rockefeller, Jr. receives approval to extend the network of carriage roads he has constructed in the area of his summer home at Seal Harbor into the park lands.
CE 1924	Built	Recognizing the arrival of automobiles on Mount Desert as inevitable, Rockefeller, Dorr, and Eliot seek to control their access and minimize their impact on the landscape. Rockefeller funds construction of the first park motor road, which is completed in 1924. Over the next few years, several segments that become known as the “Park Loop Road” are constructed.
CE 1926	Built	Visitation increases, prompting a need to accommodate a growing number of visitors. In response, Rockefeller finances construction of a private automobile campground development on his Blackwoods tract near Otter Creek, which he intend to donate to the NPS.
CE 1929	Established	Congress passes legislation adding Schoodic Peninsula to the park, and changes the name to Acadia National Park. By this time, the park is attracting over 70,000 vacationers a year, prompting the NPS to prepare a Master Plan to address the pressures of increased visitation.
CE 1930	Land Transfer	Dorr continues to expand the boundaries of the park, acquiring a 233-acre tract that was originally the site of the Seawall naval radio station, an area he thought well-suited for campground purposes.
CE 1933	Established	The NPS and Emergency Conservation Works Act establish two Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camps at Acadia, made up of young men 18-25, to work on beautifying the state roads leading to the park and other projects.
CE 1935	Planned	The FERA submarginal lands program has about 8,000 acres on the western side of Mount Desert Island under study as a potential Recreational Demonstration Project (RDP).
CE 1935 - 1936	Platted	Survey work at Seawall begins in November, and by the following June development of the campground and picnic grounds has begun.
CE 1936 - 1942	Built	CCC construction of the campground begins in 1936. Facilities constructed included two loops with 63 campsites, comfort stations, fireplaces, and picnic tables.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1937	Built	By February 1937, it becomes necessary to obtain additional Works Progress Administration (WPA) funds to complete the job.
CE 1937	Built	Loop A and its spur-type campsites is completed.
CE 1937	Built	The first comfort station prototypes (#102, #103) are designed and constructed in Loop A.
CE 1938	Built	Loop B and its spur-type campsites is completed.
CE 1938 - 1939	Built	With new funds available, the Loop B Comfort Station #104 is constructed.
CE 1939 - 1940	Developed	The CCC continues work at Seawall, initiating construction of the Loop C trailer loop, When war breaks out in Europe, some CCC companies are disbanded, including Camp NP-2 for a brief period in 1940, putting pressure on the remaining Camp NP-1 to complete the work. Camp NP-2 reopens in July 1940.
CE 1940	Built	Loop C and its link-type campsites is completed.
CE 1941	Built	The Checking Station and sewer, water, and electrical service are completed.
CE 1941	Abandoned	With the approach of World War II, the focus of the CCC work shifts to civil defense. Camp NP-2 is permanently closed in April.
CE 1941	Built	Two radio stations are constructed, one at Seawall and the second on the summit of Cadillac Mountain.
CE 1941 - 1942	Built	A barracks building and a garage are built as part of the Seawall Naval Radio Station.
CE 1942	Built	Comfort Station #105 is built in Loop C.
CE 1942	Abandoned	Camp NP-2 is permanently closed in June 1942.
CE 1946	Built	Six lateral roads are constructed during the financially lean years following the end of World War II using the simpler “spur” type campsite arrangement.
CE 1947	Destroyed	The Bar Harbor Fire destroys 17,128 acres on Mount Desert Island, of which approximately 8,750 acres are within park boundaries. Clean up work associated with the Bar Harbor Fire delays further campground development.
CE 1950 - 1959	Altered	The radio station barracks is converted into a seasonal park residence in the 1950s.
CE 1956 - 1966	Built	In anticipation of the fiftieth anniversary of the National Park Service in 1966, the agency undertakes a major program, known as “Mission 66,” to upgrade park facilities throughout the system. Initiatives funded by Mission 66 at Seawall include an amphitheater and new campsite loop. Improvements are also made to upgrade utilities and facilities at Seawall.
CE 1960	Built	Loop D, a new area of campsites, is completed for the exclusive use of “walk-in” campers. The loop features a spur road off the main campground road, ending in a parking area served by three comfort stations (#s 178,179,180) at its perimeter.
CE 1960	Altered	The CCC-constructed recreation field at the north side of Loop C is converted into group campsites.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1961	Built	Life magazine lists Seawall Campground as one of “America’s 50 Best Camping Areas.”
CE 1961	Built	Comfort Station #181 is completed at Loop C.
CE 1962	Built	An amphitheater is constructed at Seawall, reflecting the design standardization common to Mission 66.
CE 1970 - 1979	Altered	In the 1970s, the portion of the entrance road from Route 102A to the Checking Station is widened from two to three lanes to accommodate increased traffic queues.
CE 1986	Altered	The Seawall Amphitheater is modified, but the Mission 66 Design is retained.
CE 1989 - 2021	Memorialized	Since 1989, as part of Wabanaki cultural revitalization, some Wabanaki participate in sweat-lodge and other spiritual rituals at various locations on the island. (Prins and McBride 2007: xxv-xxvi)
CE 1990	Built	An employee housing building is constructed along the road that connects the Checking Station and the Former Barracks/Seasonal Residence.
CE 2004	Removed	The water tower is removed.
CE 2011	Built	Electronic departure signs are installed at the Island Explore bus stop. (PEPC 24084)
CE 2012	Rehabilitated	Roof is replaced on the Former Barracks/Seasonal Residence. (PEPC 41598)
CE 2014	Altered	Prescribed burn in the meadow south of the Former Barracks/Seasonal Residence completed. (PEPC 47290)
CE 2016	Rehabilitated	The Checking Station is rehabilitated. (PMIS 190030/PEPC 67797)
CE 2016	Altered	Dumpsters and animal-proof containers are replaced. (PMIS 208495)
CE 2017	Rehabilitated	Waste water system is rehabilitated. (PMIS 152954/PEPC 43306)
CE 2017	Altered	Roadside cedar fencing is replaced (PEPC 69306)
CE 2018	Removed	Hazard trees and debris are removed following winter storm damage. (PEPC 79422)
CE 2019	Built	Installation of electrical service at several campsites begins. (PMIS 154276/PEPC 67793)
CE 2019 - 2020	Rehabilitated	Historic stone fireplaces at Seawall are rehabilitated. (PMIS 239966/PEPC 70289)

Physical History:

INTRODUCTION

The following section provides information on the physical development and evolution of the site, organized by time periods. The narrative draws primarily from the 1996 “Cultural Landscape Report for Blackwoods and Seawall Campgrounds, Acadia National Park “by H. Eliot Foulds, and the 2004 “National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, Seawall Campground” by Jennifer Morvan and Virginia H. Adams. Development that has occurred since the original CLI was completed in 2006 is summarized under “Updates, 2007-2021.”

PRE-PARK ESTABLISHMENT

The dramatic landscape of Mount Desert Island was created when glaciers carved deep north-south valleys in the formerly east-west running granite ridge. U-shaped valleys were created, boulders were stranded precipitously atop mountains, and the coast was left jagged as the ocean level rose and flooded the foothills. (NR 2007, Sec.7: 1)

This meeting place between land and sea, between northern and temperate zones, abounds with plant and animal life. Wildlife includes 300 species of birds, such as the Common Eider, the Oceanic Duck, and the Herring Gull. Marine life is also abundant, a fact which accounts for the predominance of commercial fishing ventures. A mature spruce/fir coniferous forest dominates the inland areas. Sub-dominant species include various hardwoods such as birch and aspen. Mosses, ferns, and northern temperate shrub species populate undisturbed areas of the forest floor. (NR 2007, Sec.7: 1)

The Wabanaki and European Settlement:
The Wabanaki peoples are a group of northeastern Algonquian-speaking ethnic groups or tribal nations that today are distinguished as the Abenaki, Maliseet, Mi'kmaq, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot. Mount Desert Island was among the islands and coasts where highly mobile families of hunters, fishers, and gatherers sought out terrestrial game, fresh-water fish, and other resources. There is archaeological evidence of several seasonal villages and smaller temporary camping sites in this wider area. These sites contain material cultural (and sometimes biological) remains of Wabanakis who formed part of extended social networks customarily referred to as bands, tribes, nations or even chiefdoms. (Prins and McBride 2007: i)

