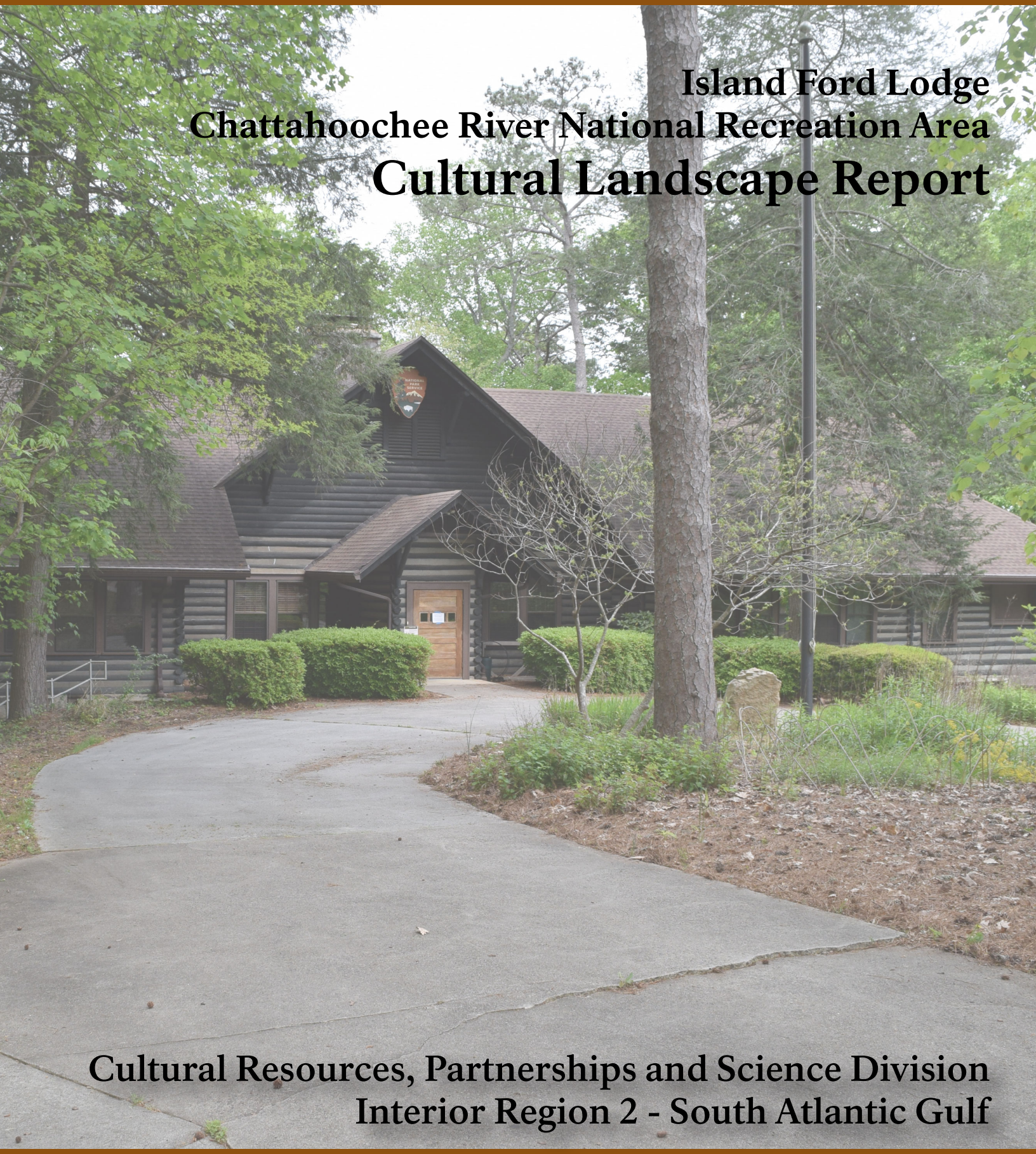
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area
Sandy Springs, Georgia

Island Ford Lodge
Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area
Cultural Landscape Report



Cultural Resources, Partnerships and Science Division
Interior Region 2 - South Atlantic Gulf

Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

Cultural Landscape Report

October 2021
Prepared by:
WLA Studio

Under the direction of
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South Atlantic Gulf



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About the cover: Hewlett Lodge, 2019. (Source: WLA Studio)

The report presented here exists in two formats. A printed version is available for study at the park, the Southeastern Regional Office of the National Park Service, and at a variety of other repositories. For more widespread access, this report also exists in a web-based format through ParkNet, the website of the National Park Service. Please visit www.nps.gov for more information.

Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

Cultural Landscape Report

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Table of Contents

Foreword xv

Introduction 1

Management Summary 1
Historical Overview 2
Scope of Work and Methodology 5
Description of Study Boundaries 5
Summary of Findings 6
Significance 6
Treatment 6
Recommendations for Further Study 7

Site History 9

Native Americans Prior to 1600 9
Paleoindian Period (ca. 15,000 – 8,000 BCE) 9
Archaic Period (8,000 BCE – 1,000 BCE) 9
Woodland Period (1,000 BCE – 1,000 CE) 10
Mississippian Period (800 CE – 1600 CE) 10
European Settlement and Native American Removal (1600 – 1835) 11
Changes within Native American Society 11
European Arrival 14
Dividing Land 17
Landscape Summary 1600 – 1835 21
Settling Georgia's Piedmont (1836 – 1860) 22
Towns and Transportation 22
Farmers and Planters 24
Industry Comes to North Georgia 26
Creation of Milton County and Grogan's District 28
Study Area Ownership Prior to 1860 28
Landscape Summary (1836 -1860) 29
The Civil War, Reconstruction, and a New South (1861-1934) 30
The Civil War (1861-1865) 30
Reconstruction in Georgia's Upper Piedmont 35
Island Ford Lodge Landscape During the Civil War and Reconstruction 39
Rural Life in the New South 43
Post-Reconstruction and the Early 20th Century 43
Landscape Summary (1861-1934) 46
Hewlett's Lodge (1935-1955) 49
Hewlett Lodge and Landscape 49
Landscape Summary (1935-1955) 51

Atlanta Baptist Association Ownership (1956-1978) 55
Atlanta Baptist Association 55
NPS Ownership (1979-Present) 59
Preservation of Hewlett Lodge and Landscape 59

Existing Conditions 63

Introduction 63
Natural Systems and Features 64
Topography 71
Land Use 72
Cultural Traditions 72
Spatial Organization 73
Cluster Arrangement 75
Circulation 76
Vegetation 88
Buildings and Structures 98
Small-Scale Features 112
Views and Vistas 120
Archeological Sites 122

Analysis and Evaluation 135

Introduction 135
National Register Status 136
Analysis of Landscape Characteristics 137
Natural Systems and Features 137
Topography 141
Land Use 146
Cultural Traditions 147
Spatial Organization 149
Cluster Arrangement 150
Circulation 150
Vegetation 153
Buildings and Structures 155
Small-Scale Features 161
Views and Vistas 163
Archeological Sites 165
Evaluation of Landscape Integrity 165
Location 166
Setting 166
Design 167
Materials 168
Workmanship 168
Feeling 168
Association 169
Table 1: Cultural Landscape Features 170

Treatment 183

Introduction 183
Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment 183
Standards for Preservation: 183
Standards for Rehabilitation: 184
Standards for Restoration: 185
Standards for Reconstruction: 185
Management Philosophy 186
CHAT Management Zones 186
Treatment Period 188
Treatment Recommendations 188
Primary Treatment 189
Treatment Goals 189
General Treatment Issues 189
Interpretation 190
Natural Systems and Features 192
Buildings and Structures 193
Land Use Zones and Spatial Organization 197
Vegetation 197
Views and Vistas 202
Circulation 203
Small Scale Features 206
Archeology 207
Resilience to Natural Hazards 207
Recommendations for Further Research 209
Maintenance Plan 209
Historic Structure Report 209
Call for Public Assistance 210
National Register Nomination Updates/Corrections 210
Table 2: Recommended Vegetation List 211
Table 3: National Register Listing Discrepancies 214

Bibliography 221

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List of Figures

Introduction 1

Figure 1.1: Portion of CHAT park map; red arrow indicates location of study area 4
Figure 1.2: Park map for the south portion of Island Ford Unit of CHAT 5

Site History 9

Figure 2.1: Portion of map showing the tribes, cultures, and languages of the United States, prior to colonization 12
Figure 2.2: A portion of an 1818 map of Georgia 13
Figure 2.3: 1823 map of Georgia and Alabama showing Native American lands after a period of cessations 16
Figure 2.4: Portion of John Bethune's 1831 map depicting the proposed subdivision of all remaining Cherokee-occupied lands in the state of Georgia at the time 20
Figure 2.5: Portion of S. W. McCallie's 1896 "Map Showing the Distribution of a Part of the Gold Deposits of North Georgia." 21
Figure 2.6: Portion of an 1864 sketch map of part of Fulton County showing the vicinity of Island Ford 23
Figure 2.7: Portion of an 1837 survey map produced by the U. S. Geological Survey showing the vicinity of Island Ford 24
Figure 2.8: Portion of an 1860 map showing the distribution of the slave population of the state of Georgia 31
Figure 2.9: Gen. William T. Sherman, leaning on breach of gun, and staff at Federal Fort No. 7 32
Figure 2.10: Defenses along the Chattahoochee River in 1864 34
Figure 2.11: Portion of an 1897 topographic map (based on an 1887 survey) of Georgia showing the Roswell area 37
Figure 2.12: Excerpt of the 1860 U. S. Federal Census for Milton County, Georgia 40
Figure 2.13: Portion of 1864 pencil drawing showing vicinity of Grogans District, Milton County, GA, and the Island Ford Lodge landscape 41
Figure 2.14: Excerpt of the 1870 Georgia Property Tax Digests for Grogans District, Milton County 42
Figure 2.15: This 1909 portrait is the only known image of Samuel Dunbar Hewlett, Sr. 45
Figure 2.16: Portion of map included in the 1952 Fulton County Annual Report showing the Island Ford vicinity 50
Figure 2.17: This excerpt from a 1967 land survey stamped "Dr. John H. Goff Collection: Presented to Surveyor General Department, February 1967" shows the Island Ford vicinity with notations from an unknown author and time 50

Figure 2.18: Undated image of the swimming pool at Hewlett Lodge (no longer extant) looking southwest; likely taken during the Atlanta Baptist Association's period of ownership 56
Figure 2.19: Undated image of the swimming pool at Hewlett Lodge (no longer extant) looking northeast; likely taken during the Atlanta Baptist Association's period of ownership 56
Figure 2.20: 1981 map of the historic sites within the new Chattahoochee River NRA 60
Figure 2.21: 1982 concept plan for the management of the various CHAT units 60

Existing Conditions 63

Figure 3.1: Map depicting the extent of the ACF basin 65
Figure 3.2: View of Chattahoochee River from west end of study area, facing north 66
Figure 3.3: Falling Branch near northwest corner of study area, facing east 67
Figure 3.4: North and east façades of Spring House and natural spring, facing south 67
Figure 3.5: Stream along southern park boundary, facing east from west end of study area 68
Figure 3.6: View of Hewlett Field, facing east from west end 68
Figure 3.7: Upper tier of rock outcrop at northeast corner of site, facing north 70
Figure 3.8: Steep slope above Falling Branch in northwest portion of site, facing east 71
Figure 3.9: Advanced soil erosion at north-facing slope north of Hewlett Lodge, facing south 71
Figure 3.10: Floodplain in southeast portion of study area, facing north 73
Figure 3.11: Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, Park Identity Sign, and west façade of Hewlett Lodge, facing east from east end of Island Ford Parking Lot 74
Figure 3.12: View south along Island Ford Parkway near north boundary of study area 74
Figure 3.13: Fenced portion of maintenance complex, facing east from southwest end 74
Figure 3.14: East side of Island Ford Parking Lot, facing east 74
Figure 3.15: Pond overlook structure, facing north 75
Figure 3.16: Northridge Road park entrance, facing east. 75
Figure 3.17: Hewlett Field Drop Off, facing east 75
Figure 3.18: View along Island Ford Parkway, facing east from point south of the maintenance complex 77
Figure 3.19: Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac vicinity, facing east from east end of Island Ford Parking Lot 77
Figure 3.20: Island Ford Parking Lot 77
Figure 3.21: East end of paved maintenance loop road, facing west 78
Figure 3.22: Central portion of gravel maintenance loop road, facing west 78
Figure 3.23: West portion of paved road to Hewlett Field Drop Off, facing southeast 79
Figure 3.24: Administrative parking lot south of Operations Building, facing east 79
Figure 3.25: Cluster of visitor services features and paved walkways at north end of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, facing north 80
Figure 3.26: 2019 image of gate and walkway to administrative area southeast of Hewlett Lodge, facing south from Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac. NPS removed this gate in 2020 81
Figure 3.27: Paved walkway, stone stair set, and wooden ABA ramp south of Hewlett Lodge, facing east 81
Figure 3.28: Ramp and stair set feature north of Operations Building, facing north from front (north) entry to Operations Building 82

Figure 3.29: Various views of stone-paved walkways and stair sets around Hewlett Lodge..... 83
Figure 3.30: Stone-paved patio east of Hewlett Lodge, facing east..... 83
Figure 3.31: Various views of concrete walkways surrounding Hewlett Lodge Patio..... 84
Figure 3.32: Earthen trail, informal footpath, timber retaining wall, and wood handrail at north end of trail along Chattahoochee River, facing south..... 85
Figure 3.33: Earthen trail to Barbecue Pavilion site, facing southwest..... 85
Figure 3.34: Timber steps at west trailhead of earthen trail along Falling Branch, facing east..... 86
Figure 3.35: Mortared-stone stair set at Barbecue Pavilion, facing east..... 87
Figure 3.36: Point of unauthorized park access, facing south..... 87
Figure 3.37: West façade of Hewlett Lodge and surroundings, facing southeast..... 94
Figure 3.38: Mixed vegetation in north portion of administrative area southwest of Hewlett Lodge, facing northeast..... 95
Figure 3.39: Stone-paved walkways, patio, and cultural vegetation east of Hewlett Lodge, facing north..... 95
Figure 3.40: Naturalistic vegetation west of Hewlett Lodge, south of cul-de-sac, and north of Operations Building, facing east..... 97
Figure 3.41: Naturalistic vegetation in Island Ford Parking Lot vicinity, facing east..... 97
Figure 3.42: Front (west) entrance to Hewlett Lodge, facing southeast from cul-de-sac..... 99
Figure 3.43: Rear (east) wing of Hewlett Lodge, facing southeast..... 99
Figure 3.44: Barbecue Pavilion, facing northeast..... 100
Figure 3.45: Stone grill at Barbecue Pavilion, facing northwest..... 100
Figure 3.46: Island Ford Retaining Wall, facing west..... 101
Figure 3.47: West and south façades of Operations Building, facing northeast..... 102
Figure 3.48: West façade of Metal Storage Building, facing east..... 102
Figure 3.49: East and north façades of Pavilion 1, facing southwest..... 102
Figure 3.50: Pavilion 2, facing northeast..... 102
Figure 3.51: West and north façades of Maintenance Building, facing northeast..... 102
Figure 3.52: East façade of Bally Building, facing northwest..... 104
Figure 3.53: North and west façades of Maintenance Building, facing northeast..... 104
Figure 3.54: North and west façades of NPS boat barn, facing southeast..... 105
Figure 3.55: Island Ford Boat Ramp, facing east from east end of Hewlett Field..... 106
Figure 3.56: Platform, timber retaining wall, park identity sign and built-in benches at Island Ford Boat Ramp, facing north..... 106
Figure 3.57: Footbridge at northeast end of study area, facing north..... 106
Figure 3.58: Boardwalk and wooden stair set structure west of pond, facing southeast..... 106
Figure 3.59: Mortared-stone retaining wall south of Hewlett Lodge, facing northwest..... 107
Figure 3.60: Dry-laid stone retaining wall west of Operations Building, facing north..... 107
Figure 3.61: Deck, retaining walls, and naturalistic vegetation in administrative area east of Operations Building, facing northeast..... 107
Figure 3.62: Culvert and concrete headwall southeast of Operations Building, facing north..... 107
Figure 3.63: Mortared-stone retaining wall at south end of Barbecue Pavilion, facing southeast... 108
Figure 3.64: Stone retaining wall along west edge of Hewlett Lodge walking path, facing south.. 108

Figure 3.65: Timber retaining wall and water breaks along earthen trail to Barbecue Pavilion, facing southwest 108
Figure 3.66: Timber retaining wall south of Maintenance Building, facing north 109
Figure 3.67: East portion of stacked concrete-block retaining wall at NPS boat barn, facing southwest 109
Figure 3.68: Concrete water vault southwest of Operations Building, facing southwest 111
Figure 3.69: Rock-filled ditch along north side of paved road to Hewlett Field Drop Off, facing southeast 111
Figure 3.70: Concrete gutter and brick and concrete drain on south side of north portion of Island Ford Parkway, facing west toward hair-pin turn in distance 111
Figure 3.71: Rock-filled gutter, culverts, concrete head walls, and paved walkway at west end of Operations Building, facing south 111
Figure 3.72: Park regulations sign, electronic gate code feature, and vehicular regulator signs southeast of Northridge Road park entrance, facing southeast 113
Figure 3.73: Pedestrian wayfinding sign at north end of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, facing east 113
Figure 3.74: Trail map "IF-6" at pond site, facing west 113
Figure 3.75: "AREA CLOSED" sign at administrative area southwest of Hewlett Lodge, facing east 113
Figure 3.76: Entrance fee station and pet waste station at Island Ford Parking Lot, facing northeast ... 115
Figure 3.77: Hewlett Lodge wayside at intersection of Hewlett Lodge walking path and earthen trail to Barbecue Pavilion, facing south 115
Figure 3.78: ABA water fountain and steel, bear-proof waste receptacle northwest of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, facing northeast 115
Figure 3.79: Picnic tables, waste receptacle, grill, management boulders, and southeast end of Hewlett Lodge walking path at shady picnic area northwest of Island Ford Boat Ramp, facing northwest 115
Figure 3.80: Granite curbing, monument, and flag pole at east end of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, facing southwest 116
Figure 3.81: Circular grinding stone in vegetation island at Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, facing southeast 116
Figure 3.82: Steel vehicular gate at west end of Hewlett Field Drop Off, facing east 117
Figure 3.83: Typical aluminum handrails and two-rail timber fences in Hewlett Lodge vicinity, facing northeast from south portion of Island Ford Parking Lot 117
Figure 3.84: Large-scale overhead light feature with solar panel at north portion of Island Ford Parking Lot, facing northwest 118
Figure 3.85: Cast-concrete bench and pedestrian-scale light-pole feature northwest of Operations Building, facing southeast. 119
Figure 3.86: Damaged phone line junction box at east end of vegetation island in Island Ford Parking Lot, facing east 119
Figure 3.87: Fire hydrant and cast-concrete water-supply marker north of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, facing north 119

Figure 3.88: View of Falling Branch from adjacent earthen trail, facing west from point near the east end of the trail 121

Analysis and Evaluation 135

Figure 4.1: 1938 aerial image of Island Ford Lodge landscape 139
Figure 4.2: An earthen path likely established during the historic period terminates at these naturally-occurring boulder steps on the south bank of Falling Branch; facing north . 139
Figure 4.3: 1955 aerial image of Island Ford Lodge landscape 142
Figure 4.4: 1960 aerial image of Island Ford Lodge landscape 142
Figure 4.5: 1966 aerial image of Island Ford Lodge landscape 143
Figure 4.6: 1972 aerial image of Island Ford Lodge landscape 143
Figure 4.7: Active erosion occurs on the steep slope south between the east end of the maintenance complex and the pond loop trail, facing south. 144
Figure 4.8: Active erosion occurs in the forested area west of Island Ford Parking Lot; the NPS has placed piles of fallen tree limbs and debris to slow erosion; facing east 144
Figure 4.9: Active erosion occurs on the steep slopes between Hewlett Lodge and Island Ford Spring House, facing south 145
Figure 4.10: Active erosion of the south bank of Falling Branch at the east end of Island Ford Retaining Wall, facing northwest 145
Figure 4.11: Active erosion occurs at several steep portions of both earthen and paved pedestrian circulation features in the landscape; facing southeast at intersection of the earthen trail to the Barbecue Pavilion site and Hewlett Lodge Walking Path 145
Figure 4.12: Remnant of barbed-wire fencing along the north edge of the reforested floodplain in the southwest portion of the study area, facing north 146

Treatment 183

Figure 5.1: Excerpt of management zoning map for Alternative F of the 2009 Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Final General Management Plan/EIS 187
Figure 5.2: While research has not revealed evidence of historic foundation plantings at Hewlett Lodge, the unnatural form of the azalea (left) and holly shrubs near the front and back entrances are not indicative of the site's overall naturalistic character 199
Figure 5.3: Areas of bare ground adjacent to the paved surface at Island Ford Boat Ramp and Hewlett Field Drop Off are susceptible to erosion 199
Figure 5.4: The low-lying areas in the south portion of Hewlett Field tend to collect surface water. Consider constructing subterranean drainage and/or bioswales at the surface level to drain these areas to the adjacent stream to the south 199
Figure 5.5: This CLR recommends establishing upland meadows in roadside bioswales to minimize maintenance requirements and protect areas with bare soil to prevent future erosion 201
Figure 5.6: Internal park planning schematic drawing for a proposed rerouting of the access road connecting the administrative parking area south of the Operations Building to Island Ford Road 204

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Foreword

We are pleased to make available this cultural landscape report as part of our ongoing effort to provide comprehensive documentation for the historic structures and landscapes of the National Park Service units in Region 2, South Atlantic-Gulf. A number of individuals and institutions contributed to the successful completion of this work. We would particularly like to thank the staff at Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area for their assistance throughout the process. We hope this study will be a useful tool for park management in continuing efforts to preserve the cultural landscape and to others interested in the significance of the park's many cultural resources.

Barbara Judy, Branch Chief,
Park Historic Architecture and Cultural Landscapes Stewardship
Interior Region 2: South Atlanta-Gulf
October 2021

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Introduction

Management Summary

This Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) is for the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape, a 46.2-acre component landscape of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area (CHAT) in Fulton County, Georgia, in the city of Sandy Springs. In December 1978, the National Park Service assumed management of CHAT, which includes sixteen discontinuous units along the Chattahoochee River corridor. The National Park Service (NPS) owns and manages the subject property, including the historic Hewlett Lodge and several other buildings and structures on the property that serve as components of CHAT Administrative Headquarters.

Figure 1.1 and **Figure 1.2** illustrate the location of Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape within the park. Hewlett Lodge (built in 1935) and three associated contributing structures (built 1945) are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for their significance under Criterion C (embodiment of the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction) at the state level in the area of Architecture. Hewlett Lodge is an excellent and rare example of a Rustic-style building in Georgia. The period of significance begins with construction of Hewlett Lodge by prominent Atlanta-based attorney, Samuel Dunbar Hewlett, in 1935 and ends when the Buckhead Century Club purchased the property in 1950. Additional contributing cultural landscape features include a historic Barbecue Pavilion and Springhouse, as well as natural systems and features, spatial organization, views, and circulation features. There are eight noncontributing buildings and thirteen noncontributing structures, all constructed since the end of the period of significance.

The site history included in this CLR examines the development and evolution of Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape and presents a broad overview of its history, tracing the use of the land by Native Americans, early American settlers, Samuel D. Hewlett, Sr., the Buckhead Century Club, the Atlanta Baptist Association, and the National Park Service (NPS). The site history is based on historic research utilizing a wide range of primary and secondary sources including census records, historic maps, historic photographs and aerial imagery, local history texts, oral history interviews, and NPS reports/documents. While there is very little written or photographic documentation of the landscape's historic spatial organization or details of daily life on the site, oral history interviews and historic aerial photographs contribute immensely to the twentieth-century record.

The existing conditions section provides a comprehensive description of cultural landscape features at the site, including natural and cultural resources. The inventory includes information gathered during site visits by project team members between December 2018 and March 2020.

The analysis of integrity section uses criteria developed by the National Register of Historic Places and the *Secretary of Interior Standards for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* to evaluate the historic integrity of existing landscape resources.

The section on treatment recommendations provides guidance for future management decisions related to the site's historic landscape resources.

Historical Overview

For many generations, Native Americans, most recently the Creek and Cherokee, lived in and around the lands upon which Hewlett Lodge was built. The United States government, in conjunction with the state government of Georgia, forced the ceding of this land through a series of armed conflicts, treaties, and removal policies. In 1830, the land was divided into a number of gold and land lots and opened for European American settlement. Over the next several decades, the area evolved to reflect the general political, economic, and social character of the antebellum South, with enslavement of African Americans and support of "states' rights" serving as cornerstones of political and economic life.

Following the Civil War, agricultural and industrial development continued to exact change upon the physical and cultural landscape of the Chattahoochee River corridor and Georgia's Upper Piedmont region. However, the steep and rocky riparian environment that characterizes the study area limited the impact of such development on site. As such, the landscape of the Island Ford vicinity served primarily as hunting grounds and supplied fuel and building material to those occupying the area. While some farming, such as cattle grazing and limited crop production in floodplain areas, may have occurred, by the time Samuel D. Hewlett purchased the subject property in 1925, the land was in ecological transition from partially-open scrub land to natural regenerative forest.

At that time, the City of Atlanta was experiencing unprecedented economic prosperity and its growth vastly outpaced other Southern business centers such as Richmond, New Orleans, and Memphis. The ensuing development of the city increased demands for natural resources and access to the surrounding countryside, including the Chattahoochee River—which became the city's principal water and power source in the 1890s. While the city physically expanded outward from its nineteenth-century industrial and commercial core, the value of farmland in the countryside plummeted due to complex socioeconomic and environmental factors. During the first three decades of the 1900s, failed labor systems, industrialization, and the boll weevil, among other factors, devastated cotton culture in the South. The Great Depression brought on further collapse and complete failure of many farming enterprises in the state of Georgia and beyond. By that time, much of the agricultural land in the Chattahoochee River corridor was left fallow or in low-yield production.

After World War I, technological and infrastructure improvements made automobile travel easier and made the rugged, picturesque terrain that characterizes much of the Chattahoochee River corridor more accessible. Subsequently, many of Atlanta's most successful businesspeople were drawn by the clean air and natural environment away from the bustle of the city. By the end of World War II, many prominent citizens of Atlanta built summer homes and even year-round residences near the Chattahoochee River. The steep topography, forested environment, and remote location of the study area made it an ideal place for one such Atlantan, Samuel D. Hewlett, who developed his own private summer retreat for personal and family use on the banks of the Chattahoochee River at Island Ford.

In 1935, ten years after buying the subject property, Hewlett began construction of his own Rustic-style residence and several auxiliary buildings and structures. Hewlett, and/or whomever served as his design adviser, chose to situate the residence at the end of a central ridgeline overlooking the Chattahoochee River just upstream of the Island Ford Shoals. Due to the sloping terrain of the site Hewlett Lodge includes finished basement spaces on three sides and the living spaces, entries, and porches at ground level with easy access to the outside environment. In designing and constructing Hewlett Lodge, emphasis was placed upon connection to the natural environment—as evidenced in the use of natural materials such as locally gathered field stones and unhewn cypress logs that may have been harvested from the owner's property in the Okefenokee Swamp in south Georgia.

Oral histories establish that Hewlett maintained a daily role in the construction of Hewlett Lodge and other aspects of the site, but two men, a Mr. John Epps and a Mr. Howell (first name unknown) served as construction managers and skilled workers. Indeed, the intact historic Lodge, as well as the auxiliary Barbecue Pavilion, Springhouse,

and stone walls and paths on the site, demonstrate the great skill and attention to detail paid by those craftsmen.

Like other Rustic Style residences, which were seldom built in Georgia and the South, Hewlett developed his summer retreat on the Chattahoochee River as much more than a stand-alone home. It served, rather, as a designed landscape where purpose-built and natural features mingled and access to the outdoors was critical. In this way, Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape demonstrates the ways in which the Rustic Style is derived from the work of prominent nineteenth and twentieth-century architects and landscape architects such as Frederick Law Olmsted, Calvert Vaux, and H. H. Richardson, among others—who were inspired by the natural landscapes in which their designs were implemented.

Hewlett owned and maintained Hewlett Lodge and the property between 1935 and 1950, occasionally making the home his residence. Each year, he and his extended family spent time enjoying the home and site. Some accounts suggest that Hewlett hosted lavish parties for his large network of friends, family, and business associates.[1]

Sometime prior to 1950, Hewlett joined the Buckhead Century Club, an exclusive male-only membership organization in Atlanta that provided entertainment and social activities for its members. Many members of the club were leading Atlanta-based attorneys and businessmen. During the late 1940s, Hewlett hosted club events at the Lodge property, and in 1950, he officially sold the land and residence to the club. As part of the sale, Hewlett leased a one-room apartment at Island Ford and continued to visit the Lodge regularly until his death in 1965. During their ownership, the club held private social gatherings, some of which are thought to have included recreational gaming and perhaps even gambling.

In 1955, the Buckhead Century Club dissolved and sold the property and residence to the Atlanta Baptist Association who used the site as a retreat destination for various church organizations. During this period, several buildings, structures, and circulation features were added to the site. The Atlanta Baptist Association owned the property until 1979 when it became part of the Island Ford Unit of CHAT under the management and ownership of the NPS. Subsequently, Hewlett Lodge and the study area became the Administrative Headquarters for CHAT. At present, the NPS maintains the historic and contemporary features of the cultural landscape for recreational, educational, visitor services, administrative, and maintenance use while protecting and interpreting the area's natural and cultural resources.

This CLR aims to fill in the gaps in our previous understanding of the historic Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape and produce treatment recommendations to guide its future use.

Previous historic research reported in Historic Resource Study reports published by the NPS in 1980 and 2007, as well as a *Historic Structure Assessment Report* (2000) and the *Island Ford Lodge National Register Nomination Form* (2016) for Island Ford Lodge provided a foundation for the site history. Continuing research related to Hewlett Lodge will clarify and expand the history in this CLR. The history presented herein provides the framework for assessing the significance and integrity of the site's distinct landscape characteristics and informs the treatment recommendations for the cultural landscape.

The site history section of this report organizes the site into periods of development. These periods reflect changes in ownership and management of the site and include:

- Native Americans Prior to 1600
- European Settlement and Native Americans Removal (1600 – 1835)
- Settling Georgia's Piedmont (1836 – 1860)
- The Civil War, Reconstruction, and a New South (1861 – 1934)
- Hewlett's Lodge (1935 – 1955)
- Atlanta Baptist Association Ownership (1956 – 1978)
- NPS Ownership (1979 – Present)

1. Ann McCleary and Keith S. Herbert, "Island Ford Lodge Historic District" (National Register of Historic Places Inventory/Nomination Form, September 19, 2016), Section 8, 18.

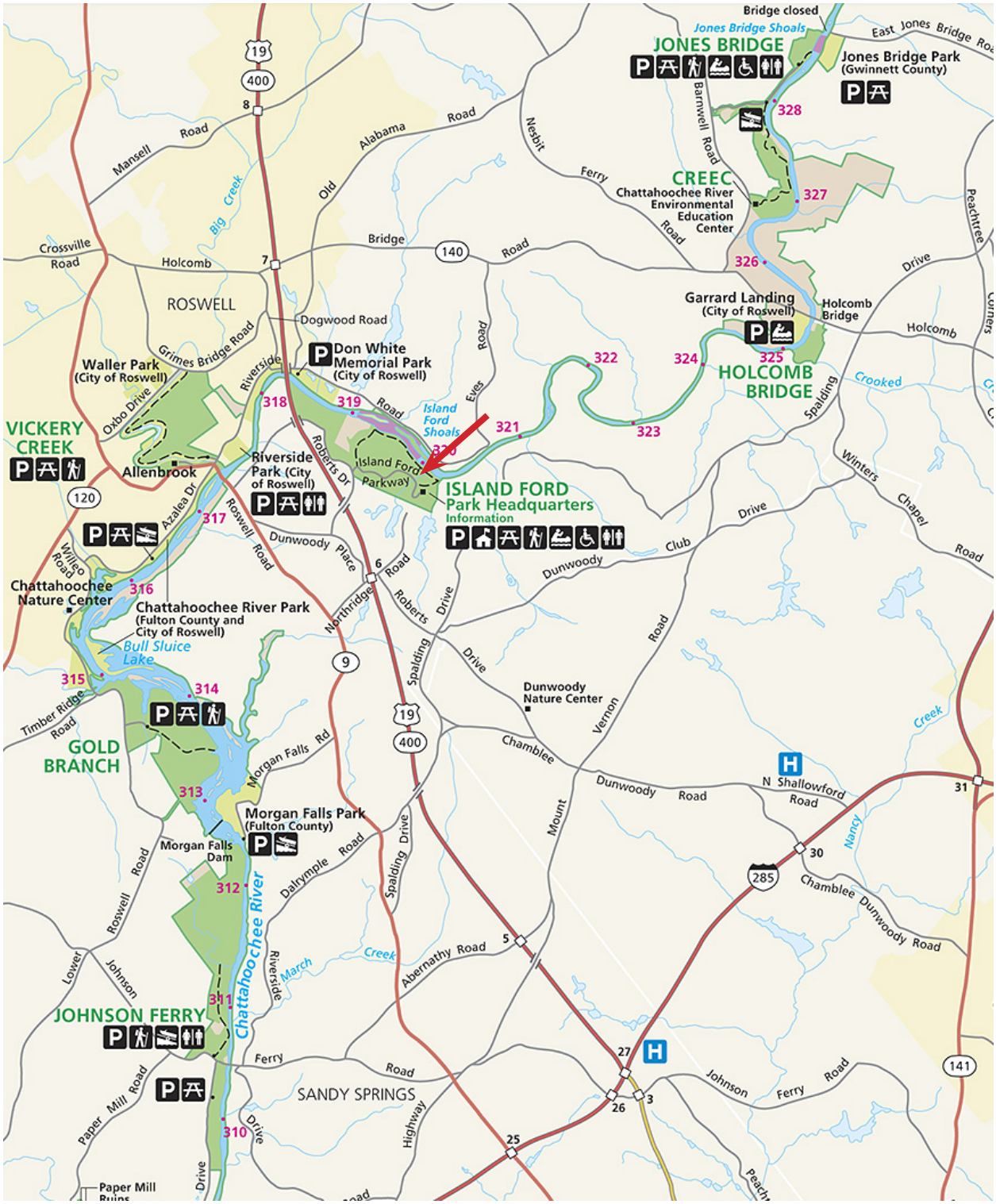


Figure 1.1: Portion of CHAT park map; red arrow indicates location of study area. (Source: NPS, Harpers Ferry Center).

Scope of Work and Methodology

As stated in the Project Statement, this CLR will (1) describe the historical development of the area; (2) document the existing site conditions; (3) provide analysis of the landscape's potential National Register significance; (4) identify character defining features; (5) determine appropriate treatment strategies, and (6) develop treatment recommendations that facilitate preservation of these resources, address park management concerns, and inform ongoing and proposed management decisions.

Primary and secondary sources serve as the basis of the developmental history of the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape in the site history section, informing the analysis of the historical significance of the site. Using information gathered during site documentation field work, this CLR identifies landscape characteristics and associated features that contribute to the historic significance of the site—expanding upon the documentation in the 2016 *Island Ford Lodge National Register Nomination Form*. This CLR compares the historic condition of a particular resource with its current condition to evaluate its historic integrity. Lastly, the document provides treatment recommendations that align with park goals, management concerns, and identified adverse conditions.

The authors of the various formal documents and reports, as well as other primary and secondary sources that inform this CLR, adopt a variety of proper names when referring to Hewlett's Rustic-style residence and the site in general. For clarity, this CLR adopts the following specific terms:

- *Hewlett Lodge* refers to the actual log building constructed by Hewlett in 1935; while
- *Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape* (or just Island Ford Lodge landscape) refers to the CLR study area as defined in the Description of Study Boundaries that follows.

Description of Study Boundaries

The Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape is comprised of a 46.2-acre complex in suburban Fulton County, Georgia, in the city of Sandy Springs. The boundary for this CLR is identical to the National Register Boundary for the Hewlett Lodge property.[2] The boundary also represents the current legal boundary of a portion of the Island Ford Unit of CHAT. The park's Administrative Headquarters are housed within the study area boundary. The Chattahoochee River marks the eastern boundary and two small streams, both of which flow from west to east, mark the north and south boundaries: Falling Branch at the north and an unnamed stream at the south.

The study area includes Hewlett Lodge, associated historic resources, and other contemporary resources associated with the park—all of which are situated above and to the west of a broad,

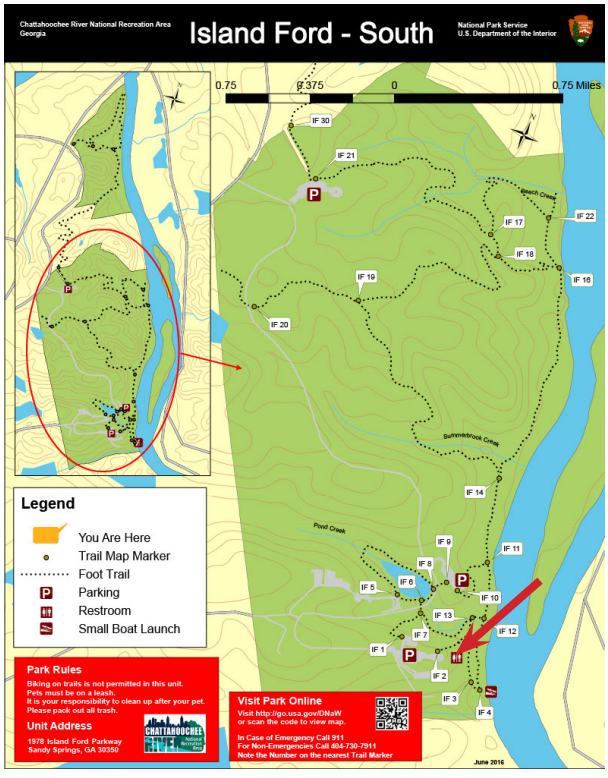


Figure 1.2: Park map for the south portion of Island Ford Unit of CHAT; red arrow indicates location of Lodge. (Source: NPS, CHAT).

2. McCleary and Herbert, "Island Ford Lodge Historic District," Section 11, 21.

nearly ninety-degree west-to-north bend in the Chattahoochee River. Hewlett Lodge is located east of a cul-de-sac at the end of Island Ford Parkway on the crest of a ridge near the center of the property. Extensive views of the Chattahoochee River are available from the east end of the property, especially from points on the central ridge. An unnamed island and Island Ford Shoals are visible to the north and northeast.

Summary of Findings

Significance

The National Register-listed resources at the site have been formally evaluated in terms of their historic and cultural significance two times prior to the development of this CLR, first in 2007 as part of the Historic Resource Study for CHAT and then in 2016 as documented in the National Register Nomination Form for Island Ford Lodge (Hewlett Lodge).

The Historic Resource Study states that Hewlett Lodge is significant locally under National Register Criterion A as a rare surviving example of a historic country retreat near Atlanta; Criterion B for association with prominent attorney, Samuel Dunbar Hewlett; and Criterion C as a rare example of Rustic-style architecture in Georgia. The report also states that the property is significant as an example of a national tradition of establishing church camp facilities in rural areas, as exemplified by its use and alteration by the Atlanta Baptist Association during the late twentieth century, prior to its acquisition by the NPS. Finally, the report states that several associated features, including the Barbecue Pavilion, Spring House, Retaining Wall, and the stone steps at the pavilion site, are also potentially significant under Criteria A and C.

The documentation provided in the 2016 National Register Nomination Form for Island Ford Lodge differs slightly from that of the Historic Resource Study in that it lists the property as significant only under Criterion C as a rare example of Rustic-style architecture in Georgia. The nomination documents Hewlett Lodge, the Barbecue Pavilion, Island Ford Retaining Wall, and the Spring House, as well as several noncontributing buildings and structures associated with either the Atlanta Baptist Association or the NPS occupation of the property. As such, the official National Register listing for the site does not include significance under Criteria A or B. The period of significance is 1935-1950, beginning with initial construction of Hewlett Lodge and ending when Samuel D. Hewlett sold the property to the Buckhead Century Club. The National Register boundary aligns with the boundary of Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape as documented in this CLR.

While the findings of this CLR concur with those of the 2016 National Register Nomination Form, it supplements the official National Register documentation by identifying several cultural landscape resources—including natural features, circulation features, and buildings and structures, among others—that are not included in the nomination's list of contributing and noncontributing features. Many of the features left out of the nomination contribute to the site's historic integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Treatment

Since acquiring Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape and establishing CHAT headquarters on the site, the NPS has focused efforts on resource stabilization, maintenance, and rehabilitation focused on providing adequate facilities for visitors and park administration. The visitor services include public access for passive and active recreational use as well as natural and historic interpretation. Administrative use includes both office facilities for park staff and a maintenance complex. While considering park-identified needs for site-wide updates to utilities, infrastructure, and access features, the recommendations in this CLR aim to preserve the historic character of the site to allow for enhanced interpretive and recreational use while maintaining the administrative and maintenance-related uses.

Treatment recommendations focus on an interpretive period that aligns with the National Register period of significance—1935-1950. The recommended ultimate treatment is rehabilitation, which provides measures to protect the historic character-defining features while improving the overall appearance, functionality, and natural resiliency of the site.

General recommendations include:

- Provide updates to and/or construct new visitor services and circulation features to support increasing park visitation numbers. Improvements may include new restrooms, parking, and enhanced access to the Chattahoochee River.
- Update site utilities as needed to meet requirements for administrative use while limiting impact to historic character.
- Plan for enhancement of educational and interpretive programing for Hewlett Lodge landscape highlighting the historic narrative documented in this and other NPS reports in conjunction with the themes and subthemes identified in the Long Range Interpretive Plan for CHAT.
- Preserve, maintain, and restore when possible all contributing features of Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape, including the historic spatial organization, views, vegetation, and buildings and structures.
- Avoid altering existing features or adding new features in the vicinity of, or within the viewsheds of Hewlett Lodge, the Barbecue Pavilion site, and the Spring House site.
- Preserve and protect the character of existing views and vistas as well as open and forested areas by maintaining the natural forests of the site at their current bounds.
- Consider changes to vegetation at Hewlett Lodge and the administrative areas to more accurately represent the naturalistic landscape aesthetic that existed in the period of interpretation.
- Continue to manage invasive exotic vegetation and monitor the health of natural forests on site.
- Manage and control active erosion through the use of vegetation wherever possible to maintain an overall naturalistic landscape aesthetic.
- Document all future changes to the landscape through drawings, photographs, and notes.

Recommendations for Further Study

To best protect the historic character of Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape, this CLR recommends that the park consider further research related to the following:

- Development of a site-wide maintenance plan addressing routine vegetation management, conditions assessments of built and natural features, and monitoring of preservation/maintenance activities.
- Production of a historic structure report for Hewlett Lodge, perhaps to include the Barbecue Pavilion and other associated features. Research for the historic structure report may reveal new information about lost or altered features in the larger cultural landscape and will provide treatment recommendations to supplement the existing Historic Structure Assessment Report for Hewlett Lodge.
- Development of a strategy for public outreach to potentially solicit historic photographs and/or oral history to improve upon the existing documentation of the site's historic conditions.
- Production of an update to the existing National Register documentation to reconcile discrepancies with existing conditions noted in this CLR (see Table 3 in the treatment chapter).

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Site History

Native Americans Prior to 1600

Paleoindian Period (ca. 15,000 – 8,000 BCE)

For thousands of years, Native Americans have inhabited the Georgia Piedmont. The region's rivers alternate between floodplains and narrow shoals, sustaining a dynamic and ecologically abundant landscape that supplied generations of Native Americans a place to develop extensive cultural traditions related to kinship, religion, trade, and natural resource use. These traditions evolved over millennia, adapting to both environmental and societal change.

