National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2009

Revised: 9/2021



Sieur de Monts Spring

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: Sieur de Monts Spring

Resource Classification: Cultural Landscape

CLI Identification Number: 650069

Parent Landscape: 650069

Inventory Status: Complete

Park Information

Park Name: Acadia National Park

Alpha Code: ACAD

Park Organization Code: 1700

Park District: ACAD

Region: Northeast

Restricted: Yes

Landscape Description:

Sieur de Monts Spring is a National Park Service (NPS) developed area in Acadia National Park, located in Hancock County, 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. Situated on the east side of the island and nestled in a picturesque gorge formed by Dorr Mountain and Huguenot Head, the 41-acre site is defined by a broad wetland area to the north and east, called the Great Meadow; a dammed wetland that is now a small man-made lake to the south, named the Tarn; and the steep wooded slopes of Dorr Mountain to the west.

The site is mostly covered with spruce, maple, hemlock, and birch trees except for a glade, or clearing, of grass that highlights an Italian Renaissance Revival-style canopy structure built over a natural spring that flows into a nearby stone-lined open water pool. These picturesque features were built in 1909 by George Bucknam Dorr, prior to the park's establishment and before Dorr became its first superintendent. Next to the spring pool is the spring building [now called the Nature Center], built in 1949 in the NPS Rustic Design style to replace an earlier Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) building destroyed in the Great Fire of 1947. Other facilities include a parking lot and loop road built by the CCC in 1939, and a tool shed and restroom built by the NPS in 1948 and 1949. Well-crafted hiking trails built in the 1910s and 1920s originate at or traverse the property, and connect to scenic destinations in the surrounding meadows and rugged mountains. The site also includes the intimate Abbe Museum built in 1928 (not owned by the park), the colorful Wild Gardens of Acadia displays of native plants installed in 1961, and several historic stone monuments with inscribed letters and memorial plaques.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Sieur de Monts Spring is significant at the local level under National Register of Historic Places Criterion A in the areas of areas of Conservation and Entertainment/Recreation. The site reflects early efforts to conserve and maintain a scenic area for recreation. In the early 1900s, prior to establishment of the park, George Dorr, the Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association (VIA), and the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations (HCTPR) conceived of this spot as a hub for hikers and picnickers. With the creation of the park, Dorr envisioned the spring area as the focal point for his wild gardens exhibits established to promote the study of the island's native plants. Philanthropist and

summer resident John D. Rockefeller, Jr. also understood the aesthetic value of the area and engaged the expertise of the Olmsted Brothers landscape architectural design firm to ensure that development of the spring and nearby roads would not compromise the scenic qualities. Beginning in 1934, the CCC, under the supervision of NPS landscape architects, improved the facilities at Sieur de Monts.

Sieur de Monts Spring is also significant at the local level under Criterion C in the areas of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. The site possesses both picturesque and rustic design characteristics and features as implemented by Dorr, the HCTPR, the Bar Harbor VIA, and later by the NPS and the CCC. The hiking trails in this area are among the oldest and most highly crafted in Acadia's hiking trail system, and serve to link the spring area with important natural features and vistas nearby. Dorr's spring canopy reflects the popularity of the Italian Renaissance Revival style in Bar Harbor and other wealthy enclaves in the early 1900s. The CCC constructed buildings and other landscape features at Sieur de Monts in the 1930s and early 1940s following NPS Rustic Design specifications. These designs were also used to rebuild structures and features lost after the Bar Harbor fire.

The period of significance for Sieur de Monts Spring is 1909-1949. The period begins when George Dorr acquired the property and built a spring canopy and spring pool set within an open glade, or clearing, within the surrounding forests and mountains. In the following years, Dorr and the Bar Harbor VIA developed the area with picnic grounds, paths, trails, roads, and in time a spring building and other support structures. The period continues through the 1930s and early 1940s when the NPS, in consultation with the Olmsted firm, began improving visitor facilities, simplifying circulation features, and updating infrastructure. The CCC contributed to many of these projects, including building a new spring building, improving the loop road and parking lot, and installing and managing new and existing vegetation. The period ends when the last buildings destroyed in the 1947 fire were replaced.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

Sieur de Monts Spring 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." Significant landscape characteristics and features from the period of significance remain at the site today, and are important to its historic character and unique identity. The most important natural feature is still the natural spring, which continues to fill the basin in the spring canopy building, and then emerges in the adjacent spring pool before meandering into the Great Meadow. The spring canopy and spring pool form the centerpiece of a grassy glade interspersed with trees and shrubs planted by George Dorr, the CCC, and the NPS. The forest and mountains that surround the glade add to this picturesque scene, as do the highly crafted memorial trails and garden paths that begin or pass through this area and lead to scenic views of the adjacent Great Meadow, Tarn, and surrounding mountains. These trails and other paths and wood footbridges meander to the nearby spring building [Nature Center], restroom, and tool shed, all built in 1948-1949 in the NPS Rustic Design style. The curved parking lot bound by granite curbs here transitions to a loop road and access roads built in 1938-1940, which connect the site to the park loop road and Otter Creek Road. Other circulation features include stepping stone paths that lead to the spring pool, and a recently rehabilitated flagstone terrace and retaining wall at the spring building [Nature Center] that historically overlooked a small trout pool. An impressive stone box culvert, abandoned set of stone steps, and traces of former trails and roads can still be found in the landscape. There are also several historic stone monuments and memorials associated with the trails and Dorr himself.

The site's historic plantings that survived the 1947 fire now blend in with the forest vegetation. In some areas the growth of these plantings as well as understory plants within the forest has been vigorous and has begun to impact views to the Great Meadow, but recent removal of non-native and invasive plants around the spring pool have restored the historic views across the glade to the spring canopy. Circulation changes have included the removal of the turnaround spur, the addition of a service road to the Abbe Museum, reconfiguration of the loop road and access road intersection, construction of new rustic footbridges, and some path additions and paving around the spring building [Nature Center] and the Wild Gardens of Acadia plant displays. Taken together, however, these circulation changes have not significantly altered the site's historic character. Non-historic small-scale features – an information kiosk, granite benches, wood benches, interpretive wayside signs, informational/directional signs, post and wire fence, a gate, bollards, bicycle racks, a drinking fountain, a map dispenser, and trash cans – are generally inconspicuous in the landscape.

The condition of the Sieur de Monts Spring landscape is "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.

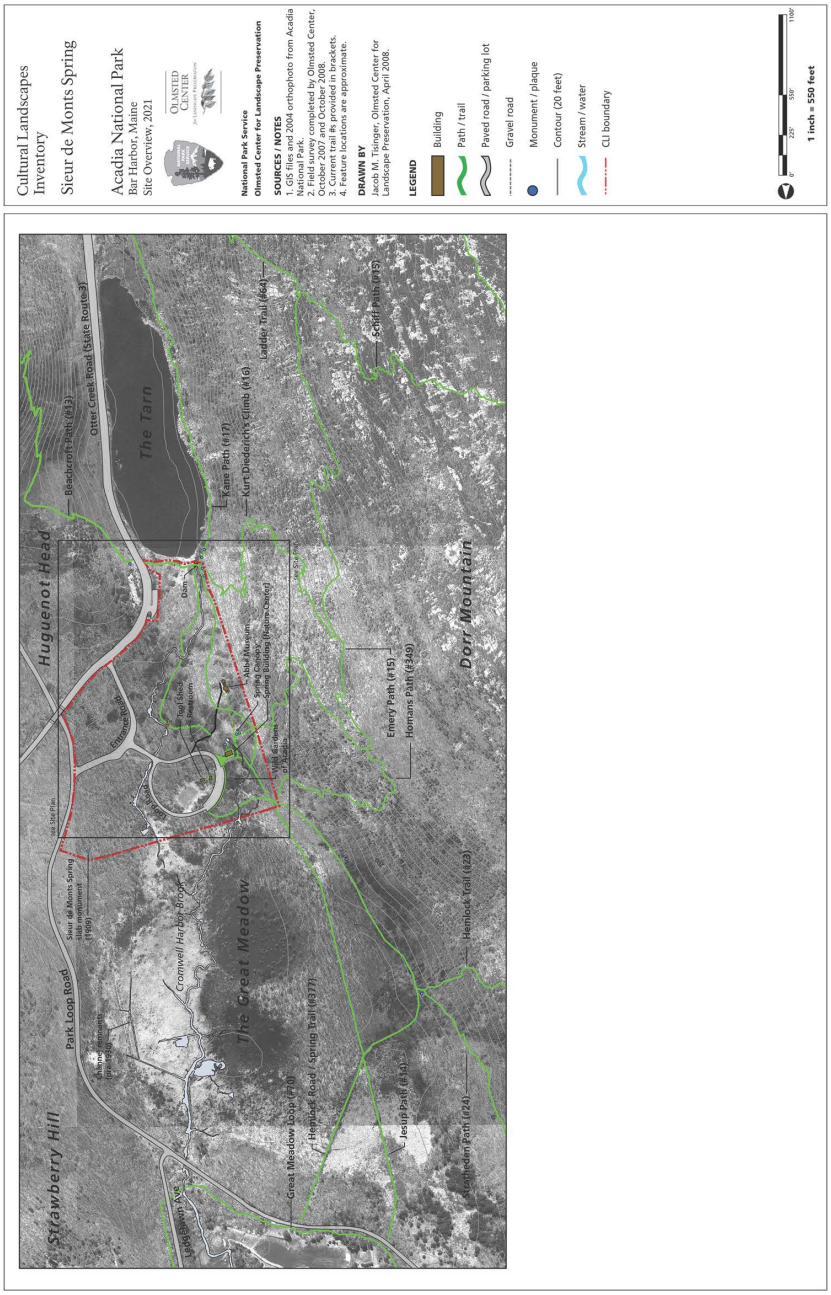
Landscape Type:

Historic Designed Landscape

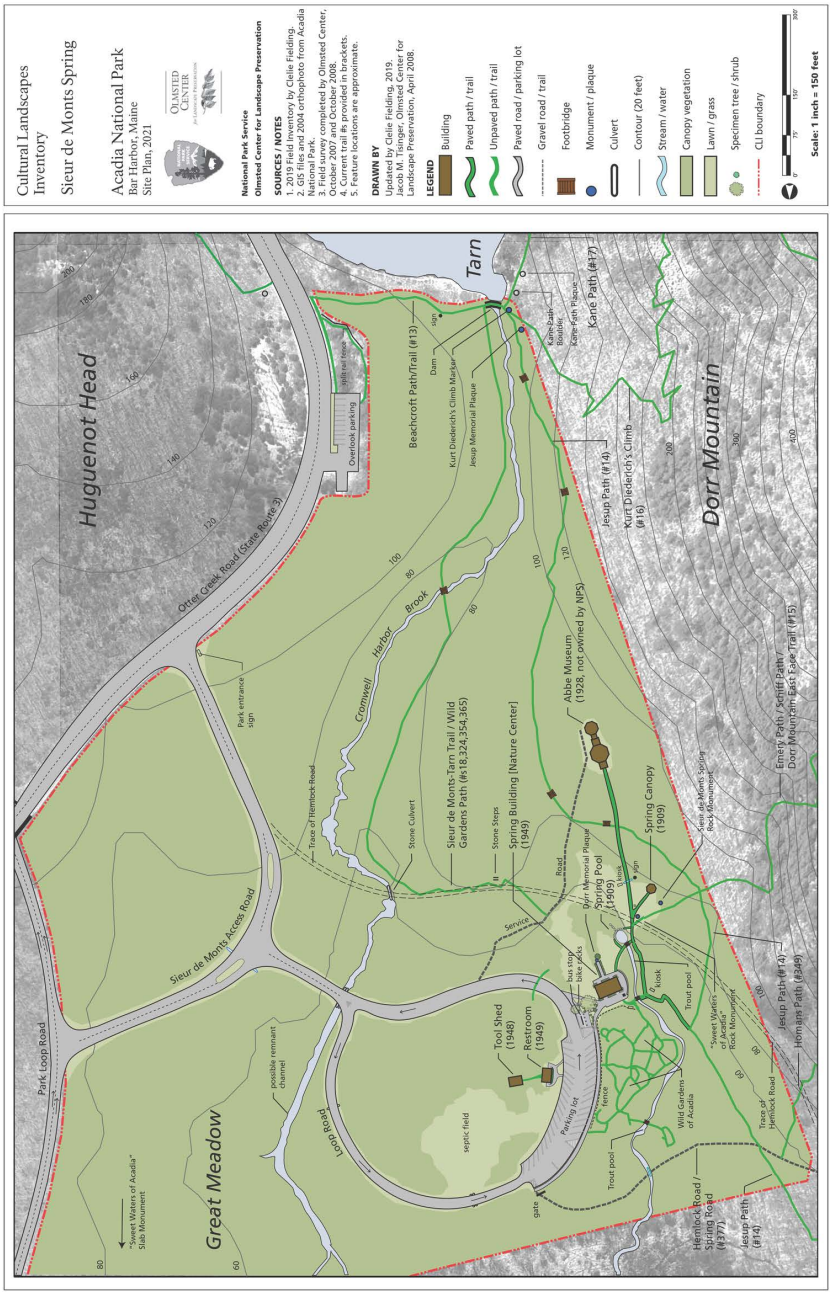
Other Names:

Other Name:	Sieur de Monts Spring	**Other Name Type:**	Both Current And Historic
Other Name:	Boiling Spring	**Other Name Type:**	Historic

Site Plan



Site plan for Sieur de Monts Spring, 2021, 1 of 2.



Site plan for Sieur de Monts Spring, 2021, 2 of 2.

Concurrence Information

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 07/23/2009

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Research for Sieur de Monts Spring was initiated in 1992 by the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, which produced a report, “Historic Landscape Assessment: Sieur de Monts, Acadia National Park.” Field work for the CLI was completed in October 2007 by Jeff Killion and Michael Commisso, Historical Landscape Architects with the Olmsted Center. Additional field work was completed by Jeff Killion in October 2008. The original CLI was approved by the park superintendent and the Maine SHPO in 2009.

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, “Should be Preserved and Maintained.”
• National Register information is revised. The significance of the landscape is articulated in the updated National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form, “Historic Resources of Acadia National Park,” approved by the Keeper of the National Register in 2017. Sieur de Monts Spring is locally significant under Criteria A and C in the areas of Architecture, Conservation, Entertainment/Recreation, and Landscape Architecture.
• The period of significance remains, 1909-1949.
• 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 2009. The proposed landscape condition evaluation for 2021 is “Good.”

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Northeast Region
United States Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

IN REPLY REFER TO:

AUG 1 2 2009

H30 (NER-HPPC-OCLP)

Mr. Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr.
State Historic Preservation Officer
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
55 Capitol Street
State House Station 65
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Mr. Shettleworth:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) for the Sieur de Monts Spring landscape, a developed area located within Acadia National Park. The CLI includes eighteen previously evaluated resources. We seek your concurrence on the contributing status of other resources and features identified in this CLI previously unevaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The report has been prepared by a team of historical landscape architects with the National Park Service (NPS) Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation. The CLI program and the enclosed report continue the NPS efforts to update our cultural resource inventories.

Through the CLI program, the NPS is currently in the midst of a nationwide effort to inventory its cultural landscapes. The CLI is conducted in accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended). It is an inventory of baseline information for all historically significant cultural landscapes within the National Park System, and it examines multiple landscape features that contribute to the significance of historic properties. The CLI process includes gathering information from existing secondary sources and conducting on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the property's overall significance. For landscapes found potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, the evaluation describes their character-defining features and assesses the landscape's overall historical integrity. It also raises questions about the landscape that need further study.

It is important to note that the CLI reports are not intended as comprehensive inventory reports for any one property, although for some properties they provide fuller documentation than for others. For example, the reports do not include a full architectural description of structures, but document structures as elements of the overall landscape, and similarly documents other characteristics such as vegetation, spatial organization, and views and vistas. The CLI is one component of the NPS inventory effort that also includes cultural resource inventories for

historic structures, archeological sites, ethnographic resources, and museum objects. For example, the NPS List of Classified Structures inventory includes structural features of cultural landscapes, but the CLI takes a more encompassing approach to the properties, inventorying all above-ground features in each park in which the NPS has a legal or mandated interest.

The Sieur de Monts Spring developed area is identified as a "Visitor Facilities and Developed Areas" property type in the "Historic Resources of Acadia National Park" Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF), which was accepted by the National Register for Historic Places on June 29, 2007. The MPDF identifies historic contexts with which to evaluate park resources, and Sieur de Monts Spring derives significance under two contexts: "Community Development and the Origins of Acadia National Park (1890-1937)," and "Rustic Design (1890-1958)" and its two subthemes, "The Picturesque Style (1890-1950)" and "Rustic Design of the National Park Service (1916-1958)." Registration requirements outlined in the MPDF for developed areas require that they retain integrity of setting and design to convey their historic use, including the principal circulation system and site organization. The MPDF describes Sieur de Monts Spring as one of the few developed areas that predates the park, containing several resources, such as the 1909 spring canopy, that constitute the legacy of George B. Dorr's vision for Sieur de Monts first as a picnic area and later as a nucleus of the new national park. It also notes the network of paths and trails, primarily constructed between 1914 and 1916 by the village improvement societies, which connect the spring to scenic vistas and points of interest nearby, including the Great Meadow, the Tarn, and the summits of Dorr and Champlain mountains. It also recognizes John D. Rockefeller, Jr.'s interest in this area and his engagement of the Olmsted Brothers landscape architectural design firm to ensure that the development of the spring and nearby roads would not compromise the scenic qualities. The NPS and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) also constructed buildings at Sieur de Monts Spring in the 1940s, including the existing spring building [Nature Center], designed according to NPS Rustic Design style standards to replace an earlier NPS rustic building lost in the 1947 Bar Harbor fire, as well as a tool shed and a restroom.

Previous correspondence with your office has recognized the significance of features in the Sieur de Monts Spring developed area. On July 1, 1996, your office determined that the Sieur de Monts Spring canopy was eligible for the National Register. On October 31, 2007, your office determined that the following resources were also eligible for the National Register: Sieur de Monts Spring building [Nature Center], Sieur de Monts Spring restroom, Sieur de Monts Spring stone culvert on the Tarn Trail, "Sweet Waters of Acadia" rock monument, "Sweet Waters of Acadia" slab monument, Sieur de Monts Spring rock monument, and the George Bucknam Dorr Memorial Plaque.

The Sieur de Monts Spring developed area is accessed by the Sieur de Monts Access Road and numerous hiking trails that are part of the park's historic motor road and hiking trail systems, respectively. Regarding the motor road system, on March 26, 1993, your office determined that segments of the motor road system on Mount Desert Island were eligible for listing on the National Register. On September 18, 2008, your office concurred with the findings of the CLI, "Historic Motor Road System, Acadia National Park," that determined the entire motor road

system (including segments on Schoodic Peninsula and various access roads) was eligible for the National Register as a circulation system that meets the registration requirements of the park's MPDF. Regarding the hiking trails, on July 1, 1996, your office determined that the following commemorative markers, which are within the boundaries of this study area, were contributing resources associated with the hiking trail system: Kurt Diederich's Climb Marker and the Morris K. and Maria DeWitt Jesup Memorial Plaque. On December 17, 2001, your office determined the park's hiking trail system was eligible for the National Register. In addition, the Robert Abbe Museum of Stone Age Antiquities, located in the Sieur de Monts Spring developed area but not owned by the NPS, was listed on the National Register on January 19, 1983 (as the Lafayette National Park Museum of Stone Age Antiquities).

The CLI has determined that Sieur de Monts Spring developed area is significant under Criterion A for its association with the context identified in the MPDF, "Community Development and the Origins of Acadia National Park (1890-1937)," in the areas of conservation and entertainment/ recreation. It is locally significant because it reflects early efforts to conserve and maintain a scenic area for recreation. In the early 1900s, prior to establishment of the park, George Dorr, the Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association (VIA), and the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations (HCTPR) conceived of this spot as a hub for hikers and picnickers. With the creation of the park, Dorr envisioned the spring area as the focal point for his wild gardens exhibits established to promote the study of the island's native plants. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. also understood the aesthetic value of Sieur de Monts and the adjacent Great Meadow and Tarn, and engaged the expertise of the Olmsted Brothers landscape architectural design firm to ensure that development of the spring and nearby roads would not compromise the scenic qualities of the area. Beginning in 1934, the CCC, under the supervision of NPS landscape architects, improved the trails and picnic areas.

The Sieur de Monts Spring developed area is also significant under Criterion C for its association with the context identified in the MPDF, "Rustic Design (1890-1958)," in the areas of architecture and landscape architecture. As the Sieur de Monts Spring developed area predates the establishment of the park, its extant landscape features can be associated with both the "Picturesque Style (1890-1950)" and the "Rustic Design in the National Park Service (1916-1958)" subthemes associated with the Rustic Design context. It is locally significant for its retention of both picturesque and rustic design characteristics and features as implemented by Dorr, the HCTPR, the Bar Harbor VIA, and later by the NPS and the CCC. The hiking trails in this area are among the oldest and most highly crafted in Acadia's hiking trail system, and serve to link the spring area with important natural features and vistas nearby. Dorr's spring canopy reflects the popularity of the Italian Renaissance Revival style in Bar Harbor and other wealthy enclaves in the early 1900s. The CCC constructed buildings and other landscape features at Sieur de Monts in the 1930s and early 1940s following NPS Rustic Design specifications. These designs were also used to rebuild structures and features lost after the Bar Harbor fire.

The period of significance for Sieur de Monts Spring developed area begins in 1909 when George B. Dorr acquired the property and built a spring canopy and spring pool set in an open glade, or clearing, within the surrounding forests and mountains. In the following years, Dorr

and the Bar Harbor VIA developed the area with picnic grounds, paths, trails, roads, and later a spring building and other smaller buildings and structures. The period continues through the 1930s and early 1940s when the NPS, in consultation with the Olmsted firm, improved visitor facilities, simplified circulation features, and updated infrastructure. The CCC contributed to many of these projects, constructing a new spring building, improving the loop road and parking lot, and installing and managing new and existing vegetation. The period ends in 1949 when the last buildings destroyed in the 1947 Bar Harbor fire were replaced.

The CLI fully evaluates the cultural landscape, particularly the associated landscape characteristics and features, and finds that overall the Sieur de Monts Spring developed area landscape retains integrity to the areas of conservation, entertainment/recreation, architecture, and landscape architecture. The landscape characteristics and features that date to the period of significance should be preserved since they contribute to the historic character of the property. As noted previously, eighteen of the property's features compiled on the enclosed lists have already been evaluated and determined as contributing. There are twenty-one additional features related to natural systems, vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, views and vistas, and small-scale features that also contribute to the significance and historic character of Sieur de Monts Spring developed area.

We call your particular attention to the Landscape Description, National Register Information, Statement of Significance, and Analysis and Evaluation Summary in the enclosed CLI.

Based on the CLI, we seek your concurrence on the following:

- The Sieur de Monts Spring landscape, a developed area within Acadia NP, is significant under National Register criteria A and C.
- The areas of significance are conservation, entertainment/recreation, architecture, and landscape architecture.
- The period of significance is for the period 1909-1949.
- The property retains landscape features that contribute to the site's historic character (see enclosed lists).
- The cultural landscape retains integrity to the period of significance.

If you concur with our categorization of the landscape resources and features at Sieur de Monts Spring developed area at Acadia National Park, as contributing, noncontributing, and undetermined, enumerated on the enclosed list, we ask that you please sign on the space provided and return this letter to Jeff Killion, CLI Coordinator, National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, 15 State Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02109. We would appreciate your response within thirty days. Thank you for your attention to this report. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Killion at 617-223-5053, or by email at jeff_killion@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

Dennis R. Reidenbach
Regional Director
Northeast Region

Enclosures

cc:
Superintendent, Acadia National Park

I concur with the National Park Service categorizations of the Sieur de Monts Spring developed area landscape resources and features at Acadia National Park as contributing, noncontributing, or undetermined.

_____ _____

Maine State Historic Preservation Officer Date

NPS Cultural Landscapes Inventory – Sieur de Monts Spring
Acadia National Park
List of Contributing and Non-Contributing Landscape Features
July 2009

Contributing Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

The following landscape characteristics and associated features contribute to the property's historic character, though not all are considered countable resources according to the National Register of Historic Places. Those marked with an * have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission.

Natural Systems
Spring

Vegetation
Turf Areas
Dorr-period Plantings
CCC / NPS-period Plantings (through 1949)
Plantings around Dorr Memorial Plaque

Circulation
* Kurt Diederich's Climb [Trail #16] (portion)
* Kane Path [Trail #17] (portion)
* Beachcroft Path / Trail [Trail #13] (portion)
* Homans Path [Trail #349] (portion)
* Emery Path / Schiff Path / Dorr Mountain East Face Trail [Trail #15] (portion)
* Jesup Path [Trail #14] (portion)
* Sieur de Monts-Tarn Trail / Wild Gardens Path [Trail #s 18,324,354,365]
* Hemlock Road / Spring Road [Trail #377] (portion)
Stepping Stone Path to Spring Pool from South
Paths to Spring Pool from East and West
Loop Road
Parking Lot, Perimeter Walkway, Granite Curbs
Sieur de Monts Access Road
Paths and Footbridges in Vicinity of Spring Building
Flagstone Terrace and Retaining wall at Spring Building

Buildings and Structures
* Spring Canopy (BLDG 064)
* Spring Building [Nature Center] (BLDG 005)
* Restroom (BLDG 095)
Tool Shed
Culverts on Loop Road and Parking Lot

* Stone Culvert on Tarn Trail

Views and Vistas
Views across Glade to Spring Canopy

Views of Spring Pool
Views into Great Meadow
View across Tarn from Otter Creek Road overlook
View across Tarn from Dam Area

Constructed Water Features
Spring Pool
Trout Pools

Small-scale Features
* Sieur de Monts Spring Rock Monument (MON 32)
* "Sweet Waters of Acadia" Rock Monument (MON 34)
* "Sweet Waters of Acadia" Slab Monument (MON 33)
* Kurt Diederich's Climb Marker (MON 18)
* Morris K. and Maria DeWitt Jesup Memorial Plaque (MON 23)
* George Bucknam Dorr Memorial Plaque (MON 19)

Non-Contributing Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

Vegetation
Plantings in Spring Building Area
Plantings around Restroom
Wild Gardens of Acadia

Circulation
Paths and Footbridges in Wild Gardens of Acadia
Service Road to Abbe Museum
Walkways to Restroom and Tool Shed
Paved Walkways at Bus Stop Area and Bicycle Racks
Parking Management Stones long Loop Road

Buildings and Structures
Shed Structures in Wild Gardens of Acadia
Septic System Features

Small-scale Features
Information Kiosk
Granite Benches
Wooden Benches
Signs - Interpretive Wayside
Signs - Informational/directional
Fence - Post and Wire
Gate
Bollards
Bicycle Racks
Drinking Fountain
Map Dispenser
Trash Cans

Undetermined Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

Natural Systems
Channel in Eastern Part of Site

Circulation
Hemlock Road Trace
Abandoned Trail Traces
Abandoned Stone Steps off of Hemlock Road trace

Archeological Sites
Spring Canopy

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY
CONCURRENCE FORM

Sieur de Monts Spring
Acadia National Park

Acadia National Park concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for Sieur de Monts Spring including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Should 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.

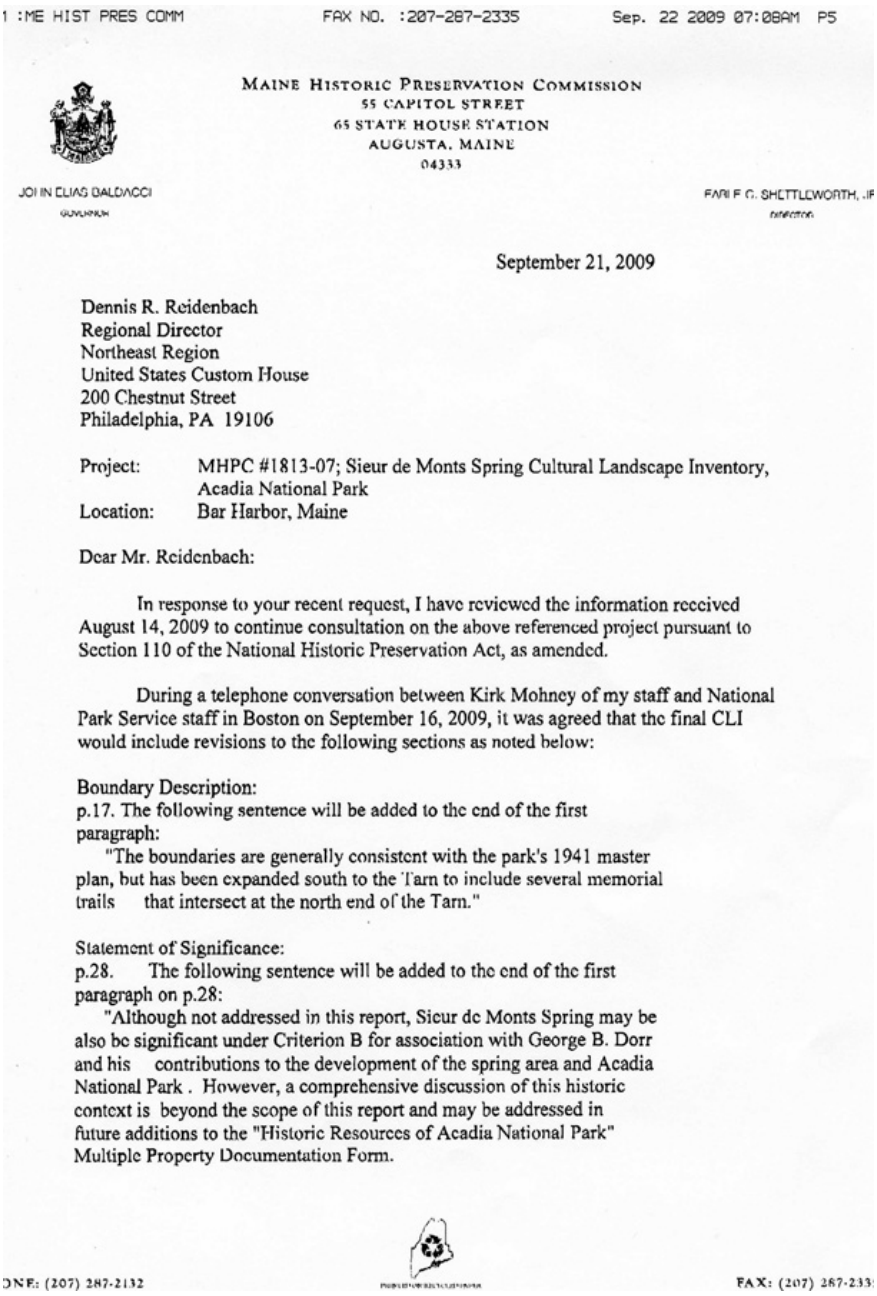
Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective 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 Sieur de Monts Spring is hereby approved and accepted.

