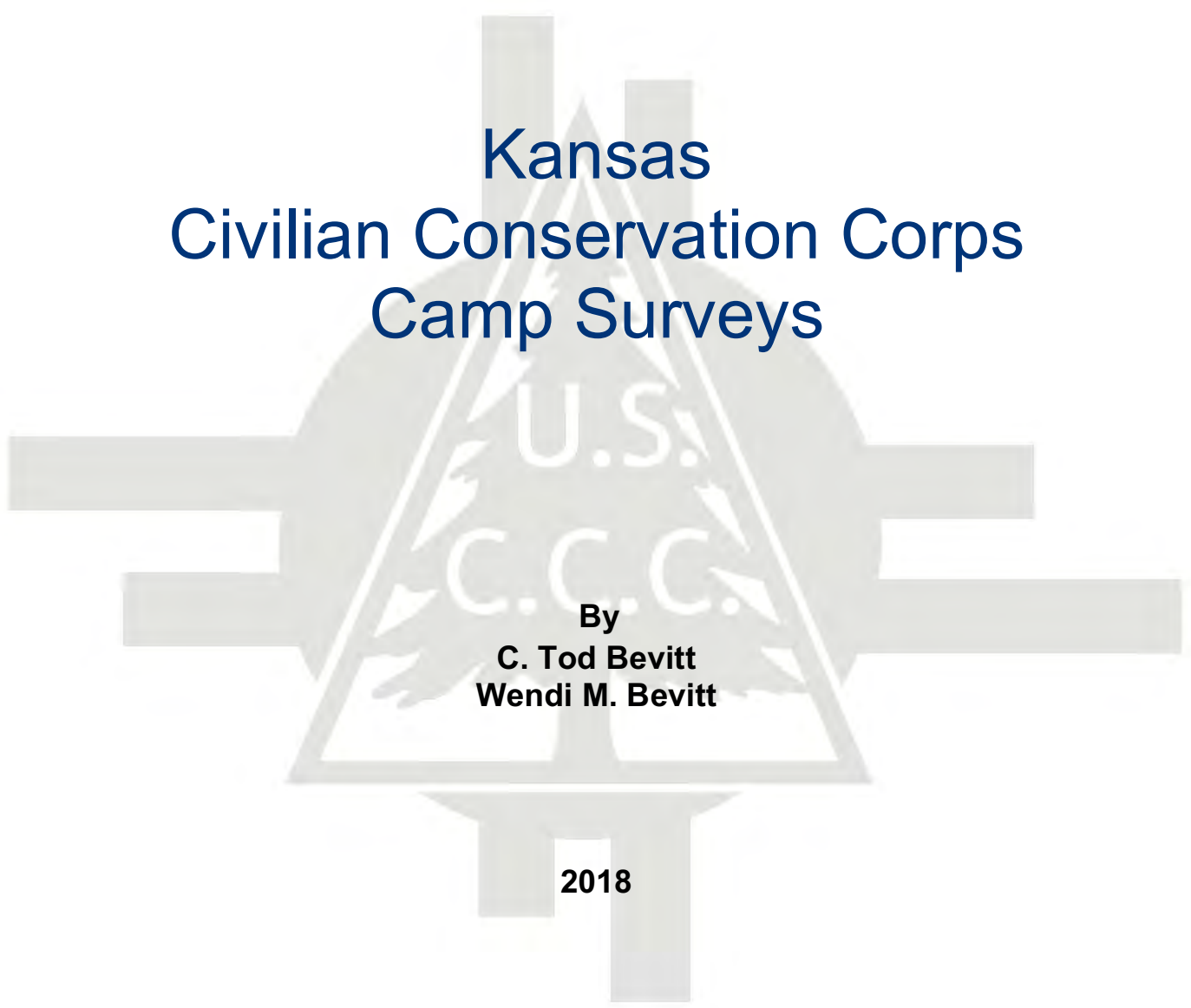




Kansas Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Surveys

By
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2018

Kansas Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Surveys

Prepared for

Kansas Historical Society

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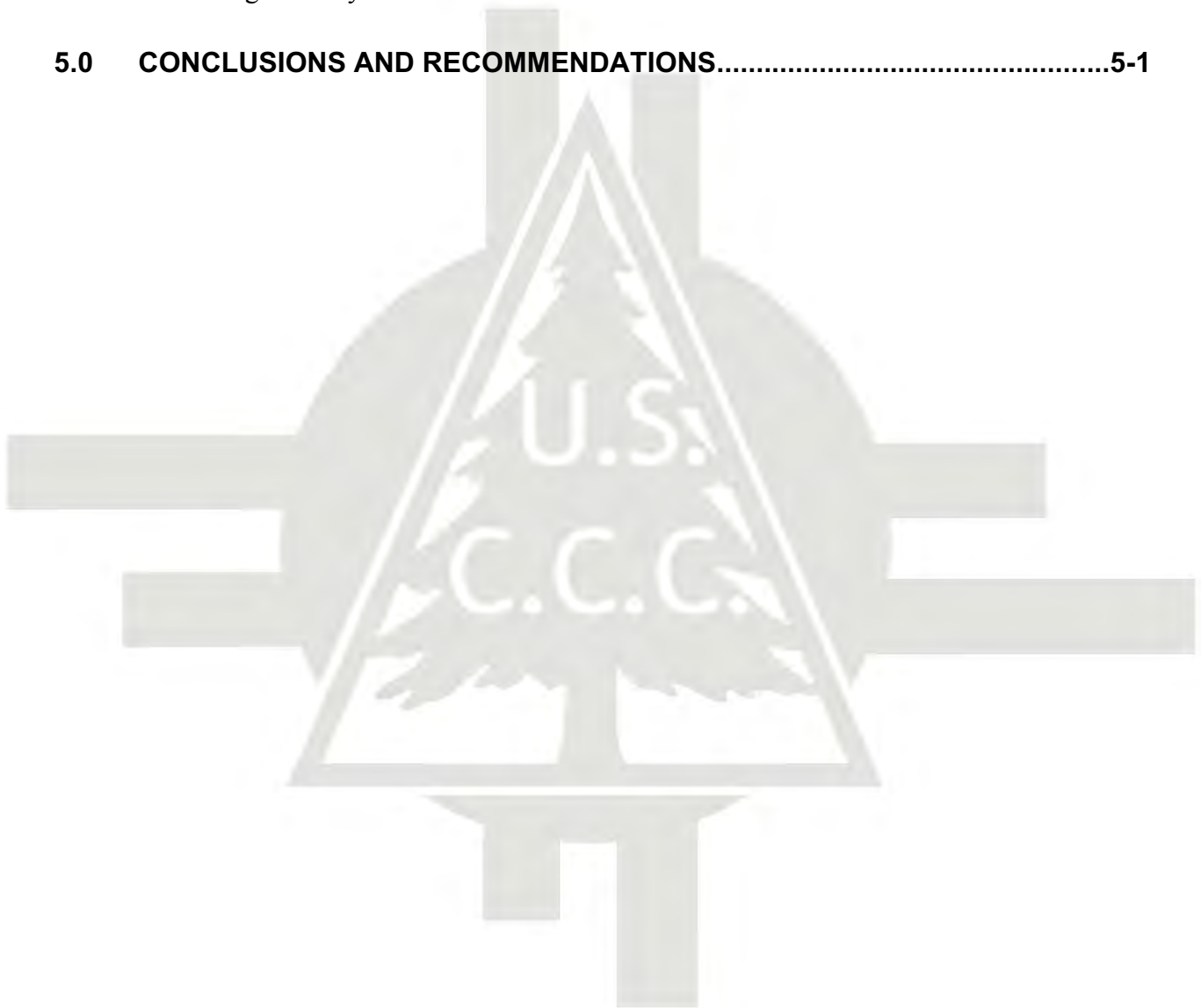
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this survey was to determine the locations of Civilian Conservation Corps camps created throughout Kansas between 1933 and 1942 and produce an inventory of these sites in order to document what remains of these rare resources. By creating this inventory it is hoped that knowledge of the origin of these sites not only promotes awareness of local history but creates an attitude of preservation within local communities to conserve this history for future generations.

1.2 Methodology

The Kansas Historical Society (KSHS) initiated this survey to be started June 2018. Tod and Wendi Bevitt of Buried Past Consulting, LLC conducted the survey, documentation and report writing. Research and primary field work for this project, including site visits, photographs, and interviews occurred in June through August 2018. All properties were uploaded to the Kansas Historic Resources Inventory (KHRI) database, maintained by KSHS. Only one property, the Farlington Camp at Crawford County State Lake, was already in the database and was updated. Additional attention was given to camps that had intact structures or extant ruins providing physical evidence of the former camp.

1.3 Research

Research relied heavily on previous work conducted by C. Tod Bevitt over the last 10 years. The basis for that research began by utilizing the camp locations provided on the CCC Legacy website (www.ccclegacy.org), a site created to promote the heritage of the CCC. Research into camp locations and histories previously included site visits to the state historical society, local county archives, university archives, and on-line resources. Research for the current project began by sending correspondence to county archives or libraries in the areas where a camp may have once been located but the specific location was not known. Additional emphasis was given to previously unknown camp locations in order to obtain additional information not gained from past work. Site visits for this project were expanded to county archives not previously investigated, accessing files at the National Archives and Records Administration in Kansas City, as well utilizing more resources at the state historical society with hopes of gleaning specific information on camp locations and organization.

1.4 Camp Visits

Many of the camps lie on public property and required no special permissions in order to view the grounds. Site visits to camp locations on private property were initiated through direct contact with property owners. Generally, with contacts made at the local county archives and the land owners being interested in the history that was contained in their property, access was granted. In a few instances,

property access could not be readily arranged during the survey period, leaving these handful of locations without supporting data a field visit might provide.

1.5 Photography

Photographs were taken during site visits regardless of sun angle and best attempts were made to get appropriate photographs despite the summer vegetation growth. A Canon PowerShot SX530 HS was used for photographing cultural resources.

1.6 Owner Interviews

In the case of private ownership of surveyed land, interviews with land owners were completed during site visits. Some of the owners were knowledgeable of their property's attachment to the CCC or at least that the property had CCC resources and were interested to learn further history about that involvement.

1.7 Survey Products

- Survey report and Historic Context
- KHRI entries
 - Entries for 29 known CCC camps for Kansas
 - Update existing entries within KHRI
- Site Plans for each camp showing existing cultural resources. Site plans were created using a combination of site notes and measurements and Google Earth for additional landmarks and mapping.
- Photographs of cultural resources within each camp location. Multiple images from different angles were taken, showing landmarks if possible.
- Electronic files of all photos, and reports.

2.0 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The outlook at the start of the 1930s was grim. The economy of the nation was reeling from the effects of the stock market crash of 1929. Unemployment, business and bank failure abounded. The drought years that followed in the agricultural portion of the country provided another blow to the struggling economy. In 1932, in response to the onset of the Great Depression, President Herbert Hoover first signed the Reconstruction Finance Corporation Act followed by its amendment the Emergency Relief and Construction Act, providing funds in the form of direct assistance for public works projects across the country. Hoover, however, typically steered clear of social programs relying instead on the “safe foundations of experience” to handle the increasing crisis. Growing desperation demanded a change, and it was Hoover’s conservative platform that cost him the next election.

When Franklin D. Roosevelt was inaugurated president in 1933, he lost no time setting into motion an effort to bring the United States out of the Great Depression through implementation of a variety of social programs or “Alphabet Soup” agencies. Roosevelt’s first focus was to bolster the unemployed youth of the nation. By 1932, unemployment had risen to 23.6% with an increase to 25% by 1933 (Swanson & Williamson 1972). Congress passed a bill in March 1933 called the Emergency Conservation Work Act (ECW), known more commonly as the bill enacting the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) (Salmond 1967:21). During most of the following decade a varied program of conservation and construction changed the lives of over three million men through an organization that was arguably the most successful and popular of Roosevelt’s New Deal era organizations.

2.1 Kansas in the Great Depression

In Kansas both the economic and social depression was shrouded in a cloud of dust from which relief was badly needed. Encouraged by the wartime effort after 1914, the demand for wheat soared along with prices, prompting a period called “The Great Plow Up” when the amount of acreage devoted to wheat was greatly increased. These efforts created widespread areas of tilled ground in the part of the country most at risk for drought and erosion including much of Kansas. This in conjunction with overgrazing of pastures and poor conservation practices overall led to a period of massive dust storms led to the region being called the Dust Bowl.

For the agricultural areas farmers were not dealing with unemployment so much as the decline in income as a contributing factor to the depression throughout the region. Crop prices had dropped significantly in a relatively short period of time. Corn, which had brought \$.73 per bushel in 1929 was only bringing \$.27 per bushel in 1932 (Kansas Agriculture 1929 & 1932), with drops in wheat, hog, and cattle prices to follow. Compounding the problem, Kansas boasted over 166,000 farms, half of which carried a mortgage debt (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1930). For example, in Ness County, the average farm with a primary

owner was approximately 450 acres, 65% of which were mortgaged (Tenure Data for Ness Co. n.d.). With the loss of income, farmers were not able to pay mortgages or make bank deposits. Educational opportunities for the families in the agricultural communities were hampered by the inability to either transport the children to school due to financial difficulties or the school closings associated with the dust storms. The dust storms also contributed to health problems in agricultural areas and beyond.

While Kansas was largely dependent on agricultural production, the industrial areas of the state, especially those associated with mining, were affected as well. These areas, primarily those in mined areas, were affected differently. At one time, Osage County had been the top producer of coal in the state but had lost its production to southeast Kansas with its advantages of better-quality coal, present in larger reserves, delivered more cheaply, with a higher production capacity. In the 1920s, the steam shovels for extracting coal were at the height of their use, but that came with a price of decreasing the need for workers to mine the coal, sending men to the unemployment lines. To compound the problem, as the railroads shifted from coal engines to oil, the demand for coal became less and less, depressing the coal economy in those areas. The coal mined areas were now stripped of natural resources and unemployment abounded. The zinc mining in Cherokee County also suffered as zinc prices started to weaken in 1927 (Orten 1928).

2.2 Relief in Kansas

Relief in Kansas prior to the Great Depression was provided on the county level through property taxes and private funding. Relief funds were distributed by the county clerk or in some cases a Commissioner of the Poor. This system was insufficient for answering the great need that came about after 1929 and strained the former system. For example, in Crawford County the poor budget was overspent and no trained social worker was available to even meet with the public and private charities (Fearon 2007:33).

Although the federal government insisted that Kansas did not need federal assistance, its people were in need of help, “Their hope, their pride, their confidence is not gone, but it is badly shaken.” (Sykes 1933). The United States government encouraged states to establish committees for employment providing channels of communication on the subject (Fearon 2007). Kansas Governor Clyde Reed created such a committee in January 1931 and by the following winter the state was implementing work relief efforts. Governor Harry Woodring, who succeeded Reed, had a 40-member Employment Committee from districts around the state. This committee was responsible for planning, funding, and implementing public work relief programs in their areas. Woodring stated that the goal was not “to cure entirely the problem of unemployment. But in between the extremes of charity and exaggerated unemployment should be a chance for this committee to work out a plan to the advantage of the state and the thousands in need,” (Morning Chronicle 1931). Projects carried out in the districts represented by this committee included ones such as in Cherokee County where relief recipients performed the dangerous work of water pumping

out abandoned mines. In Manhattan, work relief projects included forestry, street work, and school maintenance for 163 men, providing more than \$1300 in relief to those men during the months of November and December of 1931 (Morning Chronicle 1932).

Because Kansas had a work relief system already in place, when President Herbert Hoover signed the Emergency Relief and Construction Act in 1932, the state was immediately able to create an entity known as the Kansas Federal Relief Committee (KFRC) in order to manage the federal funds granted to the state. The KFRC transitioned into the Kansas Emergency Relief Committee (KERC) which continued to administer aid to those in need through emergency education, transient relief, rural rehabilitation, drought relief, work relief programs, and public relief projects. For projects relating to the CCC, the KERC administered and distributed the funds for projects under the direction of Kansas' new governor Alf Landon.

2.3 Development of the CCC

The Civilian Conservation Corps reflected Roosevelt's favoritism toward conservation through work while governor of New York in directing reforestation projects within the state (Merrill 1981: 4). The CCC formed a multi-departmental effort within the U.S. government (Figure 1). On a federal level the enrollees were selected by the Department of Labor with the exception of the military veteran enrollees who were selected by the War Department. The War Department also was responsible for receiving, equipping, and conditioning the enrollees. The Departments of Agriculture and Interior selected and planned the projects and provided the personnel to supervise and administer the projects (Salmond 1967:30; KERC 1934).

In order to address the necessity for relief, each county was given a quota based on the relief needs for that county. Officials in each county compiled a list of potential enrollees to the county relief administrator under the KERC (1935; Figure 1). In time, this system switched to one where families needed to secure the endorsement of the local

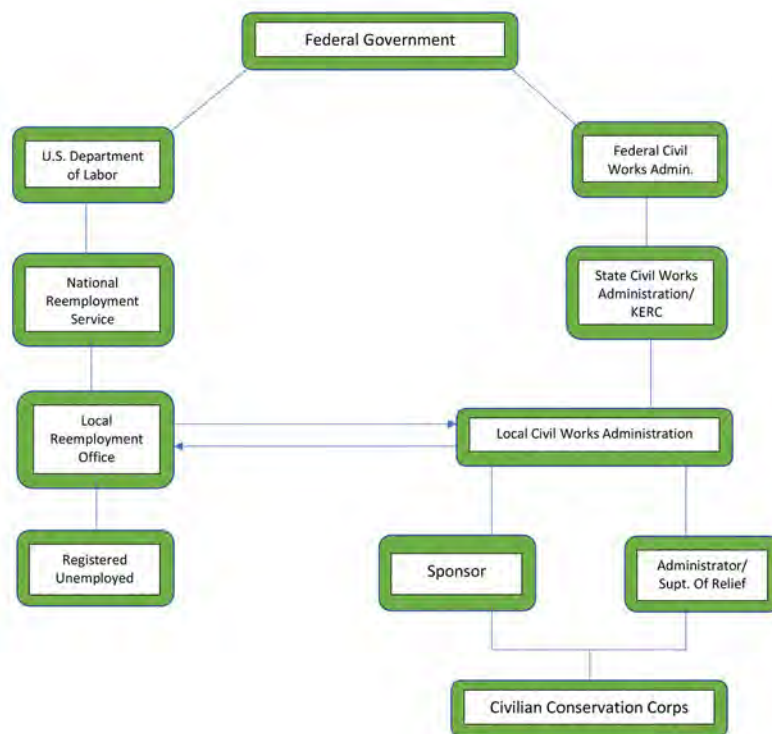


Figure 1: Flow chart showing the hierarchy of the departments affecting the CCC (KERC 1934a)

Emergency Relief Administration (Russell Sage Foundation 1935). These men mostly came from low-income families or those receiving public assistance. Enlistment ages were originally set at 18-25 years but were expanded by 1935 to include ages 17-28 (KERC 1935).

Although the vast majority of CCC enrollees fell into the bracketed age as junior enrollees, a portion of the allotment was set aside for the enrollment of veterans of the Spanish American and, more often, first World War. While provision for these men was not made initially, Roosevelt made an allowance for enrollment of 25,000 veterans by signing Executive Order 6129 on May 11, 1933 as a concession to marches on Washington, D.C. of what was termed “The Bonus Army” or veterans seeking payment on their service certificates. Qualifications for CCC enrollment of veterans differed from the junior enrollee; one needed to be certified by the Veterans Administration by application, they could be any age, and married or single as long as they were in need of work. Veterans were mostly assigned to camps comprised only of fellow veterans although this wasn't always the case. Company #4755 for example was comprised of junior and veteran enrollees initially before being divided during the work on the county lake and park at Marion in 1936.

Enrollees were also required to be unemployed (which meant not even part time employment) for at least six months. For each year the CCC was active, it provided for enrollment periods for enlisting new participants. The first year had two enrollment periods (KERC 1934) and subsequent years had up to four depending on the need (KERC 1935, 1936, 1937). Enrollees were allowed and encouraged to reenroll as long as they had served a minimum of five months and were honorably discharged at the end of their term (KERC 1935:290). After the first year, a study was done of those that had left the camps and not returned, approximately 80% of those were unemployed versus approximately 80% that obtained employment if they stayed for the term of the camp (KERC 1934:32).