The earliest groups of nomadic hunters and gatherers to reach the southern portions of North America migrated from the Alaska/Yukon area.[3] Archeologists note that these groups lived in small, highly mobile social units, known as bands. In the Southeast, Native Americans depended on hunting smaller game such as caribou and deer as well as gathering a wide range of edible plants.[4] Archeological evidence from the Paleoindian Period indicates that specialized tools for hunting smaller fauna began to emerge in southeastern North America and that a migratory pattern of living persisted amongst the people who inhabited the region.[5] Archeologists are unsure of the initial date of human occupation of the Georgia Piedmont. "While sites and assemblages are widespread after 13,500 years ago, and evidence suggesting even older occupations has been found at several sites, [archeologists] still do not know when people entered the region."[6]

Archeologists theorize that many "Early Paleoindian sites were located primarily in the floodplain, with the remainder of the sites at the uplands edge."[7] The archeological record also shows concentrated use of shoals along the region's creeks and rivers.

Archaic Period (8,000 BCE – 1,000 BCE)

A period of climatic warming occurred during the transition between the Paleoindian and Archaic periods, resulting in widespread environmental changes. In southeastern North America, pine and scrub hardwoods began to dominate upland areas.[8] Despite the changes to the environment, the Archaic period Native Americans who occupied North Georgia continued a nomadic hunter-gatherer mode of living. As such, there is little evidence of agricultural development during this period, but there is evidence of seasonal settlements during the early Archaic period.[9] By the Middle Archaic period, "semi-permanent base camps along watercourses became common," which influenced the development of trade networks.[10] Late Archaic archeological sites are much more numerous than those of earlier periods, likely due to the development of larger, more densely occupied settlements. Residential sites grew in size while nomadic territories shrank,

3. Marti Gerdes, Scott Messer, and Tommy Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study" (National Park Service, Cultural Resources Division, Southeast Regional Office, February 2007), 7–8.
4. Stephen Carmody, "'From Foraging to Food Production on the Southern Cumberland Plateau of Alabama and Tennessee'" (PhD Dissertation, University of Tennessee, 2014); Kandace Hollenbach, "Modeling Resource Procurement of Southeastern Hunter-Gatherers: A View from Northwest Alabama," *Sixty-Second Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference*, 2005.
5. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 8.
6. "NPS Archeology Program: The Earliest Americans Theme Study," accessed November 19, 2018, https://www.nps.gov/archeology/pubs/nhleam/E-Southeast.htm.
7. David G Anderson et al., "Paleoindian and Early Archaic in the Lower Southeast: A View from Georgia," 1994, 61.
8. David G. Anderson and Glen T. Hanson, "Early Archaic Settlement in the Southeastern United States: A Case Study from the Savannah River Valley," *American Antiquity* 53, no. 2 (1988): 262–86.
9. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 8.
10. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 8.

centering on economic resources.[11] Social alliances and trade developed among regional groups. While pottery, especially cookware, began to appear in what would become Georgia during the Late Archaic period, it is more widely characteristic of the Woodland period.

Woodland Period (1,000 BCE – 1,000 CE)

The Woodland period is marked by an increase in the use of ceramic vessels. Innovations in pottery included the use of temper rather than fiber, the development of the boiling technique to build vessels, and the rounding of vessel bases. People began to concentrate themselves in river valleys and along the Coastal Plain, used more pottery, constructed earth mounds for burial, and began to cultivate and store more plants.[12] The climate during this period became more consistent with the current climate.

By about 100 BCE, Native Americans in the Southeast began settling in small villages. The villages featured clusters of circular post buildings, which groups often sited near alluvial plains and at the confluence of major rivers. Native Americans based subsistence practices on new food sources as well as established hunter gatherer methods.

Importantly, during this period, Native Americans in the Southeast began the cultivation of food crops. "Throughout the Woodland period there was a growing reliance on domesticated plants, especially maize, beans, and squash, a food complex adopted from southwestern Indian groups, but hunting, fishing, and gathering continued as supplements to agriculture."[13] In Georgia, Native American groups began to establish civic-ceremonial centers, including the mound complexes at Ocmulgee (near the present-day city of Macon, Bibb County, Georgia) and Etowah (near present-day Bartow County, Georgia).

11. Kenneth Sassaman, *Early Pottery in the Southeast: Tradition and Innovation in Cooking Technology* (Tuscaloosa, Alabama: University of Alabama Press, 1993).
12. Judith A. Bense, *Archaeology of the Southeastern United States* (San Diego: California Academic Press, 1994), 130.
13. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 8.

Mississippian Period (800 CE – 1600 CE)

Beginning around 800 CE, an influential cultural florescence called the Mississippian Period developed in the Mississippi Valley and spread throughout the Southeast.[14] In general, Mississippian Period societies developed socially stratified chiefdoms characterized by extensive agricultural production, centralized and fortified towns, complex religious practices, long-distance trade, and chiefs that possessed the ability to direct large numbers of people to conduct war or construct massive earthworks.[15] The Mississippians who populated the Southeast region "tended to build their capitals near the edge of the province [Coastal Plain region], near its juncture with the Piedmont."[16]

Within a few hundred years, however, due to a combination of factors including "depletion of soil fertility due to intensive agriculture, shortages of wood resulting from deforestation, climate change (the 'Little Ice Age'), [and] warfare" many Mississippian chiefdoms collapsed.[17] When the Spanish began their conquest of the Southeast in the sixteenth century, Native Americans in the region had established, or were in the process of establishing, a new "multicultural and multilingual" social order.[18]

14. Eric E. Bowne, *Mound Sites of the Ancient South: A Guide to the Mississippian Chiefdoms* (Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2013), 3.
15. Bowne, *Mound Sites of the Ancient South: A Guide to the Mississippian Chiefdoms*, 3.
16. Bowne, *Mound Sites of the Ancient South: A Guide to the Mississippian Chiefdoms*, 13.
17. Reed F. Noss, *Forgotten Grasslands of the South: Natural History and Conservation* (Washington DC: Island Press, 2013), 65.
18. Charles Hudson, *Knights of Spain, Warriors of the Sun: Hernando de Soto and the South's Ancient Chiefdoms* (Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 1997), 30.

European Settlement and Native American Removal (1600 – 1835)

Changes within Native American Society

During the sixteenth century, Spanish explorers encountered densely populated urban areas as they traversed the panhandle of modern-day Florida, into what is now southwest Georgia, and beyond. Spanish colonizers engaged with Native Americans through trade and cooperation as well as combat and pillage. No matter the type of engagement, all interactions resulted in the Spanish subjecting Native Americans to European diseases for which they had no immunity. The diseases swept through established Native American settlements, decimating local populations and shattering social cohesion.

By the time Britain and France began colonizing portions of North America in the late seventeenth century, the political, social, and economic organization of Native American culture in the Southeast region of North America had already begun to transform in the wake of the earlier Spanish contact. Chiefdoms organized in the latter portion of the Mississippian Period had collapsed and many surviving Native Americans had begun to form entirely new groups. Scholars refer to these groups as "coalescent societies."[19] Several such groups developed in the present-day Southeast region of the United States during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, including the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Catawba, and, in the deep South, the survivors that "integrated into what became known as the Creek Confederacy" of the Creek.[20] The Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape occupies traditional Creek (Muskogee) lands.

19. Historians have also called such groups "confederacies," "tribes," and "nations." The term "coalescent society," as adopted for this CLR, is defined in detail in: Robbie Ethridge, Creek Country: The Creek Indians and Their World (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2003), 23-24.
20. Beth Wheeler Byrd, "Horseshoe Bend National Military Park Cultural Landscape Report" (National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2013), 7.

The Creek

The Creek coalesced in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries as survivors of the first wave of European invasion in the Southeast. The Creek formed a complex and unified society that grew to occupy an expansive swath of territory encompassing large parts of what later became the states of Alabama, Georgia, and Florida.[21] Rather than being a monolithic group, the Creek organized their society as a "loose confederation" of towns or villages. These settlements included peoples from a variety of ethnic backgrounds who spoke variants of the Muskogean language.[22]

Totaling around eight thousand in 1730, the Creek population rose during the eighteenth century. By the late eighteenth century, "seventy-three towns, ranging in size from as few as ten to twenty families to more than two hundred families, comprised the Creek Confederacy—forty-eight Upper Creek towns and twenty-five Lower Creek towns, in total about fifteen to twenty thousand people."[23]

The Cherokee

The Cherokee are linked in ancestry to the former Mississippian cultures of the Appalachian Mountains, Ridge and Valley, as well as the chiefdoms to the south along major watercourses

21. Claudio Saunt, *A New Order of Things: Property, Power, and the Transformation of the Creek Indians, 1733-1816* (Cambridge: University of Cambridge Press, 1999), 12.
22. The federally recognized tribe is the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. According to the national website, "In 1867, the Muscogee people adopted a written constitution that provided for a Principal Chief and a Second Chief, a judicial branch and a bicameral legislature composed of a House of Kings and a House of Warriors. Tribal towns determined representation in both houses of this Legislative assembly. This "constitutional" period lasted for the remainder of the 19th century. A new capital was established in 1867 on the Deep Fork of the Canadian at Okmulgee. In 1878, the Nation constructed a familiar native stone Council House, which remains at the center of the modern city of Okmulgee." "Culture/History – Muscogee (Creek) Nation," accessed August 7, 2019, https://www.mcn-nsn.gov/culturehistory/. According to the tribe's constitution, "The name of this Tribe of Muscogee (Creek) people shall be 'The Muscogee (Creek) Nation', and is hereby organized under Section 3 of the Act of June 26, 1936 (48 Stat. 1967)." "Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation," accessed August 7, 2019, http://thorpe.ou.edu/constitution/muscogee/index.html.
23. Robbie Ethridge, *Creek Country: The Creek Indians and Their World* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2003), 31.

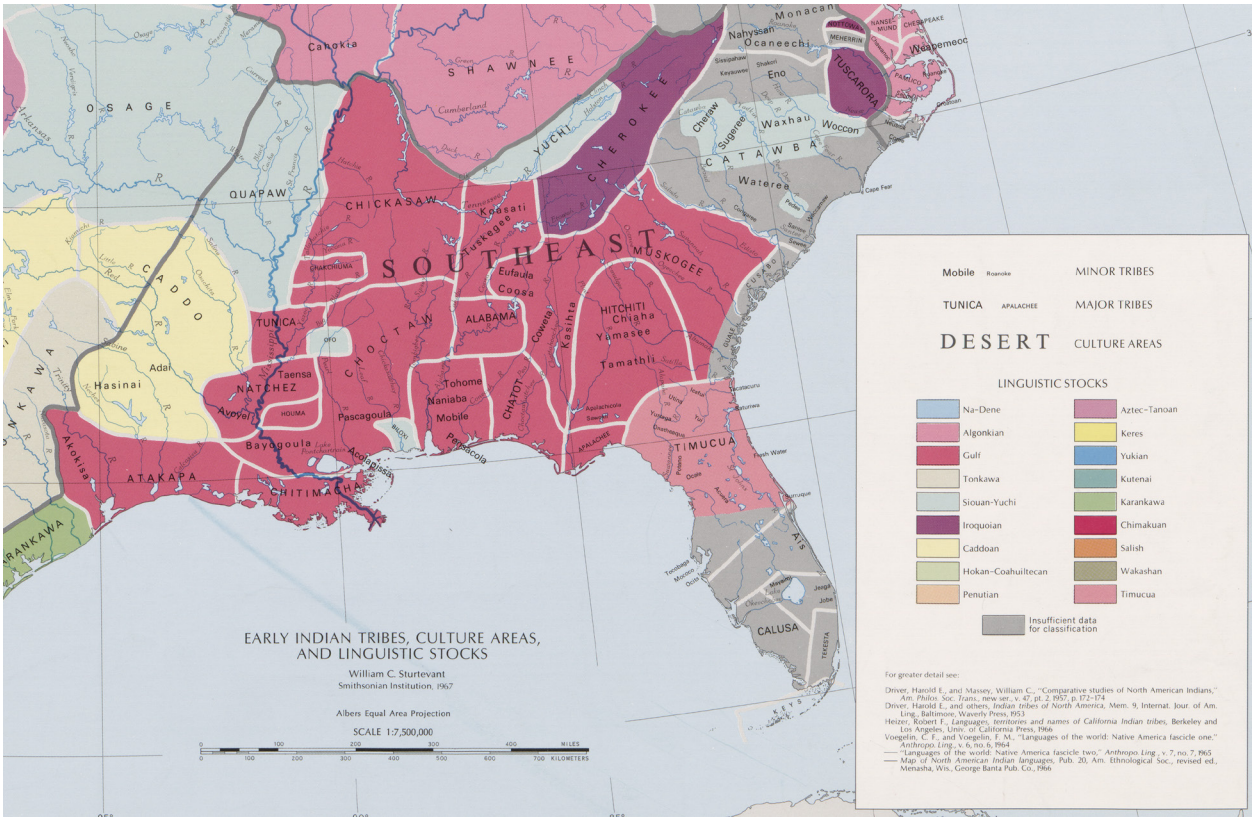


Figure 2.1: Portion of map showing the tribes, cultures, and languages of the United States, prior to colonization. (Source: Sturtevant, William C, and U.S Geological Survey. National atlas. Indian tribes, cultures & languages: United States. Reston, Va.: Interior, Geological Survey, 1967. Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/95682185/).

such as the Savannah River.[24] Cherokee tradition holds that their people lived in the area for "time immemorial."[25] They practice a matrilineal form of kinship, which historically served as a foundation for their social relations. Both language and location set them apart from other groups coalescing in the Southeast. The Cherokee spoke a dialect of the Iroquoian language, as opposed to other southeastern Native Americans who spoke either Muskogean, Catawban, or any of the other numerous different languages spoken throughout the region (**Figure 2.1**).[26] Though speaking the same language, seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Cherokee groups included a diversity of ethnicities.

While the Cherokee existed as a distinct society, in its early form it did not have a centralized government or other hierarchical decision-making apparatus. Instead, "[l]eaders of towns were spokespersons for their communities, but their status did not grant them power over people in other towns. Different towns likely formed alliances with each other in different situations."[27] As such, the Cherokee replaced the social hierarchy found in earlier Mississippian chiefdoms with a more egalitarian and matrilineal social structure.

In terms of location, the Cherokee controlled a vast swath of land prior to European colonization—roughly 124,000 square miles of territory that stretched from modern-day Tennessee to the Carolinas, including the northern portions of Georgia (**Figure 2.2**).[28] Numerous towns of various sizes dotted the Cherokee landscape. Many of these towns were reformations of preexisting settlements, though some were new. Given the

24. Christopher B. Roding, "Reconstructing the Coalescence of Cherokee Communities in Southern Appalachia," in *The Transformation of the Southeastern Indians, 1540-1760*, ed. Robbie Ethridge and Charles Hudson (Jackson: University of Mississippi Press, 2002), 156.
25. "Cherokee Nation History," Cherokee Nation History, accessed August 26, 2019, https://www.cherokee.org/about-the-nation/history/.
26. Roding, "Reconstructing the Coalescence of Cherokee Communities in Southern Appalachia," 156.
27. Roding, "Reconstructing the Coalescence of Cherokee Communities in Southern Appalachia," 155.
28. William L. Anderson, "Introduction," in *Cherokee Removal: Before and After*, ed. William L. Anderson (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1991), vii.

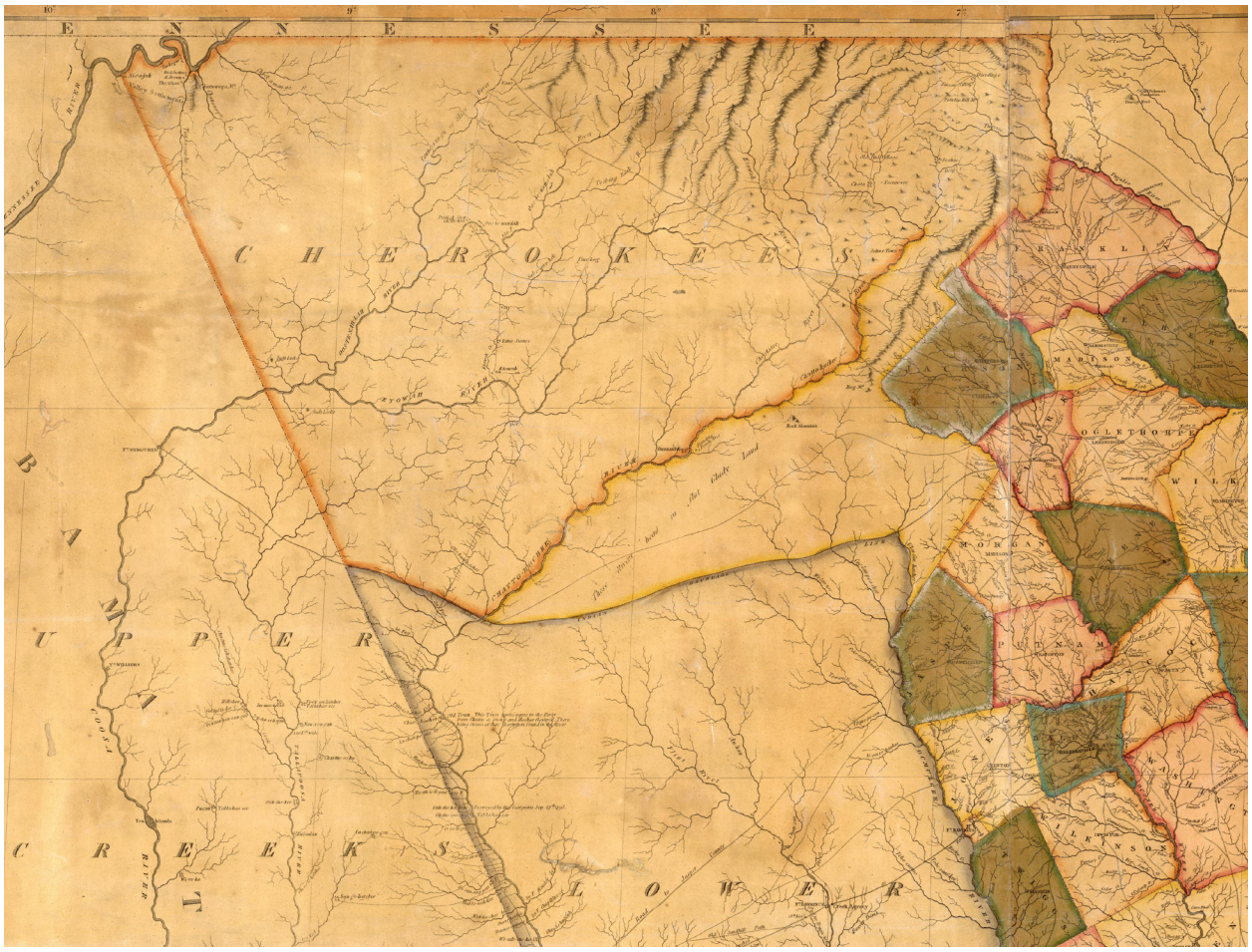


Figure 2.2: A portion of an 1818 map of Georgia. The shaded yellow area shows the Creek territory. The area north of the orange line (which denotes the Chattahoochee River) is Cherokee Territory. (Source: Eleazer Early and Daniel Sturges, Map of the State of Georgia Savannah: Eleazer Early, 1818. David Rumsey Historical Map Collection, Cartography Associates).

size of the territory, not all towns faced the same opportunities or pressures as others. Some towns were more isolated, such as those in the rugged Blue Ridge, while others were located along major trade or water routes, ensuring early and persistent contact with Europeans and other Native American groups, in particular the Creek who controlled land to the south.

Creek-Cherokee Territorial Boundary

Conflict between Creek and Cherokee groups began as early as the sixteenth century as Cherokee society expanded from the north into the southern Appalachians. By the late 1600s, conflict between the two groups culminated in a major battle at Slaughter Gap, in present-day Union County, Georgia. Although very little is known of the specific events of the battle, the Creek were defeated and forced to give up significant sacred territory.

After the battle at Slaughter Gap, the Creek retreated to the Piedmont. However, conflict continued during the 1700s, and a second major confrontation occurred at Ball Ground, in present-day Cherokee County, Georgia, that resulted in Creek cessions of territory between the Chattahoochee and Coosa Rivers. Afterward, the Creek abandoned all remaining territory on the northwest bank of the Chattahoochee River. At that time, the area immediately surrounding the Chattahoochee, including the study area of this CLR, became a buffer zone between the two Indian tribes, a more or less neutral territory where both retained hunting rights.[29]

29. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 9.

European Arrival

British and French explorers first visited portions of the upper Piedmont near the Chattahoochee River in the late 1600s. Their primary objective was to open up trade avenues with Native Americans. Soon thereafter however, the objective switched to land and property acquisition. As such, the story of white settlement of the area, which began the following century, is one of steady attrition of the local Native American population and territory. From Georgia's founding in 1733 to 1838, when the United States government enacted removal policies against Native Americans residing within the state, persistent pressure from invading white settlers resulted in constant tension and frequent hostility. The pattern of consistent white encroachment and subsequent Indian cession by treaty, which occurred twenty times during that period, led to the end of Native American society in the area by the late 1830s.

During the early stages of colonization, European goods and culture were introduced through intermarriage and trade, blurring some of the divisions between European settlers and the Creek and Cherokee. Trading posts and factories constructed by the English in the 1700s provided tools, looms, and livestock to local Creek and Cherokee and protection for white settlers. Attracted by the novel resources, many Creek people chose to remain in newly settled areas and maintained trade relations with Europeans. Human population in the Piedmont grew steadily during the 1700s as Creek, Cherokee, and European settlers shared the region, though not without conflict.[30]

Early White Inhabitants

In 1800, most of the land surrounding the Chattahoochee River remained Native American territory, with the western extent of the State of Georgia marked by the headwaters of the Apalachee River, east of the Chattahoochee. At that time, white settlement of the area was limited to a very few land squatters and traders peddling goods to Creek and Cherokee in the area. In 1798, Georgia's Constitutional Convention made a formal effort to limit disputes between Native Americans and whites by prohibiting new settlement of Indian-owned lands until native claims had been "legally" extinguished and counties organized. However, the prohibition was widely ignored and conflict between white land squatters and Creek and Cherokee persisted.[31]

Early white inhabitants, whether residing on ceded lands or squatters in Indian territory, raised corn and subsistence crops on the floodplains of the Chattahoochee River. The earliest houses and associated structures were temporary and of either thatch or rough-cut log. In some cases, temporary houses were later replaced by more substantial log or frame houses. The typical white residential unit was the isolated single-family farmstead, which generally included a main house, outbuildings, a garden, and small fenced fields surrounded by woodlots.[32]

As white settlers gradually pushed westward and many Creeks began assimilating, the War of 1812 broke out. While formally a war between the British and the Americans, the conflict hastened white encroachment into the Piedmont and predicated the Creek Civil War, which broke out a year later in 1813.

The Creek Civil War (1813-1814)

Throughout the process of colonization of the Southeast, relations between Europeans and the Creek varied and evolved.

> Following the founding of Charleston, South Carolina, by the British in 1670 and Louisiana by the French in 1699, the trade in deerskins and other pelts with the Creek increased substantially, and a geographical division between Upper Creek and Lower Creek was reinforced by the patterns of trade… The inhabitants of the Chattahoochee, Flint, and Ocmulgee basins, who traded almost exclusively with the British in South Carolina and Georgia…

30. Beth Wheeler Byrd, "Sope Creek Cultural Landscape Report" (National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, Cultural Resources Division, 2009), 9.

31. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 15.

32. Denise P. Messick, J. W. Joseph, and Natalie P. Adams, "Tilling the Earth: Georgia's Historic Agricultural Heritage - A Context" (Stone Mountain, Georgia: New South Associates, Inc., 2001); Darlene M. Roth, *Architecture, Archeology, and Landscapes* (Marietta, GA: Cobb County Historic Commission, 1988), 14–16.

> especially profited from trade, but all Creek towns began to incorporate European goods into their traditional living patterns.[33]

In general, some Creeks aligned closer with the Europeans and adopted Western forms of political structure, marriage, land ownership, and economy, including chattel slavery.[34] Others sought to retain their traditional culture and homelands and rebelled against assimilation.[35] As part of a continuum of hostilities since European invasion, the internal division resulted in the outbreak of civil war between the two factions in 1813.[36] While the reasons for the conflict were numerous and complex, "in broad terms, the Creek Civil War was a clash between those building a capitalist nation-state and those fighting against it."[37] Soon, the United States, which the Creeks had generally supported during the American Revolution, became involved, waging war on traditionalist Native Americans and allied African Americans.[38] With the support of the United States military, the war ended with the defeat of the traditionalist faction at Horseshoe Bend in 1814.

Creek Removal

Afterward, the 1814 Treaty of Fort Jackson forced both groups of Creeks to cede an immense piece of land containing much of central and southern Alabama and Georgia to the United States, 23,000,000 acres in total.[39] In 1817, the Creek ceded lands east of the Ocmulgee and its headwaters, enabling the establishment of Gwinnett County. In 1821, in the first Treaty of Indian Springs, Creek leadership ceded all land between the Ocmulgee and Flint Rivers, which enabled the formation of five new Georgia counties that same year—including Henry County, from which DeKalb County and, later Fulton County were formed. As a result of that treaty, the entire southeastern bank of the Chattahoochee River passed out of Native American possession. The Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape and much of CHAT are part of those ceded lands.

By 1827, the Creek leadership—much to the consternation of its members—had ceded all remaining land in Georgia, leaving the Cherokee as the only remaining tribe in the state (**Figure 2.3**). These treaties marked the end of the Creek control of the region, which had been occupied by Native Americans for over 10,000 years.

In 1830, the United States government passed the Indian Removal Act. Although the federal government offered land and money to the Creek people in exchange for their land, it also maintained the right to forcibly remove any Native American unwilling to leave the area. Though many resisted, ultimately federal authorities forced nearly 20,000 Creek along with hundreds of enslaved African Americans to leave their homeland along one of the several so-called Trail of Tears for reservations west of the Mississippi beginning in 1834. Thousands perished due to disease and other afflictions due to the forced march.

Cherokee Removal

Unlike most Creeks, the Cherokee fought on the side of the British during the American Revolution. After the war, many Cherokee viewed assimilation as a way to better preserve and assert tribal autonomy and retain what little of their territory they had left. As William Anderson explains, "[t]he Cherokees, more than any other native people, tried to adopt Anglo-American culture. In a remarkably short time, they transformed their society and modified their traditional culture in order to conform to United States policy, to fulfill expectations of white politicians and philanthropists, and most important, to preserve their tribal integrity."[40]

The Cherokee aided the United States during the Creek Civil War, helping the U. S. Army, state militias, and the assimilationist Lower Creeks to violently suppress the dissenting Upper Creeks. Their participation was "in hopes of staving off

33. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 11.
34. "Creeks in Alabama," Encyclopedia of Alabama, accessed September 19, 2018, http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-1088; O'Brien, "Special History Study," 12.
35. O'Brien, "Special History Study," 13.
36. Byrd, "Horseshoe Bend National Military Park Cultural Landscape Report," 13.
37. ameron Shriver, "Reflecting on Justice 200 Years after the Creek Civil War," Origins: Current Events in Historical Perspective, accessed September 21, 2018, https://origins.osu.edu/milestones/september-2013-reflecting-justice-200-years-after-creek-civil-war.
38. Saunt, *A New Order of Things: Property, Power, and the Transformation of the Creek Indians, 1733-1816*, 270.
39. Saunt, *A New Order of Things: Property, Power, and the Transformation of the Creek Indians, 1733-1816*, 272.
40. Anderson, "Introduction," vii.

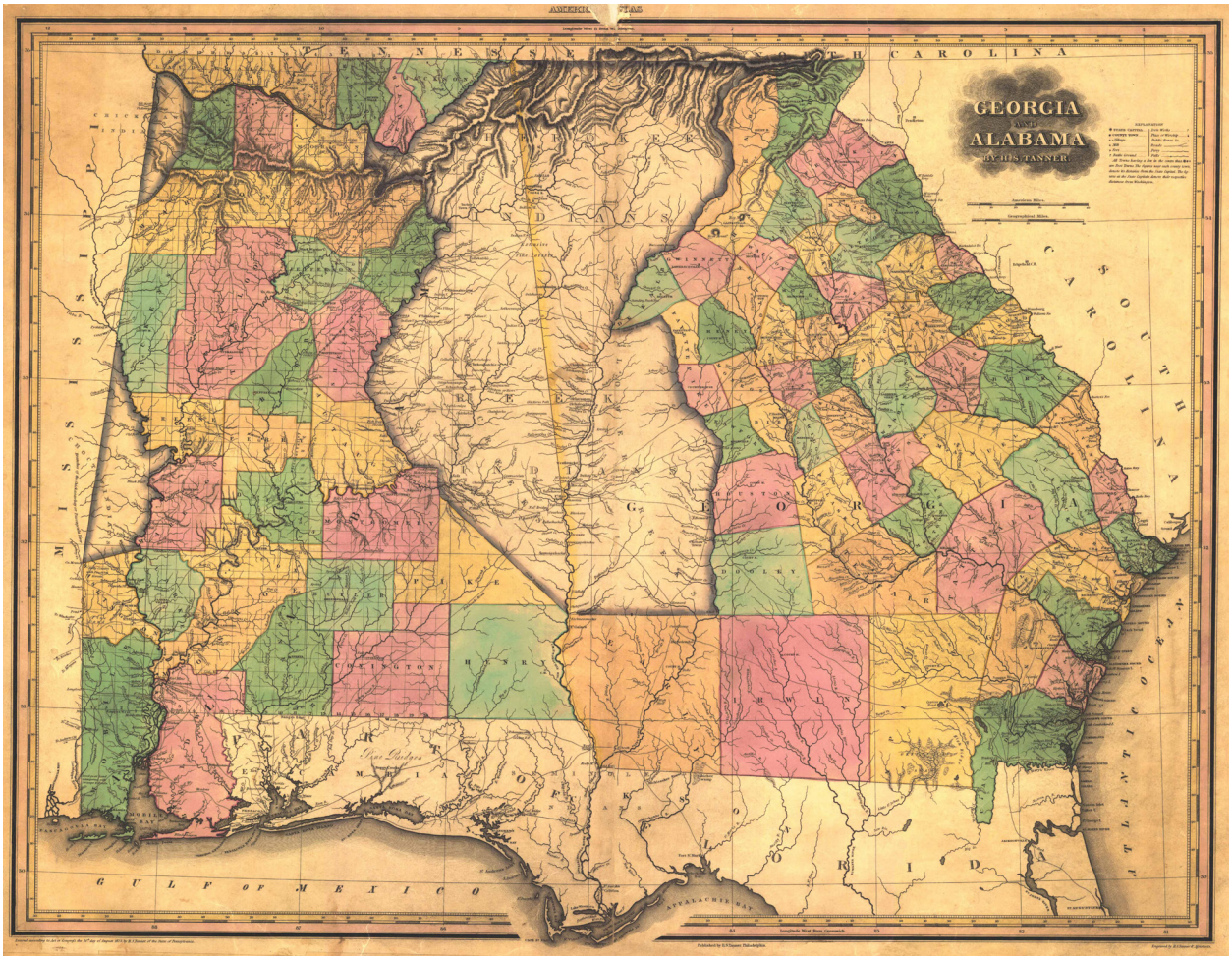


Figure 2.3: 1823 map of Georgia and Alabama showing Native American lands after a period of cessations. (Source: Georgia and Alabama By H.S. Tanner. Published by H.S. Tanner, Philadelphia. Engraved by H.S. Tanner & Assistants. Entered 20th day of August 1823, by H.S. Tanner Pennsylvania. American Atlas).

further predations of Cherokee land and sovereign rights."[41] After the war, however, the Cherokee recognized that even those who allied with the United States faced the prospect of continued land dispossession and sought an organized way to negotiate with the United States government.

In 1825, the Cherokee established a new capital settlement at New Echota, near present-day Calhoun, Georgia. By 1828, the newly formed "Cherokee Nation" had a "written language, a newspaper published in both Cherokee and English, and a Constitutional government."[42] Having become primarily concentrated in northwest Georgia after a series of additional land cessations, the Cherokee Nation's government advocated for cooperation with the United States. However, white settlers still saw the Cherokee as a barrier to its expansionist vision for the country.[43]

The discovery of gold in the remaining Cherokee lands in 1828 only fueled the settlers' desire for Native American removal.

Though the Cherokee pursued legal action to protect their rights and lands—even securing a Supreme Court victory that recognized their sovereignty—they were subject to the same removal policies as the Creek.[44] Wanting a more expedited process of removal, in 1830, the Georgia legislature declared all Cherokee lands "lying within the state claimed as its boundary would be subject to the laws of Georgia. All Cherokee laws and customs were to be rendered null and void."[45] At that time, the state proceeded to map and parcel

41. "Cherokee Nation History."
42. "Cherokee Nation History."
43. Anderson, "Introduction," ix.
44. H. David Williams, "Gambling Away the Inheritance: The Cherokee Nation and Georgia's Gold and Land Lotteries of 1832-33," *The Georgia Historical Quarterly* 73, no. 3 (1989): 523.
45. Williams, "Gambling Away the Inheritance: The Cherokee Nation and Georgia's Gold and Land Lotteries of 1832-33," 520.

out the Cherokee's land north and west of the Chattahoochee River.

Beginning in 1831, surveyors began to divide the over six-thousand square miles of Cherokee territory to ready their sale in a lottery the following year. No matter how assimilated the Cherokee had become, it would not stop the flow of white settlers determined to acquire Cherokee land.[46] As H. David Williams notes, the "historic disregard for the rights of Native Americans in the face of economic gain was a persistent theme throughout American history, but rarely was it carried out as shamelessly or blatantly as it was by Georgians in the 1830s."[47]

Despite the opposition of most Cherokee people, leaders of the Cherokee Nation signed the Treaty of New Echota in 1835, which required the Cherokee Nation to exchange their lands for property in "Indian Territory," located in what is now Oklahoma. The Cherokee, along with other Indigenous peoples still residing in the Southeast, were given two years to emigrate or face forced removal. In 1838, the federal government sent armed militia to forcibly remove those who had not willingly left. The Cherokee named this forced emigration the "Nunna dual Isunyi," or Trail of Tears. Like the Creek and other tribes, "the Cherokees were rounded up at bayonet point and herded into stockades. The Indians were allowed little or no time to gather possessions . . . Inadequate food, extreme cold, and disease were among the factors resulting in extremely high losses of life for the Cherokee Nation."[48] More than 4,000 Cherokees died during removal. Much later, a Georgia militiaman who participated in the rounding up of the Cherokee recounted that "I fought through the Civil War and have seen men shot to pieces and slaughtered by the thousands, but the Cherokee removal was the cruelest work I ever knew."[49]

46. Williams, "Gambling Away the Inheritance: The Cherokee Nation and Georgia's Gold and Land Lotteries of 1832-33," 521.
47. Williams, "Gambling Away the Inheritance: The Cherokee Nation and Georgia's Gold and Land Lotteries of 1832-33," 539.
48. William L. Anderson, ed., *Cherokee Removal: Before and After* (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1991), xii–xiii.
49. Williams, "Gambling Away the Inheritance: The Cherokee Nation and Georgia's Gold and Land Lotteries of 1832-33," 539.

Today, the Cherokee Nation—comprised of the survivors of the forced migration—maintains its sovereignty on lands in Oklahoma, while a group of Cherokees who escaped removal established a community in western North Carolina and are known as the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

Dividing Land

Environmental Context

The land to be divided among white settlers was full of natural resources—and sylvan beauty. Writing of a Georgia Piedmont forest in his *Travels* in 1791, naturalist William Bartram described a landscape both similar and different to present-day conditions:

> We rise gradually a sloping bank of twenty or thirty feet elevation and immediately entered this sublime forest; the ground is perfectly a level green plain, thinly planted by nature with the most stately forest trees, such as the gigantic Black Oak whose mighty trunks, seemingly of equal height, appeared like suburb columns. To keep within the bounds of truth and reality, in describing the magnitude and grandeur of these trees, would, I fear, fail of credibility; yet, I think I can assert that many of the black oaks measured eight, nine, ten, and eleven feet diameter five feet above the ground, as we measured several that were above thirty feet girth, and from hence they ascend perfectly straight with a gradual taper, forty or fifty feet to the limbs.[50]

While no such trees grow along the Chattahoochee's banks today, the river itself remains fixed in place due to the geological fault line—the Brevard Fault—that corrals the river to a definite and non-meandering path through the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, into the Piedmont, and down through the Coastal Plain. The fault defines the boundary between the Appalachian Mountains to the north and the Piedmont to the south. As Robert Montgomery explains, this natural boundary has shaped the ecological history of the area. He writes,

> The fault itself serves as a natural barrier to movement of flora and fauna between the two distinct geological regions. But plants and

50. William Bartram, *The Travels of William Bartram, Naturalist's Edition*, ed. Francis Harper (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2008), 24.

> animals have migrated up and down the aquatic highway connecting the two, and thus have moved far outside of what might have been their natural range. Some species of salamanders and birds, for example, have made their way from the mountains to the Piedmont along the Chattahoochee, as have numerous species of trees. Beech, white oak, umbrella magnolia, tulip popular, black locust, and mountain laurel are but a few species that grow farther south than they might have if not for the Chattahoochee River and Brevard Fault.[51]

In this way, the Chattahoochee River facilitated the movement of both humans and nonhuman nature throughout the region and provided a significant barrier that influenced the cultural history of the region.

Georgia's Land-Grant System

As a British colony, an elite group of aristocratic planters were placed in charge of the development of Georgia. The planter class, characterized by its members' ownership of vast plantations and immense wealth, "controlled the political systems" and established the "social norms subscribed to by the rest of society."[52] Primarily engaging in plantation agriculture, they initially focused on rice and indigo production in the coastal region between Augusta and Savannah. The plantation economy was wildly profitable due to the use of enslaved African laborers for tasks ranging from fieldwork to childcare. However, the plantation economy allowed only a few men to acquire property, enslaved laborers, and wealth, leaving the majority of the white population poor and politically weak. The American Revolutionary War (1775-1783) resulted in slightly decreased power for the colonial elite and a subsequent general rise of a yeoman class of farmers.

Following the Revolution, the State of Georgia initiated a system whereby those who had fought against the British were paid with land. The land to be given was part of the massive swath of Native American territory claimed by the State immediately following the Revolution. Under the land-grant, or headright system, heads of households in Georgia could receive 200 acres or more depending on family size and the number of enslaved people they owned. While the land-grant system was successful in supporting Georgia's yeoman class by providing arable lands to establish homesteads, legislators quickly authorized grants for more land than was available.[53]

During the 1780s, the Georgia legislature was unable to defend claims of its western territory, which became known as the Yazoo Territory, and the state became increasingly willing to conduct business with land speculators willing to pay for the right to form settlements in the territory. The "speculative fever" came to a head in 1795 with the passing of the Yazoo Act, which resulted in the sale of 35,000,000 acres of Georgia's claimed land (sixty percent of present-day Alabama and Mississippi) to four private companies for only $500,000. Many Georgians protested the deal, claiming it was based in political corruption and bribery. In 1796, Governor Jared Irwin signed the Rescinding Act, which overturned the Yazoo Act and ended the land-grant system in the state.[54]

Land Lotteries

After the Rescinding Act, Georgia's legislature chose to enact a lottery system to dispose of public lands to Georgians. Between 1805 and 1833 the State of Georgia conducted eight land lotteries, selling approximately three-quarters of the state to about one hundred thousand people. Only whites were eligible to participate; no African Americans, Native Americans, or convicted felons could take part. The only women who could participate in the lottery were widows. To distribute surveyed land lots fairly, tickets with participant's names were drawn at random from either a barrel or a wheel. Age, marital status, war service, successful participation in previous lotteries, and years of residence in the state affected any given individual's odds of receiving land.

A gradual western expansion of the state occurred during the first three decades of the 1800s as Georgia acquired swaths of land through cession by Native Americans. Prior to each lottery, the state surveyed and divided ceded lands into counties,

51. Robert Montgomery, "The Natural History of the Chattahoochee River," Sherpa Guides, accessed March 18, 2019, https://www.sherpaguides.com/georgia/chattahoochee/natural_history/index.html.
52. William Patrick O'Brien, "Special History Study: Jimmy Carter National Historic Site and Preservation District" (National Park Service, 1991), 16.
53. Jim Gigantino, "Land Lottery System" (New Georgia Encyclopedia, June 8, 2017).
54. George R. Lamplugh, "Yazoo Land Fraud" (New Georgia Encyclopedia, June 8, 2017).

districts, and land lots. The Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape includes a portion of Land Lot 360, in the northwest portion of the Sixth District of Gwinnett County, as surveyed for Georgia's 1820 Land Lottery. In its original configuration, the Hightower Trail marked the west boundary of Gwinnett County and the Chattahoochee River formed the north boundary.

On December 9, 1822, Georgia Governor John Clarke signed an act enabling the formation of DeKalb County. That year, land in the northwest portion of Gwinnett County (study area included) as well as portions of Henry and Fayette Counties were reorganized to form DeKalb County.[55] The study area remained a part of DeKalb County until the formation of Milton County in 1857.

The Georgia Gold Rush

Gold was first discovered in present-day north Georgia as early as 1828. Subsequently, great numbers of people from Georgia and other states rushed to the area, initiating what is known as the Georgia Gold Rush. Georgia's was the second significant gold rush in the United States and overshadowed the previous rush in North Carolina. Although there are several conflicting stories of the initial discovery, the first documented evidence of gold in the state was published in Milledgeville's *Georgia Journal* on August 1, 1829 with the following notice:

> GOLD—A gentleman of the first respectability in Habersham County write us thus under date of 22nd July: "Two gold mines have just been discovered in this county, and preparations are making to bring these hidden treasures of the earth to use." So it appears that what we long anticipated has come to pass at last, namely, that the gold region of North and South Carolina, would be found to extend into Georgia.

By the winter of 1829 the Georgia Gold Rush had begun in earnest while the Cherokee were attempting to maintain an independent existence in present-day northwest Georgia. Despite attempts by officials of the United States government to expel the "gold-diggers" in Cherokee territory, the local populations of Cherokee were isolated and outnumbered.[56] They stood no chance at defending their lands and the decade-long rush resulted in significant cultural and physical changes on the land.

The thousands of newcomers that first arrived in search of gold found easily accessible loose particles of the precious metal in streams and on exposed hillsides, but the lucrative business of prospecting soon led to the establishment of mining operations that required significant capital and labor. While most laborers were white, some miners brought enslaved Black laborers to the hills to search for and extract gold. During the rush, workers dug extensive shafts and tunnels throughout present-day northwest Georgia.[57]

Although extraction methods were labor intensive and rather inefficient, the industry was extremely successful. In 1830, the *Charleston Courier* reported quantities of Georgia gold received in Augusta totaling about $230,000 in value during a mere nine-month period. Indeed, the profits of Georgia's gold-digging industry spread wealth far beyond the state, as gold was sent as far as Philadelphia for minting.[58] As the mines increased productivity and labor forces expanded, entrepreneurs established boomtowns such as Nuckollsville (Auraria) and Headquarters (Dahlonega). In 1830, the population of Auraria, Dahlonega, and the surrounding areas reached as much as 15,000 miners and laborers.[59]

A map from 1831 describes the 4,366,554-acre area, which constitutes the northwest portion of present-day Georgia, as containing "many rich gold mines and many delightful situations and though in some parts mountainous, some of the richest land belonging to the state" (**Figure 2.4**). That year surveyors grouped the territory into four sections with parallel lines running north-south separating the quadrants. Surveyors further divided these quadrants into districts of nine square miles each. Districts were further subdivided to include some combination of 160-acre land lots and 40-acre

55. Vivian Price, *The History of DeKalb County, Georgia, 1822-1900* (Decatur, GA: Dekalb Historical Society, 1997), 63, 68.

56. Hezekiah Niles and William Ogden Niles, "Niles' Weekly Register" 39 (September 1830): 106, https://earlyushistory.net/niles-register/.

57. David Williams, *The Georgia Gold Rush: Twenty-Niners, Cherokees, and Gold Fever* (Columbia, South Carolina: University of South Carolina Press, 1994).