Superintendent, Acadia National Park — Date 7/23/09

Park Concurrence Form, 2009.



1 :ME HIST PRES COMM FAX NO. :207-287-2335 Sep. 22 2009 07:08AM P5

MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
55 CAPITOL STREET
65 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

EARLE G. SHETTLEWORTH, JR.
DIRECTOR

September 21, 2009

Dennis R. Reidenbach
Regional Director
Northeast Region
United States Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Project: MHPC #1813-07; Sieur de Monts Spring Cultural Landscape Inventory, Acadia National Park
Location: Bar Harbor, Maine

Dear Mr. Reidenbach:

In response to your recent request, I have reviewed the information received August 14, 2009 to continue consultation on the above referenced project pursuant to Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

During a telephone conversation between Kirk Mohney of my staff and National Park Service staff in Boston on September 16, 2009, it was agreed that the final CLI would include revisions to the following sections as noted below:

Boundary Description:
p.17. The following sentence will be added to the end of the first paragraph:
"The boundaries are generally consistent with the park's 1941 master plan, but has been expanded south to the Tarn to include several memorial trails that intersect at the north end of the Tarn."

Statement of Significance:
p.28. The following sentence will be added to the end of the first paragraph on p.28:
"Although not addressed in this report, Sieur de Monts Spring may be also be significant under Criterion B for association with George B. Dorr and his contributions to the development of the spring area and Acadia National Park . However, a comprehensive discussion of this historic context is beyond the scope of this report and may be addressed in future additions to the "Historic Resources of Acadia National Park" Multiple Property Documentation Form.

ONE: (207) 287-2132 FAX: (207) 287-233

SHPO concurrence letter, September 21, 2009 (10 pages).

Circulation Features:
p.83. "Hemlock Road Trace" will be changed to contributing.
"Abandoned Stone Steps off of Hemlock Road Trace" will be changed to contributing.

Based on the incorporation of the revisions noted above, I concur with the categorization of the landscape resources and features at the Sieur de Monts Spring developed area as identified in the CLI.

We believe that the Sieur de Monts Spring Cultural Landscape Inventory will be valuable in guiding the future preservation and treatment of above ground resources, and we look forward to continuing consultation during the survey and evaluation of the archaeological resources. If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Mohney.

Sincerely,

Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr.
State Historic Preservation Officer

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	Other	09/28/2021	CLI Update

Geographic Information

State and County:

State	County
Maine	Hancock County

Size (Acres): 41

Land Tract Number(s)

11-113 (portion)
11-114 (portion)
11-120
11-121 (Abbe Museum)

Boundary Description:

The 41-acre developed area at Sieur de Monts Spring is generally defined by the features built by George Dorr, the Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), the Bureau of Public Roads, and the National Park Service. The northern boundary extends along a line just north of Hemlock Road/Spring Road Trail, the loop road, and the Sweet Waters of Acadia monument; the eastern boundary is defined by Kebo Mountain Road Extension [Park Loop Road], Otter Creek Road [State Route 3], and the overlook area along the west side of the highway; the southern boundary follows the Beachcroft Path/Trail and crosses the dam at the north shore of the Tarn to the junction of Kurt Diederich's Climb, the Kane Path, and the Jesup Path; and the western boundary generally follows a line along the Jesup Path, passes to the west of the spring canopy and the Jesup Trail, and along an abandoned section of Hemlock Road. The boundaries are generally consistent with the park's 1941 master plan, but have been expanded south to the Tarn to include several memorial trails that intersect at the north end of the Tarn. The boundary does not include the Tarn dam, which supports stepping stones that were built as part of the hiking trail system.

The Tarn and most of the Great Meadow are not included in the project boundary. Research undertaken for this CLI suggests the Tarn was not specifically constructed, nor managed, as part of the Sieur de Monts Spring developed area. The Great Meadow was the location of exhibit garden areas linked together by roads and paths that connected to the Sieur de Monts developed area, but they no longer possess integrity to convey their historic significance.

Within the site boundary are portions of the historic motor road and hiking trail systems. While these segments contribute to the site's historic character, they are not comprehensively evaluated or mapped in this report. Both systems are considered unique property types and have their own areas and periods of significance that are discussed in separate Cultural Landscape Inventories.

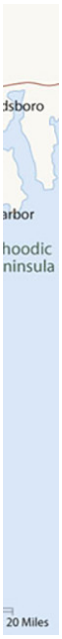
Boundary Coordinates

Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
	Area	44.3638890452773	-68.2034390204819	
	Area	44.3625599767944	-68.2039213621467	
	Area	44.361387433849	-68.2036109605639	
	Area	44.3604413451191	-68.2047908385261	
	Area	44.3596561470165	-68.2058053698279	
	Area	44.3596570194196	-68.2059308468268	
	Area	44.3590552759209	-68.2061397545032	
	Area	44.3585127962211	-68.2058082665169	
	Area	44.3584871603146	-68.2073018996442	
	Area	44.3617272602448	-68.2084629437773	
	Area	44.3632627415119	-68.2091826969714	
	Area	44.3635081405228	-68.206920449332	

Location Map:



Map of Acadia National Park and its environs. (Acadia National Park [NP] website)


sboro
arbor
hoodic
ninsula
20 Miles



Map of Mount Desert Island and Sieur de Monts Spring (map upper right). (Acadia NP website)

Regional Landscape Contexts:

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

The natural spring at Sieur de Monts Spring and the scenic mountains, forests, and meadows that surround it influenced the history of this site. The meadow to the north and the gorge to the south of the site had long been admired and painted for their picturesque beauty, and inspired George Dorr and others to protect these lands from loggers and developers, especially those interested in bottling the waters from the natural springs in the area. Dorr implemented various projects in and around the area in association with his wild gardens exhibits and later as part of a national park. Dorr built a road on the north and east sides of the Great Meadow in 1900 and another road along the west side of the meadow in 1917, both of which essentially constricted the surface water flow to a single point on the north side. Over the next twenty years, Dorr altered portions of the Great Meadow and Sieur de Monts Spring site by channelizing streams and wet areas and building weirs as part of his wild gardens exhibits. These actions were also likely intended to control flooding and the outflow of water from the Tarn, which he did not own. Dorr also constructed several buildings and a network of roads and trails in the area, removing trees where necessary and installing new plantings. In the 1930s, the CCC undertook pruning and planting projects, especially in the meadow and around an old gravel pit near the Tarn. In the 1930s, the NPS and the CCC constructed new buildings in the same areas as Dorr's previous developments, and simplified circulation features. The NPS rebuilt the structures again after the 1947 fire, which destroyed and damaged vegetation in the area, much of which has since regrown.

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

The Sieur de Monts Spring area may have been the location of a Native American carry trail, and then later featured a connector trail between the hiking trails developed on Mount Desert Island in the late nineteenth century. But it was not until the threat of the development of a commercial bottling operation in the early 1900s that the site was noticed. In the interest of preserving this area's scenery, Dorr bought the spring and its environs on behalf of the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations. He then commissioned the construction of a canopy structure over the spring, and made it the focal point of what at first was a local picnic and garden area, and later the nucleus of a national monument that became Acadia National Park. The site has served as a popular recreation area and hiking trail hub ever since.

Type of Context: Political

Description:

The lands that now encompass the 41-acre site were once part of L'Acadie, a vast area claimed by France in the seventeenth century and encompassing most of northeast North America, but usually referred to as the Canadian Maritimes and eastern Maine. A Huguenot nobleman named Sieur de Monts and his navigator Samuel de Champlain sailed to the New World in 1603, and on September 5, 1604, Champlain explored the area to claim it as part of France. Private ownership on Mount Desert Island began in 1688 when Sieur Antonine de la Mothe Cadillac claimed it in hopes of establishing a French feudal state. After the Treaty of Paris, English Governor Sir Francis Bernard obtained a royal land grant on the island around 1763, but lost his claim after the Revolutionary War when the newly established United States government granted the western half of the island to Bernard's son John and the eastern half to Marie Theresa de Gregoire, granddaughter of Cadillac. Both began to sell their lands to non-resident landlords, but by this time there was an ever-increasing number of settlers arriving and homesteading. One of the earliest maps, from 1807, shows that the lands just north of the gorge as part of a lot deeded to Tobias Roberts.

Around 1900, a portion of the site around the natural spring was owned by the Rodick family. The Tarn was also owned by the Rodick family, while parts of the Great Meadow were owned by George Dorr. The natural spring and lands over which it flowed were leased by John Prescott and Ora Strout to develop a commercial bottling business. The venture failed, and in 1909 Dorr bought the parcel on behalf of the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations (HCTPR). Although most of the HCTPR lands were transferred to the federal government with the establishment of Sieur de Monts National Monument in 1916, the Dorr and Rodick lands were not transferred until later. Land transfers, by tract number, for the Sieur de Monts Spring area are as follows:

Tract 11-113
- 1930 August 11, Great Meadow, 120.3 acres, from George Dorr and the Wild Gardens of Acadia Corporation to John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
- 1935 January 28, Tract 11-113, Great Meadow, 120.3 acres, from John D. Rockefeller, Jr. to U.S. Government.

Tract 11-114
- 1926 May 1, Great Meadow, 16.7 acres, from Wild Gardens of Acadia Corporation to U.S. Government.

Tract 11-120
- 1930 August 11, Sieur de Monts Spring, 25.7 acres, from George Dorr and the Wild Gardens of Acadia Corporation to John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
- 1936 February 19, Sieur de Monts Spring, 25.7 acres, from John D. Rockefeller, Jr. to U.S. Government.

Tract 11-121
- 1928, Dorr donates land for the museum project.
- 1930 July 22, Abbe Museum, 2.3 acres, from the Sieur de Monts Spring Company to Lafayette National Park Museum of Stone Age Antiquities.
- 1930 August 12, Abbe Museum, 2.3 acres, from Lafayette National Park Museum of Stone Age Antiquities to the U.S. Government.

Although not within the boundaries of this CLI, the land transfers involving the Tarn are as follows:

Tract 12-107
- 1915 May 7, Little Meadow, from Rodick Realty Co. to HCTPR.
- 1931 July 22, Tarn, 32 acres, from the HCTPR to the U.S. Government.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Should be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 07/23/2009

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

As approved by the park superintendent on July 23, 2009, Sieur de Monts Spring meets both of the criteria for the “Should be Preserved and Maintained” management category; the site meets National Register of Historic Places criteria, and the site is compatible with 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 explorer Samuel de Champlain’s landing place and the great scientific interest in its topography, geology, fauna, and flora. The legislation indicated that 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. The 1929 legislation that gave the park its current name established the authority to expand the park through donations of property within Hancock and Knox counties. The lands that comprise the Sieur de Monts Spring developed area were owned by George Dorr and his private corporation, and developed as a recreational hub for the new park with the intent of giving them to the park at a later date. Between 1926 and 1936, these lands were transferred or gifted to the U.S. Government.

Management Agreements:

Type of Agreement: None

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative:

Type of Interest: None - Privately Owned

Narrative: The Abbe Museum is privately owned.

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. Landscape characteristics and features that retain integrity and thus convey historic significance are within the CLI boundary.

National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Documentation Status: SHPO 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. The Sieur de Monts Spring area was added to the park between 1926 and 1936.

On January 19, 1983, the Robert Abbe Museum of Stone Age Antiquities was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Significance was identified under Criteria A and D in the areas of Architecture and Archeology-Prehistoric. The period of significance was listed as twentieth century, with a specific date of 1928, the year the museum was constructed. The Abbe Museum is not owned by the park.

On July 1, 1996, the Maine Historical Preservation Commission (SHPO) concurred with the National Park Service (NPS) that the Sieur de Monts Spring Canopy, Kurt Diederich's Climb Marker, and the Morris K. and Maria DeWitt Jesup Memorial Plaque were eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. On October 31, 2007, the SHPO determined that the following resources were also eligible for listing: Sieur de Monts Spring building [Nature Center], Sieur de Monts Spring restroom, Sieur de Monts Spring stone culvert on the Tarn Trail, "Sweet Waters of Acadia" rock monument, "Sweet Waters of Acadia" slab monument, Sieur de Monts spring rock monument, and the George Bucknam Dorr Memorial Plaque.

On June 29, 2007, the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) titled, "Historic Resources of Acadia National Park" was approved by the Keeper of the National Register. 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.

On July 23, 2009, the CLI for Sieur de Monts Spring was approved by the Park Superintendent, and on September 21, 2009, the Maine SHPO concurred with the findings of the CLI. The CLI determined that Sieur de Monts Spring met the 2007 MPDF's registration requirements for Visitor Facilities and Developed Areas property type under the historic context "Community Development and the Origins of Acadia National Park (1890-1937)" and the historic context "Rustic Design (1890-1958)" and its two subthemes "Picturesque Style (1890-1950)" and the "Rustic Design in the National Park Service (1916-1958)." Local level significance was identified under Criterion A in the areas of Conservation and Entertainment/Recreation and Criterion C in the areas of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. The period of significance was identified as 1909-1949, beginning when George B. Dorr acquired the property and built a spring canopy and spring pool and ending when the last buildings destroyed in the 1947 Bar Harbor fire were replaced.

Portions of Acadia's historic motor road and hiking trail systems are within the Sieur de Monts Spring area, and have been determined eligible for listing in the National Register. Regarding the motor roads, on March 26, 1993, the Maine SHPO concurred with the NPS that the segments of the motor road system on Mount Desert Island were eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. On July 1, 1996,

the Maine SHPO confirmed this determination, and concurred with the NPS's list of individually-named motor road segments. On September 18, 2008, the SHPO concurred with the findings of the CLI, "Historic Motor Road System, Acadia National Park," which determined that all individual road segments comprising the motor road system were contributing resources and eligible for listing in the National Register, as well as certain pullouts, parking lots, and access roads; walkways, trails and steps; and scenic views and vistas along the historic motor road system corridors. At Sieur de Monts Spring, this included the Sieur de Monts Entrance Road. Regarding the hiking trails, on December 17, 2001, the Maine SHPO determined the park's trails were eligible for the National Register. On September 20, 2017, the SHPO concurred with the findings of the CLI, "Historic Hiking Trail System – Bar Harbor District, Acadia National Park," which determined that the district's trails and certain associated features were contributing resources and eligible for listing in the National Register. At Sieur de Monts Spring, this included Sieur de Monts-Tarn Trail/Wild Gardens Path (Trail #s 18,324,354,365) and portions of Kurt Diederich's Climb (#16), Kane Path (#17), Beachcroft Path/Trail (#13), Homans Path (#349), Emery Path/Schiff Path/Dorr Mountain East Face Trail (#15), Jesup Path (#14), and Hemlock Road/Spring Road (#377). A National Register nomination for the hiking trail system is currently underway.

Since the completion of the original Sieur de Monts CLI in 2009, 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 Sieur de Monts Spring. 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 Sieur de Monts Spring as part of the new NPS Development context, in addition to the previously identified Community Development and Rustic Design contexts.

According to research conducted for the Sieur de Monts Spring CLI Update, and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the "CLI Professional Procedures Guide," the areas and periods of significance of this developed area, and major resources that contribute its significance, have been determined eligible for listing in the National Register. Therefore, for purposes of the CLI, Sieur de Monts Spring is considered "SHPO – Documented."

Eligibility: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

Concurrence Eligibility Date: 09/21/2009

Concurrence Narrative:

The Maine Historic Preservation Commission concurred with the categorization of the landscape resources and features at Baker Island, Acadia National Park, as contributing, noncontributing, and undetermined, on September 21, 2009. The following revisions were made to the CLI per a conference call with Kirk Mohney at the Maine SHPO:
- The following sentence has been added to the first paragraph of the boundary description: "The boundaries are generally consistent with the park's 1941 master plan, but has been expanded south to the Tarn to include several memorial trails that intersect at the north end of the Tarn."
- The following sentence has been added to the end of the first paragraph of the statement of significance: "Although not addressed in this report, Sieur de Monts Spring may be also be significant under Criterion B for association with George B. Dorr and his contributions to the development of the spring area and Acadia National Park. However, a comprehensive discussion of this historic context is beyond the scope of this report and may be addressed in future additions to the "Historic Resources of Acadia National Park" Multiple Property Documentation Form.
- The status of "Hemlock Road Trace" has been changed to contributing and "Abandoned Stone Steps off of Hemlock Road Trace" has been changed to contributing.

Significance Level: Local

Contributing: Contributing

Classification: District

Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:

Sieur de Monts Spring, a developed area at Acadia National Park, is significant under National Register of Historic Places Criterion A in the areas of Conservation and Entertainment/Recreation, and Criterion C in the areas of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. The site is locally significant under Criterion A because it reflects early efforts to conserve and maintain a scenic area for recreation. In the early 1900s, prior to establishment of the park, George Dorr, the Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association (VIA), and the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations (HCTPR) conceived of this spot as a hub for hikers and picnickers. With the creation of the park, Dorr envisioned the spring area as the focal point for his wild gardens exhibits, established to promote the study of the island's native plants. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. also understood the aesthetic value of Sieur de Monts and the adjacent Great Meadow and Tarn, and engaged the expertise of the Olmsted Brothers landscape architectural design firm and Acadia's resident landscape architect, Benjamin Breeze, to ensure that development of the spring and nearby roads would not compromise the scenic qualities of the area. The site is also locally significant under Criterion C for its retention of both picturesque and rustic design characteristics and features as implemented by Dorr, the HCTPR, the Bar Harbor VIA, and later by the NPS and Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Dorr's spring canopy reflects the popularity of the Italian Renaissance Revival style in Bar Harbor and other wealthy enclaves around the turn of the twentieth century. The hiking trails in this area are among the oldest and most highly crafted in Acadia's hiking trail system, and serve to link the spring area with important natural features and vistas nearby. The CCC constructed buildings and other landscape features at Sieur de Monts in the 1930s and early 1940s following NPS Rustic Design specifications. These designs were also used to rebuild structures and features lost after the 1947 Bar Harbor fire.

The period of significance for Sieur de Monts Spring is 1909-1949. The period begins when George Dorr acquired the property and built a spring canopy and spring pool set within an open glade, or clearing, within the surrounding forests and mountains. In the following years, Dorr and the Bar Harbor VIA developed the area with picnic grounds, paths, trails, roads, and in time a spring building and other support structures. The period continues through the 1930s and early 1940s when the NPS, in consultation with the Olmsted firm, began improving visitor facilities, simplifying circulation features, and updating infrastructure. The CCC contributed to many of these projects, including building a new spring building, improving the loop road and parking lot, and installing and managing new and existing vegetation. The period ends when the last buildings destroyed in the 1947 fire were replaced.

The following statement of significance is organized by National Register criteria with a focus on the Sieur de Monts Spring developed area. While the motor road and hiking trail systems have been determined eligible for listing in the National Register, they are not comprehensively evaluated in this CLI because only small portions of the system are within the Sieur de Monts Spring boundaries. Both the motor road system and hiking trail system are considered separate property types with unique areas and periods of significance. These circulation systems and their associated built features have been evaluated in separate Cultural Landscape Inventories. Although not addressed in this report, Sieur de Monts Spring may be also be significant under Criterion B for association with George B. Dorr and his contributions to the development of the spring area and Acadia National Park. However, a comprehensive discussion of this historic context is beyond the scope of this report and may be addressed in future additions to the "Historic Resources of Acadia National Park" Multiple Property Documentation Form.

CRITERION A
Conservation and Entertainment/Recreation:
Sieur de Monts Spring is significant under Criterion A for its association with the historic contexts identified in the 2017 MPDF, "Community Development and the Origins of Acadia National Park (1890-1919)" and "National Park Service Development of Acadia National Park (1916–1958)," in the areas of Conservation and Entertainment/Recreation. In the late nineteenth century, there was a growing interest throughout the northeast United States to improve the physical and cultural qualities of villages and towns. On Mount

Desert Island, this movement resulted in the establishment of local village improvement groups in several towns in the 1880s and 1890s. Made up of summer residents as well as local merchants, doctors, lawyers, and naturalists, the groups were dedicated to both preservation and physical improvements that would ultimately enhance the quality of public amenities on the island. The organizations also worked cooperatively across the island to map, improve, and maintain existing trails that had developed in the mid-nineteenth century, and to construct new trails. (MPDF 2007: E13-E18)

The Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association (VIA) was formed in 1881 and incorporated in 1891. In 1895, the Roads and Paths Committee of the Bar Harbor VIA strongly recommended buying and preserving large tracts of island land. Although the primary objective was not land acquisition, a few scattered parcels were donated or purchased by members of the VIA for conservation purposes. As Mount Desert Island had become a popular tourist destination and the summer home for the wealthy by this time, these efforts came from some residents' desire to protect and preserve trails and scenic vistas from encroachments by land speculators and logging interests. In light of these increasing pressures, summer resident Charles W. Eliot founded the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations (HCTPR) in 1901. The HCTPR sought to acquire land parcels on Mount Desert Island to protect water supplies and preserve walking paths and scenic vistas. (MPDF 2007: E17-E21)

Around this time, George Bucknam Dorr, a founding member of both the Bar Harbor VIA and the HCTPR, began to acquire lands in and around an area known today as the Great Meadow. In 1909, on behalf of the Trustees, Dorr purchased a spring and surrounding lands situated between the Great Meadow and what is now known as the Tarn, from further development as a commercial bottling operation. Dorr named this place after Sieur de Monts, the seventeenth-century French nobleman who represented France's interest in the vast area of land called Acadia. Dorr commissioned an Italian Renaissance-style spring canopy to be built over the spring, and piped the water into a spring pool for sampling. Dorr's vision of extensive displays of native plants, which he called the wild gardens, was expanded from his Great Meadow parcels into this area. In time, he also constructed a spring building and developed picnic areas, all of which were connected by paths and roads and set within a landscape of lawns, new plantings, and existing woodlands. Later, in 1928, the construction of the Lafayette National Park Museum of Stone Age Antiquities (Abbe Museum) as a trailside museum added yet another recreational activity to the site.

Dorr's early development of Sieur de Monts Spring coincided with the pursuit of long-term federal protection of lands on Mount Desert Island. By 1913 the HCTPR controlled over 5,000 acres of land on the island, but many year-round residents and developers were opposed to increasing limits for development and commerce. Though support was growing to revoke the Trustee's tax-exempt status, Dorr successfully lobbied the state to maintain the charter. However, the HCTPR's vulnerability prompted Dorr to seek national monument status. To this end, Dorr, the Trustees, and the Bar Harbor VIA envisioned the spring area as a hub for hikers, picnickers, and nature lovers, and from 1913 to 1916 constructed numerous memorial trails and garden paths that connected to scenic views and natural attractions in the Great Meadow, the Tarn, and the surrounding mountains. The memorial trails were named for the summer residents who funded their construction and future maintenance.

Dorr and Eliot also worked to acquire as many other tracts as they could to create a contiguous boundary line. Their tireless campaigning, and the financial support of another summer resident, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., eventually led to the creation of the Sieur de Monts National Monument in 1916, with Dorr serving as the park's first superintendent. At this time, more than 6,000 acres of HCTPR lands became part of the monument. The boundary did not include the Tarn, which remained part of the HCTPR. The monument also did not include the Sieur de Monts parcel or the Great Meadow. They were owned by Dorr, and in 1916 he formed the Wild Gardens of Acadia Corporation to acquire land for public use and for educational and scientific purposes. Dorr placed his private holdings in the corporation, with the intention of donating them to the monument at a future date. By 1917, a new tide of enthusiasm for the monument led Dorr to campaign for national park status, and in 1919 Lafayette National Park was authorized by Congress. The park's name was changed to Acadia in 1929. (MPDF 2007: E23)

In 1930, lands encompassing the Sieur de Monts Spring and the adjacent Great Meadow areas were transferred from Dorr, the Wild Gardens of Acadia Corporation, and another entity called the Sieur de Monts Spring Company, to John D. Rockefeller, Jr. with the understanding that they would be gifted to the park. The Tarn was transferred from the HCTPR to the U.S. Government in 1931. Around this time, the

Olmsted Brothers landscape architectural firm offered recommendations to Dorr and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. on Rockefeller's proposed motor road connecting Jordan Pond/Eagle Lake Road to Ocean Drive and its route through the Sieur de Monts area. The firm also consulted with the park on plans to update facilities and simplify the overall circulation system at the spring. Beginning in 1934, the CCC, under the supervision of NPS landscape architects, began a series of projects in and around the site, including tree planting, pruning, and ground cleaning along trails and picnic areas. By 1936, the lands encompassing the core of the Sieur de Monts Spring developed area were transferred to Acadia National Park, coinciding with government funding of Rockefeller's motor road and the beginning of NPS planning efforts at the site.

CRITERION C
Architecture and Landscape Architecture:
Sieur de Monts Spring is significant under Criterion C for its association with the historic context identified in the 2017 MPDF, "Rustic Design (1890-1958)," in the areas of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. The property's extant landscape features can be associated with both the "Picturesque Style (1890-1950)" and "Rustic Design in the National Park Service (1916-1958)" subthemes associated with the Rustic Design context.

The Picturesque Style grew out of the early nineteenth century English garden and park traditions that emphasized scenic views and a naturalistic appearance. The new trend influenced the writings of Andrew Jackson Downing (1815-1852) and the landscape designs of Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903), Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. (1870-1957), and others who promoted an aesthetic appreciation for the picturesque qualities of the natural environment. By the end of the nineteenth century, the Picturesque Style incorporated natural elements and materials to create a scenic effect that appeared naturalistic and romantic rather than artificial and contrived. These qualities also paralleled the style of American landscape paintings in the mid to late nineteenth century. (MPDF 2007: E34-E35)

The topography of Mount Desert Island was well suited to the picturesque genre, and the island was a popular topic of artistic expression in the late nineteenth century. Many noteworthy architects, landscape architects, and builders completed commissions on the island between 1880 and 1920, including expansive summer cottages and civic improvements in the village centers. Popular design styles were adapted to fit the island's rugged landscape.