2.4 The CCC In Kansas

On the state level, the Civilian Conservation Corps in Kansas began in June 1933 under the management of both the Missouri and Kansas Districts. The Missouri District was based out of Fort Leavenworth and the Kansas District out of Fort Riley. During its time as headquarters of the Kansas District, Fort Riley was responsible for producing much of the 700 and 1700 series companies (CCC 1937). In February of 1936, the two districts were joined to form a Missouri-Kansas District with headquarters at Fort Leavenworth. This district was divided into five subdistricts within the two states (CCC 1937). Projects for the CCC in Kansas continued to be selected by the KERC.

There were generally three different types of camps established in Kansas: soil erosion, lake camps, and reforestation camps. Soil conservation camps combatted soil erosion and established water conservation practices. The Great Plow Up exposed large acreages of land to the elements. Due to the ground water

levels falling with the lack of rains in the 30s, winds and unharnessed surface water eroded away topsoil. In the early 1920s, due to the scarcity of natural water areas and the need for water conservation and flood control, local and federal agencies first proposed efforts for water conservation. Kansas agencies agreed that rainfall should be retained with terracing, cover crops, contour farming, and the use of reservoirs and pasture ponds. It was not until 1932, however, that an effort was made to create these artificial resources. The CCC helped to not only create these resources with its soil and lake camps, but reinforce existing structures, produce erosion and flood control. These projects were timely, as floods during the summer of 1935 hit the state. Nearly every major river was flooding its banks, lending support to efforts over the previous decade to better regulate of the country's water systems. Another goal of the lake projects was to create range and wildlife management opportunities and even provide landscapes to make the artificial lakes welcoming for recreation, building upon the premise of the See America First campaign of the 1910s (Schaffer 2001).

Reforestation camps worked on reclaiming land stripped bare through surface mining. These areas had not only been depleted of all their natural resources, but of their land value as well. Because of this fact, worthless mine lands were easy to procure for use as a CCC project.

2.5 CCC Camps

By June 1933, there were 1,300 camps nationwide, and ten in the state of Kansas. All camps were expected to be in existence for a six-month minimum with a capacity of approximately 200 men each (Strong 1934:36). In order to secure a camp, guidelines required that the property be owned by the state and be within 25 miles of where the work was to commence (Strong 1934: 36). Locations selected for camps were purchased or leased from private ownership or utilized land already set aside for public use. One such public area was that of Lincoln Park near Cawker City, which had been the site of Chautauqua events during the late 19th and early 20th century. In the Pittsburg area, coal mine owners like J.J. Stephenson and Asa Messenger set aside portions of lands laid waste by their mining operations for camps and reclamation projects. Asa Messenger had been one of the individuals serving on Gov. Woodring's Committee on Employment in the time leading up to the establishment of the CCC (Fearon 2007).

Projects for the CCC were then referred to the headquarters at Fort Riley, after which a survey of the proposed property would be made and a determination of whether or not the camp location would be suitable for the health and comfort of 200 individuals. The location needed to provide a sufficient water supply and access to wood (Strong 1934:36) as well as be located on high ground and with good road access (Sommer 2008: 40). Even with a survey, suitability was not a guarantee. The initial camp on White Rock Creek in Jewell County suffered from a lack of water resources and was relocated within a short time to the outskirts of nearby Burr Oak (Volker n.d.).

Tents for summer quarters were supplied from Fort Riley. For more permanent or “winter” quarters building supplies were also issued from the Fort, which included doors and windows used for modifying boxcars that were purchased from local railroad lines for camp buildings (Simone et al n.d.: 68). Camps typically consisted of latrines, hospital/infirmary, showers and washroom, kitchen and mess hall, administrative building, garage and shop. At the start of the CCC program in Kansas, the initial lodging for enrollees was in tents, and in a non-standard format, and often lacking “luxuries” at the start such as gas heat, sewer systems, and electrical power.

In 1936, Director of the CCC, Robert Fechner, took a radical step in camp planning, “Camps were to be a pre-cut variety, of standard design, easily dismantled at the end of a project, ready to be transported wherever a new camp was authorized”. Standardization of the camps consisted of four barracks, one mess hall, one schoolhouse, bath houses, one latrine block and twelve officers’ and service buildings.” (U.S. Dept. of Ag. 1938). There were numerous different ways the men could alter the camp’s style from the standard plan. Enrollees could create minor details within the buildings in the wood or stone accents that would make them unique. Recreation halls and officers’ quarters often had large native rock fireplaces (Sommer 2008:47). Typically, however, the camp’s bulletin board for news and fliers was centrally located and the flag pole located in front of the administrative building (Sommer 2008: 47). Camps were typically not long lived, and anything older than five years was considered an old camp (Sommer 2008:45).

Non-typical structures located in Kansas CCC camps included the use of boxcars for camp buildings early in the CCC era. A handful of western camps used structures constructed of adobe blocks (clay mixed with straw), complementing the territory they were built in. These buildings were more economical than their wooden counterparts and proved long lasting while being well-suited for the High Plains of Kansas, cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter.

2.6 Social and Educational Impact

Under the Emergency Conservation Work Act, discrimination within the work relief programs due to “race, color, or creed” was prohibited (Salmond 1967:88). This wording provided for integration within the CCC for a short time. Eventually, however, the segregation practices of the time overshadowed the seeming progress created, due in no small part to the fact that the military that ran the camps still operated under a standard of racial segregation. African American segregated camps were typically placed next to communities with large African American populations. In Parsons the CCC was set to work building facilities to benefit the African Americans in that community (Noblit 2015:25). Another division within the CCC provided for projects on Native American reservations. The Civilian Conservation Corps-Indian Division, however, functioned more like that of the Works Progress Administration where there were no communal camps and the participants went to their own homes at the end of the day.

Not only did the CCC engage the men in projects, but it also sought to elevate their level of education. Eventually, 88% of enrollees were enrolled in education programs (KERC 1935: 292). The goal of the education program was for 100% literacy in the camps. School attendance in both rural and urban areas of Kansas was better than the national average, as were the participation rates for high school and college, but there were still individuals in need of assistance (Schruben 1969: 13).

General goals of the education programs of the camps were to:

- Eliminate illiteracy
 - Eliminate elementary deficiencies
 - Provide vocational guidance
 - Teach hobbies and leisure
 - Offer cultural advantages
 - Teach conservation
- (KERC 1935: 292)

Courses ranged from basic education: reading, writing, math, and hygiene to more advanced subjects such as: geography, public speaking, book keeping, and typewriting. Other classes offered followed the basic premise of the Corps with topics such as horticulture, animal husbandry, cabinet making, auto mechanics, and agriculture. In certain instances, such as the camps in southeast Kansas the men also had the option to take college level courses at the Kansas State Teacher's College in Pittsburg. Classes at the college included typewriting, radio, shorthand, and mathematics. The school also utilized the work the camps were doing for scientific study, ranging from water testing to determine if newly constructed lakes would sustain fish (Simone et al n.d.: 81).

Camps not only elevated the status of those working there, but also boosted the economy of the communities they were close to, and provided a mutual benefit for both. The small community of Burr Oak had a population of approximately 200 prior to the CCC arrival and increased to about 600 with the war veteran enrollees and their families. Men of the surrounding areas were also employed as local experienced men (LEM) who were valuable for expertise in particular fields, especially in regards to conservation. LEM also served as project supervisors, educators and worked in establishing and operating the camps (KERC 1936: 28). In 1936, approximately 2,410 non-enrolled men were involved in the Kansas camps.

2.7 Conclusion

The CCC reached its conclusion by the end of June in 1942 by vote of Congress who refused to continue funding the work as the country pivoted toward a war footing. The last camp to be closed in Kansas was the camp at Rozel. Many of the camp buildings were repurposed after their use in the CCC. In the Burr Oak community, former enrollees stayed in the area residing in some of the boxcars that were now low income housing as part of a housing development on the outskirts of town where the camp was once located (Thomas 2018). The barracks on the edge of Osage City continued to be used until the 1960s for

storage and events (Potter 2018). Camps (or buildings relocated from camps) at Cawker City, Concordia, Ottawa, and Council Grove were utilized at least temporarily, for prisoner of war camps during World War II (May & Schock 2007). Some buildings like select ones at Council Grove continue to be utilized for shop buildings and storage. The former Meade County camp served as a Japanese internment camp for a period during World War II.

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4.0 SURVEY FINDINGS

This section details the survey findings, both historical and physical, of the Kansas Civilian Conservation Corps camps, included as part of the current investigations. Camp discussions are loosely arranged according to year created and county. As part of this survey a total of 28 individual locations in 27 counties were visited including five that had more than one camp simultaneously during the project (Figure 2).

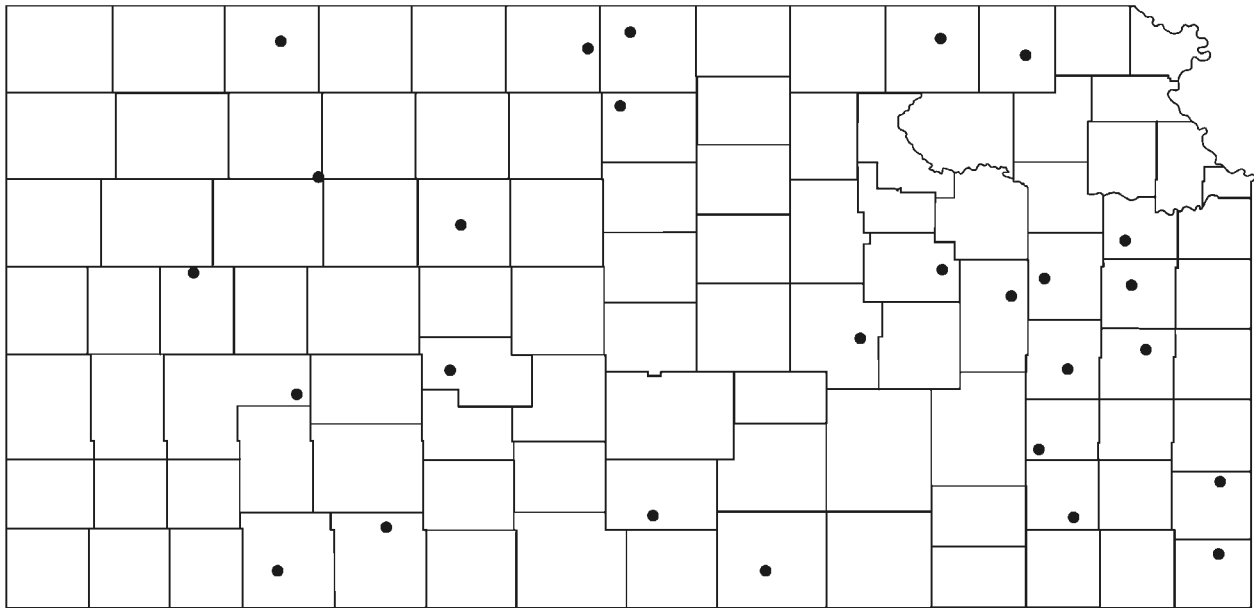


Figure 2. General locations of Kansas CCC camps included in this survey.

4.1 Finney County

Community: Kalvesta

Camp Name: Camp Kinney

Legal Location: NESESW ¼ & SENESW ¼ of Section 31, Township 21, Range 27W

Established: 1933

Project: Kinney Lake (KDWPT- Finney State Lake & Wildlife Area)

CCC Companies: #729, #753, #754, #788

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: 055-1964

Site Condition & Analysis: Ruins, some features appear intact, other areas disturbed to unknown extent.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. High potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: The Finney County project was conceived by local officials who coordinated the land acquisition from landowner F.W. Kinney to the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission

(KFFGC) in the early fall of 1933. Work began on the dam in October after hurried work to establish a camp for companies #753 and #754, part of whom were brought back to the Plains from a period of work in Oregon with others filling the ranks from enrollment in Nebraska. Eventually these companies were replaced with two other companies comprised of Kansas enrollees (#788 and #729). All of these companies were comprised of junior enrollees. While camp buildings were being constructed these companies resided in an adjacent tent camp which was occupied in part at least into late November. The camp was unique in that many of the buildings were constructed from adobe blocks manufactured onsite. Frame buildings were also included in the camp construction. Many camp facilities were duplicated in these dual camp settings with the location at Lake Finney consisting of “north and south camps” that seem to have been collocated on the state property.

As it exists today, Camp Kinney lies on property owned by the State of Kansas along a broad upland ridge overlooking the dam and lake/wildlife area. There are no remaining structures associated with this camp. At the time of the field visit, numerous intact features were observed at the location (Figure 3). These include examples of concrete floors associated with camp bath house facilities and another likely shop building (Figures 4). A diamond shaped arrangement of footings with iron strap anchors represents the location of a water storage tank situated near a bath house feature (Figure 5). Two rows of barracks were once located in this vicinity, however no evidence was found of these former buildings (Figure 6). It is possible, perhaps even likely, that these structures lie below the surface since the barracks were noted to be one of the building types constructed of adobe. A pair of elongated depressions up to 2-3 feet deep indicate the location of a latrine nearby.

At the south end of this arrangement lie at least two building features likely associated with camp office/headquarters facilities. One such structure is indicated by the remains of two concrete stoops (with iron boot scrapers) on the north and south ends of a rectangle comprised of concrete footings and loose chalk limestone foundation. This may represent the project headquarters or office or possibly officers/superintendent quarters. A nearby alignment of parallel rows of concrete footings may represent a mess hall feature due to its overall length. Unique to this site is the presence of several memorial pillars dedicated to individuals who lost their lives due to sickness during the project and another commemorating the work of Company #788 at the site (Figure 7).

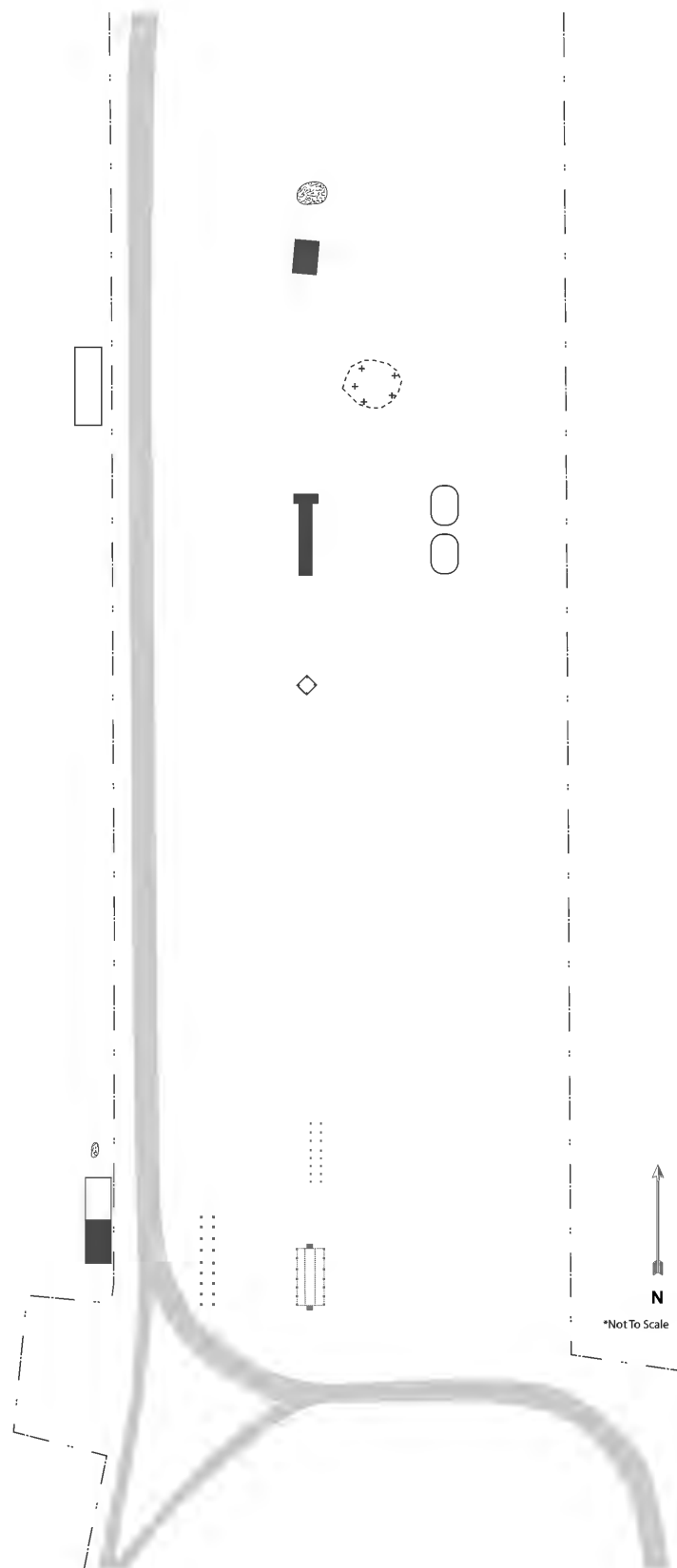


Figure 3. Sketch map of Camp Kinney showing observed features and surrounding features.



Figure 4. Concrete floor of bath house, Camp Kinney.

Figure 5. Braced concrete footings for water tower, Camp Kinney.





Figure 6. Period photograph of Camp Kinney showing water tower on left with rows of barracks (CCC Kansas District History n.d).



Figure 7. Memorial stones located at Camp Kinney.

4.2 Ellis County

Community: Hays

Camp Name: N/A

Legal Location: NWSENE ¼ of Section 5, Township 14, Range 18W

Established: Summer 1933

Project: Park and public lands improvements along Big Creek

CCC Company: #1778

Enrollee Type: Veteran

KHRI #: 051-232

Site Condition & Analysis: No features confidently attributed to camp observed in area, periodic development of the grounds as part of Fort Hays State University has likely destroyed much of the site integrity.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Limited potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: The camp and project at Hays was established as one of the six original CCC projects approved in the state of Kansas. Congresswoman Kathryn O'Loughlin McCarthy was instrumental in securing the camp for the area and had a notable public conflict over appointments of project foremen for the project with Governor Alf Landon. The work entailed improvements to the then Fort Hays Frontier Park (modern Frontier Historical Park) and nearby experiment station and college grounds.

The camp was established on state owned property that was part of the Golden Belt Fairgrounds located on the southwest side of Hays and adjacent to the grounds of Fort Hays State College (Figure 8). The fairgrounds and buildings had gone unused for some time prior. Being an early era CCC camp, facilities relied considerably on improvisation and use of available local materials. In this case, the abandoned fairgrounds buildings were modified to provide much of the needed camp structures. These modifications were ongoing during the first months that veteran Company #1778 was present on the project. During this time a large tent camp was set up adjacent to the more permanent camp construction on the fairgrounds (Figure 9). Stables were modified for barracks use by removing mangers and stalls and cutting openings for doors and windows. Another stable was cut in two and modified for use as a mess hall. Rustic dining tables constructed by the veterans were repurposed later as picnic tables in the park nearby. Other structures were added as necessary to fill out the complement of needed camp infrastructure, but the core of the camp was recycled fair buildings.

After the work at Hays was complete and Company #1778 moved on, portions of the fairgrounds were razed making way for a new track and football field for the college (today Lewis Field). It is reported that the barracks were repurposed for men's dormitories after the camp was abandoned but were themselves demolished in time. In ensuing years other construction has occurred and even been demolished with still newer construction taking place on the old fairgrounds as recently as the past few years. The general

location of the original tent camp succumbed to development in the early 2000s. Some older visible features include four elongated rectangular concrete foundations, but even these have been encroached



Figure 8. Sketch map of Hays CCC camp showing areas described in text overlaying modern aerial.

upon in recent years (Figure 8). While suspiciously similar to the form and arrangement to camp related foundations observed at other locations, it is unclear if these features are associated with the camp or some other development. Additional investigation of Fort Hays State University archival resources and possible archaeological investigations might help inform on the nature of these foundations.



Figure 9. Congresswoman McCarthy speaking with project leaders as Company #1778 establishes camp on the Golden Belt fairgrounds at Hays, 1933 (Hays Public Library).

4.3 Lyon County

Community: Reading

Camp Name: Camp Lake Wilhite

Legal Location: SWNESE ¼ & NWSESE ¼ of Section 27, Township 17, Range 12E

Established: Summer 1933

Project: Lake Wilhite/Lyon County State Lake (KDWPT- Lyon State Fishing Lake)

CCC Companies: #767, #786

Enrollee Type: Junior African-American

KHRI #: 111-599

Site Condition & Analysis: Ruins with few features observed in the area, area has been modified to extent that many former structure locations have been cleared.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Some limited potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: Lyon County and the city of Emporia successfully secured one of the early camps/projects approved in Kansas in the spring of 1933 shortly after the CCC was formed. With the preliminary work carried out at a local level - the property was acquired, plans drawn up, the property

surveyed for the location of a dam and elevated for the future pool in 1931 – it was an easy choice as a “shovel ready” project for officials. Company #767, the first African-American company assigned to a Kansas project was comprised of mostly Kansas City area enrollees with others hailing from Topeka, Wichita, and a few other towns.