When Europeans first visited the area just over four centuries ago, Mount Desert Island was seasonally inhabited by no more than a few hundred people. The Etchemin (later called Wabanaki) Indians guiding French explorer Samuel de Champlain in 1604 called the island Pemetic, meaning “range of mountains.” Because of its high barren peaks, a prominent coastal landmark for seafarers, Champlain named it Isle des Monts Deserts. With epidemics and warfare nearly annihilating the indigenous communities occupying the coastal territories from Mount Desert Island to Cape Cod by the early 1620s, much of this land was largely cleared for European settlement. Having lost most of their relatives and neighbors, Wabanaki survivors joined other decimated groups and restructured their social lives. Their existence was further complicated because of fur trade competition and the French and English claims for land. The Wabanaki’s enduring interrelationships and close ties to familiar places in a common ancestral homeland are traceable in the well-known multi-ethnic Indian encampments on Mount Desert Island from the mid-1800s through the early-1900s. (Prins and McBride 2007: i-ii; CLR 2006: 12)

The Rusticators and Cottagers:
In the mid-1800s, Mount Desert Island became a well-known summer retreat and vacation place after artists such as Thomas Cole and his pupil Frederic Church traveled to the Maine coastline to paint its scenery. The work of artists led to a greater public awareness of the scenic beauty of the Mount Desert Island landscape, and many visitors soon followed. Early visitors, who sometimes referred to themselves as “Rusticators” lodged in the homes of year-round residents, but by the 1860s many large hotels began to be constructed on the island. These early and often youthful visitors, passed their time boating among the islands, hiking and picnicking in the hills, and climbing on the slippery rocks along the coast. By the early 1880s summer visitors who had returned year after year to the island began to build grand summer homes, coyly referring to them as “cottages.” This led to social activities such as dances and parties supplementing the rugged adventuring of the Rusticators as the island entered its “Cottage Era.” As the colony of summer residents matured during this time, they also became more organized. Beginning in the 1880s and 1890s, summer residents of the island’s villages formed “Village Improvement Associations,” with the stated goal to “preserve and develop the natural beauties of the place, and to enhance their attractions, by such artificial arrangements as good taste and science may suggest…” Among other goals, these groups sought to improve the quality of development, road conditions and public health and safety within their villages. (Foulds 1996: 3-4)

ESTABLISHMENT OF ACADIA NATIONAL PARK, 1916-1932

Acadia National Park, the first national park established east of the Mississippi, was initially created as Sieur de Monts National Monument in 1916, then renamed Lafayette National Park in 1919, and subsequently named Acadia National Park in 1929. In spite of the growing popularity of recreational camping during the late 1920s, at that time, the park did not have its own public campground. A park master plan and an alternative proposed by Charles W. Eliot II recognized the need for public campgrounds as early as 1927 (Figure 1). However, it was not until the New Deal programs of the 1930s that plans for campground development were systematically implemented. (Meier and Terzis 2001: 73; Foulds 1996: 73)

Before that time, commercial lodging, private "auto-camps," and backcountry camping were the only options available. The former Native American seasonal encampment at Ledgelawn was soon put into service by the town of Bar Harbor as a public campground. In 1927, one of the park's first planning documents described plans to replace Ledgelawn with a new park facility west of Bar Harbor at Bear Brook. The following year, the Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association sponsored a planning report entitled "The Future of Mount Desert Island," which addressed the physical planning of the entire island, both inside and outside park boundaries. As plans continued, summer resident John D. Rockefeller, Jr. was repeatedly a sought after a patron for the development of park facilities. (Foulds 1996: 11-12)

Between 1927 and 1932, Acadia Superintendent George B. Dorr pressed on in the development at Bear Brook, which provided water, fire rings, and comfort stations, as well as randomly cleared areas for parking. In 1932 new plans for Bear Brook Campground were made, which involved removing discordant buildings, and adding screening vegetation and ordered parking. This layout clearly reflected the ideas of forest pathologist Dr. E.P. Meinecke, who focused on the provision of discreet boundaries for pedestrian and automotive traffic, thereby reducing damage to the surrounding vegetation and preserving the natural habitat. (NR 2007, Sec.7: 10)

Civilian Conservation Corps:
The plan for the reconstruction of Bear Brook Campground proceeded quickly after the creation of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) by the Roosevelt administration in 1933. The CCC, which was established to provide a work force for projects funded by the Emergency Conservation Works Act (ECW), was one of several programs established in the New Deal era that was beneficial to the National Park Service (NPS). The Federal Emergency Relief Act (FERA) was also proposed and passed in 1933 to move agricultural families off of submarginal lands and onto more productive lands. Consequently, the NPS was responsible for developing any potential recreational areas from such lands. The Public Works Administration (PWA), another New Deal program, was intended to fund major capital improvements, utilizing local contractors and labor to stimulate the regional economy. Portions of Acadia's motor road system were constructed with PWA funding. Lastly, the Works Projects Administration (WPA), established in 1935, created yet another source of funding for conservation and recreational development. At Acadia, two CCC camps located in the area, camps NP-1 at McFarland Hill and NP-2 at Great Pond, undertook the construction work.

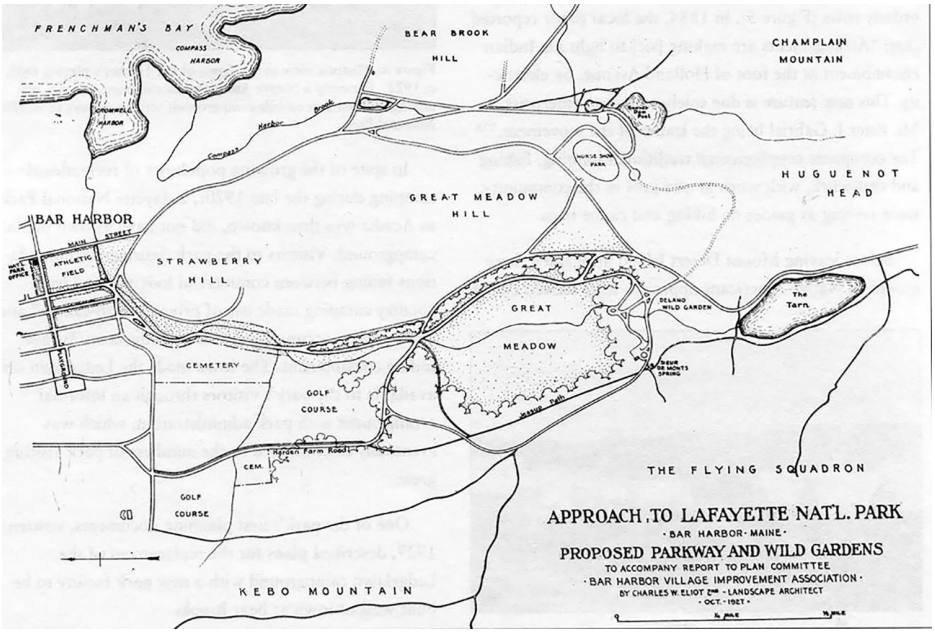


Figure 1. Map from "The Future of Mount Desert Island," by Charles Eliot 2nd, 1928. (H. Eliot Foulds, Cultural Landscape Report for Blackwoods and Seawall Campground, Acadia National Park, 1996: 12)

CONSTRUCTION OF SEAWALL CAMPGROUND, 1935-1939

In 1935, Acadia's resident landscape architect, Benjamin Breeze, and Superintendent Dorr made an appeal for new campgrounds. Soon after, preliminary work was begun to investigate the suitability of a tract of Rockefeller's land in Hull's Cove as the possible site. This site, near the location of the current visitors center, was eventually excluded from consideration in favor of a western site in the park's Seawall area. Approximately 8,000 acres on the western side of Mount Desert Island had been under study by the FERA submarginal lands program as a potential Recreational Demonstration Project (RDP). These lands were purchased for their recreational value as an extension to the park's holdings. In addition to the acquisition of land, RDP funds were expended for development of recreational facilities in the Seawall area, near lands already owned by Dorr and Rockefeller. The name "Seawall" acknowledged the naturally occurring barrier of granite rocks that forms a characteristic "seawall" along the Gulf of Maine located approximately a quarter mile to the east. (Foulds 1996: 18)