The origin of the NPS Rustic Design style can be traced back to the nineteenth- and early twentieth-century social movements to protect and preserve natural scenery for the public's benefit. In 1916, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. articulated this philosophy in the enabling legislation of the NPS, which sought to conserve natural scenery in parks while providing public access to them. In the early years of the NPS, landscape architects, architects, and engineers recognized the need to develop unified design principles and standards that would guide the development of park facilities and simultaneously protect a park's natural, cultural, and scenic resources. This new style came to be known as NPS Rustic Design, which incorporated natural features and materials with rustic constructed features as promoted by the Picturesque Style, and emphasized the use of native plants as promoted by the Prairie Style. (MPDF 2007: E35,E61-E62)

In NPS Rustic Design, constructed features utilized labor-intensive methods that created a rugged, frontier-like quality appropriate to a wilderness setting. Though general design standards remained the same, features were typically customized with local materials, such as stone or wood, to fit the environment in which they were constructed. By the end of the 1920s, NPS Rustic Design guided plans and specifications for site features and structures, techniques for the location of roads and trails in relation to natural scenery, methods to repair construction damage to natural conditions, and construction of park facilities. (MPDF 2007: E35,E61-E62)

George Dorr, as a founding member of the Bar Harbor VIA and the HCTPR, was keenly interested in preserving the scenic qualities of Mount Desert Island. Dorr was especially inspired by the picturesque gorge south of Bar Harbor, and having already bought land in the adjacent Great Meadow, was presented the opportunity in 1909 to secure additional acreage just to the south of the meadow and adjacent to the narrowest part of the gorge. Dorr's travels to Europe and visits to natural springs inspired him to highlight a relatively hidden but vigorous spring on the site. Atop the spring, architect Fred Savage designed an octagonal-shaped canopy structure with a masonry and stucco exterior and tile roof in the Italian

Renaissance Revival style, which was popular in Bar Harbor in the early 1900s. Clearing out the moss and fallen leaves, Dorr then sculpted the land around the canopy into a grass-covered glade, and nearby dug a stone-lined pool from which "the public might drink of [the spring's waters] freely, if they would." In time he built a two-story wooden frame and shingle spring building with a large map on the front, and a smaller building used as a picnic house. He also set out log benches for picnickers throughout the lawns and surrounding woodlands. In the area between the spring canopy and the Tarn, Dorr began work on the Delano Wild Gardens, an exhibit of native woodland flora laced with footpaths and part of a larger series of gardens to the north and east. He also improved the connection to Bar Harbor by building Hemlock Road, which arced through the glade and between the spring canopy and the spring pool, offering picturesque views of the canopy and grounds against the backdrop of the rugged mountains. A network of shorter roads, a loop road, and paths in and around the glade were also built, many of which featured stone culverts and timber bridges. The site's name, Sieur de Monts Spring, was carved on several boulders. (MPDF 2007: F98)

Beginning in 1913, a series of memorial trails and garden paths traversing or beginning at the site were built to promote Sieur de Monts Spring as a popular destination and as the foundation of the public reservation lands that Dorr hoped would ultimately become a national park. From 1913 to 1916, Dorr and the Bar Harbor VIA constructed Kurt Diederich's Climb, the Kane, Beachcroft, Homans, Emery, and Jesup paths, and in the 1920s the Schiff Path. The memorial trails, as well as the Wild Gardens Path, illustrated the qualities of the Picturesque Style through naturalistic features, such as stone staircases, rock paving, retaining walls, exposed summit rock, and their access to dramatic views. Stewardship of these and other trails continued after Sieur de Monts National Monument was created in 1916, and lasted until the early 1930s when the New Deal programs took over. (MPDF 2007: E44)

In 1927, the park's first master plan was prepared by NPS Assistant Director Arno Cammerer and NPS Chief Landscape Engineer Thomas Vint. The plan articulated the integration of the park's existing facilities with new federally funded projects, continuing the traditions already established on Mount Desert Island while also embracing the NPS Rustic Design style. It also offered recommendations for road and trail improvements around Sieur de Monts Spring, as did several design studies in 1929-1930 by the Olmsted firm to simplify the site's circulation system and advise George Dorr and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. on a proposed motor road through the area. However, it was not until the arrival of the CCC that major physical changes began at the site. Under the supervision of Benjamin Breeze, the park's resident landscape architect, CCC work focused on new and existing trails and paths, creation of fish rearing pools, and extensive pruning, planting, and seeding projects throughout the grounds. These projects were begun in 1934 and were consistent with both the 1927 master plan and the principles of the NPS Rustic Design style.

Breeze also developed plans for improving vehicular circulation, which were implemented soon after the site became part of the national park in 1936. Concurrent with the construction of the Kebo Mountain Road Extension on the north and east sides of the Great Meadow in 1936-1938, a detailed drawing was prepared for a new access road from the new motor road, improvements to the existing loop road and town access road, and construction of a new turnaround and parking lot with rough cut granite curbs. In this design, vehicles would travel around the main loop in a clockwise direction. The plan utilized some of Dorr's existing roads and other cleared areas, which helped preserve some of the existing vegetation. It also removed or closed some roadways and paths, including the portion of Hemlock Road near the spring canopy and spring pool. The CCC completed the project by 1939. (MPDF 2007: E63,E65)

In 1939 a new one-story restroom structure was built east of the parking lot. That same year, the NPS prepared plans for a new 44x25-foot wooden-framed spring building featuring a spring room on the first floor, dormitory space on the second, and water fountains on the west façade. The two-story building employed the NPS Rustic Design style with its board and batten siding, gable roof, and dormers. The size and scale of the new spring building was essentially the same as the old building. The CCC completed the building by 1941. The following year, an adjoining flagstone terrace and seat wall overlooking a trout pool was built. All of these projects were reflected in Breeze's 1941 master plan, which documented both existing and proposed facilities throughout the park. (MPDF 2007: E68)

The worst fire in Mount Desert Island history swept through Sieur de Monts Spring in the fall of 1947. It destroyed the spring building, restroom, and a recently dedicated memorial to George Dorr, and damaged

the spring canopy, trails, footbridges, and much of the vegetation. By 1949, a new spring building [Nature Center], flagstone terrace and retaining wall, and restroom were rebuilt in the same NPS Rustic Design style as the earlier buildings. A small one-story tool shed was also constructed just east of the restroom and the Dorr memorial was rebuilt and new plantings installed.

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 1909 - CE 1949

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Creating Social Institutions and Movements	Recreation	General Recreation	
Developing the American Economy	Transportation by Land and Air	Carriage Roads, Touring Roads and Parkways	
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Renaissance Revival (1830-1920)	
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Rustic Architecture	
Expressing Cultural Values	Landscape Architecture	Protection Of Natural And Cultural Resources	
Shaping the Political Landscape	Political and Military Affairs 1865-1939	The Great Depression And The New Deal, 1929-1941	
Transforming the Environment	Conservation of Natural Resources	Formation Of The Conservation Movement, 1870-1908	
Transforming the Environment	Conservation of Natural Resources	Scenic Preservation	
Transforming the Environment	Conservation of Natural Resources	The Great Depression And Conservation	

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

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: Landscape Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

NRIS Information:

NRIS Name:	Historic Resources of Acadia National Park MPS
NRIS ID:	64500982
Primary Certification Date:	06/26/2017

State Register Documentation:

Identification Number:	MHPC #1813-07
Name:	Sieur de Monts Spring
Listed Date:	09/21/2009

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 - 1603	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 1603	Explored	Contact with Europeans begin in 1603 when King Henry IV directs a Huguenot nobleman named Sieur de Monts to establish the French dominion of America and represent the crown in a vast area of land called "Acadia."
CE 1604	Explored	Sieur de Monts and his navigator Samuel de Champlain sail to the New World, and on September 5, 1604, Champlain explores the area and names its biggest island "L'Isle des Monts-deserts," or Mount Desert Island, for its "wild and solitary" mountains, deep gorges, and bare rocky summits. The Etchemin (later called Wabanaki) Indians guiding him know the island as Pemetic, meaning "range of mountains." (Prins and McBride 2007: i-ii)
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 1688	Established	Private ownership begins when Sieur Antonine de la Mothe Cadillac claims, among other lands, Mount Desert Island.
CE 1700 - 1760	Established	By 1760, there is a possible Wabanaki carry trail in gorge area [in the vicinity of Wild Gardens Path (Trail #s 324,#18), Jesup Path (#14), and Kane Path (#17)]. (Brown 2006: 13,221-222)
CE 1763	Settled	English begin settling area after Treaty of Paris is signed and gradually displaces earlier inhabitants.
CE 1836 - 1866	Built	A road is established along the east side of the gorge connecting Bar Harbor and Otter Cliffs.
CE 1844	Explored	Thomas Cole, a leading artist of the Hudson River School, arrives on Mount Desert Island and paints, among other works, "House, Mt. Desert, Maine" in the Great Meadow area. This marks the beginning of the island's tourist economy as other artists, writers, scientists, and travelers begin to flock to the area. Summer visitors later become known as the "rusticators."

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1860 - 1929	Inhabited	From the 1860s through 1920s, Indian families are encamped in Bar Harbor, selling crafts and canoeing/hunting services to island locals and tourists. Encampments are relocated numerous times during these years. (Prins and McBride 2007: xxii)
CE 1860 - 1879	Explored	In the 1860s and 1870s, the “rusticators” make use of lumber roads and old Wabanaki trails to explore the island.
CE 1881	Established	Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association (VIA) established (incorporated 1891).
CE 1893 - 1896	Established	The northern meadow in the gorge area is called Roberts Meadow. By 1896, the meadows in the gorge area become known as the Big Meadow [Great Meadow] and the Little Meadow [Tarn].
CE 1895	Established	Connector trail between paths in “southern group” and “eastern group” passes through the site, though the exact location is not known.
CE 1900	Built	George Dorr, who has bought land on the north and east sides of the Big Meadow, rebuilds an old road there. It is named Harden Farm Road. He begins to buy additional land in the meadow, envisioning it as part of a botanical exhibition of native plants, which he calls the wild gardens.
CE 1901	Established	Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations (HCTPR) is established (incorporated 1903).
CE 1909	Land Transfer	Dorr purchases a spring and ten acres of surrounding land between the Big Meadow and Little Meadow, naming it Sieur de Monts Spring. Access into the site is limited to an unimproved road and a connector trail.
CE 1909	Built	In c.1909, Dorr constructs the spring canopy, spring pool, and carves three boulder monuments.
CE 1909 - 1918	Built	Dorr constructs spring building, picnic house, and landscapes the glade with turf, trees, and shrubs. He also begins working on his “wild gardens” exhibits between the spring canopy and Tarn and throughout the Big Meadow.
CE 1913	Established	According to several maps, the Big Meadow is renamed Great Meadow and Cromwell Harbor Brook is renamed Trout Brook.
CE 1913	Conserved	The HCTPR protects over 5,000 acres on Mount Desert Island by this time, but Dorr and others lobby for perpetual federal protection of lands. The proposal to the government is initially rejected.
CE 1913 - 1916	Built	Using the Sieur de Monts Spring area as a hub, Dorr and the Bar Harbor VIA construct six memorial trails and other garden paths to strengthen the park proposal.
CE 1913	Built	In c.1913, a dam is built to support stepping stones across the outlet of the Tarn. Historic photographs and maps from this time indicate a combination of open water and vegetated conditions in the Tarn.
CE 1915	Land Transfer	On May 7, Tract 12-107 (Little Meadow) transferred from Rodick Realty Co. to HCTPR. According to c.1916 photographs, the Little Meadow is shown with both open water and vegetated conditions.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1916	Established	On July 8, more than 6,000 acres of HCTPR lands become part of Sieur de Monts National Monument. This acreage does not include the Sieur de Monts parcel or any lands in the Great Meadow or the Tarn. Dorr is appointed superintendent.
CE 1916	Established	Dorr establishes the Wild Gardens of Acadia Corporation. His Sieur de Monts Spring parcel and lands in the Great Meadow are transferred to this corporation, which he intends to donate to the park later.
CE 1916	Established	Dorr uses the word “Tarn” to describe the Little Meadow. However, both names continue to be used variously on maps through the 1940s.
CE 1917	Built	Dorr builds the Hemlock Road which stretches from Harden Farm Road, along the west side of the Great Meadow, between the spring canopy and spring pool, and to Otter Creek Road.
CE 1917 - 1929	Built	Dorr constructs a loop road east of the spring building that connects to Hemlock Road and Otter Creek Road sometime between 1917 and 1929.
CE 1919	Established	On February 16, Sieur de Monts National Monument becomes Lafayette National Park.
CE 1926	Built	Work on the seventh and last memorial trail in the Sieur de Monts Spring area, the Schiff Path (#15) is completed.
CE 1926	Land Transfer	On May 1, Tract 11-114 (Great Meadow, 16.7 acres) transferred from Wild Gardens of Acadia Corporation, Sieur de Monts Spring Company, and George Dorr to the U.S. Government on May 1 to U.S. Government.
CE 1927	Planned	Arno Cammerer and Thomas Vint complete the park’s first master plans, which generally recommended improving circulation at the spring.
CE 1928	Built	The Lafayette National Park Museum of Stone Age Antiquities [Abbe Museum] building is constructed between the spring canopy and the Tarn. Dorr donates land to the museum for this project (Tract 11-121).
CE 1929	Established	A gravel pit is present just north of the Tarn.
CE 1929 - 1930	Planned	The Olmsted firm settles a disagreement between John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and Dorr regarding Dorr’s motor road proposal through the Great Meadow, Sieur de Monts, and the Tarn.
CE 1929	Established	On January 19, Lafayette National Park becomes Acadia National Park.
CE 1930	Planned	Olmsted releases 14-mile motor road proposal that connects Jordan Pond/Eagle Lake Road to the east shoreline of Mount Desert Island. The route passes through the Sieur de Monts area and favors Dorr’s preference east of the spring area. Rockefeller contributes $4 million to the project.
CE 1930 - 1931	Planned	Criticism of the motor road projects inclines Rockefeller to withdraw his offer, but it is reinstated the following year.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1930	Land Transfer	On July 22, Tract 11-121 (Abbe Museum, 2.3 acres) land transferred from the Sieur de Monts Spring Company to Lafayette NP Museum of Stone Age Antiquities.
CE 1930	Land Transfer	On August 11, Tract 11-113 (Great Meadow, 120.3 acres) and Tract 11-120 (Sieur de Monts Spring, 25.7 acres) transferred from George Dorr and the Wild Gardens of Acadia Corporation to John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
CE 1930	Land Transfer	On August 12, Tract 11-121 (Abbe Museum, 2.3 acres) land transferred from Lafayette NP Museum of Stone Age Antiquities to the U.S. Government.
CE 1931	Land Transfer	On July 22, Tract 12-107 (Tarn, 32 acres) transferred from the HCTPR to the U.S. Government.
CE 1933	Planned	In the grips of the Great Depression, Roosevelt's New Deal programs supply money and labor in the NPS. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) is formed. Benjamin Breeze arrives and eventually becomes the park's resident landscape architect.
CE 1933	Planned	Controversial motor road route through the gorge is abandoned in favor of a shorter and less costly route around the north end of Newport [Champlain] Mountain.
CE 1934 - 1935	Developed	CCC works extensively in and around Sieur de Monts Spring, improving roads and trails, thinning and pruning vegetation, installing new plantings and grass, and building a trout pool.
CE 1935	Land Transfer	On January 28, Tract 11-113 (Great Meadow, 120.3 acres) transferred from John D. Rockefeller, Jr. to U.S. Government.
CE 1936	Land Transfer	On February 19, Tract 11-120 (Sieur de Monts Spring, 25.7 acres) transferred from John D. Rockefeller, Jr. to U.S. Government.
CE 1936 - 1938	Built	Kebo Mountain Road (Projects 6A1 and 6A2) is constructed by the NPS and the Bureau of Public Roads (BPR). It is the first motor road segment of the 1935 appropriation, stretching from Jordan Pond/Eagle Lake Road to the north end of the Great Meadow.
CE 1937 - 1939	Built	Based on a 1937-1938 plan by Breeze and an earlier plan by the Olmsted firm in 1930, the CCC improves Dorr's loop road and builds a new turnaround spur, parking lot, and sidewalks.
CE 1939	Planted	Mt. Desert Nurseries plants 1000 water lilies and arrowheads in the Tarn. (Calhoun et.al. 1994:58, citing Zabinski-Gormley and Olday 1977)
CE 1939	Built	Public Works Administration constructs a restroom at southeast corner of new parking lot.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1939 - 1940	Built	Kebo Mountain Road Extension (Project 6A3) is constructed by the NPS and BPR. This project consumes the remainder of the 1935 appropriation, and stretches from the north end of the Great Meadow, along old Harden Farm, and under Otter Creek Road before turning east to Beaver Pond Dam. The project requires an overpass for Otter Creek Road and a realignment that results in a new parking area/overlook above the old gravel pit at the northeast corner of the Tarn.
CE 1939 - 1940	Built	As part of the Kebo Mountain Road Extension, a new access road connecting the loop road and new motor road is constructed, and the town entrance road connecting the loop road to Otter Creek Road is regraded and reconstructed. This road arrangement creates a Y-intersection.
CE 1941	Built	CCC constructs a new spring building, which includes an apartment/dorm on the second floor.
CE 1941	Planned	In 1941, Breeze prepared a park master plan. For the Sieur de Monts Spring area, the plan simply documented existing conditions, illustrating the implemented design work that had already appeared in recent plans.
CE 1942	Built	A flagstone terrace is built on the north, west, and south sides of the spring buildings, possibly by the Works Progress Administration. The west side bows outward to overlook a new trout pool.
CE 1942	Demolished	Dorr's old spring building, picnic house, and toilets/sheds are demolished by CCC.
CE 1942	Abandoned	CCC camps at Acadia are closed because of World War II. Breeze is reassigned to Washington D.C.
CE 1942	Established	Trout Brook is again named Cromwell Harbor Brook.
CE 1947	Memorialized	Memorial to George Dorr is dedicated at the site of his old spring building.
CE 1947	Destroyed	In October, the "Bar Harbor Fire" destroys 17,128 acres on Mount Desert Island, and 8,750 acres of which are within park boundaries. The fire destroys the CCC-built spring building and restroom, and damages the spring canopy and Dorr memorial. Footbridges and other vegetation are also damaged or destroyed, but the Abbe Museum survives.
CE 1948	Reconstructed	The park repairs the fire-damaged spring canopy.
CE 1948	Memorialized	The Dorr memorial is rebuilt.
CE 1948	Built	A tool shed is built just east of the former restroom.
CE 1949	Built	A new spring building/apartment [Nature Center] and a new restroom are constructed at the same locations as the buildings destroyed in the 1947 fire.
CE 1951	Removed	By 1951, the turnaround spur off the loop road has been removed and planted with grass.
CE 1953	Altered	The far eastern end of the glade appears to be replanted in trees.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1961	Built	A series of plant displays called the Wild Gardens of Acadia area are built just north of the spring building [Nature Center].
CE 1966	Built	The Abbe Museum builds a small octagonal-shaped addition to the rear of the 1928 building. A service road from the loop road to the museum is likely built at this time.
CE 1970	Memorialized	Mr. And Mrs. Nick [Nicholas] Ranco of the Penobscot Tribe, Indian Island, Old Town, demonstrate the uses of the versatile birch at the Abbe Museum at Sieur de Monts Spring. (Prins and McBride 2007: 368)
CE 1979	Rehabilitated	The spring canopy is rehabilitated.
CE 1980	Rehabilitated	The restroom is modified with new accessible entrances, walkways, and plantings. A new septic system is installed within the loop drive space.
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 1989	Rehabilitated	The water system at the spring building [Nature Center], is remodeled.
CE 1989 - 1996	Altered	The Y-intersection of the two access roads and the loop road is redesigned into a curved T-intersection.
CE 2003	Rehabilitated	Accessibility improvements are completed at the spring building [Nature Center]. The project includes widening and extending some walkways to a new bus stop and bicycle racks, and rehabilitation of the flagstone terrace.
CE 2008	Rehabilitated	The tool shed is rehabilitated.
CE 2011	Rehabilitated	Damaged culverts and associated headwalls on the Sieur de Monts Entrance Road are repaired. (PEPC 24567, PMIS 152170, PMIS 150537)
CE 2011	Built	Island Explorer electronic departure signs is erected. (PEPC 24084)
CE 2012	Removed	Underground fuel storage tank at the Nature Center is removed. (PMIS 176376, PEPC 40529)
CE 2012	Rehabilitated	Culvert at the intersection of the Stratheden Path and the Hemlock Trail is repaired. (PEPC 42788)
CE 2013 - 2015	Rehabilitated	Stones around the spring pool are replaced. (PEPC 48675, PEPC 43365)
CE 2013	Rehabilitated	Restore Water Service to Wild Gardens area is restored. (PEPC 42770)
CE 2014	Removed	Hazard trees at the spring pool are removed. (PEPC 53082)
CE 2015	Rehabilitated	Failing footbridges in the area are replaced. (PEPC 58974)
CE 2015	Removed	Invasive exotic plants at the spring pool are removed. (PEPC 23836)
CE 2015	Planted	New plantings are installed at the spring pool. (PEPC 23836)

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 2016	Altered	Septic system is removed, new system connected to town water/sewer line to improve water quality. In the former septic area (inner parking loop), hydrology and vegetation restored with a swale and new plantings. (PEPC 43309, PEPC 76528, PMIS 175932)
CE 2017	Rehabilitated	Masonry fountain and stone wall at the Nature Center is rehabilitated. (PEPC 78481)
CE 2017	Altered	Mill and overlay is applied to parking lot. (PEPC 62262)
CE 2018	Rehabilitated	Spring Canopy is rehabilitated. Project work includes new paint, custom made clay roof tiles, and the acorn roof finial. (PMIS 183664, PEPC 63816)
CE 2019	Altered	Sieur de Monts Road is repaved. (PMIS 270371)

Physical History:

INTRODUCTION

The following section provides information on the physical development and evolution of the site, organized by time periods. Due to the long period of development in and around the Sieur de Monts Spring area, names of trails, roads, and even mountains have changed. Historical names are used as they appear chronologically, but current names and numbers are provided in [brackets] to provide clarity. The current trail numbers are those shown on the back inside cover of “Pathmakers: Cultural Landscape Report for the Historic Hiking Trail System of Mount Desert Island,” by Margie Coffin Brown in 2006. Development that has occurred since the original CLI was completed in 2009 is summarized under “Updates, 2010-2021.”

SETTLEMENT AND LAND CONSERVATION, PRIOR TO 1909

Native American Land Use:
The valley that would become known as the gorge at Acadia National Park was shaped some 14,000 years ago when glaciers retreated from Mount Desert Island, leaving behind scarred granite mountains interspersed with glacial lakes and U-shaped valleys littered with massive boulders and deposits of till. From the mountaintops to the seashores, diverse communities of plants and animals emerged and thrived.

After the Ice Age, the earliest Indian hunting bands moved into Maine's tundras in pursuit of caribou, musk ox, mammoth and other wildlife. By 5,000 BCE, Indian families seasonally fished and hunted sea mammals in the coastal waters of Mount Desert Island and collected shellfish on mudflats. Over many generations, shells piled up at coastal camping sites, forming shellheaps. These sites also contained 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)

In 1603 King Henry IV directed a Huguenot nobleman named Sieur de Monts to establish the French dominion of America and represent the crown in a vast area of land called "Acadia" that extended from the 40th to the 46th parallel, roughly from present-day Philadelphia to Montreal. Armed with this commission, Sieur de Monts and his navigator Samuel de Champlain sailed to the New World and established their ill-fated colony at the Maine-Canada border. When Europeans first visited Mount Desert Island just over four centuries ago, the island was seasonally inhabited by no more than a few hundred people. In 1604, Etchemin (later called Wabanaki) Indians guiding Champlain called the island Pemetic, meaning "range of mountains." Champlain named it Isle des Monts Deserts, "Island of Barren Mountains," for its high barren peaks that were a prominent coastal landmark for seafarers. Champlain's first encounter with the island's Indians may have taken place at Newport Cove (historically known as Stag Gove), an ideal location for beaching a fleet of bark canoes on Sand Beach and having an eastern lookout from Great Head. (Prins and McBride 2007: i,xv,67-68; Brown 2006: 12)

Canoeing was the main means of transport around the island's otherwise impenetrable spruce forests. Carry or portage trails were used to move canoes between water bodies, often following the shortest and flattest routes between lakes, ponds, and streams. Although there is little physical evidence of these trails, travel logs, newspaper articles, and other secondary sources suggest one such route may have been between Cromwell Harbor in the future town of Bar Harbor and Otter Cove in the future village of Otter Creek, via the gorge [in the vicinity of the Wild Gardens Path (Trail #s 18 and 324); Jesup Path (#14); and Kane Path (#17)]. This north-south carry trail passed through the gorge's two meadow areas later known as Big Meadow [Great Meadow], Little Meadow [Tarn], and a place called Sieur de Monts Spring. (Brown 2006: 12-13)

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: ii)

European Settlement:
Like the Native Americans, early European settlers were drawn to the coastlines and engaged in fishing, lumbering, boatbuilding, and trade. However, settlement was slow for the next 150 years due to competing land claims between Native Americans, France, and England. Native Americans lost many of their rights to the land, and populations declined primarily due to disease brought by the Europeans, although some seasonal camps remained. Private ownership in the area began in 1688 when Sieur Antonine de la Mothe Cadillac claimed, among other lands, Mount Desert Island. Cadillac's hope of establishing a French feudal state here was short-lived, and he later moved on to

establish Detroit and become the Governor of Louisiana. Warfare between France and England also hindered settlement until England's victory in the Seven Years War and the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1763. Around this time, English governor Sir Francis Bernard obtained a royal land grant on the island, but after the Revolutionary War he lost his claim and the newly established U.S. Government granted the western half of the island to Bernard's son, John, and the eastern half to Marie Theresa de Gregoire, granddaughter of Cadillac. Both began to sell their lands to non-resident landlords, but by this time there was an ever-increasing number of settlers arriving and homesteading. One of the earliest maps, from 1807, shows that the lands just north of the gorge were part of lot, "No. 58, 168 acres, 48 rods, James Beverly, deeded to Tobias Roberts." Roberts would later build Bar Harbor's first hotel in 1855. (Brown 2006: 14,19; Brochure, Acadia National Park, 1988)

Around the turn of the nineteenth century, the Towns of Mount Desert, Eden [Bar Harbor], Southwest Harbor, Tremont, and Gouldsboro were founded. New settlers mostly hunted and fished, but supplemented their livelihood through farming, logging, and especially shipbuilding. Some of the early cultivated lands were in and around the meadow north of the gorge. Trade also increased, with surpluses of fish, lumber, ice, and granite sent to nearby towns and distant ports. A bridge and causeway were built to the mainland by 1827. Other roads were constructed, including a road that passed along the east side of the gorge connecting Bar Harbor and Otter Cliffs, between 1836 and 1866 [now State Route 3]. (Brochure, Acadia National Park, 1947; Hill 1996: 107; Brown 2006: 24)

Balancing Tourism and Conservation:
Active cultivation around the gorge area had apparently declined by the mid-1800s. One of the earliest views of the gorge and its northern meadow area was captured by Thomas Cole in a c.1845 painting, "House, Mt. Desert, Maine." Cole was a leading artist of the Hudson River School, and on a carriage ride "…came to a romantic place near the mountain gorge, with a deserted house and a piece of meadow." The painting depicts what appears to be an abandoned house surrounded by a formerly cultivated field and broken fence that is being reclaimed by natural growth. (Belanger 1999: 42-43, citing Noble 1964: 270)

The scene of abandonment apparently lasted into the decades that followed. By the 1870s the north meadow was described as an:
"uncultivated bog producing only masses of wild swamp grass, green in spring but which quickly dried to a dusky brown when summer droughts began. Amidst these grasses, here and there, grew beds of the native cranberry…"

In winter, the meadow was possibly flooded to protect wild cranberries. A major fire here in the mid-1880s was fueled by the matted swamp grasses, and may have been started accidently by cranberry workers. (Dorr, "The Long Field and the Great Meadow in the early days" n.d.)

Paintings and sketches of the Mount Desert Island's scenery by Cole as well as Frederic Church, Thomas Birch, and William Morris Hunt inspired other artists, and especially the wealthy, to visit the area. The island's rich natural resources also attracted the leading scientists of the day. Though transportation was at times difficult, the island attracted an annual summertime influx of visitors, called the "rusticators," throughout the 1860s and 1870s. Visitors lodged at private homes or inns and began using the old lumber roads as walking paths to reach scenic vistas. Numerous trail guides were published to describe the scenery, such as an 1867 guidebook by Clara Barnes Martin that recommended a walk to the meadow and the "Mill in the Meadow." Tourism had thus become a major industry on Mount Desert Island. By the 1880s and 1890s, the island had also become a summer retreat for socially and politically prominent people who transformed the island landscape with elegant estates euphemistically called "cottages." (Brown 2006: 28)

A variety of maps produced in the 1880s and 1890s depict physiographic and political features of the gorge and its meadows. On a 1881 Colby atlas, the small pond is shown in the vicinity of the southern meadow. On an 1893 Rand map, the gorge is called Echo Notch, the northern meadow is named Robert's Meadow, and the stream winding through both meadows is called Cromwell Stream. However, it is an 1896 path map, the first of many produced for the island, that settled the lasting identity for the gorge area, calling out the gorge itself simply as The Gorge, the north meadow as Big

Meadow, and the south meadow as Little Meadow. Between the meadows is a "spring," and all are connected by the Cromwell Harbor Brook. (Crane 2002: 3; Brown 2006: 49)

The 1896 path map also indicates a trail tracking along the west side of the Big Meadow to just east of the "spring," then paralleling the west side of Cromwell Harbor Brook, and then crossing the stream at the north end of the Little Meadow and connecting to Otter Creek Road [State Route 3]. This path was described at the time as a connector between paths in the "southern group" and "eastern group" [route follows portion of the former Beachcroft Path (#13) and current Jesup Path (#14)]. The 1896 map also indicates an unimproved road along the east side of the Big Meadow from which several spurs penetrate westward into the meadow. On an 1896 Mears map, property lines and landowners are shown in the gorge area, divided into three roughly equal lots belonging from north to south to Lucy Ellis, Mrs. Chase, and the Heirs of John Markoe. (Crane 2002: 3; Brown 2006: 49,55,287,291)

In the late nineteenth century, there was a growing movement throughout the country to preserve scenic areas. On Mount Desert Island, the ever-increasing number of resort hotels and private cottages were at times restricting access to such places, and some citizens feared the natural beauty that had brought people here would be lost to over-development, unchecked logging, and urbanization. These concerns led to the formation of local civic organizations, such as the Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association (VIA) in 1881 (incorporated 1891) and the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations (HCTPR) in 1901 (incorporated 1903) that served to consolidate and direct the preservation interests of individuals. Two of the local leaders in this movement were Charles W. Eliot, a summer resident and president emeritus of Harvard University, and George B. Dorr, a year-round resident and later the first superintendent of Acadia National Park. (Brown 2006: 42)

George B. Dorr and the Spring:
In the late 1800s, George Dorr had bought land north of Newport [Champlain] Mountain around the Beaver Dam Pool, creating native plant exhibits, or wild gardens, as he called them, connected by bicycle and carriage paths. For some time, Dorr had admired the nearby gorge area for its scenic beauty, and in 1899 he bought land in the north and east parts of the Big Meadow, between Strawberry Hill and what was then known as the old Harden farm. He described the Big Meadow as a bog, "…its drainage was blocked by the silting up of the brookbed," and wrote eloquently of its plant life:
"with wild cranberries growing amidst swamp grass on its eastern side, and covered on its western side with the woods of the swamp-loving maple beautiful with red blossoms in spring…and broken by great rhodora-covered bays, which became sheets of purple in the spring, the fragrant Labrador tea mingling with them." (Dorr, "The Harden Farm Road and its Course around the Meadow," n.d.)