Living in a tent camp, crews began by clearing the dam and lake area of trees. Construction on a more permanent camp progressed during the late summer in an area of upland situated along the south side of the future lake. By the end of September the camp consisted of nine buildings including a recreation hall, mess hall, bath house, and several barracks. An officers’ quarters constructed of stone was also underway. These buildings comprised the core of a camp encircled by a gravel drive and bisected by a number of “company streets”, wide gravel paths often bounded by vertically set limestone cobbles to create formal walks throughout the compound (Figure 10).



Figure 10. Oblique aerial photo of Camp Lake Wilhite (main camp lower left, tent camp lower right) taken ca. 1934 (CCC Kansas District History n.d.).

In the spring of 1934 a second company of African American enrollees, Company #786, was assigned to the project to assure completion of construction through an ever-tightening schedule. This company was housed in a tent camp situated a short distance east of the original camp across a shallow north-trending draw near the intersection of the park road with the county road entering from the south (Figure 10). A separate bath facility, mess hall, and a limited number of other buildings were included in this second camp, however as the tenure of the group was expected to be short, few amenities beyond basic camp infrastructure were planned. Company #786 departed the project in the Fall.

Field visits related to the current survey and past visits to the lake have allowed for the identification of a number of ruins associated with the former camp which is overall not well preserved. The two best examples of former buildings consist of an isolated concrete floor and foundation located north of the main south park entrance (Figure 11). This building was possibly the bath house associated with the tent camp at the location located several hundred feet east of the main camp area (Figure 11). The campground itself is still surrounded by a main loop that maintains much the same circuit of the original camp road. Within this loop lay most of the camp facilities, many of which appear to have been destroyed, probably when the camp was dismantled in the 1930s. The soils are thin on the ridge holding the camp and it is likely that most concrete footings and foundations could be easily removed once the buildings were dismantled. An elongated concrete floor and foundation with two low concrete sills dividing the structure into three unequal segments lies on the southeast portion of the camp loop. Nearby are two instances of large diameter (approximately 12 inch) clay drain tile set vertically in the ground along with separate observations of metal pipe also set vertically in the ground. Window glass, brick fragments, and a scattered group of concrete footings were also observed in the general vicinity of the concrete floor feature. Scattered zones of gravel and slightly sunken linear alignments likely represent former company streets through the campground, but these were not well defined in the thicker pasture grass covering most of the camp area. Scant evidence of the former water tower location on the northeast side of the camp loop was noted, but if it were not for foreknowledge of what camp feature was present in this area based on an aerial photo of the camp, the observed remains would not lend themselves to such an identification. To the north of the main camp area along an elongated northeast trending finger of ridge, a cut out area on the east side of the slope may represent another project related feature, probably associated with equipment or material storage/staging. Several loose concrete footings were recorded across the road from this area. Finally, a small limestone masonry obelisk is located near the north end of this ridge finger. While not associated with the camp itself, the marker was commemorative in nature with one face once holding a plaque which has since been removed. Whether this marker commemorated the lake, the camp, or something else entirely is not known.

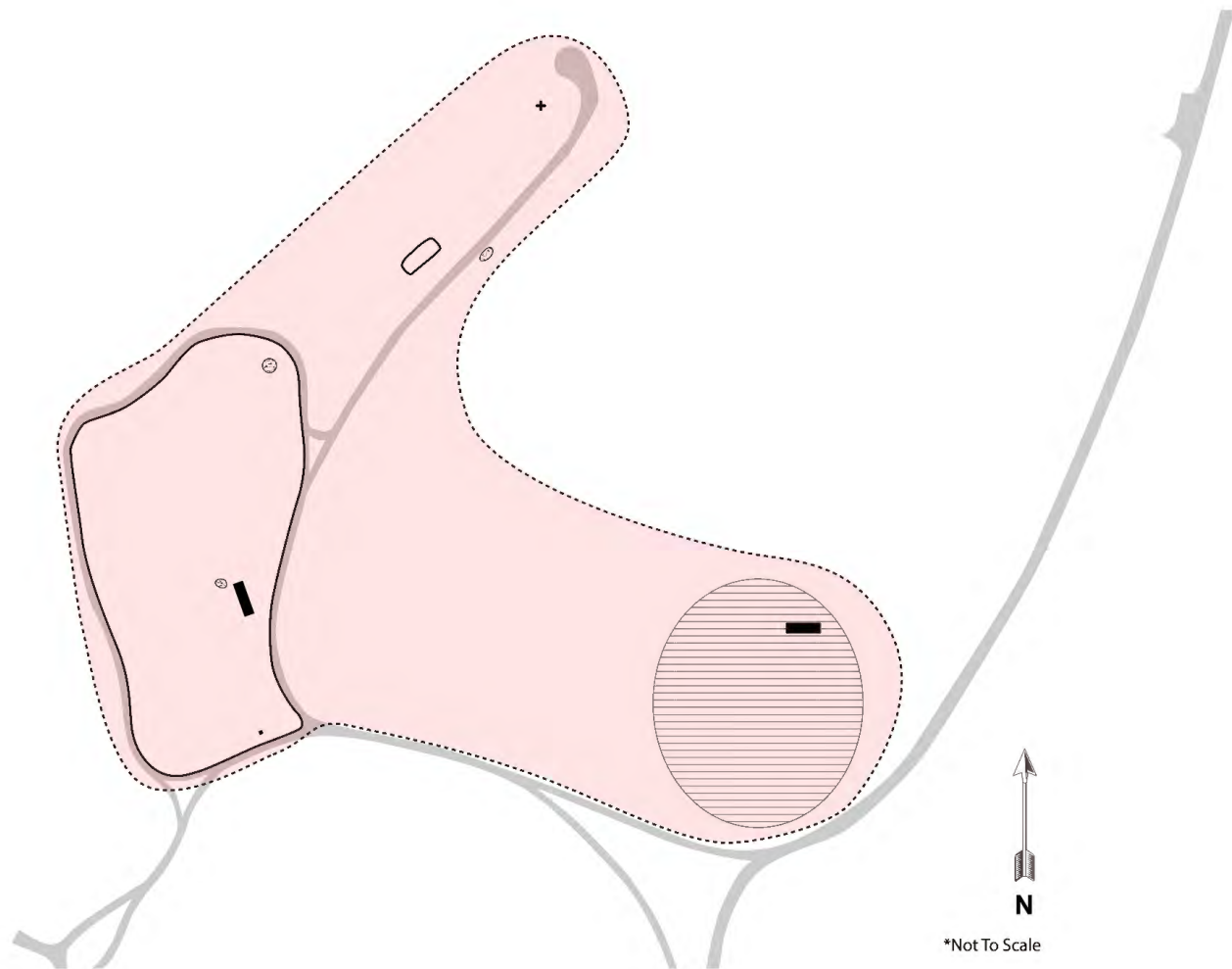


Figure 11. Sketch map of Camp Lake Wilhite showing locations of ruins and areas described in text along with modern park roads in vicinity.

4.4 Smith County

Community: Lebanon

Camp Name: Camp Lebanon

Legal Location: NESWSE ¼ & NWSWSE ¼ of Section 14, Township 2, Range 11W

Established: 1933

Project: Soil erosion work, Limestone Creek Watershed Demonstration Project

CCC Companies: #755, #1778

Enrollee Type: Junior, Veteran

KHRI #: 183-159

Site Condition & Analysis: Few features observed in area, long term cultivation of majority of camp area has likely destroyed much of the site integrity

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Some limited potential for intact archaeological resources on site margin.

Historical Summary: Camp Lebanon was established in part due to persistent efforts on the part of the Lebanon “Commercial Club” to lure a camp to the area with hopes of securing a coveted lake

construction project. While the presence of a CCC company was successfully brought about, the work project was more modest in scale, consisting of reshaping and filling gullies, terracing, and constructing ponds and small erosion control check dams of earth or brush on private property throughout the area. Company #755, the first company associated with the camp, arrived in the fall of 1933 and was comprised primarily of Nebraska enrollees. The following spring the company was reassigned to a project near Albion, Nebraska leaving the future of the Lebanon camp uncertain. Veteran Company #1778 was moved into the area in June 1934 from work they had completed at Hays. This company joined the Limestone Creek Demonstration Project being carried out in nearby Jewell County.

Camp Lebanon was established through lease of private property and the campsite is today in private ownership. Much of the former camp location lies in a cultivated field that was covered thickly in wheat stubble at the time of the field visit. The camp is situated on a flat terrace adjacent to the sharply meandering and steeply banked White Rock Creek (Figure 12). A serpentine swale of the same creek crosses along the front of the camp on the south. The two drainage features effectively confine the camp to a small bend of the creek. Historical photographs depict a number of elongated barracks buildings covering much of this area along with typical camp facilities such as a mess hall, headquarters, recreation hall/canteen, and officers' and foremen's quarters (Figure 13). The swale apparently stayed dry during much of the period of the camp and was used stage vehicles and equipment along with nearby garage and machine sheds.

At the time of a brief site visit, observed camp remains were limited to a wooded and grassy strip between the field and the steep creek bank on the north (Figure 12). Here a concrete floor/foundation of the camp bath house was recorded (Figure 14). The northwest corner of the feature is hanging off the bank of the creek indicating how much White Rock Creek has meandered in the decades since the site was occupied. To the southwest of this feature a band of chalky gravel and other debris was noted about four inches below ground surface. A short distance away to the northeast along a steep, wooded slope a rectangular concrete box of unknown function was observed. Nearby is a scatter of concrete pad fragments, footings, and other debris comprising a loose push pile of camp related architectural debris. Apart from this relatively small area of ruins, no evidence of Camp Lebanon was found. It is likely that with better surface visibility, additional artifacts could be found scattered across the cultivated field, but years of cultivation has likely destroyed the integrity of period remains in this area.



Figure 12. Sketch map of Camp Lebanon showing ruins and areas described in text overlaying modern aerial.



Figure 13. Photo of Camp Lebanon taken in January, 1934 (Scott Stanton Collection).



Figure 14. Concrete floor and foundation of former bath house located in thick grass north of cultivated field.

4.5 Cherokee County

Community: Scammon

Camp Name: Camp Naylor

Legal Location: NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 7, Township 32, Range 24E

Established: Spring 1933

Project: Mined land reclamation (KDWPT- Mined Land Wildlife Area)

CCC Company: #735, #736

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: Camp – 021-505 ; School- 021-502

Site Condition & Analysis: Survey of site was not possible due to lack of access to private property, no ruins observed in the area.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Limited potential for intact archaeological resources, no remaining structures on site.

Historical Summary: Camp Naylor, named for Scammon Mayor and benefactor A. E. Naylor, was established as one of the earliest Kansas CCC camps in June 1933 along with several other southeast Kansas camps. Their task was the reclamation of waste ground resulting from strip mine operations in the region. Thousands of acres of ground lay in ruin from the practice of using mechanical shovels to strip off the layers of ground overlying thin deposits of coal in much of the area. The resulting terrain of alternating linear pits and tailing dumps represented a monumental task of labor, a job well suited for companies of young men needing work to do. Over the course of their stay, Company #735 leveled high dumps by hand and planted thousands of trees over these reclaimed acres. In the summer of 1934, Company #736 was also assigned to the Scammon camp, however this assignment appears to have been temporary and carried out to prepare men to form the core of a company to be assigned elsewhere shortly.

Camp Naylor was located west of the Frisco rail line passing along the west side of Scammon. Lincoln School, a large, two story frame building located along 3rd Street had gone unused for some time and found a new life as the company headquarters and hospital facility. Began as a tent camp, by late fall efforts to establish a more permanent quarters resulted in the acquisition of over 30 surplus boxcars from the Missouri-Kansas-Texas railroad for modification for camp buildings including X-shaped barracks, a mess hall, officers' quarters, and other buildings. These

boxcar structures were located throughout the grounds of the former school which were prepared for use by spreading a layer of stone chat as a base for the buildings and general foot traffic around the grounds (Figure 15). A wood frame recreation hall was added later along with other facilities as necessary. Storage of camp trucks and other equipment was arranged for in nearby Scammon.



Figure 15. Lincoln School, Scammon, Kansas (Kansas Memory).



Figure 16. View of Camp Naylor from Lincoln School (Chris Naylor Collection).

Today, little remains of the former campground. The ruins of the old school are clearly visible and offer a useful landmark for relocating the positions of other former camp buildings, however the property is privately owned and access for field survey could not be arranged (Figure 16). Observation of aerial photos and inspection from nearby public ROW suggest that the presence of features is likely. Considering the present and long-term use of the property as a small pasture and the relatively intact ruin of the school, the grounds do not appear to have been heavily modified in the decades since Camp Naylor was there.



Figure 17. Sketch map of Camp Naylor showing ruins and areas described in text overlaying modern aerial.

4.6 Crawford County

Community: Farlington

Camp Name: Camp Farlington

Legal Location: SW ¼ of Section 32, Township 25, Range 24

Established: Spring 1935

Project: Crawford County State Lake (KDWPT- Crawford State Park)

CCC Company: #788

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: 037-0000-00186

Site Condition & Analysis: Few ruins observed in the area, area has been heavily modified and subject to long term park development likely destroying much of the site integrity.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Some potential for intact archaeological resources, one remaining structure on site.

Historical Summary: In southeast Kansas near the community of Farlington, a group of locals envisioned a small drainage as the perfect location for a lake, hoping it could be used for recreation and would attract interest throughout the region. The project came under the auspices of the KFFGC with thoughts of a lake and surrounding park property to support outdoor activities. Company #788 was transferred to the project when they finished constructing a lake in Finney County in June of 1935. Over the next four years the company called the project and Camp Farlington home. The camp was conveniently located immediately west of the lake pool and west end of the dam with project garage, maintenance buildings, and other shop facilities situated on the east side of camp nearest the project. Within the camp compound, two rows of barracks flanked the central parade ground, camp PX and education building, bath house and water tower. Project headquarters and offices were to the front (north) end of camp while the mess hall/kitchen was to the rear (south) (Figure 18).

Today, the site of Camp Farlington lies just inside the entrance to Crawford State Park (Figure 19). An interpretive trail commemorating the camp and the work accomplished in building the lake is a prominent feature of the former camp. A bronze “CCC Worker” statue stands at the head of this trail which winds its way through the central camp area and past several vestiges of the camp. Few physical remains are visible of the former camp. Across the parking lot from newer restrooms and the swim beach are the remains of two of the camp maintenance/garage buildings consisting of concrete foundations and footings (Figure 20). A large wastewater lagoon occupies a portion of the southeast side of the camp area. A large push pile of debris to the south of the pond contains some building remnants along with abundant natural rock that lies near the surface throughout the area. Along the interpretive trail are a few areas of concrete rubble and occasional tin cans and ironstone table service associated with nearby buildings including the mess hall/kitchen area (Figure 21). A large concrete slab and the masonry structure that once supported the camp water tower also lie along the path. This structure is in excellent condition and houses a modest museum of project and camp photographs and a few camp related artifacts.



Figure 18. Oblique aerial view of Camp Farlington and the nearby lake project (Crawford State Lake Collection).

The water tower base is a rectangular structure of mortared limestone and approximately 20 feet tall (Figure 22). A doorway exists on the south side and a window on the north side. This building is in good condition and is currently maintained as a small museum dedicated to the CCC.

While much of the environs of old Camp Farlington have been modified to some degree, including destructive impacts such as the wastewater lagoon construction, potentially intact portions of the camp likely remain in the wooded area covering the south end of the camp and perhaps parts of the cleaned, landscaped area comprising the north end of the site as well since some of the observed remains were barely exposed to view suggesting that portions of the camp may lie just beneath the manicured lawn of the park.

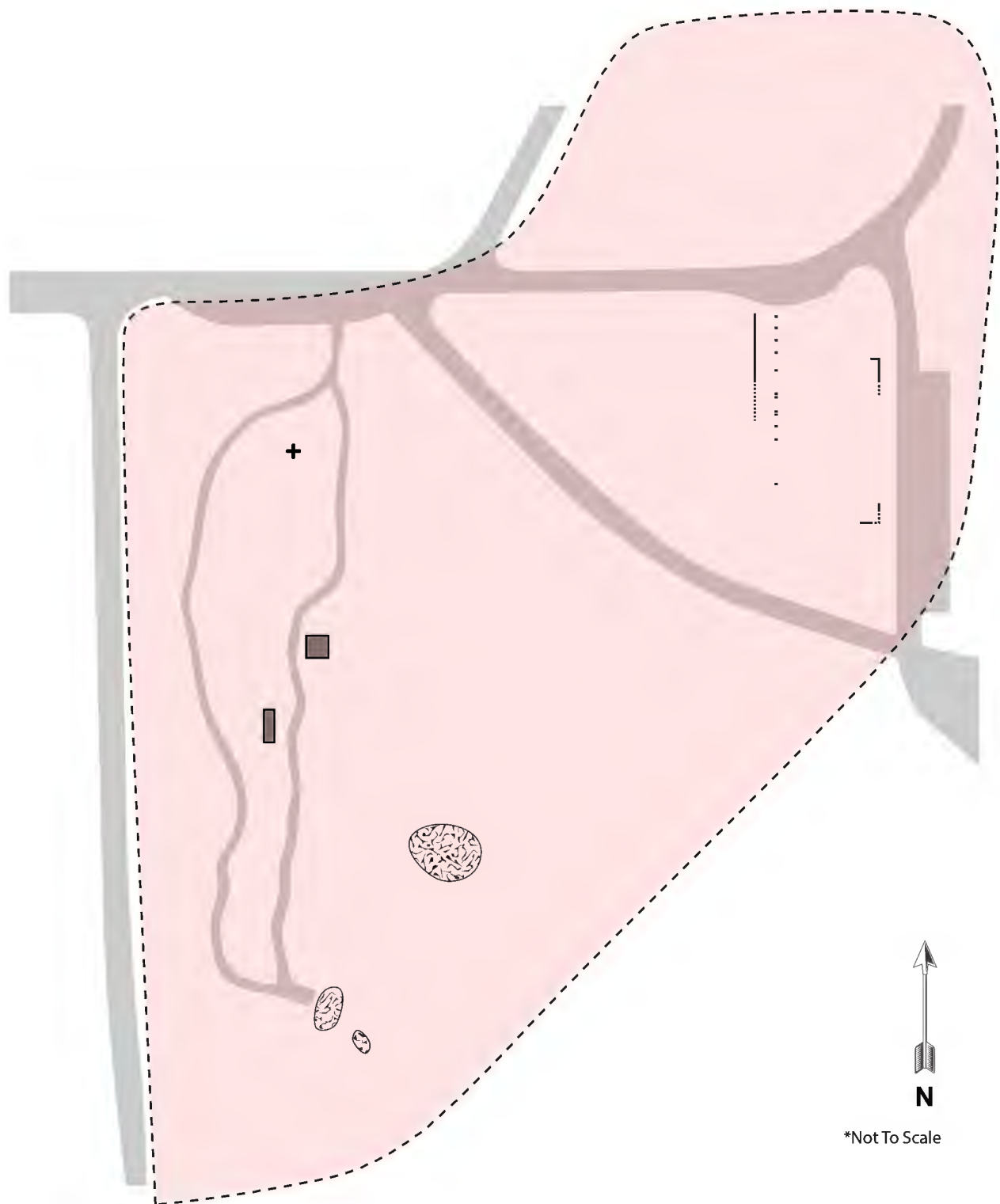


Figure 19. Sketch map of Camp Farlington showing observed ruins and areas described in text.



Figure 20. View southwest of concrete foundation ruin, Camp Farlington maintenance complex.



Figure 21. Ruins of mess hall/kitchen facility and associated debris.



Figure 22. View southeast of mortared limestone water tower base.