58. Niles and Niles, "Niles' Weekly Register," 106.

59. Williams, *The Georgia Gold Rush: Twenty-Niners, Cherokees, and Gold Fever*.

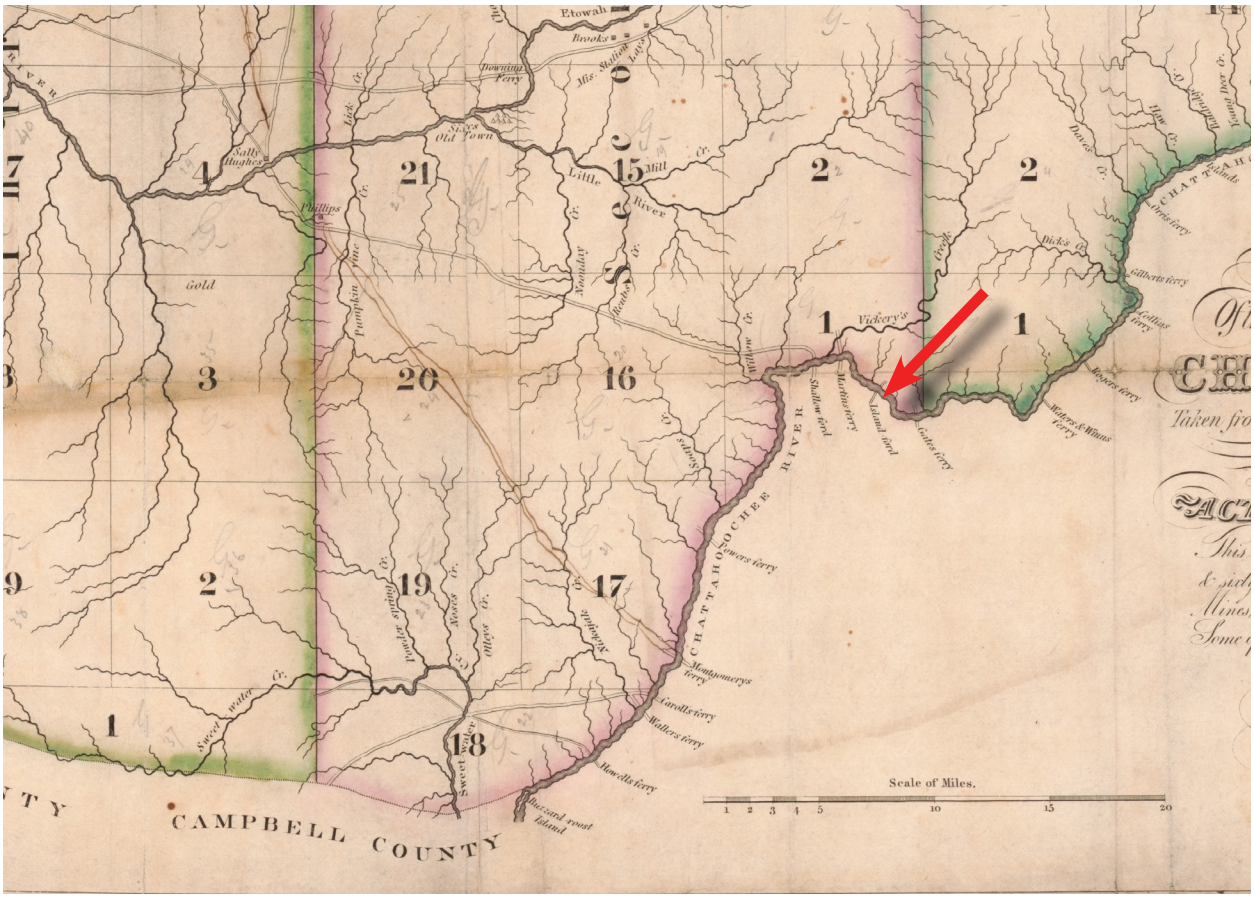


Figure 2.4: Portion of John Bethune's 1831 map depicting the proposed subdivision of all remaining Cherokee-occupied lands in the state of Georgia at the time. Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape is located south and across the Chattahoochee River from the portion surveyed as the "Second Section" of the Cherokee-occupied lands, indicated in purple highlight on the original map and with a red arrow marked by WLA Studio. (Source: Bethune, John, Surveyor General. *A map of that part of Georgia occupied by the Cherokee Indians, taken from an actual survey made during the present year , in pursuance of an act of the general assembly of the state: this interesting tract of country contains four millions three hundred & sixty six thousand five hundred & fifty four acres, many rich gold mines & many delightful situations & though in some parts mountainous, some of the richest land belonging to the state. Milledgeville, Ga.:* John Bethune, 1831. Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/2004633028/).

gold lots for distribution in the upcoming land lottery.[60] In 1832, the state divided the tract into ten counties: Cass (later renamed Bartow), Cherokee, Cobb, Floyd, Forsyth, Gilmer, Lumpkin, Murray, Paulding, and Union. The state distributed the land lots in the Sixth Land Lottery and the gold lots in the Seventh Land Lottery. Ironically, by the time Georgia divided the last remaining Cherokee lands in 1838, the Gold Rush had begun to play out.

Although the land upon which Hewlett Lodge sits today was not divided into gold lots, it was not overlooked by prospectors during the rush. In an 1896 *Geological Survey of Georgia*, Assistant State Geologist Francis P. King cites reports of gold discoveries in stream gravel and the presence of a gold belt passing through Milton County. King states, however, that "no auriferous deposit of any character has been discovered, in Milton County, of sufficient economic value to excite interest, since the washing of the gravel deposits of the streams."[61] A map included in that report, entitled "The Gold Deposits of North Georgia," documents the gold belt in King's report as running in a southwest-northeast orientation directly through the present-day location of Island Ford Lodge landscape (**Figure 2.5**). Despite this report, research has not revealed evidence of mining within the study area.

60. Douglas C. Wilms, "Cherokee Land Use in Georgia Before Removal," in *Cherokee Removal: Before and After*, ed. William L. Anderson (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1993), 9.

61. W. S. Yeates, S. W. McCallie, and Francis P. King, *A Preliminary Report on a Part of the Gold Deposits of Georgia,* vol. 4-A, Geological Survey of Georgia (Atlanta, GA: Franklin Printing and Publishing Company, 1896), 171.

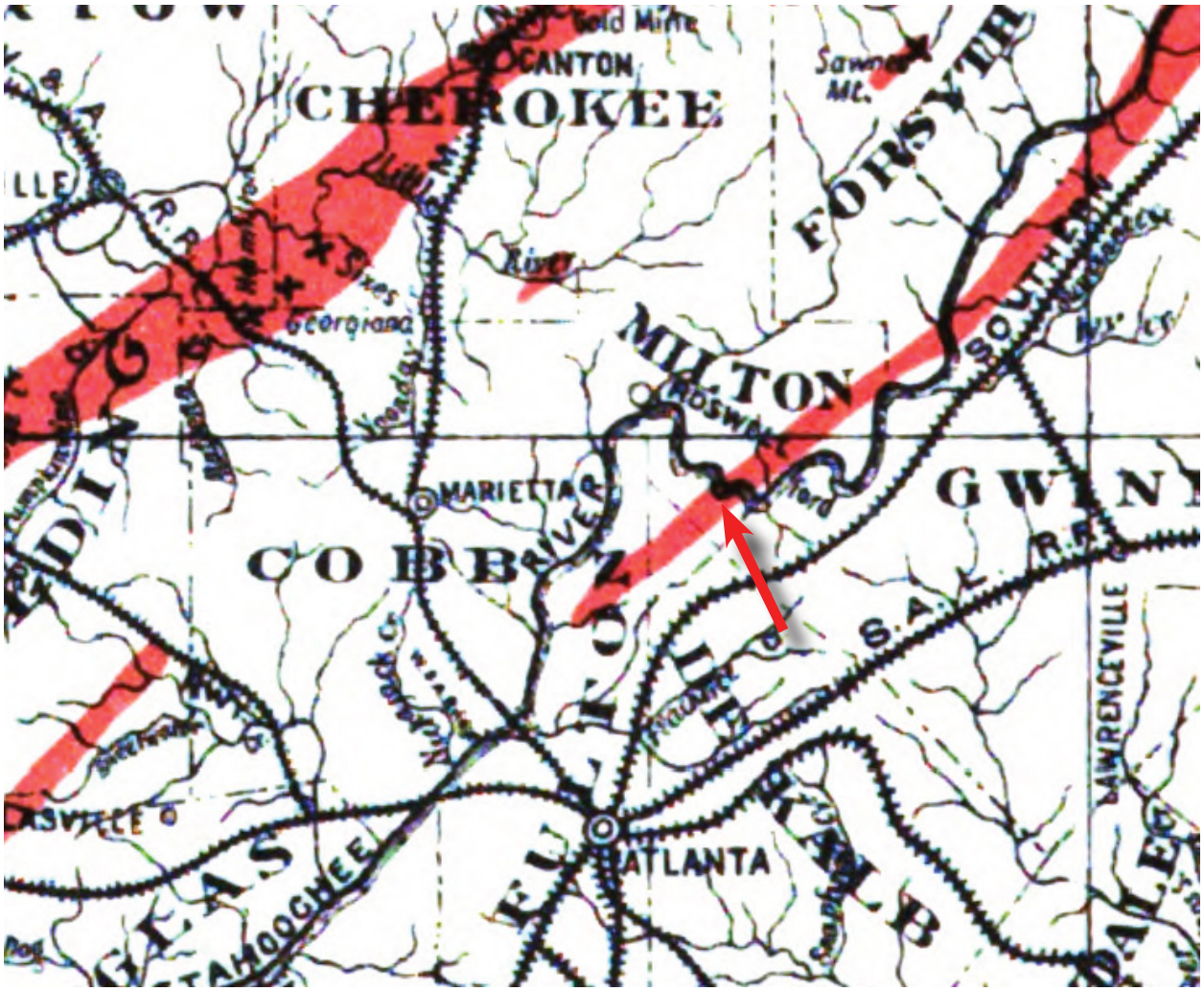


Figure 2.5: Portion of S. W. McCallie's 1896 "Map Showing the Distribution of a Part of the Gold Deposits of North Georgia." The areas shaded with red indicate the suspected presence of gold deposits as described in the Geological Survey of Georgia performed by W. S. Yeates, et. al. in 1896. Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape indicated with red arrow markup by WLA Studio, 2021. (Source: W. S. Yeates, S. W. McCallie, and Francis P. King. *A Preliminary Report on a Part of the Gold Deposits of Georgia, vol. 4-A, Geological Survey of Georgia.* Atlanta, GA: Franklin Printing and Publishing Company. 1896. Page 36. Available online from the Hathi Trust https://hdl.handle.net/2027/osu.32435023611544).

Landscape Summary 1600 – 1835

Prior to 1821, the Chattahoochee River marked the boundary between the Creek and Cherokee, with Creek territory south and east and Cherokee territory north and west of the dividing line. While the Creek had long-standing ties to the Chattahoochee River, the Cherokee had come to the area more recently—having expanded south from the Appalachians in the early 1600s.[62]

In addition to serving as a territorial boundary, the riverine environment provided ample opportunities for both hunting and gathering as well as agriculture. Within the current boundaries of the CHAT, archeologists have located over two hundred archeological sites that include rock shelters, fish weirs, and other occupation sites.[63] Prior to the American Revolutionary War (1775-1783), the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape and all components of CHAT were part of both Creek and Cherokee hunting grounds.

Although there is no formal documentation of land use within the study area during this period, the steep, rugged character of the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape limited human use to transportation on foot or horseback and harvesting of timber for building and fuel.

62. Byrd, "Sope Creek CLR," 8.

63. Byrd, "Sope Creek CLR," 7.

Settling Georgia's Piedmont (1836 – 1860)

Towns and Transportation

As the state of Georgia gradually claimed and surveyed lands, the white population grew and a scattered network of travel paths, farms, mills, and communities developed. By 1836, just over a hundred years since the founding of Savannah on the coast, the settlement of Georgia's Piedmont region was well underway. Around this time, settlers established numerous towns and communities in the vicinity of the study area. Many of the settlers were arriving from the northeast and east, coming in from North Carolina and South Carolina as land became increasingly available. Principal communities included Roswell (1839), Standing Peachtree (1825), and West Point (1831). The settlements were often situated near waterways, such as the Chattahoochee, for access to fresh water as well for mill operations.

A series of falls and shoals north of Columbus, Georgia, limited long-distance water transportation along the Chattahoochee River to only shallow-draft vessels and specially designed barges. While white settlers and traders used barges on the Chattahoochee as early as 1838 to transport people and goods between West Point and Standing Peachtree, the areas upstream of Standing Peachtree were less accessible. Thus, transportation in the vicinity of the study area primarily involved ferry crossings and fords, as well as the foot and horse paths used to access the crossings.[64]

The establishment of roads for wagons and eventually stagecoach evolved slowly. The earliest roads were often simple improvements of trails established by the Creek, Cherokee, or even earlier Native American peoples. The early trails and roads generally followed the path of least resistance on the landscape—traversing ridges and oriented toward shoals on larger rivers and streams where fording was possible. Creek placenames indicate that fords were often named according to their physical character or use, such as "shallow ford," "big ford," and "war ford."[65]

While many natural fords were available on the Chattahoochee, increasing numbers of travelers and settlers led to an increase in demand for ferries. In turn, the number of ferries in the area increased rapidly in the 1820s and 1830s. Ferries provided, for a small fee, a dry and relatively safe means of transporting people, trade goods, and livestock across the river. One of the earliest known white-owned ferries in the vicinity of Island Ford was Brooks Ferry, established in 1824 at the Shallow Ford. In 1829, the Court of DeKalb County authorized Rubin Martin to establish a ferry approximately one-and-a-half miles downstream of the shoals at Island Ford (**Figure 2.6**). In the 1830s, Martin's Ferry and an associated road connecting the Hightower Trail and the Alabama Road became a well-used route.

In *Creek Country: The Creek Indians and Their World*, Robbie Ethridge explains the network of interconnected trails in the Southeast, stating that:

> By the late eighteenth century, overland trails and paths crisscrossed the Southeast, connecting all the Indian towns with one another and with major American frontier towns and port cities. At this time, most Creeks did not use water routes for much long distance travel… Without a doubt, the major thoroughfares in Creek country, were (1) the Lower Trading Path, which ran along the Fall Line from Augusta, Georgia, through Coweta to Tuckabatchee and then into Choctaw country in present-day south-central Mississippi and down to New Orleans, and (2) the Upper Trading Path, which ran through the Piedmont, also starting at Augusta but north of the Lower Trading Path and west to Oakfuskee and then into Chickasaw country in present-day northern Mississippi…
>
> The most frequent traveled trails within Creek country were the ones connecting the towns. These trails typically ran on both banks of a stream and connected with one another at the fords. In addition, narrow, obscure trails, largely known only by local Indians, ran through the countryside. For whatever reasons, whites passing through Indian territory began using these paths and hiring Indians or traders 'of bad or doubtful character' as guides. The Creeks,

64. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 18.
65. Ethridge, *Creek Country: The Creek Indians and Their World*, 123–24.

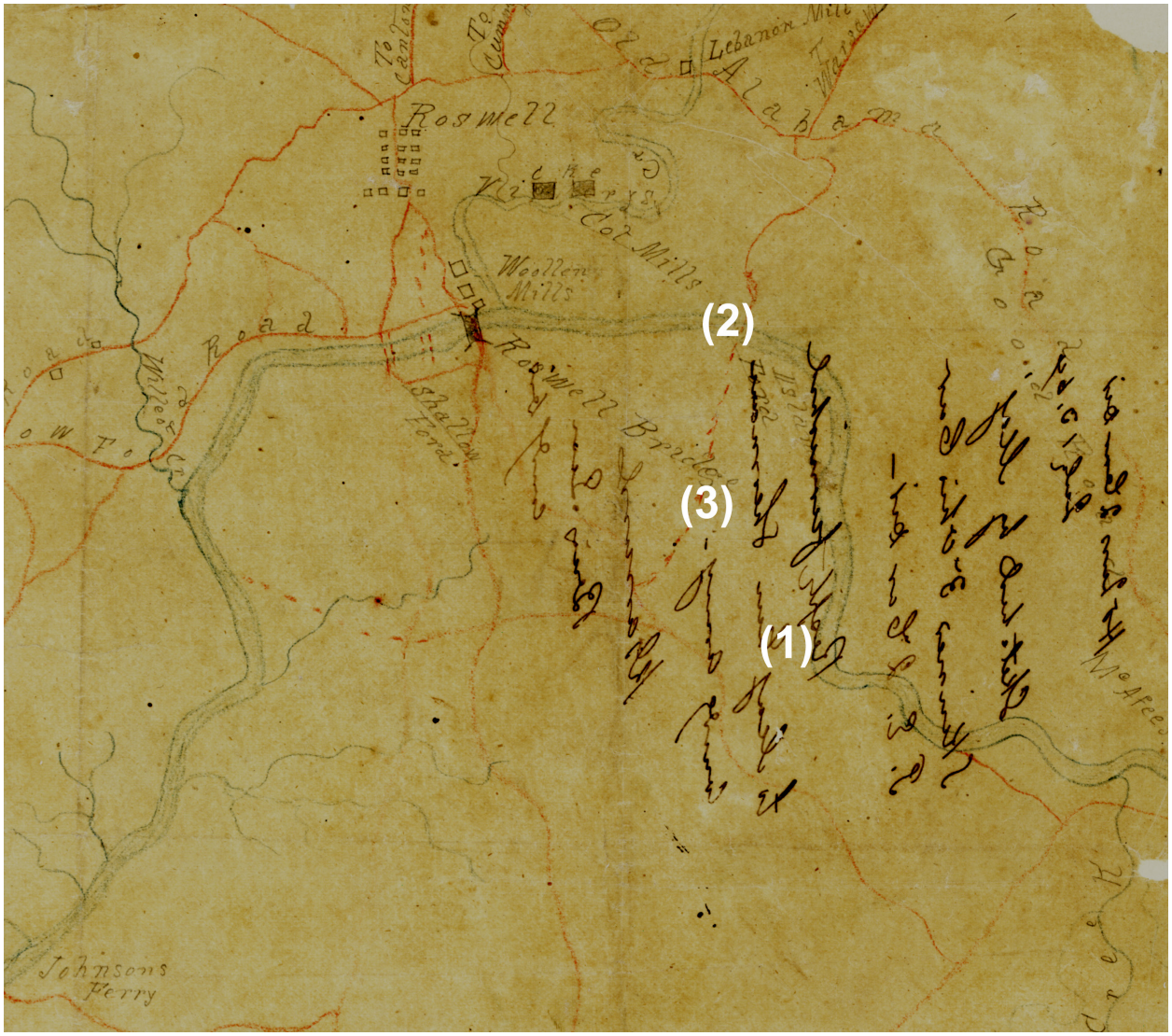


Figure 2.6: Portion of an 1864 sketch map of part of Fulton County showing the vicinity of Island Ford. Markup by WLA Studio, 2021, indicates the approximate locations of (1) Hewlett Lodge, (2) Martin's Ferry during the 1830s, and (3) the route of a road once used to access the Chattahoochee River crossing at Island Ford. (Source: Skinner, C. W. , -1891, and K Garrard. *Map of part of Fulton County, Georgia, from Roswell south to Atlanta*. 1864. Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/2006459223/).

> already nervous about whites traveling through their territory, were not pleased when whites strayed off the regular routes.[66]

One of the principal early trails in Georgia was the Hightower Trail, a north-south path that connected the great mound complex at Etowah to the Lower Trading Path near the present-day center of the state. The trail crossed the Chattahoochee River at Shallow Ford, a major river crossing just south of Roswell and approximately three-and-a-half river miles downstream of the study area.

Island Ford Road

By 1824, a ferry had been established at the Island Ford.[67] The shoals at Island Ford, located about three river miles upstream of Shallow Ford, offered an alternate crossing point for those traveling east of the route of the Hightower Trail. A small spur trail connected Island Ford to the Hightower Trail.[68] From the Hightower Trail, the spur ran north for approximately eight tenths of a mile and then east less than one-half of a mile to the shoals. As early as the 1820s, a small road—dubbed

66. Ethridge, *Creek Country: The Creek Indians and Their World*, 121–23.

67. Today, the Shallow Ford is completely covered by the backwater of Bull Sluice Lake. A bridge at Roswell Road crosses the river just upstream of the ford.

68. The present-day intersection of Hightower Trail and Dunwoody Place (both modern paved roads) occupies the likely historic junction.

Island Ford Road—traced the likely route of an earlier Indian trail leading from Island Ford north approximately two miles where it intersected the Alabama Road, an important early east-west route connecting Georgia to the Alabama Territory. An 1837 survey map created by the U. S. Topographical Bureau indicates that the Island Ford Road met Alabama Road just southeast of Wofford's Mill on Big Creek, near what became the Lebanon community (**Figure 2.7**).[69]

The convenience of ferries and the availability of associated roads likely reduced traffic along Island Ford Road and across the shoals during the 1830s. By the 1860s, a covered bridge was available for passage over the Chattahoochee just upstream of Shallow Ford, further reducing the use of Island Ford. By the mid-1860s, the roads to Island Ford had been abandoned and only a footpath remained.[70]

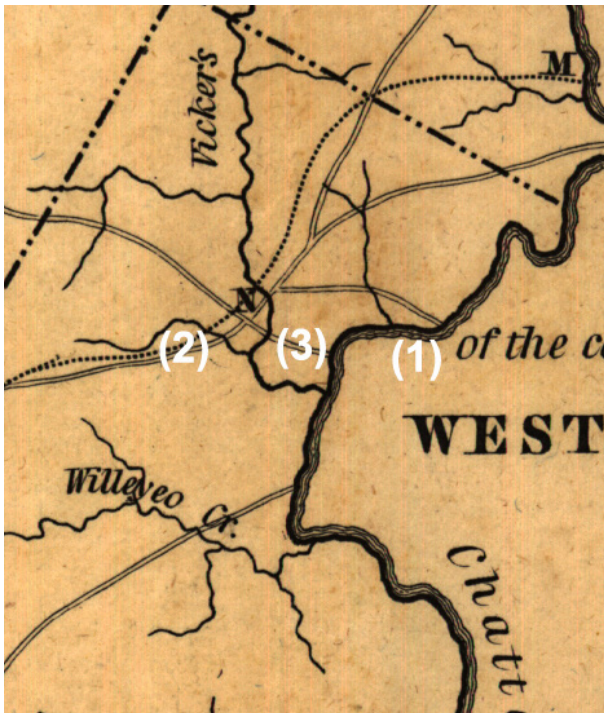


Figure 2.7: Portion of an 1837 survey map produced by the U. S. Geological Survey showing the vicinity of Island Ford. Markup by WLA Studio, 2021, indicates the approximate locations of (1) Hewlett Lodge, (2) the former route of the Alabama Road, and (3) the suspected route of a road once used to access the Chattahoochee River crossing at Island Ford. (Source: Cooper, J. F, Western And Atlantic Railroad Company, and F. C Arms. *Map of the country embracing the various routes surveyed for the Western & Atlantic Rail Road of Georgia, under the direction of Lieut. Col. S. H. Long, Chief Engineer, U.S. Topographical Bureau M. H. Stansbury, Del.* [N.P, 1837] Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/98688853/).

Farmers and Planters

Settlers who obtained lots through Georgia's land lottery often found their new property contained buildings, fencing, agricultural fields, orchards, and other Cherokee- or Creek-constructed improvements. The Cherokee census of 1835 recorded 1,737 different farms in the area, with each farm cultivating around 11 acres on average.[71] In addition to the cultivated land, for 1836-1837, enumerators recorded the presence of over eighty thousand fruit trees in the survey area, reflecting the importance of orcharding to Cherokees in the region. These figures, along with those addressing the number of hogs, outbuildings, and other agriculture-related improvements, show how, in a short time, the Cherokee turned from hunting and gathering to an agrarian lifestyle promoted by European settlers. When white settlers moved into dispossessed Cherokee lands north and west of the

69. "Wofford's Mill (ca. 1819) was a gristmill and sawmill upstream from Roswell that was operated by a mixed-blood Native American named Charles Wofford. The site is known to have included a small cabin and a three-story, wood-framed mill built on a stone foundation. Wofford lived on the land with his wife, Agnes, and four children on approximately 8 acres of cleared land. When the Wofford's departed in 1829, the property was valued at $1,782.50. No physical evidence of this mill site has been documented… In the 1840s, the Roswell Manufacturing Company developed new industrial operations, including a large sawmill along Big Creek in 1843. The company also expanded Wofford's Mill, about a mile northeast of the main factory at the small community of Lebanon. Purchased by Roswell King in 1832, the Lebanon mill was capable of producing over 300 barrels of flour per day. Around the same time, John Dunwoody, one of the original stockholders in the Roswell Manufacturing Company, opened a small tannery in the vicinity of the Lebanon Mill." Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 28–29, 31–32.

70. On July 7th, 1864, Union General Kenner Garrard wrote: "The Island Ford…is good for footmen, but no roads lead to it or from it, and on the [south] side it is thick woods and very hilly and two miles over to the Atlanta Road. This for [is] not for artillery, cavalry, or wagons…"; Michael D. Hitt and Chuck Brown, "Military Entrenchments in North Fulton County South of Roswell at the Chattahoochee River: June-July, 1864," December 1991, University of Georgia, Hargrett Rare Books and Manuscripts Library.

71. Anderson, *Cherokee Removal: Before and After,* 18.

Chattahoochee River in the mid-1830s, they moved to a familiar landscape: cultivated, connected to markets, and still abundant in natural features such as trees, meadows, creeks, and rivers.

The land lotteries opened Georgia's Upper Piedmont for more permanent settlement and enabled agriculture to become a predominant land use in the region. Although some settlers surely incorporated Indian improvements into their own farms, others saw the opportunity to develop new homesites, towns, and industries. As they established farms and settlements in present-day north Fulton County, the Chattahoochee River helped define land use patterns, circulation systems, and spatial organization by funneling settlers over fords and separating the steep slopes of the southeast bank from the wider, more arable floodplains to the north and west.

Unfortunately, research has revealed little specific information regarding the initial white settlers of the Island Ford Lodge landscape. Charles Murphey Candler (1857-1935), a prominent early civic leader from Decatur, the seat of DeKalb County, noted that

> The early settlers of DeKalb were plain people of English, Scotch, and Irish descent, coming directly and indirectly from Virginia and the Carolinas. They were poor, not highly educated, generally industrious, and temperate. They were small farmers, owning their own homes, which were generally log cabins and owning few slaves, many of them none at all.[72]

Federal census records from the 1840s and 1850s document agriculture as the dominant land use in the area and demonstrate the importance of certain agricultural products. Unfortunately, enumerators compiled the data by county, making analysis of the river corridor difficult. It is reasonable to assume, however, that agricultural practices within the river corridor reflected that of the surrounding counties.

The authors of the 2007 Historic Resource Study for CHAT state that, "based on census data for militia districts along the river, a profile emerges of large nuclear families on small farms that they owned, rather than planters with large slave holdings dedicated to cotton production."[73]

The 1840s census documents only about 1-2% of the total population of Gwinnett County, to the east of the study area, as planters and roughly 10-20% with other occupations such as laborer, mechanic, carpenter, blacksmith, miller, and merchant. These statistics suggest that more than 75% of the population along the Chattahoochee were yeoman farmers rather than planters. While slave ownership was not uncommon, most farmers in the vicinity of the study area did not enslave laborers. Rather, the large nuclear family—often including up to 10-12 members—served as the primary labor force.

As farmers settled the Upper Piedmont they cleared forests and planted crops wherever possible, often terracing upland fields to maximize acreage.[74] They harvested timber for fuel and construction materials and allowed livestock to range freely, constructing fences only where necessary to keep livestock out of domestic and cultivated areas. While no evidence of mid-nineteenth century farming exists within the study area, the census records provide a general sense of how the local population used the land within the vicinity of Island Ford. During the early settlement period, settlers engaged in both subsistence farming and commercial agriculture. They raised livestock such as cattle, swine, sheep, and poultry and produced cereal grains, wool, potatoes, tobacco, cotton, and dairy for home use and sale.

The relatively rugged topography of Georgia's Upper Piedmont limited the size of local farms, especially along the Chattahoochee River. As is likely the case for the Island Ford Lodge landscape, any cash crop production in the river corridor was confined to floodplain fields or terraced hillsides. Although cotton and tobacco were popular cash crops in the area, farmers and planters in Georgia's Upper Piedmont never achieved production rivaling that of plantations further south, with their

72. Charles Murphey Candler, of Decatur, Georgia, continued in the tradition of his father and grandfathers, becoming a prominent lawyer and civic leader. He served as state representative, state senator, and chairman of the state's Public Service Commission. He was the son of Milton Anthony Candler and Eliza (Murphey) Candler; married Mary Hough Scott; father of George Scott Candler; and grandson of Charles Murphey and Samuel Charles Candler; Price, 68–69, 158–60.

73. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 23.

74. Arthur R. Hall, "Terracing in the Southern Piedmont," *Agricultural History* 23, no. 2 (1949): 97.

larger enslaved populations and landholdings. Even still, the influx of settlers and dramatic increase in agricultural production from the mid-1830s through the 1860s completely reshaped the landscape.

While cash crops accounted for a relatively small percentage of the Upper Piedmont's economy in 1840, cotton production increased by nearly 380 percent within the decade, second only to tobacco production, which increased by more than 840 percent. These increases reflect the rapid transformation of the region from a rugged frontier to settled farmland. Alongside increasing population and farming, commercial and industrial activity increased. The city of Atlanta, formally founded in 1847, emerged during this period as an industrial and commercial hub of Georgia. The political landscape changed alongside the physical, and Georgia's Legislature created two new counties during the 1850s in response to Atlanta's rapid growth, including Fulton County in 1853 and Milton County in 1857.

The 1860 census records document significant changes in land use from the previous two decades. In the general area now occupied by Island Ford and CHAT, dairy, cattle, sheep, and swine production decreased dramatically, reflecting farmers' embrace of cotton production as prices soared during the 1850s. During this period, farmers increasingly converted prime agricultural land once set aside for grazing livestock and growing a diversity of crops to "King Cotton"—creating a greater dependence on imported farm products and manufactured goods.[75]

Industry Comes to North Georgia

Georgia's many rivers and streams played an important role in the development of an industrial economy. Even the small streams, like those that form the north and south boundaries of the Island Ford Lodge landscape, could be dammed to support small-scale milling operations. Well before the Civil War, settlers of Georgia's Piedmont established gristmills, sawmills, paper mills, and even textile mills. Grist mills, used for grinding corn and other grains for food production, were essential wherever agriculture was present. While slightly less common than food-producing mills, the advent of the water-powered sawmill enabled the transformation of the frontier by providing an efficient means of producing sawn lumber. The introduction of commercial sawmills in the region essentially freed up time that settlers could in turn allocate to agriculture and other productive enterprises.

During the early settlement period, a scattered network of small-scale grist mill and sawmill operations developed across the Piedmont, reflecting the distribution of the region's farmer and planter population. While no physical evidence of a mill site has been documented within the study area, such operations likely impacted land use on the site.

Antebellum Textile Manufacturing

Prior to the advent of textile manufacturing in the south, the industry was centered in the northeast where textile factory owners coupled the technological advancements of the Industrial Revolution with the growing output of southern cotton. During the early European settlement of Georgia, much of the land owned by the growing white population existed below the fall line, limiting the use of waterpower for industrial production. However, as white settlers took over more of the state's inland territory, lands containing sufficient topography to generate waterpower became available. Between 1810 and 1820, several textile factories opened in Georgia, though all soon ceased operations.[76]

By the 1840s however, Georgia experienced a textile boom as industrialists with expertise from northern manufacturing facilities moved south. The newcomers were primarily interested in areas with established cotton economies in proximity to waterways that could supply an essentially endless source of power. The establishment of mills and manufacturing facilities in the heart of the South's cotton economy linked the textile industry directly to the burgeoning plantation economy. As Georgia's textile industry grew, rapidly increasing numbers of "upland farmers were growing cotton, and slavery played an ever-increasing role in that

75. James C. Bonner, *A History of Georgia Agriculture: 1732-1860* (Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 1964), 145.

76. Michael J. Gagnon, "Antebellum Industrialization," New Georgia Encyclopedia, accessed March 26, 2019, https://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/history-archaeology/antebellum-industrialization.

growth."[77] As railroads expanded in the state, manufacturing followed suit and, by midcentury, Georgia was proclaimed "the Empire State of the South." During that period, Georgia led all states south of Pennsylvania in the production of textiles.[78]

Although the rivers and streams of the Upper Piedmont supported numerous small-scale gristmills and sawmills, there were few locations along the Chattahoochee River corridor that could historically support true industrial production. Instead, industrialists established the largest operations at the major falls and shoals along the Fall Line that runs from Augusta, through Macon, to Columbus and west into Alabama. Although the Chattahoochee's great volume provides a reliable source of potential energy, the relatively gradual descent in elevation made harnessing its power relatively difficult without the construction of massive dams, and thus limited development of textile operations prior to the Civil War.

Even still, seemingly no shoals or falls in the South were spared speculation on the part of industrialists. As reported in the 2007 *Historic Resources Study* for CHAT, the Georgia Legislature granted permission to Daniel Aderhold in 1847 and, subsequently, Johnson Garwood, Hardy Pace, and Pickney Randall in 1850, to construct a dam near the shoals of Island Ford.[79] There is no evidence to suggest that any such dams were developed during the nineteenth century along the Chattahoochee River.

Although containing significantly less volume, several of the Chattahoochee's tributaries could be harnessed much more easily and became useful for local manufacturing. Several important operations were established along such streams in the vicinity of Island Ford Lodge landscape, most notably those near the towns of Roswell and Marietta. The Roswell Manufacturing Company, which established a textile mill in 1839 on the west bank of Big Creek (historically known as Big or Cedar Creek) operated 3,500 spindles and 40 looms with 150 employees and used up to 5 bales of cotton per day by the end of 1840.[80] The company expanded several times through the mid-nineteenth century, adding a "cotton factory, wool factory, grist mill, shoe shop, retail store, and two blacksmith shops."[81] The company also owned a flour mill located less than two miles north of the cotton mill.[82] By 1851, the company was one of "Georgia's largest and most profitable textile operations."[83] By the early 1860s, the city of Roswell had at least three other mills operating on Big Creek.

In the mid-1850s, a group of local investors established a paper mill at Sope Creek about one mile upstream of its confluence with the Chattahoochee. By the time that the group formally incorporated the Marietta Paper Company in 1859, the paper mill had been in operation for at least a few years. Oral histories suggest that James Bird, an English-born immigrant and early settler of Cobb County, provided the experience and skills necessary to develop the mill. The mill that Bird and his colleagues established at Sope Creek, with its dam on a secondary watercourse, waterwheel, mill pond, sluice, and associated buildings separated from the main mill for safety and improved working conditions, typified a mid-nineteenth century industrial complex in Georgia's Upper Piedmont.

The Marietta Paper Mill produced newsprint and paper products until Union troops burned it during the Civil War. It was reconstructed in 1865 and expanded to include a pulp mill in 1888, but ceased operations after a fire in 1902. At present, the ruins of the mill remain within the boundary of the Cochran Shoals unit of CHAT.[84]

77. Michael Trinkley and Debi Hacker, "Archeological Testing at Allenbrook (9FU286), Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, Roswell, Georgia" (National Park Service, 2012), 18.
78. Robert S. Davis, Jr., "Antebellum Industry in Georgia," *The Georgia Historical Quarterly* 72, no. 4 (Winter 1988): 700–701.
79. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 29.
80. Tammy Harden Galloway, ed., *Dear Old Roswell: The Civil War Letters of the King Family of Roswell, Georgia* (Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 2003), 4.
81. National Park Service, "Ivy Mill Cultural Landscape Inventory" (National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, 2018), 33.
82. Michael D. Hitt, *Charged with Treason: Ordeal of 400 Mill Workers during Military Operations in Roswell, Georgia, 1864-1865* (Monroe, NY: Library Research Associates, Inc., 1992), xv.
83. Davis, Jr., "Antebellum Industry in Georgia," 702.
84. Beth Wheeler Byrd, "Sope Creek Cultural Landscape Report" (National Park Service, Cultural Resources Division, Southeast Regional Office, December 2009), 2, 12–14.

Creation of Milton County and Grogan's District

On December 18, 1857, the Georgia General Assembly authorized the formation of Milton County with the following boundaries:

> To commence at Grogan's Ferry on the Chattahoochee River, run a straight line to the northeast corner of the incorporation of the City of Roswell, leaving the incorporation in Cobb County, thence along the line of said incorporation west to Marietta Road the line to the bridge on Big Willow Creek, in Cobb County, thence up said creek to its head waters, to lot No. 34 on the west side of the first district and second section, thence due north along said district line to where the line strikes Little River, thence up said river to the fork of said Little River, then up the west fork along its meandering to the north of lot No. 196 in the second district and second section, thence in a straight line to lot No. 181 in the second district and second section, Forsyth and Cherokee County line, then due south along the county line between Forsyth and Cherokee counties to the north-west corner of the first district of the first section of Forsyth County, thence due east along the north line of said district where it crosses the McGinnis Ferry Road, thence making said McGinnis Ferry Road the line to McGinnis Ferry on Chattahoochee River, by leaving the residence of Joel Strickland in the county of Forsyth, making the Chattahoochee River the boundary to the starting point on Grogan's Ferry on Chattahoochee River.[85]

On March 23, 1858, legislators organized Milton County as described above, which included parts of northeastern Cobb, southeastern Cherokee, and southwestern Forsyth Counties. In 1859, a portion of northeast DeKalb County bordering the Chattahoochee River, which included the area now occupied by the Island Ford Lodge landscape, was added to Milton County.[86] That area became known as "Grogan's District."

Research has revealed little specific information about Grogan's District during the early settlement period. However, in *Atlanta and Environs: A Chronicle of Its People and Events – Volume I*, Franklin Garrett lists the area's supposed namesake as Thomas Grogan.[87] While Garrett's list does not provide the source of this claim nor the dates of birth or death of Thomas Grogan, the name was also listed as one of twenty-six potential DeKalb County jury members in November of 1825.[88]

While enumerators did not separate Grogan's District from the rest of the 1860 census of Milton County, they recorded several Grogan families within the Alpharetta and Double Branches Militia Districts. The 1860 census documents a Thomas Grogan as a farmer within the John Grogan household in Alpharetta. This Thomas was born in South Carolina in 1843, making him much too young to serve as the namesake of the subject area. Georgia Property Tax Digests from 1866 and 1870-1877 document a Thomas Grogan as residing in the Double Branches Militia District of Milton County, which included the northern-most portion of the county.[89]

According to Caroline M. Dillman's *Milton County* article in the *New Georgia Encyclopedia*, the portion of Milton County that had previously been a part of DeKalb County (presumably Grogan's District) was transferred to Fulton County in 1929. On January 1, 1932, Milton County merged with Fulton County, making it one of only two counties in the state to be abolished.[90]

Study Area Ownership Prior to 1860

The 2000 *Historic Structure Assessment Report* (HSAR) for Island Ford Lodge states that Jackson Gregory owned the study area prior to 1860. The 1850 Federal census records document a Virginia-

85. Connie Mashburn, *Alpharetta, Milton County: The Early Years* (Virginia Beach, VA: Donning Company Publishers, 2008), 19.
86. Mashburn, *Alpharetta, Milton County: The Early Years*, 19.
87. Franklin Miller Garrett, *Atlanta and Environs: A Chronicle of Its People and Events, 1820s-1870s*, vol. I (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1988), 97.
88. Price, *The History of DeKalb County, Georgia, 1822-1900*, 141.
89. "Thomas Grogan in Georgia, Property Tax Digest, 1793-1892, Militia District 823, 1866," Ancestry.com, n.d.; "Thomas Grogan in Georgia, Property Tax Digest, 1793-1892, Militia District 823, 1870-1877," Ancestry.com, n.d.; "Thomas J Grogan in the 1860 United States Federal Census, Milton, Georgia, Alpharetta," Ancestry.com, n.d.
90. Caroline M Dillman, "Milton County," *New Georgia Encyclopedia*, August 29, 2013.

born Jackson Gregory, farmer, age thirty, residing in nearby Roswell, Cobb County. Based on this record, Jackson Gregory would have been born about 1820. The enumerator listed Gregory's landholdings as valued at 8,000 dollars and include six others residing within the household. According to the 1850 slave schedules for the county, this Jackson Gregory owned sixteen enslaved people in 1850.[91] While this Gregory's substantial landholdings in Cobb County are well documented and it is quite possible that he owned land in other counties, research has not definitively shown a connection to the subject property.

The 1860 census for Milton County, which by this time included the study area, lists a Virginia-born Jackson Gregory, farmer, age sixty. Based on that record, this Jackson Gregory was born in 1800. The record shows Gregory holding real estate valued at 20,000 dollars and a personal estate valued at 29,820 dollars, a substantial holding for a farmer in the area at the time. The 1860 slave schedules for Milton documents Gregory as owning thirty-six enslaved people.[92] While the above research suggests that the Jackson Gregory residing in Milton County in 1860 is the most likely landholder of the subject property prior to 1860, further research is required to determine this definitively.

The *Historic Structure Assessment Report* documents a William J. Kimberly as the owner of the study area from 1860-1863.

Landscape Summary (1836 -1860)

No record of specific land use at Island Ford Lodge landscape during the early settlement period is known to exist. However, given the widespread agricultural development of the Upper Piedmont during this period, it is likely that early settlers cleared timber for building material, fuel, and farming on-site. While the site is dominated by steep, rugged terrain, settlers likely used the floodplain areas for farming and potentially constructed associated outbuildings, structures, and small-scale features such as fencing. The existence of such features at Island Ford Lodge landscape remains speculative, and there is no evidence of permanent settlement of the site during this period. Similarly, no definitive evidence exists to suggest that the landscape was used for significant transportation routes during the period. However, based on the location of known routes such as the Hightower Trail and the proximity of early towns such as Lebanon and Roswell to the north, a local transportation route providing access to the shoals at Island Ford presumably existed immediately north of the study area.

91. "Jackson Gregory in the 1850 United States Federal Census, Roswell, Cobb County, GA," Ancestry.com, n.d.; "Jackson Gregory in the 1850 United States Federal Census Slave Schedules, Roswell, Cobb County, GA," Ancestry.com, n.d.
92. "Jackson Gregory in the 1860 United States Federal Census, Alpharetta, Milton County, GA," Ancestry.com, n.d.; "Jackson Gregory in the 1860 United States Federal Census Slave Schedules, Milton County, GA," Ancestry.com, n.d.

The Civil War, Reconstruction, and a New South (1861-1934)

The Civil War (1861-1865)

The American Civil War was a response to long-simmering political and economic tensions among the culturally diverse regions of the United States. Southern political leaders contended that the election of a Republican Congress headed by newly elected President Abraham Lincoln would destroy the Southern way of life, which in large measure was dependent on the enslaved labor-based plantation system.[93] While the majority of Southerners did not hold enslaved people, the Southern elite employed a multi-faceted propaganda campaign to counter any resentment among poorer whites.

In December of 1860, the South Carolina Legislature declared that the Northern states had joined together to elect a President "whose opinions and purposes are hostile to slavery" and asserted that the "slaveholding states will no longer have the power of self-government, or self protection, and the Federal Government will have become their enemy."[94] South Carolina thus seceded from the United States. News of South Carolina's secession spread across Georgia, and on January 19, 1861, Georgia too seceded from the Union. By October 1861, close to 25,000 Georgians had enlisted to aid in the military response.[95] By June 1862, eleven southern states had left the United States and formed the Confederate States of America.

Milton County and the War

While the principal cause of the Civil War was the Southern elites' continued advocacy for slavery, the system was not as entrenched in the vicinity of the project area as it was elsewhere. In 1860, enumerators for the Eighth Census of the United States documented a total population of 4,602 people residing in Milton County, 3,984 of which were white and 617 enslaved Black individuals. An 1864 compilation of the census lists only one free Black person in the county, a female between the age of 70 and 80. Thus, in 1860, the county's enslaved population represented approximately 13.5 percent of the total. This percentage was representative of the surrounding counties of Cobb, Cherokee, Forsyth, Gwinnett, and DeKalb, which included between 10.7 and 26.8 percent enslaved populations.[96] An 1860 map of enslaved populations in the South, as enumerated in the 1860 census, shows significantly higher percentages in Georgia's Lower Piedmont counties compared to those near the study area (**Figure 2.8**).