It was this area, sheltered by Strawberry Hill and spared by the 1880s fire, on which Dorr began to expand the idea of his wild gardens. It is also clear that by this time Dorr wished to introduce this part of the island to the public, and in 1900 he rebuilt part of the existing unimproved road on the north and east sides of the Big Meadow as a "a pleasure drive" to bypass Bar Harbor's "busy, buckboard-crowded streets." The road, which became known as Harden Farm Road, connected to Otter Creek Road and was paid for by Dorr and the town. (George B. Dorr Papers, Box 2; Hill 1996: 111)

Around this time, Harden's nephew, John Prescott, began developing a bottling operation around a spring on land just northwest of the Big Meadow. The spring had constant flow but little volume, and as the project's debt mounted a financier took over the venture (it eventually became Red Rock Spring and later Kebo Mountain Spring, operating until 1929). Prescott then pursued development of a more vigorous spring at the south end of Big Meadow, near the connector trail. At this time the land was owned by the Rodick family (who also owned the largest hotel in Bar Harbor), and from them Prescott secured a lease, with an option to purchase, ten acres of the woodland where the spring flowed out. However, this venture also presented financial difficulties, and Prescott sold his interest in the lease to his partner, Ora Strout, who terminated the project soon thereafter. At this time there was apparently an unfinished building in the spring area. (Dorr 1942: 1-10; OCLP 1992: 5)

Dorr had long been interested in natural springs, an attraction heightened from his many travels to Europe. This particular spring by the connector trail had a constant flow of clean water, and

according to Dorr, was so hidden amongst the spruce woods he had not noticed it until Strout and Prescott's work to develop it as a commercial spring began. Dorr thought this scenic parcel could be an interesting addition to the newly formed HCTPR, but felt the $5,000 asking price was too high. As there were no other buyers, Dorr let the matter lie and made an agreement with Strout that he would have first opportunity to buy it. By 1906, according to a path map from that year, the spring was called "Boiling Spring." (Hill 1996: 109-110; Brown 2006: 293)

DEVELOPMENT OF SIEUR DE MONTS SPRING, 1909-1949

Initial Developments:
The opportunity to buy Boiling Spring came suddenly one spring morning in 1909 when Dorr learned that a group of Bar Harbor developers had cash in hand to buy the ten-acre parcel unless he did the same by noon that day. With literally minutes to spare, Dorr raced into town and secured the land on behalf of the HCTPR.

Dorr began work at the site immediately, clearing away "…the sphagnum moss and fallen leaves" and shaping the surrounding ground into a "shell-like, concave basin, deeply draining it around to carry off all surface water from the mountainside above." To better highlight the spring, he commissioned architect Fred Savage to design a canopy over it in the popular Italian Renaissance Revival style, which resulted in a small octagonal masonry and stucco structure with columns supporting a domed tiled roof. From here, the spring waters were diverted into a pipe that emptied into a nearby stone-lined pool that he had dug so "the public might drink of it freely, if they would" (Figure 1). Around this time, he carved the name "Sieur de Monts Spring" on a boulder in recognition of the area's French heritage. In memory of two spring-fountains he once visited in Europe, the words "Sweet Waters of Acadia" and "Eaux douces de l'Acadie" were carved on several other large stones. Two of the stones were placed in the vicinity of the spring canopy and spring pool, while the stone with French text was set in the southeast part of the Great Meadow along or near one of the wild garden trails. (Crane 2002: 2; Hill 1996: 109-110)

In 1909, access into the spring area was limited to an unimproved road that entered the site from Otter Creek Road and then headed northwest across the stream and to the spring. There was also the old connector trail that passed on the west side of the site, by this time called Harden Farm Path. However, Dorr was drawing up plans that would connect the Sieur de Monts Spring property into his wild gardens areas. A drawing from 1914 shows that an elaborate series of native plant gardens, farms, and orchards were envisioned in the Big Meadow and Sieur de Monts Spring area (Figure 2). The 1914 plan illustrates how Dorr's wild gardens vision had expanded over time, and aerial photographs from the 1940s and 1950s confirm that some of these garden spaces and paths were built, though not in the exact locations shown on the plan. (Brown 2006: 295,297)

The 1914 plan and the aerial photographs also reveal that Dorr altered the flow of water beyond the spring itself, especially in the Big Meadow. In later correspondences, Dorr notes that around the time he bought the spring property, water draining from the Little Meadow originally spread out through various and shifting courses in the Big Meadow and in wet periods would flood the entire meadow until he dug a channel on its southeast side. This work apparently occurred around 1910. Additionally, a second and longer "canal" was built on the east side of the meadow by 1914. What effect these two features had on the flow of water is unclear. According to the 1914 plan, a small stream flowed from the spring canopy and spring pool to the middle of the Big Meadow where it met a larger Cromwell Harbor Brook that flowed from the Little Meadow.

Notably, there is no evidence that Dorr was manipulating the water flow at the outlet of the Little Meadow [Tarn], most likely because he did not own that land. Starting in 1913, according to several maps, the Big Meadow was renamed Great Meadow and Cromwell Harbor Brook was renamed Trout Brook. (Memorandum, Dorr to Hubbard, June 1930; Brown 2006: 297)

Pursuing Federal Protection and Construction of Memorial Paths:
By 1913, the HCTPR had protected more than 5,000 acres of land on Mount Desert Island. At this time, this acreage did not include the Rodick Realty Co.'s Little Meadow parcel, nor Dorr's lands that encompassed Sieur de Monts Spring and the wild gardens area in the Great Meadow. Dorr was, however, fully supportive of the organization's conservation efforts, and when some year-round residents attempted to have the tax-exempt status of the HCTPR revoked by the Maine legislature, he and Charles W. Eliot began lobbying for federal protection of the lands. Dorr presented the idea to President Woodrow Wilson and Secretary of the Interior Franklin Lane in Washington in the spring of 1914, but as there were several bills stalled in Congress to establish national parks at the time, Dorr instead asked that the President proclaim the lands a national monument, which did not require

an act of Congress. However, the decision was deferred because the HCPTR's boundary line that at the time was discontiguous. Undaunted, Dorr returned to acquire more land, and with financial help from John D. Rockefeller, Jr. conducted title searches to strengthen the application. Dorr had already envisioned Sieur de Monts Spring as part of his wild gardens project. Now, Dorr expanded this idea and worked on developing the spring as the core of the proposed park with path connections between this area and the surrounding mountains. Several of these connectors were built as memorial paths to the donors. (Dorr 1942: 29,37; Brown 2006: 67; MPDF 2007: E22-E23)

From 1913 to 1916, six memorial trails and other approach paths were constructed in the spring area by Dorr and the Bar Harbor VIA (Figures 3-4). Some of the trails were a combination of existing routes and new construction, and Dorr donated land for construction of some of them. The trails were as follows (Brown 2006: 66,69-72,86,220-222,249,252-254):
-- Kurt Diederich's Climb [#16] was begun in 1913 and completed in 1915. Beginning at the northwest corner of the Little Meadow, it ascended west to Dry [Dorr] Mountain.
-- Kane Path [#17] was also begun in 1913 and completed in 1915. It began at the northwest corner of the Little Meadow then headed south along the west shore.
-- Beachcroft Path [#13] was completed in 1915. It began at the spring then headed across the stream and southeast up the hill to Otter Creek Road and on to Pickett Mountain [Huguenot Head]. The beginning section may have followed the route of the former unimproved road that lead to the spring, and at this time a stone culvert may have been built to carry it over the stream.
-- Homans Path [#349] may have been built by 1915, possibly as part of Kurt Diederich's Climb, and beginning northwest of the spring ascended west up to Dry Mountain.
-- Emery Path [#15] was built by 1916 and ascended west up the Dry Mountain from the spring canopy.
-- Jesup Path [#14] may have been started in 1913 and was completed by 1916. It headed northwest from the spring along the west side of the Great Meadow. Dorr also envisioned the Jesup Path as the most important of several "garden paths" that would pass through his wild garden areas and serve as the main pedestrian entrances between Bar Harbor and the mountain trails, the gorge, and the spring.

The Wild Gardens Path [#s 18,324,354,365] was another one of Dorr's garden paths, and first appeared on a 1913 path map. Heading north of the spring, and according to the 1914 wild gardens plan, it may have traveled around the Great Meadow either on the west side, or the east side using an old carry trail or a road called the Meadow Road shown on a 1911 path map. Heading south from the spring, it appears to have tracked along the west side of the stream and then crossed to the east side and continued up to the Little Meadow before turning east and heading up to Otter Creek Road and a connection with the Beachcroft Path. The stones across the outlet of the Little Meadow were likely associated with this path.

According to research by Margie Coffin Brown, the stepping stones at the outlet of the Little Meadow are characteristic of trail work by the Bar Harbor VIA. The stones were installed c.1913, likely as part of the Wild Gardens Path to connect it to the memorial trails intersecting at this point. It is probable that there was some type of pedestrian crossing at this location earlier, and possibly a dam or weir structure, but there are no historical references. What is clear is that some type of permanent dam structure had to be built at this time to support the size and weight of the stepping stones set on top of it. Water was allowed to flow over the dam and between the stones, creating an especially picturesque view with the Little Meadow and surrounding mountains in the background (see Figure 3).

The dam undoubtedly caused an impoundment of water in the Little Meadow and, depending on the season and storm events, created occasional open water conditions. At times of high water, the surrounding mountains were reflected in the inundated meadow. However, research conducted for this report revealed no historical evidence suggesting that the Little Meadow was managed to create or maintain open water conditions. On the contrary, in 1939 1,000 water lilies and arrowheads were installed in the Little Meadow and were supplied by the Mount Desert Nurseries, which was owned by George Dorr. Historic photographs from the 1910s indicate the presence of both open water and vegetated conditions in the Little Meadow (see Figure 3). Maps prior to 1913 show a small body of water in the Little Meadow surrounded by the same "wetland" symbol that is shown for the Great

Meadow, while those after 1913 typically indicate a slightly larger body of water but still surrounded by the "wetland" symbol. The first known reference of the Little Meadow as The Tarn was by George Dorr in 1916. "Tarn" is a Scandinavian word for a mountain lake that is formed in a glacial valley. (Dictation, Dorr, 22 August 1916; Calhoun et.al. 1994: 57-58, citing Zabinsky-Gormley and Olday 1977)

Dorr credited Andrew Liscomb as the designer responsible for the layout and construction of trails in the Sieur de Monts Spring area. Liscomb led a crew of skilled masons and builders, and with Dorr chose routes that were tightly winding and narrow around boulders but open and sweeping along ledges and talus fields. Large stepping stones and long sections of flat stones, and well-crafted stone steps and retaining walls, were characteristics of these trails. In his revised park proposal to President Wilson in 1916, Dorr included photographs of the paths, taken by George King, to illustrate the striking beauty of the reservation. (Brown 2006: 67,72)

Work on memorial trails continued through the 1920s, including construction of the Schiff Path [#15] in c.1926, which completed an earlier planned link between the spring and Dry [Dorr] Mountain. It was the seventh and final memorial trail radiating outward from the spring. By 1926, the portion of the Beachcroft Path [#13] ascending the hill to Otter Creek Road was apparently abandoned, which probably coincides to development of a gravel pit here around this time and improvements to Otter Creek Road. In this instance, it is interesting that the rich glacially deposited gravel at this location apparently outweighed the picturesque values that were guiding adjacent preservation and conservation efforts. (Brown 2006: 69-72,220,222)

Sieur de Monts Spring as a Destination:
Dorr and Eliot's promotional efforts were rewarded on July 8, 1916, when the Sieur de Monts National Monument was established. At this time the park encompassed 6,634 acres, including four lakes and ten mountains, within a contiguous boundary. However, as Harald Prins and Bunny McBride write in Asticou's Island Domain, for the Wabanakis that still encamped seasonally in Bar Harbor and other island towns, the park was just one more layer of restrictions in a place where their ancestors had once freely ranged. (MPDF 2007: E23; Prins and McBride 2007: 345)

George Dorr was appointed the park's first superintendent, and that same year formally established the Wild Gardens of Acadia Corporation to acquire land for public use and for educational study and scientific research. He placed his private holdings in the corporation, which included the Sieur de Monts Spring parcel and much of the Great Meadow, with the intention of donating them to the monument at a future date. Notably, the monument's boundary did not yet include the Tarn, which had been transferred to the Trustees in May of the previous year. (MPDF 2007: E23)

At the monument's dedication ceremony in August 1916, a local philanthropist named Mrs. Delano Hitch asked Dorr how she could financially help in the park's development. Rather than directing her gift to a project on new park lands, Dorr for whatever reason suggested she help develop one of his wild garden exhibits. Dorr estimated the project at $5,000 to build, including loam that would be needed prior to planting, and Hitch offered an initial $2,000 contribution to begin work. This particular exhibit of native plants and paths was in the southern part of the Sieur de Monts Spring property and centered on Trout Brook between the Tarn and the spring canopy. The area was named the Delano Wild Gardens, and later correspondences and plans from the 1930s indicate that many criss-crossing paths were built, but it is not clear how much planting was completed. Undated correspondence and later plans note that this area, and the lawns around the spring canopy, were irrigated by water from the stream and/or the Tarn. (Dictation, Dorr, recalling events of 22 August 1916; Memo, Office of Superintendent, n.d.)

Historic photographs indicate two buildings east of the spring pool by c.1918: a spring building and a picnic house. Also called the registrar building or pumphouse, the two-story wood-frame spring building served as Dorr's headquarters and featured a large map mounted outside the front door. This gable-roof building was oriented north-south, and may have incorporated the structure erected earlier by Prescott and Strout. Just to the southeast was a small one-story wood-frame structure with a hipped roof called the picnic house. Both buildings were clad in shingles (Figure 5). By 1930 there were three small sheds north of the spring building, at least one of which was a restroom. (OCLP

1992: 5)

Dorr changed access into the site with the construction of the Hemlock Road [#377]. Also called the Spring Road, it stretched from Harden Farm Road and along the west side of the Great Meadow, then into the spring area between the canopy and pool before connecting to Otter Creek Road via the existing unimproved road that was in place in 1909. The graded road was completed by 1917 and offered picturesque views of the site along its route. It featured dry-laid stone culverts and timber bridges, including an impressive stone box culvert that spanned Trout Brook southeast of the spring canopy (Figure 6). Several other loop roads were built around the spring building and picnic house, connecting Hemlock Road to parking areas that were probably located just to the east (the island's automobile ban had been lifted by this time). In later years, small boulders were placed along the road shoulders, perhaps to manage parking. Well-manicured gravel paths and wooden bridges also traversed this area and connected to the memorial trails and garden approach paths. By this time, a short stepping stone path extended into the spring pool from the south. Historic photographs show that just beyond the last stepping stone was a stick set into the water that held a metal cup. Two shorter earthen paths terminated at the south end of the spring pool from the east and west. (Brown 1996: 255-256)

New plantings also added to the picturesque scene. By this time the cleared "glade" around the spring canopy, spring pool, and buildings was planted in grass and dotted with new trees and groups of shrubs that blended into the surrounding woodlands (Figures 7-9). Iris and other herbaceous plants ringed the spring pool, and vines of Dutchman's pipe climbed the spring building and picnic house. Log benches were set throughout the grounds for resting and picnicking. Dorr's Sieur de Monts Spring had indeed become a popular island destination and gathering space, and his contributions and hard work were being rewarded. In 1918, the Wild Gardens of Acadia was recognized by the American Society of Landscape Architects. The following year, on February 16, 1919, Sieur de Monts National Monument became Lafayette National Park, with the spring at its core. (OCLP 1992: 6)

According to park files, in the early 1920s Superintendent Dorr began a dialogue with Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., of the Olmsted Brothers landscape architectural firm in Brookline, Massachusetts, regarding the development at the spring area and the arrangement of roads and paths and other landscape issues at the spring area. Dorr reported that by the end of the 1920 summer season, more than 3,000 people from 35 different states had signed a guest book at the spring, and remarked to Olmsted that there was clearly a great opportunity here to interest people in "out-of-doors nature matters, in nature conservation, and landscape conservation." (Letter, Dorr to Olmsted Jr., 11 January 1921; OCLP 1992: 6)

At this time Dorr had apparently begun surveys for a "garden approach" to the spring area and park, possibly the north-south road shown along the east side of the Great Meadow connecting Harden Farm Road and Otter Creek Road on the east side of the Great Meadow in the 1914 plan (see Figure 2). This approach corresponds to a 1926 donation of a north-south linear tract of land (Tract 11-114) that was conveyed from the Wild Gardens of Acadia Corporation, Sieur de Monts Spring Company, and George Dorr to the U.S. Government on May 1, 1926. According to correspondence by Dorr in the early 1930s, this tract, as well as the Long Field tract to the north of the meadow, was intended to serve as an approach from Bar Harbor and include parallel to it "…a wild gardens path in remembrance of my earlier project." Construction of this project was apparently started but not finished. (Dorr, "Two Gifts made to the Government in 1926 and 1927," n.d.)

Dorr's development of the spring area reached its apex in the late 1920s when he donated a small area of land (Tract 11-121) between the spring canopy and the Tarn for construction of the Lafayette National Park Museum of Stone Age Antiquities [Abbe Museum]. The museum focused on Native American inhabitants of Maine and especially those associated with Mount Desert Island and Frenchmans Bay. Its founder, Dr. Robert Abbe, a New York physician and Bar Harbor summer resident, aimed to create a museum "…which will be for all time both fascinating and educative for thousands who are not accustomed to visit museums of this sort: but who will linger and dream over this small and unique collection." The building was designed by Edmund Gilchrist of Philadelphia and constructed in the Italian Renaissance and Spanish Colonial Revival styles. The octagonal main

chamber, stucco walls, and tile roof resembled the design of the spring canopy. The museum building was completed in 1928, the year of Abbe's death (Figure 10). Abbe had acquired numerous collections and, according to Harald Prins and Bunny McBride in Asticou's Island Domain, "committed himself to protecting and displaying such artifacts to ensure public awareness of the region's original inhabitants and to prod contemplation about life as it was so very long ago before the onset of industrialization." (OCLP 1992: 7; Prins and McBride 2007: 345)

A survey-quality plan prepared by the Olmsted firm in 1929 indicates several other features not shown in historic photographs. By this time there was a broad gravel loop road east of the spring building that, through a series of shorter roads, connected south and east to Otter Creek Road, Harden Farm Road, and Hemlock Road. These features may actually date earlier to 1917 when Hemlock Road was completed. Another plan from 1929 shows the gravel pit just northeast of the Tarn. By 1929, Dorr also noted that the frame building serving as the spring building and headquarters "is of course inadequate and was never intended to do more than serve a temporary need," again suggesting it may have been associated in some way with the property's previous owners, Prescott and Strout. (Letter, Dorr to Hubbard, 4 December 1929; OCLP 1992:9)

Motor Road Planning and the Olmsted Firm:
In 1927, Assistant Director Arno Cammerer and Chief Landscape Engineer Thomas Vint of the National Park Service (NPS) authored the park's first master plan. A memorandum rather than a set of drawings, this document proposed a general development plan for Acadia that would include "essential extensions of the park, plans for roads and trails, utility sites, and other developments," and that present and future construction projects were part of an overall plan. The master plan was driven by earlier public criticism of John D. Rockefeller, Jr.'s Jordan Pond/Eagle Lake motor road project and carriage road construction in the park, as well as by the need for a clear vision for the park boundary. It also set the stage for an intense period of road planning in the Sieur de Monts Spring area between 1929 and 1931. (MPDF 2007: E8,E62-E63).

In 1929, with the Rockefeller-funded Ocean Drive demonstration and Jordan Pond/Eagle Lake motor roads complete, and construction of Cadillac Mountain Road by the NPS and the Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Public Roads (BPR) underway, Rockefeller became a proponent of motor roads in the park. His earlier idea of a limited number of motor roads separate from his carriage roads expanded to a much larger system of scenic roadways from the mountaintops to the coasts.

As the vision for a motor road system took shape, Rockefeller engaged the Kidde Construction Company of New York to undertake reconnaissance work for this larger scheme. He also brought in the expertise of the Olmsted firm to settle a disagreement between himself and Superintendent Dorr about the location of a motor road and entrance road at Sieur de Monts Spring. To connect the Jordan Pond/Eagle Lake Road with the ocean views on the eastern shore of the island, Rockefeller believed the most scenic route was to traverse the north side of Kebo Mountain, hug the eastern base of Dry [Dorr] Mountain along Hemlock Road, continue behind and west of Sieur de Monts Spring, and then proceed down the west side of the Tarn. Dorr felt the motor road should come down off Kebo Mountain, avoid Hemlock Road and instead pass through the Great Meadow and in front of and east of Sieur de Monts Spring, and then continue down the east side of the Tarn. From the south end of the Tarn, both agreed, the route should continue south down the gorge and parallel to Otter Creek Road until turning east near Gorham Mountain and the Beehive saddle to join Ocean Drive. As both men owned parcels over which either route would pass, Rockefeller wrote, "Neither of us can develop our ideas most fully or most satisfactorily without the complete cooperation of the other." (Killion and Foulds 2007: 32, citing HAER ME-11: 26-27)

Numerous plans and studies of the different motor road routes were prepared in subsequent months, and in a letter to Rockefeller, Olmsted outlined the advantages of Dorr's eastward route. Regarding the "handsome large red maples" at the north end of Great Meadow, Olmsted wrote:
"…if the undergrowth is judiciously manipulated this (view) can be made quite lovely and distinctive…In passing through the above there would be seen from under and between the trees at an agreeable distance the bright grassy glade around the spring and a glimpse of the museum and spring pavilion [spring canopy]; in a much pleasanter way than these would be presented from the western road [Hemlock Road]." (Letter, Olmsted to Rockefeller, 14 October 1929)

As for Rockefeller's proposed alignment on the west side of the Tarn, Olmsted added that the talus slopes and rock labyrinth on Dry [Dorr] Mountain would be better viewed from the east side of the Tarn than if the road ran right over it, even though this would require realigning Otter Creek Road at a different grade through a grade separation.

The eastward route would also incur changes to Hemlock Road and its approaches into the spring area itself, keeping the road open to traffic but essentially shifting it north and east and well away from the spring canopy, spring pool, and glade (Figure 11). In a letter to Dorr, Olmsted felt this would improve the visitor experience:
"… the ground could be regraded to allow for a brook coming directly from the spring house [spring canopy] and flowing into the pool. This, we would believe, would be a pleasing thing in itself as making it apparent that the water rises first in the spring house [spring building] before coming to the pool but, perhaps more important than this, it would enable the grading around the spring house to be so arranged that the spring house would not appear, as it now does, sunk into a hollow with its lower portion cut off, in many views, in which it should appear at its greatest effectiveness." (Letter, Olmsted firm to Dorr, n.d.)

This shift would accommodate a new parking pullout northeast of the spring building, from which there would be glimpses of the glade through a stretch of open woods and encourage visitors to stop here. In a visit to the site, Henry Hubbard of the Olmsted firm noted that such circulation changes would eliminate some of the unnecessary connecting roads around the spring area and allow for the glade to be planted entirely in turf, thus greatly increasing the sense of seclusion. (Letter, Hubbard to Rockefeller, 24 September 1929)

Olmsted also weighed in on the myriad of roads in the area in another letter to Dorr:
"The more I think about it, the more complicated it appears to me this problem of numerous interconnecting and crossing roads for motor and carriages, which you have set for yourself in the area between the present approach road of the Sieur de Monts Spring….I beg of you that you will not allow any more tree cutting to be done for any one of the proposed roads in this complicated area." (Letter, Olmsted to Dorr, 21 October 1929)

The plan from 1929 illustrated the proposed realignment of Hemlock Road and its connection with the motor road to the southeast, as well as a new "office" structure northwest of the spring building (see Figure 11). However, in an early 1930 plan, through-traffic across the site was shifted even farther north and east of the glade. Like the 1929 plan, most of Hemlock Road and its connector roads were abandoned, but in this plan the remainder of the Hemlock Road north of the spring area was realigned to become part of a carriage road, with Dorr's existing loop road modified into a one-way entrance loop/parking area, and the connection to the motor road now to the east alongside a row of large trees and aligned with an existing trail vista to the spring canopy (Figure 12). The office structure was no longer shown in this plan.

In July 1930, after almost a year of study and consultation with engineers from the Kidde Construction Company, Dorr's preferred eastward route was incorporated into the Olmsted firm's proposed fourteen-mile motor road circuit route from Jordan Pond/Eagle Lake Road to Otter Cliffs. The NPS supported the plan and accepted Rockefeller's $4 million offer to fund it. The motor road plan was announced in September 1930 and generally supported by local residents, as was its potential boost to the local economy. However, some vocal summer residents opposed it for various reasons, including a belief that the portion of the route through the gorge would destroy one of the last vestiges and views of wilderness on the east side of the island. The controversy caused Rockefeller to withdraw the offer in January 1931, although he was later convinced to let the offer "lie on the table" for a year. In early 1933, the motor road project was revived, in part because the far-reaching effects of the Depression had quieted most of the project's opposition. That same year, however, the proposed route through the gorge was abandoned when it was determined that extending the motor road around the north end of Newport [Champlain] Mountain would be shorter in length and less costly. Such a route had not been considered earlier because the 1930 plan had met such stiff resistance from wealthy land owners along Schooner Head Road, and Rockefeller had thought it impossible to secure the needed land from them. (Brown 2006: 34-40)

Land Transfers:
On January 19, 1929, Lafayette National Park's name was changed to Acadia National Park, with George Dorr continuing to serve as superintendent. At this time, Dorr was still the owner of Sieur de Monts Spring and much of the Great Meadow, while the HCTPR still controlled the Tarn. With the park rapidly closing in around this area, there were some who felt development here needed to be consistent with other park developed areas. Among the critics was Frederic Law Olmsted, Jr., who shared his opinion about the many roads in the spring area with NPS Director Horace Albright. In his reply, Albright wrote:
"…The Spring and the adjoining territory are in the hands of the private corporation created by Mr. Dorr, and in which he is the moving spirit. He has done about as he pleased in that area, and I am afraid a lot of the things he has done, not only in his road building, have not been pleasing to us. Even Mr. Mather had some misgivings. Naturally, what is done there should tie in with general park development; but Mr. Dorr has been difficult…" (Letter, Albright to Olmsted, 23 October 1929)

With Dorr in the awkward position of being superintendent and also head of the Wild Gardens of Acadia Corporation and the Sieur de Monts Spring Company, Rockefeller agreed to broker a deal to transfer the ownership of the lands to the park. But Dorr initially resisted the idea, concerned that if such a transfer arrangement did take place it would appear to be exclusively Rockefeller's gift instead of a project in which both men would join. Dorr also believed that since his money, plans, and dreams had for many years gone into this property and that it was widely visited, he should not be asked to part with it. Rockefeller nonetheless insisted on the transfer, and according to Dorr, "…said he would sooner give up his (motor road) plan" if it did not happen. Dorr then agreed to the deal, stipulating that the whole property transfer to the government when it was all done, and that he (Dorr) would be allowed to carry on certain work directed toward the general purposes of the Wild Gardens of Acadia Corporation and Sieur de Monts Spring Company. (Confidential Memorandum, Olmsted to Rockefeller, 28 May 1930; Letter, Fosdick to Rockefeller, 7 April 1930; Dorr, "Early Road Systems and What They Led On To" 8 August 1939)

On August 11, 1930, Tracts 11-113 (120.3 acres) and 11-120 (25.7 acres) encompassing the Great Meadow and the Sieur de Monts Spring area were transferred from George Dorr and the Wild Gardens of Acadia Corporation to John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Land and easements associated with the Abbe Museum property, Tract 11-121 (2.3 acres), were transferred from the Sieur de Monts Spring Company to Lafayette National Park Museum of Stone Age Antiquities on July 22, 1930. On August 12, 1930, this same land and easements, and the right for expansion, was conveyed to the U.S. Government. Nearby, Tract 12-107 (32 acres) that encompassed the Tarn was transferred from the HCTPR to the U.S. Government on July 22, 1931. (Land Ownership Record, 1944)

Stream Reconfigurations and a Bar Harbor Approach:
Correspondences indicate that true to the conditions in the land transfers, Dorr did continue to plan and work on a variety of projects in the Sieur de Monts Spring and Great Meadow areas. One such project involved again redirecting the waters from the Tarn as they passed through the Great Meadow. According to Dorr, by this time the c.1910 channel on the meadow's southeast side had silted in and caused waters from the Tarn to again spread out, and after heavy rains back up into "the spring pool and even into the spring itself." Dorr writes:
"A channel for these waters needs to be again created and my intention has been, abandoning the former excavated course, which was made straight with reference to an intended footpath across the open portion of the meadow, and replacing it with one winding in nature, meadow brook fashion, through the open grassy eastern portion of the meadow, to join the course from the Spring and the western waters near the meadow outlet." (Memorandum, Dorr to Hubbard, June 1930)

The Olmsted firm was apparently involved in this project, but interoffice reports suggest their role may have been trying to limit the effects of Dorr's work. The project included the construction of a weir, or perhaps series of weirs, presumably at the north end of the Great Meadow. A plan from 1930 indicates at least eight gauges were set out along Trout Brook and at various locations in the meadow to monitor the rise in the water table. According to L.H. Zach of the Olmsted firm, water was flowing out of the spring continuously at 50 gallons a minute, but the stream coming out of the Tarn was dry. He also noted that massive amounts of peat were being removed from the channel and

stored on Dorr's property north of Harden Farm Road. (Zach, Report of Visit, 14 August 1930)

Zach also observed that in the area between the spring's glade and the gravel pit at the Tarn, Dorr was creating many paths, some as wide as two-way roads, to give access to the "Delano Wild Gardens." According to Zach, Dorr had told him the trails would later be narrowed to accommodate a light truck. Zach noted that road material for these paths appeared to be coming from the gravel pit, "…which will mean all the more work for somebody else later in filling back a gravel pit to the grade shown on our last grading plan…" (Zach, Report of Visit, 14 August 1930)

Dorr was still pursuing plans for two separate exhibition garden walks at this time. Situated on the east side of the Great Meadow, one path ran between the proposed motor road and the existing Harden Farm Road then southeast to Pickett [Huguenot Head] and Newport [Champlain] Mountains, while another ran on the west side of the proposed motor road then to the southwest and the spring area. He also continued to promote the idea of a future approach road from Bar Harbor through the Long Field that would take in the picturesque view looking south across the Great Meadow to the gorge. This location, he felt, would also be suitable for an entrance lodge, demonstration building, natural history museum, or park residences. Even as late as May 1933, however, Dorr was still apparently having second thoughts on the arrangement to deed the wild gardens lands to the park. (Dorr, Correspondence, 11 March 1930; "Notes Dictated by Mr. Taylor," 15 September 1932; Letter, Lyman to Rockefeller, 28 November 1932; Letter, Rockefeller to Lyman, 4 May 1933)

The Civilian Conservation Corps and Benjamin Breeze:
Both the 1927 master plan and especially the Olmsted firm's plans offered recommendations for road and trail improvements around Sieur de Monts Spring, but aside from Dorr's work in the early 1930s noted above, no significant changes were made on the site until the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) arrived in 1933. With the country mired in the Depression, the Roosevelt Administration introduced its New Deal programs that aimed to stop the downward spiral of the nation's economy. The New Deal provided money and labor to the NPS through the Public Works Administration and the Emergency Conservation Works Act. From 1933 to 1942, the CCC performed "Emergency Conservation Work" based out of two camps at Acadia, working extensively on trails, motor roads, developed areas, and on planting and vegetation management projects throughout the park. CCC records indicate work in the Sieur de Monts Spring vicinity was varied and frequent, especially from 1934 to 1935.