Survey work at Seawall Campground began in November 1935 and by June 1936, WPA Jobs #303 and #705 were in progress for public campground and picnic ground development (Figures 2, 3). The initial development consisted of two separate one-way loop roads, featuring parking spurs and campsites laid out using the Meinecke system of campground development. The plan originally featured a single "Latrine, Washroom and Shower Bldg" at the center of each loop. While Loops A and B were not designed to accommodate trailers, the original drawings referenced two possible future loop developments to the north, including a loop reserved for trailers. (NR 2007, Sec.8: 13)

WPA appropriations for campground development were insufficient to cover either the cost of the two buildings, nor a community and administration building described in the original plan drawing. However, by February 1937, development of the campground by WPA crews had progressed to the point that it had become necessary to obtain the additional funding to complete the job (Figure 4).

The NPS had published a "Portfolio of Comfort Stations and Privies" during 1934 to provide design

guidance to the CCC (Figure 5). This volume was especially valuable to those CCC companies at work in the state parks and forests that did not have the luxury of a team of NPS designers working on their behalf. The circulation of this pattern book served as a source of design inspiration for architects. Because of these published materials, it is not surprising that the comfort stations constructed at Acadia would have been derivative of NPS designs elsewhere. The original "Portfolio of Comfort Stations and Privies" was updated and expanded by 1938. The final publication, edited by architect Albert Good, consisted of the three-volume Park and Recreation Structures that documented many regional examples of CCC-era construction and the design motives behind the work. For Acadia, however, the original plan was slightly modified, as NPS Chief Landscape Architect Thomas Vint and Breeze felt a stone building in a wooded area would not harmonize with the surroundings. It was their opinion that a wood-framed structure would be more appropriate, especially with hand-split shingles on the roof. (Foulds 1996: 21)

Good's book also defined two types of campsites: "spur" and "link." Based on the Meineke system, spur-type sites consisted of a parking area off of the road, allowing a person to drive into the campsite and then back out of it. Spur-types were ideal for tent campers but were not favorable for trailer campers. A link-type featured a through parking space that ran through the campsite, eliminating the need to back out of it.

Loop A, completed in 1937, was the first area at Seawall Campground ready for use by the public. The loop featured spur-type campsites, featuring a parking area off of the loop road. The same year, the CCC designed and constructed the first new comfort station prototypes (#s 102, 103) to serve the campsites. They were constructed with a special allotment of $5,000 of ECW funds, with separate projects authorized to provide for both sewer and water service. Investigations were made into connecting the campground to the water system of Southwest Harbor, but dismissed due to cost. A drilled well supplied the water, and sewage from the restroom was piped directly into the ocean without treatment. Each campsite in Loop A was also furnished with a rustic stone fireplace and a picnic table. Loop A was located just south of the small Dolliver Cemetery, established by a family that was removed from their "submarginal" land under the RDP program. (NR 2007, Sec.8: 15; Review comments: Gladstone, 26 July 2021)

Additional CCC/ECW projects associated with the new Seawall Campground were completed for the construction of immovable fireplaces and heavy timber picnic tables that were specified by Meinecke's system of campground development. By late 1937, Loop B was completed, except for a single Comfort Station #104 to serve Loop B; it was constructed between 1938 and 1939 as soon as funds became available. Spur-type campsites in this loop were furnished with the same stone fireplaces and rustic picnic tables that had been used for Loop A. (Foulds 1996: 22,54)



Figure 2. The Seawall area was identified as a possible Recreational Demonstration Area by the submarginal lands program. (Foulds 1996: 18)

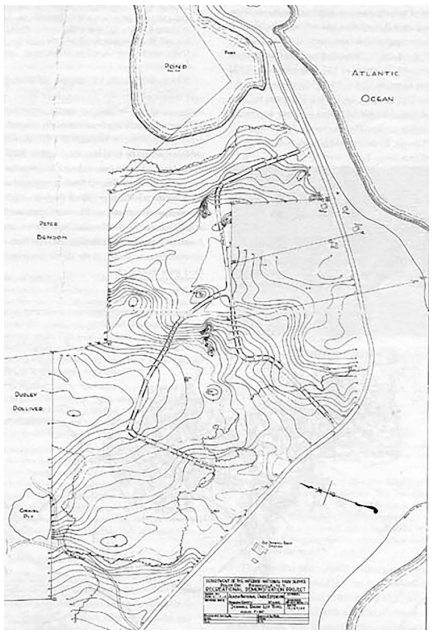


Figure 3. "Seawall Radio Lot Topo," Drawing NP-ACA-8036-1-1. Drawing shows conditions prior to campground development, 1935. (Foulds 1996: 19)



Figure 4. Seawall campground development in 1937. Note the wood picnic table at image left.(Foulds 1996: 22)

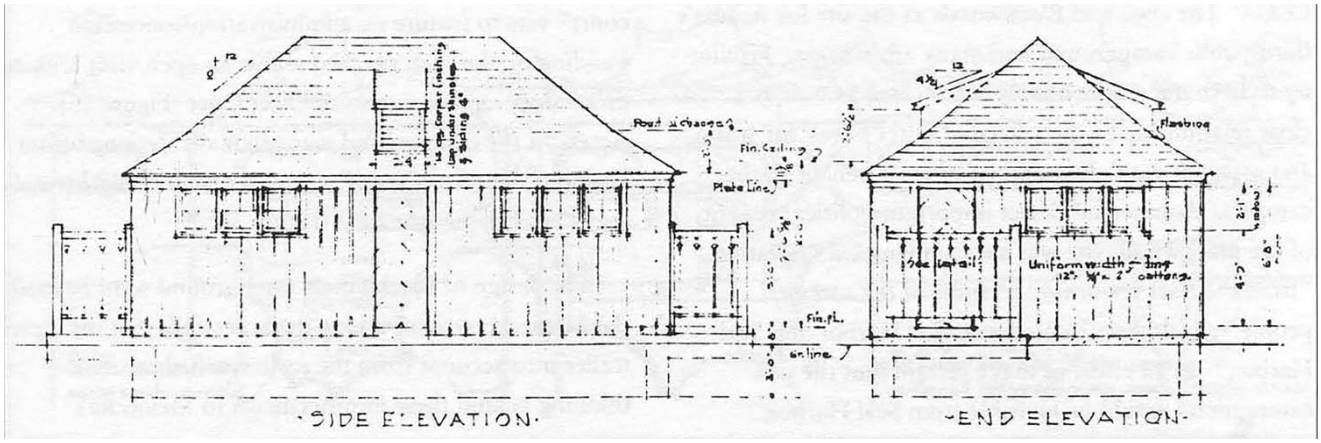


Figure 5. Prototypical comfort station design, used from 1937 to 1948, Acadia National Park. Drawing NP-ACA-1128, 1937. (Foulds 1996: 23)

MORE CONSTRUCTION AND WORLD WAR II, 1939-1945

With the rumblings of war beginning in Europe during 1939, Acadia's CCC camps continued work on Seawall Campground. Construction began on Loop C trailer loop, a checking/ranger building, and sewer, water, and electrical service. The loop and link-type campsites were completed in 1940 (Figure 6). That same year, when war broke out in Europe, President Roosevelt declared a limited national emergency to prepare the United States for an inevitable entry into the conflict. These preparations shifted resources from the CCC's emergency conservation work toward the country's civil defense. The new priorities led to the premature closure of the CCC Camp NP-2 on Great Pond, which served to confuse and disorganize the CCC development programs, and place a great burden upon Camp NP-1. The two camps had worked together on several projects at Seawall, such as the completion of the trailer loop and checking station, all of which were left to be finished by Camp NP-1. (Foulds 1996: 29)