On January 19, 1861, just less than three years after Milton County's formation, nearly three hundred delegates from Georgia counties met at the statehouse in Milledgeville to consider adopting the Georgia Secession Convention, a formal document expressing intent to secede from the Union. Milton County sent two delegates to the three-day-long convention, Jackson Graham and J. C. Street. Graham, who owned at least 1000 acres in the east portion of the county, including approximately 400 acres on the Chattahoochee River, was a major slaveholder and businessperson. Street was a prominent citizen and medical doctor residing in Alpharetta at the time. Street served as a justice of Milton County's Inferior Court in 1860. While there is no definitive evidence to back up the claim, local historians generally agree that the citizens of Milton County sent the two men to the Convention "to vote against secession."[97]

Although both Graham and Street were among the eighty-nine delegates that voted in opposition of the resolution, a majority totaling 208 delegates voted in favor of immediate secession. Prior to final signing of the ordinance, Bibb County delegate Eugenius A. Nisbet made a motion suggesting that all delegates, regardless of their original vote, sign the ordinance as a pledge of their support. The motion passed and on January 21, at 12 o'clock noon, 293 delegates signed the document, both

93. William J. Cooper Jr., Thomas E. Terrill, and Christopher Childers, *The American South: A History*, Fifth Edition, vol. I (Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield, 2017), 339.
94. "Declaration of the Immediate Causes Which Induce and Justify the Secession of South Carolina from the Federal Union," The Avalon Project, n.d., http://avalon.law.yale.edu/19th_century/csa_scarsec .asp.
95. John C. Inscoe, ed., *The Civil War in Georgia* (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 2011), 6.
96. Joseph C. G. Kennedy, *Population of the United States in 1860; Compiled from the Original Returns of the Eighth Census* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1864), 58–69, https://www.census.gov/library/publications/1864/dec/1860a.html.
97. Mashburn, *Alpharetta, Milton County: The Early Years*, 136.

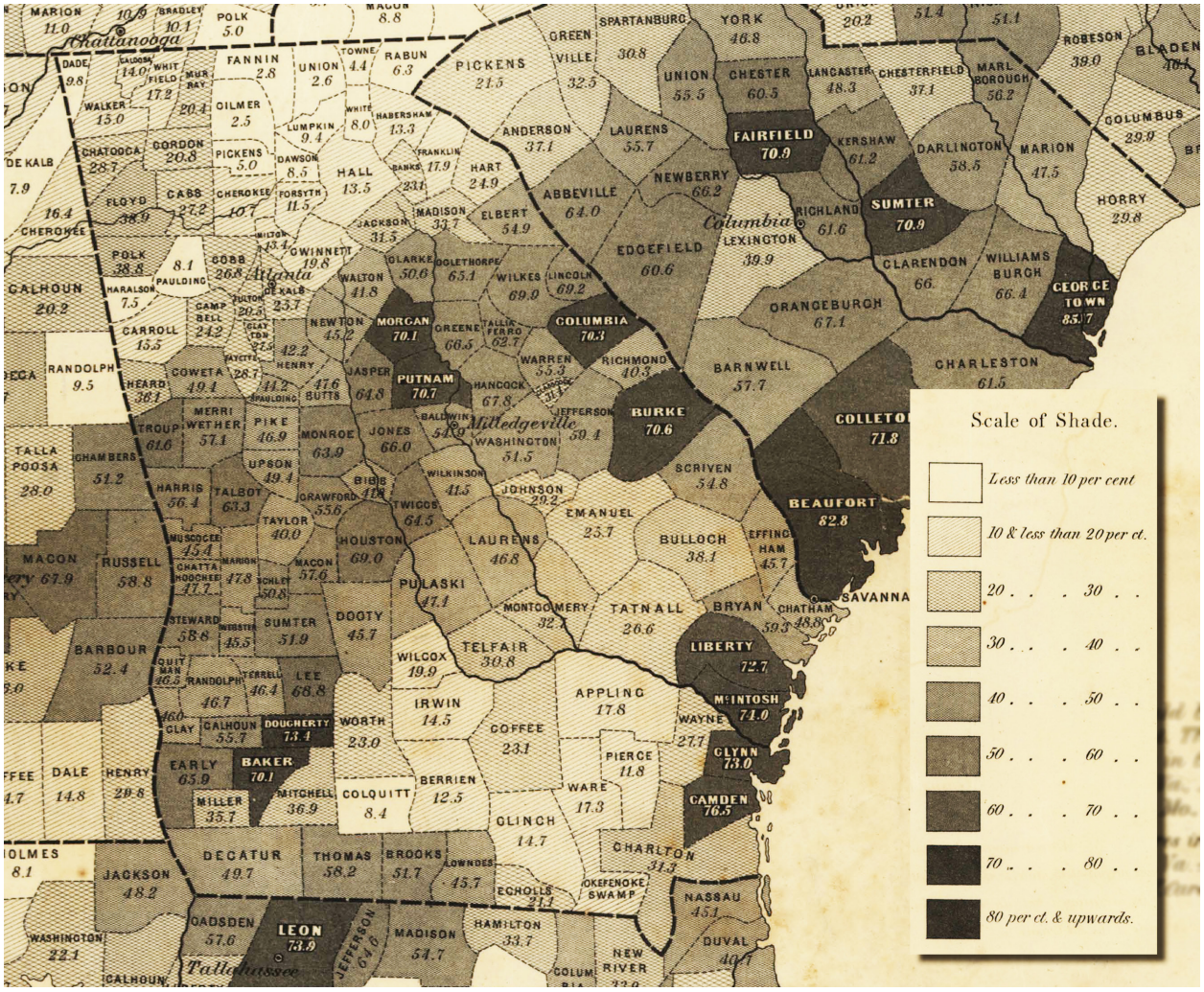


Figure 2.8: Portion of an 1860 map showing the distribution of the slave population of the state of Georgia. (Source: Hergesheimer, E. *Map showing the distribution of the slave population of the southern states of the United States Compiled from the census of 1860.* Washington Henry S. Graham, 1861. Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/99447026/).

delegates of Milton County included. Less than ten delegates present at the Convention withheld signing.[98]

Shortly after the Convention, Milton and other Georgia counties began forming military companies. Lillian Henderson's *Roster of the Confederate Soldiers of Georgia, 1861-1865*, and Ray Roody's *Georgia Volunteer Infantry 1861-1865* document at least seven military companies comprised of Milton County citizens. Some fought in major Civil War conflicts including those at Manassas, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Vicksburg, Chickamauga, and Atlanta, while others, according to local historian Connie Mashburn, "may have served as the local home guard." Mashburn also states that "[o]f the companies raised in Milton County, 128 soldiers were either killed or died from disease, 116 were wounded, and 120 were captured [during the War]."[99]

98. *Journal of the Public and Secret Proceedings of the Convention of the People of Georgia Held in Milledgeville and Savannah in 1861: Together with the Ordinances Adopted* (Milledgeville: Boughton, Nisbet, and Barnes State Printers, 1861).

99. Mashburn, *Alpharetta, Milton County: The Early Years*, 136.

Preparing for Conflict

While no major Civil War battles were fought in Alpharetta or Milton County, the area and its citizens did not escape the conflict. By the summer of 1863, as the war progressed south towards Georgia, the citizens of the Piedmont prepared defenses. One Roswell citizen wrote to fellow residents who were on vacation in August 1863,

> "Have you heard, they are speaking of erecting fortifications here? I do not know exactly where, but somewhere on the Shallow ford road; as they say when the enemy come to Roswell, they will probably come, on the old Indian trail [Hightower Trail]…They have a grand military organization here now: Infantry, Cavalry, & Artillery; the three departments, commanded by three of the Royal family."[100]

During late 1863 and early 1864, the Confederate government began improving defenses around Atlanta to counter the Union threat. In Roswell, there were "150 men, armed with two pieces of artillery, and 40 mounted men, to guard that ford. These men were employees of the Roswell Manufacturing Company and were under the command of James Roswell King."[101]

In March 1864, President Lincoln appointed Ulysses S. Grant as Lieutenant General, placing him in command of all Union troops. Grant's new appointment left a vacancy in the command of the Military Division of the Mississippi. Lincoln appointed Major General William T. Sherman to this post. Sherman was now in overall command of the Western Theater, which included Georgia. From May 1 to September 8, 1864, the battles that would take place from the Northwest Georgia Mountains into Atlanta would be known as the "Atlanta Campaign."[102] The stakes for the Atlanta Campaign were extremely high, and both sides knew that the result in the fight for Atlanta could determine the final outcome of the war.



Figure 2.9: Gen. William T. Sherman, leaning on breach of gun, and staff at Federal Fort No. 7. (Source: Barnard, George N, photographer. *Atlanta, Ga. Gen. William T. Sherman, leaning on breach of gun, and staff at Federal Fort No. 7*. Atlanta Georgia United States, 1864. Photograph. https://www.loc.gov/item/2018666969/).

Confederate President Jefferson Davis commented that the fall of Atlanta would "open the way for the Federal Army to the Gulf on the one hand, and to Charleston on the other, and close up those rich granaries from which Lee's armies are supplied. It would give them control of our network of railways and thus paralyze our efforts."[103] On May 9, the Atlanta Campaign could have ended quickly if Union General McPherson had pushed his advantage and engaged Confederate General Johnson's troops at the Western & Atlantic Railroad Depot in Resaca, Georgia. The battle at Resaca revealed how outnumbered the Confederate Army was in Georgia, meaning they could slow but not halt the southward progress of Sherman's Federal forces into the state (**Figure 2.9**).[104]

As the Federal Army pressed south along the Western and Atlanta (W&A) Railroad line through north Georgia, they divided the Confederate Army's supply chain, delivering a significant blow to operations. On their path, the Federal troops traversed a territory consisting of sparsely populated farms, thinned forests, and few roads. After heavy skirmishes in mid-June of 1864 at Pine Mountain, Lost Mountain, Gilgal Church, and Mud Creek, the Confederates retreated to Kennesaw Mountain, a short distance west of the economic centers of Roswell and Alpharetta.

100. Arthur N. Skinner and James L. Skinner, eds., *The Death of a Confederate*, Second (Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2008), xxx. The term "Royal family" apparently refers to the King Family. The four sons of Barrington King held commissions in the Roswell Battalion.
101. Galloway, *Dear Old Roswell: The Civil War Letters of the King Family of Roswell, Georgia*, 51.
102. Inscoe, *The Civil War in Georgia*, 10.
103. James M. McPherson, *Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era* (Oxford University Press, 2003), 751.
104. Inscoe, *The Civil War in Georgia*, 83–86.

Although the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, fought on June 27th, resulted in a definitive Confederate victory, the Federal Army remained persistent in the area. By early July 1864, Union advances became focused on the city of Roswell and Confederate fortifications at the Chattahoochee River.[105]

Crossing the Chattahoochee River at Shallow Ford

The combination of the mills supplying Confederate forces and the proximity to several strategic points of river crossing made the city of Roswell a target for Union forces (**Figure 2.10**). In June of 1864, Sherman appointed Union Brigadier General Kenner Garrard in charge of the siege of Roswell and ordered him and 4,500 troops to take Roswell, destroy the mills, and gain advantage by capturing the nearby bridge at Shallow Ford.[106]

On July 5th, Garrard and his troops marched into Roswell, while Major William H. Jennings led troops into Roswell from the west. Jennings' troops had a brief skirmish with the small force left behind to defend the city, but as the Federal troops advanced from the north, the Confederate soldiers retreated south and across the river. During their retreat, they set the covered bridge at Shallow Ford on fire to prevent further advance by the Federal troops.[107]

As they crossed the Chattahoochee in retreat, the Confederate Army recognized the importance of maintaining the river as a barrier and began to construct a patchwork of fortifications to form a strong "river line" stretching well downstream of Island Ford. The fortifications consisted primarily of dugout earthen and log rifle pits constructed by various militia regiments. Between June 12 and July 1, 1864, the Georgia State Militia constructed rifle pits lining the river's bluffs above Island Ford, forming the extreme east end of the river line.[108]

On a map entitled "Military Entrenchments in Fulton County South of Roswell at the Chattahoochee River: June-July, 1864," historians Michael Hitt and Chuck Brown describe the fortifications near Island Ford, stating that:

> The Confederate rifle pits in this area constituted the extreme right of Johnston's river line. They were placed to watch the river crossings and road system on the opposite bank. It is obvious that the ravines on the river's south bank leading inland [south] were considered important avenues of approach and watched closely.[109]

A significant number of the pits were constructed just north of the Island Ford Lodge landscape's boundary, within the north portion of the Island Ford unit of CHAT.

On July 7, 1864, Union General Garrard wrote Sherman to report his inspection of the river corridor in the Roswell vicinity. Of note is his description of Shallow Ford and Island Ford:

> … The Island Ford, three miles above [Shallow Ford], is good for footmen, but no roads lead to it or from it, and on the other [south] side it is thick woods and very hilly and two miles over to the Atlanta road. This ford could be used to secure [Shallow Ford], but not for artillery, cavalry, or wagons until we hold the other bank and make a road. I can hear of no practicable fords except these within fifteen miles of this place. …[110]

At about 6 o'clock on the morning of July 9th, the Union began crossing the Chattahoochee at Shallow Ford and advanced toward the Confederate's fortifications on the south bank of the river. The fortifications proved inadequate and, over the course of about a month, the Federal Army forced Johnston's troops to abandon the river line. As a result, Confederate President Jefferson Davis removed Johnston from his command.[111]

105. Dennis Kelly, *Kennesaw Mountain and the Atlanta Campaign: A Tour Guide* (Marietta, GA: Kennesaw Mountain Historical Association, Inc., 1990), 3, 13.
106. Inscoe, *The Civil War in Georgia*, 138–39.
107. US War Department, *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, vol. 38, pt. 2 (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880), 813; Mary Deborah Petite, *The Women Will Howl* (Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, 2008), 77–78.
108. Hitt and Brown, "Military Entrenchments in North Fulton County South of Roswell at the Chattahoochee River: June-July, 1864."
109. Hitt and Brown, "Military Entrenchments in North Fulton County South of Roswell at the Chattahoochee River: June-July, 1864."
110. US War Department, *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, vol. 38, pt. 5 (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880), 75–76.
111. Hitt and Brown, "Military Entrenchments in North Fulton County South of Roswell at the Chattahoochee River: June-July, 1864."



Figure 2.10: Defenses along the Chattahoochee River in 1864 (Source: U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, Record Group 111: Records of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer, 1860 – 1985, Mathew Brady Photographs of Civil War-Era Personalities and Scenes. https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:South_bank_of_Chattahoochee_River,_1864_-_NARA_-_528890.jpg.).

The Battle of Atlanta and the End of the War

Soon thereafter, on September 2, 1864, Atlanta fell to Union forces after a long and drawn out battle.[112] The defeat was demoralizing for the Confederate forces due to both the loss of life and the loss of such a strategic position. The Northern press used the victories of the Atlanta Campaign to bolster Lincoln's appearance as a strong commander-in-chief and made the end of the war seem imminent. With the fall of Atlanta to Union forces, the Confederate supply trains were successfully disrupted. As a result, according to common sentiment in the North, it would only be a matter of time before the Confederacy fell. With the defeat of Atlanta, in the words of a newspaper reporter, "all Georgia [was] open to him—and Macon, Columbus, and Augusta can be seized whenever Sherman should advance."[113] Seven months later, after the completion of Sherman's March to the Sea and a mounting pressure to end the war, Robert E. Lee surrendered his army to Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Courthouse. Lee's surrender kicked off a series of subsequent capitulations that soon brought the war to its end.

Several records of the Milton County Superior Court from 1865 document activities related to the Civil War. Although they do not describe any major conflicts within the county, they express a general feeling of disconcertion amongst the local citizens regarding the War's impact upon the local economy and citizenry. Of note is the Superior Court record for November 1865 that states:

> The great Struggle through we have just passed having exhausted the resources of the County and to a lamentable extent corrupted the morals of our people, we respectfully urge the citizens to habits of economy and thrift in order that our Country may be speedily restored to her former prosperity and to frown down vice and crime and thus elevate the Standard of Morality, Justice, Industry.[114]

112. Robert Scott Davis, *Civil War Atlanta* (Charleston, SC: The History Press, 2011), 75.
113. *The Daily Telegraph*, September 9, 1964.
114. Mashburn, *Alpharetta, Milton County: The Early Years*, 140.

Reconstruction in Georgia's Upper Piedmont

Much like the residents of other Southern communities, the rural and urban populations in and around Milton County faced an uncertain future in the wake of the Civil War. While even wealthy Georgians in the area, such as those residing in Roswell, Alpharetta, and the rural countryside, experienced financial setbacks due to the war, poor Black and white residents bore the brunt of hardship. With homes, stores, and industrial facilities destroyed and the economy in disarray, southerners struggled with how to rebuild—and heal. Many various politicians and other civic leaders during Reconstruction intended to formulate a way through the lingering turmoil of the war towards a new, just future.

The south's Black population—now citizens—were no longer enslaved, but this did not change attitudes held by many individuals within the white community about the place of African Americans in the social hierarchy. For a brief time during the nation's political reconstruction, at least some Black southerners held positions in state and federal legislatures. For many, the Republican proposal of universal equality, at least for men, seemed within reach. However, due to a lack of leadership by Republican President Andrew Johnson, the promise of equal footing in America remained out of reach. By 1871, troops of the Federal Army had withdrawn from Georgia, former Confederates increasingly reclaimed political offices, and policy makers consistently enacted legislation denying Southern Black citizens of their civil rights. As W.E.B. Du Bois famously wrote, "The slave went free; stood a brief moment in the sun; then moved back again toward slavery."[115] As such, despite some momentary gains, many Americans—both Black and white—experienced only trivial improvement to their pre-war economic and social status.

Labor and Agriculture

Roughly one-third of Georgia's 40,000 soldiers either died, went missing, or were severely injured during the Civil War, which dramatically reduced the number of able farm workers during and after the War. That loss, compounded with the demise of slavery, caused a great labor crisis in the agrarian South. The harsh summer conditions of 1865 and a lack of proper planning on the part of planters and farmers further diminished productivity.

While the cotton industry remained slightly more profitable in the Upper Piedmont compared to portions of the state that were more dependent on enslaved labor, the loss of men, mules, and infrastructure left the local agricultural economy in significant depression. The 1870 census documents an unprecedented decrease in the production of cattle, swine, food crops, and cash-producing crops across Georgia during the preceding decade. Despite economic struggles, that census documents for the very first time a higher total population density per square mile in the Upper Piedmont than in its Lower Piedmont counterpart. The growth of Atlanta and other industrial centers in the Upper Piedmont attributed to the shift.[116]

Facing the potential total loss of a season's crop following the war, some planters hired large groups of workers at fixed rates per head. Such agreements proved unreliable and unproductive, however, and within a brief time, wealthy white Southerners developed new ways of mobilizing and controlling labor. By the fall of 1865, the Freedmen's Bureau began actively administering land programs in Georgia whereby a system of contract-labor between white landowners and Black and/or poor white workers was born. Under the tenancy and sharecropping systems that developed over the ensuing decades, many of the state's freed Black citizens found themselves working the same fields as they had prior to emancipation.

Although Black Americans could legally own land after the Civil War, most lacked the means to buy it. The widely held notion that former slaves would receive "forty acres and a mule,"—an idea stemming from Union General William T. Sherman's Special Field Order No. 15 (issued from Savannah in January 1865)—proved only marginally successful. Though some freed Black citizens received confiscated "abandoned lands" near the Georgia coast, most of the land was soon restored to the original owners.

As tenancy grew increasingly common during the late nineteenth century, Black Georgians as

115. W.E.B. Du Bois, *Black Reconstruction in America 1860-1880* (Ney York: The Free Press, 1998), 30.

116. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 44–45.

well as poor whites were much more likely to farm land owned by someone else rather than to work their own land. Even still, tenancy and rent/share agreements afforded laborers at least some opportunity to generate wealth. As a result, a socioeconomic hierarchy of land ownership developed as planters, tenants, and sharecroppers came to occupy the rural landscape. Architectural historian Mark Reinberger describes that hierarchy as an "agricultural ladder" upon which each rung symbolized a step toward land ownership and independence.[117]

One's place on the "agricultural ladder"—which depended greatly on the specific land and supply agreement within which he/she labored—often dictated the status of their entire extended family networks. Sharecroppers generally had few physical assets and were forced to work, often in large groups, under close supervision of landowners. As the authors of *The American South: A History* describe, "[r]enters got better terms than sharecroppers because they usually had some work animals and equipment, and even some money, of their own."[118] Although renters may have had a degree of autonomy in making decisions about the crops they produced and the work schedules they kept, they relied heavily, as did sharecroppers, on a system of credit to survive the growing season and produce and market their crops. Well-off landlords and local merchants provided seed, fertilizer, equipment, work animals, and all things necessary for living including housing, food, and medicine on crop liens. Southern legislation gave such lienholders, second only to the landowner, legal claim to any profits the holder of the crop received at the end of each season. Essentially, "tenants and croppers were legally bound to settle their debts for land rentals and then for 'furnish' before they paid other debts or bought anything for themselves."[119] Thus, reinforced by state-sanctions, very few of Georgia's farmers—Black or white—escaped the cycle of poverty that tenancy and crop-lien systems created during and after Reconstruction.[120]

While Georgia farmers grew and processed food for themselves, they had few alternatives to cotton as a primary income-producing product. Compared to other production choices, cotton had many advantages—including sustained demand for the raw product on the regional and national scale, relatively low start-up costs, and an available labor force with experience growing it. Historians Cooper, Terrill, and Childers state that:

> Diversification may have sounded good, especially when cotton prices fell, but it was not possible for many farmers. Most of them lacked the required capital. The dearth of cities and the slowness of railroad development [during Reconstruction] made for constricted markets and inadequate transportation for would-be truck farmers. Climate, soil types, pests such as the cattle tick, and the undeveloped state of agricultural science precluded the evolution of a more complex farm mix of staple crops, forage, and quality livestock in the cotton South. Farmers there may have wanted to initiate the diversified agriculture of farmers in the North and the upper South, but even if they had had the money to invest in such pursuits, it would not have been possible to do so until at least 1920.[121]

Reviving Local Economies

As the South recovered from the Civil War and farmers embraced cotton, railroads and road networks expanded to support a spreading network of rural communities. Alongside the spread of cotton culture, the roles of farmer, landholder, and merchant/lienholder intermingled, in large part due to the debts of their renter/cropper subjects. During the late nineteenth century, some landlords reinvested the profits accrued on rented farmland to open stores and supply their tenants and sharecroppers directly. At the same time, many merchants acquired

117. Mark Reinberger, "The Architecture of Sharecropping: Extended Farms of the Georgia Piedmont," *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture* 9 (2003): 116–34.
118. William J. Cooper Jr., Thomas E. Terrill, and Christopher Childers, *The American South, A History*, 5th ed., vol. II (Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield, 2017), 459.
119. Cooper Jr., Terrill, and Childers, *The American South, A History*, II:464.
120. Cooper Jr., Terrill, and Childers, *The American South, A History*, II:459–66.
121. William J. Cooper Jr., Thomas E. Terrill, and Christopher Childers, *The American South: A History*, Fifth Edition, vol. II (Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield, 2017), 469.

significant landholdings as they foreclosed on unpaid debts. As such, merchants became community leaders and political figures.

In the rural countryside, the physical and economic reconstruction was slow, but rapid growth in cities like Roswell and Atlanta created a boon that spread to surrounding areas, eventually boosting property value and providing an outlet for farm products from the region. Unlike many other Georgia communities that were primarily reliant on the agricultural economy, Roswell was able to recover from the war relatively quickly. An 1883 description of the town presents a pleasant image (**Figure 2.11**):

> On through the town is a well kept street lined with cottages, some two hundred yards apart, leading to the store and offices of the Roswell Manufacturing Company, the same street leads you ½ mile further to the business portion, consisting of tasty stores, all enjoying a prosperous trade from the surrounding countryside. The greatest surprise awaits the visitor to learn that there are about 1,200 people living here. The buildings and general improvements are substantial, some of which are elegant, standing on spacious and well kept grounds, evidently the good taste of the proprietors. Churches and good schools complete the list.[122]

Roswell's quick rebound after the war was due in part to a steady influx of rural white families moving from the country to work in the mills.[123] The revival of the mill industry created "new businesses and for the first time a significant middle class."[124] As such, just as the mills served as the foundation for the town's creation, after the war, the mills served as the foundation of its economic recovery, at least for its white citizens.

The town of Alpharetta was spared major war-time destruction and stayed the center of economic and social life for the citizens of Milton County during Reconstruction. Local industry in the

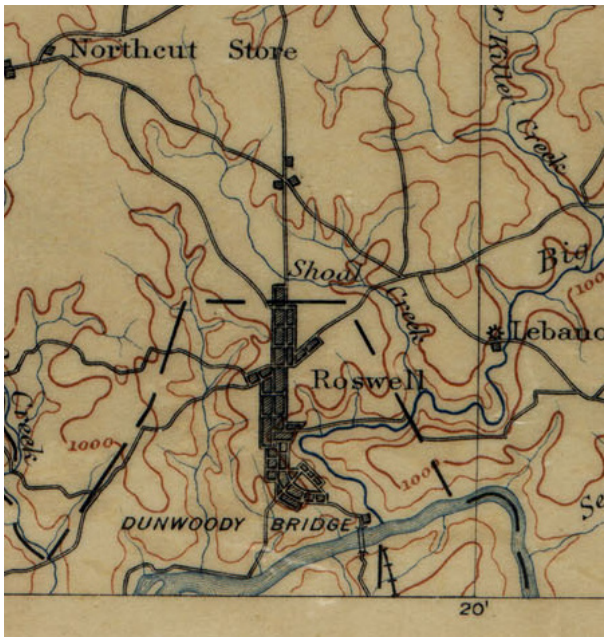


Figure 2.11: Portion of an 1897 topographic map (based on an 1887 survey) of Georgia showing the Roswell area. Note the linear arrangement of the town along a ridge, the roadway network that does not include the trace of the former road to Island Ford, the Chattahoochee River, and how the railroad south of Roswell does not cross the river. (Source: "Suwannee Quadrangle," U.S. Geological Survey, Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection, http://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/maps/topo/georgia/).

town centered on the farming economy and, thus, the town consisted primarily of cotton gins, warehouses, and stores supplying the county's largely rural populace. While farmer families remained relatively isolated on their respective homesteads during this period, increasing productivity in the area drove developers to invest in new infrastructure and transportation networks.

Railroads and Industry

As Georgia's agricultural and industrial systems evolved following the Civil War, transportation industries—principally railroads—enjoyed increasingly strong demand for their services. Although the Federal Army destroyed much of the physical infrastructure that had enabled Atlanta to develop as a regional transportation and industrial hub prior to the war, developers and industrialists quickly repaired damaged railroads and soon set out to build new ones. As Cooper, Terrill, and Childers describe in *The American South: A History*, "[g]overment officials and business leaders alike saw the close connection between the

122. City of Roswell, "City of Roswell, GA, Comprehensive Plan 2025," 2005, 169.
123. National Park Service, "Ivy Mill Cultural Landscape Inventory," 40.
124. Caroline Matheny Dillman, "Roswell," New Georgia Encyclopedia, accessed July 4, 2019, https://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/counties-cities-neighborhoods/roswell.

railroads and the South's recovery and growth, and they supported efforts to restore and expand the Southern rail system."[125]

As had been the case prior to the war, southern state governments subsidized restoration of railroads and construction of new lines during and after Reconstruction. One such railroad owned by the state of Georgia, the Western and Atlantic (W&A), connected Atlanta to Chattanooga and became increasingly important for economic development of the rural areas north of Atlanta. The W&A, which crossed the Chattahoochee River near Peachtree Creek (well downstream of Island Ford and Shallow Ford), "gradually gave rise to communities at Vinings and Smyrna in the late 19th century."[126] While the W&A was the only major railroad in the vicinity of Island Ford Lodge landscape, the construction of a narrow-gauge spur, the Roswell Railroad, connected the area to Atlanta via the Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line.

The Roswell Railroad

Upon his return to Roswell after the war, local entrepreneur James Roswell King began planning for the construction of a railroad line to connect Roswell to Atlanta. This connection was actually conceived by his father, Barrington King, in 1853 as a means for the Roswell Manufacturing Company to get its goods to market.[127] A charter for the creation of the railroad was obtained and money advanced to the Roswell Manufacturing Company in 1863. With James King serving as agent, the company bought enslaved African American workers to begin the grading for the line. Workers completed grading by 1864 along a stretch south of Roswell leading up to the south bank of the Chattahoochee River near the Shallow Ford.[128]

Records from 1873 note that after a lull in activity, James King "exhibit[ed] a great deal of zeal" in completing the railroad.[129] By this time, the line was "much more than half done and a strong force under Messrs. Grant – Alexander & Co." worked to complete the project.[130] In April 1874, the grading for the section connecting Roswell to the Chattahoochee River was mostly completed.

According to local historian Michael Hitt, the "strong force" used to build the railroad bed was comprised of incarcerated people hired out by the state as part of the convict lease system. Hitt explains that "the firm of Grant Alexander & Co., that was helping James King, used convicts to do railroad labor starting in 1869. The state of Georgia was not paid for this labor, but it did relieve the state of the upkeep of the prisoners."[131] The convict lease system used incarcerated people—largely African Americans—"in place of the slaves used before the Civil War" to provide labor for private operators of industry throughout the South.[132] The system became notorious for its abhorrent treatment of its prisoners, many of whom were arrested for minor offenses and were then forced to work in extremely dangerous conditions with little regard for their health or safety.[133]

The developers of Roswell Railroad never completed the spur according to Barrington King's original plans, which called for direct connection of Roswell and Atlanta. Instead, the narrow-gauge spur ran from its southern terminus at Roswell Junction, where it met with the Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line, approximately eight miles north to Roswell Station on the south bank of the Chattahoochee River near the Shallow Ford. The railroad line never reached Roswell as the construction of a suitable bridge across the Chattahoochee River proved too costly. However, even north of the river, grading was extensive, with many places complete with stacked stone retaining walls and a wide bed following the contour of the steep terrain.

According to Michael Hitt, in 1893, the site of Roswell Junction became the town of Chamblee, Georgia. About five miles north of Chamblee, the line passed through what became Dunwoody,

125. Cooper Jr., Terrill, and Childers, *The American South, A History*, II:474–75.
126. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 48.
127. Michael D. Hitt, "History of the Roswell Railroad, 1853-1921" (Self-Published, 1994), 1.
128. Hitt, "History of the Roswell Railroad, 1853-1921," 4.
129. Hitt, "History of the Roswell Railroad, 1853-1921," 12.
130. Hitt, "History of the Roswell Railroad, 1853-1921," 12.
131. Hitt, "History of the Roswell Railroad, 1853-1921," 12.
132. Hartrampf, Inc. and Office of Jack Pyburn, Architect, Inc., "Historic Structure Report: Allenbrook, Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area" (Historical Architecture, Cultural Resources Division, Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service, 2004), 18.
133. Mary Ellen Curtin, "Convict-Lease System," Encyclopedia of Alabama, accessed April 8, 2019, http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-1346.

Georgia; and, less than a mile north of that, the line passed just west of the Island Ford Lodge landscape at the present-day intersection of Northridge Road and GA Hwy 400.[134]

The End of Reconstruction

In 1870, Reconstruction ended formally in Georgia when the state government ratified the Fifteenth Amendment and sent new senators to Washington. In July, the Federal military left the state and Georgia was readmitted to the Union. While a heavy Republican majority controlled the legislature for a short time, by January 1872, a group of white conservative Democrats, the self-proclaimed "Redeemers," assumed full control of the state.[135]

Island Ford Lodge Landscape During the Civil War and Reconstruction

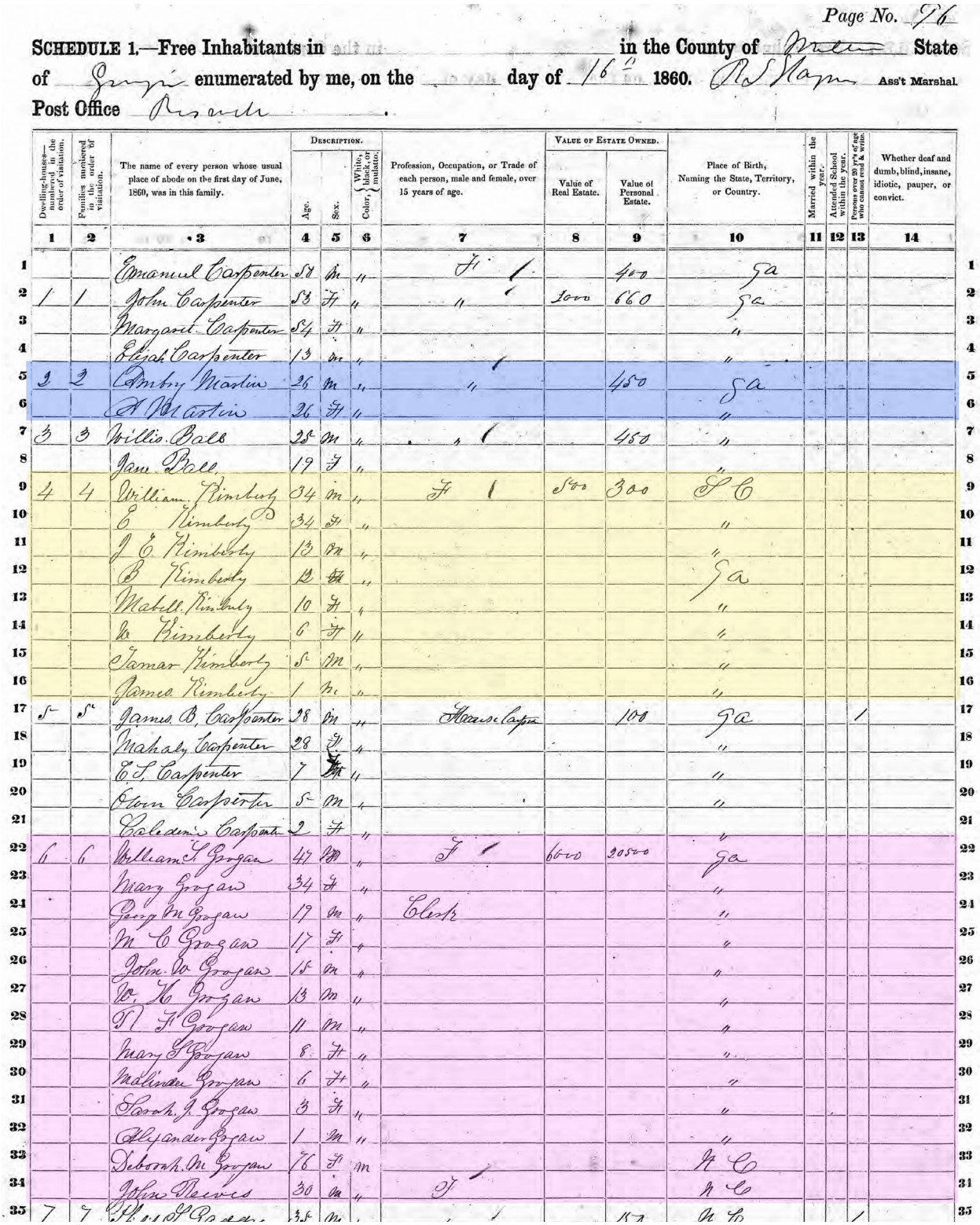
Although research has not revealed formal documentation of the Island Ford Lodge landscape during the Civil War and Reconstruction, the site remained a part of rural Milton County and, therefore, may have been used by individuals at various levels of the "agricultural ladder." Though many people residing in Milton County at the time raised livestock and farmed corn, cereal grains, and vegetables, cotton remained the staple cash-producing crop. Connie Mashburn describes the hierarchy of the farming community as follows:

> There were successful Alpharetta area cotton farmers, and some of these owned large, fertile farms located on river or creek bottomland in the eastern part of Milton County. However, many cotton farmers led a hardscrabble existence and were able to grow just enough cotton, their only cash-producing crop, to subsist. Much of the time, farmers were fortunate to make enough money to pay off fertilizer debts created at planting time. They had little or no money to buy more land, younger mules and horses, better farm equipment, or other goods that could not be obtained via bartering.[136]

The 2000 *Historic Structure Assessment Report* for Hewlett Lodge documents William J. Kimberly as owning the study area from 1860-1863. The 1860 Federal census for Milton County includes a South Carolina-born William Kimberly, age thirty-four, living in an unstated part of the county. The record documents Kimberly as a farmer holding real estate valued at 500 dollars and a personal estate valued at 300 dollars. It lists seven others residing in the household, including E. Kimberly, presumably William's wife, aged 34, also South Carolina-born; a 13-year-old J. E. Kimberly, also South Carolina-born; and five other children, all Georgia-born and ranging from 1-13 years old (**Figure 2.12**).[137] *U. S., Civil War Records and Profiles from 1861-1865* document a William J Kimberly that enlisted in Cobb County's Confederate Company H of the 7th Infantry. The record shows Kimberly as serving from May 31 to August 29, 1861. Kimberly served as Corporal until he was dispatched due to disability. Based on William Kimberly's listed age in 1860, further genealogical research of documented family trees reveals that the Kimberlys may have farmed land they owned in Milton County—perhaps including a portion or all of the study area—for a time before relocating to Blount County, Alabama, by 1885.

The *Historic Structure Assessment Report* documents an Ambry Martin owning the study area from 1863-1913. Four lines above William Kimberly and his family on the 1860 census, the enumerator listed a Georgia-born Ambry Martin, age 26, residing with A. Martin, female, age 26 (**Figure 2.12**). The record documents Ambry Martin as a farmer owning a personal estate valued at 450 dollars.[138] While historical records do not definitively link the two, Ambry Martin is presumably a descendant of Rubin Martin—who received authorization from the Court of DeKalb County in 1829 to establish a ferry downstream of the shoals at Island Ford.

134. Hitt, "History of the Roswell Railroad, 1853-1921."
135. James C Cobb, "Georgia History: Overview," *New Georgia Encyclopedia*, May 9, 2019, https://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/history-archaeology/georgia-history-overview; William H Bragg, "Reconstruction in Georgia," *New Georgia Encyclopedia*, October 14, 2019, https://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/history-archaeology/reconstruction-georgia#:~:text=As%20a%20defeated%20Confederate%20state,politically%2C%20socially%2C%20and%20economically.
136. Mashburn, *Alpharetta, Milton County: The Early Years*, 81.
137. "William Kimberly in the 1860 United States Federal Census, Milton County, Georgia," Ancestry.com, n.d.
138. "Ambry Martin in the 1860 United States Federal Census, Milton County, Georgia," Ancestry.com, n.d.



Page No. 96

SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in _____ in the County of Milton State of Georgia enumerated by me, on the _____ day of 16th 1860. R. S. Hamm Ass't Marshal.

Post Office Roswell.

Dwelling-houses numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.	Description. Age.	Sex.	Color, white, black, or mulatto.	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age.	Value of Estate Owned. Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.	Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 20 yrs of age who cannot read & write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Emanuel Carpenter	58	m	"	Farmer		400	Ga				
2	1	John Carpenter	53	f	"	"	1000	660	Ga				
3		Margaret Carpenter	54	f	"				"				
4		Elijah Carpenter	13	m	"				"				
5	2	Amby Martin	26	m	"	"		450	Ga				
6		A Martin	26	f	"				"				
7	3	Willis Ball	28	m	"	"		450	"				
8		Jane Ball	19	f	"				"				
9	4	William Kimbrly	34	m	"	Farmer	800	300	S C				
10		E Kimberly	34	f	"				"				
11		J C Kimberly	13	m	"				"				
12		B Kimberly	12	f	"				Ga				
13		Mabell Kimberly	10	f	"				"				
14		W Kimberly	6	f	"				"				
15		Lamar Kimberly	5	m	"				"				
16		James Kimberly	1	m	"				"				
17	5	James B. Carpenter	28	m	"	Farmer & Carpr		100	Ga			1	
18		Mahaly Carpenter	28	f	"				"				
19		E L Carpenter	7	f	"				"				
20		Thos Carpenter	5	m	"				"				
21		Caledonia Carpenter	2	f	"				"				
22	6	William L Grogan	47	m	"	Farmer	6000	20500	Ga				
23		Mary Grogan	34	f	"				"				
24		Geo M Grogan	19	m	"	Clerk			"				
25		M C Grogan	17	f	"				"				
26		John A Grogan	15	m	"				"				
27		W H Grogan	13	m	"				"				
28		T F Grogan	11	m	"				"				
29		Mary F Grogan	8	f	"				"				
30		Melinda Grogan	6	f	"				"				
31		Sarah J Grogan	3	f	"				"				
32		Alexander Grogan	1	m	"				"				
33		Deborah M Grogan	76	f	m				N C				
34		John Reeves	30	m	"	Farmer			N C				
35	7	Thos H Rogers	34	m	"			150	N C			1	

Figure 2.12: Excerpt of the 1860 U. S. Federal Census for Milton County, Georgia. Kimberly household highlighted in yellow, Martin household in blue, and Grogan household in pink. (Source: Ancestry.com; 1860 United States Federal Census, Milton, Georgia, p.96; Family History Library Film: 803131).



Figure 2.13: Portion of 1864 pencil drawing showing vicinity of Grogans District, Milton County, GA, and the Island Ford Lodge landscape; blue star indicates location of Hewlett Lodge. Note the names of select property owners and the words "Hilly and Broken." (Source: *Map of part of DeKalb County, Georgia, from the Chattahoochee River south to Peach Tree Creek, July 17-18*. 1864. Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/2006459243/).

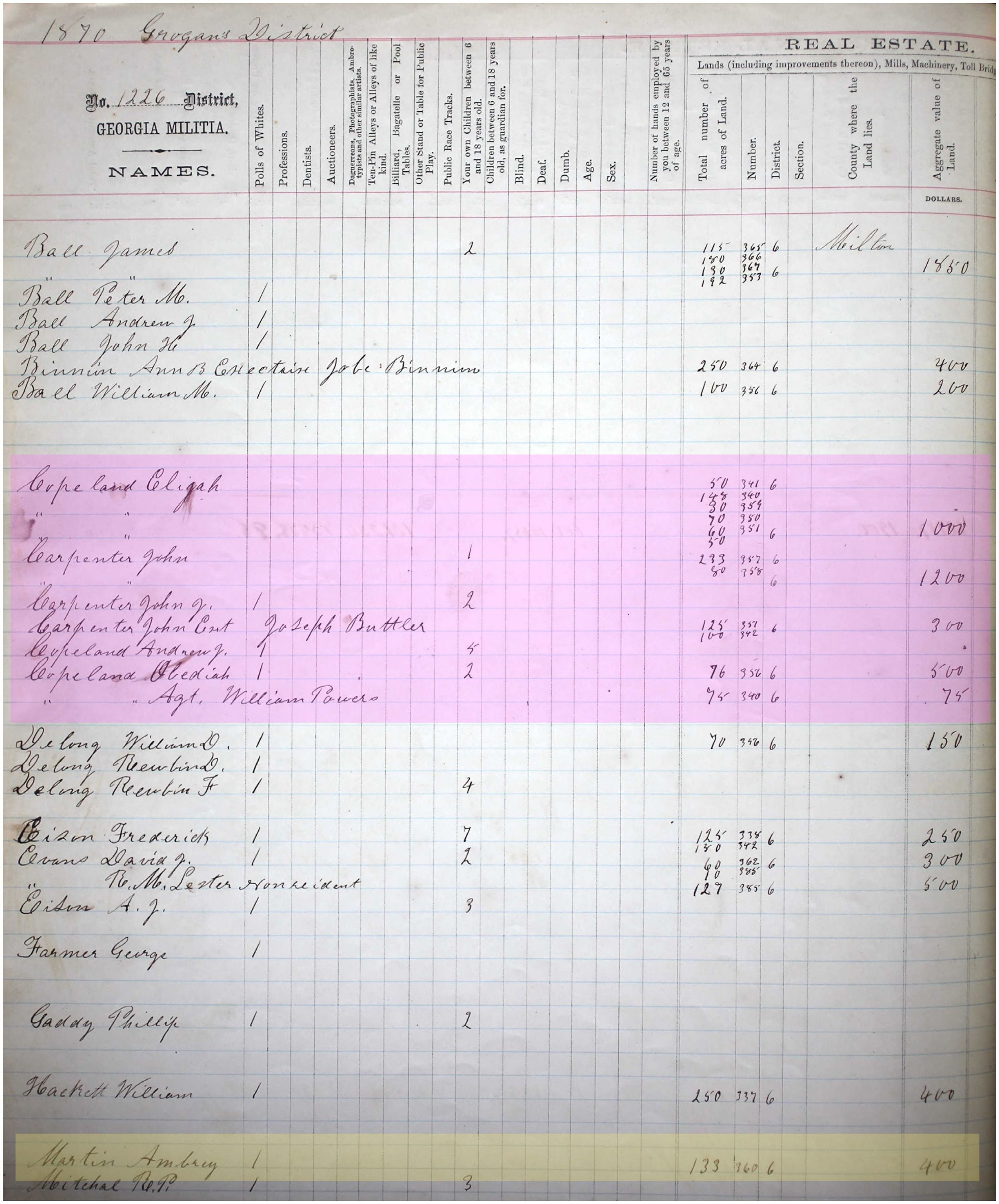
The same page of the referenced 1860 census includes a residence comprised of twelve Grogans, with William Grogan as a landowner (**Figure 2.12**). While the record does not indicate where the Martins, Kimberly, and Grogans resided within the county, the order in which they are listed, coupled with the number of Grogans listed, suggests that the three households were likely located within Grogan's District.