Along the existing entrance roads and loop road, the CCC constructed timber vehicular bridges atop stone abutments, replaced wooden culverts with metal culverts, and resurfaced part of the parking area. Brown notes that the Hemlock Road stone culvert spanning Trout Brook may have been improved or rebuilt at this time. Between 1934 and 1935, many of the memorial trails and garden approach trails [#s 14,15,17,18,324, 354,365] were improved with new drainage, timber bridges, stonework, and general reconditioning and cleaning work. One such project may have involved installing stone steps on the Wild Gardens Path just north of the Tarn. The CCC also built several new trails. In 1934, the Tarn Trail [#370] was built along the east shore of the Tarn to connect the spring area to Eliot Woods and Otter Creek to the south, which together with the Kane Path now created a loop around the Tarn. The Gorge Road Path [#365] was constructed in 1934-1935 through the heart of the Great Meadow, connecting Harden Farm Road on the north and the loop road at the spring area. Built as a wider truck trail, it paralleled and crossed Trout Brook and Dorr's c.1910 and c.1930 stream channels, and required several vehicular and pedestrian timber bridges atop stone abutments (Figures 13-14). This trail may have been known as the Great Meadow Nature Trail, which also included the Jesup Trail and Hemlock Road. It may also have fulfilled one of the trails Dorr repeatedly planned on the east side of the meadow and shown in the 1914 plan (see Figure 2). (Brown 2006: 146,221-222; CCC Narrative Report, McFarland Field Camp, Acadia NP, October–December 1934; Letter, Dorr to NPS Director, 4 April 1934; Letter, Dorr to Rodick, 30 December 1935)

In the Tarn area, the CCC installed new plantings. One project involved regrading and replanting the gravel pit, with peat from the Great Meadow added to the soil in advance of planting some 500 conifers and hardwoods. This project also carved out a small parking area at the bottom of the pit, and probably coincided with roadway improvements to Otter Creek Road, where the CCC replanted

bare banks and repaired other construction scars. In the Great Meadow area, "several brooks that flow through the area have received such treatment as to prevent, in a large measure, the periodical flooding that takes place in wet seasons." The nature of the drainage control features is unclear, but may have been associated with the construction of a trout pool at the south end of the meadow, along the stream that emptied the spring pool. Such wildlife enhancement programs were an important component of the CCC's work, and this project was completed in cooperation with Mount Desert Island Fish and Game Association. The pools were stocked with trout, and walking paths were built around them so visitors could closely observe the fish. ("Report on McFarland Field Camp, NP-1, Third Enrollment Period" 1 April 1934–30 September 1934; "Report on McFarland Field Camp, NP-1, Fourth Enrollment Period" 1 October 1934–31 March 1935; Brown 2006: 132-134,146)

Thinning, pruning, and general ground cleaning was conducted throughout the Sieur de Monts area, with brush typically burned in selected fire holes. Although such work was mostly done for fire prevention purposes, there is one documented instance in the Great Meadow where it aimed "to open a more attractive view of certain large groups of cedars in interesting clumps and heretofore comparatively hidden…." The work was in conjunction with construction of the truck trail. The CCC also removed the telephone poles along the Tarn side of Otter Creek Road to improve the view to the talus slopes and rocks on Dry [Dorr] Mountain. ("Report on McFarland Field Camp, NP-1, Third Enrollment Period," 1 April 1934–30 September 1934; CCC Narrative Report, McFarland Field Camp, Acadia NP, 1 October 1934–31 December 1934; Brown 2006: 146)

Other documented CCC work involved adding fill to a site proposed for a new ranger's cabin, but the exact location is unknown. Such vagueness in project locations is typical in CCC reports, but as the following remark shows, the overall goal was clear:
"In conclusion, it may be said that this area, situated as it is in this wide, well wooded gorge, will, when completed, offer to the visiting public, the maximum in beauty, seclusion, and accessibility as a recreation area in the Park." ("Report on McFarland Field Camp, NP-1, Fourth Enrollment Period," 1 October 1934–31 March 1935)

Throughout Sieur de Monts Spring and the entire park, trail construction, replanting projects, and other conservation work followed the NPS Rustic Design style, a unified set of design principles and standards that incorporated natural features and materials with rustic constructed features. The style promoted the use of native plants and local materials such as stone or wood. The CCC worked alongside NPS designers, and chief among them was Benjamin Breeze, who by the late 1930s became the park's resident landscape architect and shaped much of the development of the site through 1942. Most of this work would be accomplished by the CCC.

Construction of the Motor Road and Access Roads:
The New Deal programs also directed federal funding to road construction at Acadia National Park, and in June 1935 a significant allocation of funds was targeted to construct the previously planned motor road segments from Jordan Pond/Eagle Lake Road to the Sieur de Monts Spring area. This news was welcomed by Rockefeller, whose fortune had been greatly diminished by the Depression and was eager to forge such an arrangement for future construction of the park's motor roads. Earlier that year, on January 28, Rockefeller had transferred the Great Meadow lands (Tract 11-113) to the U.S. Government. He did the same with the Sieur de Monts parcel (Tract 11-120) on February 19, 1936.

The first motor road segment of the 1935 appropriation was known as Kebo Mountain Road (Projects 6A1 and 6A2), constructed between 1936 and 1938 in collaboration with the NPS and the BPR. The eastern terminus was in the vicinity of the Ledgelawn Avenue and Long Field north of the Great Meadow, and in this area the new road followed the route of the old Harden Farm Road. Original project drawings proposed an 8x7-foot box culvert to replace the existing timber bridge at the Trout Brook's outlet of the Great Meadow, but the NPS wished to constrict the flow through a 42-inch pipe instead. Limiting the discharge out of the Great Meadow may have been driven by downstream flood control issues or perhaps by a desire to raise the water level in the Great Meadow and prevent it from becoming woodland. (Brown 2006: 56)

As for the continuation of the motor road from Long Field to around the east side of the Great

Meadow, Dorr objected to Olmsted's line at the meadow level, and suggested using the higher road he had built here in 1900 and donated to the Town of Bar Harbor. Olmsted agreed, and Dorr successfully lobbied the town to give the road to the park, but in these negotiations Dorr had to relinquish the Long Field, the last parcel of land he owned that remained from his wild gardens project. The date of this transaction is unknown, although surveys for the motor road extension were begun in 1938. As with previous land transfers, Dorr stipulated in this deal that there be an entrance path/road along Long Field, and across the Great Meadow to the spring, Delano Wild Gardens, the gorge, and mountain trails. In addition to building this path, Dorr wanted the park to provide good soil for planting, to purchase and install the plants, and to maintain the path and plantings. Dorr may have been referring to the road/trail shown on the 1914 plan and begun in 1926 with the transfer of Tract 11-114 (see Figure 2). (Dorr, "The Roads Around Kebo Ridge," n.d.; Dorr, "Assurance with regard to the carrying out of what was agreed to concerning the Wild Gardens path down the Long Field," n.d.)

In 1935, the NPS produced a site plan for the Sieur de Monts Spring area showing a completely redesigned road system, vast parking lots, and spring building/ranger's quarters that were quite different than any of the earlier proposals by the Olmsted firm. The plan was not implemented. In 1937-1938, Benjamin Breeze prepared another drawing that essentially formalized the Olmsted plan from January 1930 (Figure 15). Like that plan, it aimed in part "…to eliminate the present road complications in the spring area..." The plan made use of Dorr's existing loop road, adding a double-loaded parking lot on its northwest side and a turnaround spur on the northeast side. Paths were proposed on either side of the parking lot and defined by granite curbs that "…would be less obtrusive as a means of separating path and parking area." Breeze felt that using the old road cuts in this area would eliminate the removal of additional trees, although he and Leo Grossman of the BPR apparently differed on the location and size of the turnaround spur. This series of roads then connected via a Y-intersection to the existing town road to Otter Creek Road to the south, and a new access road that met the proposed line of the Kebo Mountain Road Extension to the east. The new access road was different than the earlier Olmsted connection, making use of an existing road instead. (Letter, Breeze to Vint, 3 July 1937)

The 1937-1938 plan also removed the portion of Hemlock Road traversing the center of the site, as well as the many short roads connecting to it, replacing them with narrow footpaths. It realigned the northern portion of the Hemlock Road to the end of the parking lot for eventual use as a carriage road, which was consistent with park master plans from this time and the earlier Olmsted plan. However, Breeze opined that until that time, Hemlock Road should be left open as a one-way motor road: "Closing this road would be a genuine loss to many of the townspeople, as well as many of the summer people, it is the oldest road constructed on park lands outside of town roads." Work on much of this project began in the fall of 1937 and was completed by June 1939, primarily by the CCC. (Letter, Breeze to Vint, 3 July 1937)

The access road construction and town entrance road reconstruction shown in the 1937-1938 plan were built as part of the Kebo Mountain Road Extension (Project 6A3) from November 1939 to November 1940 by the NPS and BPR. This segment of the motor road system signified a commitment to the route around the north end of Newport [Champlain] Mountain, and forever abandoned the controversial 1930 proposed route through the gorge. The project consumed the remainder of the 1935 appropriation, and as Dorr and Olmsted agreed, extended from the east end of Kebo Mountain Road, south and east past the Great Meadow along an existing section of Harden Farm Road and the Sieur de Monts Spring area, and then turned eastward to its terminus at the Beaver Dam Pond where it connected to Dorr Quarry Road. At one point, there were plans for an underpass along this motor road for the future carriage road (the same one that made use of Hemlock Road), but it was determined that such an accommodation would require a great amount of fill and Rockefeller agreed that it should not be pursued. (Killion and Foulds 2007: 59-60; "Monthly Narrative Report to Regional Landscape Architect," 21 December 1938–20 January 1939; Letter, Cammerer to Rockefeller, 7 April 1939; Letter, Warfield/Rockefeller to Cammerer, 14 April 1939)

The existing town road connection to Otter Creek Road was rebuilt because the project required the elevation of that road onto an overpass, named the Sieur de Monts Spring Bridge, designed by Arthur R. McFarland in 1940. The realignment and reconstruction of Otter Creek Road extended around to

the Tarn, where a new overlook/parking lot with a walkway and granite curbs were built on part of the road's old alignment. This area consumed the upper portion of the old gravel pit that had been replanted by the CCC earlier. Park records indicate crews with the Works Progress Administration (WPA) worked on grading, soil preparation, seeding, and sodding here in 1941 and early 1942. A separate plan from 1940 proposed filling in the old gravel pit adjacent to this area and removing a road heading to the bottom, but it was not implemented. The WPA also sodded road shoulders in the spring area around this time.

Construction of the New Spring Building, Terrace, and Restroom:
Breeze's 1937-1938 plan retained the ranger's quarters, eliminated the existing restrooms, sheds, and picnic house that by this time was an information booth, and proposed a new restroom at the southeast corner of the new parking lot (see Figure 15). On the plan, picnic tables are shown in the woods north of the spring pool and in the area just southeast of the new restroom, within the area created by the loop road. This space is bisected by the same trail shown in the Olmsted plan.

Park records reveal that in 1939 the Public Works Administration built the new restroom and a leach field just north of the loop road. The structure was presumably designed in the NPS Rustic Design style because between 1939 and 1940, several plans were drawn for a new spring building in that same style. Sited just north of the existing spring building, the new spring building featured a 44x25-foot two-story and wooden-frame structure with board and batten siding and a gabled roof with two hipped roof dormers on each side. The first floor featured a spring room with a center fountain feature and an apartment/dorm on the second floor reached by an exterior stairway. There was also a brick fireplace on the west elevation and three exterior water fountains on the south elevation with a large map mounted above them, possibly like the map that was displayed at Dorr's spring building (Figure 16). CCC records indicate that foundation work on the spring building began in the fall of 1940, rough grading was completed the following spring, and the building was essentially finished by the fall of 1941 but not opened to the public until the following spring because of labor shortages. Demolition of Dorr's old spring building, and presumably his other buildings, was accomplished by the spring of 1942. ("Monthly Narrative Report…," 21 March 1940–20 April 1941; 21 August 1940–20 September 1940; 21 June 1941–20 July 1941; 21 September 1941–20 October 1941).

It is notable that plans for the new spring building did not include any interior concession space because by this time a gift shop or souvenir shop had been set up in the old spring building. Although Dorr had allowed concessions in the spring building when he owned the property, he was apparently opposed to them at Sieur de Monts Springs after it became part of the park. Dorr's view was shared by NPS Director Arno Cammerer, who cited the need to keep certain areas of the park free from intrusion and to "…preserve the placid character of our Acadia Park roadside views, and, in fact with your help, to better those roads by eliminating the distracting features along them." (Letter, Rodick to Rockefeller, 31 March 1939; Letter, Cammerer to Rockefeller, 27 April 1939)

In 1941, Breeze packaged together a master plan that showed and listed existing and proposed facilities at Acadia National Park. For the Sieur de Monts Spring area, the plan simply documented existing conditions, illustrating the implemented design work that had already appeared in recent plans. There are some notable changes from the earlier 1937-1938 drawing: fewer trails are in the glade and new shade trees are planted along the reconstructed town road connection to Otter Creek Road (Figure 17). The plan does not show the stone steps and short paths to the south end of the spring pool, but they may have been overlooked or were too small to indicate on the plan.

The 1941 master plan also shows for the first time a flagstone terrace on the north, west, and south sides of the new spring building. On the west side, the terrace bowed outward to a stone-faced concrete retaining wall or seat wall that overlooked a new trout pool (the other trout pool to the north of here is still shown but not labeled on the plan). A more detailed drawing from 1942 suggests part of the stream was widened to create the pool and that it was outlined with stones. According to former NPS historian Richard Quin, this feature may have built by the WPA. Park records indicate that construction of the terrace was planned for the spring of 1942 (Figure 18). ("Monthly Narrative Report…" 21 October 1941–20 November 1941)

Wartime Developments and the Great Fire:

The events of World War II closed the CCC camps in 1942, and Benjamin Breeze was reassigned to the National Capital Region in Washington, D.C. With the large labor force and quality designers gone, project work in the park essentially halted for the duration of the war. During this period, the section of the Wild Gardens Path [#18] fell into disuse and the Homans Path [#349] was abandoned. According to a United States Geological Survey map, by 1942 Trout Brook was again named Cromwell Harbor Brook. (Brown 2006: 70,143,222,252)

An aerial photograph from June 1944 illustrates conditions at Sieur de Monts Spring area. The park motor road and Otter Creek Road, two access roads into the site, loop road and turnaround spur, the glade, and the new spring building and restroom are all visible amongst dense woods. To the south, the new parking area off of Otter Creek Road overlooks the old gravel pit that is still treeless and the Tarn that appears to be mostly open water conditions. To the north, the Gorge Road Path [#365] through the Great Meadow and paralleling Cromwell Harbor Brook is still visible. Less clear are Dorr's water channels and trails on the east side of the Great Meadow, suggesting that they may have been abandoned. There are, however, several conspicuous and orthogonally shaped cleared areas generally oriented west-northwest by east-southeast near the row of cedars, likely remnants of Dorr's plant exhibit areas as shown on a 1914 plan (see Figure 2). Two small open water bodies visible in the meadow appear to correspond to the location of two water gauges shown in a 1930 plan.

George Bucknam Dorr died in 1944, and in 1946 a memorial was planned just south of the new spring building, on the site of Dorr's old spring building. A plaque was attached to a large rock moved to the site from Cadillac Mountain. The memorial was dedicated in August 1947, although final grading was not yet complete. (Letter to Committee, 5 September 1947)

In October 1947, Maine suffered one of the worst natural disasters in its history. Fueled by an unusually dry summer, wildfires burned over 205,000 acres, nearly destroying nine towns, and causing millions of dollars in damage throughout the state. Mount Desert Island was one of the victims, as the "Bar Harbor Fire" drastically changed 17,128 acres, of which approximately 8,750 acres were within park boundaries. The fire swept through the Sieur de Monts Spring area, destroying the recently-built spring building and restroom, damaging the spring canopy, and cracking the Dorr stone and plaque. Footbridges and vegetation were also damaged or destroyed, but the Abbe Museum, designed as a fireproof structure, survived. (MPDF 2007: E11)

Rebuilding Sieur de Monts Spring:
Post-fire planning and design began in earnest soon after the fire. The spring canopy was repaired according to the original design. Perhaps in anticipation of the work ahead, a tool shed was built in 1948 just east of the burned restroom. The one-story wooden frame building rested on stone piers and featured clapboard siding and a gabled roof. The Dorr memorial was also rebuilt in 1948 with a flagstone walkway bordered by new plantings of viburnum and holly (Figure 19). (OCLP 1992: 7)

New plans were also prepared for a replacement spring building [Nature Center]. One early design scheme featured a one-story, flat-roofed building for the spring building and a separate ranger's quarters. Fortunately, the structure that was ultimately built had the same rustic design characteristics as the earlier CCC structure. There were a few notable changes, however: the number of dormers on each side increased to three, the stairway to the second floor was now inside the building, the chimney was moved to the east elevation, and two water fountains were located on the west elevation (Figure 20). The first floor layout included an exhibit space but eliminated the center fountain feature. The building was completed in 1949, as was a new restroom nearby. This one-story structure featured a hipped roof, and like the new spring building, also featured frame construction and board-and-batten siding (Figure 21).

As both buildings were in the same location as the earlier CCC buildings, paths and walks in and around these areas probably did not change dramatically from the early 1940s. However, some paths extending into the surrounding woodland may have been rerouted or abandoned due to fire damage and debris.



Figure 1. The spring canopy and spring pool at Sieur de Monts Spring, c.1917, view west. (Acadia NP archives)

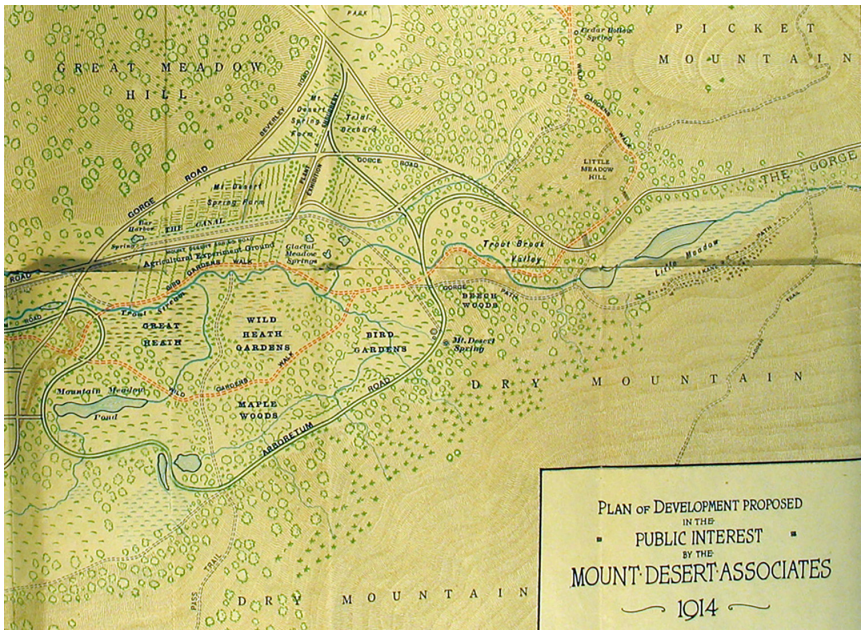


Figure 2. Portion of a plan for the Wild Gardens of Acadia, 1914. (Acadia NP archives)



Figure 3. View looking southeast at the stepping stones and dam at the Tarn, c.1916, built as part of the memorial paths and garden paths at Sieur de Monts Spring. (Acadia NP archives, #217)



Figure 4. George Dorr posing at the carved rock next to the spring canopy, c.1918. A gravel path leads to the Emery Path, one of six memorial trails built at Sieur de Monts Spring in the 1910s. (Acadia NP archives, #150)

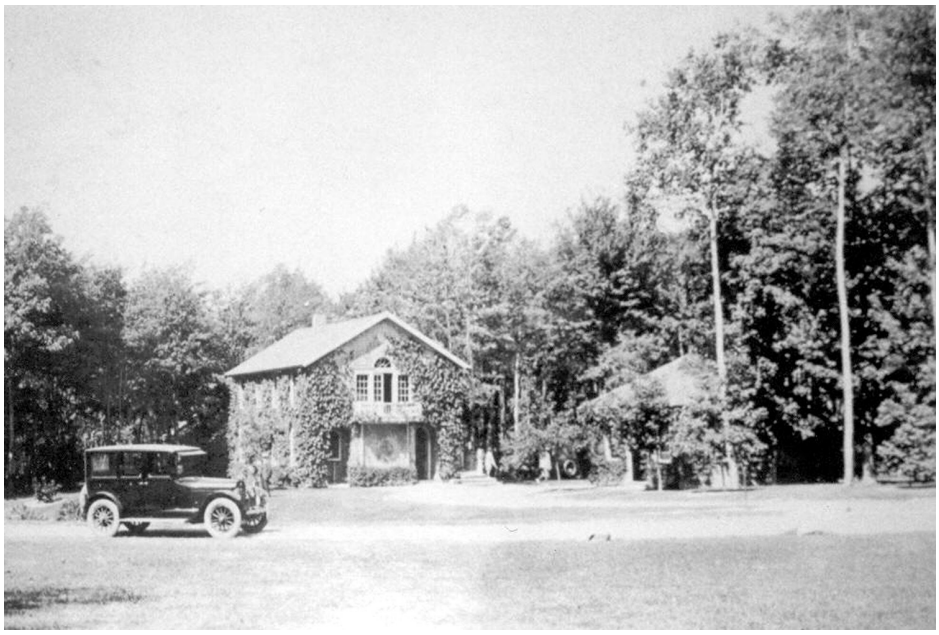


Figure 5. View looking north at Dorr's spring building (image left) and the picnic house, c.1918. At far left is the spring pool and the car is on Hemlock Road. (Acadia NP archives)



Figure 6. View from Hemlock Road heading northeast to the spring canopy, c.1918. Note the stone culvert and wood railings. (Acadia NP archives, #147)

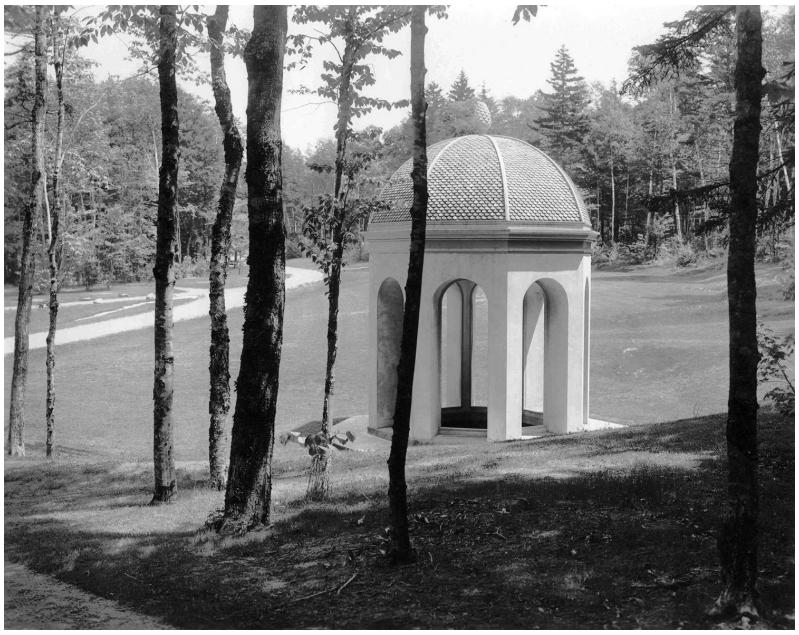


Figure 7. The spring canopy and the glade, c.1920, view looking southeast. The Hemlock Road is visible at image left, as are connecting roads, paths, and the stone steps leading down to the spring pool. (Acadia NP archives)



Figure 8. View looking north at children from St. Joseph School around the spring pool, c.1920. Plants around the pool have matured and new trees are in the background. Note footbridge and log benches around the trees beyond. (Acadia NP archives, #123)



Figure 9. A gathering at Sieur de Monts Spring, looking west c.1920, and one of the connecting roads passing between the picnic house (image left) and the spring building (image right). (Acadia NP archives, #123)

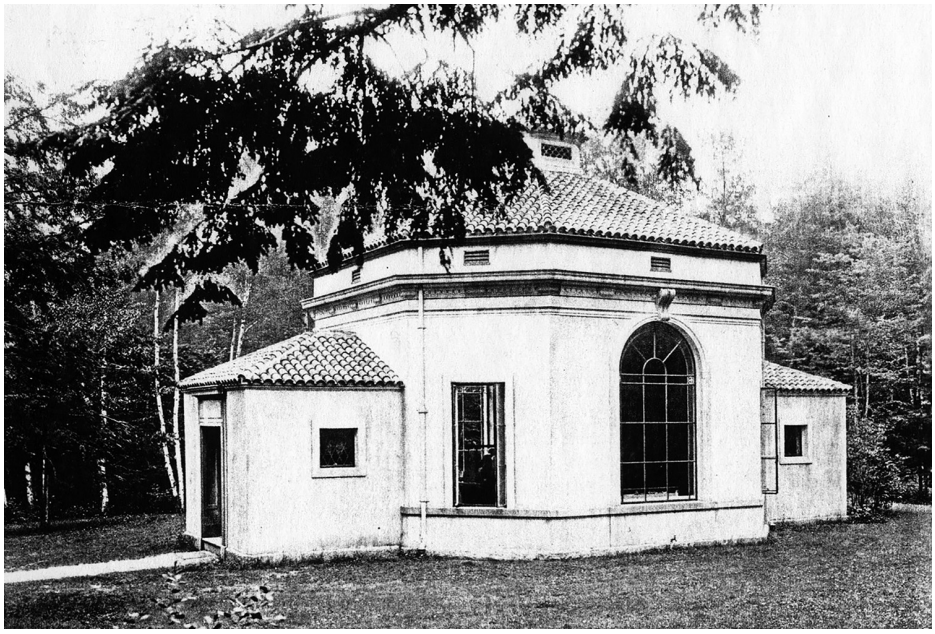


Figure 10. The Abbe Museum in the 1930s, view looking southeast. (Acadia NP archives)