However, by July 1940 Camp NP-2 was reactivated, prompting a site visit by NPS Assistant Director Conrad Wirth, who declared the completion of Seawall to be a top priority. The plans for Seawall were quickly revised to include the development of washhouse and laundry facilities, and an amphitheater, improving upon the systems in use at the Bear Brook Campground. But by late fall, little progress had been made towards the initiation of construction. On April 1, 1941 Camp NP-2 was permanently abandoned and all its projects were officially reassigned to Camp NP-1. Despite pressures of time and funding, Camp NP-1 successfully completed the recreational field on the north side of Loop C and the checking station near the campground entrance in 1941, and Comfort Station #105 in Loop C in 1942. That same year, Camp NP-1 was permanently closed. (Foulds 1996: 29)

In the prewar months, the CCC was declining in national importance and became a less attractive option for the unemployed. During World War II, tourism predictably fell off sharply and many recreational areas were given new military uses. Seawall Campground played a role by hosting a Naval Radio Station, which introduced several buildings to the Seawall area and necessitated a rerouting of traffic for security reasons. With campground construction halted, there was time for planning, and a goal was established to "complete a full shelf of well-planned future proposals, rather than plans for immediate construction." As funding severely decreased, however, there was little money for regular maintenance, and the campgrounds began to deteriorate. (Foulds 1996: 32,34, citing CCC Monthly Narrative Report, 12/2/41 -1/20/42)

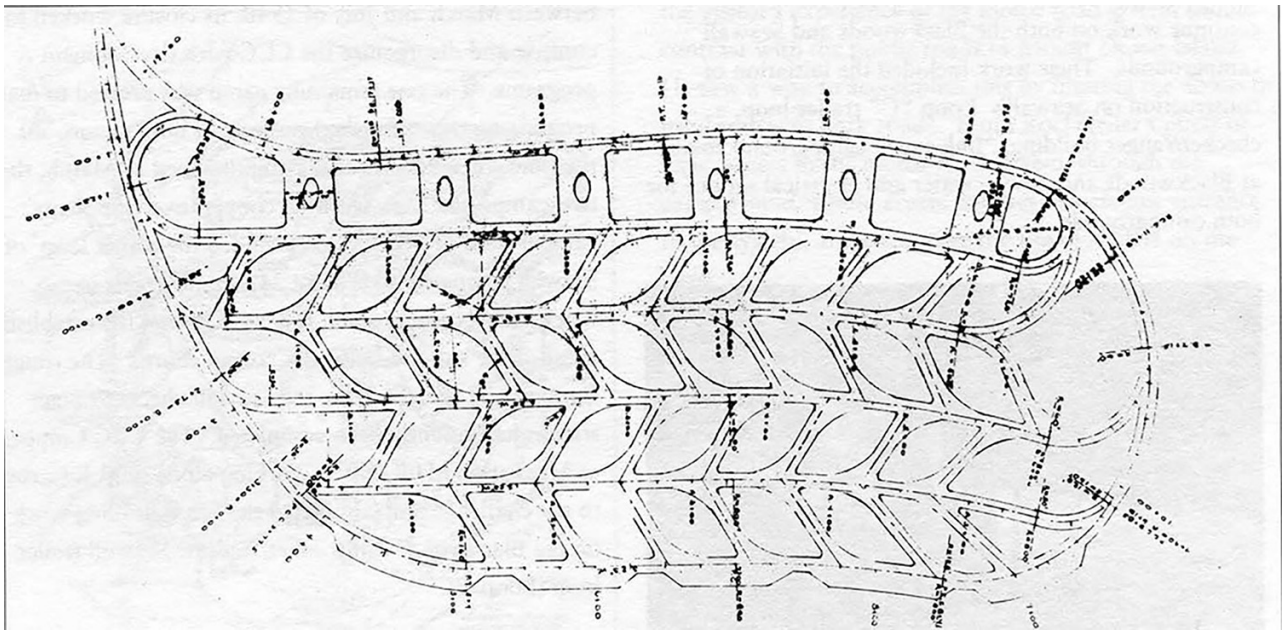


Figure 6. Seawall campground's trailer loop (Loop C), Drawing NP-ACA-357-2-6, 1939. (Foulds 1996: 30)

POST-WAR AND MISSION 66, 1945-1966

Once the war ended, visitation at Acadia National Park began to surge, tripling from prewar figures. Little, if any, work was done at Seawall during the post-war period, except for conversion of the Naval Radio Station buildings to employee housing. Funding, meanwhile, remained below prewar levels. In 1951 NPS Director Conrad Wirth sought a way to address the lack of funding, the overuse of resources, and the deterioration of park buildings. The solution was "Mission 66," a program dedicated to upgrading facilities, staffing, and resource management in time for the fiftieth anniversary of the NPS in 1966. The Mission 66 proposal captured the attention of the Eisenhower administration, which approved the ten-year program with a budget of $789,545,000. Under the new program, the earlier NPS design ethic gave way to standardization and fast track scheduling. Contractors from the private sector soon introduced contemporary designs and mass-produced materials, which often sharply contrasted with earlier rustic design work. (NR 2007, Sec.8: 16)

Mission 66 projects completed at Seawall Campground included Comfort Station #181 in Loop C in 1960-61, which was constructed of patterned concrete masonry units. The CCC's recreation area north of Loop C was converted into group campsites in 1960, a trailer waste dump station was installed in 1960-1961, and an amphitheater was built between Loops B and C in 1962 (Figure 7). However, the biggest project was the development of Loop D in 1960. This "walk-in" campground featured 104 campsites arranged around a central parking area (Figure 8). Access to the campsites was via unsurfaced foot trails, with wooden trailside posts marking the sites. The parking area was flanked by three comfort stations (#s 178, 179, 180) built between 1960-1961 of patterned concrete masonry units. (NR 2007, Sec.8: 16)



Figure 7. Seawall Campground's amphitheater in 1962. (Foulds 1996: 39)

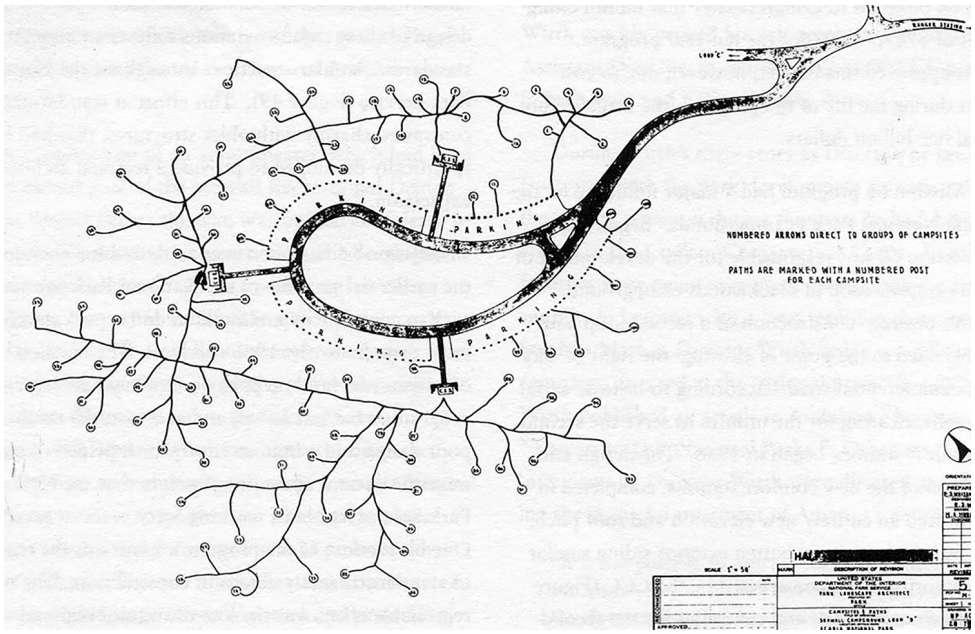


Figure 8. Seawall's Loop "D" walk-in campground. Drawing NP-ACA-2879, 1961. (Foulds 1996: 38)