A hand-drawn map of parts of Fulton and DeKalb Counties dated 1864 includes the names of select landowners in the vicinity of Island Ford (**Figure 2.13**). On the 1864 map, the words "Hilly and Broken" are written at the present-day location of Island Ford Lodge landscape, suggesting that the area may not have been suitable for farming and homesteads.

None of the documented owners of the study area, as determined through genealogical and property deed research, are written on the map. Landowner names indicated in the immediate Lodge area include Wallace, Binton, Beavers, and Delong to the north and west of the Island Ford Lodge landscape and Carpenter and Copeland to the immediate south.

The 1870 Property Tax Digests for Grogans District lists the Carpenter and Copeland families as owning more than 1000 acres, accounting for more than 25 per cent of the entire district. In comparison, that same tax digest lists Ambry Martin as holding 133 acres within Grogans District (**Figure 2.14**).[139]

139. "Carpenter, Copeland, and Martin Families in the 1793-1892 Georgia Property Tax Digests, 1870, Grogans District, Milton, Georgia, USA," Ancestry.com, n.d.



1870 Grogans District

No. 1226 District, GEORGIA MILITIA.

NAMES.	Polls of Whites.	Your own Children between 6 and 18 years old.	Total number of acres of Land.	Number.	District.	County where the Land lies.	Aggregate value of Land. (DOLLARS.)
Ball James		2	115 / 150 / 130 / 192	365 / 366 / 367 / 357	6 / 6	Milton	1850
Ball Peter M.	1						
Ball Andrew J.	1						
Ball John H.	1						
Binnin Ann B. Executrix Jobe Binnim			250	364	6		400
Ball William M.	1		100	356	6		200
Copeland Elijah			50 / 148 / 30 / 70 / 60 / 50	341 / 340 / 359 / 350 / 351	6 / 6		1000
Carpenter John		1	233 / 80	357 / 358	6 / 6 / 6		1200
Carpenter John J.	1	2					
Carpenter John Ent Joseph Buttler			125 / 100	337 / 342	6		300
Copeland Andrew J.	1	5					
Copeland Obediah	1	2	76	356	6		500
" " Agt. William Powers			75	340	6		75
Delong William D.	1		70	356	6		150
Delong Reubin D.	1						
Delong Reubin F	1	4					
Eizon Frederick	1	7	125 / 150	338 / 342	6		250
Evans David J.	1	2	60 / 70	362 / 385	6		300
" R. M. Lester Nonresident			127	385	6		500
Eison A. J.	1	3					
Farmer George	1						
Gaddy Phillip	1	2					
Hackett William	1		250	337	6		400
Martin Ambrey	1		133	360	6		400
Mitchal R. P.	1	3					

Figure 2.14: Excerpt of the 1870 Georgia Property Tax Digests for Grogans District, Milton County. Carpenter and Copeland families highlighted in pink and Ambry Martin in yellow. (Source: Ancestry.com; Carpenter, Copeland, and Martin Families in the 1793-1892 Georgia Property Tax Digests, 1870, Grogans District, Milton, Georgia, USA).

Rural Life in the New South

By the 1880s, Georgia's economy seemed well on its way out of the long depression that characterized the Reconstruction era in the South. However, structural flaws in the complex web of industrial, agricultural, and political systems of the state continued to reinforce racial and socioeconomic divisions. During the last two decades of the nineteenth century, as Henry Grady's vision of an industrialized "New South" gained popularity and industry boomed in Atlanta, rural Southerners remained relatively isolated and little change occurred. For those who lived and farmed in Georgia's Upper Piedmont, proximity and access to the rapidly growing city of Atlanta became increasingly important for economic success. As the authors of the 2000 *Historic Resource Study* of CHAT describe:

> Between 1860 and 1900, the state's population doubled to approximately two million people, but in the same period, the aggregate value of the state's farm land plus farm buildings, machinery, and equipment remained virtually unchanged, with the 1900 figure of $228 million barely exceeding the 1860 value. The state and much of the rest of the agricultural South remained in a serious depression through the turn of the century, what some have termed "the Long Depression." Although cotton production soared, prices plummeted due to overproduction, and the crop lien system, railroads, futures brokerage, and property taxes all became serious drains on agricultural revenues.
>
> The important lesson of the 1900 census is that… [t]he average farm in the area was white owned and operated as it had been before the war, and many had one or more sharecroppers or tenants. Many sharecroppers and tenants in the upper Piedmont were landless blacks but even more were poor whites. The area's farmers diversified well ahead of the rest of the state, with counties in the [Island Ford vicinity] frequently among the state's top producers of corn, wheat, oats, chicken, eggs, and dairy, while still producing a respectable cotton crop.[140]

140. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 45.

At the dawn of the twentieth century, the area surrounding Island Ford remained rural and those who lived and/or worked in the area remained reliant primarily on unpaved roads, covered bridges, and ferries for transportation. While railroads enabled the city of Atlanta to develop into a regional industrial hub, the rural countryside of the Upper Piedmont was slow to change.

Post-Reconstruction and the Early 20th Century

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the City of Atlanta experienced phenomenal growth in terms of industrialization, commerce, and population. From 1890 to 1900, the city's population increased by just less than 40 percent, from about 65,000 to 90,000 people. At the turn of the century, an additional 27,000 people lived in the remaining parts of Fulton County.[141]

Milton County's population, like most other counties in the areas surrounding Atlanta, also grew but at a drastically lower rate, increasing just less than 9 percent in the last decade of the nineteenth century to a total of 6,763 in 1900.[142] Roswell too remained a small town during this period. While property tax records from the early twentieth century document a slow but steady increase in the value of land in the countryside surrounding Atlanta, Henry Grady's vision of a dynamic and progressive Southern agricultural economy never became reality. Nevertheless, his influence supplied the political framework and rhetorical motivation for Atlanta's industrial and commercial development—which slowly but surely exacted significant change upon the surrounding landscape, including that of the Chattahoochee River corridor.

At the turn of the century and through the Great Depression (1929-1939), the Chattahoochee River corridor remained rural with an isolated, mostly family-farmer populace. Periodic flooding continued to replenish the adjacent bottomland, which remained among the most desirable agricultural land in the region. However, as entrepreneurs developed new ways of harnessing

141. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 53.
142. Georgia Department of Agriculture, *Georgia, Historical and Industrial* (Atlanta, GA: The Franklin Printing and Publishing Co, 1901), 761–62.

the river's potential—as a source of water and power—they initiated a century-long period of change in the Upper Piedmont, whereby new infrastructure projects opened the region to increasing population, suburban development, and new land uses.

Harnessing the River and Post-WWI Growth

By the 1890s, the City of Atlanta had outgrown its primary water source, the South River (a tributary of the Ocmulgee River). The city's leaders, therefore, turned to the Chattahoochee River as an added source for its municipal water supply. In 1892-1893, workers constructed a new pumping station and reservoir in the northwest part of the city, near Howell Mill Road. The intake for the system was in the Chattahoochee River near the confluence of Peachtree Creek.

In 1902-1904, the Atlanta Water and Electric Power Company, a group of four prominent Atlanta entrepreneurs, constructed the first substantial hydroelectric plant on the Chattahoochee River in the Georgia Piedmont—the Morgan Falls Dam.[143] "The impact of the dam extended well beyond the riverbank and the economy grew from the new jobs and electricity created. As local workers joined the Morgan Falls project, the need for goods and housing prompted the community on the river to contribute."[144] The economic growth that began before World War I and continued afterward spurred a pattern of suburban development outside the City of Atlanta, resulting in an automobile-dependent population ringing the city. These economic and technological changes set the stage for the construction of secondary vacation homes throughout the state by those with the means.

One such person with the means and interest in building a second home was Samuel Dunbar Hewlett, a lawyer based in Atlanta. In 1925, Hewlett purchased the property known as the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape in order to construct a recreational retreat and residence along the scenic banks of the Chattahoochee River. Again, at this time, the study area and surrounding context was mostly rural and not nearly as developed as nearby towns and cities. Although that would change over the coming decades, at the time of purchase, the property was undeveloped and fairly isolated. The property remained undeveloped until 1935.

Samuel Dunbar Hewlett

Samuel Dunbar Hewlett (1878-1965) was born in Barnwell County, South Carolina, on July 11, 1878 (**Figure 2.15**). He was the fifth of six children born of William Henry Hewlett and Amelia Harietta Fowke.

William Henry Hewlett (1841-1881) was a South Carolina-native and son of a successful planter of that state. At the outbreak of the Civil War, however, he went to Savannah, Georgia and enlisted in the Confederate company of the Georgia Huzzars.[145] Early in the war, he fought with the Army of Northern Virginia; was wounded in battle; and returned to his home in Barnwell. After recovering, he served with the Confederate Army in South Carolina until the war's end. After the war, William Hewlett ran a family farm in Bennett Springs, Barwell County, South Carolina, where he resided presumably until his death in 1881. Amelia Harietta Fowke (1843-1924), also born in South Carolina, was a descendant of the well-known Virginia family of that name. Her father and grandfather were prominent medical doctors in South Carolina and Virginia, respectively.[146]

Samuel D. Hewlett spent his formative years first at the family home in Bennett Springs, SC, and then, sometime following his father's death in 1881, in a Catholic orphanage in Savannah, Georgia.[147]

143. The authors of the 2007 *Historic Resources Study* for CHAT state that "[S. Morgan] Smith provided the know-how and the turbines, [Forrest] Adair provided the land and water rights, [Jack] Spalding provided legal services, and [Joel] Hurt's streetcar company provided the end consumer for all the power that could be generated."
144. Beth Wheeler Byrd, "Hyde Farm Cultural Landscape Report" (Cultural Resources Division, Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service, May 2012), 23.
145. "The Georgia Huzzars," *The Charleston Daily Courier*, September 18, 1861.
146. "W. H Hewlett in the 1880 United States Federal Census, Bennets Springs, Barnwell County, SC," Ancestry.com, n.d.; William Harden, *A History of Savannah and South Georgia*, vol. 1, Illustrated (Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1913), http://files.usgwarchives.net/ga/chatham/bios/gbs153hewlett.txt.
147. "S. D. Hewlett in the 1880 United States Federal Census, Bennets Springs Township, Barnwell County, SC," Ancestry.com, n.d.; National Park Service Southeast Region Cultural Resources, "Historic Structure Assessment Report, Island Ford Lodge, Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area," July 2000.

Although research has not revealed exactly when the Hewletts left Barnwell County, the 1904 city directory for Savannah, Georgia, documents Samuel's mother residing with her eldest son, William R. Hewlett, at 1414 Abercorn. By 1908, Samuel's brother William had risen to a prominent position as an attorney and commissioner for the Eastern district of Georgia. One historical account describes William R. Hewlett as:

> … a strong advocate before judge or jury and [one who] not only marshals his causes with great ability, but also brings to bear the strength of a firm and upright character, so that he has gained and held the inviolable confidence and regard of his fellow practitioners and also of the general public.[148]

There are no known photographs or historical accounts of Samuel D. Hewlett's childhood or young adulthood and little is known of his family life in Barnwell County, SC, or Savannah, GA.

In 1895, at the age of seventeen, Samuel D. Hewlett enrolled at the Gordon Military Institute in Barnesville, Georgia. Prior to graduating, however, he enlisted in the U. S. Army and left school at the outbreak of the Spanish American War in 1898. According to the authors of the 2000 *Historic Structure Assessment Report* and the 2016 *Island Ford Lodge National Register Nomination Form*, Hewlett contracted a near-fatal case of typhoid fever during his first year of service in the U. S. Army. Upon receiving medical leave, he returned to teach at Gordon Military Institute for a brief stint before enrolling in law school at the University of Georgia in Athens in 1899. While at the University of Georgia, Hewlett gained a reputation as "a man of rugged constitution and athletic ability." Hewlett played fullback for the university's football team for three seasons, during which time he became known as "Sam the Bull." According to university lore, and supported by several local newspaper articles from the time, Hewlett suffered an ankle injury early in his final season (1900-1901)—costing the Bulldogs a winning season that year. Hewlett graduated from the University of Georgia in 1901.

Hewlett then moved to Macon to begin his law career and, within months, moved to Atlanta after being hired by the office of Walter Simms. In 1903, Hewlett and Simms formed a business partnership. This partnership dissolved after his marriage to Sarah Hamilton Yancy in 1905. Five years later, Hewlett started a law firm with John T. Dennis, an old friend and classmate. The United States' involvement in World War I prompted the Hewletts to move to New York, where Samuel had business ties to a military contractor. According to the HSAR, "By 1919, [his wife Sarah] would


LAWYER WHO SAVED JOHN HARPER'S LIFE

SAMUEL D. HEWLETT.
After a long and remarkable fight, his client, who was convicted of murdering Sheriff Keith, of Murray county, was saved from the gallows Thursday, Governor Brown commuting the sentence to life imprisonment.

Figure 2.15: This 1909 portrait is the only known image of Samuel Dunbar Hewlett, Sr. He was about 30 years old at the time. (Source: Georgia Historical Newspapers, *The Atlanta Georgian,* October 22, 1909, 8).

148. Harden, *A History of Savannah and South Georgia*, 1, Illustrated:585.

have no more of the crowded northern city and the couple returned to Atlanta where Hewlett resumed his law partnership with Dennis."[149] Whatever the couple's reason for leaving, their time in New York had a lasting impact according to the author of the HSAR, who posits that "[d]uring the Hewletts' stay in New York, Samuel became associated with media mogul William Randolph Hearst and represented Heart's interests in libel suits throughout the country. It was from this relationship that Hewlett's reputation as an eloquent litigator and sharp legal mind was reformed."[150]

The Hewletts then moved back to Atlanta, seeking better climates and the opportunity for Samuel to build upon his new reputation through a renewed legal partnership with Dennis yet again. The firm was in high demand and quite successful. "In addition to an ongoing legal relationship with the Hearst newspaper empire, the partnership represented *The Atlanta Georgian*, the Yellow Cab Company, the Biltmore Hotel, and Louis and Jenkins Theaters among others." With the connections to Georgia's elite, Hewlett wanted to build a vacation retreat to entertain and relax. Though it is unknown how, Hewlett became aware of the Island Ford Lodge property in the mid-1920s, and in 1925 purchased the site. The property sat vacant and mostly undeveloped for a decade however as Hewlett continued to grow his family and build his career, which included serving as Chief of Staff for Georgia Governor Eugene Talmadge beginning in 1933.

Landscape Summary (1861-1934)

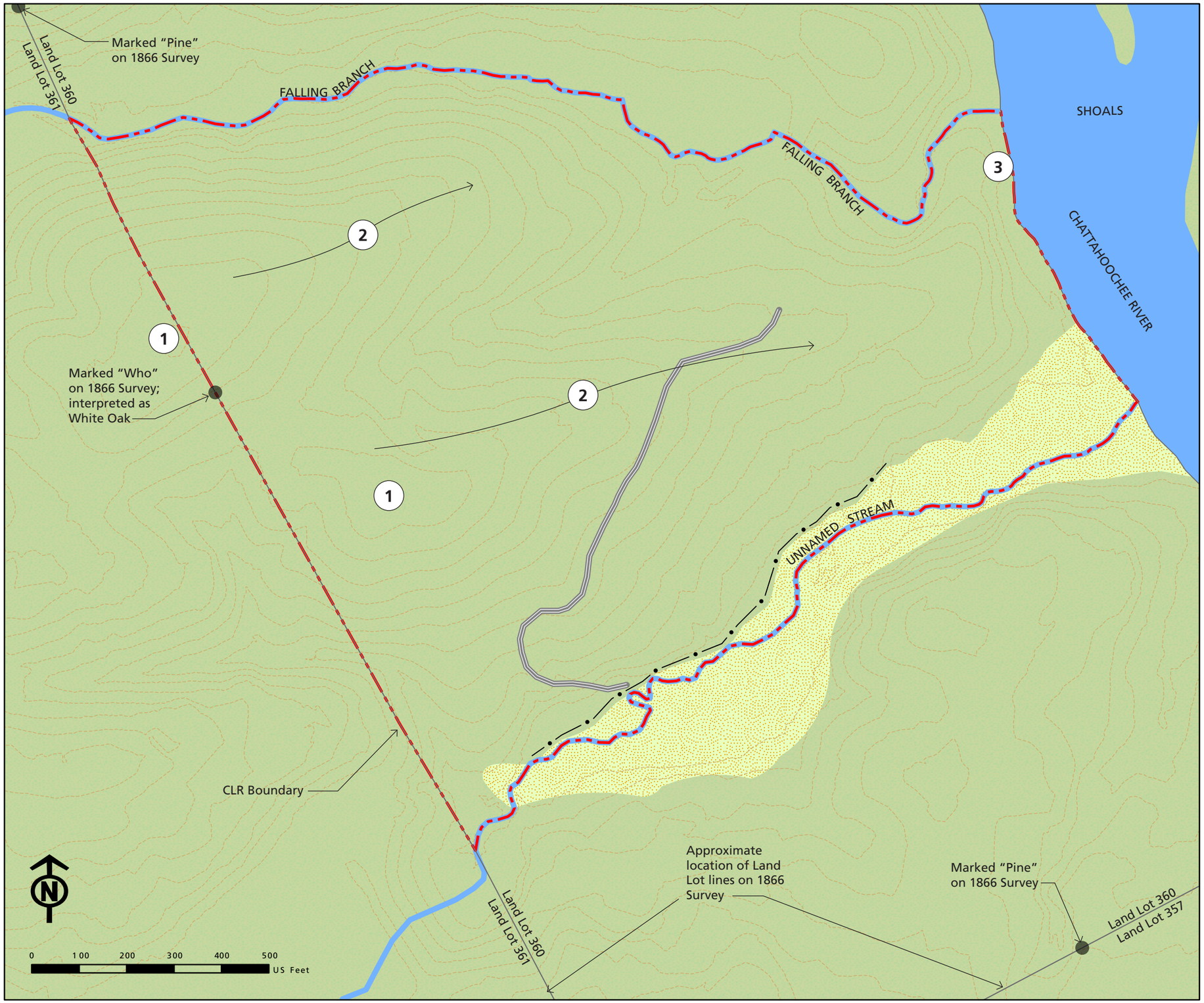
Little is known about the specific conditions of the Island Ford Lodge landscape during the Civil War and Reconstruction Period. However, the historical record of those who owned and perhaps resided nearby, suggests that, as was the case during the Early Settlement Period, the cultural landscape at Island Ford remained a component of a network of family-owned and -operated farmland woven together by family ties, agricultural practices, and a transportation network of roads, fords, and ferries.

While the historical record indicates that the property's owners owned and farmed land within the study area, the character of land use at the site remains undetermined. The presence of an owner's residence, enslaved or tenant worker housing, sheds, animal pens, kitchen garden, fencing, and other landscape features from the period also remains undetermined. Other landscape characteristics such as spatial organization or circulation features during this period also remain unknown.

Michael Hitt's research related to the Civil War rifle pits on the bluffs lining the south bank of the Chattahoochee River suggests that there may have been Confederate and/or Federal military fortifications within the present-day Island Ford unit of CHAT to the north of the study area; however, no known physical evidence of the events associated with the Atlanta Campaign exists within the study area.

Further, research did not reveal the character of the landscape at the time of Hewlett's purchase of the Island Ford property in 1925. It is known that it sat essentially undeveloped for a decade. Illustration 2.1 depicts the site prior to 1934.

149. Southeast Region, "Historic Structure Assessment Report, Island Ford Lodge, Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area," Historical Background and Context, 2.
150. Southeast Region, "Historic Structure Assessment Report, Island Ford Lodge, Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area," Historical Background and Context, 2.



Feature Key

1 High points
2 Ridgelines
3 Exposed Rock Outcrop

Forested Areas
Open Floodplain
Dirt Road (full extent unknown)
Woven-wire Fence (full extent unknown)
Approximate location of boundary marker tree (1866 survey)

Notes

There is no formal documentation of the study area prior to an aerial image from 1938; however, the steep, rugged character of the site limited human use to transportation on foot or horseback and harvesting of timber for building and fuel.

The 1866 Survey Map of the Sixth District of Gwinnett County, includes surveys with boundary lines for 372 land lots. The study area includes a portion of the Lot 360, as shown on that map. Surveyors reference six trees and two stationary points, labeled "Sta," as markers for Lot 360's boundaries. Trees identified include "Bo," "Pine," "Who," and "Per," interpreted as meaning black oak, pine, white oak, and persimmon respectively. Only the white oak, which marks a point along the southwest boundary of Lot 360, is situated on the border of Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape.

The location and extent of the dirt road and fence line shown on this map are approximated based on the 1938 aerial image; these features may have continued in either direction an unknown distance.

Credits:

1. 1866 Survey Map of the Sixth District of Gwinnett County, GA (Georgia Archives).

2. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2021).

Illustration 2.1

Pre-Hewlett Period c. 1934

Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

OCTOBER 2021

Hewlett's Lodge (1935-1955)

People have long been drawn to the outdoors for recreational pursuits, as well as for relaxation. The scenic qualities of nature have inspired both adventurers and poets alike. The Chattahoochee River corridor was no exception. For much of its recent settlement history, locals would use the area's creeks and rivers to swim, picnic, boat, fish, and cool down in the warmth of the Georgia summer. "After World War I, improved roads made automobile travel easier, and the steep, picturesque terrain that characterizes much of the river corridor began to attract Atlanta residents who built summer homes and year-round residences away from the heat and congestion of the city."[151] One wealthy Atlantan, Samuel D. Hewlett, sought to develop a property on the Chattahoochee where he could entertain friends and colleagues, relax when not consumed by work, and provide a place to play for his children.

Hewlett Lodge and Landscape

The Rustic Style

Though the property sat undeveloped for ten years after purchase, it is clear that Hewlett had been planning for its development. Hewlett envisioned a grand rustic lodge, built in a style akin to the Rustic-style Adirondack summer homes in New York State.

This style was not common in the South for residences and is more commonly associated with the state and national parks facilities developed by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression. The 2016 *Island Ford Lodge National Register Nomination Form* describes the Rustic Style as being:

> derived from the 19th-century work of Frederick Law Olmsted, Calvert Vaux, and H.H. Richardson, who were inspired by the landscape and used natural forms and materials to replace expected architectural details. The Rustic Style is characterized by the use of oversized rocks and boulders and unhewn logs. The style is closely associated with the dozens of camps that were built for wealthy industrialists in the Adirondack Mountains of upstate New York. Among the most influential builders in the upstate New York area was William West Durant who built numerous Rustic-style camps in the late quarter of the nineteenth century.[152]

Along with the rustic homes themselves, the landscape around these buildings also reflected the Rustic Style through the use of "rock-faced granite paths, benches, walls, steps, and other rustic landscape features."[153]

Construction

Based on existing evidence, Hewlett acted as the primary contractor for Hewlett Lodge's construction, which began in 1935 and lasted for about five to six years. The 2007 *Historic Resource Study* for CHAT states that, in order to bring building materials into the site, Hewlett hired workers to construct "a temporary railroad spur from the Roswell Railroad to transport the logs and other materials to the site."[154] However, in oral interviews conducted during the research component of this CLR, two local historians stated that there is no substantial historic documentation of such a rail spur. Indeed, research and field work has not revealed evidence of such a track existing within the study area at any time.

The historical record is rather unclear regarding the manner in which Hewlett's property was accessed prior to and during construction of Hewlett Lodge. Historic maps, land survey plats, and aerial photographs document the existence of several roadways within the study area. Based on these research materials, the primary means of access to Hewlett Lodge was a dirt road accessible from a paved road west of Hewlett Lodge, a route that is now occupied by Roberts Drive. There may have been an additional dirt road providing access to the site from the south, connected to a paved road that ran roughly east-west, now known as Spalding Drive (**Figure 2.16** and **Figure 2.17**).

Hewlett Lodge was constructed by a John Epps, an expert African American stone mason who lived on site while he worked on the residence. Epps was assisted by a Mr. Howell (first name unknown).

151. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 63.

152. Ann McCleary and Keith S. Herbert, "Island Ford Lodge Historic District" (National Register of Historic Places Inventory/Nomination Form, September 19, 2016), Section 8, p 14.

153. McCleary and Herbert, "Island Ford Lodge Historic District," Section, 15.

154. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 64.



Figure 2.16: Portion of map included in the 1952 Fulton County Annual Report showing the Island Ford vicinity. Note that the present-day route of Northridge Road (1) is labeled "Old Settlement Rd" and ends on the east at Hewlett Lodge (2). (Source: *Fulton County Annual Report 1952,* Georgia Room, Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library, University of Georgia; markup by WLA Studio, 2021).

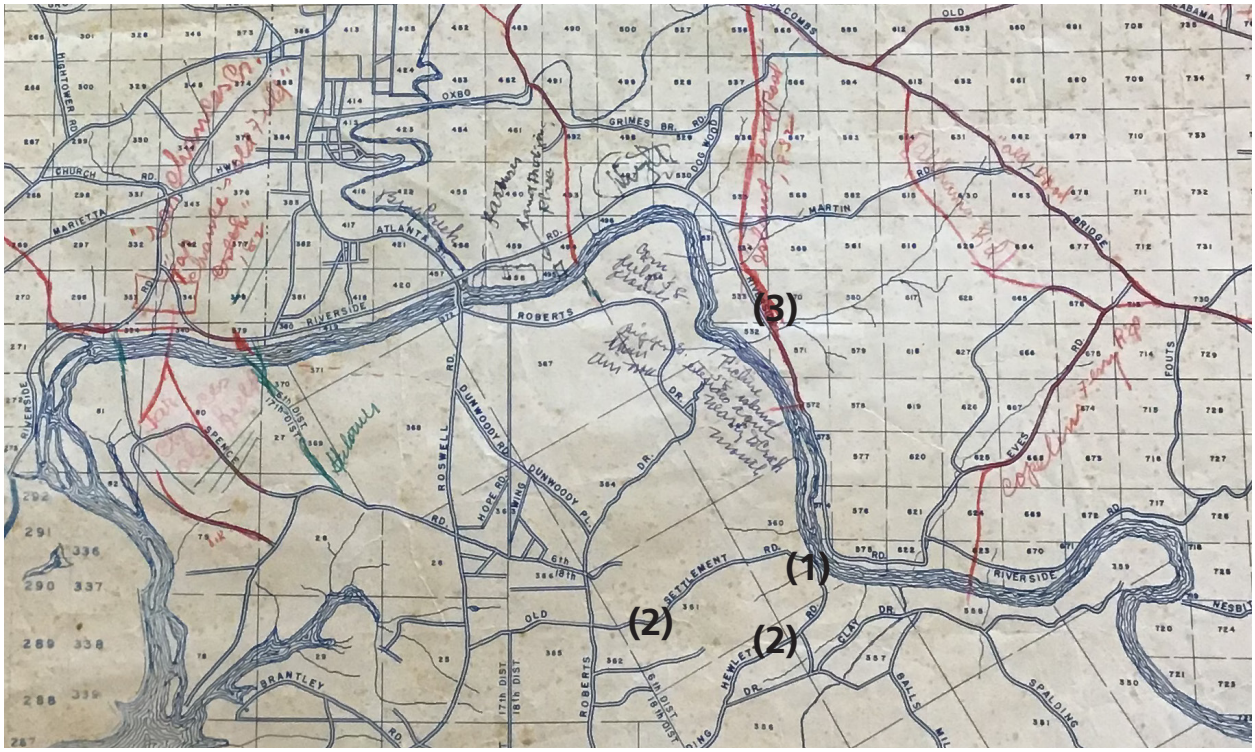


Figure 2.17: This excerpt from a 1967 land survey stamped "Dr. John H. Goff Collection: Presented to Surveyor General Department, February 1967" shows the Island Ford vicinity with notations from an unknown author and time (in blue and red ink). Note that (1) Hewlett Lodge sits at the east end of the ridge within land lot 360; (2) a dirt loop road, named "Old Settlement Rd" on the north and "Hewlett Rd" on the south, connected to Roberts Drive and Spalding Road (both paved by 1967 and remaining intact in 2021); and (3) solid lines in red and blue ink indicate the suspected route of the former roads to the river crossing at the shoals at Island Ford. (Source: "Fulton County – Atlanta Region Development Patterns, 1967." John H. Goff Collection, Georgia County Maps Collection, MS 3880, Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library, University of Georgia; markup by WLA Studio, 2021).

Hewlett Lodge's rustic aesthetics were realized through the use of local natural building materials. "The stone for the foundation and chimneys was apparently quarried in a field near the river upstream from Hewlett Lodge, and its cypress logs were brought from property Hewlett owned in the Okeefenokee Swamp in south Georgia."[155] Rustic Style details were incorporated throughout the interior and exterior of the residence, and included field stone foundation, eyebrow dormers, exposed and unhewn logs, as well as the building's siting to engage with the natural environment. The design and construction of the property's landscape features and auxiliary structures also reflect hallmark characteristics of the style.

See the Existing Conditions and Analysis and Evaluation chapters for a detailed description of these materials and features.

Hewlett's Use of the Property

After construction, like other second homes, Hewlett's property on the Chattahoochee River was not occupied full-time, at least not for the entire period he owned it. Unfortunately, research has revealed an incomplete picture of the Hewlett family's use of the site. However, documents and interviews have shown that the Hewlett family used the property for a variety of purposes, ranging from entertaining friends and colleagues to family recreational activities such as riding horses. It does not appear the site was ever permanently occupied for an extended period. Evidently, during World War II, family members lived at the property. Additionally, an African American caretaker reportedly lived on site during this time.[156]

After the construction of Hewlett Lodge, additional changes to the landscape were made. Most notably, in 1945, Hewlett added the Barbecue Pavilion, Spring House, and Stone Retaining Wall on Falling Branch. All three were in keeping with the rustic aesthetic of Hewlett Lodge. Additional buildings and structures existed within the site, including a hay barn, livestock shelter(s), and caretaker's residence. It is unknown if the design of these structures were in keeping with the overall aesthetic of the property.

Buckhead Century Club

In the background to the development of the Island Ford Lodge landscape, in 1942, after helping him navigate the Three Governors controversy, Georgia Governor Gene Talmadge appointed Hewlett to the Georgia Supreme Court.[157] The new position forced Hewlett to step back from his law firm and focus on a huge case load. Though he only served one year on the court, his time spent as advisor, council, and representative to both Governor Talmadge and his son Herman Talmadge brought further notoriety to Hewlett.

In 1950, Hewlett, now seventy-two years old and well-connected, sold the Island Ford Lodge property to the Buckhead Century Club. The condition of the sale was that Hewlett could maintain an apartment in the building. The "private dinner and entertainment club" was comprised of a collection of Atlanta's elites, including the Hewletts.[158] The club used Hewlett Lodge as an entertainment venue and performed alterations to the lodge and site to meet member's needs. Although the full extent of changes made by Buckhead Century Club is unknown, documented alterations include renovation of the kitchen for institutional use, enclosure of the rear (east) porch with windows to create a dining area, installation of an in-ground pool and patio behind (east of) the building, partial finishing of the basement for showers and dressing rooms, and installation of slot machines inside the lodge. The venture was short lived however, as in 1955 the club disbanded and sold the Island Ford property to the Atlanta Baptist Association.

Landscape Summary (1935-1955)

There are no known photographs of Hewlett Lodge or the property dating to the Hewlett/ Buckhead Century Club Period, aside from aerial images. Therefore, there are few specific understandings of ornamental vegetation, formal and informal circulation networks, and other potential site features.

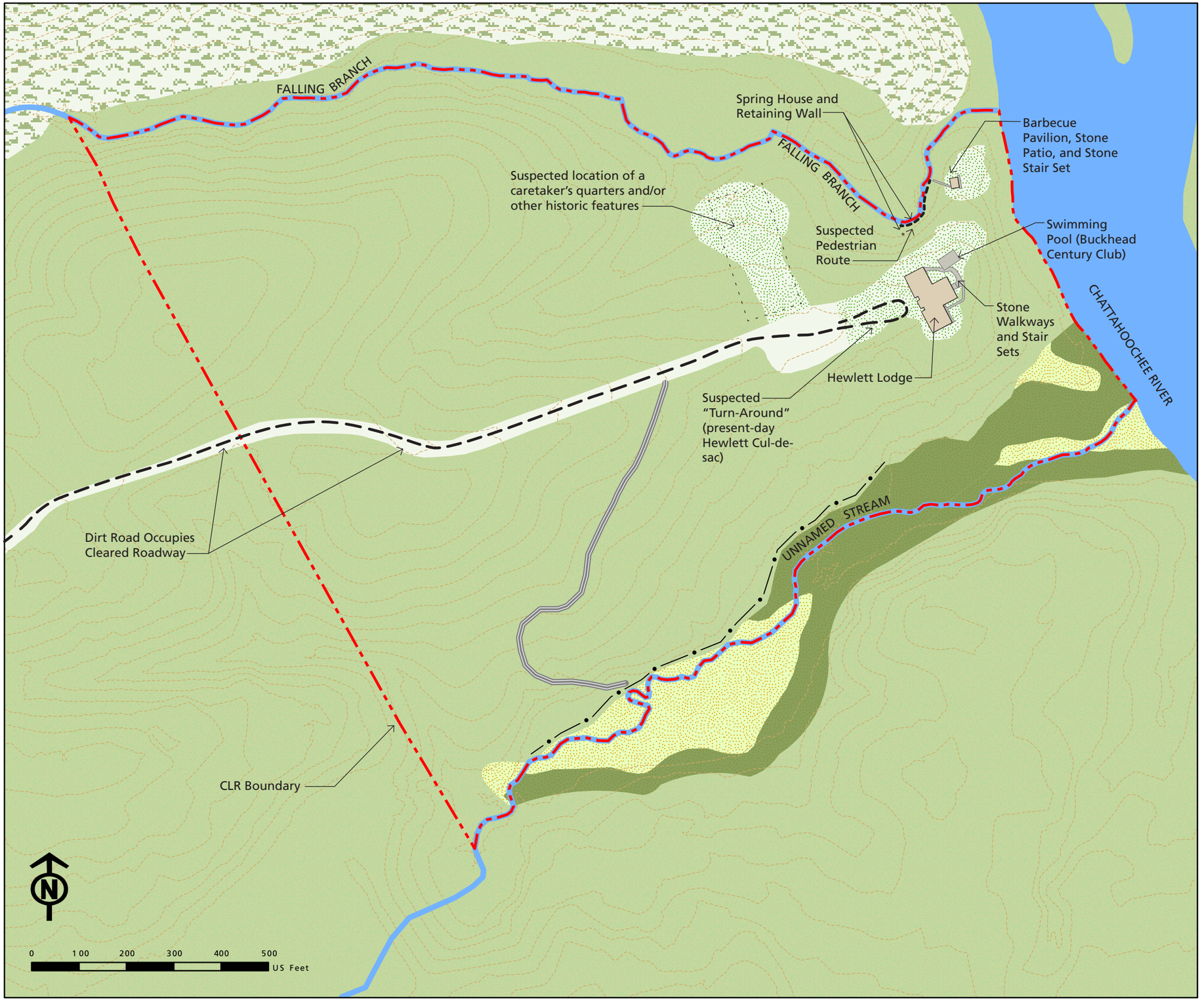
155. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 64.
156. See summaries of oral interviews in the 2000 *Historic Structure Assessment Report*, Appendix: Interviews, and within the "Island Ford" file 1 of 3 in CHAT History flat file at SERO.
157. For an overview of this period of Georgia political history, see the 2000 *Historic Structure Assessment Report*.
158. McCleary and Herbert, "Island Ford Lodge Historic District," Section 8, 9.

That said, during this period, the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape was established through the construction of Hewlett Lodge, Barbecue Pavilion, Spring House, and other landscape features. The collection of buildings, structures, and paths reflected the Rustic Style, uncommon for residential properties in Georgia. John Epps lived on the site during the time it took to construct Hewlett Lodge, perhaps occupying one of the buildings seen in an early aerial image (1938). An additional four buildings and/or structures appear to be present in the study area during the historic period, as seen in historic-period aerial photographs.

Though detailed documentation of vehicular circulation for this period is unavailable, it is known there were at least two primary vehicular circulation features in the study area—(1) a dirt road closely following the present-day route of Northridge Road and the south end of Island Ford Parkway; and (2) a turn-around/parking area just west of Hewlett Lodge (present-day location of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac). The dirt road occupied a cleared path running east-west along the site's central ridgeline. At its west end, it intersected with a paved road outside of the study area (present-day Roberts Drive), and its east end ended at the parking area west of Hewlett Lodge. The 1967 survey map (**Figure 2.17**) shows an additional dirt road entering the study area at the southeast end; however, there is no physical evidence of this roadway on site and research has not revealed other references to its existence during the historic period. Lastly, historic aerials and physical evidence on site in 2021 suggest that there was an additional dirt road running north-south between the site's central access road and the floodplane of the stream at the south edge of the study area. The full extent of that road during this period is unknown and only a remnant remains intact within the natural forest south of Island Ford Parkway.

As an isolated family retreat destination, access to the outdoors was critical. As such, there were various pedestrian-scale circulation features during this period, including stone-paved walkways and patios at Hewlett Lodge and the Barbeque Pavilion as well as earthen paths throughout the property. Additionally, it is known that, sometime between 1950 and 1955, the Buckhead Century Club constructed an in-ground swimming pool within a patio area to the east of Hewlett Lodge. The pool is now infilled and occupied by a stone-paved patio/walkway area that matches the historic walkways around Hewlett Lodge in configuration and material. Research has not revealed the full breadth of the condition and configuration of pedestrian circulation features during this period.

Despite the development at Hewlett Lodge and in the vicinity, the property remained forested and isolated from the increasing suburban development around its borders for the duration of the period. The scenic qualities that attracted Hewlett to the site were thus carried over into the next period of site occupancy. Illustration 2.2 depicts the landscape in 1955.



Feature Key

- Forested Areas
- Open Floodplain
- Encroaching Forest
- Clear-cut/Significant Thinning
- Partial Clearing for Buildings/ Structures
- Total Clearing for Roadway/Parking
- Dirt Road (full extent unknown)
- Woven-wire Fence (full extent unknown)
- Road (unknown covering - likely dirt)

Notes

Historic aerial images from 1938 and 1955 are the primary documentation of the landscape during this period.

Portions of the open floodplain in south part of the site experienced what appears to be reforestation during this period.

The collection of buildings, structures, and paths reflected the Rustic Style of architecture and design.

At least four buildings and/or structures stood to the west and northwest of Hewlett Lodge. As they are no longer extant, little is known regarding their configuration and use. Oral histories suggest that they were associated with a caretaker living on site as well as with livestock kept in the study area.

There were at least two vehicular roadways in the study area—one closely following the present-day route of Northridge Road and the other a turn-around/parking area just west of the Lodge (present-day location of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac). Based on the presence of a remnant road bed, there may have been an additional roadway in the south portion of the site.

Credits:

1. 1938 aerial image (UGA Map Library Aerial Imagery Collection, ATL-3-35, April 10, 1938).

2. 1955 aerial image (UGA Map Library Aerial Imagery Collection, ATJ-8P-45, May 5, 1955).

3. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2021).

Illustration 2.2

Hewlett/Buckhead Century Club Period - 1955

Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

OCTOBER 2021

Atlanta Baptist Association Ownership (1956-1978)

By the mid-twentieth century, much of the area surrounding the Chattahoochee River had ceased agricultural production, resulting in the introduction of new uses for the land. As part of a continuum of recreational second-home activity, as typified by Hewlett's retreat destination, the Chattahoochee River area experienced an increase in summer camps and retreat facilities. From the 1930s through the 1970s several such properties were established in the vicinity of Island Ford.[159] The Island Ford Lodge landscape was ideal for such an operation, as it still contained the recreational features, such as walking trails, Barbecue Pavilion, and the river itself, that the Hewletts and others used and enjoyed for the preceding thirty years. While the purchase of the Island Ford property by the Atlanta Baptist Association marks the end of residential use of the site, recreational land use continued—albeit one that was more wholesome than gambling and dinner parties.

Atlanta Baptist Association

The Atlanta Baptist Association was a group of 136 affiliated churches who owned the Island Ford Lodge property for over 20 years. During that time, the Association's members—of which there were more than 100,000—could enjoy the site as a retreat. It is unknown how many people used the site during the Association's ownership period, but given the fairly limited development of the site, it does not appear that the facility was used by many members at any one time. Research has revealed the existence of only two known photographs from this period, both of which presumably show members of the Association enjoying the pool that was constructed near Hewlett Lodge (**Figure 2.18** and **Figure 2.19**).

That said, during their ownership, the Association made a number of changes to Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape to facilitate outdoor recreation, provide over-night housing for groups, and other activities. Buildings added by the Atlanta Baptist Association include a Dormitory Building (c. 1955-1960) (referred to by CHAT staff and within this report as the Operations Building), Pavilions 1 and 2 (c. 1958), Metal Storage Building (c. 1955-1960), Bally Building (c. 1973), Maintenance Building (1972), and Quarters Building (1973).[160] During their ownership, they also made several alterations to circulation on the site—primarily associated with access to new buildings and structures. The construction of these features worked with the overall setting of an isolated nature-based retreat. Illustration 2.3 depicts the landscape in 1978.

A description of these resources is included in the Existing Conditions and Analysis and Evaluation chapters in this report.

As the 1970s came to an end, so did the Association's use of the site. Like other parcels throughout the Chattahoochee River corridor, the property was targeted for acquisition as part of a new park to serve the ever-growing suburban population. The enjoyment of Island Ford would soon be available to all.

159. Gerdes, Messer, and Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study," 64.

160. This report adopts the current name—Operations Building. The National Register nomination form for Hewlett Lodge lists the building as "Dormitory Building." The park-preferred name is Operations Building.