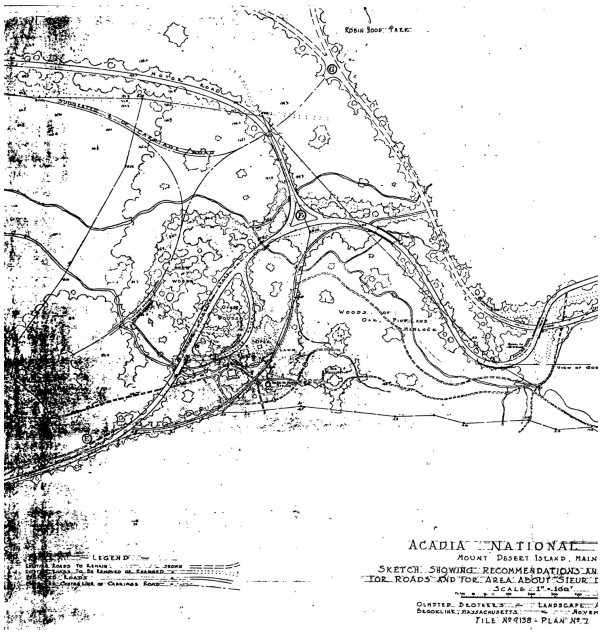


Figure 11. A 1929 plan prepared by the Olmsted firm showing the proposed motor road and connection to a new entrance loop/parking area using a realigned portion of Hemlock Road. (ACAD 123-9138, No.7, Denver Service Center)

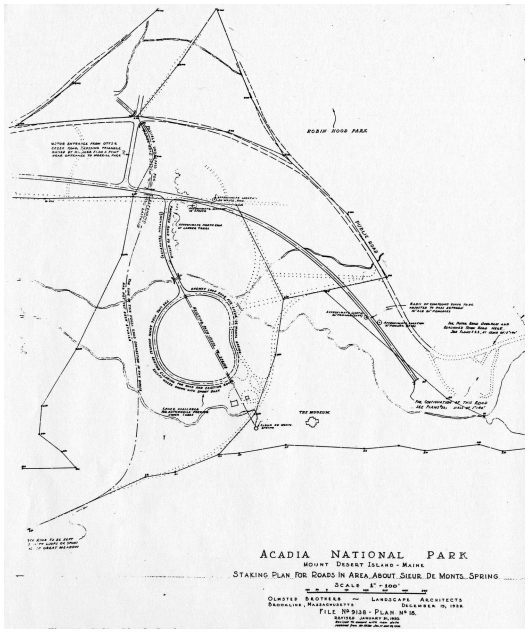


Figure 12. A 1930 plan prepared by the Olmsted firm showing a revised line for the proposed motor road and connection to an entrance loop/parking area that makes use of the existing loop. (ACAD 123-9138, No.18, Denver Service Center)



Figure 13. View from the Great Meadow looking south along the Gorge Road Path, c.1935. Note the conifer trees in the distance. (Acadia NP Archives, #8Sieur_4)



Figure 14. View looking northeast, probably from the Gorge Road Path at the south end of the Great Meadow, c.1935. (Acadia NP Archives, #6Sieur_2)

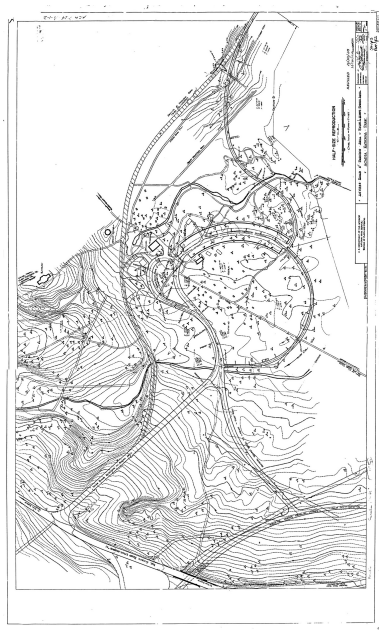


Figure 15. This 1938 plan by Benjamin Breeze builds off the 1930 plan produced by the Olmsted firm. Parking has been added to the loop road and the two access roads are reconfigured. (ACAD 123-8124A, Denver Service Center)

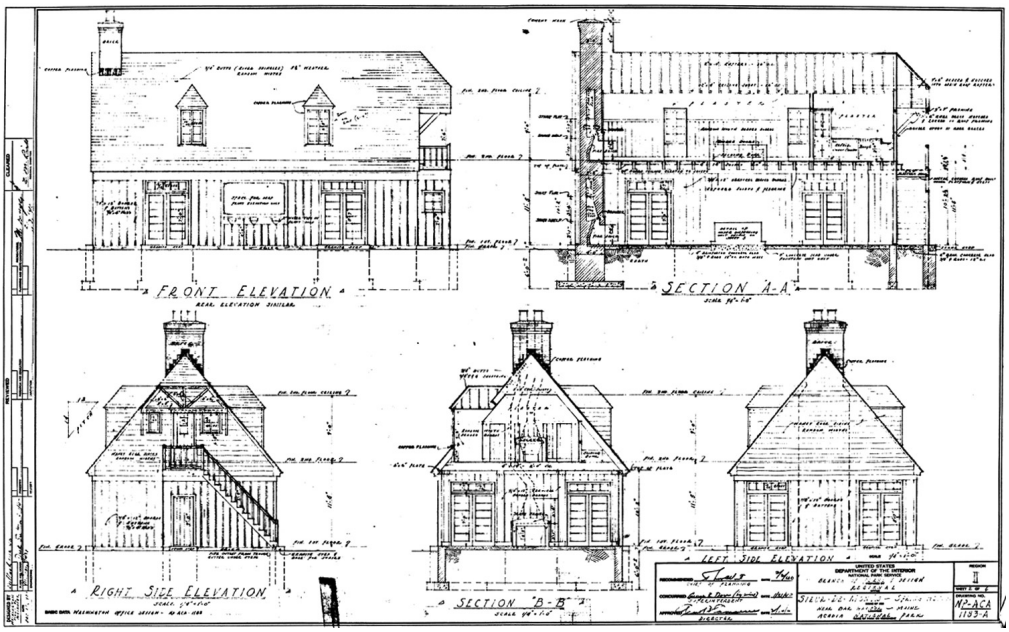


Figure 16. Plan of a new spring building at Sieur de Monts Spring, from 1940. Note the three exterior water fountains on the south, or "front," elevation. The structure was opened to the public in 1942. (ACAD 123-1183A, Denver Service Center)

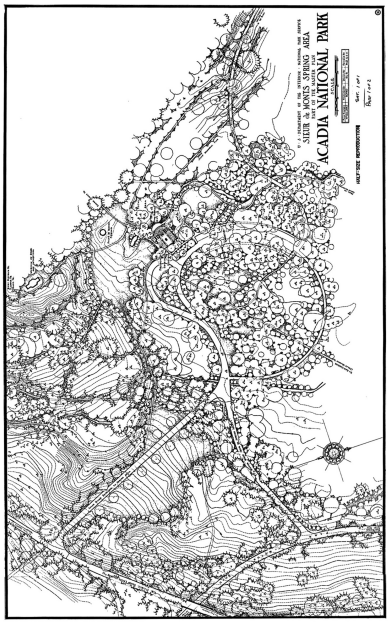


Figure 17. The 1941 Master Plan of Sieur de Monts Spring. (ACAD 123-2662, Denver Service Center)

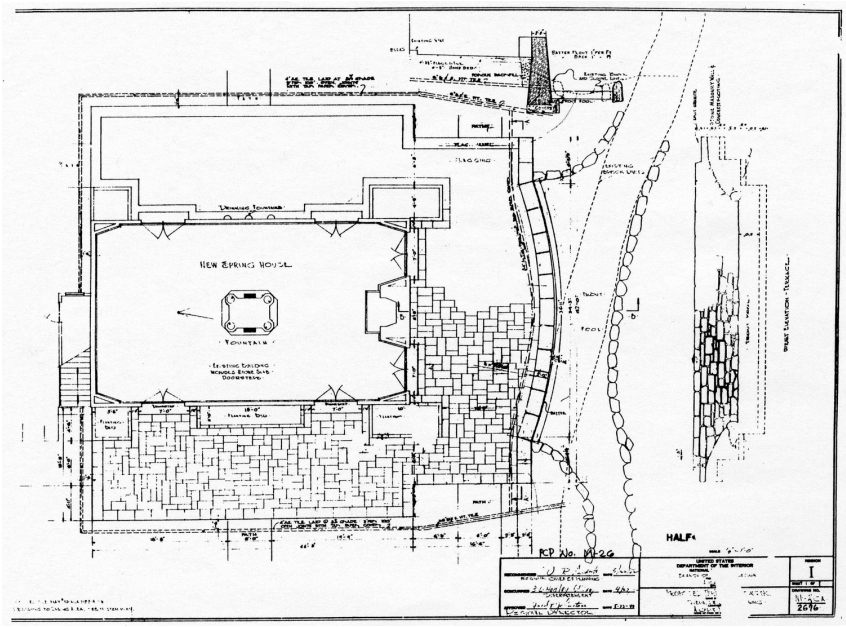


Figure 18. Plan of the flagstone terrace and retaining wall around the new spring building, 1942. (ACAD 123-2696, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation files)

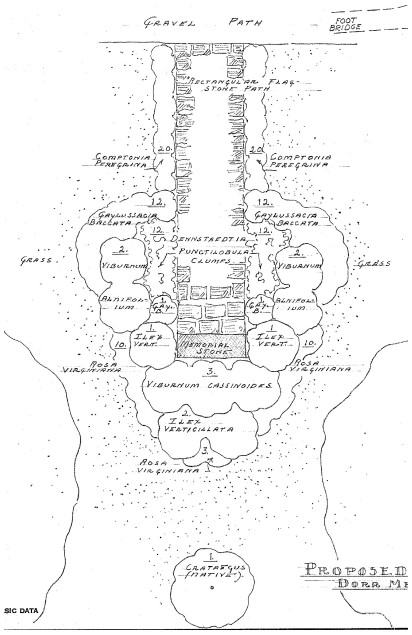


Figure 19. Plan of the rebuilt Dorr memorial, path, and plantings, 1948. (ACAD 123-2769, Denver Service Center)

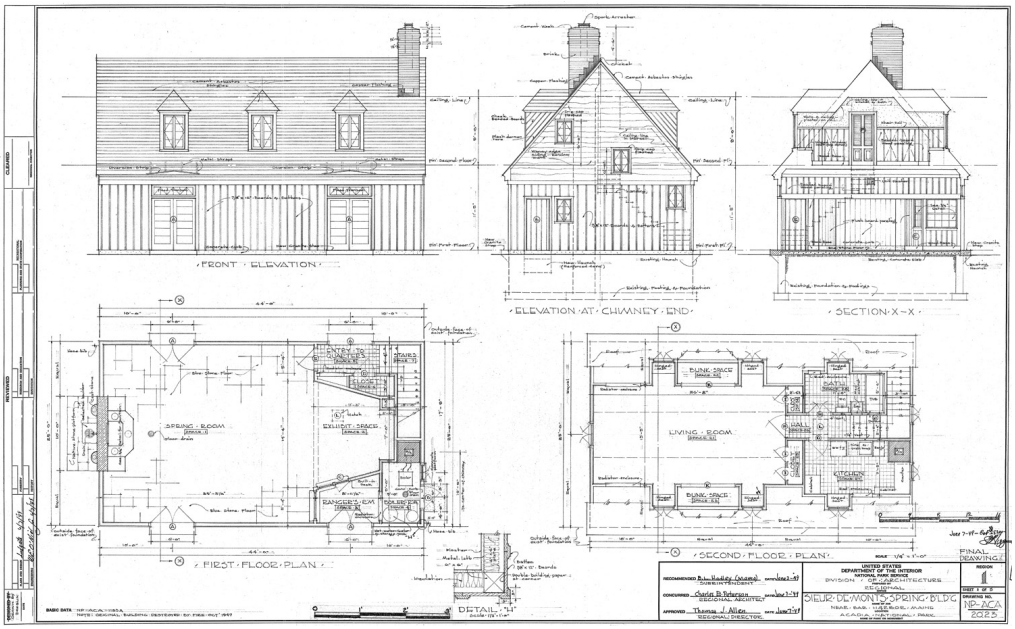


Figure 20. Plan of the spring building [now named Nature Center] from 1949 that was rebuilt after the 1947 fire. In this plan, two exterior water fountains are shown on the building's west elevation. (ACAD 123-2023, Denver Service Center)

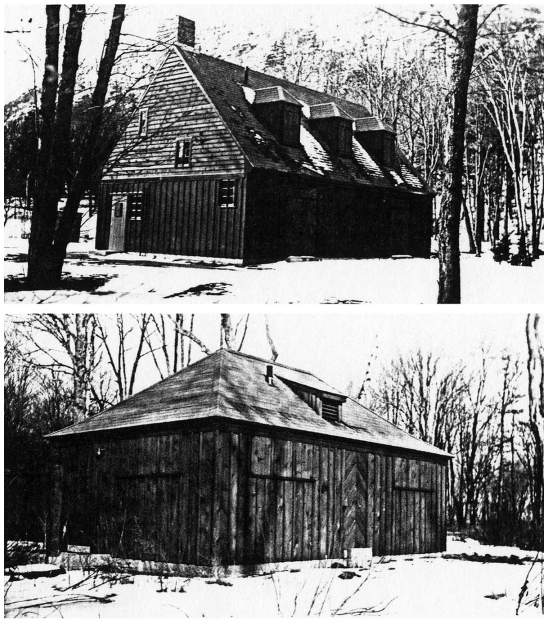


Figure 21. Views from 1951 of the spring building [Nature Center] looking southwest and the comfort station looking southeast. Both replaced similar structures destroyed in the 1947 fire. (Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation [OCLP] files)

MANAGEMENT OF SIEUR DE MONTS SPRING, 1950-Present

Circulation Changes and the Wild Gardens of Acadia:
A path map from 1951 illustrates some changes at Sieur de Monts Spring area, most notably the removal of the turnaround spur off the loop road. It also indicates the abandonment of the trail leading to the trout pool north of the spring building [Nature Center], the walkway on the inner portion of the parking lot, the picnic area within the loop road, and the trail bisecting the loop area.

A comparison of the June 1944 aerial photograph with an aerial from May 1953 reveals the great loss of vegetation that occurred around Sieur de Monts Spring and especially in the Great Meadow. The 1953 aerial also shows that the turnaround spur appears to be planted in grass or other vegetation. Conversely, the far eastern end of the glade seems to be unmowed and planted with new trees. To the south, the Tarn appears to be mostly open water conditions and the gravel pit still appears to be open in character. The road leading to the gravel pit is still visible. To the north, the Gorge Road Path [#365] following the course of Cromwell Harbor Brook through the Great Meadow is slightly fainter compared to the 1944 aerial. Dorr's water channels, roads/trails, and the wild garden areas in the east half of the Great Meadow are increasingly faint. The only other observation for the Sieur de Monts Spring area relates to the Tarn, which in 1956 was noted for its spectacular summer display of blooming water lilies and bladderworts that prompted a researcher to call it a "flowering lake." This description may be due in part to the earlier reference regarding the planting of water lilies and arrowheads in the Tarn in 1939 by the Mount Desert Nurseries. (Calhoun et.al. 1994: 57-58, citing Kuchler 1956)

From 1959 and 1965, the park produced several plans for a large visitor center and series of sprawling parking lots east of the Sieur de Monts Spring area, in a triangular-shaped area of land bisected by an abandoned portion of Harden Farm Road and bounded by the park motor road, Otter Creek Road, and another minor road. The project was part of "Mission 66," a ten-year agency-wide program of park development begun in 1956 and intended to help the NPS accommodate the enormous increase in visitation after the war.

The visitor center plans were not pursued in this location, but another project, the Wild Gardens of Acadia, was built. In 1961, Superintendent Harold A. Hubler offered space to the Bar Harbor Garden

Club to develop an exhibition garden dedicated to the display and propagation of the island's native wild flowers. The gardens and their winding gravel paths were laid out just north of the spring building [Nature Center] amongst "a tangle of maples and blackberries" damaged in the 1947 fire. The project gestured to the many wild gardens plans envisioned by George Dorr. As part of the arrangement, the park agreed to maintain the irrigation system and provide supplies. In 1985, the Wild Gardens of Acadia was acknowledged as a "Significant Contribution to Horticulture" by the Garden Club of America. (Brochure, "The Wild Gardens of Acadia in Acadia National Park" 1990)

In 1966, the Abbe Museum built an addition to the rear of their 1928 building. Smaller than the original building but also octagonal in shape, it was designed by architect Robert Patterson to house museum offices. A paved/gravel service road extending from the loop road to the east side of the museum was likely built at this time. The east end of the road appears to have followed a small section of the old turnaround spur.

With park visitation increasing and a renewed interest in Sieur de Monts Spring, park records indicate changes to some of Dorr's memorial and garden approach paths. In the 1960s, the Wild Gardens Path [#18] was repaired and new bridges were built. In 1992, the bridges were again replaced and the trail name was changed to the Tarn Trail. In 1969, a portion the Beachcroft Path [#13] was rerouted slightly to the north in the Tarn area due to a major widening project on Otter Creek Road. This redirection appears to follow the route of the road that once led to the bottom of the gravel pit. In c.1975 increasingly higher water levels in the Tarn submerged an original section of the Kane Path [#17], forcing a reroute to higher ground. Lastly, in 2003, the park's trail crew rehabilitated and reopened the Homans Path [#349]. (Brown 2006: 167,220,222)

Repairs to the Spring Canopy and Infrastructure Changes:
Within the core developed area at Sieur de Monts Spring, major repair work was undertaken. In 1979 the spring canopy was rehabilitated, which involved replacement of the tile roof, old structural members, and stucco, restoration of the acorn finial, and application of new paint. Around 1980, the site's wastewater treatment system was updated with a new septic tank and leach field northeast of the restroom and within the loop road area, with the old leach field used as overflow. The restroom was modified with new accessible entrances and landings, and old walks around the building were removed or redesigned. This project also included construction of a pair of new accessible walkways to the parking lot and accessible parking stalls. Flowering dogwood, ferns, and viburnum were planted in front of the spring building.

In 1989, the water supply system at the spring building [by this time called the Nature Center] was rehabilitated. Between 1989 and 1996, the Y-intersection of the loop road and the two access roads were redesigned into a curved T-intersection. The access roads were essentially combined into one curving road, shifting the intersection southeast. A triangular-shaped cobblestone median flush with the pavement was likely installed at the head of the loop road at this time, and traffic was reconfigured to move in a counterclockwise direction through the loop road and parking lot. In 2003, accessibility was improved, as walkways were added and widened to accommodate a bus stop and bicycle racks northeast of the building. The flagstone terrace and retaining wall were also rehabilitated. (Crane 2002: 1)

At some point overhead utility lines were installed into the site, along the trace of the old trail that bisected the loop road. The park also paved some of the paths around the spring building [Nature Center], spring pool, and spring canopy, and has over time replaced rustic style wooden footbridges and added wooden benches and other site furnishings. The dates of these installations are unknown. Additionally, the Sweet Waters of Acadia monument appears to have been moved closer to the spring canopy, but it is not known when this occurred.

An aerial photograph from May 2004 shows the large cleared area around the leach field and the mowed glade area that is slightly smaller than what was shown in the May 1953 aerial. To the south, the Tarn appears to be mostly open water conditions and the gravel pit is wooded. To the north, the Gorge Road Path [#365] through the Great Meadow is no longer visible and only very faint traces remain of the wild garden areas, but the lines of some of Dorr's water channels and roads/trails can still be seen. However, pedestrian access to the former wild garden areas from Sieur de Monts

Spring is virtually impossible today.

Updates, 2010-2021:
Since the original Sieur de Monts CLI was completed in 2009, several projects have been completed at the site. The most notable is the rehabilitation of the spring pool area in 2015. Work included removal of invasive non-native species and installation of new native plans consistent with the historic design intent (PEPC 23836, PEPC 53082). Stones around the pool were reset to restore the historic character and improve accessibility (PEPC 48675, PEPC 43365). The park also monitored ash trees throughout the site for the Emerald Ash Borer Beetle for a five-year period from 2014-2018 (PEPC 52720).

Work on the site's historic buildings and structures in 2017-2018 included rehabilitation of the stone wall at the Nature Center and the clay tile roof and acorn finial at the Spring Canopy roof (PEPC 78481, PMIS 183664 and 63816). Infrastructure projects included restoration of the Wild Gardens water system in 2013 and replacement of the septic field with a new city sewer/water connection to the Bar Harbor treatment plant in 2016 (PEPC 42770, PEPC 43309, PMIS 175932). The septic/sewer project was in response to contamination of the spring, and included restoration of a half-acre of wetland where the septic field had been located and around 600 linear feet of new stream channel to restore a seasonal drainage stream channel that was likely present in the general area pre-development (PEPC 76528). Circulation system work included repairs to culverts and headwalls in 2011-2012, installation of an electronic departure sign for the Island Explorer in 2011, replacement of failing footbridges in 2015, and repavement of the parking lot and roads in 2017-2019 (PEPC 24567, PMIS 152170, PMIS 150537, PEPC 24084, PEPC 42788, PEPC 58974, PEPC 62262, PMIS 270371). (Review comments: Gladstone, 26 July 2021)

The Sieur de Monts septic system removal and wetland restoration project is part of a larger project that aims to restore the Great Meadow wetland complex. The project will include long-term monitoring and modeling of the area, engagement with stakeholders and municipalities outside the park, and involve trail modifications and further wetland restoration. This project also aims to replace the Park Loop Road culvert at Cromwell Brook with a bridge that restores a large portion of the hydrology of the Great Meadow, increases aquatic organism connectivity, reduces day labor costs of clearing the culvert, and protects the Nature Center from flooding (PEPC 78861). (Review comments: Gladstone, 26 July 2021)

Development of Transportation Plan.
Between 2007 and 2017, annual visitation to Acadia National Park grew by 59%, with 3.5 million visits recorded in 2017. Most visitation occurs from June through October. The most popular destinations include Cadillac Mountain, sites along the Ocean Drive corridor, and Jordan Pond. In 2019 the park completed a Final Transportation Plan/Environmental Impact Statement to outline a comprehensive approach to providing safe and efficient transportation to visitors to Acadia National Park while ensuring that park resources and values are protected and visitors are able to enjoy a variety of high-quality experiences. The plan presented several alternatives to address transportation and congestion issues, and all included variations on a reservation system that would involve fees designed to support plan actions. (FTP/EIS 2019: iii-iv)

The plan's preferred alternative and proposed action (Alternative C) proposed establishment of a timed-entry reservation system for the Ocean Drive corridor, Cadillac Summit Road, and the Jordan Pond House North Lot during the peak season. At Sieur de Monts, however, access from both Park Loop Road and SR 3 would remain as it is now. The parking lot would continue to be used by hikers and visitors to the Wild Gardens of Acadia, the Sieur de Monts Nature Center, and Abbe Museum. Parking would continue to be on a first-come, first-served basis. (FTP/EIS 2019: 24)

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Domestic (Residential)	Multiple Dwelling	Dormitory (Bunkhouse)	Yes	Yes	No
Landscape	Scenic Landscape	View	Yes	Yes	No
Landscape	Scientific Landscape	Botanical Gardens	No	Yes	No
Recreation/Culture	Monument (Marker, Plaque)	Monument (Marker, Plaque)	Yes	Yes	No
Recreation/Culture	Museum (Exhibition Hall)	Museum (Exhibition Hall)-Other	Yes	Yes	No
Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	Outdoor Recreation	No	Yes	Yes
Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	Outdoor Recreation	Yes	No	Yes
Transportation	Pedestrian-Related	Hiking Trail	Yes	Yes	No
Transportation	Road-Related	NPS Class II Connector Road	Yes	Yes	No
Transportation	Road-Related	NPS Class III Special Purpose Road	Yes	Yes	No
Transportation	Road-Related	Parking Area	Yes	Yes	No

Public Access:

Public Access: Unrestricted

Public Access Narrative:

Public Access: Other Restrictions

Public Access Narrative:

The spring building [Nature Center] and restroom are closed during the winter season. The Abbe Museum has seasonal hours from spring through fall. The Wild Gardens of Acadia are open year-round.

Associated Ethnographic Group

Ethnographic Group: Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians, California

Current: Yes

Historic Yes

Ethnographic Group: Songish

Current: Yes

Historic Yes

Ethnographic Group: Scott Family Descendants

Current: Yes

Historic Yes

Ethnographic Group: Taylor Family Descendants

Current: No

Historic No

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 specifically references Sieur de Monts Spring and its association with the Robert Abbe Museum of Stone Age Antiquities. Other terms searched in the report included: Big Meadow, Cromwell Brook, Cromwell Harbor Brook, Great Meadow, gorge, Little Meadow, Tarn, and Wild Gardens. 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:

The physical integrity of the Sieur de Monts Spring landscape is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance (1909-1949) with current conditions. Many of the historic characteristics and features are unchanged. The natural spring that inspired George B. Dorr to develop the site still flows from the spring canopy to the nearby spring pool, and then passes through former trout pools and onto the Great Meadow. Cromwell Harbor Brook also cuts through the site, draining water from the adjacent Tarn into the Great Meadow. As they did historically, both water courses and the Great Meadow occasionally flood after heavy rains. Although forest vegetation and some of the plants installed by Dorr and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) / National Park Service (NPS) were lost or damaged in the 1947 fire, the site is now mostly forested. In addition to the historic spring canopy and spring pool, the spring building [Nature Center], restroom, tool shed, and stone culverts remain, as do access roads, a loop road, parking lot, and various paths. The historic arrangements of these features within and around the grass-covered glade, or clearing, are still intact. The site serves as a popular recreational hub for the numerous memorial hiking trails and garden paths, which continue to highlight the picturesque views across the glade toward the spring canopy and toward the Great Meadow and the Tarn. Various stone monuments and memorial plaques associated with Dorr and the memorial trails are also extant, but the site's original timber footbridges and log benches are gone.

The site's historic plantings that survived the 1947 fire now blend with the forest vegetation. In some areas, such growth of understory plants has been vigorous and has begun to impact views and to a lesser extent to the Great Meadow and the Tarn. In 2015 dense vegetation that had grown up around the spring pool was removed and replanted, greatly improving views across the glade to the Spring Canopy. Circulation changes have included the removal of the turnaround spur, the addition of a service road to the Abbe Museum, reconfiguration of the loop road and access roads intersection, construction of new rustic footbridges, and some path additions and paving around the spring building [Nature Center] and the Wild Gardens of Acadia exhibit. Taken together, however, these circulation changes have not significantly altered the site's historic character. Non-historic small-scale features – an information kiosk, granite benches, wood benches, interpretive wayside signs, informational/directional signs, post and wire fencing, a gate, bollards, bicycle racks, a drinking fountain, a map dispenser, and trash cans – are generally inconspicuous in the landscape.

INTEGRITY

Sieur de Monts Spring is identified in Acadia National Park's 2017 Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) as a developed area within the Visitor Facilities and Developed Areas property type. The MPDF outlines registration requirements that developed areas need to possess to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Developed areas should retain sufficient integrity of setting and design to convey their historic use, including the principal circulation system and site organization. The developed area should retain the majority of built features designed and constructed during the height of the New Deal programs between 1933 and 1942. Buildings or other site features constructed after 1942 that clearly follow the Rustic Design vocabulary may also be significant. Historic buildings should be in their original locations and maintain their historic relationships with associated structures and objects. Integrity of materials and workmanship are also important; buildings should be clearly identifiable as NPS or CCC rustic structures, with little or no alteration to historic facades. Sufficient small-scale structures such as water fountains, fireplaces, etc. should also be present to communicate the historic design vocabulary. Associated landscape features and principal vistas should also be intact. Similarly, developed areas associated with Rustic Design as expressed in the Picturesque style should be clearly visible elements associated with the work of the village improvement societies or the Olmsted Brothers firm. While some loss of historic features, materials, or spaces can be expected along with new additions, sufficient remaining historic resources must be present to illustrate the historic design. Later additions may be eligible if they clearly meet the design objectives and vocabulary established by the NPS between 1916 and 1942 or are directly associated with the work of the VIA/VIS, HCTPR, George B. Dorr, or other local conservation efforts. Finally, continuity of historic use as a recreation area, summit, scenic destination, or other public developed area should be considered, as it may be essential to the retention and integrity of physical features representative of the Picturesque or NPS Rustic Design styles. This CLI has determined that Sieur de Monts Spring meets the registration requirements for the Visitor Facilities

and Developed Areas property type. (MPDF 2017: F81)

Location:
Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred. The principal buildings and structures at Sieur de Monts Spring that were present at the end of the historic period in 1949 are in their original locations. They include the spring canopy, spring pool, spring building [Nature Center], restroom, tool shed, and major circulation features, such as the loop road, parking lot, and memorial trails and garden paths. While some circulation features have been altered, removed, or added, they have not significantly changed the flow of circulation at the site.