4.7 Scott County

Community: Scott City

Camp Name: Camp McGinnis

Legal Location: NESESE ¼ & SENESE ¼ of Section 2, Township 16, Range 33W

Established: Fall 1933

Project: Scott County State Lake & Park (KDWPT- Historic Lake Scott)

CCC Company: #731

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: 171-121

Site Condition & Analysis: Numerous ruins scattered through public area of park. Some impacts from park development/use, but potential good for intact deposits.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Good potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: The Scott County State Lake project was one of the early lake projects envisioned by the KFFGC. Work on the lake was completed in the late 1920s and the lake was opened with much celebration in the summer of 1930. Heavy rains in August 1933 along the Ladder Creek drainage that

forms the lake overwhelmed the dam and washed out the west end of the structure. Public outcry and petitions to Governor Landon helped secure CCC Company #731 in an emergency effort to repair the dam and save what was even then recognized to be one of the highlights in the Kansas state park system. Besides dam repairs, the company also provided labor for other park improvements. The company was redirected from a planned project at Atwood which was placed on hold until the work in Scott County was completed.

Camp McGinnis was established on a gentle ridge slope along the west shore of the lake within a short walk of the dam work (Figure 23). Living in a tent camp for the first few weeks after arrival, work progressed rapidly on a modest camp of around nine buildings that included four barracks, mess hall, recreation hall, bath house, and quarters for camp and project leadership. A three-kilowatt generator arrived by the end of the year to provide power to the camp.



Figure 23. Overview of Camp McGinnis with lake in background.

Today much of the old camp is located in one of the improved modern campgrounds at the lake with various camper pads with utilities scattered across the lower reaches of the camp. The ruins of all the major camp facilities are still visible today as concrete foundations or concrete floor/foundation features (Figure 23). Occasional artifacts consistent with the time period are present in the area as well as several larger depressions that appear to have been associated with the former camp. In 2009, the Kansas Historical Society helped define the various features of the camp. They also located a portion of one structure that was defined on the basis of a rectangular area of nails on the rear of one structure

corresponding to the location of a large canvas tent attached to the building. The tent can be seen in one period photograph of the camp (Figure). Despite obvious impacts to the camp from years of public use, it appears that the site retains good integrity as limited investigations have demonstrated.

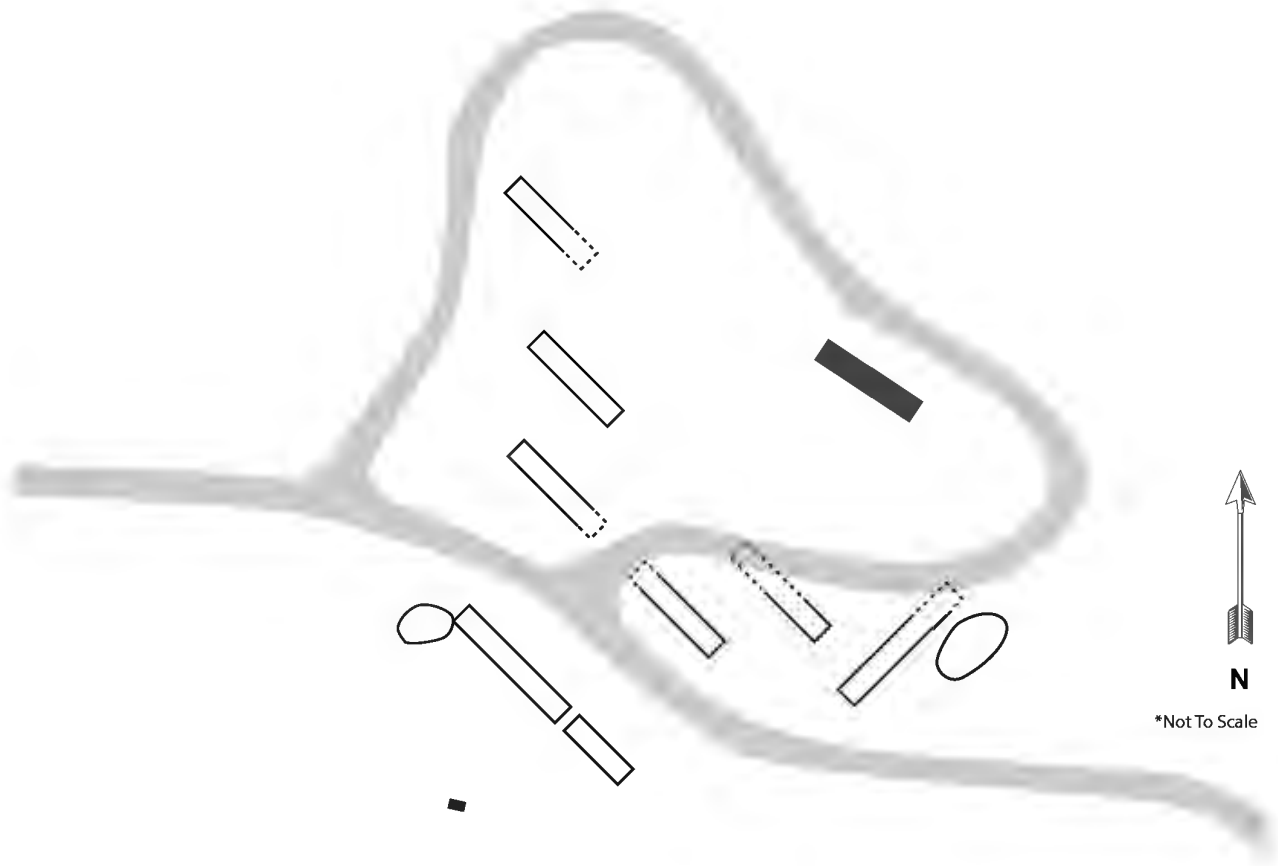


Figure 24. Sketch map of Camp McGinnis showing observed ruins in relation to modern park roads.

4.8 Woodson County

Community: Toronto

Camp Name: Camp Toronto/Camp Woodson

Legal Location: SENWNW $\frac{1}{4}$, SWNENW $\frac{1}{4}$, NWNENW $\frac{1}{4}$, & SENENW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 14, Township 26, Range 14E

Established: Summer 1933/Spring 1934

Project: Lake Fegan (KDWPT- Woodson State Fishing Lake)

CCC Company: #1715, #1709, #2735

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: 207-149

Site Condition & Analysis: Ruins, some features appear intact, other areas disturbed to unknown extent including development that has destroyed portions of the site.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. High potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: The Woodson County project was brought about when landowner Ben Fegan agreed to deed property he owned southwest of Yates Center to the State of Kansas for the purposes of building a lake in a scenic spring fed valley among the northern limits of the Chautauqua Hills. Construction began in earnest in the summer of 1933 as the project was one of the initial ventures carried out by the CCC in Kansas. Company #1715, organized in early June 1933 was sent to work on the project initially. The company lived in a tent camp located on the fairgrounds in Toronto until more permanent quarters could be completed near the lake project itself. A high ridge situated on the west side of the valley provided a suitable setting for their camp (Figure 25).



Figure 25. Oblique aerial view of two CCC camps and Lake Fegan project area (Kansas Memory).

The following spring Company #1709 moved from mine reclamation work in southeast Kansas to provide support for the large construction project. Accompanying the company on their move was their camp comprised of boxcar structures brought by truck and trailer nearly 100 miles from Pittsburg. This camp was located directly west of the original camp and near the boundary of the state property (Figure 25). Once reconstructed on location, these two camps operated independently and provided crews to work in shifts on the lake project. Company #1715 was reassigned to a new lake project in Anderson County in

late 1934. Company #2735 arrived to support the later stages of lake construction in late 1935 when Company #1709 was reassigned to a Nebraska project. They closed the camp in late summer 1936 upon completing the work at Lake Fegan.

While very distinct in appearance each camp contained roughly the same types of structures for the men. The east camp, comprised of the more standard camp structure style, included four large barracks and mess and recreation halls arranged through the central portion of the camp with leadership quarters on the west end of the camp and various garage, equipment sheds, a blacksmith, and supply sheds on the east side of camp. A few of these ancillary structures were boxcar buildings. The west camp was nearly entirely comprised of boxcars arranged in various patterns depending on the function- an E-shaped structure formed the headquarters for the camp and clusters of box cars formed the superintendent's quarters and officers' quarters. These structures were all located in the east side of the camp complex. Five barracks formed from X-shaped alignments of four boxcars surrounding a central room covered the camp center. The only large frame-built structures in the west camp included the mess hall and kitchen on the south side of the compound while across the camp to the north was an elongated education building (Figure 25).

Today, portions of the east camp survive but have been impacted by lake improvements over the years including a maintenance and facilities compound in what was the center of the former camp area, a recently built building in the southwest portion of the campground, and access roads passing through the area along the west side of the lake (Figure 26). The concrete floor/foundation of the bath house, a latrine, and a small scatter of structural debris where a former box car held coal and wood lie on the southeast side of the modern facilities compound (Figure 27). Dense vegetation likely obscures the remains of other camp features in the area. Scattered debris marks the presence of former camp features to the north of the facilities area. More features were noted in the west camp area including a masonry chimney and small stones outlining former paths surrounding a former structure, a concrete stoop inscribed to denote a former superintendent's quarters, an inscribed flagpole base, and the brick, concrete, and limestone remains of the former education building (Figures 28-31). Other stone and concrete alignments, low linear ditches/depressions, and occasional loose clusters of structural debris were observed throughout the area. An overgrown area covering the extreme south side of the former camp compound includes a beehive shaped masonry structure that may be an oven or incinerator associated with the nearby mess hall/kitchen complex, more shallow ditches across the area, and other ruins and debris. While the site has been impacted by past improvements, much remains today and there appears to be good context for both features and associated artifacts across portions of both camp locations.

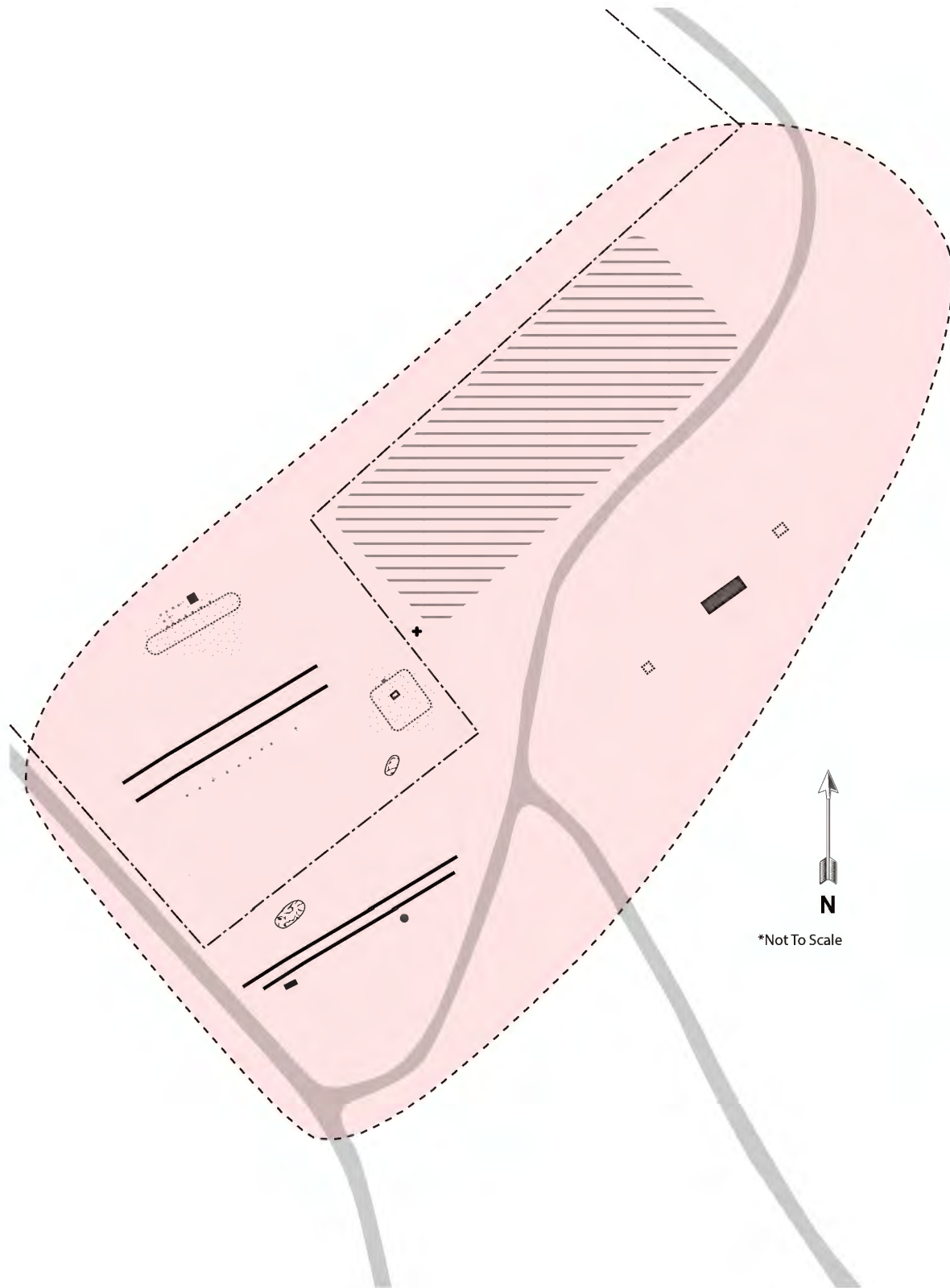


Figure 26. Sketch map of Camp Toronto/Camp Woodson vicinity showing observed ruins in relation to modern park roads.



Figure 27. View west of concrete foundation and floor of bath house (2012).



Figure 28. View northeast of rustic limestone chimney and surrounding linear stone feature (2012).



Figure 29. Concrete flagpole base inscribed “C.C.C.-CO. 1709-1934” (2012).



Figure 30. Concrete stoop inscribed “Supt’s Quarters” (2012).



Figure 31. View northwest of brick, stone, and concrete fireplace ruin and associated footings of former education building (2012).

4.9 Sheridan County

Community: Quinter

Camp Name: Camp Sheridan

Legal Location: SWSWSE ¼ & SESWSE ¼ of Section 35, Township 10, Range 26W

Established: Summer 1934

Project: Sheridan County State Lake (KDWPT- Sheridan Wildlife Area)

CCC Company: #2732, #2733

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: 063-33

Site Condition & Analysis: Numerous ruins present. Intact deposits likely despite some post-occupation use of area for recreation.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. High potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: Company #2732 was organized in mid-summer 1934 at Camp Kinney in Finney County. A few weeks later the company was directed to a new project located along the Saline River northeast of Quinter to begin work on a new state lake project there. The company lived in a tent camp the first couple of months while the main camp construction was completed nearby. Camp Sheridan was located on state property on the south side of the Saline River along the foot of the nearby rolling uplands (Figure 32). Company #2732 completed construction of the dam in about one year, however when heavy rains brought lake levels up quickly, the dam failed in the core beneath the structure and could not retain water. Work began to repair this fault and in the fall of 1935 Company #2733 replaced Company #2732 in this work and completed the necessary repairs during the following year.



Figure 32. View of Camp Sheridan showing camp layout and project area in background (Glenn Howell Collection).

Camp Sheridan is noteworthy as one of the few examples of CCC camps constructed mainly of adobe blocks manufactured on location. Frame structures were also built for some camp facilities. The main camp compound formed a tight rectangle facing the river valley (Figure 32). Barracks flanked the camp headquarters with mess and recreations halls situated to the north along with a bath house, hospital, and project garage and maintenance shops. Quarters for officers and project foremen were also situated in the complex.

Today what remains of Camp Sheridan appears to be well preserved with many camp buildings retaining their foundations (Figure 33). Of all of the adobe-built camps, this camp is perhaps the most well preserved with individual building foundations partially obscured by the melted adobe walls that have effectively capped the occupation age ground surface in and around these buildings. Portions of at least ten camp buildings including barracks, mess and recreation halls, headquarters, and bath house were clearly visible with the obscured remains of at least one or two more noted as well (Figure 34, Figure 35). No camp structures remain standing at the location.

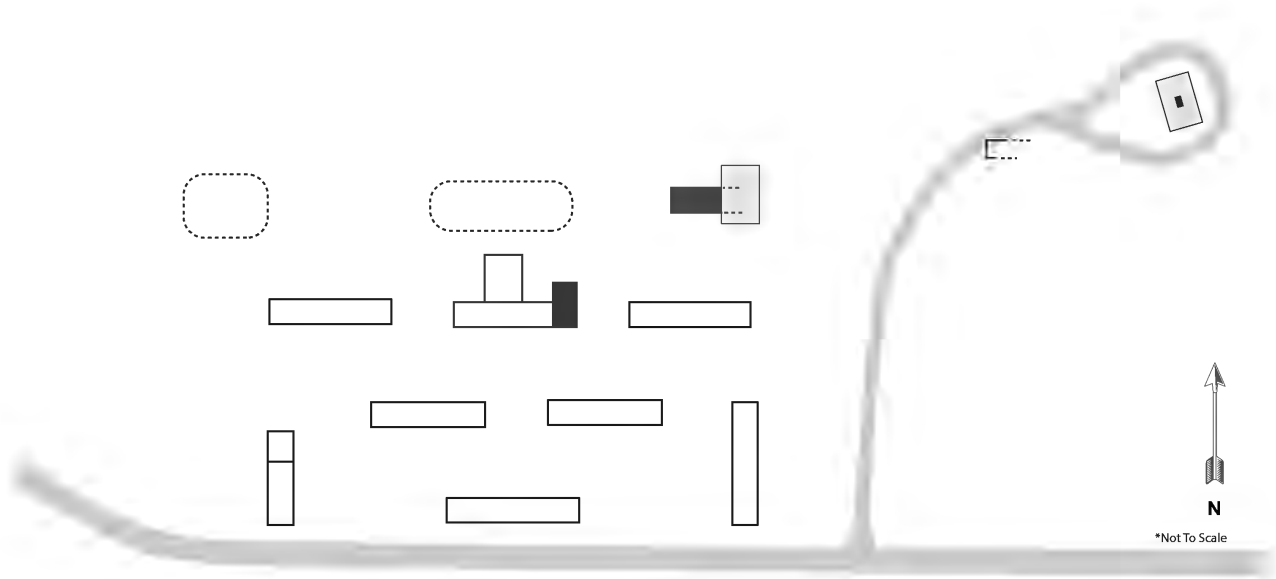


Figure 33. Sketch map of Camp Sheridan showing observed ruins in relation to modern roads and park shelter house on upper right.

The area has been subject to use and some park related development since the camp closed, particularly in the first couple of decades after construction when the lake still held water. Two shelter houses were built, one near the northeast side of camp and another within the limits of the former camp. Only the northeast shelter house stands today. The ruins of the latter partially overlap one of the camp building ruins (Figure

35). The camp area is covered with a thick layer of short to mid-length grass and weeds with scattered trees in the area which obscures the remains of the campsite to the casual observer.

Figure 34. View south of concrete foundation.





Figure 35. View southeast of vicinity of overlapping camp building ruin (concrete floor and foundation segments in foreground) and ruins of shelter house (background).

4.10 Clark County

Community: Ashland

Camp Name: Camp Clark/Camp Bluff Creek

Legal Location: SESWSW ¼ of Section 25, Township 30, Range 23W

Established: Fall 1934/Summer 1936

Project: Clark County State Lake (KDWPT- Clark State Fishing Lake)

CCC Company: #785, #729, #4701

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: 025-30

Site Condition & Analysis: Ruins, some features appear intact, others destroyed, many areas disturbed to unknown extent, period building likely relocated to current site.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Some potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: In the fall of 1934 work began on a KFFGC lake in Clark County. The project sought to impound Bluff Creek in a steep walled canyon north of Ashland. Initially Company #785, fresh from work in Minnesota, was assigned to the project. Less than a month later Company #729 joined the effort upon helping to complete work on a dam in Finney County. Eventually Company #4701 also assisted for a period when Company #785 was reassigned to a park project in Decatur County. Regardless of who was involved, the work remained the same: construct a large earthen dam with concrete spillway and riprapped dam face.

Camp Bluff Creek was established on a broad, gently sloping hillside along the east side of the valley. The foot of the camp lay a short distance above the future lake pool level and extended upward from there. Level pads for camp buildings were created along the slope with a central corridor left open between the rows of buildings. At the upper (east) end of camp were two large standpipe water towers

while the lower (west) end of camp consisted of a parade ground with flagpole surrounded by a rustic stone retaining wall and low earthwork (Figure 36). Since the camp was comprised of two companies being assigned to the project for much of the time it was underway, Camp Bluff Creek was a large camp complete with duplicate facilities such as barracks, mess and recreation halls, officers' quarters, and bath houses along with project headquarters and foremen's quarters and other associated structures. A large storage shed and maintenance compound was located nearer the dam location with several buildings located on the southwest corner of the state property near the west end of the dam. Company #4701 resided in a tent camp on the property for a time as well. The camp was in place long enough to have prepared company streets outlined with vertically set local stone and other semi-permanent developments that may be visible today. The location of this short term camp has not been confidently relocated but it was somewhere on the west side of the valley on the upstream end of the lake.