SEAWALL CAMPGROUND, 1966-Present

Little development has occurred at Seawall Campground in the years following the Mission 66 program. Rather, emphasis has been placed on caring for existing facilities and making minor modifications as necessary. Various work initiatives and planning studies undertaken between the 1960s and 2000 appear to have been focused primarily at Blackwoods Campground, although some have been applicable to Seawall Campground as well. (Foulds 1996: 42-45)

In 1990, Campground Supervisor Charles Jacobi launched a study of physical and management problems affecting Blackwoods specifically, but also applicable to Seawall. Recognizing the age of the facilities and the increasing demands that have been placed upon the landscape, the report suggested measures to reconcile the protection of the campgrounds with the expectations of a diverse group of visitors. It brought together the history of camping and Acadia's development to the present suggesting, "We must all work together giving careful consideration to what we want and what campers want, and what we have to do to achieve our vision of camping at Acadia without destroying what we have." (Foulds 1996: 45, citing Jacobi 1990: np)

Updates, 2007-2021:
Since the original Seawall Campground CLI was completed in 2006, several projects have been completed at the site. In 2012 the roof was replaced on the Former Barracks/Seasonal Residence and in 2016 the Checking Station was rehabilitated (PEPC 41598, PEPC 67797). Plans are proposed to rehabilitate the Seawall Amphitheater to accommodate a variety of group sizes and types of presentations, improve accessibility, repair deteriorating benches and surfaces, and restore two fireplaces (PMIS 241790/PEPC 75785). Funding has been requested to rehabilitate the garage, currently used by park maintenance (PMIS 236867).

Work on campground utility systems has included rehabilitation of the water system in 2017, installation of electrical service at camp sites and internet access in 2019 (PMIS 152954/PEPC 43306, PMIS 154276/PEPC 67793, PEPC 42242). Planned utility work includes installation of new vault toilets for wintertime use (PEPC 62245). Funding has been requested to replace the Seawall Campground and Picnic Area sewage system with a connection to municipal facilities (PMIS 257098).

Among the vegetation projects completed at Seawall was a prescribed burn at the meadow south of the Former Barracks/Seasonal Residence in 2014 to reduce hazardous fuels accumulations, promote low-growing native plant species, and maintain the historic vista associated with the campground (PEPC 47290). Hazard trees from winter storm damage were removed in 2018 (PEPC 79422).

Small-scale features at Seawall have also received attention. In 2011 electronic sign were installed at the Island Explorer bus stop (PEPC 24084). In 2016-2017, dumpsters and cedar-sided animal proof containers were replaced, and deteriorated roadside cedar fences were repaired (PMIS 208495, PEPC 69306). Beginning in 2019, Seawall's historic stone fireplaces were rehabilitated (PMIS 239966/PEPC 70289).

Funding has been requested for FY 2022-2023 to rehabilitate 220 campsites at Seawall (PMIS 255396). The project will apply and grade new gravel at tent pads to improve drainage, and plant mature vegetation – including 200 birch trees and 185 spruce trees – around campsites to provide visitors with more privacy and restore natural resources and wildlife habitats.

The town of Southwest Harbor maintains the Dolliver cemetery.

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Landscape	Scenic Landscape		Yes	Yes	No
Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	Campground/Picnic Area	No	Yes	Yes
Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	Campground/Picnic Area	Yes	No	Yes

Public Access:

Public Access: Unrestricted

Public Access Narrative:

Unrestricted with seasonal constraints

Associated Ethnographic Group

Ethnographic Group: Scott Family Descendants

Current: Yes

Historic Yes

Ethnographic Group: Taylor Family Descendants

Current: Yes

Historic Yes

Ethnographic Group: Songish

Current: Yes

Historic Yes

Ethnographic Group: Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians, California

Current: Yes

Historic Yes

Ethnographic Study Status: Yes-Unrestricted Information

Ethnographic Narrative:

In 2007, the report, "Asticou's Island Domain: Wabanaki Peoples at Mount Desert Island, 1500-2000, Acadia National Park, Ethnographic Overview and Assessment, Volume 1 and Volume 2," was completed by Harald E.L. Prins and Bunny McBride, through the National Park Service Northeast Region Ethnography Program, under cooperative agreement with the Abbe Museum in Bar Harbor, Maine. The historical-ethnographic overview of Acadia National Park spans almost 500 years and covers a wide coastal stretch between Penobscot and Gouldsboro Bays, as well as surrounding areas. As stated in the report's Executive Summary: "such breadth of coverage is necessary in order to take in the park's center piece on Mount Desert Island, plus Isle au Haut and Schoodic Peninsula, along with various land holding arrangements (including easements) on numerous offshore sea-islands in this area. The study explores the shifting but ongoing relationship between this habitat and Wabanaki peoples – a group of northeastern Algonquian-speaking ethnic groups or tribal nations today distinguished as the Abenaki, Maliseet, Mi'kmaq, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot." (Prins and McBride 2007: i)

The report's findings indicate that:
"Mount Desert Island has been a nexus point over the centuries for Wabanaki peoples – not only part of their prehistoric and historic hunting, fishing, gathering and trading range, but a strategic location in military maneuverings during the colonial wars and American Revolution, a prime place for marketing traditional crafts (and thereby for sustaining knowledge concerning the making of these crafts) and more recently a center point in their individual and collective efforts toward cultural reclamation. Their deep and intertwined connection to the area is reflected in traditional Wabanaki legends and place names. It is also evident in the names and genealogical information of specific 19th-century Wabanaki individuals identified in this study – most of whom have descendants associated with two or more of Maine's still existing tribal groups. (Prins and McBride 2007: iv)

The 2007 report does not specifically reference Seawall Campground. Other terms searched in the report included: Bass Harbor, Great Cranberry Island, and Southwest Harbor. For more information, please refer to Asticou's Island Domain or contact park staff.

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

Seawall Campground is significant under Criteria A and C through its association with two historic described in the 2017 MPDF: “National Park Service Development of Acadia National Park (1916–1958)” and “Rustic Design in the National Park System (1916–1958).” Seawall also meets the Registration Requirements of the “Visitor Facilities and Developed Areas” property type, which outline the standards of integrity necessary to convey significance under Criteria A and C. The campground retains integrity of setting and design by communicating its historic use, including its principal circulation system and site organization. The site retains the majority of built features designed and constructed during the height of the New Deal programs between 1933 and 1942. Historic buildings are in their original locations and maintain their historic relationships with associated structures and objects. Integrity of materials and workmanship are clearly identifiable as NPS or CCC rustic structures, with only minor alterations to historic facades. Sufficient small-scale structures such as water fountains and fireplaces, are present to communicate the historic design vocabulary. While some loss of historic features, materials, or spaces has occurred, along with new additions, sufficient remaining historic resources are present to illustrate the historic design. Lastly, the continuity of historic use as a park campground has been sustained, which has been essential in retaining the integrity of physical features representative of the NPS Rustic Design style.

At Seawall Campground, the entrance road, Loops A, B, and C, four comfort stations, Checking Station, Former Barracks/Seasonal Residence, garage, pump house, and tool shed completed in 1937-1942 still exhibit NPS Rustic Design principles. Historic stone fireplaces, a stone entrance gate, log barriers, water pumps and culverts, and wood signs also remain. The Loop D development, Loop C group camping area, four comfort stations, and an amphitheater from the Mission 66 period, and an employee housing building from 1990, are not historic but do not significantly compromise the campground’s historic character. Forest vegetation shades much of the campground, but the density of understory plantings that once screened individual campsites has diminished.