Design:
Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. Sieur de Monts Spring retains features that represent both the Picturesque and NPS Rustic Design styles. The 1909 spring canopy was commissioned by George Dorr in what was then the popular Italian Renaissance Revival style to highlight the natural spring, and continues to serve as the site's focal point. The spring waters are piped to the stone-lined spring pool nearby where visitors can view the water. Two of Dorr's inscribed boulder monuments standing near here identify the location. While vegetation has partially hidden some of these features, they are still set within a now slightly smaller grassy glade that is interspersed with masses of trees and shrubs and surrounded by the existing forests and rugged mountains. The network of memorial trails and garden paths that begins or passes through the site were built beginning in 1913 by Dorr and the Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association. Over a century later, the highly crafted trails and paths continue to highlight the scenic natural features in and around the site.

The New Deal programs and the arrival of the CCC in the 1930s updated the site's facilities, which by this time included a spring building, picnic house, restrooms, and a loop road and parking lot that connected to roads heading north and east to the Bar Harbor area. In the late 1930s, Benjamin Breeze, the park's resident landscape architect, modified earlier recommendations by the Olmsted Brothers landscape architectural firm to simplify Dorr's network of roads and paths. These improvements were built by the CCC. Despite some alterations, the layout of the loop road, parking lot, and access roads that connect to the park's motor road and Otter Creek Road is still intact and in use today. Dorr's original buildings were replaced with a new spring building and restroom from 1939 to 1942 by the CCC and the Public Works Administration (PWA). The buildings employed the standards of the NPS Rustic Design style, which like the Picturesque Style blended natural features and materials with rustic constructed features. A flagstone terrace was built around the spring building and connected to other paths and trails at the site, and trout pools were also built. Unfortunately, the 1947 fire destroyed the buildings, but in 1948-1949 they were replaced with new buildings in the same location, scale, and style. They are in use today, and despite some alterations still convey the NPS Rustic Design style. The terrace has been rehabilitated, connecting paths have been altered and expanded in some areas, and historic footbridges have been replaced in-kind, but overall the layout and intent of the pedestrian circulation system is unchanged from the 1940s. Vegetation that was severely thinned by the fire has for the most part returned and is maintained in some areas to preserve views to and from the site.

Setting:
Setting is the physical environment of a historic property. The most important natural feature that influenced the development of the Sieur de Monts Spring site can still be experienced at the spring canopy, which encloses the source of the natural spring, and at the open spring pool where the spring's waters can be viewed. Both features are set within a grassy glade that compared to the 1940s is somewhat smaller in size and is now dotted with pockets of trees and shrubs that have matured and thickened. Nevertheless, the glade stands out against the surrounding forest, rugged mountains, and verdant meadows beyond, which appear much as they did when Thomas Cole and others painted this area beginning in the 1850s. The relationship between the open glade area and the nearby visitor facilities – the spring building [Nature Center], restroom, tool shed, parking lot, and loop road – is still generally the same as when it was originally developed by Dorr and then redesigned by the NPS. Additions, removals, and changes have occurred on some of the roads, paths, and memorial trails since the historic period, but overall have not diminished the site's setting.

Materials:
Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property. The historic use of native stone in the Sieur de Monts landscape is still evident, especially around the edge of the spring pool and stepping stone path, and in

the boulder monuments, box culverts and headwalls along the Hemlock Road trace and loop and access roads, and structures associated with the memorial trails and garden paths. The flagstone terrace at the spring building [Nature Center] and Dorr memorial and the granite ashlar retaining wall overlooking one of the old trout pools have recently been rehabilitated, while historic granite curbs still define the parking lot. Some of the paths connecting to the terrace, restroom, parking lot, and spring canopy that may have originally been surfaced in stone dust or gravel are now paved with asphalt. Wood timber footbridges have been rebuilt since the historic period as part of trail maintenance projects. The spring canopy was repaired after it was damaged in the 1947 fire, and in 1979 its tile roof and concrete and stucco walls were rehabilitated. The clay roof and wood finial were restored in 2018. The historic spring building [Nature Center], restroom, and tool shed retain their original materials for the most part, with only minor changes related to accessibility and general maintenance. Much of the site's original plant material installed by Dorr beginning in 1909 and the CCC and the NPS in the 1930s and 1940s was lost or damaged in the fire, though to what extent is not entirely known as the plants that did survive now blend in with the surrounding forests, as was the intent. The Wild Gardens of Acadia, built in the 1960s, display some of the plants that Dorr likely installed throughout the site.

Workmanship:
Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. Native stones and boulders lined the spring pool and trout pools, served as memorial plaques and monuments, and were part of engineered structures associated with the roads, paths, and memorial trails. This use of stone was an obvious and practical choice for this region of Maine and consistent with both the Picturesque and NPS Rustic Design styles. The fire of 1947 destroyed the buildings constructed by the CCC, while the passage of time has erased their wooden footbridges. It is unfortunate that this period of workmanship has been lost. The buildings that were rebuilt in their place, however, are clearly identifiable as NPS Rustic Design buildings with the board-and-batten or clapboard siding, casement windows and doors, and gabled and dormered roofs.

Feeling:
Feeling is the property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. As it was throughout the historic period, Sieur de Monts Spring continues to serve as a popular park recreation area and scenic destination. The spring canopy and glade still serve as the site's pastoral focal point, while the spring building [Nature Center] and adjacent terrace serve as pleasant gathering spaces. The site also continues to function as a hub for the memorial trails and garden paths, used by both picnickers and hikers to take in the views of the Great Meadow, Tarn, and the surrounding mountains. Although the Wild Gardens of Acadia area is not historic, and the Abbe Museum is privately owned, both continue to serve as popular destinations.

Association:
Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. Sieur de Monts Spring landscape continues to convey the contributions of George Dorr, the Olmsted firm, the CCC, and the NPS. The Dorr period is best represented by the design and arrangement of the spring canopy, spring pool, glade, and boulder monuments, and also their visual and spatial relationships to the surrounding buildings and circulation features. The current layout of the loop road, parking lot, and other circulation features represent improvements recommended by the Olmsted firm, expanded on by the NPS, and built primarily during the New Deal. The spring building [Nature Center], restroom, and tool shed buildings represent the application of the NPS Rustic Design style after 1942.

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 (1909-1949), 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).

Note: The entirety of the historic motor road and historic hiking trail systems are not comprehensively evaluated or mapped in this report. Both systems are considered unique property types and have their own periods of significance that are, or will be, discussed in separate Cultural Landscape Inventories. The segments, or portions of segments, that are within the Sieur de Mont boundaries, as well as associated engineering features, monuments, and memorials, contribute to the site's historic character and are listed in the feature tables below

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

Historic Condition (through 1949):
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. In the early 1900s, there may have been an unfinished building at the site associated with development of a commercial bottling operation by John Prescott and Ora Strout, but its location is not known. Soon after George Dorr bought the Sieur de Monts Spring property in 1909, he commissioned local architect Fred Savage to design a canopy structure over the site's natural spring. The octagonal-shaped canopy was built in the Italian Renaissance Revival style with masonry and stucco exterior and a scalloped tile roof. A granite ashlar foundation supported the structure's eight piers and round arches. Seven of the eight walls were fitted with glass, while the eighth wall was stucco and had a large memorial plaque. The dome was capped with a carved acorn finial. Between 1909 and 1918, Dorr built a two-story spring building northeast of the canopy and overlooking the glade. Also called the Registrar Building, this building was oriented north-south and featured a gabled roof and a large map on the front (south) side. The building may have been associated with the previous landowners' building in this area. Just to the south, Dorr constructed a small one-story picnic house with a hipped roof. Historic photographs show the buildings covered with vines, adding to the picturesque scene. Both structures featured frame construction and shingle exteriors, as did two or three small restroom or shed structures north of these buildings, built at unknown dates. Other structures built at this time included a stone box culvert to carry Hemlock Road across Cromwell Harbor Brook. There were also smaller culvert structures along this road and as well as on the loop road and parking area developed east of the spring building by 1929.

The Lafayette National Park Museum of Stone Age Antiquities [Abbe Museum] was established at Sieur de Monts Spring in 1928. This small trailside museum was designed by Philadelphia architect Edmund Gilchrist between the spring canopy and the Tarn in the Italian Renaissance and Spanish Colonial Revival styles. The building's octagonal main chamber, stucco walls, and tile roof resembled the design of the spring canopy. At the spring building around this time, Dorr noted that the building was in poor condition. By 1935, the spring building was called the Rangers Quarters and the picnic house was called the Information Building, and both buildings were still shown on a 1937-1938 site plan prepared by Benjamin Breeze.

The CCC completed improvements and new construction on the loop road, turnaround spur, and parking lot in 1939, and this work included new culvert structures. They may also have improved the stone box culvert on Hemlock Road at this time. In 1939, the PWA built a new restroom at the southeast corner of the new parking lot. It was also around this time that several plans were prepared for a new spring building/apartment just north of the old spring building. The final design featured a 44x28 structure oriented east-west, with a spring room occupying the first floor and an apartment with bath and kitchen on the second floor accessed by an exterior stairway. The building was designed in the NPS Rustic Design style and featured board-and-batten siding, a brick chimney on the west side, and two hipped dormers on each side of the wooden-shingled gable roof. Water fountains were located on the south elevation. The spring building was essentially completed by the CCC in 1941 and opened to the public in the spring of 1942. Dorr's old spring building, picnic house, restroom, and shed structures were razed.

In 1947, the Bar Harbor fire destroyed the spring building and restroom, damaged the spring canopy, but spared the fireproof museum. The park repaired the spring canopy the following year. It also constructed a small one-story tool shed east of the parking lot. This wood-frame building was set on stone piers and featured clapboard siding and asphalt shingles on its gable roof. The restroom featured board-and-batten siding and an asbestos-shingled hipped roof with vent dormers on two sides. It was probably built in advance of a new spring building [Nature Center] and restroom, which were completed in 1949. The new spring building and restroom occupied the same footprints as the CCC and PWA buildings and again employed the NPS Rustic Design style, but there were some variations. In this version of the spring building plan, the first floor featured a spring room as well as exhibit space, and the second floor apartment was reached by an interior stairway. The building also featured board-and-batten siding, but the brick chimney was now on the east side and the number of dormers was increased to three on each side of the cement/asbestos-

shingled gable roof. Water fountains were now located on the west elevation.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
In 1966, the Abbe Museum built a small octagonal-shaped addition on the back elevation of the 1928 building. It was designed by architect Robert Patterson to house museum offices. In 1979, major work at the spring canopy included a new tile roof and paint, repair of structural members and stucco, and restoration of the finial. In 1980, accessibility and wastewater system improvements were completed at the restroom. In 1989, the water supply system at the spring building [Nature Center] was rehabilitated, and in 2003 accessibility was improved.

Today, the 1909 spring canopy is clearly the most historically significant building at the site (Figure 25). Algae blooms have appeared in recent years in spring canopy, and field testing by the park in 2006 suggested that the source may be wastewater. In 2016 the septic system was removed and replaced with a connection to the Town of Bar Harbor's sewer and water systems, and in 2018 the spring house roof and final were repaired. (PMIS 125720, PMIS 175932, PEPC 43309, PMIS 183664, PEPC 63816; Review comments: Gladstone, 26 July 2021)

The spring building [Nature Center], restroom, and tool shed feature gray asbestos shingles that appear out of place with their brown paint schemes (Figures 26-27). The tool shed was rehabilitated in 2008 and serves as the workshop for the Wild Gardens of Acadia. Its siding is a darker brown color than the spring building or the restroom. Modern storm windows on the dormers of the spring building impart a different character compared to the doors and windows on the rest of the building. The stone box culvert is extant (Figure 28).

The Abbe Museum is situated in the woods between the spring canopy and the Tarn (Figure 29). The light gray-colored stucco walls and dark gray standing-seam roof of the 1966 addition contrasts with the cream-colored stucco walls and red tile roof of the original building. Overall, however, the scale and design of the small museum building fits in the site's landscape.

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
Spring Canopy (BLDG 064)	139586	Contributing	5434		Location	59973	Yes
Spring Building [Nature Center] (BLDG 005)	139588	Contributing	41096		Location	59975	Yes
Restroom (BLDG 095)	139590	Contributing	41097		Location	59980	Yes
Tool Shed	139592	Contributing			Location	59981	Yes
Culverts on Loop Road and Parking Lot	139594	Contributing					No
Stone Culvert on Tarn Trail (HS 08)	139596	Contributing	41132				No
Shed Structures in Wild Gardens of Acadia	139598	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Septic System Features	139600	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	62395	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 25. The spring canopy was built by George Dorr in 1909 and rebuilt by the NPS after the 1947 fire. The roof was re-shingled in 2019, necessitating the uprooting of the shrubs that previously framed the spring canopy. View looking southwest. (OCLP 2019, DSC-0008)



Figure 26. View looking southwest at the spring building, now called the Nature Center, built in 1949 by the NPS. The beech tree saplings have flourished tremendously, obscuring the Nature Center from view. (OCLP 2019, DSC-7967)



Figure 27. View looking northeast at the 1949 restroom and the 1948 tool shed behind it (obscured in this photo by the brush). (OCLP 2019, DSC-0032)



Figure 28. The stone box culvert along Cromwell Harbor Brook is now part of the Tarn Trail. Route was once part of the Hemlock Road and may date to its completion in c.1917, and/or improved by the CCC in the 1930s. View looking south. (OCLP 2019, DSC-0005)



Figure 29. The front facade of the 1928 Abbe Museum, view looking south. This trailside museum is privately owned. (OCLP 2019, P6094868)

Landscape Characteristic: Natural Systems and Features - Natural Systems and Topography

Historic and Existing Conditions:
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. Topography is the three-dimensional configuration of the landscape surface characterized by features (such as slope and articulation) and orientation (such as elevation and solar aspect). The rugged mountain peaks, woodlands, lakes, marshes, and coastlines that describe Acadia National Park and Mount Desert Island owe their appearance to the last ice age that covered the region with thousands of feet of ice. In their retreat, they left scarred granite mountains interspersed with glacial lakes and U-shaped valleys littered with massive boulders and deposits of till. From the mountaintops to the seashores, diverse communities of plants and animals emerged and thrived.

Long before Europeans arrived, Native Americans collectively known as the Wabanaki traveled in seaworthy birchbark canoes, and established temporary camps from which they hunted, fished, gathered berries, harvested clams, and traded with other Wabanaki. Their use of natural resources continues today, in the handmade ash and birchbark baskets sold to travelers and the harvests of basket-making resources like sweetgrass. (Prins and McBride 2007: xv; Acadia NP website)

In 1604, French explorer Samuel de Champlain described “Isle des Monts Deserts” as a range of mountains with mostly rocky and treeless summits, and woods of pine, fir, and birch. Up until the mid-nineteenth century, European settlers, much like the Native Americans before them, depended on these natural resources for their livelihood. Consumed with hunting, fishing, farming, and logging, the island’s scenery probably went largely unnoticed to most residents. This began to change when Hudson River School artist Thomas Cole arrived in 1844 to paint the island’s picturesque scenery. One such painting depicted the Great Meadow and the gorge, which serve as the background setting of the Sieur de Monts Spring site.

Correspondences and manuscripts by George Dorr describe the vegetation, landforms, and waterways in and around the site at the turn of the twentieth century. He observed the Great Meadow to the north of the site as a peat-filled bog of wild swamp grasses and scattered patches of native cranberry, swamp rhodora, and maples that transitioned to birch, spruce, hemlock, and pine. Here, Dorr implemented some of his wild gardens plans, which were exhibits of native plants stitched together by water channels, roads, and paths that criss-crossed Trout Brook [Cromwell Harbor Brook], the main stream draining water from the Tarn and passing through the site. Historic aerial photographs indicate some of these wild gardens features were installed, but the impact on the natural systems and features is not clear. There is little description from Dorr regarding the Tarn south of the site until 1916. A few years earlier, in 1913, as part of the construction of the Wild Gardens Path, a dam was built at the Tarn outlet to support a crossing of large stepping stones. Dorr appears to be the first to have used the word “Tarn,” a Scandinavian word for a mountain lake formed in a glacial valley, in 1916 to describe the gradual impoundment of waters in the Little Meadow that followed.

Historic photographs and maps after 1913 show that the Tarn featured a combination of open water and vegetated conditions that varied according to the season, rainfall, and storm events. However, research for this report indicates that the Tarn itself was not specifically developed as part of the Sieur de Monts development (in part because Dorr did not own it). In fact, Dorr’s Mount Desert Nurseries installed plants such as water lilies in the Tarn in 1939. (Calhoun et.al. 1994: 58)

The construction of Harden Farm Road by Dorr and the Town of Bar Harbor in 1900 on the north and east sides of the Great Meadow essentially directed surface drainage toward one outlet under the road, thus altering the water table in the meadow and creating more frequent opportunities for water to back up into the Sieur de Monts Spring site during heavy rains. Dorr notes that channels were dug in the Great Meadow to control the flow of water coming in from the Tarn via Cromwell Harbor Brook and to help prevent flooding. This work began in c.1910 and occurred again in c.1930 because the original channels had filled with silt. One channel is referenced in the southeast portion of the meadow, which may place it within the eastern part of the Sieur de Monts Spring site. While an aerial photograph from June 1944 clearly shows remnants of channels in the northeastern part of the meadow, it is not as conclusive regarding a channel within the current site boundaries. Dorr and others also reference a series of weirs to regulate water flow, but their locations are not known. Gauges were set out and monitored in the early 1930s by the Olmsted firm to monitor the water table.

At the site itself, the most significant natural feature is clearly the spring. The natural springs that flowed from this area of Mount Desert Island were also described by George Dorr. One such spring was just northwest of the Great Meadow and caught the attention of developers interested in bottling its water, but the volume was too low. The site’s spring was relatively unknown to Dorr until it too was discovered by developers. The spring was determined to be more vigorous than the other, but the commercial bottling venture here soon failed due to financial problems. In 1909 Dorr seized the opportunity to purchase this spring and surrounding lands, and named it Sieur de Monts Spring. He then cleared away the sphagnum moss and fallen leaves, and shaped the surrounding ground into a “shell-like, concave basin, deeply draining it around to carry off all surface water from the mountainside above.” Historic photographs show a glade, or clearing, in the forests around this area, but Dorr, well aware of the site’s scenic beauty, left many of the tall trees around the glade.

Over the next twenty years, other aspects of the site’s natural vegetation and topography continued to be altered to varying degrees as Dorr constructed several buildings, built a network of trails and roads, and began expanding his wild gardens exhibits. The main road, Hemlock Road, passed along a raised roadbed through the west side of the Great Meadow and over a series of culverts through the glade. In all these projects, there was undoubtedly a loss of some vegetation, and by 1930 the Olmsted Brothers landscape architectural firm expressed concerns about the number of trees that had been cut for road building, grading in and around the Delano Wild Gardens, and the removal of peat from the Great Meadow. In the late 1920s, the rich deposits of glacial sands and gravel were tapped at the north end of the Tarn in the form of a gravel pit. Later, plans were drawn to fill in the gravel pit but were not implemented.

Beginning in the mid-1930s, the CCC made improvements to all these features, and carried out grading associated with the construction of additional structures and circulation features. Between 1936 and 1938, the NPS and Bureau of Public Roads (BPR) built Kebo Mountain Road, which terminated on the north side of the Great Meadow along essentially the same route as Harden Farm Road. At the motor road's crossing with Cromwell Harbor Brook, a concrete box culvert was proposed but the park instead chose to install twin concrete pipes, thus limiting the discharge from the Great Meadow. From 1939 to 1940, Kebo Mountain Road Extension was built, again following Harden Farm Road before turning east. At that time, Otter Creek Road was elevated to pass over the motor road, and required regrading and rebuilding the town road connection between Otter Creek Road and the site's loop road. This project also realigned the curve northeast of the Tarn and resulted in a new overlook. By 1996, the Y-intersection of the loop road and the two access roads were redesigned into a curved T-intersection. The abandoned roadbed sections were left intact and planted with turf and trees.

Today, the most significant natural systems and features at the site are the natural spring, the streams that drain the Tarn and the spring pool, and forest vegetation. While open areas at the site – primarily around the glade, the spring building [Nature Center] and restroom, and the loop road, parking lot, and septic field – are scattered with masses of vegetation, the remainder of the site is primarily wooded with varying degrees of understory plantings. The great fire of 1947 damaged or destroyed much of the vegetation in the Sieur de Monts Spring area, but the forests have returned. The most dominant forest type in the glade area is defined as an evenly dispersed white pine-hardwood forest comprised mostly of northern red oak (Quercus rubra), red maple (Acer rubrum), birch (Betula spp.), eastern white pine (Pinus strobus), eastern hemlock (Tsuga canadensis), yellow birch (Betula alleghaniensis), and red spruce/Canadian bunchberry (Picea rubens/Cornus canadensis). To the north, areas closer to the Great Meadow are mostly comprised of clumped/bunched red maple and hardwood swamp of red maple, ash/mountain holly (Fraxinus spp./ Nemopanthus mucronatus), and highbush blueberry (Vaccinium corymbosum); clumped/bunched alder shrubland comprised mostly of speckled alder (Alnus incana), red-osier dogwood /Virgin's-bower (Cornus sericea/Clematis virginiana); an evenly dispersed sweetgale mixed shrub fen comprised mostly of sweet gale (Myrica gale), white meadowsweet (Spiraea alba), and leatherleaf (Chamaedaphne calyculata); and an evenly dispersed graminoid shallow marsh. To the east, areas closer to the park loop road and Otter Creek Road are defined as an evenly dispersed aspen-birch woodland/forest complex and a red oak woodland. To the south, areas closer to the Tarn are defined as an evenly dispersed beech-birch-maple forest and a clumped/bunched mixed conifer-deciduous woodland. Also spread throughout the site are occasions of plants considered invasive, including Japanese barberry (Berberis thunbergii), nine-bark (Physocarpus opulifolius), and Japanese knotweed (Fallopia japonica). (Acadia GIS files, veg1997final polygon; PMIS 147955)

The Great Meadow continues to flood during wet springs and after heavy rainfalls, and standing water occasionally backs up into the site. The meadow has been classified as a palustrine emergent wetland, defined as a mixed wetland complex that includes emergent shrub/fens communities and forested meadows. The park recently added a new wetland area and a new swale in the site's inner loop, part of a long-term project to improve the Great Meadow's wetland complex. The Tarn is currently managed as a natural feature and is either permanently or semi-permanently flooded. Its surface area is about twenty acres in size and the dam is constructed of stone. The Tarn has been classified as a palustrine aquatic bed, defined as supporting both submergent and floating aquatic communities. Past and present evidence of beaver activity can be found around the Great Meadow and Tarn areas. (Calhoun et.al. 1994: 57-58,61,69-71; Review comments: Gladstone, 26 July 2021)

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
Spring	139524	Contributing					No
Channel in Eastern Part of Site	139522	Undetermined					No

Landscape Characteristic: Spatial Organization

Historic Condition (through 1949):
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 development of the Sieur de Monts Spring was organized around the spring canopy, spring pool, and grassy glade on the west half of the site, beginning in 1909. From 1913 to 1916, the site became the hub for a series of memorial trails and garden paths that radiated outward into the surrounding mountains and meadows. By 1917, George Dorr built Hemlock Road between the canopy and the pool, which directly connected the site to Harden Farm Road and Bar Harbor to the north and Otter Creek Road to the south. Dorr also constructed a spring building, picnic house, and restrooms nearby, all connected by a series of looping paths, drives, and a parking lot. Between the site's core area and the Tarn were the Delano Wild Gardens and the Abbe Museum.

By the late 1930s, the focal point of the site was still the spring canopy and spring pool, but vehicular circulation flow was shifted to the north and east away from these areas with the construction of a new access road to the site, a new parking lot and turnaround spur, and abandonment of the portion of Hemlock Road through the glade area. At this time, a new spring building and restroom were built. They were rebuilt in the same locations after the fire of 1947.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
The site's spatial organization has remained the same since the end of the historic period. The exceptions are the glade that is somewhat smaller in size today, the minor reconfiguration of the access roads into the site, the removal of the turnaround spur, and the construction of the Wild Gardens of Acadia area north of the spring building [Nature Center]. Overall, however, the arrangement of the site's primary buildings, structures, circulation features, and open spaces are essentially unchanged.

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

Historic Condition (through 1949):
Vegetation includes deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, and herbaceous plants and plant communities, whether indigenous or introduced in the landscape. Soon after George Dorr purchased the Sieur de Monts Spring property in 1909 and constructed the spring canopy and spring pool, he planted the open glade surrounding these features with grass and masses of shrubs and trees. Iris and other plants were planted amongst the boulders lining the spring pool, and Dutchman's pipe (Aristolochia elegans) vines were encouraged to grow on the walls of the spring building and picnic house. Historic photographs and plans indicate many of these plantings grew vigorously. Dorr also installed plant exhibits in an area called the Delano Wild Gardens between the spring canopy and the Tarn, but to what extent is not clear. Plantings may

also have been installed in the vicinity of the memorial trails and garden paths soon after they were constructed. While there is no conclusive documentation to support this, the trails were purposely designed to fit into the surrounding landscape, and new plantings certainly would have enhanced this intent.

The same design considerations also influenced the CCC's work in and around the site beginning in 1934. Supervised by Benjamin Breeze, the park's resident landscape architect, these projects implemented the principles of the NPS Rustic Design style that made use of native plants to integrate new construction with the existing landscape. CCC work also included tree planting, but specific locations are not known except for installation of conifers and hardwoods at the gravel pit next to the Tarn. Additional planting, seeding, and sodding occurred in the late 1930s to early 1940s in conjunction with improvements to the loop road, construction of the parking lot, turnaround spur, spring building, and restroom, and removal of Dorr's old buildings. Again, specific locations and species are not known. Breeze's 1941 master plan for the Sieur de Monts Spring area identified some of the larger deciduous and coniferous trees, many of which may have been planted by Dorr. The plan also showed countless smaller circles and masses of unnamed vegetation, possibly new plants installed by the CCC. Plans for the flagstone terrace around the spring building in 1942 indicated four cut-out rectangular planting beds at the four corners of the building and a fifth bed on the north elevation between the two French doors.

Many plants installed by Dorr and the CCC were lost in the 1947 fire. Other plants were undoubtedly replaced when repairs and new construction were completed at the site by 1949, but there are simply no records regarding specific types and locations of plants. The lone exception is the planting plan around the Dorr memorial plaque from 1948, which showed the flagstone walkway bordered by hobblebush (Viburnum alnifolium), witherod (Viburnum cassinoides), Virginia rose (Rosa virginiana), winterberry (Ilex verticillata), and a variety of ferns. This plan also noted some larger and fire-damaged shade trees nearby. Despite the lack of details, the NPS Rustic Design style was still an influence at this time and likely guided whatever plantings may have been installed.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
New plantings may have been installed along the routes of several paths abandoned in the 1950s, and turf was likely installed along the walkway on the inner portion of the parking lot. By 1953, the far eastern end of the glade was planted with new trees, and the turnaround spur was removed and planted in grass or other vegetation. A mass of trees in the center of the spur was retained.

In 1961, the Wild Gardens of Acadia project was installed just north of the spring building [Nature Center] amongst fire-damaged vegetation described as "a tangle of maples and blackberries." Developed by the Bar Harbor Garden Club, these exhibition gardens were dedicated to the display and propagation of the island's native wildflowers and plants, and evoked Dorr's earlier wild gardens areas. Around 1980, as part of accessibility improvements at the restroom, flowering dogwood (Cornus florida), witherod, and ferns were planted in new beds in front of the building and along the new walkways. This project also included a leach field to the northeast, which required the removal of some trees. By 1996, the Y-intersection of the loop road and the two access roads was redesigned into a curved T-intersection. The abandoned sections were planted with trees and grass, and today the traces of these roads are less visible. New plantings were also installed in the spring building [Nature Center] area in 2003 after the flagstone terrace was rehabilitated and walkways were added and widened for the Island Explorer Shuttle Bus waiting area and bicycle racks.

Plantings around the Dorr memorial plaque today include witherod, hobblebush, and several types of ferns. Flowering dogwoods, viburnum (Viburnum spp.), winterberry (Ilex verticillata), witherod viburnum, and ferns surround the spring building [Nature Center] and terrace, restroom, spring pool, and adjacent paths. Woodland trees surround these planting and turf areas. A comprehensive inventory of trees should be conducted to determine which trees might be extant from the Dorr, CCC, and early NPS periods.

In 2016-2017, the park installed new plantings in the inner loop's restored wetland: 36 red maple

(Acer rubrum), 16 gray birch (Betula populifolia), 2 balsam fir (Abies balsamea), 5 yellow birch (Betula alleghaniensis), 3 eastern white pine (Pinus strobus), 3 northern red oak (Quercus rubra). Shrubs: 28 speckled alder rugosa (Alnus incana ssp.), 8 northern wild raisin (Viburnum nudum), 6 common winterberry (Ilex verticillate), 8 highbush blueberry (Vaccinium corymbosus), 7 mountain holly (Nemopanthus mucronate), and 6 smooth arrowwood (Viburnum dentatum). Final seeding of the area with wetland seed mix consisted of native species present in the adjacent wetlands areas, and include bluejoint (Calamagrostis canadense), Tussock sedge (Carex stricta), and Lakeside sedge (Carex lacustris) among other native wetland herbaceous species. (Review comments: Gladstone, 26 July 2021)

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
Turf Areas	139526	Contributing			Location	59974	Yes
Dorr-period Plantings	139528	Contributing			Location	59974	Yes
CCC / NPS-period Plantings (through 1949)	139530	Contributing			Location	59974	Yes
Plantings around Dorr Memorial Plaque	139532	Contributing			Location	59974	Yes
Plantings in Spring Building Area	139534	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	59974	Yes
Plantings around Restroom	139536	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	59974	Yes
Wild Gardens of Acadia	139538	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	243110	Yes

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

Historic Condition (through 1949):
Circulation refers to the spaces, features, and applied material finishes that constitute systems of movement in a landscape. Research by Margie Coffin Brown, in “Pathmakers…” and Harald Prin and Bunny McBride, in Asticou’s Island Domain, suggests that prior to European settlement, there was possibly a Wabanaki carry or portage trail between Cromwell Harbor and Otter Creek passing through the gorge area and in the vicinity of several present day trails [#s 14,17,18,324]. Such carry trails were probably used to move canoes between the island’s water bodies. Between 1836 and 1866, a road was built through the gorge on the east side of the Tarn. By 1896 this road was named Otter Creek Road [State Route 3].