Today the hillside camp location includes a former residence and maintenance shops, as well as gravel and paved roads, gravel parking areas, and restroom facilities developed as part of the lake infrastructure in the decades since the lake was constructed (Figure 37). Visible ruins of the camp include scattered segments of concrete walks and isolated concrete pads representing stoops and other construction



Figure 36. Overview of Camp Bluff Creek showing double camp layout overlooking the creek valley and future lakebed.

associated with the locations of former buildings. A long stone retaining wall separates two leveled areas of the camp. A short series of stone steps and some scattered stone with concrete pad nearby mark the

former location of a quarters on the southwest side of the camp along the entrance road (Figure 38). The location of the camp flagpole area is situated near the lakeshore (Figure 39). The elongated leveled areas on the hillside created for building placement remain relatively unchanged and have been targeted for later buildings on the landform. Few foundation remnants were observed, however by the appearance of most visible remnants, much of the former camp may be shallowly buried.

Only one structure appears to date to the period of the camp and has most likely been moved from its original position (Figure 40). It is a smaller utility building with the typical moderate sloped roof, slight eave, and exposed rafters. It has a double grouping of nine-paned windows on one side. A door with three elongated panes of glass is on the front end along with a sliding shop door. An exterior lamp hangs on this end. It has a newer concrete pad on this end.

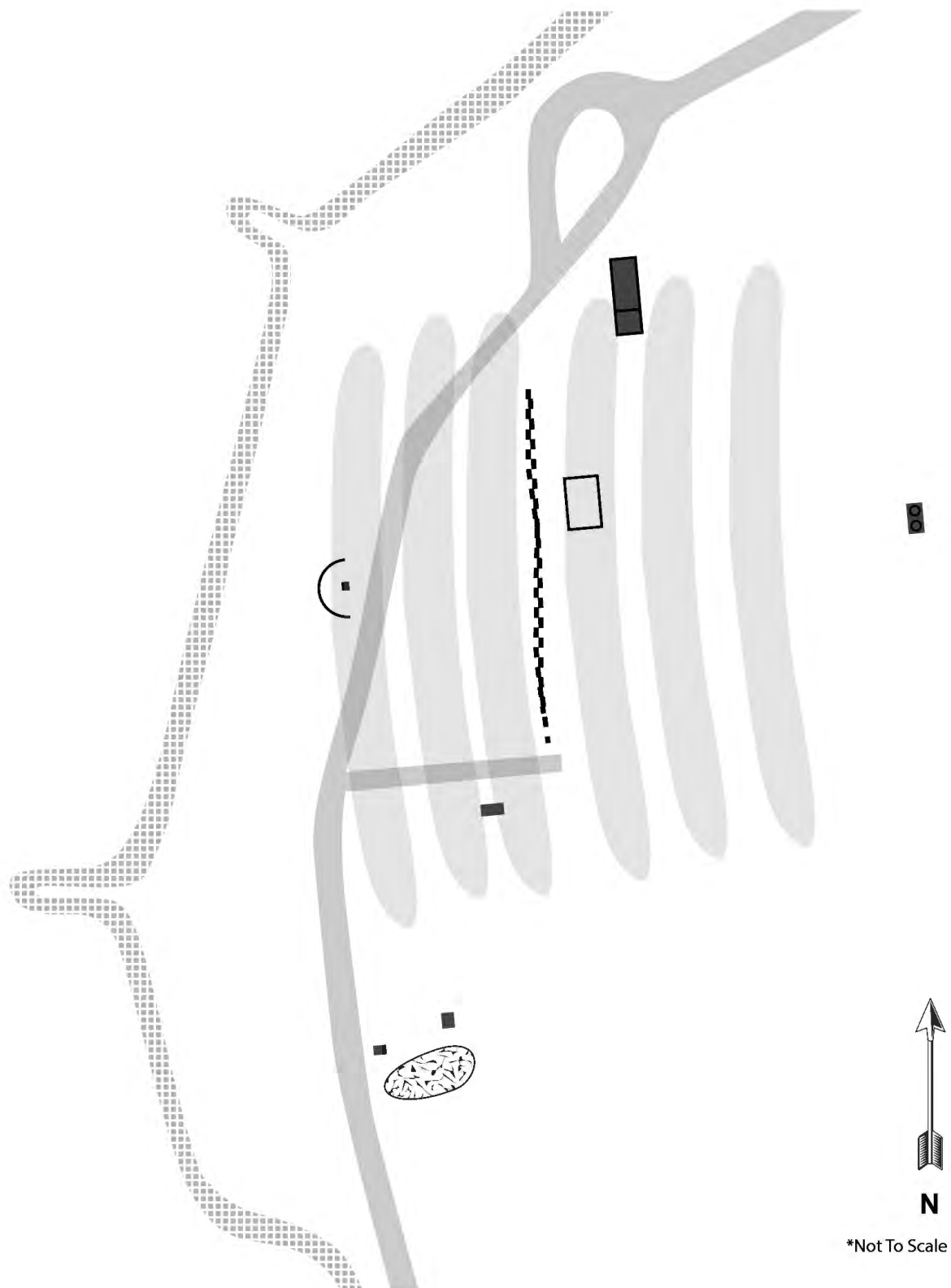


Figure 37. Sketch map of Camp Bluff Creek showing observed ruins and other camp landscape modifications in relation to modern roads and the riprapped lake shoreline.



Figure 38. Rustic stone steps leading to a level area that formerly held a camp structure (2017).



Figure 39. Dry laid stone retaining wall and earth fill flagpole platform (2017).



Figure 40. View northeast of wood frame utility building relocated to the present location from elsewhere in the camp (2017).

4.11 Jewell County

Community: Burr Oak

Camp Name: Camp White Rock

Legal Location: NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 22, Township 2, Range 9W

Period: Fall 1934

Project: Soil conservation, Limestone Creek Watershed Demonstration Project

CCC Company: #1779

Enrollee Type: Veteran

KHRI #: 089-147

Site Condition & Analysis: Few features observed in the area, area has been extensively modified likely destroying much of the site integrity

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Limited potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: Veteran Company #1779 stationed at Burr Oak was part of a group of CCC companies/camps attached to a project demonstrating soil conservation techniques in the Limestone Creek watershed in Jewell County, Kansas. The project itself was exceptional for serving as one of the proving grounds for soil conservation techniques that were in their infancy at the time. Camps at nearby Ionia and Lebanon also participated in the local work consisting of construction of terraces, ponds, and erosion check dams made of quarried stone, concrete, and even brush. For much of their first year in the

area however, the company carried out similar work apart from being associated with a formal Soil Erosion Service demonstration project.

The camp was originally established several miles west of Burr Oak and near the community of Esbon along White Rock Creek. Initially a tent camp, the camp came to be comprised largely of railroad cars, an early solution to quickly needed camp quarters that was common for several of the early CCC camps in the state (Figure 41). Water shortages in the spring of 1934 led to a decision to relocate the camp to the outskirts of Burr Oak. Boxcars were put on trailers and hauled to the new location. Several other camp buildings were newly constructed onsite including project headquarters, mess hall, and bath house.



Figure 41. Boxcar barracks flanking road heading east into Burr Oak (Crawford Co. Genealogical Society).

Today, very little remains of Camp White Rock which is today found on two separate privately owned parcels (Figure 42). Based on the personal recollections of several individuals in the Burr Oak vicinity and historic photographs of the camp location, it is clear that the camp was located on the north and south sides of modern Birch Street which reaches a dead end at the camp location. On the south side is a large salvage yard. This property was not assessed during a field visit to the location and it is possible that there may be features associated with the camp located among the vehicles on the property.

The property north of Birch Street is comprised of a small agricultural field with a diagonal drive leading northwest to a graveled lot and storage area along White Rock Creek (Figure 42). Several of the camp common buildings and leadership quarters were situated in this vicinity. A large rustic stone chimney constructed of mortared chalk limestone stands as the lone testament of the former camp location (Figure 43). Some exposed concrete in the gravel lot nearby may also represent a part of this former structure.

The stonework stands approximately 12 feet tall and is 4 feet wide at the base. This massive feature houses two fireplaces (back-to-back), above which were electric lights built into the masonry on the ends of each fireplace mantle. Based on similarities to a masonry chimney stack and crown observed in a period photograph of the officer's quarters at Camp White Rock, it is likely that this fireplace feature is associated with this building (Figure 44).



Figure 42. Sketch map of Camp White Rock vicinity showing chimney location in relation to modern features described in text shown on modern aerial.



Figure 43. Period photograph of officers' quarters showing chimney feature(Crawford Co. Genealogical Society).

Local information indicates that the area south of Birch Street was at one time a small residential Burr Oak neighborhood. Further information indicates that housing consisted of former barracks or other buildings from the camp. At least some of these buildings were dispersed into the surrounding area at some time in the past and it is rumored that several of these former box car camp buildings exist yet today but that none are well preserved. Further information leading to possible site visits to these locations was not possible during the field survey. The former mess hall was moved into Burr Oak and used for many years as a lunchroom on the south side of the local school grounds and even served as a community building in later years. The building fell into disuse and gradual decay and was razed several years ago in preparation for construction of a new public library nearby.

4.12 Mitchell County

Community: Cawker City

Camp Name: Camp Mitchell

Legal Location: NESESE $\frac{1}{4}$ & NWSESE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 19, Township 6, Range 10W

Established: Fall 1934

Project: Soil conservation, primarily small dam construction

CCC Company: #1763

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: 123-298

Site Condition & Analysis: Few features observed in the area, area has been extensively modified likely destroying much of the site integrity.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Some potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: This camp and project were initiated to continue work in north-central Kansas towards small soil conservation projects on private property throughout the area that would help stem soil erosion in general and contribute to the conservation of water for groundwater recharge and livestock water. Over the course of their stay near Cawker City, Company #1763 constructed nearly 60 earthen pond dams.

Camp Mitchell was constructed on the grounds of Lincoln Park, a community park that witnessed Chautauquas, picnics, and other small outdoor events since the late 1800s. The grounds were covered with many mature oaks and offered a good setting for the camp. After arriving at Cawker City from their previous project location in Minnesota, Company #1763 erected a tent camp to reside in while more substantial quarters were constructed and project work began. There is little information that has come to light to date regarding details of Camp Mitchell itself.

As it exists today, there are scattered remnants of the camp lying on a relatively level alluvial terrace on the banks of Oak Creek (Figure 44). The property lies within the limits of the Bureau of Reclamation's Waconda Lake environs. Extensive and long term inundation in 1993 killed the old oaks scattered throughout the area leaving behind numerous deadwood and abundant regrowth of other trees. Most evidence of the former camp consists of small depressions or occasional low mounds containing mixed debris (primarily chalky gravels and small concrete fragments). Isolated rubble includes examples of concrete footings and foundation fragments, limestone cobbles, a tin building ventilator, and iron pipe segments obscured in thick grass and weeds. An access road/corridor extending to the camp location from old U.S. 24 highway consists of a well prepared, slightly elevated road bed with drainage ditches. At the time of survey, a dense cover of weeds and grass was prevalent over much of the site obscuring all but the largest features. The ground surface in a dense thicket of small trees afforded better visibility where whiteware, window and container glass, and miscellaneous metal including nails, iron strap fragments, etc. were observed along with at least one clear structure related depression. Near the entrance to the camp and close to old U.S. 24 Highway is a rectangular concrete pad/foundation which may be a former well location based on the presence of iron pipe extending below the floor. It is unclear if this feature is associated with the nearby camp or not since it is situated some distance from camp, but its proximity to the camp entrance makes its association a possibility. The feature appears to date to the general period of the camp based on the feature form/construction and materials. There was no documentation found that mentioned the location or source of the water supply that served the camp making it impossible at this point to determine the possible association of this particular feature.

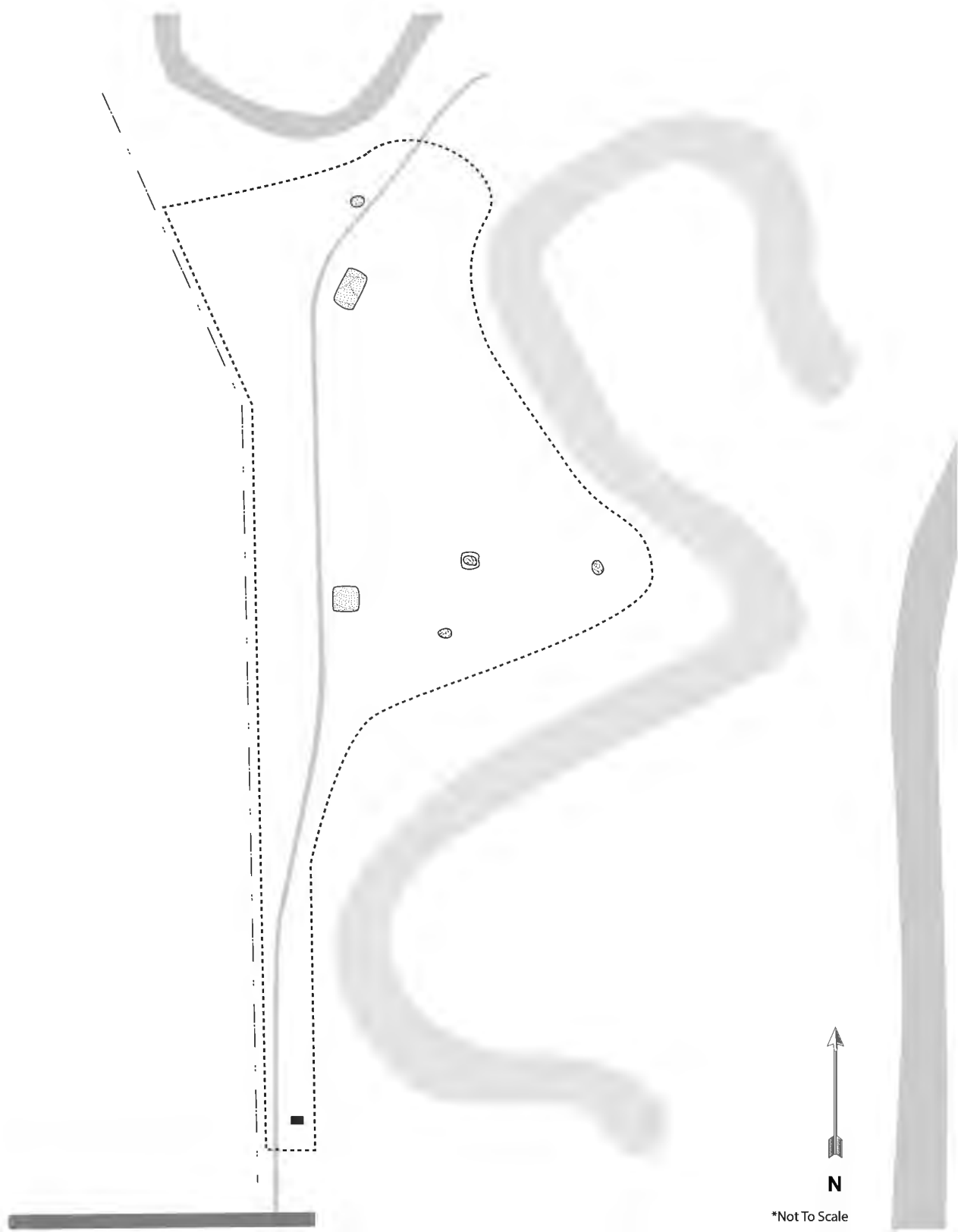


Figure 44. Sketch map of Camp Mitchell vicinity showing observed ruins in relation to modern landscape features such as roads and nearby creek channels.

4.13 Nemaha County

Community: Seneca

Camp Name: Camp Nemaha #1/Nemaha #2

Legal Location: NWNESE ¼ & NENESE ¼ of Section 23, Township 3, Range 12E

Established: Fall 1934

Project: Nemaha County State Lake (KDWPT- Nemaha Wildlife Area)

CCC Company: #2735, #1779

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: 131-343

Site Condition & Analysis: Ruins, some features appear intact, other areas disturbed to unknown extent. Most areas have been subject to routine public use for decades.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Good potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: The project to construct a state lake in Nemaha County fell to two CCC companies, Company #1797 and Company #2735 who arrived onsite within a couple of weeks of each other in the fall of 1934. About a year after arriving in Nemaha County Company #2735 was reassigned for nearly a year to Woodson County to assist with lake construction there during which time the ranks of Company #1797 swelled to help make up for the missing manpower on the local project. After nearly a year away Company #2735 returned to the Nemaha County project before being permanently relocated to Marysville to undertake soil conservation work there. When the company departed, the abandoned camp was dismantled and sent elsewhere to form another camp.

These dual camps were situated on the north side of a county road skirting the lake project area along the northern boundary of the state property. Company #1797 occupied the more westerly Nemaha #1 while Company #2735 settled a short distance to the east across a small intermittent drainage at Nemaha #2. A common maintenance compound with sheds, garages, and other facilities was located immediately southwest of the camps. Two large water towers were positioned on the northeast corner of this compound nearest the camps (Figure 45). Both camps had large mess hall/kitchen facilities situated near the roadside. Barracks were closely gathered nearby with project offices and camp headquarters clustered in adjoining areas (Figure 46). Numerous office and leadership quarters included masonry chimneys. Bath houses and recreation halls complete the basic facilities present at the sites. The township hall was relocated from nearby for use as a classroom facility (Figure 46).

In multiple trips to the general camp location, portions of these three separate compounds (two company camps and the maintenance facility) were surveyed and recorded. Additional research in between visits provided insights into locations of features that might yet exist and provided better locational information on the camps and their positions on the landscape. The remains are widely scattered over more than one-third of a mile and include a rustic “Lake Nemaha” sign and information kiosk, sidewalks, portions of concrete foundation, and a small utility building on the west end of the maintenance compound. The

larger maintenance and storage yard has no extant features as far as observation allowed. Closer to the camp complex were the footings of the two water towers (Figure 47).

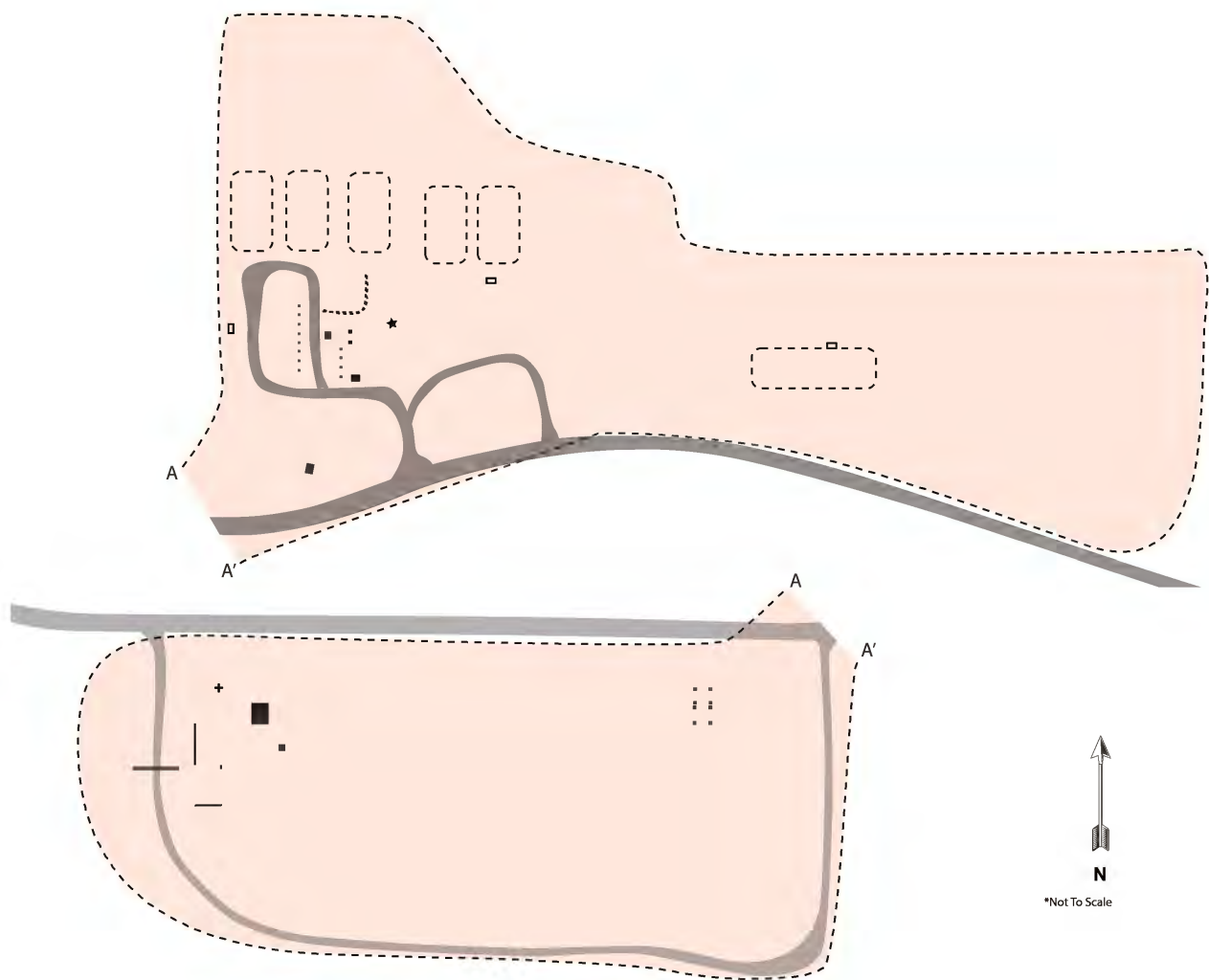


Figure 45. Sketch map of Camp Nemaha #1 and #2 showing observed ruins. Lower portion represents western extension containing maintenance shop and garage facilities (note matchline).