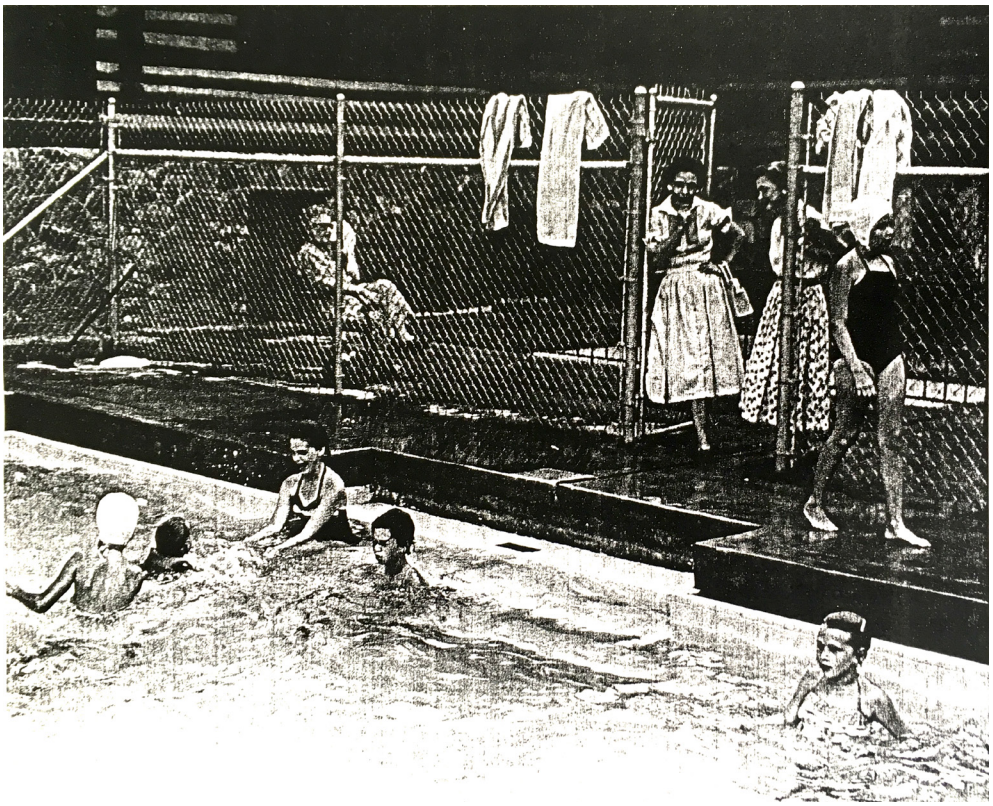
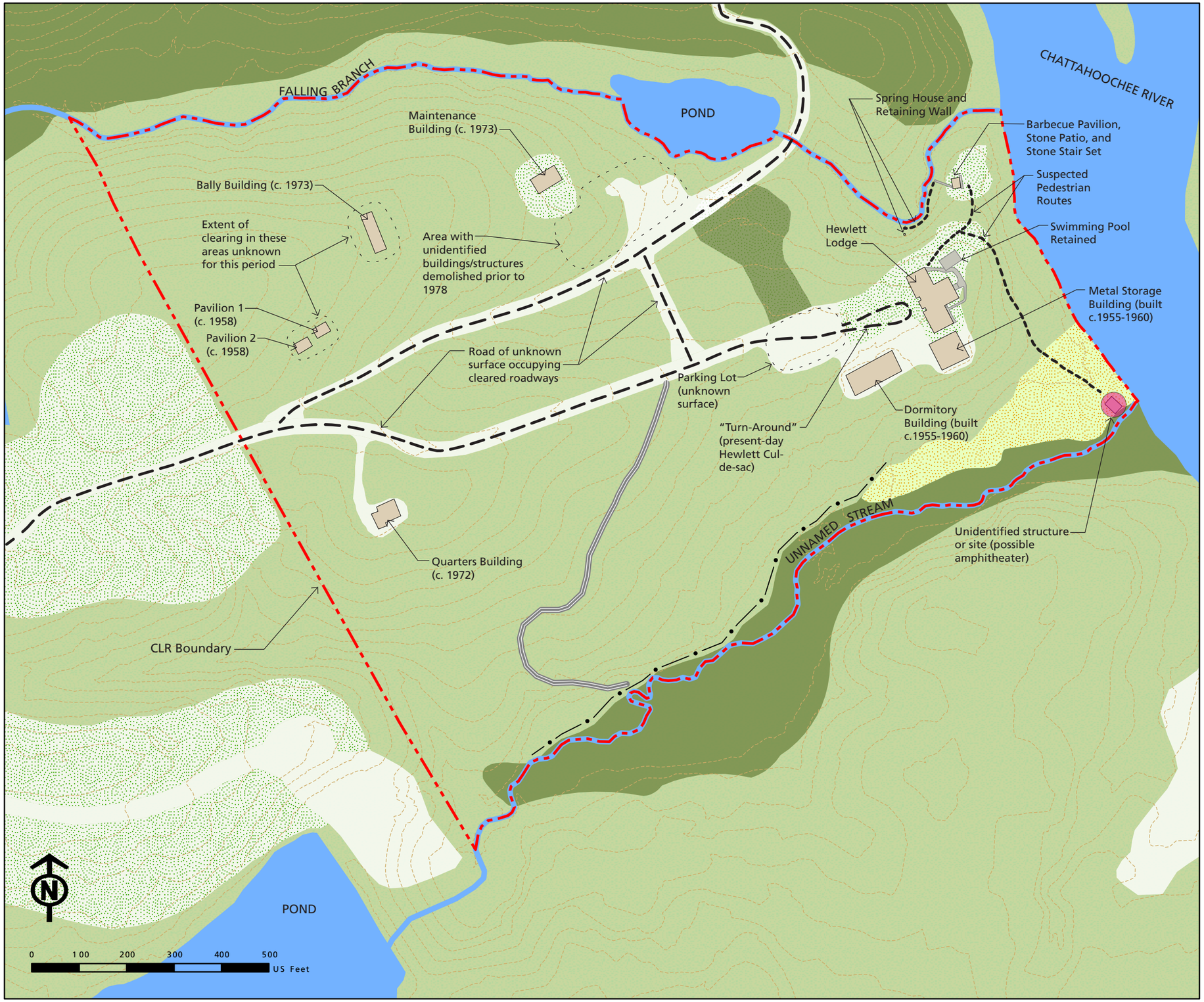


Figure 2.18: Undated image of the swimming pool at Hewlett Lodge (no longer extant) looking southwest; likely taken during the Atlanta Baptist Association's period of ownership. Note portions of the north and west facades of Hewlett Lodge visible in the background. (Source: National Park Service. Flat files held at office of Interior Region 2: *Hewlett Lodge, 2001-2004,* CHAT 5428, Box 49, II. C. 1).



Figure 2.19: Undated image of the swimming pool at Hewlett Lodge (no longer extant) looking northeast; likely taken during the Atlanta Baptist Association's period of ownership. Note undeveloped area to the north and east of Hewlett Lodge visible in the background. (Source: National Park Service. Flat files held at office of Interior Region 2: *Hewlett Lodge, 2001-2004,* CHAT 5428, Box 49, II. C. 1).



Feature Key

- Forested Areas
- Open Floodplain
- Encroaching Forest
- Partial Clearing for Buildings/ Structures
- Total Clearing for Roadway/Parking
- Dirt Road (full extent unknown)
- Woven-wire Fence (full extent unknown)
- Road (unknown covering - likely dirt)
- Trail (unknown covering)

Notes

Historic aerial images from 1960, 1966, and 1972 are the primary documentation of the landscape during this period.

Changes to the natural systems and features include the expansion of the forest west of Hewlett Field, which was previously open agricultural field, and clearing for several new buildings and structures, as well as roadways and parking lots.

Research has not revealed the exact location/configuration of various circulation features during this period. Known features include the roadways in the north portion of the site and a parking lot west of Hewlett Lodge.

Site changes during this period reflect the Atlanta Baptist Association's use/rehabilitation of the site as a communal retreat destination focusing on outdoor recreation.

Clearing and development outside of study area to west and south began during this period.

Credits:

1. 1960 aerial image (UGA Map Library Aerial Imagery Collection, ATJ-4AA-97, February 23, 1960).

2. 1966 aerial image (UGA Map Library Aerial Imagery Collection, ATJ-3GG-65, March 9, 1966).

3. 1972 aerial image (UGA Map Library Aerial Imagery Collection).

4. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2021).

Illustration 2.3

Atlanta Baptist Association Period - 1978

Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

OCTOBER 2021

NPS Ownership (1979-Present)

Preservation of Hewlett Lodge and Landscape

While the pattern of suburbanization began after World War II, the trend accelerated in the 1960s and 1970s due to the construction of new highways that aided "white flight," which is defined as "the movement of white families to school districts that had few blacks" following desegregation.[161] The influx of new families created a "real estate boom" that drove development around Atlanta and its northern suburbs. The development put increased pressure on both historic and natural resources. Public concern over the rapid growth soon resulted in numerous campaigns aimed at protecting these resources, including the Chattahoochee River itself. Advocacy for the protection of local cultural and natural resources was largely undertaken by small interest groups and individuals. Soon however, both state and federal governments passed a suite of conservation laws aimed at safeguarding both natural and cultural heritage. These included the Land and Water Conservation and Wilderness Acts (1964), the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the National Trails Act (1968), National Historic Preservation Act (1966), and the National Environmental Policy Act (1970).

The Bicentennial in 1977 also served as an opportunity for Americans to look back and take stock of the tangible reminders of their history. Such reflection spurred civic engagement related to the preservation of America's historic places. Several new NPS units were created at this time, with a number of existing park units either expanded or upgraded. Many of the new units were not grand landscapes located in the Western U. S., but rather smaller park-like landscapes closer to average Americans homes and interests. These local and national contexts provided the impetus for the preservation of Island Ford Lodge landscape.

Creation of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

Beginning in the early 1970s, lawmakers introduced pieces of legislation aimed at protecting the Chattahoochee River and adjacent lands. After several years of debate, in 1973, congressional legislators introduced the first of fourteen bills seeking to create a park that would protect the Chattahoochee River's "natural, scenic, recreational, and historic" qualities.[162] The legislative process "took over five years of persistence, compromise, and lobbying from local conservation advocates and politicians alike."[163]

Finally, in August 1978, with the signature of Georgia-native President Jimmy Carter, the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area was established. The legislation authorized the National Park Service to acquire fourteen sites along the Chattahoochee River. A NPS report drafted during the study process had identified the Island Ford property for inclusion in the new park (**Figure 2.20**). Specifically, the legislation "activated a 1978 agreement between the State of Georgia and the [NPS]. This agreement allowed the new Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area to operate and manage 685 acres… The NPS purchased forty-four tracts of land at a total of 2,376 acres with a donation of five tracts of land in 1979 as well."[164] The Island Ford property was purchased on August 3, 1979 for $1,286,000.[165]

NPS Management of Island Ford

The NPS divided the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area into sixteen units, with Hewlett's rustic Lodge being located in the Island Ford Unit. A 1982 concept plan for the National Recreation Area identifies the Island Ford Unit's management focus as "environmental/recreational instruction center" (**Figure 2.21**).

Upon acquisition, the NPS used Hewlett Lodge as secondary offices for park staff. Soon thereafter, the NPS began transforming the former retreat and residence into a publicly accessible park—and Hewlett Lodge into park headquarters. The most significant alterations to Hewlett Lodge and landscape occurred in the mid-1980s. At that time,

161. Cooper Jr., Terrill, and Childers, *The American South: A History*, 2017, II:892.

162. National Park Service Interior Region 2, "Draft Report of the Administrative History of Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area," October 2020, Chapter 5, 2.

163. National Park Service Interior Region 2, "Draft Report of the Administrative History of Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area," Chapter 2, 6.

164. National Park Service Interior Region 2, "Draft Report of the Administrative History of Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area," Chapter 2, 28.

165. Southeast Region, "Historic Structure Assessment Report, Island Ford Lodge, Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area," 6.

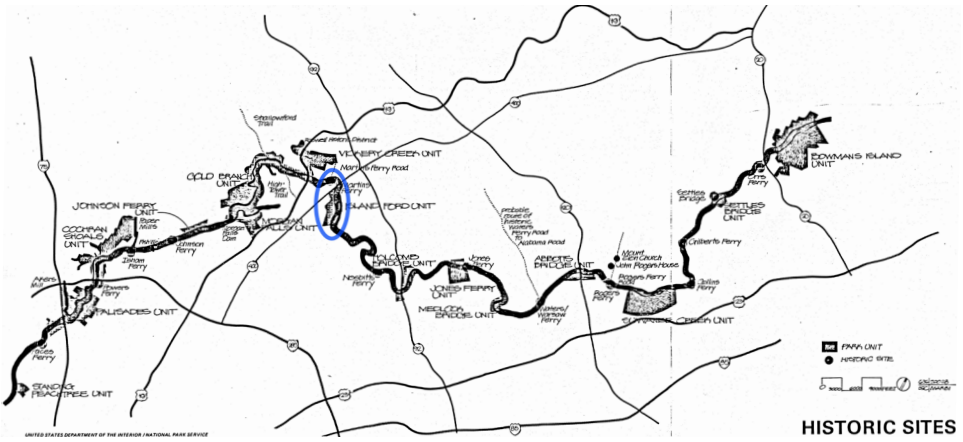


Figure 2.20: 1981 map of the historic sites within the new Chattahoochee River NRA; Island Ford Unit, encompassing the Island Ford Lodge landscape, circled in blue. (Source: National Park Service, 1981, ETIC # 636_20028).

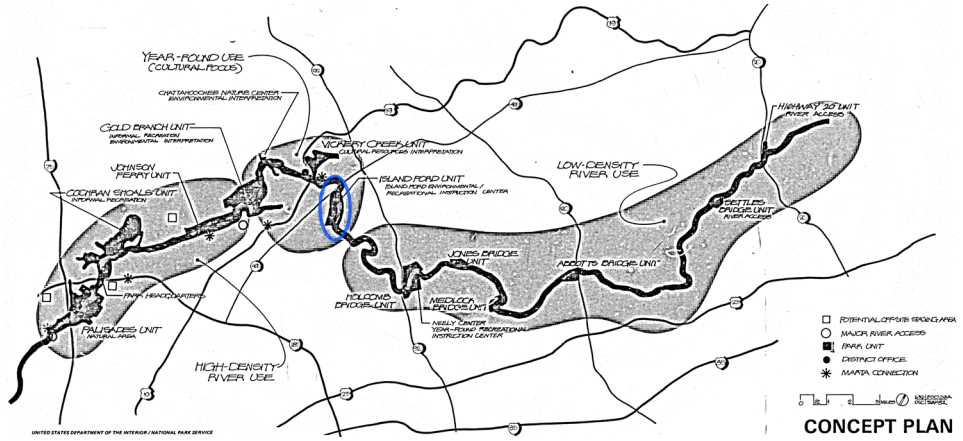


Figure 2.21: 1982 concept plan for the management of the various CHAT units. Note the "environmental/recreational instruction center" assignment to the Island Ford Unit; area circled in blue. (Source: National Park Service, 1981, ETIC # 636_20029).

the NPS carried out a major renovation of Hewlett Lodge. This work entailed the installation of a new roof and new security doors, modification of windows and window openings, laying interior carpet, and other work in order to accommodate staff and the public. *See the HSAR for a detailed description of interior alterations*.

Other work pertaining to the landscape included the filling in and paving over of the swimming pool, the establishment of walking trails, and the construction of a new access road—Island Ford Parkway—connecting the interior of the park to Roberts Drive to the north of Hewlett Lodge. Between 1979 and the present, the NPS constructed a number of concrete walkways, stair sets, wooden ramps and footbridges, and earthen trails to facilitate public recreation. The NPS also constructed the paved Island Ford Boat Ramp and dock structure. In 2001, due to all the work done at Island Ford over the last fifteen years, the NPS designated the property as CHAT's official visitor contact station, as well as its park headquarters.

The improvements to Island Ford and elsewhere within the park unit as a whole led to increased public engagement and volunteerism. For at least the last decade, CHAT has supported the work of volunteer groups, such as the Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club who in 2010 "contributed to the development of an accessible trail linking Hewlett Field and Island Ford to bypass an unsafe stairway."[166]

As the park grew in popularity in tandem with the population and development growth outside the property boundary, CHAT management has prioritized the protection of the natural resources of the site. Since acquisition, the park has allowed the continued succession of natural forests in much of the areas cleared prior to Hewlett's ownership. The site's two small streams still flow to the Chattahoochee River and wildlife have been afforded protection from adverse impacts. The park also engages in invasive plant species removal.

166. National Park Service Interior Region 2, "Draft Report of the Administrative History of Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area," Chapter 8, 37.



Feature Key

1 Hewlett Field
2 Administrative Area
3 Maintenance Area

Forested Areas
Open Areas
Building Outside of Study Area
Earthen Trail
Informal Footpath

Notes

The conditions of the site during this period reflect its rehabilitation by the NPS in the 1980s. In so doing, the site facilitates new, more public-oriented land use, such as historical tourism, educational programming, picnicking, and scientific study of the natural ecosystem. The most significant new uses introduced include park administration and maintenance activities. As such, the present recreational land uses of the site partially reflects the period of significance and the administrative- and maintenance-related uses do not.

Portions of the open floodplain in south part of the site experienced further reforestation during this period.

The areas around various buildings and structures of unknown use (no longer extant), as well as the trace of a potential roadbed near the center of the site have become forested.

The earthen trails, bridges, boardwalks, boat ramp, and various visitor services features constructed by the NPS facilitate public use of the site and mingle with historic landscape characteristics.

Clearing and development outside of study area continue, threatening the site's forested buffer. There is a trail used for unauthorized entry/exit at the south end of the site.

Credits:

1. National Park Service

2. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2021).

Illustration 2.4

NPS Period - 2021

Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

OCTOBER 2021

Existing Conditions

Introduction

The focus of this study is the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape, within the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area (CHAT). The 46.2-acre site is located in Sandy Springs, Fulton County, Georgia. The National Park Service (NPS) has managed the property since its acquisition in 1979. The site is roughly fifteen miles north of Atlanta, three miles north of Dunwoody, and less than three miles northeast of Sandy Springs Municipal Court.

The site's boundary is identical to the National Register Boundary for the Island Ford Lodge property as described in the 2016 National Register of Historic Places nomination form. The boundary also represents the current legal boundary of the NPS's Island Ford Lodge property and is the location of CHAT Park Headquarters and associated facilities. The Chattahoochee River marks the eastern boundary of the study area and two small streams, both of which flow from west to east, mark the north and south boundaries. The site's west boundary line runs along a portion of the historic western boundary line of Land Lot 360 in the Sixth District of Fulton County.

The property consists of the Rustic-style Hewlett Lodge, the historic Barbecue Pavilion and Springhouse, as well as historic natural systems and features, spatial organization, historic views, and circulation features. Additionally, there are eight noncontributing buildings and thirteen noncontributing structures, all constructed since the end of the period of significance.

Since the construction of the complex in 1935 by Samuel D. Hewlett, its use has evolved from a family summer retreat to a private club (Buckhead Century Club) and later as a church retreat facility (Atlanta Baptist Association). In the 1950s, the Atlanta Baptist Association constructed a large dormitory building (now the Operations Building) and a gymnasium (Metal Storage Building) on the property. Other buildings and structures constructed within the study area between prior to NPS ownership include Bally Building (c. 1973), Maintenance Building (1972), Island Ford Quarters (1973), and the Stone Patio over the former swimming pool east of Hewlett Lodge (constructed sometime between 1966 and 1972).

This section of the Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) inventories the existing conditions of the site using a combination of contemporary photographs, plan-view graphics, and narrative description. This inventory organizes site features by landscape characteristic, which are the "tangible and intangible aspects of an inventory unit which have either influenced the history of the development of the landscape, or are products of its development, respectively."[167] Further, "these aspects individually and collectively give a landscape its historic character and aid in the understanding of its cultural importance." The NPS identifies thirteen landscape characteristics, defined as follows:

- Natural Systems and Features: Natural aspects that often influence the development and resultant form of a landscape.
- Spatial Organization: Arrangement of elements creating the ground, vertical, and overhead planes that define and create spaces.
- Land Use: Organization, form, and shape of the landscape in response to land use.
- Cultural Traditions: Practices that influence land use, patterns of division, building forms, and the use of materials.
- Cluster Arrangement: The location of buildings and structures in the landscape.
- Circulation: Spaces, features, and materials that constitute systems of movement.
- Topography: Three-dimensional configuration of the landscape surface characterized by features and orientation.

167. Robert R. Page, Cathy A. Gilbert, and Susan A. Dolan, "A Guide To Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques" (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships, Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Program, 1998), 7–4.

- Vegetation: Indigenous or introduced trees, shrubs, vines, ground covers, and herbaceous materials.
- Buildings and Structures: Three-dimensional constructs such as houses, barns, garages, stables, bridges, and memorials.
- Views and Vistas: Features that create or allow a range of vision, which can be natural or designed and controlled.
- Constructed Water Features: The built features and elements that utilize water for aesthetic or utilitarian functions.
- Small-Scale Features: Elements that provide detail and diversity combined with function and aesthetics.
- Archeological Sites: Sites containing surface and subsurface remnants related to historic or prehistoric land use.

While most sites contain at least several of the thirteen characteristics, "[n]ot all characteristics are always present in any one landscape."[168] In total, the study area contains all thirteen landscape characteristics.

Natural Systems and Features

The natural systems and features of Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape include the Chattahoochee River and associated hydrological features, floodplains, uplands, and the woodlands that make up the primary landcover. These natural features, which are representative of the Chattahoochee River corridor, lured humans to the river's banks by providing good soils, ample hunting grounds, and the raw materials necessary for fuel and home building. The character-defining natural systems and features remain much as they did prior to human contact despite areas of reforestation and erosion and the construction of buildings, structures, and circulation systems to facilitate recreational use of the landscape.

The humid, subtropical climate of the region enables a diverse population of plants, animals, and microbiological lifeforms to inhabit the area. The regional climate is favorable for hunting, farming, and settlement activities. Given the major urbanization that surrounds CHAT and the study area, human influence on the regional and local scale as well as a warming climate affects the natural systems and features of the landscape.

Regional Climate

The climate of Sandy Springs and the surrounding area is subtropical and characterized by mild winters with changeable temperatures.[169] Annual average air temperature is about 60.8° F. Summers are warm and humid. May is the wettest month, with over seven inches of precipitation recorded in the park on average. The driest month is September, which registers under two inches of precipitation on average.[170] Annual precipitation for the area is roughly 50 inches.[171]

Hydrological System

The Island Ford Lodge property is situated within the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River Basin (ACF Basin) (**Figure 3.1**). The project area is associated with the Chattahoochee River basin, which is a sub-region within the ACF Basin.

The Chattahoochee River's position in a relatively stable fault zone has resulted in a long, narrow watershed with small tributaries flowing into the main stream. The Brevard lineament stabilizes the river's route through the study area.[172] Unlike most rivers in Georgia's Piedmont, which change course dramatically with natural erosion, the geology of the Chattahoochee has remained essentially locked in place since human contact, giving the adjacent land a long history of human use. Both prehistorically and historically, the river served as a primary source of water, food, and transportation for those inhabiting the region. As the regional population grew quickly following Euro-American settlement, the river and adjacent lands became increasingly important for recreation. The steep, rocky terrain of the Island Ford Lodge property

168. Page, Gilbertand Dolan, 53.

169. H. E. Beck et al., "Present and Future Koppen-Geiger Climate Classification Maps at 1-Km Resolution," *Scientific Data* 5, no. 180214 (October 30, 2018), https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6207062/#.

170. Southeast Coast Network, "Inventory and Monitoring Reports, 2000-2014: Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area" (National Park Service, 2014), 2, Athens, GA.

171. NOAA US Department of Commerce, "Rainfall Scorecard," accessed December 28, 2018, https://www.weather.gov/ffc/rainfall_scorecard.

172. J. M. Burkholder et al., "Assessment of Water Resources and Watershed Conditions in the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, Georgia" (National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado, 2010), https://irma.nps.gov/Datastore/Reference/Profile/2167623.

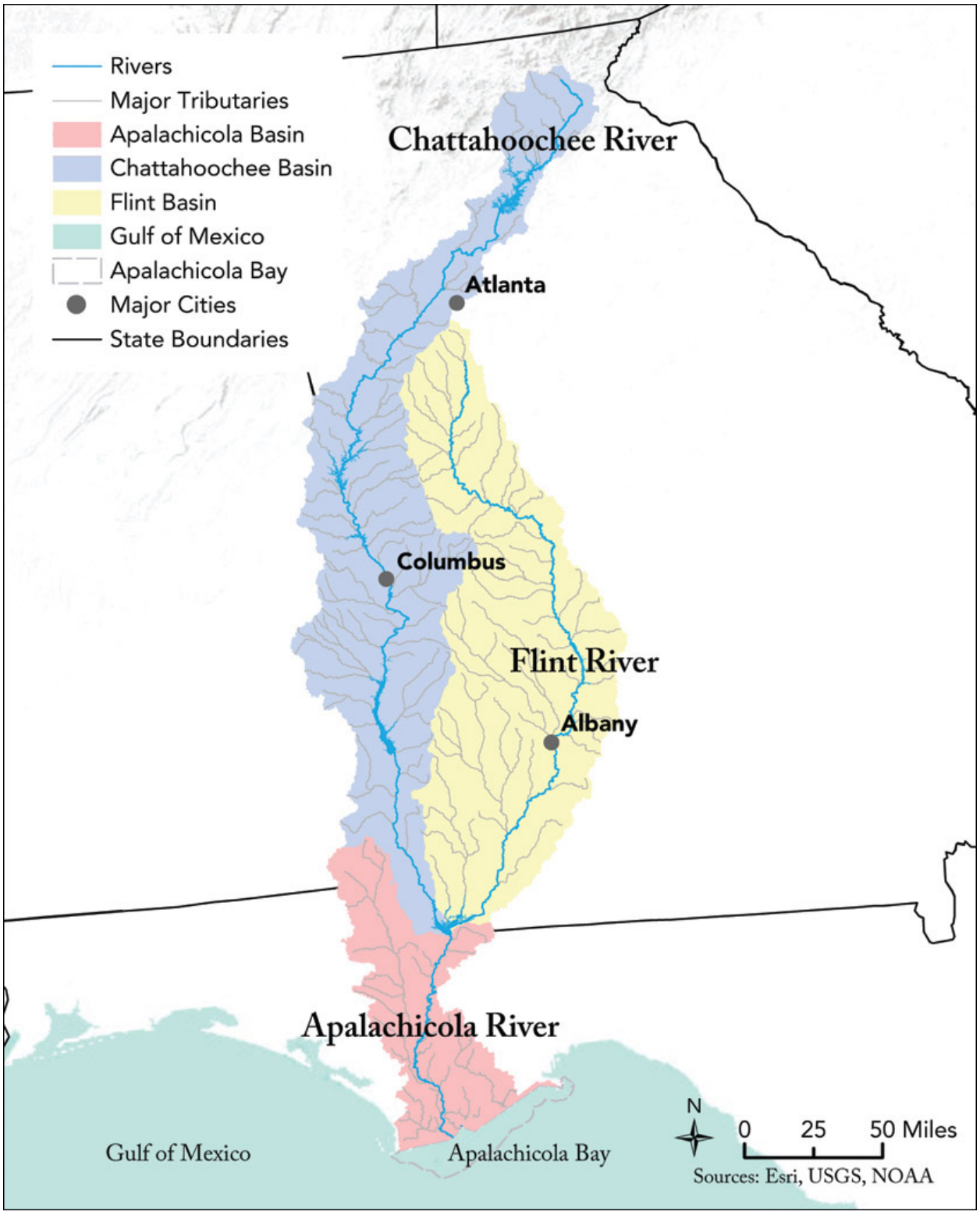


Figure 3.1: Map depicting the extent of the ACF basin. (Source: Jonathan Skaggs / River Basin Center).



Figure 3.2: View of Chattahoochee River from west end of study area, facing north. (Source: WLA Studio).

is not suitable for large-scale farming but offers views of the Chattahoochee River to the north and east, making it an ideal site for a wilderness retreat destination. The river remains a character-defining feature of Island Ford Lodge landscape and defines the larger regional landscape (**Figure 3.2**).

Buford Dam, located approximately twenty-eight miles upstream of the Island Ford Lodge landscape, regulates the Chattahoochee's flow through the study area. According to a 2018 NPS report, "flow alteration associated with the impoundment and release of water for power generation has a pronounced effect on the flow patterns of the main stem… [and] changes in the watersheds outside and upstream of the park have led to higher peak flows and lower base flow in the tributaries."[173]

The study area is bound on the north and south by small streams that flow easterly into the Chattahoochee River. The north stream, Falling Branch, meanders through a floodplain beginning at the northwest corner of the property, enters a pond just north of the CLR boundary, and continues from the associated earthen dam in an easterly direction to its confluence with the Chattahoochee River at the north east corner of the property (**Figure 3.3**). Near its confluence with the river Island Ford Retaining Wall, a roughly 66-foot-long mortared-stone retaining wall constructed in 1945, shores up the south bank of Falling Branch. There is a natural spring immediately south of the wall. The Island Ford Lodge Spring House, built in 1945, stabilizes and protects the spring's head. The outflow of the spring flows northerly into Falling Branch (**Figure 3.4**).

The stream that forms the site's south boundary is not named. The stream meanders through the largest floodplain in the CLR boundary. That

173. Jacob M. McDonald and Eric N. Starkey, "Wadeable Stream Suitability Assessment for Long-Term Monitoring, Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area" (National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado, 2018), 2.



Figure 3.3: Falling Branch near northwest corner of study area, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.4: North and east façades of Spring House and natural spring, facing south. (Source: WLA Studio).

floodplain includes both wooded areas and a large open field (Hewlett Field) and is the most substantial portion of the site suitable for growing crops. The feature remains undisturbed and no evidence of channelization exists (**Figure 3.5**).

Other intermittent streams and natural drainage features facilitate the movement of water from the site's upland areas into the Chattahoochee River.

Floodplains

Floodplain areas in the Island Ford Lodge landscape are narrow and located immediately adjacent to the Chattahoochee River and the two primary tributaries on the site. In total, these areas include approximately 7.87 acres.

While Native Americans and early white settlers may have utilized the relatively flat and fertile floodplains for growing crops and/or grazing livestock, the site has not been farmed since 1925 when Samuel D. Hewlett purchased the property. No portion of the existing floodplains are presently cultivated, and no evidence of farming remains on the landscape.



Figure 3.5: Stream along southern park boundary, facing east from west end of study area. (Source: ESRI).



Figure 3.6: View of Hewlett Field, facing east from west end. (Source: WLA Studio).

Approximately eighty-seven percent of the floodplain areas are wooded, with the only open area being Hewlett Field—an approximately 1.03-acre field in the southeast corner of the site (**Figure 3.6**). The NPS maintains Hewlett Field as a grass lawn. A dense buffer of mixed native and exotic vegetation surrounds the field. The Island Ford Boat Ramp, a public access point on the Chattahoochee River, is located at the east end of the field.

Approximately 2.56 acres of the study area lie within an area designated as the 100-year floodplain associated with the west bank of the Chattahoochee River and its two on-site tributaries. This narrow strip of floodplain lies more than 25 feet in elevation below Hewlett Lodge in the east and southeast portion of the study area. Inundation of the area is highly dependent on releases from Buford Dam and the amount of local and regional rainfall. A total of approximately 5.31 acres of the study area lie within the 500-year floodplain zone. These areas immediately surround either Falling Branch or the stream that forms the site's south boundary. [174]

Ridge and Uplands

Many early settlers of the Upper Chattahoochee River basin chose to build homes atop the natural ridge elevated above the floodplains, taking advantage of breezes, drainage, and views. While no evidence of a pioneer homesite exists on the Island Ford Lodge landscape, Samuel D. Hewlett chose to utilize the site's natural ridgeline and upland areas for building in the 1930s.

Hewlett Lodge is located at the east end of a prominent, central ridge on the property. The ground slopes away from the building to the north, east, and south, providing views of the woodlands, floodplains, and river below. Historically, the site's primary access road—presently a portion of Northridge Road—followed the same ridgeline in an east-west orientation, utilizing the relatively flat upland portions of the site where clearing and grading was easiest. Later, the NPS constructed Island Ford Parkway which also follows the site's natural upland topography.

The ridge and upland areas of the Island Ford Lodge landscape are wooded and remain much as they were upon early human contact. Known alterations to these natural features include grading for buildings, roads, parking lots, and trails. In the areas with drastic grade change retaining walls and vegetation stabilize the soil.

Geology and Soils

The Island Ford Lodge landscape includes three soil types described and identified by the National Cooperative Soil Survey.[175] The three types are provided below in terms of the general areas in which they exist in the cultural landscape:

- Cartecay-Taccoa complex soils, which are generally reserved to areas with zero to two percent slope that occasionally experience flooding, are found in the site's floodplains (both 100-year and 500-year) and comprise approximately fourteen percent of the landscape;
- Grover-Mountain Park complex soils, which are generally reserved to stony areas with twenty to sixty percent slopes, are found on the steep slopes above floodplains and comprise approximately sixty-four percent of the landscape; and
- Cecil Sandy Loam soils, which are generally found on moderately-eroded areas with six to ten percent slope, are found on the ridge and upland areas and comprise approximately twenty-two percent of the landscape.

There is a large exposed rock outcrop near the northeast corner of the study area, east of the Barbecue Pavilion, that has been ascribed cultural value over time. The west end of the outcrop is elevated well above the Chattahoochee River, affording views of the river and shoals downstream.

174. Flood Insurance Rate Maps published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in 2011 characterize the 100-year floodplain area as being "Inundated by 100-year flooding with velocity hazard (wave action) [with] no Base Flood Elevation determined" and the 500-year floodplain areas as being "Inundated by 500-year flooding… [or] by 100-year flooding with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile…"

175. The data used for determining the soil types present in the Island Ford Lodge landscape is available in a GIS data set developed in conjunction with the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The data set meets the standards and specifications of the National Park Service Soil Inventory and Monitoring Program and was developed by the National Cooperative Soil Survey.

A lower tier of the outcrop, elevated above the river's flow, projects roughly 20 feet from the east bank. The nearly sheer drop off associated with the outcrop is steepest on the north end and tapers out to the south. Park visitors use informal footpaths on the outcrop to access the river and a north-south trail between the outcrop and the river bank to the east (**Figure 3.7**).

Forest Ecosystem

A maturing Upland Hardwood Forest community is dominant throughout the cultural landscape. Additional vegetative communities include areas of Mixed Alluvial Forest, primarily found in the floodplains, and small areas of Piedmont Cliff, found along the ridgeline above the Chattahoochee River. The existing forest ecosystem provides habitat to a number of animal species (*see description in Vegetation section below*).

The woodlands surrounding the Chattahoochee River and Hewlett Lodge have served as hunting grounds and supplied fuel and building material to those occupying the region for centuries. While the character of the larger regional forest communities has undoubtedly changed due to clearing for farming, logging, and development, the study area remains relatively unchanged since the early 1900s.

Regional Fauna

As a component of a mostly undeveloped and protected National Recreation Area, Island Ford Lodge landscape provides habitat for numerous animal species. These animals, such as white-tailed deer, native bees and wasps, fish, reptiles, and various birds, have influenced the development of the forest through pollination and seed dispersal. Currently, new species of animals are migrating into the park on account of changing climate and habitat fragmentation.

Natural Systems and Features:

- Regional Climate
- Hydrological system (*Chattahoochee River, Falling Branch, stream at south boundary of site, and drainages*)
- Floodplains
- Ridge and Upland Areas
- Geology and Soils
- Rock Outcrop (*near the northeast corner of the site*)
- Forest Ecosystem
- Regional Fauna



Figure 3.7: Upper tier of rock outcrop at northeast corner of site, facing north. (Source: WLA Studio).

Topography

The natural topography of the Island Ford Lodge landscape includes low floodplains associated with the Chattahoochee River and two of its tributaries, steep slopes rising from the floodplains, and relatively-flat upland ridge areas west of the river. Because the river and tributaries form the north, east, and south boundaries of the site, the central, wooded ridge features and associated steep banks dominate the landscape. Additionally, the exposed rock outcrop near the northeast corner of the site forms an approximately 15-foot-tall cliff overlooking the river. These natural features formed with the Brevard lineament and have weathered with subsequent erosion.



Figure 3.8: Steep slope above Falling Branch in northwest portion of site, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.9: Advanced soil erosion at north-facing slope north of Hewlett Lodge, facing south. (Source: WLA Studio).

Subtle alterations to the site's natural topography exist where grading has occurred for the construction of circulation features, parking lots, and buildings and structures. In many cases, especially where grading was necessary for the construction of walkways and trails, roads, and buildings, retaining walls stabilize the naturally-steep terrain.

The most significant alteration of the natural topography is found in the north portion of the study area, at the site of the park's maintenance complex. The site slopes up from east to west a total of approximately 60 vertical feet. An asphalt and gravel road runs east-west along the naturally-steep terrain through the center of the site. Open, leveled terraces with retaining walls are located to the north and south of the road. The graded terraces provide the flat terrain necessary for parking, storage, and maintenance buildings.

The elevation rises gradually from the west end of the maintenance complex to the highest point in the study area. The high point is approximately 1020 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) near the study area's west boundary.

The site of the Island Ford Quarters building is situated on the west side of the second highest point in the landscape. Minimal grading was required for the construction of the Quarters and its associated circulation features.

Despite the minor alterations discussed, the overall condition of the natural terrain, including floodplains, steep slopes, and uplands remain intact and are character-defining features of the cultural landscape (**Figure 3.8**). Graded areas for trails, roads, buildings, and site drainage are also character-defining cultural features.

Accelerated erosion occurs at several places within the study area where surface-water runoff from buildings, structures, and circulation

features reaches steep slopes. Such locations require management to prevent soil erosion and sedimentation of the site's streams (**Figure 3.9**).

Topography Features:

- Floodplains
- Steep slopes above floodplains
- Ridge and upland areas
- Sheer cliff formed by Rock Outcrop
- Naturally flat Hewlett Lodge site
- Naturally flat Barbecue Pavilion site
- Highest point in landscape
- Naturally flat site of Island Ford Quarters
- Naturally flat portions of circulation routes
- Graded areas associated with circulation features, parking areas, and building and structures
- Drainage swales

Land Use

Current land use at Island Ford Lodge landscape pertains to its function as (1) a recreational/interpretive component of CHAT and (2) as CHAT headquarters. The stated purpose of CHAT "is to lead the preservation and protection of the forty-eight-mile Chattahoochee River corridor from Buford Dam to Peachtree Creek, and its associated natural and cultural resources, for the benefit and enjoyment of the people."[176] To fulfill that mandate, the NPS has constructed new site features and rehabilitated or preserved historic and natural resources on the Island Ford Lodge property. The primary NPS-constructed facilities supporting recreation and historic interpretation include roads, parking lots, hiking trails, the Island Ford Boat Ramp, picnic and viewing areas with picnic tables and benches, wayfinding signs, and waysides. Interpretive waysides and trail maps are located strategically throughout the site. Additionally, the site's preserved natural resources are representative of those found throughout the rest of CHAT, making it an ideal location for NPS-organized and mandated scientific studies and conservation efforts.

Land use of the site pertaining to its use as CHAT headquarters requires facilities such as office, meeting, and archival repository spaces, as well as roads, parking, pedestrian circulation features, and supporting small-scale features. The park uses Hewlett Lodge, the Operations Building, the Metal Storage Building, a dedicated road and parking facilities, and pedestrian circulation features for such administrative use. Likewise, the park has designated a portion of the study area as a maintenance complex. Associated facilities include buildings and structures for offices and equipment/materials storage and dedicated areas for construction-related projects, parking, and circulation.

Land Use Features:

- Recreation
- Historic interpretation (Hewlett-era resources)
- Environmental conservation and research
- Administrative
- Maintenance

Cultural Traditions

Cultural traditions at the site include historic preservation and outdoor recreation. The maintenance of the Hewlett-era resources (specifically those listed in the National Register of Historic Places) in keeping with their cultural and architectural significance reflects the historic preservation tradition of the NPS. The parking area and the cultural landscape as a whole serve as a gateway to the trails and river access within the Island Ford unit of CHAT.

Cultural Traditions Features:

- Outdoor Recreation
- Historic Preservation
- Environmental Conservation

176. "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement" (National Park Service, September 2009), 14.

Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the Island Ford Lodge landscape is defined by the location of circulation features, buildings and structures, and small-scale features in relation to the site's topography and natural systems and features.

In general, the features constructed by Samuel D. Hewlett in the 1930s and 1940s are clustered in the east portion of the study area and are sited to take advantage of the natural topography for adequate drainage and views of the Chattahoochee River and the surrounding woodlands. Together these features constitute a designed retreat destination, complete with adequate vehicular circulation, walking trails, indoor and outdoor living/ entertaining facilities, and utilities. The original organization of these historic features remains intact and legible on the landscape despite features constructed since the 1950's.

The remaining character-defining features are described below in terms of their organization on the site's natural terrain.

Floodplains make up the north, east, and south edges of the property, along Falling Branch, the Chattahoochee River, and the site's south tributary respectively. Landscape features in floodplain areas include Hewlett Field, Island Ford Boat Ramp, Hewlett Field Drop Off, hiking trails and associated structures and small-scale features, the rock outcrop, and a shady picnic area north of the boat ramp (**Figure 3.10**).



Figure 3.10: Floodplain in southeast portion of study area, facing north. (Source WLA Studio).

Because the steep slopes above the floodplains are not ideal for building, they primarily serve as transitional areas. Features in these areas include walking trails and associated features, such as graded slopes, retaining walls, stair sets, and wayfinding signs. These features generally follow the natural terrain and allow circulation to and from the flatter ridge and floodplain areas.

All other character-defining landscape features are in the site's upland areas, which constitute approximately eighty percent of the total study area. Here, features are organized in four general areas, each accessible from either Island Ford Parkway or Northridge Road. While Northridge Road provides paved access to the site via a gate at the west boundary, most vehicles use Island Ford Parkway, which begins at Roberts Drive approximately one-and-one-quarter miles north of Hewlett Lodge and enters at the north end of the study area. Upon entering the site, the route traverses the ridge to the west approximately two-tenths of a mile before making a hair-pin turn back to the east. It then continues another two-tenths of a mile to a cul-de-sac immediately west of Hewlett Lodge (**Figure 3.11**).

Prior to entering the site, vehicles traveling south on Island Ford Parkway cross an earthen dam that forms a pond just north of, and outside, the study area. Just south of the pond, and within the study area, a paved road used to access the maintenance complex intersects with Island Ford Parkway (**Figure 3.12**). That road leads north and then east to the maintenance complex, which includes buildings, structures, and open areas clustered on a hillside in the north portion of the study area (**Figure 3.13**). The access road runs west through the center of the complex and then south where it intersects with the east end of Northridge Road.

The site of Pavilion 1 and Pavilion 2, which includes a gravel access road, is approximately 100 feet northwest of the intersection of Northridge Road and Island Ford Parkway. The site of the Quarters Building is approximately 250 feet south of that same intersection and includes an asphalt driveway connecting it to the west end of Northridge Road.



Figure 3.11: Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, Park Identity Sign, and west façade of Hewlett Lodge, facing east from east end of Island Ford Parking Lot. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.13: Fenced portion of maintenance complex, facing east from southwest end. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.12: View south along Island Ford Parkway near north boundary of study area. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.14: East side of Island Ford Parking Lot, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).

The Island Ford Parking Lot is just west of Hewlett Lodge's cul-de-sac and occupies the graded areas north and south of Island Ford Parkway (**Figure 3.14**). A complex of features constructed since about 1955, including the Operations Building, the Metal Storage Building, and associated circulation and small-scale features, is located immediately south of the parking lot and Hewlett Lodge.

Spatial Organization Features:

- Organization of constructed features, trails, and open and wooded areas in floodplains
- Route of trails and organization of associated structures, topography, and small-scale features in areas with steep, transitional slopes
- Organization of constructed and vegetative features in upland areas of the site
- Route of Island Ford Parkway, Northridge Road, and other access roads

Cluster Arrangement

Cluster arrangement at Island Ford Lodge landscape includes groups of constructed features situated in eight specific clusters. Each cluster includes either pedestrian and/or vehicular access route(s) connected to Island Ford Parkway and Island Ford Parking Lot.

There is a cluster of circulation and small-scale features, including trail maps, a fishing line waste receptacle, a fence, and various drainage structures, at the pond overlook in the north portion of the site (**Figure 3.15**).

The maintenance complex cluster is in the north portion of the site and includes buildings, structures, small-scale features, and graded areas used by CHAT staff for parking, storage, construction, fabrication, and administrative purposes. West of the maintenance complex is a secondary cluster of constructed features currently used by CHAT maintenance staff. Features in the cluster include Pavilion 1, Pavilion 2, and a mobile shipping container, each of which is used for storage; a gravel road in the center of the cluster; and a pad-mounted electrical utility box.