INTEGRITY

Seawall Campground has retained a high degree of integrity from the years of the CCC program. Prior to its dissolution in 1942, the CCC had successfully completed Seawall Loops A, B, and C and all structures necessary to make these developments functional. All original campground comfort stations remain extant in fair to good condition. Rustic stone fireplaces still occupy their original location and are undergoing restoration by the park. Many individual campsites retain their original location, though the vegetation surrounding them reflects the hardship of survival with heavy use. Features missing from the 1935-1942 historic period include heavy log picnic tables that have been replaced with lighter-weight tables constructed of boards and steel tubing. Modern additions affecting the entire campground include the addition of a bituminous asphalt surface to the campground roads, while during the historic period, master plan documents refer to the road surfaces as having been “base sealed.” Site-specific modern additions include the construction of the Loop D walk-in campground and the Seawall Amphitheater. These unmistakably modern features are set back from the other areas of the campground and do not intrude on the historic character of the campground. Both are located on sites that had much earlier been specified for this purpose, and do not compromise the setting of the campground because they are physical features directly related to the function of the property as a campground. The conversion of the historic Seawall playing field to a group camping area constitutes a change in use, but has a limited effect on integrity.

While Seawall Campground retains qualities of integrity relating to location, design, setting, and association, qualities of workmanship and materials are diminished by the deterioration of the individual campsites including the poor condition of surrounding vegetation and loss of small features and furnishings such as rustic picnic tables and most of the stone and log barriers. Despite this deterioration and modest alterations, the feeling of a rustic campground located near the sea is still evident

The next section presents an analysis of landscape characteristics and their associated features and corresponding List of Classified Structures names and numbers, if applicable. It also includes an evaluation of whether the feature contributes to the property’s National Register eligibility for the historic period (1935-1942), contributes to the property’s historic character, or if it is noncontributing, undetermined, or managed as a cultural resource. If a feature is non-contributing, it is evaluated as “compatible” (visually congruent with the historic character of the landscape) or “incompatible” (visually incongruent with the historic character of the landscape).

Landscape Characteristic: **Natural Systems and Features**

Natural systems and features are the natural aspects that have influenced the development and physical form of the landscape, and can include geology, geomorphology, hydrology, ecology, climate, and native vegetation. The Acadian landscape illustrates the interface between land and sea, especially at Seawall Campground, whose name acknowledges the naturally occurring barrier of granite rocks that forms the characteristic “seawall” along the Gulf of Maine (Figure 9). This physiographic context was ideally suited for the Rustic Design style, which incorporated natural systems and features into the development of the site. Through the 1940s, the NPS developed and favored this style that was inspired by the romantic conception of wilderness permeating in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In principle, it involved the subordination of man-made development to natural topography and landscape features, as well as the use of natural, native materials in any created structures in order to preserve natural scenery for public benefit. Natural topography and landscape features contributed significantly to the design of the Seawall Campground, from the weather-rounded stones of the natural seawall, the dense forest contorted by the harsh and salty ocean wind, and the stone and wood-constructed buildings and amenities.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 9. The Acadian coastline at Seawall’s picnic area. (OCLP 2019, DSC-0144)

Landscape Characteristic: Spatial Organization

Spatial organization is the three-dimensional organization of physical forms and visual associations in a landscape, including the articulation of ground, vertical, and overhead planes that define and create spaces. The plans for Seawall Campground were developed in the 1930s and featured a primary two-way road generally oriented north-south that served as the spine from which other spatial components of the campground such as interior roads, parking spurs and links, and campsites were arranged. Like many of the other campgrounds designed and built by the NPS and CCC during the 1930s and early 1940s, Seawall was designed according to the system of campground layout developed by Dr. E.P. Meinecke to minimize damage to natural vegetation and habitat by creating specific areas of pedestrian and automobile traffic. This system centered on the preservation of surrounding vegetation, inserting the campsites into the landscape and allowing the sites to retain their inherent natural qualities.

Interior perimeter roads serving the historic Loops A, B, and C were completed in 1937-1940 and directed traffic numerically through the loops. Loops A and B featured spur-type campsites. In Loop C, one-way lateral roads branched off of its perimeter road, allowing access to link-type campsites. The northern part of this Loop was converted from an open field to group campsites in 1960, and is therefore not historic The non-historic Loop D completed in 1960 featured a similar layout to that of Loops A and B. It was located north of the small Dolliver cemetery. The Seawall Amphitheater was built in its own separate and confined area between Loops B and D in 1962.

Today, Seawall Campground retains its historic linear spatial organization. The central two-way road still serves as the spine from which other campground areas are accessed. The main road is oriented north/south and serves as both an access road from the public highway and as the primary linear route for vehicles and pedestrians within the campground.

The layout of Loops A, B and C are intact and the layout of individual campsites within these loops has changed little from the period of significance. Comparison of historic plans with existing conditions reveal that approximately the same number of campsites exist in the same locations. Loops A and B currently feature 38 and 27 spur-type campsites, respectively. Loop C, the trailer loop, is a very densely occupied area due to its relatively small size and the large size of modern recreational vehicles and trailers (Figure 10). The 43 link-type sites are arranged diagonally and not particularly well-defined or protected by barriers. As a result, the width of the parking areas appears to have increased with time. The group camping area in Loop C is off of a fire road, with five wide areas opening off of a narrow loop road. There is very little definition of the individual sites in what is essentially an open field (Figure 11). Loop D is a “walk-in” campground and features 104 campsites arranged around a central parking area.

Individual campsites within the loops at Seawall Campground have their own spatial identity, which in some areas has changed from the historic period. The individual campsites were spatially delineated with log barriers and vegetative screening, but as barriers have been removed and understory vegetation has declined or been destroyed, the spatial quality of the some individual campsites in Loops A, B, and C has deteriorated since the period of significance.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Campsites, Loop A	199276	Contributing					No
Campsites, Loop AB	199277	Contributing					No
Campsites, Loop C	199278	Contributing					No
Group Campsites, Loop C	199279	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Campsites, Loop D	199280	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Amphitheater Area	199281	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	60016	Yes
Dolliver Cemetery	199282	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 10. A trailer campsite at Loop C, Seawall Campground. (OCLP 2019, IMG-0289)



Figure 11. Seawall group campsite at Loop C. (OCLP 2019, DSC-0137)

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

Vegetation includes deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, and herbaceous plants and plant communities, whether indigenous or introduced in the landscape. As previously stated, the design of Seawall Campground relied on the system of campground layout developed by Dr. E.P. Meinecke. A renowned plant pathologist, Meinecke was concerned about the impact of heavy use and trampling upon vegetation in various national and state parks. In addition to careful considerations of soil types, seasonal usage patterns, and types of vegetation, Meinecke proposed dividing campgrounds into individually delineated sites rather than the creation of large cleared areas for camping and utilities as was then common. In Meinecke's design, each campsite offered privacy, shade, and amenities such as a tent site, parking space, table, and fireplace. Roads and campsites were to be marked with natural boundaries, such as logs or boulders, to prevent damage to surrounding vegetation. Screening vegetation served as the "walls" of the campsite that Meinecke described as a "temporary home," providing the definition of an enclosure and a measure of privacy. Circulation was to be achieved via one-way roads with adjacent parking spurs, which would allow traffic to proceed smoothly while minimizing the amount of destruction to vegetation. This theory centered on the preservation of surrounding vegetation, allowing the campground to retain its inherent natural qualities.

Today, a spruce/fir coniferous forest is the dominant vegetative type at the Seawall Campground. Sub- dominant species include a variety of mixed hardwoods as well as birch and aspen. The forest cover is characterized as mature, with 75 to 100 percent crown closure. Undisturbed areas of the forest floor are covered with a ground layer of mosses and ferns. A variety of northern temperate shrub species populate the understory of undisturbed areas (Figure 12).