Figure 46. View of Camp Nemaha #1 from top of water tower. Township hall possibly pictured in foreground (Tod Bevitt Collection).



Figure 47. Concrete footings for water tower located in dense cover.

Camp Nemaha #1 is in an area of the state property that has been used for recreational day use and includes mowed areas among mature trees and picnic tables. Several camp related features are present here including two fireplaces, portions of a masonry front porch, stone steps and retaining walls, and a large decorative masonry flag pole base (Figure 48, Figure 49). At least two rows of concrete footings and

concrete pads mark other building locations in the area as do a series of stepped cut/fill earthen pads marking the locations of a row of camp buildings on the north side of the grounds. Most of these former building locations are now occupied by private residences/cabins situated on small privately-owned lots bordering the state property. A few other building locations are situated to the north of this area in a cultivated field.

Continuing to the east, scant evidence of the former Camp Nemaha #2 was observed, partly due to the fact that this camp was moved when Company #2735 relocated to Marysville and in part because of the thickly overgrown nature of the landscape in this now wild area of the state property. A single masonry chimney and associated earthen pad mark the location of one structure in the camp. Other remnants were poorly defined at best. The chimney is visible attached to a camp building at the time of occupation and in a later image standing alone sometime after the Camp Nemaha #2 was abandoned but while Camp Nemaha #1 was still active (Figure 50). It is likely that there are still intact features associated with artifacts located in all three areas of the camp/maintenance complex but it is also likely that modification and continuity of use has impacted the CCC components to varying degrees.



Figure 48. Limestone and quartzite chimney on west side of Camp Nemaha #1 compound, facing west.



Figure 49. Decorative limestone and concrete flagpole base, facing northwest.

**Figure 50. Above: View of Camp Nemaha #2 looking west with Camp Nemaha #1 in background. Note structure with chimney (CCC Kansas District History n.d.)
Below: Same general view at a later date when Camp Nemaha #2 had been dismantled leaving a lone chimney marking the camp location (Tod Bevitt Collection).**



4.14 Anderson County

Community: Garnett

Camp Name: Camp Anderson

Legal Location: NENENW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 19, Township 20, Range 20E

Established: Fall 1934

Project: Lake Garnett/North Lake Park

CCC Company: #1715

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: 003-185

Site Condition & Analysis: Few ruins observed in the area, area has been heavily modified and subject to long term, regular public use likely destroying much of the site integrity.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Limited potential for intact archaeological resources, one period structure remains onsite.

Historical Summary: The CCC project at Garnett focused on constructing a lake a short distance north of town. Built at the time for the KFFGC, the property was acquired through a community effort of Garnett citizens and other interested parties with the land being deeded to the state prior to the beginning of the project. Company #1715 was formed at Fort Leavenworth and assigned to work in Woodson County initially where crews gained valuable lake construction experience. In the fall of 1935 the company arrived to a newly constructed camp located on a gently sloping hillside along the east side of the future lake, approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile southeast of the dam site (Figure 51).



Figure 51. Camp Anderson located across Lake Garnett from west end of dam (Anderson County Historical Society).

Arranged in a rectangular pattern, the camp layout consisted of leadership quarters (officers and forestry supervisors) on the south side of the compound, project headquarters and recreation hall upslope to the east, barracks across the north side, and camp hospital and mess hall on the west near the future shoreline. The project garage and shop buildings were to the south of the camp area.

In visits to the location as part of this survey and in the past few years, inspection of the general location of the camp has found few traces of the site (Figure 52). The area has been used continuously as part of a park complex that was developed around the lake with many New Deal era resources constructed on the property by WPA and NYA groups in the years after the camp was abandoned. The location of the mess hall is delineated by concrete footings and foundation segments covering an approximately 20 x 150 foot area near the shoreline (Figure 53). Other isolated footings and concrete remnants are observable through close inspection upslope from this feature, but nowhere did these remains define discrete features. It is considered equally possible that many camp related ruins may be shallowly buried or that they have been removed over the decades of use and development of the park grounds. Apart from exploratory excavation or use of remote sensing techniques such as ground penetrating radar, it is unlikely to know with certainty whether additional features are present in the vicinity.



Figure 52. Sketch map of Camp Anderson showing observed building/ruins in relation to modern features.



Figure 53. Concrete footings and foundation marking location of former Camp Anderson mess hall (2017).

One frame building located on the former campground was likely built (or at least used) for camp use. A large concrete foundation/floor appears to be associated with this structure. This rectangular, one story structure has a hipped roof with a ridge and slight eave with a wide band of trim. On the front, it is symmetrical with two windows and a central door (Figure 54). The door is of more modern construction. These currently existing windows, as well as boarded up windows on the sides, are elongated with a cornice on top.



Figure 54. Frame building with adjoining concrete floor/foundation, facing north.

4.15 Douglas County

Community: Lawrence

Camp Name: Lone Star #1/Lone Star #2

Legal Location: SWNENE ¼ & SENWNE ¼ of Section 14, Township 14, Range 18E

Established: Summer 1934/Fall 1934

Project: Lone Star Lake

CCC Company: #2734, #1764, #767, #1728

Enrollee Type: Junior, Junior African-American

KHRI #: 045-6388

Site Condition & Analysis: Few ruins observed in the area, area has been heavily modified and subject to long term, regular public use likely destroying much of the site integrity.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Limited potential for intact archaeological resources. Portion of the water tower survives.

Historical Summary: Lone Star Lake was originally conceived by a group of individuals who sold cabin lots in order to fund the purchase of the necessary property for a lake. This property, minus the small privately-owned cabin lots, was relinquished for lake construction. Ultimately Douglas County took ownership when additional acreage was required to complete the work and the county issued bonds to cover the purchase of the additional property. The project involved four different CCC companies over the nearly five years of construction. First on the scene was Company #2734, a newly formed company comprised in part of seasoned CCC enrollees from southeast Kansas and incoming recruits in the summer of 1934. A short time later, Company #1764 was recalled from Minnesota to assist in the work. Late in 1935 Company #767 arrived in relief of these earlier groups to continue the dam work. Finally, Company #1728 arrived in the fall of 1936 and assisted in completing the project. The lake was completed in 1939 but did not open to fishing until the following summer.

Camp Lone Star then consisted of two separate camps (designated #1 and #2) nestled tightly together on a small upland finger projecting out onto the lake project (Figure 55). Each camp was comprised of a group of barracks, officers' quarters, mess and recreation halls, and other buildings arranged in two fan-shaped alignments with company streets running between buildings and around each compound. Two large water towers were situated on the south side of the campground, the remains of one can yet be seen today. Project equipment storage and maintenance garages were situated to the west of and below the ridge holding the main encampment near the future shoreline allowing easy access onto the construction area.

Today the former camp area is the primary campground for Lone Star Lake (Figure 55). The area has been subject to considerable improvement over the years providing facilities for picnicking and campfires, camper hookups with utilities, restroom facilities and access roads around and through the campground. Despite all of these improvements traces of Camp Lone Star may be seen today, ranging from scattered limestone cobbles forming rough linear features to isolated concrete pads possibly

representing former building stoops or walks to more intact features. Notable among these are a number of rustic fireplaces left from former camp buildings that have had the chimneys removed in the past, a large stairway on the north side of the compound leading to a lower level overlooking the lake (now a parking area), and mortared limestone water tower base (Figure 56, Figure 57). It is likely that some ruins have been all but obliterated by past improvements and decades of use but it is also likely that other features are still present but have been buried or otherwise obscured by all of the activity ongoing at the site.



Figure 55. Sketch map of Camp Lone Star (#1 & #2) vicinity showing locations of observed features in relation to modern features described in text and shown on modern aerial.



Figure 56. Example of a rustic limestone fireplace building remnant repurposed for use in the campground, looking southeast.



Figure 57. Mortared limestone water tower base, looking southeast.

4.16 Wilson County

Community: Neodesha

Camp Name: Camp Bogue

Legal Location: SWSWNW ¼ & SESWNW ¼ of Section 21, Township 30, Range 16E

Established: Fall 1934

Project: Soil conservation

CCC Company: #784

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: 205-222

Site Condition & Analysis: Numerous features observed in the area including three structures, area has been seen little modification but continued use as part of a nearby farm.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. High potential for intact archaeological resources. Four former camp buildings exist at this location.

Historical Summary: The project at Neodesha was one of the more long-lived projects in Kansas, being established in October 1934 and continuously occupied into spring of 1941. During this time hundreds of miles of contour terraces, dozens of earthen pond dams, and many miles of drainage ditches and fencing were built along with hundreds of thousands of seedling trees planted and many acres of pasture restored by hundreds of enrollees who passed through the ranks of Company #784.

Camp Bogue was established on property just outside of and across the Verdigris River from the town of Neodesha. Former Kansas governor Harry Hines Woodring who served as Assistant Secretary and Secretary of War under Roosevelt between 1933 and 1940 was a Neodesha native and declined the honor of having the local camp named after him despite high enthusiasm on the part of camp and local residents alike. The camp consisted of at least 17 frame built structures including barracks, mess hall, recreation hall, SCS office, officers' and foremens' quarters, bath house, and machine sheds and shops (Figure 58).



Figure 58. Oblique aerial view of Camp Bogue showing the camp layout.

During the field visit, several buildings were recorded as well as a number of camp related features including concrete sidewalks, at least two poorly exposed concrete foundations, concrete floors/foundations, a concrete vehicle service rack, and a mortared limestone pedestal with concrete cap that once housed a large school bell (Figure 59, Figure 60). It is likely that scattered trees and brush as well as low but dense grass and weeds limited visibility of still other features. A graveled two-track access road from the nearby county road enters the camp vicinity from the east and continues around the camp in much the same manner that the camp road did at the time of use.

The field visit associated with this project represents a revisit of an area originally visited in 2009 which afforded the opportunity to photograph at least one building that has since been destroyed in an accidental fire in the recent past (Figure 61). A total of four other structures remain today in their original locations although one appears to have been modified or rebuilt sometime after a period aerial photograph of the structure while others have seen minor modification and continued use as part of ongoing farm activities in the decades since abandonment. After the camp closed, the buildings were left behind. The

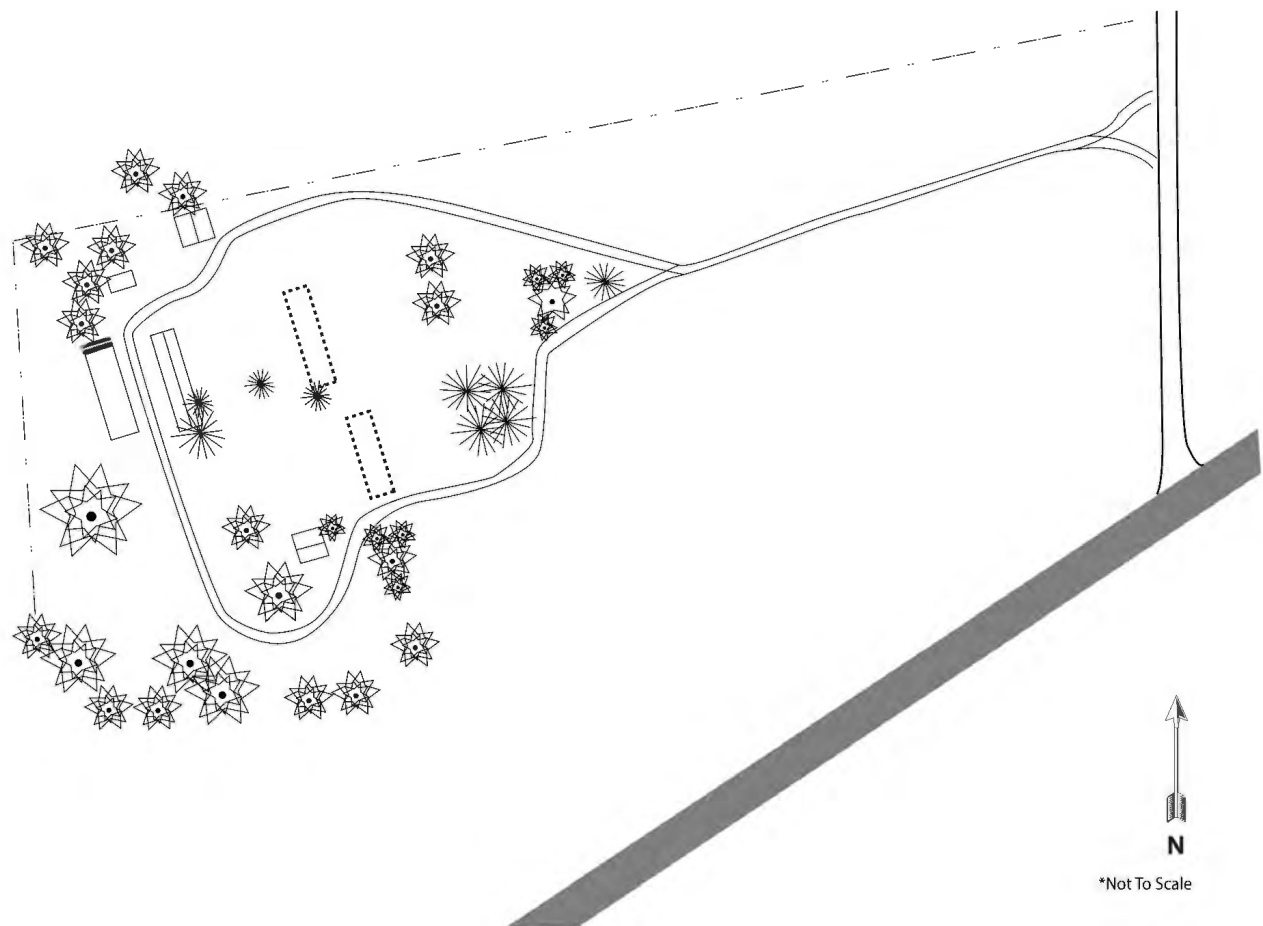


Figure 59. Sketch map of Camp Bogue showing ruins and structures associated with the former camp.

property and all buildings were eventually deeded to the Seward-Ayars American Legion Post in 1943. The bulk of the buildings at the camp were sold to two local individuals and moved off-site. This reportedly included moving some buildings to locations in and around Neodesha although no instances of these were identified as part of this survey. Besides several of the outbuildings, the officer's quarters, the SCS office, and the recreation hall were retained as part of the property. The officer's quarters became part of a new Legion Post at the site and was the structure that burned to the ground several years ago.



Figure 60. Concrete and limestone service rack located on north side of a maintenance building for the camp, looking southwest.



Figure 61. Former officers' quarters/American Legion post destroyed in a recent fire at the site (2009).

Building #1: Wood shop building (Figure 62). The tin lined roof is end gabled with a moderate slant, slight eaves with exposed rafters. The front of the structure has two folding shop doors and two gable six-paned windows. The side walls of the structure have four nine-paned windows in an asymmetrical pattern. The rear of the building has two nine-paned windows with the frame of a no longer existent door in between and two six-paned gable windows. The base is of concrete. Much of the paint on the exterior has been worn away.

Building #2: Small shed with a single door on the end and vent. This building has a slanted roof and corrugated metal siding (Figure 63).

Building #3: Elongated wood machine shed with a slanted roof and a concrete vehicle lift at one end (Figure 64, Figure 60). This end has two nine-paned windows and shop doors at the front. The other end has no end windows and is partially sided with corrugated metal.

Building #4: This building is a wooden barracks style building with a metal corrugated roof (Figure 65). It is end gabled with a slight eave and exposed rafters. On the end it has a door and places for two nine-paned windows and a gable window. Windows line the longest side. Based on the knowledge regarding buildings left after the Legion sold most of the camp structures, it is possible that this building was the recreational hall.



Figure 62. Wood shop building, looking northwest.



Figure 63. Small lean-to shed, looking northwest.



Figure 64. Wood machine shed, looking northwest.



Figure 65. Barracks-style building, possibly camp recreation hall, looking northeast.

4.17 Meade County

Community: Meade

Camp Name: Camp Meade

Legal Location: SENWSE ¼ & SWNESE ¼ of Section 15, Township 33, Range 29W

Period: Summer 1935

Project: Meade County State Park (KDWPT- Meade State Park)

CCC Companies: #4701, #4755

Enrollee Type: Junior and African-American Veteran

KHRI #: 119-50

Site Condition & Analysis: Standing buildings and ruins, many features appear intact, other areas disturbed to unknown extent.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. High potential for intact archaeological resources. Two former camp buildings exist at this location.

Historical Summary: The KFFGC originally constructed Camp Meade in 1927 after acquiring acreage from the Turkey Track Ranch that included numerous desirable seeps and springs. Commissioner Lee Larrabee was a strong proponent of securing a CCC company to further improvements to the property. Through his efforts and those of the Meade Chamber of Commerce approval was received near the beginning of summer 1935. A camp comprised of frame buildings was under construction during much of the summer. Plans for the camp indicate over 20 buildings were present or planned for including eight barracks, camp headquarters, mess hall, company exchange/rec hall, hospital, school building, officer's and foremen's quarters, and several service buildings such as blacksmith shop, repair shop and garages (Figure 66). It appears most if not all of these were constructed at some point based on evidence observed during the field visit.

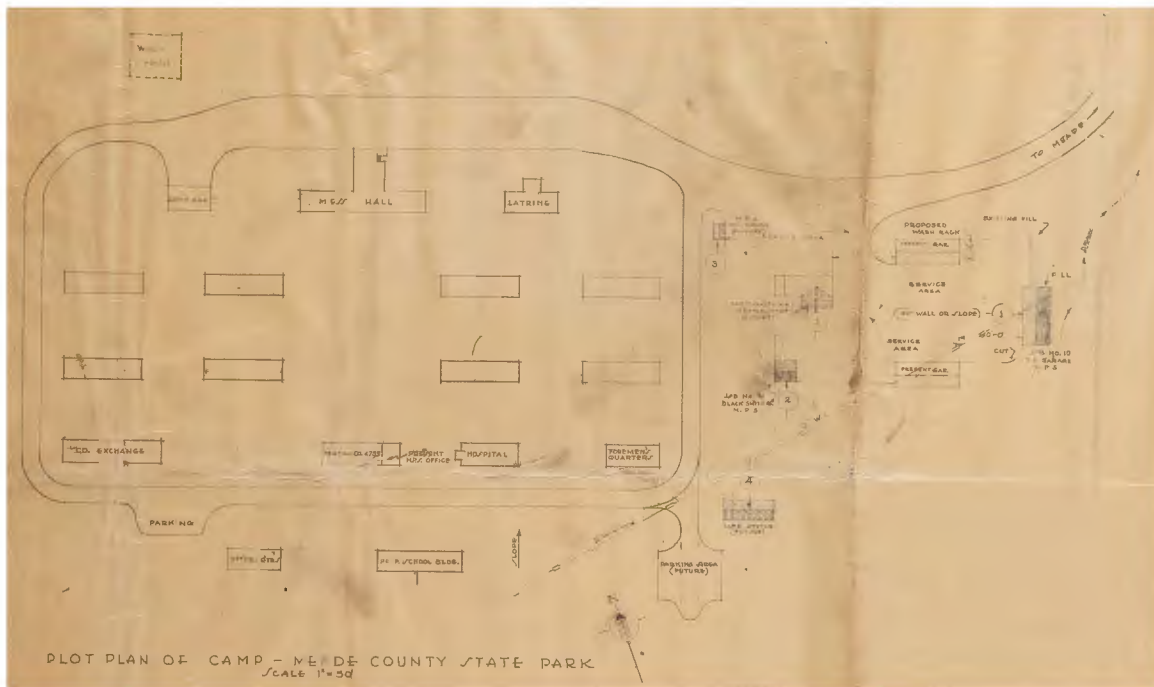


Figure 66. Scaled map of Meade County State Park CCC camp.