There is a cluster of scale-scale features and utilities at the Northridge Road park entrance, including management boulders, signs, gate entry keypads, bollards, electronic gate, paved turn-around, among others (**Figure 3.16**).

On the high point southeast of the Northridge Road entrance there is a cluster of features that includes the Quarters Building, a paved driveway and parking area, and various utilities.

The largest cluster in the landscape is on the east end of the site's central ridgeline and surrounds Hewlett Lodge. That cluster includes all Hewlett-era historic resources in the study area as well as nearby resources constructed since Hewlett sold the property in the 1950s. While the newer resources do not contribute to the historic and architectural significance of Hewlett Lodge, they help define the present character of the landscape as a recreational and administrative component of CHAT. In addition to the resources listed as contributing in the 2016 *Island Ford Lodge National Register Nomination Form*, the cluster includes parking areas, pedestrian and vehicular circulation features, cultural and natural vegetation, retaining walls, two administrative buildings south of Hewlett Lodge, and various small-scale features such as wayfinding signs, waysides, trash receptacles, water fountains, light poles, benches, and picnic tables.



Figure 3.15: Pond overlook structure, facing north. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.16: Northridge Road park entrance, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.17: Hewlett Field Drop Off, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).

There is a cluster of visitor-services features at the north end of the cul-de-sac adjacent to Hewlett Lodge. The cluster includes a covered entrance fee station, park information sign and wayfinding signs, water fountain, waste receptacle, and a bicycle rack.

Hewlett Field Drop Off consists of a cluster of small-scale features, including management boulders, a gate, no parking signs, and a wayside (**Figure 3.17**).

At the east end of Hewlett Field there is a small cluster of features associated with the Island Ford Boat Ramp, including signs, picnic tables, retaining walls, and the paved boat ramp.

A cluster of small-scale features in the shady area just north of the boat ramp includes signs, picnic tables, grill, and waste receptacle.

Cluster Arrangement Features:

- Pond overlook cluster
- Maintenance complex
- Northridge Road entrance cluster
- Quarters Building cluster
- Hewlett Lodge cluster (both historic and contemporary features)
- Visitor-services cluster at north end of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac
- Hewlett Field Drop Off cluster
- Island Ford Boat Ramp cluster
- Shady picnic area cluster

Circulation

The circulation features of Island Ford Lodge landscape facilitate vehicular and pedestrian access to and from, as well as within, the site. The circulation systems provide public parking and access for recreational use of the landscape and provide parking and access for park employees at administrative and maintenance facilities on the property.

Vehicular

Public vehicular circulation to and within the site is limited to paved surfaces, including Island Ford Parkway, the access road to Hewlett Field Drop Off, and Island Ford Parking Lot. Other roads and parking areas, whether paved or gravel, are closed to public access. Directional signs and steel gates along the primary vehicular routes indicate areas of restricted access and no-parking zones.

Island Ford Parkway

Island Ford Parkway is a paved road leading south into the Island Ford park unit from Roberts Drive. The road enters the study area from the north after crossing over Falling Branch at an earthen dam. Upon entering the site, the road turns west and continues approximately two-tenths of a mile gradually up the trace of a natural ravine near the south side of the maintenance complex (**Figure 3.18**). Upon reaching the ridge between two high points in the study area the road curves south and then east, forming a hair-pin turn. From the hair-pin turn, the road follows the natural contour of the site's central ridge gradually down and to the east before ending at Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac. Just west of the cul-de-sac, Island Ford Parkway turns south and then west, forming a loop that routes vehicular traffic back to the west.

Hewlett Lodge Cul-de-sac

Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac is a concrete-paved loop formed around an oval-shaped vegetation island immediately west of Hewlett Lodge (**Figure 3.19**). The loop measures approximately 120 feet from the asphalt surface of Island Ford Parkway to the front (west) entry to Hewlett Lodge and 55 feet at its widest north-south span. Although the loop is primarily a pedestrian circulation feature, the paved surface is wide enough to support light vehicular use.



Figure 3.18: View along Island Ford Parkway, facing east from point south of the maintenance complex. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.19: Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac vicinity, facing east from east end of Island Ford Parking Lot. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.20: Island Ford Parking Lot; west portion facing west (top left); north portion facing north (top right); central portion facing east (bottom left); south portion facing southeast (bottom right). (Source: WLA Studio).

Island Ford Parking Lot

Island Ford Parking Lot is the primary public parking area in the landscape. It is centrally-located on the ridge west of Hewlett Lodge, and the site's primary walkways and trails link directly to it. The parking lot includes four sections of parking spaces accessible from the southeast end of Island Ford Parkway (**Figure 3.20**). The banks of parking spaces include (1) a row of eighteen parking spots along the north edge of Island Ford Parkway west of the turn-around, (2) a group of eighteen parking spaces in a roughly 6,000-square-foot parking area to the north of the turn-around, (3) a strip of sixteen parking spaces along the north edge of the turn-around, and (4) a strip of eight parking spaces along the south edge of the turn-around. There are four universally-accessible parking spots and fifty-six general-use parking spots in the lot.

Northridge Road
Northridge Road is a paved road that runs east-west from Roswell Road, across GA highway 400, and through the residential development west of the Island Ford park unit. The road enters the study area from the west and continues east approximately 330 feet before ending at Island Ford Parkway. The two roads intersect near the western-most point of Island Ford Parkway. To regulate the flow of public vehicular circulation, park access via the Northridge Road entrance is restricted. A steel gate with electronic access keypad limits public entry and exit. There is a paved turn-around immediately west of the gate on park property.

Maintenance Loop Roads
There are two loop roads that provide access to the maintenance areas in the north portion of the study area. The paved maintenance loop road is one-way and runs east-to-west through the maintenance complex. The road begins at Island Ford Parkway in the north portion of the CLR study area. From the intersection, there is a short section of road running north-south that serves as an informal parking area. Additionally, there is a paved area designated for school bus parking along the north edge of Island Ford Parkway just west of the intersection. From Island Ford Parkway, the maintenance loop road rises steeply as it approaches the fenced maintenance complex to the west (**Figure 3.21**). The paved surface runs through the center of the complex and turns gradually south after exiting the complex through a chain-link gate. The paved loop road ends at its intersection with the east end of Northridge Road.

A gravel loop road provides access to a secondary maintenance area, the site of Pavilion 1 and Pavilion 2 (**Figure 3.22**). The one-way gravel loop road begins at its intersection with the paved maintenance loop road near the west corner of the maintenance complex. From that intersection, the gravel road exits the complex through a chain-link gate and continues west past the pavilions before turning south and ending at Northridge Road.

To prevent unauthorized access, there are signs that say “Area Closed” on both ends of the maintenance loop roads.



Figure 3.21: East end of paved maintenance loop road, facing west. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.22: Central portion of gravel maintenance loop road, facing west. (Source: WLA Studio).

Quarters Driveway
The driveway to the Quarters Building is a short, two-way asphalt road. Beginning at its intersection with Northridge Road, just east of the electronic gate, the driveway runs east approximately 180 feet before turning south and continuing another 200 feet where it ends at the site of the Quarters Building.

Hewlett Field Road

The road to Hewlett Field is paved with asphalt and provides public access to the field and Island Ford Boat Ramp. Beginning at its intersection with Island Ford Parkway, just west of Island Ford Parking Lot, the road curves southeast and continues approximately two-tenths of a mile following the natural topography down to the floodplain (**Figure 3.23**). The road ends at an asphalt cul-de-sac known as Hewlett Field Drop Off on the west end of Hewlett Filed. There are steel gates at both ends of the road. Park staff utilize the gates to regulate public access to Hewlett Field and Island Ford Boat Ramp. In addition to the steel gate, management boulders lining the outside edges of the cul-de-sac at Hewlett Field Drop Off prevent unauthorized vehicular traffic without hindering pedestrian circulation to and from the field.

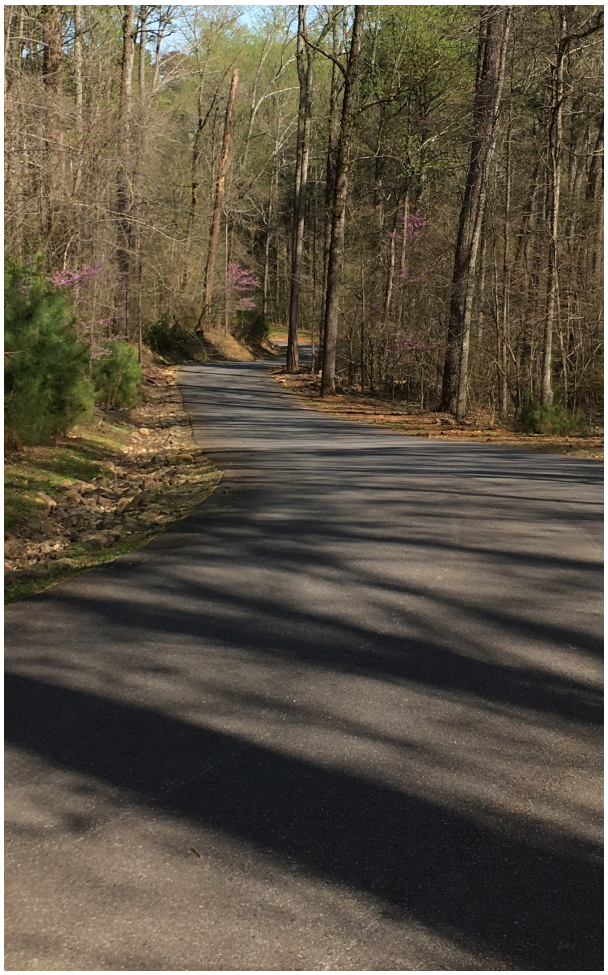


Figure 3.23: West portion of paved road to Hewlett Field Drop Off, facing southeast. (Source: WLA Studio).

Operations Building Driveway and Administrative Parking Lot

A paved driveway runs from Island Ford Parkway to an administrative parking lot south of the Operations Building. From its intersection with Island Ford Parkway, immediately west of the loop formed by Island Ford Parking Lot, the driveway continues south and east approximately 400 feet before ending at a concrete pad adjacent to the Metal Storage Building. The concrete pad covers an approximately 2,375-square-foot area between the Operations Building and the Metal Storage Building.

The administrative parking lot includes eleven parking spots along the south edge of the driveway and six spots on the concrete pad. The asphalt surface of the driveway and parking lot are continuous and terminate at the Operations Building's south façade (**Figure 3.24**).



Figure 3.24: Administrative parking lot south of Operations Building, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).

Remnant Road

There is an approximately 150-foot-long remnant of a dirt road in the forested area south of the intersection of Island Ford Parkway and Hewlett Field Road. The remnant occupies an approximately 20-foot-wide cleared area and runs southwest-northeast roughly following the natural contours.



Figure 3.25: Cluster of visitor services features and paved walkways at north end of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, facing north. (Source: WLA Studio).

Pedestrian

Pedestrian circulation features within the study area include paved walkways, earthen trails, stair sets, ramps, clearings, and structures. These features facilitate recreational and administrative use of the site. They are also components of broader circulation systems within the Island Ford park unit north of the study area.

While pedestrian circulation occurs informally and freely in all public portions of the study area, access to administrative and maintenance areas is limited to authorized personnel only. Signs and gates in the landscape indicate the boundaries of such closed areas and the associated pedestrian circulation features.

Island Ford Parking Lot

A series of concrete walkways and associated stair sets, ramps, gates, and structures link on-site parking areas to the rest of the landscape.

Pedestrian circulation within Island Ford Parking Lot is informal and occurs freely on the paved surface of the lot itself. An approximately 29-foot-long paved walkway with a set of eleven concrete stairs provides access north and south between Island Ford Parkway and the north portion of Island Ford Parking Lot. The stair set has a central aluminum-tube hand rail.

Hewlett Lodge Cul-de-sac

Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac is a heavily-used and central pedestrian circulation feature with several paved walkways connected directly to it. A granite curb lines the inside edge of the east end of the vegetation island in the center of the cul-de-sac. Two paved walkways converge near the northwest end of the cul-de-sac at a cluster of visitor-services features. Features at the cluster include a covered entrance fee station, two park information signs, a way-finding sign, and a bicycle rack (**Figure 3.25**).

Walkways that connect to Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac include:

- Hewlett Lodge walking path, which is an approximately 4-foot-wide concrete walkway that begins at the visitor-services cluster at the northwest end of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, continues northeast around the north side of Hewlett Lodge for approximately 200 feet before turning south and traversing the ridgeline below Hewlett Lodge for approximately 300 feet to its end at Hewlett Field; a large uncoursed stone retaining wall stabilizes the naturally-steep terrain along a portion of the walkway east of Hewlett Lodge; portions of this walkway have steel-tube railings;
- A 4-foot-wide, east-west walkway running from the north portion of Island Ford Parking Lot to the visitor-services cluster at the northwest end of the cul-de-sac;

- A 6' × 11' concrete pad at the east end of the cul-de-sac that provides access into the front (west) entry of Hewlett Lodge;
- Two symmetrical walkways flanking Hewlett Lodge's front entry that provide access from the cul-de-sac to stone walkways along the north and south ends of Hewlett Lodge's west façade;
- A 5-foot-wide walkway leading south into the site's administrative areas (**Figure 3.26**). From the cul-de-sac, this walkway leads down a set of eight stairs, turns east, and then back south before intersecting with another paved walkway. An approximately 11-foot-long spur walkway forms a triangular-shaped vegetation island just west of the intersection.

An additional paved walkway north of the cul-de-sac connects the walkway from the parking lot directly to Hewlett Lodge walking path.

Administrative Area South of Hewlett Lodge
Pedestrian circulation in the administrative area between Hewlett Lodge, the Metal Storage Building, and the Operations Building primarily occurs along a central walkway extending from the southeast corner of Hewlett Lodge to the east end of the Operations Building. At its east end, the walkway terminates at the bottom of a set of three stone steps, linking the feature to a stone walkway east of Hewlett Lodge (**Figure 3.27**). Adjacent to the stair-set, there is a 29-foot-long wooden ramp connected to the south edge of the walkway. The ramp provides universal access to the east side of the Hewlett Lodge site.

From the steps, the walkway runs west along the south foundation of Hewlett Lodge for approximately 97 feet where it connects to a wooden ramp leading to the Operations Building's deck. From that ramp, the walkway turns south and then west to a set of eight concrete steps leading down to a below-grade paved patio at the basement level of the Operations Building. An entry door is centered in the Operations Building's east façade at the level of the patio. A retaining wall of stacked railroad ties stabilizes the north and east sides of the patio and a concrete ramp in the southeast corner provides universal access to and from the feature.

Additional pedestrian circulation features in the administrative area include a concrete ramp and landing associated with the north entry to the Metal Storage Building and an approximately 35-foot-long concrete sidewalk extending from the administrative parking lot to the Operations Building's west entry door. There are no formal pedestrian circulation features in the administrative parking lot.

North Entry to Operations Building
A series of concrete steps, concrete ramps, and stone retaining walls make up a single feature that facilitates pedestrian circulation on the steep terrain between Island Ford Parking Lot and the Operations Building. At its bottom (south) end, the feature connects directly to the Operations Building's wrap-around deck (**Figure 3.28**). The



Figure 3.26: 2019 image of gate and walkway to administrative area southeast of Hewlett Lodge, facing south from Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac. NPS removed this gate in 2020. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.27: Paved walkway, stone stair set, and wooden ABA ramp south of Hewlett Lodge, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.28: Ramp and stair set feature north of Operations Building, facing north from front (north) entry to Operations Building. (Source: WLA Studio).

ramps in the feature provide universal access to the adjacent deck and north entry door.

The wooden ramp near the northeast corner of the Operations Building links the wrap-around deck to the central administrative walkway.

Hewlett Lodge

Pedestrian circulation features immediately surrounding Hewlett Lodge include stone and concrete walkways, stair sets, and a stone-paved patio (**Figure 3.29-3.31**). These features facilitate pedestrian access to the building via its primary and secondary entries and are associated with recreational use of the relatively-flat area east of the building. The flagstone walkways and patio include a variety of different stone types laid with random coursing. The following descriptions organize the features according to their location and proximity to the building's four primary façades.

West Façade: The building's primary entry is centered on the front (west) façade. The entry is level with the Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac and a 6' × 11' concrete pad serves as a landing for the front entry vestibule. From that entry, the land slopes gradually down toward the building's northwest and southwest corners. There are secondary entry doorways at the north and south ends of the façade. Stone-paved walkways with a series of stair-sets and landings provide access between the cul-de-sac and the north and south entries. Those walkways are situated adjacent to the building's foundation and are covered by the building's large overhanging eves. There are aluminum-tube railings set in concrete footings on the west edges of the walkways. A concrete landing with a stone retaining wall at the northwest corner of the building continues around the north side of Hewlett Lodge.

North Façade: A portion of Hewlett Lodge walking path runs east-west occupying a curved concrete walkway approximately 6 feet north of Hewlett Lodge. A curb of dry-laid granite paving blocks line the east and south edges of the curved walkway. There is a 36-inch-wide raised concrete patio with a granite curb at the west end of the north façade. The patio serves as a landing for an exterior wood stair set and landing that provide access up to the building's north entry door. A 4' × 4' landing composed of dry-laid granite paving blocks connects the patio's east end to the curved walkway.

East Façade: A continuous stone-paved circulation feature forms walkways, a patio, and several landings in the relatively flat area east of Hewlett Lodge (**Figure 3.31**). The feature provides access to and from the building and facilitates recreational use in the back (east) yard. At the northeast corner of the building, the stone walkway connects to the curved concrete walkway north of the building and serves as a landing for an entry door on the north end of Hewlett Lodge's east façade. The north portion of the feature includes an approximately 50-foot-long, east-west walkway section with an aluminum-tube railing along its northwest end. That walkway portion of the feature is 9 feet wide at its west end, narrows to 5'-4" wide at a point approximately 20 feet east of the building, and then gradually widens on the east end to form a roughly 35' × 35' open patio. From the south extent of the patio area, the stone-paved surface continues approximately 17 feet to the south where it widens and forms a 12' × 17' landing at the base of the building's primary rear entry. West of the landing, a 12-foot-wide set of ten stone stairs with masonry cheek walls and a central steel-tube railing provide access to the entry. From the southeast corner of the landing area, the walkway narrows to 3'-6" wide and continues approximately 28 feet south where it turns southwest and continues approximately 40 feet toward Hewlett Lodge's west façade. Where the walkway meets the building, it forms a two-way landing associated with a set of covered stone steps leading north to a basement-level entry door and a set of stone steps leading south to a main-level entry door. From that two-way landing, the walkway continues along Hewlett



Figure 3.29: Various views of stone-paved walkways and stair sets around Hewlett Lodge; these features contribute to the Rustic-Style character of Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape; left photo facing north from southeast corner of Hewlett Lodge; top right photo facing west at rear (east) entry stair set to Hewlett Lodge; bottom right photo facing west at northeast corner of Hewlett Lodge (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.30: Stone-paved patio east of Hewlett Lodge, facing east; historic aerial photographs suggest that the Atlanta Baptist Association constructed this patio on top of a former in-ground swimming pool at an unknown date between 1966 and 1972. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.31: Various views of concrete walkways surrounding Hewlett Lodge Patio; top left photo facing east at front door of Hewlett Lodge; top right photo facing east at northwest corner of Hewlett Lodge; bottom left photo facing east at southwest corner of Hewlett Lodge; bottom right facing south at series of stone steps and concrete landings with stone retaining wall on north end of Hewlett Lodge's west foundation wall. (Source: WLA Studio).

Lodge's east façade to the southeast corner where it links to a concrete walkway and wooden ramp on the south side of the building.

South Façade: On the south side of Hewlett Lodge, a set of two stone steps connect the stone walkway east of the building to the concrete walkway that runs along the south side of the building (described in *Administrative Area South of Hewlett Lodge* above). A concrete landing connects the stone walkway to the wooden ramp south of the building. At the building's southwest corner, the stone walkway on the south end of the building's west façade intersects with the concrete walkway running along the south side of the building.

Earthen Trails

A network of earthen trails provides public access to the landscape surrounding Hewlett Lodge. The trails and associated features, such as stair sets, retaining walls, bridges, and wayfinding signs, facilitate recreational use of the site and connect it to the rest of the Island Ford park unit (north of and outside of the study area's boundary). NPS maps and other informational materials associated with the Island Ford park unit do not include proper names for the trails within the study area.

Earthen trail along the Chattahoochee River: This roughly 3-foot-wide north-south earthen trail runs along the site's east boundary in the floodplain of the Chattahoochee River. On the

trail's north end, where the natural topography is steepest, a series of three-rail wooden fences line the trail's east edge (**Figure 3.32**). Where necessary, stacked-timber retaining walls stabilize adjacent slopes. At the north end of the trail a steel bridge with wood decking provides access across Falling Branch and out of the study area.

- South trailhead: picnic area at east end of Hewlett Field
- North trailhead: steel bridge over Falling Branch (connects to a trail system to the north, and outside of, the study area)

Barbecue pavilion trail: This earthen trail runs north-south along a natural ridgeline between Hewlett Lodge and the northeast corner of the study area (**Figure 3.33**). The south portion of the trail, which includes the section from a concrete landing near the north end of Hewlett Lodge walking path to the site of the Barbecue Pavilion, is approximately 100 feet long and drops approximately 16 feet in elevation from south to north. A series of horizontal timbers form large earthen steps and stabilize the naturally-steep terrain at the top (south) end of the trail. A stacked-timber retaining wall runs along the east edge of that portion of the trail. The trail turns slightly northward and flattens as it approaches the site of the Barbecue Pavilion from the south. There are three sections of double-rail wooden fence along the east side of the trail immediately southeast of the Barbecue Pavilion site. The trail crosses through the center of the site just east of the pavilion. North of the pavilion, the trail utilizes a set of thirty-two earthen steps supported by lapped timbers. The stair set is approximately 50 feet long and drops approximately 12 feet in elevation from the pavilion site to the floodplain of Falling Branch. At the base of the stair set, the trail intersects an east-west earthen trail at Falling Branch. Just north of the intersection there are two stone steps that lead to a small pool formed by a natural shoal on Falling Branch.

- South trailhead: landing on north end of Hewlett Lodge walking path
- North trailhead: intersection with east-west trail along Falling Branch

East-west trail along Falling Branch: This roughly 3-foot-wide earthen trail includes an approximately one-tenth-mile-long section running east-west along the south side of Falling Branch and an approximately 370-foot-long north-south section that links to the Island Ford Parking Lot. The two sections of trail have a total elevation change of less than 30 feet each. The trail facilitates pedestrian circulation between an earthen trail that loops around the pond north of the study area, the Island Ford Parking Lot, the north end of the north-south trail running through the Barbecue Pavilion site, and the northeast corner of the study area where the trail intersects with the north end of the trail along the Chattahoochee River. A portion of the east end of the trail runs immediately adjacent to Island Ford Lodge Retaining Wall,



Figure 3.32: Earthen trail, informal footpath, timber retaining wall, and wood handrail at north end of trail along Chattahoochee River, facing south. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.33: Earthen trail to Barbecue Pavilion site, facing southwest. (Source: WLA Studio).

which stabilizes a 66-foot-long section of the east bank of Falling Branch. The trail occupies a set of twelve earthen steps supported by lapped timbers just south of its intersection with Island Ford Parkway (**Figure 3.34**).

- Northwest trailhead: intersection with a trail that loops around the pond north of the study area
- South trailhead: northwest corner of Island Ford Parking Lot
- East trailhead: intersection with north-south trail along Chattahoochee River (northeast corner of study area)

Pond loop trail: This earthen trail forms a loop around the pond just north of the study area. As the pond's south edge forms the study area's north boundary, this CLR includes the approximately one-tenth-mile-long section within the study area. That portion of the trail runs east-west, is approximately 3 feet wide, and has a very little elevation change. The steepest portion of the trail within the study area is at the west end where a set of seventeen wood-framed stairs lead down a short bank onto a wood-framed bridge and out of the study area to the north.



Figure 3.34: Timber steps at west trailhead of earthen trail along Falling Branch, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).

- Southeast trailhead: intersection with the east-west trail along Falling Branch, south end of earthen dam that forms the pond
- Southwest trailhead: just north of the asphalt pavement on the east end of the Maintenance Loop Road
- Other trailheads are located outside of the study area

Barbecue Pavilion Site

Several well-used pedestrian routes connect the Barbecue Pavilion site to the rest of the landscape. The features that facilitate that access include well-used earthen trails, the associated sets of stairs and structures, and informal footpaths in the east portion of the site where visitors navigate the steep terrain south of the rock outcrop.

Retaining walls along the south, west, and north sides of the pavilion stabilize the naturally-steep terrain to the west and north of the site. These features and the rock outcrop to the northeast form a relatively-flat area surrounding the Barbecue Pavilion. That approximately 4,300-square-foot area is roughly oval-shaped in plan.

Pedestrian circulation occurs freely in the central portion of the site, which is free of vegetation and has a thin gravel surface. There are picnic tables in this central open area. The thinly-vegetated northeast portion of the area has an informal footpath that is used to access a bench on top of the rock outcrop with panoramic views of the Chattahoochee River to the north, east, and south.

There is a low stone retaining wall, a single stone step, and a stone-paved patio immediately east of the Barbecue Pavilion. The patio is approximately 30 feet long (north-south) and 4 feet wide (east-west), and the stones are dry-laid, uncoursed, and vary in dimension.

A set of twenty-three mortared-stone steps (Shadow RIS-HS #091881) lead down the steep terrain west of the pavilion to the floodplain of Falling Branch (**Figure 3.35**). The stair set connects the site to the earthen trail running east-west along Falling Branch.



Figure 3.35: Mortared-stone stair set at Barbecue Pavilion, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.36: Point of unauthorized park access, facing south. (Source: WLA Studio).

Hewlett Field and Island Ford Boat Ramp
Pedestrian circulation occurs freely in and around the open areas that make up Hewlett Field. Visitors access the area from the north via the Hewlett Lodge walking path and/or the earthen trail along the Chattahoochee River. Pedestrian access is also available from the west end of the field via Hewlett Field Road. There is an informal footpath on the east side of the Hewlett Field drop off. The paved surfaces at the Island Ford Boat Ramp facilitate both vehicular and pedestrian circulation associated with launching watercraft.

Maintenance Complex
Public access to the maintenance complex is restricted; otherwise, pedestrian circulation occurs freely in all portions of the site. Pedestrian circulation features include the open graded areas with and without pavement and an approximately 50-foot-long gravel walkway that runs east-west from the maintenance loop road to a deck that wraps around the north and east sides of the main maintenance building. A painted steel-tube railing runs along the south edge of the gravel walkway.

Unauthorized Park Access Point
There is an informal footpath running north-south in the naturally-vegetated area southwest of Hewlett Field Drop Off (**Figure 3.36**). The footpath enters the park from the south where it crosses the stream that forms the south boundary. The footpath exhibits limited but routine pedestrian use and is not an official park entrance.

Circulation Features:

- Island Ford Parkway
- Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac
- Island Ford Parking Lot
- Northridge Road
- Maintenance loop roads (paved and gravel)
- Quarters Building driveway
- Hewlett Field Road
- Hewlett Field Drop Off
- Hewlett Field Boat Ramp
- Administrative driveway

- Remnant of road in forested area south of the intersection of Island Ford Parkway and Hewlett Field Road
- Administrative parking lot
- Concrete walkways
- Earthen trails (site access and hiking)
- Steel and wood bridge at northeast end of study area
- Set of wood steps and boardwalk at west end of pond
- Stone walkways, patios, landings, and stair sets adjacent to Hewlett Lodge
- Set of stone steps at Barbeque Pavilion (Shadow RIS-HS #091881)
- Wood, concrete, and stone ramps, decks, and stair sets
- Informal footpaths

Vegetation

Natural Vegetation

The Island Ford Lodge landscape has a vegetative character that is a result of both cultural influences and natural processes. Historic aerial photographs from the 1930s and 1950s indicate that at least some logging and clearing occurred prior to Samuel D. Hewlett's ownership of the property. Therefore, natural plant communities of the site have only recently begun the process of reestablishment. A gradual encroachment of successional vegetation has occurred within the site's woodland areas at least since the property's acquisition by the NPS in 1979. The NPS, however, limits vegetation encroachment along the edges of established open areas and functional clusters of buildings, structures, and circulation features (see **Illustrations 3.2-3.6** for detailed information about existing vegetation within the study area).

In the late 2010s, the University of Georgia Department of Geography's Center for Geospatial Research, with the support of the NPS Vegetation Mapping Inventory Program, performed a comprehensive survey and mapping of vegetation within CHAT. In 2019, the NPS Natural Resources Stewardship and Science office in Fort Collins, Colorado, published the findings of that survey in "Vegetation Mapping at Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area: Photointerpretation Key and Final Vegetation Map" (Vegetation Mapping Report hereafter). That report, along with the data that informs it, is available through the NPS's Integrated Resource Management Application (IRMA).[177]

The Vegetation Mapping Report identifies and describes twenty-eight distinct plant associations within CHAT. Of those, the Island Ford Lodge landscape contains eight (**Illustration 3.5**). Seven of the eight associations are forest types occupying the site's woodland areas; Hewlett Field is representative of a successional grassland type; and all other areas are either covered by water or exhibit substantial human influence and are therefore not representative of a specific plant association.

Woodlands

Natural forests make up approximately 75% of the total study area. While oaks and other hardwoods are generally dominant, pines are also common and even codominant in places. The site's forests include representations of Piedmont Loblolly Pine-Oak Forest (4232), Piedmont Rocky Mesic Mafic Forest (4542), Early- to Mid-Successional Loblolly Pine Forest (6011), Interior Mid- to Late-Successional Tuliptree-Hardwood Upland Forest [Acid Type] (7221), Piedmont Dry-Mesic Basic White Oak-Hickory Forest (7232), Interior Southern Red Oak-White Oak Mixed Forest (7244), and Loblolly Pine-Tuliptree Successional Forest (7546). The following descriptions are based on those provided in the Vegetation Mapping Report:

Piedmont Loblolly Pine-Oak Forest (4232)
This plant association is present in a large percentage of the site's upland areas and includes a roughly 14.95-acre area at the center of the landscape, through which Island Ford Parkway traverses. That forest occupies approximately 32% of the total study area.

177. David L. Cotten et al., "Vegetation Mapping at Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area: Photointerpretation Key and Final Vegetation Map" (National Park Service, Natural Resource Stewardship and Science Office, October 2019).

According to the *Vegetation Mapping Report:*

> Stands of this mixed oak-pine upland forest association are dominated by a combination of various oaks and other hardwoods with *Pinus* (pine) spp. *Pinus taeda* (loblolly pine) or *Pinus virginiana* (Virginia pine) are usually present or codominant, being generally less abundant in more mature stands. *Quercus falcata* (southern red oak) is characteristic, but other oaks are also present, including *Quercus alba* (white oak), *Quercus stellata* (post oak), *Quercus velutina* (black oak), *Quercus coccinea* (scarlet oak), *Quercus marilandica* (blackjack oak), and *Quercus phellos* (willow oak), along with *Liquidambar styraciflua* (sweetgum), *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tuliptree), *Nyssa sylvatica* (blackgum), *Pinus echinata* (shortleaf pine), and *Quercus nigra* (water oak). The subcanopy may include *Acer rubrum* (red maple), *Carya alba* (mockernut hickory), *Carya glabra* (pignut hickory), *Cornus florida* (flowering dogwood), *Oxydendrum arboreum* (sourwood), *Prunus serotina* (black cherry), and *Ulmus alata* (winged elm), as well as smaller oaks, particularly *Quercus velutina* (black oak). The shrub layers may include *Fagus grandifolia* (American beech), *Vaccinium arboreum* (farkleberry), and *Vaccinium pallidum* (Blue Ridge blueberry), with *Asimina parviflora* (smallflower pawpaw), *Cercis canadensis* (eastern redbud), *Cornus florida* (flowering dogwood), *Diospyros virginiana* (common persimmon), *Euonymus americanus* (strawberry bush), *Sassafras albidum* (sassafras), *Toxicodendron radicans* (eastern poison-ivy), *Vaccinium pallidum* (Blue Ridge blueberry), and *Viburnum acerifolium* (mapleleaf viburnum). The herbaceous layer may include *Andropogon virginicus* (broomsedge bluestem), *Asplenium platyneuron* (ebony spleenwort), *Chimaphila maculata* (striped prince's pine), *Coreopsis major* (greater tickseed), *Dichanthelium* (rosette grass) spp., *Gaultheria procumbens* (eastern teaberry), *Mitchella repens* (partridgeberry), and *Polystichum acrostichoides* (Christmas fern). Typical vines include *Bignonia capreolata* (crossvine), *Decumaria barbara* (woodvamp), *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* (Virginia creeper), *Smilax* (greenbrier) spp., *Toxicodendron radicans* (eastern poison-ivy), *Vitis aestivalis* (summer grape), and *Vitis rotundifolia* (muscadine). The presence of invasive exotics such as *Lonicera japonica* (Japanese honeysuckle) and *Ligustrum* (privet) *sinense* may be common.[178]

Piedmont Rocky Mesic Mafic Forest (4542)
The forested area occupying the steep transitional topography immediately to the north, east, and south of Hewlett Lodge are representative of the Piedmont Rocky Mesic Mafic Forest plant association. That area includes approximately 3.52 acres along the river north of Hewlett Field, the Pavilion site, and the rock outcrop, and constitutes roughly 7.6% of the total study area.

This plant association is difficult to distinguish from Piedmont Dry-Mesic Oak Hickory Forests (7232) and Interior Southern Red Oak-White Oak Forest (7244), both of which are found in the study area. The primary distinguishing factor is generally the steepness of slope with Piedmont Rocky Mesic Mafic Forest being in the steepest areas.

According to the *Vegetation Mapping Report:*

> The mixed canopy is dominated by *Quercus alba* (white oak), *Carya alba* (mockernut hickory), *Tilia americana var. caroliniana* (Carolina basswood), *Quercus rubra var. rubra* (northern red oak), *Fraxinus americana* (white ash), *Quercus prinus* (chestnut oak), *Liquidambar styraciflua* (sweetgum) and *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tuliptree). The subcanopy is dominated by *Ostrya virginiana* (hophornbeam), *Carpinus caroliniana* (American hornbeam), and *Cornus florida* (flowering dogwood). Other common species in the canopy and subcanopy include *Acer barbatum* (southern sugar maple), *Acer leucoderme* (chalk maple), *Acer rubrum var. rubrum* (red maple), *Cercis canadensis var. canadensis* (eastern redbud), *Platanus occidentalis* (American sycamore), *Oxydendrum arboreum* (sourwood), *Juglans nigra* (black walnut), *Prunus serotina var. serotina* (black cherry), *Aesculus sylvatica* (painted buckeye), *Quercus phellos* (willow oak), *Quercus nigra* (water oak), *Sassafras albidum* (sassafras), and *Ulmus alata* (winged elm). Shrubs of this community include *Viburnum rufidulum* (rusty blackhaw), *Calycanthus floridus* (eastern sweetshrub),

178. Cotten et al., "Vegetation Mapping at Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area: Photointerpretation Key and Final Vegetation Map," 71–72.

Hydrangea arborescens (wild hydrangea), and *Euonymus americanus* (strawberry bush). Common herbs and vines are *Actaea racemosa* (black bugbane), *Asplenium platyneuron var. platyneuron* (ebony spleenwort), *Galium circaezans* (licorice bedstraw), *Hepatica nobilis var. obtusa* (roundlobe hepatica), *Hexastylis arifolia var. arifolia* (littlebrownjug), *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* (Virginia creeper), *Polystichum acrostichoides* (Christmas fern), *Prenanthes altissima* (tall rattlesnakeroot), *Toxicodendron radicans* (eastern poison-ivy), *Desmodium nudiflorum* (nakedflower ticktrefoil), *Dichanthelium* (rosette grass) spp., *Maianthemum racemosum* ssp. *racemosum* (feathery false lily of the valley), *Elymus virginicus var. virginicus* (Virginia wildrye), and *Vitis rotundifolia* (muscadine). The exotics *Ailanthus altissima* (tree of heaven), *Albizia julibrissin* (silktree), *Lonicera japonica* (Japanese honeysuckle), and *Lonicera maackii* (Amur honeysuckle) are common in this forest. *Fagus grandifolia* (American beech) is largely lacking from this oak-dominated forest.[179]

Early- to Mid-Successional Loblolly Pine Forest (6011)

An approximately 1.8-acre Early- to Mid Successional Loblolly Pine Forest (6011) is present just north of Hewlett Lodge Parking Lot. This area constitutes roughly 3.9% of the total study area. Within the study area, this plant association is distinguished from the Piedmont Loblolly Pine-Oak Forests (4232) by smaller pine crown size, likely due to its successional character.

According to the *Vegetation Mapping Report:*

> The tree canopy of *Pinus taeda* (loblolly pine) is at least 60% but may be considerably more dense, up to and including closed canopies. Tree subcanopy density varies with stand disturbance history but generally is < 50%. Shrub and herb layer coverages do not exceed 25% and decrease with increasing age of the stand. Other species of pine, especially *Pinus echinata* (shortleaf pine) and *Pinus virginiana* (Virginia pine) may be sparingly present in the canopy. Other species that may be present in the subcanopy in addition to *Liquidambar styraciflua* (sweetgum) and *Acer rubrum* var. *rubrum* (red maple) include *Quercus coccinea* (scarlet oak), *Quercus velutina* (black oak), *Quercus alba* (white oak), *Quercus falcata* (southern red oak), *Nyssa sylvatica* (blackgum), *Carya glabra* (pignut hickory), *Carya alba* (mockernut hickory), *Diospyros virginiana* (common persimmon), *Prunus serotina* (black cherry), *Cornus florida* (flowering dogwood), *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tuliptree), and *Sassafras albidum* (sassafras) (NatureServe Ecology, unpubl. data). Other species in addition to *Vaccinium stamineum* (deerberry) that may be present in the shrub stratum include *Juniperus virginiana* (eastern red-cedar), *Vaccinium arboreum* (farkleberry), *Rhus copallinum* (flameleaf sumac), *Gaylussacia baccata* (black huckleberry), *Callicarpa americana* (American beautyberry), and probably others. The herbaceous layer usually forms <5% cover and contains such species as *Gelsemium sempervirens* (evening trumpetflower), *Chimaphila maculata* (striped prince's pine), *Polystichum acrostichoides* (Christmas fern), and *Potentilla canadensis* (dwarf cinquefoil). An example from Oconee National Forest has a thinned canopy and grassy herbaceous layer.[180]

Interior Mid- to Late-Successional Tuliptree-Hardwood Upland Forest [Acid Type] (7221)

An approximately 2.56-acre area north of the maintenance complex is representative of the Interior Mid- to Late-Successional Tuliptree-Hardwood Upland Forest association. This area, which constitutes roughly 5.5% of the total study area, includes the relatively steep hillside between the south bank of Falling Branch and the graded areas at the center of the maintenance complex.

According to the *Vegetation Mapping Report:*

> The canopy of this semi-natural upland association is dominated by *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tuliptree). *Quercus* (oak) species (*Quercus alba* (white oak), *Quercus rubra* (northern red oak), *Quercus falcata* (southern red oak), *Quercus nigra* (water oak), *Quercus velutina* (black oak) are often present; additional associates may include *Acer barbatum* (southern sugar maple), *Acer rubrum* (red maple), *Carya* (hickory) spp., *Fagus grandifolia* (American

179. Cotten et al., "Vegetation Mapping at Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area: Photointerpretation Key and Final Vegetation Map," 79–80.

180. Cotten et al., "Vegetation Mapping at Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area: Photointerpretation Key and Final Vegetation Map," 86.

> beech), *Nyssa sylvatica* (blackgum), *Cornus florida* (flowering dogwood), and *Robinia pseudoacacia* (black locust). *Betula lenta* (sweet birch) is a common associate at the northern range limit. Shrub layers may include saplings of the canopy species and *Acer pensylvanicum* (striped maple), *Amelanchier arborea* (common serviceberry), *Hamamelis virginiana* (American witch-hazel), *Lindera benzoin* (northern spicebush) (in small amounts), and *Vaccinium pallidum* (Blue Ridge blueberry). Herbs vary across the range but may include *Actaea racemosa* (black bugbane), *Dichanthelium clandestinum* (deertongue), *Dioscorea quaternata* (fourleaf yam), *Galium circaezans* (licorice bedstraw), *Geranium maculatum* (spotted geranium), *Goodyera pubescens* (downy rattlesnake plantain), *Medeola virginiana* (Indian cucumber), *Potentilla simplex* (common cinquefoil), *Scutellaria serrata* (showy skullcap), *Thelypteris noveboracensis* (New York fern), and *Uvularia perfoliata* (perfoliate bellwort). *Lycopodium digitatum* (fan clubmoss) may be abundant in some stands.[181]

Piedmont Dry-Mesic Oak Hickory Forest (7232)
The Piedmont Dry-Mesic Oak Hickory Forest association is the second-most common in all of CHAT. An approximately 5.28-acre area in the northwest portion of the site represents this forest type, constituting roughly 11.4% of the total study area. That forest area is very similar to the Piedmont Loblolly Pine-Oak Forests (4232) and the Interior Southern Red Oak-White Oak Forests (7244) but distinguished by greater species diversity.

According to the *Vegetation Mapping Report:*

> Stands of this forest are dominated by *Quercus alba* (white oak) and often *Quercus rubra* (northern red oak), *Carya ovata* (shagbark hickory), and *Carya carolinae-septentrionalis* (southern shagbark hickory) in combination with other species of *Quercus* (oak) and *Carya* (hickory) (i.e., *Quercus velutina* (black oak), *Carya alba* (mockernut hickory), *Carya glabra* (pignut hickory). Other overstory and understory species that may occur include *Liquidambar styraciflua* (sweetgum), *Carya ovalis* (red hickory), *Fraxinus americana* (white ash), *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tuliptree), *Juniperus virginiana* var. *virginiana* (eastern red-cedar), *Cercis canadensis* (eastern redbud), *Cornus florida* (flowering dogwood), *Viburnum rafinesquianum* (downy arrow-wood), *Viburnum prunifolium* (blackhaw), *Ostrya virginiana* (hophornbeam), *Chionanthus virginicus* (white fringetree), *Ulmus americana* (American elm), *Carpinus caroliniana* (American hornbeam), *Pinus taeda* (loblolly pine), and *Pinus echinata* (shortleaf pine). *Acer leucoderme* (chalk maple) is an important understory component in some Georgia Piedmont stands. Proportions of *Liquidambar styraciflua* (sweetgum), *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tuliptree), *Acer rubrum* (red maple), and *Pinus* (pine) spp. increase following disturbance. Occurrences usually have closed canopies and moderately well-developed subcanopy and shrub layers. Herbaceous cover in this association may vary considerably with site conditions, land-use history, and levels of deer herbivory. Some stands have rather sparse herb layers with less than 25% total cover and only scattered patches of dry-mesophytic forbs and graminoids such as *Desmodium nudiflorum* (nakedflower ticktrefoil), *Galium circaezans* (licorice bedstraw), *Maianthemum racemosum ssp. racemosum* (feathery false lily of the valley), *Polygonatum biflorum* var. *biflorum* (smooth Solomon's seal), *Uvularia perfoliata* (perfoliate bellwort), *Aristolochia serpentaria* (Virginia snakeroot), *Scleria oligantha* (littlehead nutrush), *Botrychium virginianum* (rattlesnake fern), *Agrimonia rostellata* (beaked agrimony), *Bromus pubescens* (hairy woodland brome), *Carex albicans* (whitetinge sedge), *Carex laxiflora* var. *laxiflora* (broad looseflower sedge), *Carex planispicata*, *Dichanthelium boscii* (Bosc's panicgrass), *Elymus hystrix* var. *hystrix* (eastern bottlebrush grass), *Festuca subverticillata* (nodding fescue), *Scutellaria elliptica* (hairy skullcap), and *Tiarella cordifolia* var. *collina* (heartleaf foamflower). Other stands have high cover of scrambling vines, such *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* (Virginia creeper), *Bignonia capreolata* (crossvine), and *Vitis rotundifolia* (muscadine), that preclude a diversity of herbaceous species. On the best sites, especially those not subject to heavy deer grazing, stands may have well-developed herb layers with greater than 50% cover and impressive species richness (e.g., > 80 taxa per

181. Cotten et al., "Vegetation Mapping at Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area: Photointerpretation Key and Final Vegetation Map," 95–96.