Loop A is situated in a low area featuring wet soils which helps to support a great variety and quantity of vegetation. The vegetation within Loop A is relatively dense, providing good campsite definition and privacy from adjacent campsites. Loop B is constructed in a very poorly drained area which may be exacerbated by blocked drainage culverts. The interior of Loop B is occupied by the comfort station that is set on an elevated area of fill amidst boggy ground, making mosquitos a problem. Many campsites in this loop lack clear spatial definition due to the lack of screening vegetation. Similarly, there is little vegetative screening between campsites in Loop C. As a result, campsites in both these loops lack a sense of privacy due to the scarcity of understory vegetation between campsites. The vegetation around the walk-in campsites of Loop D is generally in much better condition than elsewhere in the campground due to the lack of damage and stress from vehicular traffic, but they too suffer from a lack of vigorous understory vegetation. Overall, as the size of the parking spurs and links have grown, the screening vegetation has been compromised. High traffic areas and frequent pull-off points, such as near comfort stations and public phones, have lost much of their vegetation.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Screening Vegetation	192433	Contributing			Location	60033	Yes
Seawall Woodlands	192434	Contributing			Location	60033	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 12. Seawall forest and understory vegetation. (OCLP 2019, IMG-0293)

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

Circulation refers to the spaces, features, and applied material finishes that constitute systems of movement in a landscape. The Seawall Campground Entrance Road, begun in 1936, commenced at State Route 102A, and was marked by a rustic gate. The two-way road continued in a northerly direction for one-half mile and then split into two lanes at a center grass median in front of the Checking Station. The lanes converged after the Checking Station and continued as a two-way road, intersecting with perimeter roads serving Loop A (1937), Loop B (1938), and Loop C (1940). The one-way loop perimeter roads directed traffic in a generally numeric order through the loop.

Parking spurs and links were an important circulation feature of Seawall Campground. Originally designed to confine vehicles to a defined area, these features were chosen to reduce the possibility of damage to the surrounding landscape. Parking “spurs” were historically designed for auto-tent campers, who could easily pull in and out of a defined spur. Parking “links” were designed for trailer campers, eliminating the difficulty of backing up a large vehicle by introducing “drive-through” campsites with separate entrances and exits. Loops A and B featured spur-type parking for each campsite, while Loop C featured link-style parking for each campsite.

In 1942, the Loop A road was the first road to be “base-sealed” when it was upgraded to serve as a civilian detour around the Naval radio installation. Although a numbered wooden post originally indicated each campsite, this change in surfacing allowed identifying numbers to be painted directly on the pavement surface. In 1960, the northern portion of Loop C was developed as a group campsite and accessed by a perimeter road with no parking spurs or links. That same year, Loop D was completed for walk-in campers. It too was served by a perimeter road with a central parking area instead of individual parking spurs and links.

Seawall’s road alignments remain unchanged today, but the size of some parking spurs and links have been altered, due to the loss of physical barriers as recommended by Meinecke, the increase in size of most recreational vehicles, and the park’s desire to accommodate a wide variety of equipment. In the 1970s, the portion of the entrance road from Route 102A to the Checking Station was widened from two to three lanes to accommodate increased traffic queues. Bituminous concrete replaced the earlier base-sealed surface of this road. The original gravel or base-sealed surfaces of the campsite loop roads has also been replaced by bituminous concrete.

Pedestrian pathways primarily follow the same routes used by automobiles (Figure 13). Smaller social trails off of vehicular routes have developed over time, including areas previously cleared for the installation of underground utilities or in areas leading to the comfort stations, which have been surfaced with wood chips. A parking strip along the Entrance Road and bituminous sidewalks were constructed in 1962 to serve the amphitheatre.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Campground Entrance Road	199283	Contributing	748293		Location	61787	Yes
Campsite Loop Roads (Loop A)	199284	Contributing	748293		Location	61792	Yes
Campsite Loop Roads (Loop B)	199285	Contributing	748293		Location	61791	Yes
Campsite Loop Roads (Loop C)	199286	Contributing	748293		Location	61790	Yes
Parking Spurs and Links	199287	Contributing	748293		Location	60033	No
Pedestrian Pathways	199288	Contributing	748293		Location	60033	Yes
Campsite Loop Road (Loop D)	199289	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	61793	Yes
Amphitheater Area –Parking	199290	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	103266	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 13. A road/path at Seawall, near the Loop C group campsites. (OCLP 2019, DSC-0133)

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

Buildings are elements constructed primarily for sheltering any form of human activity in a landscape, while structures are elements constructed for functional purposes other than sheltering human activity. The collection of buildings at Seawall Campground was designed to complement Acadia's landscape. Although the utilitarian floor plans for many buildings drew upon prototypes found elsewhere in the national and state park systems, Seawall's buildings were customized to Acadia National Park, unified by the use of board and batten siding and hipped bellcast roofs. The hierarchy of building types was articulated in the variation of roof pitches. For example, the publicly-oriented Checking Station was given a steep roof pitch, while the utilitarian purpose of the nearby comfort stations was communicated through the use of a flatter roof pitch. A headquarters building designed for Seawall Campground during the historic period was not constructed, and originally, only a single latrine, washroom, and shower building was included at the center of Loops A and B. Plans were altered and resulted in multiple, smaller comfort stations; #102 and #103 in Loop A (1937), #104 in Loop B (1938-1939), and #105 in Loop C (1942).

The historic buildings noted above remain today, although materials and finishes have evolved over time. Hand-split shingles have been replaced by asphalt/fiberglass composition shingles, and siding that appears to have been finished with dark brown stain has been painted a standard "NPS" brown. The roster of historic buildings follows:

Checking Station.
Completed in 1941, the Checking Station is a one-story structure built upon a granite ashlar foundation. Similar in material and style to the comfort stations, it manifests the design qualities of the NPS Rustic Style. The building is T-shaped in plan, with an integral open porch along the base of the "T." To the right of the "T," a small side porch supported a shed roof faced with board-and-batten siding (Figure 14).

Former Barracks/Seasonal Residence.
Built in 1941, the Former Barracks/Seasonal Residence is a one-story, wood-frame building with a gable roof and with Rustic Style features. It was originally built in conjunction with the World War II era Naval Radio Station at Seawall. Likely built by the CCC, it has been altered since its original use as a barracks.

Garage.
The garage, built by the Navy in 1941 and associated with the Former Barracks/Seasonal Residence, is a simple wood-frame building with a pyramidal hip roof that sits on the ground. It shares Rustic Design features with the Former Barracks/Seasonal Residence.

Comfort Stations #s 102, 103, 104, 105.
These comfort stations at Loops A, B, and C were constructed between 1937 and 1942, and are all examples of prototypical prewar comfort stations (Figure 15). Similar plans appear in the Portfolio of Comfort Stations and Privies, the Portfolio of Park Structures, Park Structures and Facilities, and Park and Recreational Structures published by the NPS in the 1930s to provide practical prototypes that could easily be adapted or reproduced by the CCC. Designed according to the Rustic Style, the comfort stations embraced their natural environment by utilizing native woodland materials, echoing the color and texture of their surroundings. Rectangular in plan, these buildings were constructed upon granite ashlar masonry foundations and featured board-and-batten walls and hipped, bell-cast roofs.

Tool Shed.
The tool shed was originally constructed by the CCC between 1937-1942 as a pump house, using an architectural vocabulary in keeping with the nearby checking and comfort stations. The building is a small, single-room, frame structure set on a foundation of granite ashlar blocks with painted board-and-batten walls and a hipped, bellcast roof.

Pump House.
This structure, together with the former adjacent water tower (removed in 2004), was constructed in 1938-1939 with funding by the Public Works Administration (PWA) and labor by the CCC. The single-room, rectangular-plan building rests upon a reinforced concrete foundation and features a gable roof. Similar to the checking and comfort stations, the clapboard walls and plain corner boards are painted a dark brown.