Company #4701 was assigned to the work and began reporting to the area in July. This company ripped the dam and repaired the failing spillway during their tenure among other work completed over the year they were stationed at the lake. The camp was simply closed at that time with hopes of securing another company to continue longed for improvements, however, it was not until February 1939 that another company would be assigned to the location. Company #4755 comprised of African-American veterans reported to the lake from completed work in Marion County. These men were responsible for construction and improvements to the fish hatchery and wild bird farm on the premises as well as construction of a large bath house and concession area and hatchery/game farm administration buildings. These buildings were constructed of adobe and while the concession/bath house was razed in the 1970s, the administration complex remains today.

After abandonment, the camp was used for a period during World War II as internment camp for a number of Americans with Japanese ancestry. Later the property was used as a field station by Professor Claude Hibbard during his excursions to the area for paleontological research. The camp also served as a Boy Scout camp in the past. Today, the remains of Camp Meade are located in the confines of the undeveloped public wildlife area adjoining the maintained park and lake area nearby. At the time of the field visit, abundant evidence of the former camp was observed (Figure 67). These notably include the remains of two former camp buildings falling into disrepair. Other examples of ruins include occasional concrete foundation segments, small concrete pads and stoops, larger concrete floors and foundations in

the camp service area, and the collapsed ruins of structures on the site (Figure 68). The locations of many of the former buildings are marked visibly by little more than large areas cut across the gentle hill slope to create level areas for construction. The original camp flagpole and a large tin megaphone swivel-mounted on a steel post are present on the west end of the former parade ground.

The main camp complex retains much of the character of the original layout despite the absence of the buildings themselves. Overall the layout corresponds well with the original plan of the camp. Many of the large eastern red cedar present in the immediate area were planted as part of improvements to the original camp. Today these mature trees engulf some of the locations of former buildings. Locals recall removal of some camp buildings, notably the large mess hall which was said to have been sold by the foot (presumably for a minimum number of feet) and cut to order. One such portion that may exist today has seen recent use as a hunting lodge in the Meade vicinity (Norman Dye, personal communication).

There are two buildings remaining in their original locations at the camp corresponding to the foreman's quarters and the post hospital (Figure 69, Figure 70). Both buildings are elongated wooden structures, covered at a later time with faux brick asphalt shingles. Each structure has slight eaves with exposed rafters on a moderate pitch roof. The buildings are symmetrical in nature with six nine-paned windows on each longest side and two on the ends. The foreman's quarters are side gabled with doorways on the ends (Figure 69). The post hospital building is end gabled with a doorway and a gable window (Figure 70).



Figure 67. Sketch map of Camp Meade vicinity showing locations of observed features in relation to modern features described in text and shown on modern aerial.



Figure 68. Structural debris marking the location of a former camp structure, looking southwest.



Figure 69. Former foremen's quarters, looking west (2017).



Figure 70. Former camp hospital looking west (2017).

4.18 Franklin County

Community: Ottawa

Camp Name: N/A

Legal Location: SWSWSW ¼ & SESWSW ¼ of Section 4, Township 16, Range 19E

Established: Summer 1935

Project: Soil conservation, West Taury Creek Demonstration Project

CCC Company: #4719

Enrollee Type: Veteran

KHRI #: Camp – 059-496; Youth Center – 059-442

Site Condition & Analysis: Ruins are present. Site visit was not possible to delineate remains due to lack of access to private property, area has been modified through decades of use as residence/farmstead, residence includes a former stone camp office.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Some potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: In 1935 as part of the work carried out under the recently formed Soil Erosion/Conservation Service, efforts were underway to establish demonstration projects by seeking out private landowners willing to allow soil conservation techniques to be carried out on their properties. In these early years these efforts also helped the agencies determine which methods were most effective in cost and practice. The work carried out by Company #4719 comprised of veteran enrollees was attached to one such demonstration project encompassing the West Taury Creek drainage basin in northwest Franklin County and adjacent portions of Douglas county to the north.

Company #4719 was organized at Fort Riley in the spring of 1935 and was sent to the project area once quarters had been constructed on a property northwest of Ottawa near the West Taub Creek basin project locale. The campsite was situated on a low rolling upland, set back from the road several hundred feet. Up a long drive flanked by newly constructed post and wire fencing (and later young cedar saplings) and beyond a rustic wooden archway, the project headquarters was situated at the front of the camp (Figure 71). Flanking this office building were rows of barracks to the left and right. Other camp structures including quarters for officers and project foremen, a recreation hall, mess hall, and bath house among other facilities were located to the rear and beyond the rows of barracks. The project garage and related sheds were also located onsite.



Figure 71. Franklin County CCC camp, looking north (Franklin County Conservation District).

This property was not able to be visited in person due to an inability to make contact with the landowner who resides on the property. Viewing aerial photos of the location however indicates the presence of a number of former camp features including a lengthy concrete walk and portions of concrete foundations and footings (Figure 72). Also marking the campsite were numerous tree plantings made at the time the camp was occupied. The current residence consists of a stone structure on the west end of the residence, to which later additions have been made. This stone structure is reported to have been a camp office. Buildings from the camp are reported to still be in use at two locations: along an alley east of the intersection of 4th Street and Walnut Street in Ottawa (former youth center and present preschool) and a

private residence north of the intersection of Reno Road and Louisiana Road a short distance southwest of the original camp location.



Figure 72. Sketch map of the general vicinity of the Franklin County CCC camp showing locations of likely camp related features in white as observed from nearby roads and aerial photos.

4.19 Coffey County

Community: Burlington

Camp Name: Camp John Redmond

Legal Location: SENW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 27, Township 21, Range 15E

Established: Fall 1935

Project: Soil conservation

CCC Company: #4702

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: 031-297

Site Condition & Analysis: No ruins or period buildings observed in the area, area has been heavily modified and subject to long term, regular public use likely destroying much of the site integrity.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Limited potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: Early in the summer of 1935, Company #4702 was organized at the Lake Fegan project area in Woodson County using a core of experienced CCC enrollees and new recruits reporting to the camp and brought in from Fort Riley. In August, the company was assigned to a newly formed project about 30 miles to the north focusing on soil conservation efforts around Coffey County. Camp buildings and improvements were not completed until fall with project work starting in November.

Camp John Redmond was established on city property on the west side of Burlington. The camp occupied portions of Katy Park on the west side of the rail line that bisected the property (Figure 73). The camp consisted of frame buildings organized around a parade ground and included several barracks, mess hall, recreation hall, educational building, leadership quarters, and project office/headquarters. It is uncertain if the project garage, shop, and other related facilities were located on-site or elsewhere.



Figure 73. Camp John Redmond at retreat. Note roofline of railroad depot behind camp building in center of photo.

Today, Katy Park includes a ball field and water park west of the former rail line along with city power plant and the Coffey County Historical Society and Museum elsewhere on the grounds (Figure 74). The old rail depot and all vestiges of the CCC camp have been lost in the decades since Company #4702 made a home here through the late 1930s and early 1940s.



Figure 74. Sketch map of Camp John Redmond vicinity showing the location of the former camp in relation to modern landscape features as shown on a recent aerial.

4.20 Morris County

Community: Council Grove

Camp Name: Camp Fremont

Legal Location: SESESE ¼ & SWSESE ¼ of Section 7, Township 16, Range 9E

Established: Summer 1935

Project: Soil conservation

CCC Company: #4703

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: Camp – 127-727; Soil Conservation Service Building- 127-724; Blacksmith Shop – 127-725; Shed – 127-726

Site Condition & Analysis: Apart from former SCS office and two observed in the area. Area has been heavily modified and subject to long term, regular public use likely destroying much of the site integrity.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Three former camp buildings exist at this location. Limited potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: Work accomplished by the CCC in Morris County centered around soil and water conservation efforts along with tree plantings, and pasture reclamation and rehabilitation. Early on work included park and fairground improvements as well. Company #4703 consisted of new enrollees conditioned at Fort Riley and a core of experienced enrollees who had arrived at Council Grove from the Seneca camp to undertake camp construction in advance of these new arrivals. Camp Fremont was occupied beginning in July 1935. The camp occupied county owned property about two miles east of town on the north side of the highway. The camp included a decorative rustic archway entrance with company headquarters at the front of the camp compound (Figure 75). Surrounding buildings housed the kitchen/mess hall, officers' and foremen's quarters, and other camp offices. Project garage and equipment sheds were located to the east, along with a stone SCS office that was constructed at a later date than the frame buildings in camp. A blacksmith shop was among the buildings on the east end of the camp. Company barracks were situated to the west and northwest portions of the camp compound (Figure 76).



Figure 75. Overview of Camp Fremont showing layout of the central and west portions of the camp (Council Grove Republican).

After the CCC abandoned the camp, the facility saw use as a German POW camp beginning in 1943. The property saw use as a county fairgrounds and county shops facility in more recent times. Over the years the grounds have been redeveloped to serve these various functions and today much of the former camp area consists of a heavily modified landscape of newer access roads, gravel lots, and metal sided buildings serving various public purposes (Figure 77). Even the most subtle remains proved elusive during a brief field visit to the location. A few scattered pieces of mortared limestone and isolated examples of small concrete footings or buried concrete pad segments were observed, but most of these were in an area that may have been built up with fill including debris of the former camp. The original stone SCS office and two camp sheds that have been incorporated into the county shop complex stand as the only tangible remains of Camp Fremont.

Building #1: is a rectangular form, side-gabled vernacular stone building with a moderate pitched roof and slight eave (Figure 78). Above each door or window is a decorative header with light colored keystone. On the west gable end is a stone inscribed with “S.C.S. 8” for the Soil Conservation Service. There are currently two doors on the east and the north end, however, there had been two doors on the north side at one time. The building is in good condition.



Figure 76. View into the camp shop yard showing the three remaining camp buildings on the right from front to rear (CCC Kansas District History n.d.).

Building #2: is a rectangular form, stone vernacular shed with a slightly slanted roof (Figure 79). It has similar header patterns over each opening as Building #1. Inscribed above the front sliding shop door is “Blacksmith Shop”. It has single windows on the east and west sides as well as two windows on the south side. The building is in good condition.

Building #3: is a rectangular form, stone vernacular shed (Figure 80). This building has bays for vehicles and sliding metal doors on the west end. It has a slightly raised shed roof with a galvanized metal roof. The building is in fair condition.



Figure 77. Sketch map of the Camp Fremont vicinity showing the general boundaries of the former camp and locations of three camp structures present today in relation to modern landscape features.



Figure 78. Side-gabled vernacular stone S.C.S. building, looking southwest.



Figure 79. Vernacular stone blacksmith shop, looking southeast.



Figure 80. Vernacular stone machine shed, looking south.

4.21 Decatur County

Community: Oberlin

Camp Name: Camp Decatur

Legal Location: NWNWNE ¼ & SWNWNE ¼ of Section 1, Township 3, Range 29W

Established: Winter 1936

Project: Sappa State Park (Sappa Park)

CCC Company: #785

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: 039-67

Site Condition & Analysis: No ruins or period buildings observed in the area, area has been heavily modified and subject to private residential and commercial development likely destroying much of the site integrity.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Limited potential for intact archaeological resources, no remaining structures on site.

Historical Summary: The Decatur County CCC project represents one of the few projects carried out in Kansas directed by the NPS. The project consisted of planned improvements around a lake constructed by the WPA along Sappa Creek northeast of the community of Oberlin. Work included tree plantings, road construction (along with small culverts), park beautification, and building construction.

Camp Decatur was built on a prominent ridge at the northeast side of Oberlin (Figure 81, Figure 82). The camp included typical infrastructure such as a headquarters office situated at the front (north side) of the camp along U.S. Highway 36, officers' and project foremen's quarters on the west side of the camp frontage, four barracks staggered along the slope on the east, mess and recreation halls, and support facilities such as blacksmith shop and garages. Reportedly the project maintenance garage and shops were located at the nearby lake but that specific location is currently unknown.



Figure 81. Camp Decatur headquarters and rustic arch gateway entrance.

Upon project closure in 1939, it is not clear what became of the camp buildings, whether they were moved to other locations in the area, dismantled and sent on to another camp location, or eventually razed. Being located on the edge of town along the highway, the former camp ground eventually was consumed by residential and commercial development. Today no remnants of Camp Decatur are visible although it is possible that portions of ruins and scattered artifacts may be found in the yards and undeveloped portions of lots that make up the former camp location (Figure 82). No access was gained for a walkover survey of the various properties comprising the former camp location. Observation of the area came from aerial photographs and observations made from public ROW adjacent to the properties. The area has been significantly altered in the decades since Camp Decatur was an important part of the community.



Figure 82. Sketch map of the Camp Decatur vicinity showing the general boundaries of the former camp in relation to modern landscape features as shown on a recent aerial.

4.22 Marion County

Community: Marion

Camp Name: N/A

Legal Location: SWNWNE ¼ & NWNWNE ¼ of Section 16, Township 20, Range 4E

Established: Winter 1936

Project: Marion County Park and Lake

CCC Company: #4755

Enrollee Type: Veteran African American

KHRI #: 115-925

Site Condition & Analysis: Few features observed in the area, area has been modified to extent that many former structure locations have been cleared leaving a single structure intact at the location.

NRHP Status: Camp area not formally assessed. Some limited potential for intact archaeological resources. Marion County Park & Lake included as part of New Deal Era MPS (2002)

Historical Summary: The Marion County Park and Lake project was put in motion through a county-wide vote in late 1934 permitting the county to move forward with bonds to secure necessary federal funding in the project. In early 1935 the way seemed clear for a CCC company to be assigned to the project with the intent of creating the lake but it was not until fall 1935 that construction of a camp to house the company was underway. Much of the camp was constructed of prefabricated panels that had been shipped by rail from a closed camp in Minnesota. By the end of January 1936 a camp including several barracks, mess hall, officer's quarters, bath house, hospital, project offices, and infrastructure such as water tower, pump house, and equipment storage were complete and ready for use. The camp was located on a gently sloping upland on the northwest corner of the property purchased by the county for the project. Project garages and shops were situated near the south end of the camp nearest to the future dam site. Barracks, offices, and other camp structures were located to the north.

At the time of survey, little evidence of the camp could be identified despite intense scrutiny of the relatively wide-open area covering the south portion of the former camp (Figure 83). Much of the north portion of the camp lies in small lots with mobile homes or pads and hook-ups for campers. At the south end of the camp, a few scattered pieces of concrete foundation or footings appeared to possibly date to the period of the camp along with the footings and anchors for the water tower.

The area that once housed the CCC camp was among the first areas developed for residences and improvement after completion of the lake in 1939. This long term use of the location has at the very least modified the former camp location and has likely destroyed much of the integrity the camp may have retained if not situated on such a prime location. At the close of the project, much of the camp was dismantled and moved elsewhere with only one frame structure left behind for lake use. This structure was razed in the mid 1970s. An elongated metal building that stands today was constructed on the

footprint of this former camp structure. A small stone building was built by the CCC enrollees and stands as the only easily visible remnant of the former camp (Figure 84).

The single structure remaining at the Marion camp is a small rectangular, mortared limestone vernacular building. The roof has been modernized, but retains the original vent. The roof is side gabled with a moderate pitch and slight eave. Single windows are located on the sides. This building was utilized as a for profit wash house, and was claimed to have been the only one of its kind in the CCC as a whole. The building is listed as a contributing building on the NRHP designation for the park and lake.



Figure 83. Small one-story mortared limestone structure. Looking southeast.



Figure 84. Sketch map of the Marion County CCC camp general vicinity showing the locations of observed features in relation to modern landscape features as shown on a recent aerial.

4.23 Kingman County

Community: Willowdale

Camp Name: N/A

Legal Location: NWNENW ¼ & NENENW ¼ of Section 16, Township 29, Range 9W

Established: Fall 1936

Project: Soil conservation

CCC Company: #4718

Enrollee Type: Veteran

KHRI #: 095-69

Site Condition & Analysis: Ruins, numerous features appear intact, areas disturbed to varying degrees including portions that have been destroyed, one building remains.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. High potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: The project that drew the CCC to Kingman County consisted of a varied soil and water conservation program that included construction of terraces and waterways, brush, earthen, and stone/concrete check dams, clearing pastures of low quality trees and brush, seed and tree planting and collection. Newly formed Company #4718, comprised of a core of veteran CCC men from camps at Lebanon and Burr Oak along with new enrollment of war veterans was assigned to the work in the area.

The camp north of Willowdale was begun in July 1935 with a contingent of CCC men from another camp working to lay footings and foundation. The group put together many of the prefabricated wall panels which comprised a sizeable number of the camp buildings. Typical of many camps, the post contained several barracks, mess hall/kitchen, hospital, educational building, officers' and foremens' quarters, an SCS office/headquarters, as well as garage, shop, and equipment storage facilities which were located towards the west side of the compound.

The camp rests in a pasture which is regularly grazed today (Figure 85). Besides a lone building standing nearby, several ruins consisting of concrete foundations, footings, and floors are readily visible in the pasture. Long ditch features outline former company streets and delineate other areas as well. Evidence of former gravel or concrete walks is limited to occasional instances that are mostly buried at least a few inches below the ground surface. One ruin consists of a concrete and terracotta block feature exhibiting a basement space with double south-facing stairway entrances (Figure 86). A possible pump house ruin is located near the east perimeter of the camp (Figure 87). A large sand pit/quarry is present in the northeast portion of the pasture and is in use yet today. An unknown number of former camp structures resided in this area of the pasture, but if the scatter of footings and large pile of building rubble on the south side of the quarry is an indication, there were several ruins destroyed by the quarry operation. Shallow depressions and scattered debris to the south, including readily visible concrete remains, suggest additional features in this area may have been subject to clearing. Of interest to the CCC work in the area is a large, multi-row windbreak extending both east along the pavement and south along a property line

on the east side of the camp area. This mature wind break was planted by Company #4718 during their work in the area.

The remaining building is a faux stone cinderblock one room vernacular structure with a basement (Figure 88). Roof rafters are still evident and it has a moderate pitch, with a slight eave and exposed rafters typical of a CCC roof style. The exterior walls are in fair condition currently.

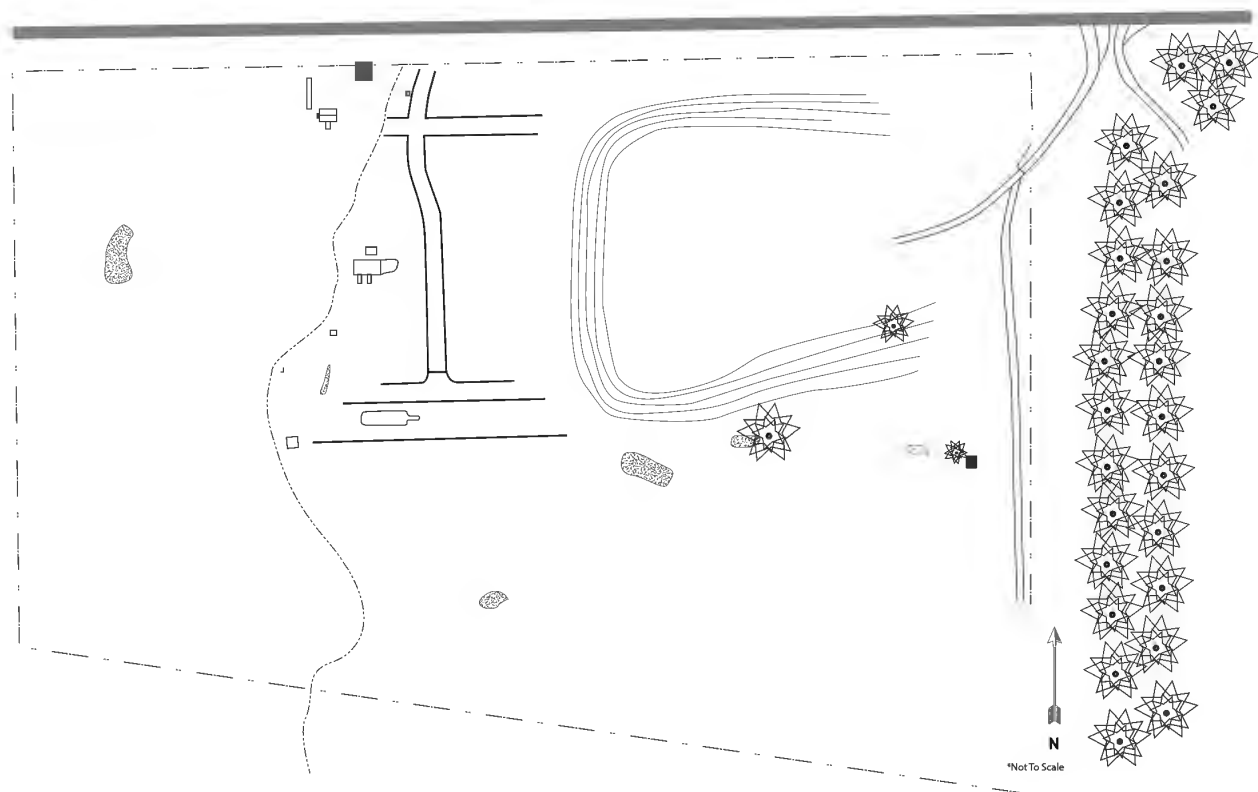


Figure 85. Sketch map of the Willowdale CCC camp showing the locations of ruins and structures associated with the former camp in relation to nearby landscape features.