By the mid-1890s, with tourism and the population booming, trails and walking paths were built throughout the island. One such trail through Sieur de Monts Spring was described as a connection between the “southern group” and “eastern group,” extending from Otter Creek Road, past the spring, and continuing to the northwest [routes of #s 13,14)]. A path map from 1896 shows an unimproved road on the east side of the Great Meadow, with several short spur roads penetrating from it into the meadow itself, possibly to access cranberry beds. By 1900, George Dorr had purchased land on the east side of the Great Meadow, and with the Town of Bar Harbor rebuilt this road as “a pleasure drive” and a way around the town’s crowded streets. The road would become known as Harden Farm Road.

Dorr purchased the Sieur de Monts Spring parcel in 1909, but Harden Farm Road did not provide

access to it. At this time, there was only the connector trail and an unimproved road entering the site from Otter Creek Road from the southeast and ending just south of the natural spring. Site access changed dramatically in the decade that followed as Dorr and other prominent citizens aimed to preserve this scenic area and surrounding lands as a national monument. As part of this effort, Dorr and the Bar Harbor VIA developed the Sieur de Monts parcel as a hub for six memorial trails and several garden paths to connect to the surrounding mountains [#s 13,14,15,16,17,18,324,349,354]. These trails were funded by summer residents and built from 1913 to 1916. In 1917, Dorr improved vehicular access by constructing the Hemlock Road [#377], connecting Harden Farm Road to the north and Otter Creek Road to the south via the west side of the Great Meadow, the glade around the spring, and the old unimproved road into the site. In time, the portion of this road passing through the glade was lined with small boulders.

Dorr also set out paths and footbridges throughout the glade, including stepping stones and earthen paths down to the spring pool, and began working on paths associated with the Delano Wild Gardens situated in the woods between the spring canopy and the Tarn. These interior trails undoubtedly connected to the memorial trails and gardens paths as well as the other wild garden exhibit areas to the north and east, but their exact routes are not clear. By 1918 Dorr had constructed a series of connecting roads around a new spring building and picnic house, and a loop road to the east of the spring building that by 1929 likely included parking. After World War I, work on the seventh and last memorial trail in the Sieur de Monts Spring area, the Schiff Path [#15], was completed, and the north section of the Beachcroft Path [#13] was rerouted around a gravel pit that was accessed from Otter Creek Road by a gravel road alongside the north shore of the Tarn.

From 1929 to 1930, the Olmsted firm studied several proposals by Dorr and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. for a motor road through the heart of the Sieur de Monts Spring area. Both routes would have drastically altered the site, especially near the Tarn, but the motor road was not built until later and in a different location that had much less of an impact. The Olmsted firm also made recommendations to improve and simplify the site's circulation, contingent on the alignments of the early motor road proposals.

The next substantial phase of circulation changes began in 1934 after the arrival of the CCC. Trails in and around the site were repaired and improved, and the trail network was expanded with the Tarn Trail [#370] to the south and the Gorge Road Path [#365] to the north. The Gorge Road Path was actually a truck trail and thus wider than other trails. It may also have been part of the Great Meadow Nature Trail circuit or associated with one of Dorr's entrance roads or paths planned through the wild gardens in the Great Meadow. In 1937-1938, plans prepared by the park's resident landscape architect, Benjamin Breeze, indicated extensive changes to the site's roads and paths, some of which were based on the Olmsted firm's earlier recommendations. By 1939 the CCC had completed much of this work, rebuilding Dorr's loop road, constructing a new curbed parking lot and turnaround spur, and building new paths/walks around the parking lot and through the center of the loop road space. At this time, the portion of Hemlock Road passing through the glade, and the adjacent connecting roads, were abandoned and planted with grass. The northern portion of Hemlock Road was rerouted to the north and east to a new connection with the parking lot. Circulation around the loop road and parking lot was in a clockwise direction at this time.

Planning for and construction of these projects coincided with the construction of the Kebo Mountain Road Extension motor road east of the site and the elevation of Otter Creek Road over the motor road. Designed and built by the NPS and BPR in 1939-1940, this revised motor road alignment was far removed from the core of the spring area compared to the earlier proposal. As part of the project, new and improved connections from the loop road were completed: a new access road heading east to the motor road and reconstruction of the town entrance road heading south to Otter Creek Road. An overlook and parking lot were also built next to the abandoned gravel pit to highlight a view south to the Tarn.

Between 1939 and 1941, a new spring building was built just north of the old spring building, and a restroom was built at the southeast corner of the parking lot. Dorr's old structures were removed, and the existing paths to them were likely reconfigured in this area to connect to the new structures. By early 1942, a terrace paved in orthogonally shaped flagstone was installed around three sides

of the new spring building. The west side of the terrace bowed outward to a retaining wall/seat wall to overlook a trout pool.

During and after World War II, some paths at Sieur de Monts Spring fell into disrepair, especially those connecting to the wild gardens areas in the Great Meadow, which appear to have been in decline by this time. In the fall of 1947, a devastating fire swept over much of Mount Desert Island and through the site. Except for the wooden footbridges, most circulation features likely survived, although some connecting paths in the wooded areas may have been abandoned or rerouted because of damaged trees. The main buildings and terrace were rebuilt by 1949 in the same locations, so circulation routes here probably did not change substantially. In 1948, the Dorr memorial was rebuilt and linked to the flagstone terrace with a short flagstone walk.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
Around 1951, the turnaround spur off the loop road was removed and planted with grass. Trails to the trout pool north of the spring building [Nature Center], through the center of the loop road space, and along the inner portion of the parking lot were also abandoned. In 1961, an exhibit of native plants called the Wild Gardens of Acadia was constructed just north of the spring building [Nature Center]. Winding gravel paths were laid out through the gardens and connected to the site's existing paths and walks at several locations. In the mid-1960s, the Abbe Museum constructed an addition to their building. A paved/gravel service road from the loop road to the east side of the building was likely established at this time. The east end of the service road appears to have followed the southernmost section of the former turnaround spur roadbed. Also around this time, the Wild Gardens Path [#18] was repaired and new bridges were built. The bridges were again replaced and the trail name was changed to the Tarn Trail in 1992. In 1969, a portion the Beachcroft Path [#13] was rerouted slightly to the north in the Tarn area due to a major widening project on Otter Creek Road, and appears to have used the old roadbed that led to the bottom of the gravel pit. In c.1975 increasing water levels in the Tarn submerged an original section of the Kane Path [#17], forcing a reroute to higher ground. The park's trail crew rehabilitated and reopened the Homans Path [#349] in 2003.

Around 1980, new accessible entrances and landings were built around the restroom, and other old walks around this structure were removed or redesigned. This project also included a new pair of accessible walkways to the parking lot and the creation of accessible parking spaces. In 2003, accessibility was improved at the spring building [Nature Center], and included a new paved area next to the parking lot for a bus stop and bicycle racks, and a rehabilitation of the flagstone terrace and retaining wall.

Between 1989 and 1996, the Y-intersection of the loop road and the two access roads were redesigned into a curved T-intersection, essentially combining the access roads into one curving road and shifting the intersection to the southeast. This new configuration abandoned some of the roadbed of the old intersection, traces of which can still be seen today. A triangular-shaped cobblestone median flush with the pavement was likely installed at the head of the loop road at this time, and traffic was reconfigured to flow in a counterclockwise direction through the loop road and parking lot.

Over time, the park has also paved other paths around the spring building [Nature Center] area, parking lot, spring pool, and spring canopy that were probably unpaved historically. The park has also replaced rustic style wooden footbridges with new structures, some with rustic railings, which are consistent with the design of other footbridges in the park. The dates of these modifications and replacements are unknown. A solitary set of stone steps is all that remains of an old trail in the Delano Wild Gardens area. Other traces of abandoned trails in this area as well as the old Hemlock Road can still be seen if one knows where to look. Of unknown fate are the trails and roads leading from the spring area north and east into the Great Meadow and Dorr's abandoned wild gardens exhibits. These connections are no longer discernable.

Today, visitors in vehicles enter the site from either the Kebo Mountain Road Extension [part of the Park Loop Road] or Otter Creek Road [State Route 3]. This road forms a T-intersection with a short double lane road that upon crossing Cromwell Harbor Brook intersects with the single-lane loop

road. Traffic is directed to the right, in a counterclockwise direction, along the loop road where it intersects with the gravel Hemlock Road, which is secured by a movable section of wooden post and rail fence. At this junction, the loop road becomes the traveled way of a curved double-loaded parking lot that has thirty-eight stalls, two accessible stalls, and two bus/recreational vehicle stalls. The loop road continues past the restroom, spring building [Nature Center], and bus stop area, passes the paved/gravel service road to the Abbe Museum, and then curves back to the beginning point of the loop. Parking management stones adjacent to the bus stop area block the abandoned northern part of the turnaround spur that is now planted in grass. All paved roads and parking lots feature asphalt surfaces that have been regularly maintained, and mowed grass shoulders. The parking lot is defined by short sections of rough-cut granite curbing (Figure 22).

A paved walkway on the outer edge of the parking lot passes several pedestrian entrances into the Wild Gardens of Acadia area and its winding gravel and cobblestone paths and timber and stone footbridges. The paved walkway continues to the southwest corner of the parking lot where there are a series of short paths around the Island Explorer Shuttle Bus area and bicycle racks, which in turn connect to the flagstone terrace that wraps around the north, west, and south sides of the spring building [Nature Center] and overlooks the former trout pool from a curved granite retaining wall/seat wall (Figure 23). A short flagstone walkway leads from the south portion of the terrace to the Dorr memorial plaque, while paved and gravel paths extend from the corners of the terrace to the spring pool and wild gardens exhibits, respectively. To the west, paved paths lead directly to the spring canopy and Abbe Museum, and connect to other earthen and gravel paths that intersect with the numerous memorial trails that lead to the Tarn, the Great Meadow, and up into the surrounding mountains. The historic stepping stone path descends from the grassy glade to the south end of the spring pool (Figure 24). At the southeast corner of the parking lot, two paved paths connect to concrete walks around the restroom, and wrap around the back side of the structure to a short gravel path leading to the tool shed.

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
Kurt Diederich's Climb [Trail #16] (portion)	139540	Contributing			Location	62168	Yes
Kane Path [Trail #17] (portion)	139542	Contributing			Location	62169	Yes
Beachcroft Path / Trail [Trail #13] (portion)	139544	Contributing			Location	62165	Yes
Homans Path [Trail #349] (portion)	139546	Contributing			Location	81092	Yes
Emery Path / Schiff Path / Dorr Mountain East Face Trail [Trail #15] (portion)	139548	Contributing			Location	62167	Yes
Jesup Path [Trail #14] (portion)	139550	Contributing			Location	62166	Yes
Sieur de Monts-Tarn Trail / Wild Gardens Path [Trail #s 18,324,354,365]	139552	Contributing			Location	62170	Yes
Hemlock Road / Spring Road [Trail #377] (portion)	139554	Contributing			Location	62165	Yes
Stepping Stone Path to Spring Pool from South	139556	Contributing			Location	59974	Yes
Paths to Spring Pool from East and West	139558	Contributing			Location	59974	Yes

Sieur de Monts Access Road/Loop Road	139560	Contributing			Location	102924	No
Parking Lot, Perimeter Walkway, Granite Curbs	139562	Contributing			Location	243255	No
Paths and Footbridges in Vicinity of Spring Building	139566	Contributing			Location	59974	Yes
Flagstone Terrace and Retaining wall at Spring Building	139568	Contributing			Location	59974	Yes
Paths and Footbridges in Wild Gardens of Acadia	139570	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	243110	Yes
Service Road to Abbe Museum	139572	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	243467	Yes
Walkways to Restroom and Tool Shed	139574	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	59974	Yes
Paved Walkways at Bus Stop Area and Bicycle Racks	139576	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	59974	Yes
Parking Management Stones along Loop Road	139578	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Hemlock Road Trace	139580	Contributing					No
Abandoned Stone Steps off of Hemlock Road trace	139584	Contributing					No
Abandoned Trail Traces	139582	Undetermined					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 22. The loop road widens into a parking lot northeast of the Nature Center. At image rights is the Wild Gardens of Acadia. View looking southwest. (OCLP 2019, P6094849)



Figure 23. The flagstone terrace wraps around the Nature Center. The retaining wall/seat wall overlooks an old trout pool. (OCLP 2019, DSC-0025)



Figure 24. View from the stepping stone path at the south end of the spring pool and a rustic-style footbridge. (OCLP 2019, DSC-0028)

Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas

Historic Condition (through 1949):
A view is the expansive and/or panoramic prospect of a broad range of vision that may be naturally occurring or deliberately contrived. A vista is a controlled prospect of a discrete, linear range of vision, which is deliberately contrived. George Dorr's purchase of the Sieur de Monts Spring parcel in 1909 was in large part aimed at preserving the scenic qualities and picturesque views of the gorge area and the surrounding mountains and meadows. This effort was initially done on behalf of the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations and later as part of a proposed national park. One of the most significant views, and also the subject of a Thomas Cole painting, was from the Great Meadow looking south toward the site and the gorge just beyond. Dorr repeatedly advocated for a park entrance road and path that would take in this particular view.

Views to and from the site were important throughout its historic development. The spring canopy was designed in what was then the popular Italian Renaissance Revival style and intended as the site's focal point, with the open grassy glade serving as a foreground for views toward it and the rugged mountains beyond. Historic photographs also show that the views to the spring pool were open because vegetation was relatively low in height. The construction of memorial trails and garden paths in 1913-1916 and the curved alignment of Hemlock Road through the glade in 1917 also highlighted this picturesque view. The trails provided countless scenic views of surrounding lands, one of which was from the north end of the Tarn looking south, which depending on the amount of open water reflected the surrounding mountains. As discussed previously, there is no historical evidence that suggests open water conditions were intentionally maintained to enhance the view south across the Tarn.

Around 1930, as part of various proposals to locate a park motor road in this vicinity, the Olmsted firm recommended improvements to the site that would both preserve and enhance the scenic views. Among them was the relocation of Hemlock Road away from the glade, which was accomplished in the late 1930s. Olmsted also suggested reshaping the topography of the glade so that the spring canopy would appear less sunken in the landscape, but this work was not done. The motor road proposals also highlighted views looking south across the Great Meadow toward the gorge, and west across the Tarn toward Dry [Dorr] Mountain. When finally built in the late 1930s, the route of the motor road around the north and east sides of the Great Meadow fulfilled Dorr's wish, though probably not as directly as he had hoped. The motor road also passed east of the site and avoided the gorge and Tarn altogether, essentially preserving the scenic views in these areas. As part of this road construction, an overlook was created off Otter Creek Road with a view of the Tarn.

Beginning in 1934, CCC projects improved views in and around the site through various pruning and planting projects. Views were significantly opened up after the 1947 fire burned many trees and shrubs in and around the site.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
Since the 1947 fire, vegetation has regrown and matured, framing views throughout the site. The grass glade still offers picturesque views of the spring canopy, but until rehabilitation projects in 2015, this view was blocked from some areas of the glade because tall plants had grown up around the spring pool. The density of understory plants associated with the Wild Gardens of Acadia has also diminished some views, though the impact here is not as great. Framed views to the north and east across the Great Meadow are dependent on the season and the height of vegetation in the meadow, as well as the locations of successional vegetation that has emerged along the outer edges of the loop road. Views to the south across the Tarn from the dam are still stunning, but vegetation now blocks this view from the overlook off Otter Creek Road. The Tarn itself has begun to fill in with silt, though varying degrees of open water conditions still occur depending on precipitation and the season.

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
Views across Glade to Spring Canopy	139602	Contributing					No
Views of Spring Pool	139604	Contributing					No
Views into Great Meadow	139606	Contributing					No
View across Tarn from Otter Creek Road overlook	139608	Contributing					No
View across Tarn from Dam Area	139610	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic: Constructed Water Features

Historic Condition (through 1949):
Constructed water features are built features and elements that utilize water for aesthetic or utilitarian functions in the landscape. In 1909, as part of the construction of the spring canopy, George Dorr diverted the spring's waters into an underground pipe and into a nearby pool. How much excavation occurred to build the pool is unknown, but it was nonetheless lined with stones and planted with shrubs. At the south end of the pool, a large flat stone was placed just above the water level at the pipe's outlet, where a cup was provided to take a drink. A long stone path and two earthen paths converged at this end of the spring pool. Correspondences in the 1930s from the Olmsted firm to Dorr recommended replacing the pipe with an open channel so visitors could see the connection between the spring canopy and the spring pool, but this was not implemented.

In 1935, the CCC constructed a trout pool at the south end of the Great Meadow, along the stream that emptied the spring pool. This work was part of the CCC's wildlife enhancement programs and was completed with the Mount Desert Island Fish and Game Association. The fish pool may also have been part of a drainage control feature. It was stocked with trout, and walking paths were built around them so visitors could closely observe the fish. Another fish pool was built on the west side of the spring building terrace by 1942 and lined with stones. A drawing for the terrace shows that the trout pool abutted the terrace retaining wall.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
Today, the stones that line the spring pool are interspersed with new plantings installed in 2015. The flat rock at the south end still provides stable footing from which to peer down into the water and observe water bubbling out from the submerged pipe outlet (see Figure 24). The stone path also remains, as do the two side paths that are now paved. The two trout pools are extant, with the north pool now part of the Wild Gardens of Acadia area. A bank of soil now separates the pool next to the terrace from the terrace retaining wall. In recent years, algae blooms have appeared in the pools. Field testing by the park in 2006 suggested that "ground-water in the Sieur de Monts is impacted by waste water, and that recharge associated with the on-site waste water treatment facility has created a ground-water mound and reversed ground-water flow directions" (PMIS 125720). Analysis of this problem resulted in repairs to the site's septic and sewer facilities.

There is no longer visible evidence of the channel referenced by Dorr in the southeast portion of the Great Meadow. Dorr's correspondences do not indicate that this channel or others in the area were reinforced or stabilized with stone, so verification of them today would be difficult.

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
Spring Pool	139650	Contributing					No
Trout Pools	139652	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic: Small Scale Features

Historic Condition (through 1949):
Small-scale features are elements that provide detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns in the landscape. Several small-scale features were installed at Sieur de Monts Spring soon after George Dorr purchased the property in 1909. After naming the site, Dorr carved on a large boulder the words "Sieur de Monts Spring." He also incised on two flat but substantial rocks the words, "Sweet Waters of Acadia," one in Roman and one in French text, in memory of two

spring fountains he once visited in Europe. The monument with the French text was located along one of the wild gardens paths in the Great Meadow, while the other two were located near the spring canopy and spring pool. Historic photographs suggest the “Sweet Waters of Acadia” rock was moved closer to the “Sieur de Monts Spring” boulder, possibly around the time Hemlock Road was abandoned in the late 1930s, but this has not been confirmed. Other monuments and plaques were installed along the memorial trails to recognize the donors.

In August 1947, a memorial to George Dorr was established at the site of the old spring building. He had died three years earlier. The memorial featured a plaque attached to a large boulder obtained from Cadillac Mountain, but was destroyed a few months later by the Bar Harbor fire. It was rebuilt the following year. In subsequent years, Dorr added rustic benches made of wood and supported by cut logs. There was also a cup at the spring pool with which to take a drink of the water.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:
The “Sieur de Monts Spring” rock monument featuring incised Roman lettering is situated just northeast of the spring canopy next to the Emery Path/Schiff Path/Dorr Mountain East Face Trail (Trail #15). The large boulder measures around 5x5 feet and features steeply sloped faces and a large crack (Figure 30). There are two “Sweet Waters of Acadia” monuments. The monument with that text incised in Roman letters is situated near the spring canopy. This large and flat horizontal rock measures around 6x4.5 feet and is around 1.5-feet tall at its highest point. The rock features a quarry split mark, and is surrounded by a ring of small boulders. The monument with text incised in French letters (“Eaux douces de l’Acadie”) was originally located along the trace of one of George Dorr’s roads or trails in the Great Meadow and northeast of the loop road. This large and flat horizontal slab measures around 4.5x3 feet and was recently relocated to Park Headquarters. (Review comments: Gladstone, 26 July 2021)

Two hiking trail monuments are located within the site boundaries. Kurt Diederich’s Climb marker is a granite slab with carved Roman lettering that forms the sixth step up at the start of the trail near the Tarn dam. The Morris K. and Maria DeWitt Jesup Memorial Plaque, also near the Tarn dam, features a rectangular bronze plaque measuring 24x15 inches affixed to a granite boulder. The George Bucknam Dorr Memorial Plaque is located on the east side of the spring building [Nature Center]. The monument is a 28x41-inch bluestone plaque set flush on the cut vertical face of a granite boulder. The incised lettering is divided by rectangular flower, acorn, and pine cone intaglio motifs. The text reads as follows: “In Memory of George Bucknam Dorr, 1853-1944, Gentleman Scholar, Father of this National Park, Steadfast in his zeal to make the beauties of this island available to all” (Figure 31).

A 3x3-foot square wooden information kiosk with a gable roof is located on the northwest part of the spring building [Nature Center] terrace. This structure is painted brown and features siding similar to that of the tool shed. In addition to the seat wall that is part of the terrace wall, large rough-cut granite blocks with smooth tops have been placed on the terrace for seating. There are also granite benches in the Wild Gardens of Acadia area. Interpretive wayside signs with gabled roofs and wooden directional/information signs painted light gray help guide and inform visitors.

The other small-scale features at the site are contemporary and relate to traffic control and visitor services, most of which are in the vicinity of the spring building [Nature Center] and parking lot. Post and wire fencing surrounds the Wild Gardens of Acadia area. A metal pipe gate secures access to the Hemlock Road from the parking lot, while bollards positioned near the bus stop provide a safe waiting area. Other features include black-painted metal bicycle racks, a brown-painted metal drinking fountain, a map dispenser attached to a brown-painted pole, and wood and metal trash cans.

During the site visit in 2019, a wigwam was located at the edge of the grass glade. The original structure was built in 2011 during a three-day public demonstration as part of the park’s Cultural Connections program, in partnership with the Abbe Museum. The original program and structure was lead by Barry Dana, a Penobscot birchbark artist and educator, and his family. It was subsequently maintained, rehabilitated, and rebuilt during yearly public demonstrations over the

next six years by David Moses Bridges, a Passamaquoddy and an internationally known birchbark artist and canoe builder. In 2017 after Bridges' death, master canoe builder and birchbark artist Steve Cayard rehabilitated the wigwam a third time. The wigwam is made from birchbark panels that are lashed and sewn with spruce root, and the poles/skeleton are made from "tamarack" saplings. It is open to the public in the summer and covered in the winter. (Review comments: Gladstone, 26 July 2021)

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
Sieur de Monts Spring Rock Monument (MON 32)	139612	Contributing	41158		Location	62167	Yes
"Sweet Waters of Acadia" Rock Monument (MON 34)	139614	Contributing	41159		Asset	1001248	Yes
"Sweet Waters of Acadia" Slab Monument (MON 33)	139616	Contributing	41365				No
Kurt Diederich's Climb Marker (MON 18)	139618	Contributing	41355		Asset	1001246	Yes
Morris K. and Maria DeWitt Jesup Memorial Plaque (MON 23)	139620	Contributing	41155		Asset	531787	Yes
George Bucknam Dorr Memorial Plaque (MON 19)	139622	Contributing	41154		Asset	1032052	Yes
Information Kiosk	139624	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Granite Benches	139626	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	59974	Yes
Signs - Interpretive Wayside	139630	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Signs - Informational/directional	139632	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Fence - Post and Wire	139634	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	243110	Yes
Gate	139636	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Bollards	139638	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Bicycle Racks	139640	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	59974	Yes
Drinking Fountain	139642	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Map Dispenser	139644	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Trash Cans	139646	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	59974	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 30. The Sieur de Monts Spring boulder monument, c.1909, with the spring canopy in the background. View looking southwest. (OCLP 2019, DSC-0164)



Figure 31. The George Buckham Dorr Memorial Plaque, view looking south, was among the features reconstructed by the NPS after the 1947 fire. (OCLP 2019, P6094875)

Landscape Characteristic: **Archeological Sites**

Archeological sites are the locations of ruins, traces, or deposited artifacts in the landscape and are evidenced by the presence of either surface or subsurface features. Only sites identified in approved National Register documentation are identified in this report. As part of the rehabilitation of the flagstone terrace and other circulation features around the spring building [Nature Center] in 2003, archeological reconnaissance was undertaken between the building and the stream to the west for the retaining wall/seat wall. Examination by Crane and Morrison Archeology discovered no intact foundations, though debris associated with either Dorr's spring building or the CCC's spring building was found. The archeology report recommended a future archeological and landscape use survey.

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
Spring Canopy site	139648	Undetermined		ACAD00156			No

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:

The Sieur de Monts Spring landscape is on Good condition. The property shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The property'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: 07/23/2009

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The condition of the landscape at the time of this report's completion is evaluated as "good." The major historic built features, views, and overall site organization are intact. While the growth of understory plants and the emergence of invasive non-native species in some areas of the site are of concern, this condition can be reversed. The site is one of the park's most popular destinations, especially during the summer months. Overcrowding in the parking lot has been reduced by the introduction of the Island Explorer Shuttle Bus.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Adjacent Lands

Other Impact:

External or Internal: External

Impact Narrative: Flooding and the continued buildup of silt in the Tarn and the Great Meadow may affect the flow of water in the site's two streams. These issues may also affect growth of plant communities in the adjacent lands.

Date Identified: 09/28/2021

Type of Impact: Inundation/Flooding

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Impact Narrative: Water from heavy rains and spring runoff occasionally backs up into the site from the Great Meadow.

Date Identified: 09/28/2021

Type of Impact: Release To Succession

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: The growth of trees and understory plants have begun to obscure outward views toward the Great Meadow, and at the overlook looking toward the Tarn. These conditions should be monitored.

Date Identified: 09/28/2021

Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Treatment Documents

Treatment Type: Rehabilitation

Treatment Completed: No

Document Type: General Management Plan

Title:

IRMA Link:

Narrative:

According to the park's 1992 General Management Plan (GMP), Sieur de Monts Spring falls within three management zones: developed zone, cultural zone, and natural zone. The spring building [Nature Center], Wild Gardens of Acadia, fire road [likely Hemlock Road], and the parking lot are within a developed zone, which aims to "provide and maintain facilities for educational and interpretive services, for recreation opportunities, for other visitor services, and for vehicular access in the park." The glade and surrounding areas originally developed by George Dorr, the Abbe Museum site, as well as the motor road and hiking trail segments that are within the site boundaries fall within the cultural zone-preservation subzone, which aims to "preserve and interpret historic sites, structures, ethnographic resources, objects, and landscapes that are important because of their aesthetic value or their association with persons, events, or periods in human history and that merit full communication of these values to the public." The remaining areas of the site fall within the natural zone-natural environment subzone, which aims to "conserve natural resources and provide environmentally compatible interpretive and recreational activities in ways that do not adversely affect those resources and processes." (GMP 1992: 57-59)

In the park's 2016 Foundation Document, the Sieur de Monts area coincides with several of the park's fundamental resources and values, including Range of Visitor Experiences, Glacial Landscape, Mosaic of Habitats Supporting Diverse Flora and Fauna, Legacy of Conservation Ethic and Philanthropy, Network of Historic Roads and Trails, and Scenic Resources and Values. Sieur de Monts Spring is specifically described in the fundamental resource and value, Opportunities for Science and Education:
"The Acadian archipelago has been an important site for research and discovery for hundreds of years. The extensive legacy of research and museum collections that draws from the tradition of exploration by Samuel de Champlain, described in the park's founding legislation, provides rich opportunities for scientific study, interpretation, and education. The…Sieur de Monts Nature Center, Abbe Museum, Wild Gardens of Acadia…provide facilities for ongoing science and education." (FD 2016: 7-9)

In addition, the cultural landscape at Sieur de Monts Spring is identified as one of the park's other fundamental resources and values. (FD 2016: 9-10)

Based on the management zones in the 1992 GMP, the identification of the site as a fundamental resource in the Foundation Document, and the recent landscape rehabilitation work at the spring pool area, the treatment "Rehabilitation" is the appropriate treatment approach for the Sieur de Monts Spring landscape.

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

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Landscape Documents:

File Name	Date	Attachment Type
ACAD Sieur de Monts Spring CLI_Concurrences 2009-2021.pdf		

Source