Non-contributing buildings and structures include the Mission 66-era Comfort Station #181 in Loop C and Comfort Stations #s 178, 179, 180 in Loop D (1960-1961), and the Seawall Amphitheater (1962) (Figures 16, 17). The four comfort stations are constructed of patterned concrete masonry units. An Employee Housing building was built in 1990 on the road that connects the Checking Station and the Former Barracks/Seasonal Residence area. A non-historic bus shelter is located near the Checking Station (Figure 18). None of these buildings and structures are character-defining features of the Seawall campground landscape, but overall they are not a significant detraction from the campground's historic character.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Checking Station	199291	Contributing	041090		Location	60014	Yes
Former Barracks/Seasonal Residence	199292	Contributing	748261		Location	600035	Yes
Garage	199293	Contributing	748277		Location	600043	Yes
Pumphouse	199294	Contributing	041089		Location	60015	Yes
Comfort Station #102	199295	Contributing	041091		Location	60022	Yes
Comfort Station #103	199296	Contributing	041092		Location	60023	Yes
Comfort Station #104	199297	Contributing	041093		Location	60026	Yes
Comfort Station #105	199298	Contributing	041094		Location	60029	Yes
Tool Shed	199299	Contributing	041095		Location	60019	Yes
Comfort Station #181	199300	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Employee Housing	199301	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	60004	Yes
Comfort Station #178	199302	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Comfort Station #179	199303	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Comfort Station #180	199304	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Seawall Amphitheater – Structure	199305	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Bus Stop Shelter	199306	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	230881	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 14. Seawall Campground's Checking Station. (OCLP 2019, DSC-0117)



Figure 15. Comfort Station #102 in Loop A. (OCLP 2019, P6114915)



Figure 16. Comfort Station #181 near group campsite in Loop C. (OCLP 2019, DSC-0131)



Figure 17. Seawall Amphitheater. (OCLP 2019, DSC-0286)



Figure 18. The bus stop at Seawall. (OCLP 2019, DSC-0139)

Landscape Characteristic: Small Scale Features

Small-scale features are elements that provide detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns in the landscape. Historic features such as wood signs, rustic gates, stone fireplaces, and other objects enhanced the historic character of the Seawall landscape. Although the original picnic tables have been replaced by the familiar wood and tubular steel tables, many other historic features survive today, including replaced-in-kind stone and log barriers that define some of the campsites and circulation routes (Figures 19, 20).

A variety of rustic gates were designed and installed throughout Acadia during the 1930s and early 1940s, but few survive. The entrance gate to Seawall Campground is the only remaining gate of the three that were located at the intersection with State Route 102A. The campground gate, and gates at the picnic grounds entrance and across the highway, were built in 1942 by the U.S. Navy to provide a secure zone around their newly constructed radio station. The existing gate is constructed of two massive stone piers onto which are mounted heavy timber single crossbar gates. The gate was rebuilt to a wider span at the time of the widening of the entrance road. Other gates serving the campground are modern utilitarian steel gates that are not character-defining features. Some gates may have replaced earlier rustic gates designed to limit access to fire roads.

Campsites were historically marked by wood post-markers. In 2006 a few survived at intersections of lateral and perimeter roads, but none were observed during field work in 2019. If any original markers do survive, they reflect the conditions which existed during the period of significance. The contemporary method of painting numbers on an asphalt surface was not possible on the earlier gravel or chip sealed surfacing.

The fireplace design in use at Seawall is a variation on a theme used throughout the western national parks. The overall dimensions of these fireplaces range from five to six feet across and three to four feet deep (Figure 21). Two splayed low stone arms attached to a stone backing approximately two-and-one-half feet high form the firebox. The higher back wall serves as the visual vestige of a chimney and is purely aesthetic. The firebox is lined with beige firebrick. A cooking grate is fabricated from wide strips of cold-rolled milled steel, many of which are permanently fixed in place. Other fireplace units at Seawall feature a third splayed arm that serves as a prop on which rests a hinged fire grate. This third arm serves as a small but useful surface to aid in the preparation of meals. The stone fireplaces have long been recognized, however, for their high maintenance requirements. As early as 1938, Albert Good wrote: "…in spite of every possible structural precaution to insure long life, this kind of facility remains intact for scarcely one season under the hard use to which swarming hordes of picnickers subject it."

Steel and concrete fireplace alternatives were soon developed, including one designed by the Cook County Forest Preserve in Illinois that served as the prototype for the contemporary fireplaces in widespread use at Acadia. These round steel fire rings can be found in Loop D as well as some of the other loops. In spite of high maintenance requirements, most of the historic stone fireplaces at Seawall are extant and have been restored. (Review comments: Gladstone, 26 July 2021)

Water supply taps are another character-defining feature of the campground. Albert Good discussed the pros and cons of concealing the water tap or pump by various devices, including its camouflage inside a hollow log or small building. However, he also recognizes the misleading and false nature of such principles. The water supply taps at Seawall are two-and-one-half to three feet high, featuring common hose bibs. They are simple and unadorned, with a gravel pad to provide a dry footing for those using the fixture. Seawall also features several road drainage features constructed with stone. Stone headwalls and drop inlets occur in some instances, and contribute to the rustic character of the roads.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Stone and Log Barriers	199307	Contributing	748316				No
Rustic Stone Gates	199308	Contributing	748316				No
Wood Post Campsite Markers	199309	Contributing					No
Stone Fireplaces	199310	Contributing	748316				No
Water Supply Taps	199311	Contributing	748316				No
Drop Inlets and Stone Headwalls	199312	Contributing					No
Steel Gates	199313	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Steel-Ring Fireplaces	199314	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	60033	Yes
Picnic Tables	199315	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	60033	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 19. Log barrier along path from comfort station to the group campsite in Loop C. (OCLP 2019, DSC-0175)



Figure 20. Wood barrier at a Seawall campsite. (OCLP 2019, P6114921)



Figure 21. Typical stone fireplace at Seawall Campground. (OCLP 2019, P6114918)

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 7

Next Assessment Due Date: 09/28/2028

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/28/2021

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Seawall Campground is in “good” condition. The property shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Its cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 08/21/2012

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

In consulation with Rebecca Cole-Will, Cultural Resource Manager at the park, and with concurrence from the Superintendent, the Seawall Campground landscape is currently in good condition. The dfinition of "good" is as follows: "the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit’s cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition."

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/02/2006

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Upon the recent completion of a $4 million rehabilitation project of the site, roads, utilities, buildings and landscape in 2006, the condition of the Seawall Campground is now “good.” Landscape rehabilitation efforts included $75,000 in re-vegetation of the site, which is part of an ongoing effort.

This condition assessment was determined in consultation with the park and received concurrence from the park superintendent on 9/2/2006.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Disruption/Loss of Plant Species

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: Some campsites require vegetation treatment between campsites to provide campsite privacy through the rehabilitation of understory plantings.

Date Identified: 09/27/2021

Type of Impact: Soil Compaction

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: Soil compaction from vehicles and camping equipment damage roadside and campsite vegetation and exacerbates erosion.

Date Identified: 09/27/2021

Type of Impact: Visitation

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: Damage to roadside and campsite vegetation by visitors is an ongoing issue.

Date Identified: 09/27/2021

Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Treatment Documents

Treatment Type: Rehabilitation

Treatment Completed: No

Document Type: Cultural Landscape Report

Title:

IRMA Link:

Narrative:

Treatment recommendations were developed for the 1996 Cultural Landscape Report for Blackwoods and Sewall Campgrounds, based on the management goals outlined in the park's 1992 General Management Plan. The purpose of the CLR was to guide the multi-year treatment of the cultural resources at the campgrounds, with recommendations focused on preserving the overall character of the cultural landscapes. The CLR recommendations include guidelines for parking and service areas, vegetation, drainage, circulation, campsite privacy, architecture, and utilities.

In the park's 2016 Foundation Document, the cultural landscape at Blackwoods Campground is identified as one of the park's other fundamental resources and values. (FD 2016: 9-10)

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

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	Acadia National Park. Record Group 79. Records of the National Park Service. Central Classified Files.		National Archives. New England Region			
	Acadia National Park. Record Group 79. Records of the National Park Service. Central Classified Files.		National Archives			
	Acadia National Park Archives		U.S. Department of the Interior. National Park Service			

	The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, Revised 1992	1992	U.S. Government Printing Office			
	Upgrade Public Facilities and Utilities, Acadia National Park: North Atlantic Region, Package ACAD-232. Task Directive for Special Studies, Schematics, Surveys, and Preliminary Designs	1995	Acadia National Park with Denver Service Center and NPS North Atlantic Region			
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Roberts, Ann Rockefeller	Mr. Rockefeller's Roads: The Untold Story of Acadia's Carriage Roads & Their Creator	1990	Down East Books			
Wirth, Conrad L.	Parks, Politics, and the People	1980	University of Oklahoma Press			

Landscape Documents:

File Name	Date	Attachment Type
ACAD Seawall Campground CLI_Concurrences 2006-2021.pdf		

Source