Figure 86. Ruins of camp structure exhibiting a double basement entrance, looking southeast.



Figure 87. Concrete floor/foundation ruin with concrete pedestal, looking northeast.



Figure 88. Faux stone cinderblock building, looking northeast.

4.24 Marshall County

Community: Marysville

Camp Name: Camp Marshall

Legal Location: SWSWNW ¼ & SESWNW ¼ of Section 27, Township 2, Range 7E

Established: Summer 1937

Project: Soil conservation

CCC Company: #2735

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: 117-302; Radio Factory – 117-303

Site Condition & Analysis: Few ruins observed in the area, area has been heavily modified since camp abandonment.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Limited potential for intact archaeological resources, one structure utilized by CCC for a shop has a long use history.

Historical Summary: In the summer of 1937, Company #2735 was assigned to support a soil conservation project in Marshall County. In over four years of work in the area, the company built many miles of terraces and grassed waterways, numerous rock drop structures and earthen, rock, and brush check dams to stem erosion as well as ponds and many acres of tree plantings.

Camp Marshall was established on the northeast side of Marysville to take advantage of available city utilities. Camp buildings were transported to the location and erected from a discontinued Missouri camp. Project sheds and other necessary frame buildings were built onsite by local labor. Company headquarters, offices, barracks, quarters for officers and foremen, mess and recreation halls, and other buildings were arranged neatly on a small plot of land on the northeast corner of what is today N. 16th Street and North Street (Figure 89). On the east side of the camp, across a small north trending draw from the main camp area was a complex of maintenance and equipment sheds, blacksmith shop, seed storage, and other facilities (Figure 89). It is reported the CCC also used property to the south of the camp for equipment and material storage as well as utilizing a newly constructed industrial building about a block south of camp as a maintenance facility.

Today the main portion of Camp Marshall lies in the confines of Lions Park (Figure 90). The park has been heavily landscaped and improved in the years since the camp was abandoned removing any obvious signs of the former camp aside from rows of old cedar, hackberry, and other trees that were originally planted to beautify the camp grounds. While it is possible that foundations, footings, and other vestiges of the camp remain shallowly buried across the park, park improvements have undoubtedly impacted these features to some degree. To the east of the ephemeral drainage cutting across the northeast side of the park is an area with overgrowth and concrete and other debris filling the upper reaches of the small valley. It is likely at least some of this material comes from camp structures. A small concrete pad appears to be in place and portions of several concrete footings (mostly displaced) were noted in the vicinity of a modern gazebo on the north end of this wooded area. Along the east edge of this wooded area and extending onto an industrial property to the east of the park the remains of two of the camp sheds were recorded. Both ruins consist of concrete floors and foundations backed up to the park property (Figure 91). No other camp related ruins or other artifacts were found during a brief field visit. Visits with staff at the Marshall County Historical Society provided insight into probable CCC use of a building located south of the main camp. This building is part of an active commercial/industrial business and was not visited during the survey beyond photographing the structure from the nearby street.



Figure 89. Oblique aerial view of Camp Marshall showing camp layout and organization (Marshall County Historical Society).

The building located outside of the main CCC camp area was also known as the “radio factory”. This building is of limestone construction, currently painted (Figure 92). The end wall has 4 piers with stone caps separating the wall into 3 bays, the longest walls also have stone capped piers creating the appearance of 10 bays. At one time the building contained multi-paned windows on all sides. Those are currently covered with metal siding.



Figure 90. Sketch map of Camp Marshall vicinity showing location of ruins and buildings noted in text.



Figure 91. Concrete floor and foundation ruin on east boundary of Lions Park.



Figure 92. Faux stone cinderblock building, looking northeast.

4.25 Sumner County

Community: Wellington

Camp Name: Camp Lake Wellington

Legal Location: NENENE ¼ & SENENE ¼ of Section 4, Township 33S, Range 2W

Established: Summer 1938

Project: Soil conservation

CCC Company: #786

Enrollee Type: Junior African-American

KHRI #:

Site Condition & Analysis: No ruins or period buildings observed in the area, area has been modified and subject to long term, regular public use likely destroying much of the site integrity.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Limited potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: This camp and project were initiated to carry out work in south-central Kansas to include small soil conservation projects on private property throughout the area. Company #786 arrived at Camp Lake Wellington from Fort Riley in mid-Summer 1938.

Camp Lake Wellington was constructed on city property on the west side of the Wellington City Lake located a few miles southwest of town. Bounded by a wide gravel drive and parking lot on the east along the lake and a mature tree row on the west, the elongated camp included a garage and shop area on the south end of the camp. Barracks lined the west and east sides of camp with camp offices and leadership quarters located on the north. Company streets provided structure to the camp (Figure 93).



Figure 93. Oblique aerial view of Camp Lake Wellington from the Company #786 camp newspaper (Kansas Memory).

Today much of the camp surroundings are similar in appearance to that at the time of occupation although most of the former campground is a city park today with associated buildings and landscaping (Figure 94). While it is possible that portions of the camp remain intact as archaeological features, there is little visible evidence of the former camp structures today.



Figure 94. Sketch map of Camp Lake Wellington vicinity in relation to surrounding landscape features.

4.26 Pawnee County

Community: Rozel

Camp Name: Camp Pawnee

Legal Location: NWNESE ¼ & NENESE ¼ of Section 21, Township 21, Range 19W

Established: Summer 1940

Project: Soil conservation

CCC Company: #1763

Enrollee Type: Junior

KHRI #: 145-137

Site Condition & Analysis: Ruins, numerous features appear intact, other areas disturbed to unknown extent.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. High potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: The community of Rozel secured one of the last CCC projects initiated in Kansas during a period when Pawnee County established a conservation district to direct management and educate about conservation concerns. The placement of a CCC company in the area facilitated soil conservation efforts along the Pawnee River valley in particular. Several large concrete structures were constructed to span the Pawnee River in the area as a means of impounding water along segments of the drainage for the purposes of irrigation. Portions of at least some of these dams remain today as does a sizeable portion of Camp Pawnee, home of Company #1763. The company was sent to Rozel when soil conservation work in Jefferson County was brought to a close after an initiative to establish a conservation district in that county, thereby providing a continuation of conservation efforts through the CCC, failed in a narrow vote.

Camp Pawnee was established on private property a short distance north of Rozel along the banks of the Pawnee River which was the focus of much of their efforts over the coming months (Figure 95). The camp missed being the last CCC camp established in Kansas by one day (the Osage City camp bears that distinction). Camp Pawnee consisted of a number of portable buildings constructed of prefabricated panels that were brought from the recently closed Kingman County camp at Willowdale (Figure 96). Other buildings, including a 20x100 foot structure used for education classes, were frame built on-site along with other structures to be set on concrete floors. This building burned to the ground late one night due to faulty wiring.

Today the remains of the camp lie in pasture bounded on the west by the Pawnee River and on the north and east by fencing (Figure 95). Trees are scattered throughout the main part of the camp, many of which are elm trees planted around the grounds while the camp was in use. Most easily visible are scattered concrete floor/foundation features including garage related ruins in a cluster along the east side of the site (Figure 97), a possible bath house (Figure 98), a concrete latrine (Figure 99), and a small incinerator (Figure 100) among other examples. One other notable structure ruin consists of a concrete foundation

and basement with stairways to the basement and main floor, the likely location of a leadership quarters (Figure 101). Several well and waterworks features are found around the site including the location of the pump house and water tower footings in the northwest corner (Figure 102). Also in the northwest corner is a deep draw filled in part with abundant quantities of concrete foundation and footings along with brick and terracotta block fragments, evidence of removal of a number of camp related building remnants at some point in the past.

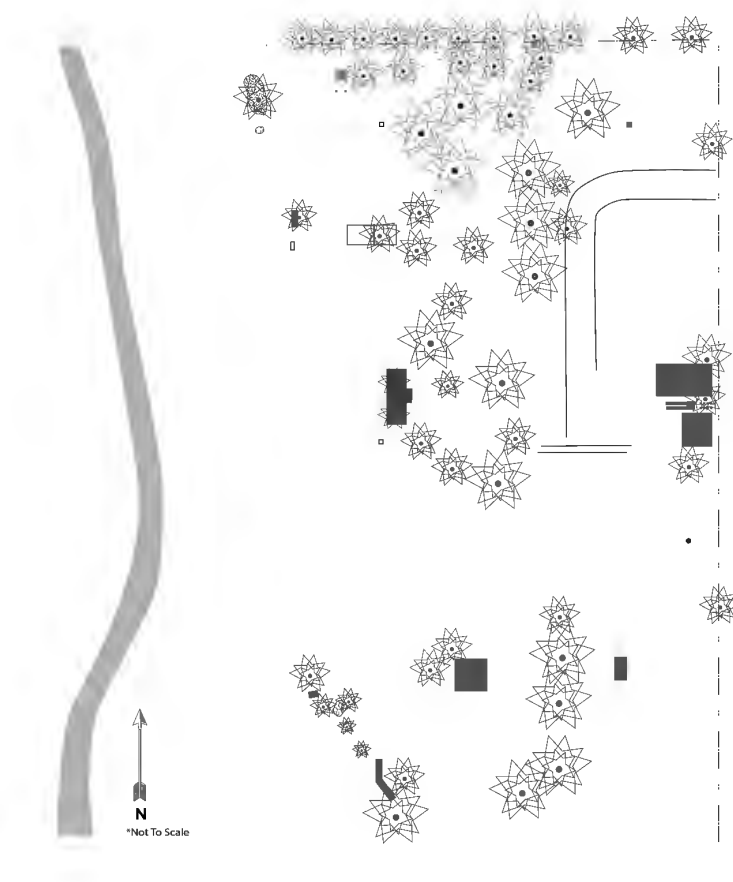


Figure 95. Sketch map of the Rozel camp vicinity in relation to surrounding landscape features.



Figure 96. View of the Rozel Camp.



Figure 97. Concrete floor/foundation features including garage related ruins in a cluster along the east side of the site.



Figure 98. Possible bath house feature.



Figure 99. Concrete latrine feature.



Figure 100. Incinerator feature.



Figure 101. Concrete foundation and basement with stairways, likely location of leadership quarters.



Figure 102. Location of the pump house and water tower footings in the northwest corner.

4.27 Osage County

Community: Osage City

Camp Name: N/A

Legal Location: NWNENW ¼ & NENENW ¼ of Section 16, Township 29, Range 9W

Established: Summer 1940

Project: Soil conservation

CCC Company: #4718

Enrollee Type: Veteran

KHRI #: 139-406

Site Condition & Analysis: No ruins or period buildings observed in the area, area has been heavily modified and subject to long term, regular public use likely destroying much of the site integrity.

NRHP Status: Not formally assessed. Limited potential for intact archaeological resources.

Historical Summary: Osage County was one of the earliest counties in Kansas to approve a soil conservation district to direct efforts towards soil and water conservation. Approved in July 1939 and established formally in September on the same day as the nearby organization in Lyon County, efforts towards natural resource conservation were already underway when rumors began to spread in early 1940 that a CCC camp would be established in the county to assist in projects on private lands throughout the area. Later in the spring, a camp was approved for the area and by early summer CCC officials arrived to locate a suitable campsite and begin construction using a small band CCC men for labor. Rumored to be receiving a junior company (Company #1763), ultimately veteran Company #4718 was reassigned from Kingman County where a project was being completed. This switch was apparently due in large part to a shortage of housing needed for the sizeable group of families that accompanied the company whose

members included many family men. The camp was the last CCC camp established in Kansas, beating out the Rozel camp by a day for that distinction.

The camp was located on the western limits of Osage City on property acquired by the city for the purpose of housing the camp (Figure 103). The camp consisted of as many as 23 structures comprised largely of prefabricated buildings transferred from the recently closed camp in Jefferson County. A total of five barracks were included in addition to the project headquarters, mess hall, recreation hall, education building, officers' and foremen's quarters, bath house, hospital, and project garages and sheds. Over two miles of brick walks were laid by the CCC men around the camp compound and the camp was arranged around a central parade ground.

Today there are no visible remains of the former camp. Having been located on city property, once the camp was abandoned the area became open for other uses. After the camp closed in 1942, the community used the buildings for things such as a community building, part of the county fairgrounds established on the property, and even city storage. Several of the buildings were still present in the 1960s but were using less and less. Ultimately the remaining buildings were removed. The vicinity of the former camp now includes a swimming pool, newer community building, paved and gravel parking lots, and a high school track and football field among other community developments (Figure 103).

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Figure 103. Sketch map of Osage City camp vicinity in relation to surrounding landscape features.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This section presents a summary of the investigation, including conclusions and recommendations based on the NRHP criteria of significance (36 CFR 60.4).

5.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A total of 27 counties were visited during the course of this project, many of which had been visited in the past as part of reconnaissance and research on the CCC in Kansas by the lead author of this report. This past work proved invaluable in helping to relocate camp locations and understand the likely settings and potential visible remains that might be expected at other localities. A total of 33 past camps were visited at 27 locations, including six projects where dual camps were occupied for periods of the work (Table 1). Of these 27 locations, eight are located on private land, ten on State of Kansas property, three on county property, three on city properties, one on federal property, and two on properties controlled by more than one entity (Table 1).

Field survey found that 22 of the 27 properties (81%) contained some vestige of the former camp. Two additional properties (Ellis and Sumner counties) may have some remnants of the CCC camp, but the nature of the observed remains could not be confidently identified as such through visual inspection alone. The remaining three (Coffey, Decatur, and Osage counties) have likely been effectively destroyed due to property development since the period of CCC use. Ten sites still bear structural remains although few of these structures include the standard “barracks-style” structures often thought of as a common CCC camp building. Meade and Wilson county camps still retain examples of these buildings although from a preservation standpoint, these structures are in poor to fair condition with little expectation of surviving another decade before completely falling into ruin. Other examples include a building appropriated for CCC use in Marshall County, camp office buildings in Franklin, Kingman, and Morris counties, and ancillary structures including project shop buildings or other specialized buildings in Anderson, Crawford, Clark, Marion, and Morris counties.

The vast majority of the camps retain some integrity and any potential for significance in the ruins of former camp buildings and the potential for associated intact period deposits. Surveyed properties can be broken down into three general groups with regard to their perceived potential for meeting NRHP criteria of eligibility. As discussed here, these levels should not be considered firm designations but rather general distinctions made on the basis of quantitative and qualitative observations made through the course of this survey. Several properties owned by the State of Kansas (KDWPT) include several substantial accumulations of such ruins including Finney, Meade, Nemaha, Scott, Sheridan, and Woodson counties. These sites have a high potential for being NRHP eligible not only for their association with important events of the past, but also for the archaeological potential these sites likely retain in their complex of ruins and associated camp debris. Other properties with similar potential include camps located on private property in Kingman, Pawnee, and Wilson counties.

Camp Name	County	Structures	Ruins	No Visible Remains	Ownership
Camp Kinney #1/#2	Finney		X		State
Hays camp	Ellis			X	State
Camp Lake Wilhite	Lyon		X		State
Camp Lebanon	Smith		X		Private
Camp Naylor	Cherokee		X		Private
Camp Farlington	Crawford	X	X		State
Camp McGinnis	Scott		X		State
Camp Toronto/Woodson	Woodson		X		State
Camp Sheridan	Sheridan		X		State
Camp Bluff Creek #1/#2	Clark	X	X		State
Camp White Rock	Jewell		X		Private
Camp Mitchell	Mitchell		X		Federal
Camp Nemaha #1/#2	Nemaha		X		State
Camp Anderson	Anderson	X	X		City
Camp Lone Star #1/#2	Douglas		X		County
Camp Bogue	Wilson	X	X		Private
Camp Meade	Meade	X	X		State
Ottawa camp	Franklin	X	X		Private
Camp John Redmond	Coffey			X	City
Camp Fremont	Morris	X			County
Camp Decatur	Decatur			X	Private
Marion camp	Marion	X	X		County
Willowdale camp	Kingman	X	X		Private
Camp Marshall	Marshall	X	X		City/Private
Camp Lake Wellington	Sumner			X	City
Camp Pawnee	Pawnee		X		Private
Osage City camp	Osage			X	City/County

A secondary level of properties are more problematic in that they are less pristine, contain fewer visible ruins and less evidence of camp structure, or have not been able to be examined more closely during the course of this survey due to issues of access. State properties in Clark, Crawford, and Lyon counties retain some evidence of ruins marking these camp locations, however the extent of development and other modification of the CCC camp grounds in later years has impacted the potential these sites may have for contributing to our understanding of daily life in these particular camps. As with other properties in this category, it is certainly possible that there are additional ruins in these locations that have simply been obscured by more recent use of the properties leaving camp related features shallowly buried and hidden from view and the potential for shallowly buried features and associated artifacts is not well known at this

time. Other locations that fall into this second level of potential significance include Anderson, Cherokee, Douglas, Franklin, Marion, Mitchell, Sumner, and Smith. Some of these sites could not be visited as part of this project, others retain vestiges of the camp among occasionally intensive post-occupation development.

Finally, a third class of sites consists of properties for which there appears to be little context remaining at a camp location. That being said, some camps that retain period structures in this class (Morris and Marshall counties) may have significance with regard to individual structures that the surrounding former camp location do not contribute to due to intensive, long term development of these areas that has effectively eliminated the likelihood of there being any intact ruins or associated archaeological component. Furthermore, development of these properties has destroyed any context or feeling these settings may have once retained that other locations with ruins may yet maintain. Locations that fall into this lowest level of potential include Coffey, Decatur, Ellis, Jewell, Marshall, Morris, and Osage counties.

This survey ultimately did not pursue identification of some camps scattered around the state including examples in some counties that were ultimately included in this survey, the primary reasons being a lack of firm information on camp locations and an abbreviated timeline for this project that did not afford time to spend on the necessary effort to research these locations or cultivate local contacts that could eventually provide details regarding these camps. Based on the results of the current survey it is likely that all of the former CCC camp locations in Kansas could be confidently identified through a combination of archival research, local contacts for interviews, and ground truthing of physical locations. It is also probable that these currently unidentified camp locations will include few examples of the best preserved properties surveyed to date, instead being mostly comprised of properties of secondary significance and even examples of former camps that have been effectively eradicated. During this survey, most of the final properties surveyed were composed of lower potential examples with few exceptions, in effect, survey was beginning to see diminishing returns for the effort expended. Known areas with additional CCC camps include Atchison, Cherokee, Cloud, Crawford (2), Jefferson, Jewell (2), Labette, Leavenworth (2), Rawlins, and Riley counties. One of these is a newly added camp location determined through a process of elimination in researching Jewell County camps. The list includes camps on federal property (Ft. Leavenworth and Ft. Riley), several camps likely located on private property, at least one on state property, and a few for which so little information exists that their whereabouts are unknown.

The CCC accomplished significant work throughout Kansas during a difficult period of drought and depression. While much of what remains of their existence in Kansas are the examples of the projects completed, this project has been able to document a majority of the physical remains of the camps and hopefully provided some insight into camp life.