400 square meters [4,306 square feet {sq ft}]). A number of species with Piedmont distributions restricted to calcium- or magnesium-rich soils have been documented in this association in both Virginia and North Carolina, including *Blephilia ciliata* (downy pagoda-plant), *Clematis ochroleuca* (curlyheads), *Matelea decipiens* (oldfield milkvine), *Matelea obliqua* (climbing milkvine), *Polygala senega* (Seneca snakeroot), *Ruellia purshiana* (Pursh's wild petunia), *Salvia urticifolia* (nettleleaf sage), *Scutellaria nervosa* (veiny skullcap), *Scutellaria ovata* (heartleaf skullcap), *Scutellaria serrata* (showy skullcap), and *Triosteum angustifolium* (yellowfruit horse-gentian).[182]

Interior Southern Red Oak-White Oak Forest (7244)
An approximately 6.76-acre band of forested terrain along the south and southwest end of the study area is representative of the Interior Southern Red Oak-White Oak Forest plant association. That area, which constitutes roughly 14.6% of the total study area, includes all forested portions of the floodplain in the south portion of the landscape as well as the upland area west of the Quarters building.

This plant association is one of the most common found in CHAT and can be the largest and most diverse of all forest types. It is especially similar to, and difficult to differentiate from, Piedmont Dry-Mesic Oak Hickory Forests (7232), but is generally found on higher elevations with drier conditions such as ridge tops.

According to the *Vegetation Mapping Report:*

> The vegetation is dominated by *Quercus* (oak) spp. and lesser amounts of *Carya* (hickory) spp. The canopy is continuous, and several species of *Quercus* (oak) may be present (e.g., *Quercus falcata* (southern red oak), *Quercus alba* (white oak), *Quercus velutina* (black oak), *Quercus coccinea* (scarlet oak), and *Quercus stellata* (post oak)). The subcanopy closure is variable, ranging from less than 25% to more than 40% cover, and the shrub and herb layers generally are sparse. Subcanopy species include canopy species and *Acer rubrum* (red maple), *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tuliptree), *Oxydendrum arboreum* (sourwood), *Liquidambar styraciflua* (sweetgum), *Ulmus alata* (winged elm), *Cornus florida* (flowering dogwood), *Nyssa sylvatica* (blackgum), *Juniperus virginiana* var. *virginiana* (eastern red-cedar), and *Vaccinium arboreum* (farkleberry). The tall-shrub stratum may contain *Rhododendron canescens* (mountain azalea) and *Vaccinium arboreum* (farkleberry). The low-shrub stratum is dominated by various ericaceous shrubs such as *Vaccinium pallidum* (Blue Ridge blueberry), *Vaccinium stamineum* (deerberry), *Vaccinium fuscatum* (black highbush blueberry), and *Gaylussacia baccata* (black huckleberry). *Smilax glauca* (cat greenbrier) and *Vitis rotundifolia* (muscadine) are common vines. Herbaceous species that may be present include *Aristolochia serpentaria* (Virginia snakeroot), *Symphyotrichum dumosum* (rice button aster), *Clitoria mariana* (Atlantic pigeonwings), *Desmodium nudiflorum* (nakedflower ticktrefoil), *Euphorbia corollata* (flowering spurge), *Galium circaezans* (licorice bedstraw), *Chimaphila maculata* (striped prince's pine), *Polystichum acrostichoides* (Christmas fern), *Asplenium platyneuron* (ebony spleenwort), *Hexastylis arifolia* (littlebrownjug), *Coreopsis major* (greater tickseed), *Solidago odora* (anisescented goldenrod), *Tephrosia virginiana* (Virginia tephrosia), *Potentilla simplex* (common cinquefoil), *Porteranthus stipulatus* (Indian physic), *Pteridium aquilinum* (western brackenfern), *Lespedeza* (lespedeza) spp., *Dichanthelium* (rosette grass) spp., and *Hieracium venosum* (rattlesnakeweed).

Loblolly Pine-Tuliptree Successional Forest (7546)
An approximately 1.17-acre forested area to the northeast of the maintenance complex represents the Loblolly Pine-Tuliptree Successional Forest plant association. That area, which constitutes roughly 2.5% of the total study area, includes several very large hardwood trees.

According to the *Vegetation Mapping Report:*

> This successional vegetation is dominated by *Pinus taeda* (loblolly pine) and *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tuliptree), but many other canopy species are usually present. *Lindera benzoin* (northern spicebush) is a typical shrub, and *Carex crinita* (fringed sedge) is a typical herb. More information is needed on the detailed floristics of this association. Other woody species that

182. Cotten et al., "Vegetation Mapping at Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area: Photointerpretation Key and Final Vegetation Map," 96.

may be present include *Liquidambar styraciflua* (sweetgum), *Platanus occidentalis* (American sycamore), *Cornus florida* (flowering dogwood), *Acer rubrum* (red maple), *Nyssa biflora* (swamp tupelo), *Quercus alba* (white oak), *Fagus grandifolia* (American beech), *Morus rubra* (red mulberry), *Betula nigra* (river birch), *Fraxinus americana* (white ash), *Ilex opaca* (American holly), *Lindera benzoin* (northern spicebush), and *Asimina parviflora* (smallflower pawpaw). Woody species common in the Piedmont portion of the range include *Aesculus sylvatica* (painted buckeye) and *Acer negundo* (box-elder). Herbaceous and woody vine species that may occur include *Carex crinita* (fringed sedge), *Botrychium virginianum* (rattlesnake fern), *Eupatorium purpureum* (sweetscented joepyeweed), *Polystichum acrostichoides* (Christmas fern), *Arundinaria gigantea* (giant cane), *Toxicodendron radicans ssp. radicans* (eastern poison-ivy), *Asplenium platyneuron* (ebony spleenwort), *Woodwardia areolata* (netted chainfern), *Osmunda cinnamomea* (cinnamon fern), *Ophioglossum vulgatum* (southern adderstongue), *Actaea racemosa* (black bugbane), *Dulichium arundinaceum* (threeway sedge), *Carex albolutescens* (greenwhite sedge), *Hypericum nudiflorum* (early St. Johnswort), *Corydalis flavula* (yellow fumewort), and others. The exotics *Ligustrum sinense* (Chinese privet) and *Lonicera japonica* (Japanese honeysuckle) commonly occur in forests of this alliance. The preceding information is from the related alliance description (Weakley et al. 1998), and these floristics were included in a 1995 CCA for the '*Pinus taeda - Liriodendron tulipifera / Lindera benzoin / Carex crinita* Successional Forest' (1C03B020.01F), on which this association is apparently based. It is not clear where these data originated. Some of the taxa mentioned (e.g., *Eupatorium purpureum* (sweetscented joepyeweed)) seem "suspicious" and out of place. Apparently related vegetation from the Savannah River Site cited in Jones et al. (1981) indicates dominance of some stands by *Pinus taeda* (loblolly pine), *Nyssa biflora* (swamp tupelo), and *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tuliptree) in the canopy, with *Persea palustris* (swamp bay), *Magnolia virginiana* (sweetbay), *Acer rubrum* (red maple), and *Nyssa biflora* (swamp tupelo) in the subcanopy. Other species present include *Vaccinium formosum* (southern blueberry), *Viburnum nudum* (possumhaw), *Arundinaria gigantea* (giant cane), *Toxicodendron radicans ssp. radicans* (eastern poison-ivy), *Mitchella repens* (partridgeberry), *Osmunda cinnamomea* (cinnamon fern), and *Onoclea sensibilis* (sensitive fern).[183]

Hewlett Field

The dominant plant association found in Hewlett Field is Successional Broomsedge Vegetation (4044). The approximately .85-acre field constitutes roughly 1.8% of the total study area.

According to the *Vegetation Mapping Report:*

> The completely closed (100% cover) herbaceous layer (1-2 meter tall) dominated by grasses *Andropogon virginicus* (broomsedge bluestem), *Dichanthelium scoparium* (velvet panicum), and *Tridens flavis* (purpletop tridens) and the forb *Eupatorium capillifolium* (dogfennel). Additional herbs include *Acalypha gracilens* (slender treeseed mercury), *Dichanthelium laxiflorum* (openflower rosette grass), *Eragrostis* (lovegrass) sp., *Lespedeza repens* (creeping lespedeza), *Potentilla canadensis* (dwarf cinquefoil), *Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium,* and exotic *Setaria pumila* (yellow bristlegrass).[184]

The Successional Broomsedge Vegetation association is typical of old fields or pastureland and is relatively uncommon within CHAT. The NPS manages Hewlett Field by regular mowing during the spring and summer, resulting in a dense covering of very short vegetation of predominately broomsedge.

183. Cotten et al., "Vegetation Mapping at Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area: Photointerpretation Key and Final Vegetation Map," 108–9.
184. Cotten et al., "Vegetation Mapping at Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area: Photointerpretation Key and Final Vegetation Map," 66–67.



Figure 3.37: West façade of Hewlett Lodge and surroundings, facing southeast. (Source: WLA Studio).

Cultural Vegetation

Cultural vegetation in the study area includes both mature ornamental plantings and native vegetation maintained by park staff. Such vegetation is primarily found in the areas immediately surrounding Hewlett Lodge, Hewlett Lodge Parking Lot, the administrative buildings south of Hewlett Lodge, and the main maintenance building. The Vegetation Survey Report lists those areas, as well as the park's roadways and areas covered with water, as "Human Influence." In total, the Human Influence areas within the landscape constitute approximately 7.97 acres (roughly 4% of the total study area).

Hewlett Lodge

Cultural vegetation surrounding Hewlett Lodge includes a scattering of mature ornamental plantings that range from ground covers and flowering perennial shrubs to fully grown trees. Native and exotic species are present in the landscape design, which responds to the natural topography, the building's siting, and adjacent circulation features. Vegetation west of the building includes mature azalea (*Azelea indica*) and yaupon holly (*Ilex vomitoria*) shrubs flanking the front entry, two Japanese laurel (*Acucuba japonica*) plantings on either side of the walkway just south of the front entry, and four hemlock (*Tsuga* spp.) trees immediately west of the front walks (**Figure 3.37**).

The area between the cud-de-sac and the Metal Storage Building consists of a mixture of native grasses and forbs including fleabane (*Erigeron philadephicus*), Carolina wild petunia (*Ruellia caroliniensis*), hop trefoil (*Trifolium campestre*), Virginia mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum virginianum*), wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*), yucca (*Yucca filamentosa*), possumhaw (*Ilex decidua*), American beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*), and native azalea (*Azalea* spp.) (**Figure 3.38**).

A hedge between the south end of Hewlett Lodge and the Metal Storage Building includes a native azalea, four camellias (*Camelia japonica*), and an allspice (*Calycanthus floridus*) shrub.

The ground plane east of Hewlett Lodge consists of mulched foundation beds with timber edging and grassy open areas surrounding the stone



Figure 3.38: Mixed vegetation in north portion of administrative area southwest of Hewlett Lodge, facing northeast. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.39: Stone-paved walkways, patio, and cultural vegetation east of Hewlett Lodge, facing north. (Source: WLA Studio).

walkways and patio. Plantings east of Hewlett Lodge include a hedge of yaupon holly and three boxwoods (*Buxus* spp.) near the southeast corner of the building and two hedges of native azaleas flanking the rear stair set. The landscape design around the patio incorporates white pine (*Pinus strobus*), locust (*Robinia* spp.), and a single Japanese ternstroemia (*Ternstroemia gymnanthera*), which blend with the natural vegetation of the wooded slopes east of Hewlett Lodge site (**Figure 3.39**). There is a single Japanese laurel foundation planting at the east end of the north façade.

Cul-de-sac

The cul-de-sac driveway west of Hewlett Lodge forms a vegetation island that consists of mature loblolly pines (*Pinus taeda*), redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), buckeye (*Aesculus sylvatica*),

honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), oakleaf hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia*), native azalea, American beautyberry, and patches of green-and-gold (*Chrysogonum virginianum*), goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.), northern sea oats (*Chasmanthium latifolium*), fringed blue star (*Amsonia hubrichtii*), pinkladies (*Oenothera speciosa*), small ragwort (*Packera anonyma*), fire pink catchfly (*Silene virginica*), lemon balm (*Melissa officinalis*), wild geranium (*Geranium maculatum*), and spiderwort (*Tradescantia spp.*).

Operations and Administrative Area
The ground plane southwest of the cul-de-sac consists of patchy native grasses and forbs such as switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), dwarf cinquefoil (*Potentilla canadensis*), and Virginia spiderwort. The area, which is maintained as a natural open area also includes mature loblolly pines and saplings, flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*), yaupon holly, yucca, and buckeye (**Figure 3.40**).

The area east of the Operations Building, which includes the administrative walkways, includes native azalea, yucca, juniper (*Juniperus* spp.), redbud, dwarf fothergilla (*Fothergilla gardenia*), honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), leucothoe (*Leucothoe* spp.), and loblolly pine.

The cultural vegetation surrounding the ramp and stairs to the north of the Operations Building includes an abelia (*Abelia grandiflora*) shrub, oakleaf hydrangea, yucca, and two large yaupon holly shrubs. A hedge of saplings and mature trees, consisting primarily of tuliptrees, buckeye, redbud, American beautyberry, persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*), sweetgum (*Lyquidambar styraciflua*), water oak (*Quercus nigra*), and pine, stabilizes the steep slope immediately north of the Operations Building.

The areas west and south of the Operations Building and administrative parking lot include native woodland vegetation with redbud and flowering dogwood maintained as cultural vegetation.

Hewlett Lodge Parking Lot
The landscape design of the parking lot and its surroundings incorporates the natural woodlands of the site but also includes tree and shrub species likely planted and cultivated as ornamental vegetation. The primary ornamentals include, flowering dogwood, redbud, loblolly pine, cherry (*Prunus* spp.), oak (*Quercus* spp.), and a row of five hemlock (*Tsuga* spp.) trees (**Figure 3.41**).

Maintenance Building
Cultural vegetation surrounding the maintenance building consists of natural woodland tree species typical of the surrounding forest association and ornamental plantings at the south end of the gravel walkway. Trees in the immediate surrounding include hickory (*Carya* spp.), beech (*Fagus* spp.), tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), and pine.

Vegetation Features:

- Natural forests within the study area
- Cultural vegetation in Human Influence areas—surrounding buildings, roads, walkways, and trails



Figure 3.40: Naturalistic vegetation west of Hewlett Lodge, south of cul-de-sac, and north of Operations Building, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.41: Naturalistic vegetation in Island Ford Parking Lot vicinity, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).

Buildings and Structures

The buildings and structures of Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape include buildings, retaining walls, and utility structures that help facilitate recreational and administrative use of the site. This CLR describes those features in terms of their age, configuration, materials of construction, use, and contribution status described in the National Register nomination form for Island Ford Lodge.

Hewlett-Era Buildings and Structures (c. 1935-1954)

The National Register nomination for Island Ford Lodge lists the following buildings and structures as contributing resources.

Hewlett Lodge

Hewlett Lodge (Shadow RIS-HS #091878) is a Rustic-style, one-story log building constructed by Samuel Hewlett in the late 1930s as a private residence/summer retreat home (**Figure 3.30**, **Figure 3.37-38, and Figure 3.42**-43). The house sits on a wooded ridge overlooking a bend in the Chattahoochee River. Its T-shaped plan takes advantage of the natural terrain and includes a daylight basement. Exterior features, such as stone-paved walkways and patio, extend the living environment to the outside.

The building is approximately 130' × 75' × 30' in plan and constructed of round cypress logs with V-notch joinery on an uncoursed stone basement. The house has a cross-gable roof with projecting front gable over the front (west) entrance and gable-on-hip ends on the other three wings (south, north, and east). The large open eve overhangs have exposed rafter tails and decorative round-log bracketing. There are two eyebrow dormers with louvered attic vents on the front and wooden attic vents on the ends as well as the projecting front gable. The stone foundation walls that form the building's basement are approximately 14 inches thick and consist of stone likely quarried on-site. There are two interior stone chimneys, one on the ridge crest west of the crossing gables and the other on the east slope of the south wing. The uncoursed stonework of the basement walls, exterior staircases, and chimneys includes beaded mortar joints. It is suspected that the logs for Hewlett Lodge were harvested from Samuel Hewlett's property in the Okefenokee Swamp in southeast Georgia. The windows are double-hung, six-over-six wood sash and range from individual windows to ribbons of up to five openings.

In 2000, the NPS produced a Historic Structure Assessment Report (HSAR) for Hewlett Lodge, which includes a comprehensive historical background and context statement, chronology of development and use, and narrative of construction and rehabilitation projects performed by Samuel Hewlett, the Buckhead Century Club, Inc., Atlanta Baptist Association, Inc., and the NPS.

Barbecue Pavilion

Island Ford Barbecue Pavilion (Shadow RIS-HS #091879) is an approximately 17' × 14' × 15' open-air, end-gabled, frame building with central stone chimney and barbecue pit structure (**Figure 3.44**). The pavilion and grill (with chimney), as well as adjacent stone retaining walls and patio, were constructed in 1945. The pavilion's wood-framed roof sits on round log posts with corner brackets and has open gable ends. Two of the posts rest on single rock footings and the other four on poured-concrete footers. The NPS reconstructed the brick portion of the firepit/grill and replaced the original roof structure in 2004 (**Figure 3.45**). The roof design, which is substantially different than the original, has a steeper pitch at the top and nearly-flat, flared eaves. There is copper flashing where the chimney pierces the asphalt-shingle roof covering.

The stonework of the chimney, retaining walls, and patio matches that of Hewlett Lodge's in materials and uncoursed bond pattern. The mortar joints of the chimney and grill are beaded while those of the other stone features are flush.

Island Ford Spring House

Island Ford Spring House (Shadow RIS-HS #091882) is an approximately 6' × 6' × 6' stone structure set on top of a natural springhead southeast of Hewlett Lodge. The structure, built in 1945, is set into the adjacent slope and includes a concrete wing wall running north-south at the northwest corner (**Figure 3.4**). There is a roughly 2'-0"× 3'-6" door opening on the north side of the structure. The materials and craftsmanship, including beaded mortar joints and uncoursed bonding pattern, match that of Hewlett Lodge and Barbecue Pavilion.



Figure 3.42: Front (west) entrance to Hewlett Lodge, facing southeast from cul-de-sac. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.43: Rear (east) wing of Hewlett Lodge, facing southeast. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.44: Barbecue Pavilion, facing northeast. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.45: Stone grill at Barbecue Pavilion, facing northwest. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.46: Island Ford Retaining Wall, facing west. (Source: WLA Studio).

Island Ford Retaining Wall
Island Ford Retaining Wall (Shadow RIS-HS #091880) (**Figure 3.46**) is an approximately 66-foot-long, 3-foot-tall mortared-stone wall with cement coping. The wall stabilizes the east bank of Falling Branch adjacent to the Spring House. Built in 1945, the wall channelizes the stream in a northward curve. An earthen trail runs parallel to and directly south of the wall.

Atlanta Baptist Association Buildings (c.1955-1978)
There are seven buildings within the study area that date to the Atlanta Baptist Association's occupancy—including the Operations Building and Metal Storage Building south of Hewlett Lodge, two wood-framed pavilions with brick grills in the central-west portion of the site, the Quarters Building near the Northridge Road entrance, the Maintenance Building, and a machine shop known as the Bally Building. The *Island Ford Lodge National Register Nomination Form* lists the Operations Building, Metal Storage Building, Maintenance Building, and Bally Building as noncontributing resources and does not include the two pavilions.

Operations Building
The two-story, 112' × 48' Operations Building is of steel-frame construction, has a side-gabled roof with asphalt shingles, and is set into a heavily-graded south-facing slope south of Island Ford Parking Lot (**Figure 3.47**). The building is clad with horizontal composite-fiber clapboards and has full-light steel doors. The gables have large rectangular gable vents. The window openings have double-hung sash and vertical casement windows. A wood-framed porch, attached at the second story, spans three-quarters of the north façade and the entire east façade. The porch connects the building to the adjacent administrative walkways. The Atlanta Baptist Association constructed the building as a dormitory for retreat functions circa 1955-1960. In the 1980s, the NPS converted the building into offices.

Metal Storage Building
The one-story, 60' × 60' Metal Storage Building is of steel-frame construction with a front-gabled metal roof and vertical metal siding (**Figure 3.48**). The building sits on a concrete slab that connects to the adjacent concrete parking area immediately to the west. The building has no windows and



Figure 3.47: West and south façades of Operations Building, facing northeast. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.48: West façade of Metal Storage Building, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.50: Pavilion 2, facing northeast. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.49: East and north façades of Pavilion 1, facing southwest. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.51: West and north façades of Maintenance Building, facing northeast. (Source: WLA Studio).

three doors—including an approximately 12-foot-wide roll-up door centered on the west façade, an approximately 6-foot-wide double door unit on the west end of the north façade, and a standard-width walk through door on the east end of the north façade. The Atlanta Baptist Association, Inc., constructed the building as a gymnasium in c. 1955-1960. The NPS uses the building for storage.

Pavilion 1 and Pavilion 2
The pavilions are situated side by side in an east-west orientation in a heavily wooded area between the fenced portion of the maintenance complex and the park entrance from Northridge Road. The buildings are accessible along the gravel maintenance loop road. Research has not revealed who designed or built the pavilions and there is no known evidence of association with a specific church(es). For clarity, this CLR refers to the eastern-most building as Pavilion 1 and the western-most as Pavilion 2.

Pavilion 1 is an approximately 22' × 30' frame building with a front-gabled roof (**Figure 3.49**). It is enclosed on all sides with painted oriented strand board (OSB) panels and has a metal roof. Originally constructed as an open-air pavilion, the building's internal structure consists of a system of rafters, purlins, and joists supported by heavy-timber posts and beams. This system is commonly known as "pole barn" construction. The gable ends are enclosed with rough-sawn board-and-baton siding, and portions of the building's footprint are enclosed with a continuous concrete-block foundation wall. There is a large barn-style double door centered on the east façade. The original blonde brick grill and chimney remain in place at the west end of the building. The existing metal roof material is likely original. The NPS likely first enclosed the building in the 1980s and uses it currently for storage. While the original frame structure and grill/chimney are in moderate to good condition, the building's exterior is in generally poor condition.

Like Pavilion 1, Pavilion 2 is of pole-barn construction and includes a brick grill and chimney. Pavilion 2, however, remains an open-air building and retains nearly all the original building materials, including the heavy timber posts, beams, brackets, rafters, purlins, joists, ridge beam, stays, and metal roofing (**Figure 3.50**). The building's posts are attached to large concrete footings with metal brackets. The pavilion's front-gable roof with open gable-ends covers an approximately 24' × 36' footprint. The grill and chimney, which consist of red bricks and terracotta tiles, appears unaltered since their construction, and there is a carved stone with the inscription "DEDICATED OCT. 12, 1958" on the north face of the chimney. The NPS uses Pavilion 2 for wheel barrow and firewood storage.

Maintenance Building
The Maintenance Building is a one-story frame building with a side-gable roof set on a full-sized daylight basement (**Figure 3.51**). The exposed basement walls and foundation are of continuous concrete-block and the exterior of the main floor is clad with board-and-baton siding. The building measures approximately 60' × 35' in plan and has a standing-seam metal roof. There is a single exterior masonry chimney on the west end of the rear (north) façade. There is a three-quarter-width open deck attached to the rear façade. The frame deck wraps around the northwest corner of the building where it connects with a ramp running along the west façade. There are two full-light, standard-width entry doors accessible from the deck, one at the north end of the west façade and one at the east end of the north façade. All windows are double-hung sash with six-over-six panes. The south façade engages a concrete loading dock on the basement level and includes a standard-width walkthrough door and a 12-foot-wide steel roll-up door on the east end. While the National Register nomination states that the Maintenance Building was constructed in 1972, the building is visible on a 1966 aerial photograph of the site. Research has not revealed the building's original use; however, oral history interviews with former park staff suggests that certain church groups within the Atlanta Baptist Association used the building during retreats and summer camp events. The Maintenance Building currently serves as the main park maintenance office for Island Ford and CHAT.

Bally Building
The Bally Building is an approximately 85' × 25', metal-clad, one-story building in the northwest portion of the fenced maintenance complex (**Figure 3.52**). The steel-framed building sits on top of a concrete slab and has a metal roof. There are four 10-foot-wide bays with roll-up doors and two standard walk through doors on the front (east) façade. The National Register nomination states

that the building was constructed in 1970, but the building is not visible on a 1972 aerial photograph of the site. Research has not revealed its original use. Park maintenance staff uses the building as a machine shop.

Quarters Building
The Quarters Building sits on a hilltop in the west portion of the site (**Figure 3.53**). The approximately 40' × 40' two-story, three-bay, framed house has a side-gabled roof, integrated two-story front (north) porch, and vinyl siding. There are six full-light French doors on the front façade., a brick exterior chimney on the west façade, and an open carport with side-gabled roof attached to the west end. While the National Register nomination states that the building was constructed in 1973, it is visible on a 1972 aerial photograph of the site. The NPS uses the Quarters Building for staff housing.

NPS-Era Buildings and Structures (1979-present)
The NPS constructed the following buildings and structures as part of the rehabilitation of Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape for maintenance, administrative, and public recreational use.

NPS Boat Barn
The boat barn is a one-story, 50' × 30' pole barn with side-gabled metal roof near the southeast corner of the fenced maintenance complex (**Figure 3.54**). The building is enclosed with metal panels



Figure 3.52: East façade of Bally Building, facing northwest. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.53: North and west façades of Maintenance Building, facing northeast. (Source: WLA Studio).

on the east, west, and south ends and open on the front (north). The building is situated on a leveled site supported by a retaining wall consisting of approximately 2'-6" × 2'-6" × 4'-0" cast concrete blocks. The NPS constructed the barn in 2015 and uses it primarily for dry boat storage.

Carports
Northwest of the boat storage shed (across the asphalt surface of the maintenance loop road) there is an 18' × 20', steel-framed, open carport with a metal roof. Satellite images from Google Earth indicate that the NPS constructed the carport in 2003. In 2018, the NPS constructed an additional carport at the north end of the Bally Building. That 18' × 18' steel-framed structure is anchored to a slightly larger concrete slab. According to the *Island Ford Lodge National Register Nomination Form*, there was a hazardous materials (HAZMAT) storage building mounted to the same slab from 2002 to 2016; however, that structure no longer exists. The NPS uses the carports for equipment storage.

HAZMAT Storage
At the south end of the Bally Building there is an approximately 12' × 7' steel box mounted to a concrete slab. The NPS uses the box for secure storage of hazardous materials.

Shipping Container
There is an approximately 8' × 30' steel shipping container siting on a leveled gravel area just northwest of Pavilion 1 and 2. The NPS uses the container for storage.

Island Ford Boat Ramp
In the 1990s, the NPS constructed a concrete boat ramp at the east end of Hewlett Field (**Figure 3.55**-56). The boat ramp includes a tapered ramp surface and a level concrete pad with timber retaining wall and built-in bench. The ramp provides free public access to the Chattahoochee River.

Foot Bridges and Boardwalks
There is an approximately 4' × 20' steel-framed footbridge at the northeast corner of the study area (**Figure 3.57**). The bridge, constructed by the NPS in the 1990s, facilitates pedestrian circulation



Figure 3.54: North and west façades of NPS boat barn, facing southeast. (Source: WLA Studio).

across Falling Branch on the earthen trail running parallel to the west bank of the Chattahoochee River.

Just west of where Island Ford Parkway enters the north end of the study area there is an approximately 10' × 40' wooden deck that serves as a pond overlook (**Figure 3.15**). The overlook structure sits at the south end of the pond's earthen dam.

There is a 4-foot-wide wood-framed stair set and boardwalk structure west of the pond where the pond loop trail drops to the floodplain associated with Falling Branch (**Figure 3.58**). The structure provides pedestrian access across the floodplain and stream.

Retaining Walls

The existing conditions survey of Island Ford Lodge landscape identifies retaining walls that stabilize the site's natural topography where grading has occurred for the construction of circulation features, parking lots, and/or buildings and structures. The walls are of a variety of building materials and configurations.

Stone and timber walls at Hewlett Lodge and adjacent administrative areas

There are two stone retaining walls near Hewlett Lodge, both likely constructed during Hewlett's ownership. One, at the northwest corner of Hewlett Lodge, consists of three large granite stones set vertically (**Figure 3.29, bottom right**). The other, an 18-inch-wide mortared stone wall, is located at the southeast corner of Hewlett Lodge



Figure 3.55: Island Ford Boat Ramp, facing east from east end of Hewlett Field. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.57: Footbridge at northeast end of study area, facing north. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.56: Platform, timber retaining wall, park identity sign and built-in benches at Island Ford Boat Ramp, facing north. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.58: Boardwalk and wooden stair set structure west of pond, facing southeast. (Source: WLA Studio).

(**Figure 3.59**). From the building's southeast corner, the wall runs east for approximately 2 feet, curves south and runs approximately 6' further, then comes to a 90-degree corner and continues west approximately 50 feet. Near Hewlett Lodge, the top of the wall is flush with the adjacent stone and concrete walkways and a stone stair set. The wall's materials and workmanship match that of the adjacent stone stair set and walkways.

Retaining walls in the administrative area between Hewlett Lodge and the Operations Building include a stacked-timber wall just east of the concrete administrative stair-set (south of Hewlett Lodge's cul-de-sac), a low dry-laid stone wall at the east end of the wooden ramp that extends from the Operations Building's porch (ABA ramp) (**Figure 3.60**), and a wall consisting of three large rock slabs east of the Operations Building (**Figure 3.61**).

An L-shaped, stacked-timber retaining wall forms the foundation of the east end of the Operations Building porch. That wall and an additional concrete wall at the southeast corner of the Operations Building form a sub-grade concrete patio area with a concrete access ramp. A culvert runs south from the patio under the adjacent asphalt road and there is a concrete headwall at its south end (**Figure 3.62**).

Stone walls at Barbecue Pavilion
Four sections of 12-inch-wide mortared-stone retaining walls frame the Barbecue Pavilion site. The walls match those of Hewlett Lodge's basement and associated stonework in workmanship and material composition except for the mortar joints, which are flush rather than beaded (**Figure 3.63**). These walls likely date to the period of Hewlett's ownership.



Figure 3.59: Mortared-stone retaining wall south of Hewlett Lodge, facing northwest. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.61: Deck, retaining walls, and naturalistic vegetation in administrative area east of Operations Building, facing northeast. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.60: Dry-laid stone retaining wall west of Operations Building, facing north. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.62: Culvert and concrete headwall southeast of Operations Building, facing north. (Source: WLA Studio).

Stone wall along Hewlett Lodge walking path
Northeast of Hewlett Lodge, where the natural topography slopes steeply down toward the Chattahoochee River, there is an approximately 70-foot-long retaining wall running on the west side of the concrete Hewlett Lodge walking path (**Figure 3.64**). The wall ranges from 4 to 6 feet tall and consists of three or four courses of large, dry-laid boulders. It is likely that the NPS constructed the wall at the same time as the concrete walking path.

Timber walls along earthen trails
In several places where grading was necessary to level the route of earthen trails in the study area, the NPS constructed stacked-timber retaining walls. Such walls are located along the southwest edge of the trail from Hewlett Lodge to the Barbecue Pavilion (**Figure 3.65**) and the east edge of the trail along the Chattahoochee River near the rock outcrop.

Maintenance Building loading dock
A concrete-block retaining wall supports the east end of the loading dock at the Maintenance Building. At the west end of the loading dock an L-shaped timber retaining wall stabilizes the natural slope southeast of the Maintenance Building (**Figure 3.66**).

Wall at NPS boat barn
An approximately 12-foot-tall retaining wall consisting of stacked 2'-6" × 2'-6" × 4'-0" cast-concrete blocks stabilizes the east and south ends of the leveled site of the boat storage barn (**Figure 3.67**).



Figure 3.63: Mortared-stone retaining wall at south end of Barbecue Pavilion, facing southeast. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.64: Stone retaining wall along west edge of Hewlett Lodge walking path, facing south. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.65: Timber retaining wall and water breaks along earthen trail to Barbecue Pavilion, facing southwest. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.66: Timber retaining wall south of Maintenance Building, facing north. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.67: East portion of stacked concrete-block retaining wall at NPS boat barn, facing southwest. (Source: WLA Studio).

Utilities and Surface-Water Management Structures

Water Vaults

There are three concrete water vault structures with steel manhole doors used to access underground components of the site's water supply—one on the south side of Island Ford Parkway between the road to Hewlett Field Drop Off and the administrative parking lot, one to the southwest of the Operations Building (**Figure 3.68**), and one to the east of the Metal Storage Building.

Pond Drain Outlet

There is a pre-cast concrete drain outlet at the base of the dam that forms the pond north of the study area. The drain holds the culvert pipe that runs under the dam.

Ditches, Gutters, Inlets, Headwalls, and Culverts

There are rock-filled ditches and concrete gutters along portions of Island Ford Parkway and the road to Hewlett Field Drop Off (**Figure 3.69** and **Figure 3.70**). The ditches and gutters facilitate the movement of surface water to a system of brick and concrete drain inlets and sub-surface culverts.

A culvert pipe runs south-to-north under the east end of the paved maintenance loop road. A similar culvert runs west-to-east under the west end of the paved maintenance loop road, at its intersection with Northridge Road.

There is a steel manhole in the grassy area to the northwest of the intersection of Island Ford Parkway and the paved maintenance loop road.

There is a plastic drain inlet and an associated 8-foot-long mortared-stone headwall in the grassy area south of the pond overlook structure.

A stone-lined drainage structure running along the west façade of the Operations Building facilitates surface water from the building's gutters (**Figure 3.71**). A 6-inch PVC pipe channels water under the concrete walkway at the building's west entrance. At the south end of the stone drain, there is a culvert with concrete headwalls running under the paved surface of the administrative parking lot. There is a similar culvert with concrete headwalls near the southeast corner of the Operations Building.

Buildings and Structures Features:

- Hewlett Lodge (Shadow RIS-HS #091878)
- Barbecue Pavilion (Shadow RIS-HS #091879)
- Island Ford Spring House (Shadow RIS-HS #091882)
- Island Ford Retaining Wall (Shadow RIS-HS #091880)
- Stone Patio at Hewlett Lodge (former location of swimming pool)
- Operations Building
- Metal Storage Building
- Pavilion 1
- Pavilion 2
- Quarters Building
- Maintenance Building
- Bally Building
- NPS boat storage barn
- Maintenance carports
- Pad-mounted HAZMAT storage shed
- Shipping container
- Island Ford Boat Ramp
- Foot bridge at northeast corner of site
- Pond overlook deck
- Stair set and boardwalk along pond loop trail
- Stone, timber, and concrete retaining walls
- Water vaults
- Concrete drain outlet at base of pond
- Ditches, gutters, drain inlets, headwalls, and culverts



Figure 3.68: Concrete water vault southwest of Operations Building, facing southwest. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.70: Concrete gutter and brick and concrete drain on south side of north portion of Island Ford Parkway, facing west toward hair-pin turn in distance. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.69: Rock-filled ditch along north side of paved road to Hewlett Field Drop Off, facing southeast. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.71: Rock-filled gutter, culverts, concrete head walls, and paved walkway at west end of Operations Building, facing south. (Source: WLA Studio).

Small-Scale Features

The Island Ford Lodge landscape contains various small-scale features, which relate to visitor services and staff use such as site regulation, orientation, and utilities.

Signs

There are many types of signs in the study area. The signs provide park information and wayfinding services to visitors and park staff, including the following:

Park Identity Signs

There is a park identity sign located on the east side of the cul-de-sac in front of Hewlett Lodge (**Figure 3.11**). The rectangular metal sign is mounted on two vertical wood posts. The sign has an NPS arrowhead logo in the upper left corner. The center of the sign reads, "Hewlett Lodge: Visitor Center, Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior," and there are four park informational logos across the bottom that include the symbols for information, building, restroom, and universal accessibility.

There is an additional park identity sign at the Island Ford Boat Ramp (**Figure 3.56**). The large printed surface of the sign faces the Chattahoochee River and is clearly visible to boaters. The sign includes the NPS logo and symbols for boating and the National Water Trail across the bottom. Large letters across the center of the sign read "River Access Island Ford Mile 320."

Park Regulations Signs

There are two standard park regulations signs in the landscape; one on the south side of Northridge Road just inside the park boundary (**Figure 3.72**), which is clearly visible to any vehicles entering the site from the Northridge Road entrance; and the other at the northwest corner of Island Ford Parking Lot, at the trailhead for the east-west trail along Falling Branch. The rectangular metal signs are mounted on aluminum posts and are located to be clearly visible to the public while either driving or walking within the site.

Pedestrian Wayfinding and Special Regulations Signs

These signs aid pedestrian wayfinding and safety and indicate areas of restricted public access:

There are two small metal signs on a wood post at the north edge of the concrete walkway that connects to the front entrance to Hewlett Lodge. The sign at the top of the post reads "Hewlett Lodge" and includes the park unit name and several icons symbolizing the building's functions. The lower sign reads "Warning: Firearms Prohibited" and includes a firearms-prohibited symbol.

On the north side of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac there is a wayfinding sign with arrows indicating the route to the Barbecue Pavilion, Hewlett Field, and the trail along the Chattahoochee River (**Figure 3.73**). The small metal sign is set on a wood post and includes the park name and the NPS logo in addition to the directional information.

There are nine trail maps in plexiglass cases mounted on wood posts in the study area (**Figure 3.74**). The trail maps are titled "Island Ford – Hewlett" and show the route of all earthen trails and several concrete walkways within the site. They include "You Are Here" indication as well as the location of other trail maps, parking areas, restroom facilities, and the boat ramp. Each map in the study area has a unique identifier with the prefix "IF-" and a number that corresponds with its location as the suffix. The signs within the study area include those with the suffix 1-7, 12, and 13.

At the southwest corner of Island Ford Boat Ramp there is a sign that reads "LIFE JACKETS REQUIRED." Just north of the boat ramp there is an additional sign that includes a map of the Chattahoochee River, danger warnings, and suggested safety tips for recreation in and around the river.

Near the southeast end of Hewlett Field there is a semi-permanent fiberglass sign set directly in the ground that includes the NPS logo and reads "VEGETATION MANAGEMENT AREA: NO DISTURBING PLANTS AND ANIMALS."

There are many small, semi-permanent fiberglass signs with the NPS logo and the words “AREA CLOSED” set in the ground at various locations to indicate areas closed to the public (**Figure 3.75**).

These signs are located strategically along vehicular and pedestrian routes at the entrances and exists to administrative and maintenance areas.



Figure 3.72: Park regulations sign, electronic gate code feature, and vehicular regulator signs southeast of Northridge Road park entrance, facing southeast. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.74: Trail map “IF-6” at pond site, facing west. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.73: Pedestrian wayfinding sign at north end of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.75: “AREA CLOSED” sign at administrative area southwest of Hewlett Lodge, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).

Vehicular Wayfinding and Regulatory Signs
There are a variety of signs that provide wayfinding and regulatory information along vehicular circulation routes in the landscape. Such signs include those that indicate pedestrian crosswalks, speed limits, mandatory stops, areas of restricted access, no-parking zones, universally-accessible parking spots, coded gate entry, and location of parking areas and site features.

There are two large metal vehicular wayfinding signs along Island Ford Parkway; one on the north side of the road near its intersection with the paved maintenance loop road in the north portion of the study area, which indicates the route to "Park Headquarters" and "Park Maintenance" (**Figure 3.12**); and one on the south side of the road west of the intersection of Hewlett Field Drop Off, which indicates the route to "Park Headquarters" and "Hewlett Field Drop Off." Both signs include icons symbolizing recreational opportunities at the indicated locations.

There is a cluster of signs that provide warnings of high voltage, gate-code requirement, and restricted access at the Northridge Road park entrance. Signs on either side of the driveway to the Quarters Building read "AUTHORIZED VEHICLES ONLY" and "Do Not Enter, Private Residence."

Visitor Services Features
Entrance Fee Stations
There are two park entrance fee stations located near Island Ford Parking Lot, one on the west end of the vegetation island between the north and central parking areas (**Figure 3.76**) and the other in the visitor-services cluster north of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac (**Figure 3.25**). Each fee station consists of a small, side-gabled roof set on two wood posts, a steel deposit box, a sign that reads "Entrance Fee Station," a sign with the NPS logo and the words "U. S. Fee Area," a rectangular sign describing the required parking fee, and a warning sign that reads "PLEASE LOCK & REMOVE VALUABLES FROM CAR."

Informational Kiosk
There is a three-paneled informational kiosk in the visitor-service cluster at the north side of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac (**Figure 3.25**). The free-standing kiosk consists of acrylic panels printed with park maps and information about the site's history and use.

Waysides
In addition to the informational kiosk, there are two waysides that provide information regarding the history and significance of Island Ford Lodge landscape. A wayside located along Hewlett Lodge walking path to the northeast of Hewlett Lodge includes a recent image of the building's rear façade and stone-paved patio, a 1950s image of the swimming pool (no longer extant), and historical context about Samuel Hewlett, Hewlett Lodge's construction, the Atlanta Baptist Association period, and the NPS occupation of the building (**Figure 3.77**). A wayside at Hewlett Field Drop Off provides contextual information regarding the local and federal legislation that enabled the creation of CHAT.

Water Fountain
There is one public drinking fountain in the landscape, located on a concrete pad north of Hewlett Lodge's cul-de-sac (**Figure 3.78**). The fountain meets federal requirements for universal accessibility and includes a pet drinking bowl.

Bicycle Rack
There is a mobile bicycle rack situated at the north end of Hewlett Lodge's cul-de-sac. The rack is of composite material.

Benches and Picnic Tables
There are mobile, semi-mobile, and fixed benches and picnic tables at places where visitors tend to congregate in the landscape. Such features at Hewlett Lodge's stone patio include a bench bolted to the stone surface at the west end of the patio, a set of six mobile Adirondack-style chairs and two small tables, and picnic table that can be moved (**Figure 3.31**). There are two of the same type of picnic table at the site of the Barbecue Pavilion. There is a bench bolted to the natural rock outcrop east of the Barbecue Pavilion. There are two benches consisting of large granite slabs in the wooded area just south of the Barbecue Pavilion. These benches are not situated for public use and are likely remnant features from the pre-NPS occupancy of the landscape.



Figure 3.76: Entrance fee station and pet waste station at Island Ford Parking Lot, facing northeast. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.77: Hewlett Lodge wayside at intersection of Hewlett Lodge walking path and earthen trail to Barbecue Pavilion, facing south. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.78: ABA water fountain and steel, bear-proof waste receptacle northwest of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, facing northeast. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.79: Picnic tables, waste receptacle, grill, management boulders, and southeast end of Hewlett Lodge walking path at shady picnic area northwest of Island Ford Boat Ramp, facing northwest. (Source: WLA Studio).

There are four mobile picnic tables at the shady area northwest of Island Ford Boat Ramp (**Figure 3.79**). There is a concrete bench set permanently in place at the southeast end of the southern portion of Island Ford Parking Lot. The pond overlook structure includes a built-in bench feature spanning nearly the entire south edge (**Figure 3.15**).

Grill

There is a single steel grill available for public use at the shady picnic area northwest of Island Ford Boat Ramp (**Figure 3.79**).

Waste Receptacles

There are three bear-proof waste receptacles in the landscape, one in the visitor-services cluster north of Hewlett Lodge's cul-de-sac (**Figure 3.78**), one at Hewlett Field Drop Off, and one in the shady picnic area northwest of Island Ford Boat Ramp (**Figure 3.79**). There is a PVC waste container for fishing line set in the ground south of the pond overlook structure (**Figure 3.15**).

Pet Waste Station

There is a pet waste station just east of the Entrance Fee Station at Island Ford Parking Lot (**Figure 3.76**). The waste station includes a sign describing recommended etiquette associated with pet waste collection, a steel box providing complementary waste collection bags, and a repository for waste.



Figure 3.80: Granite curbing, monument, and flag pole at east end of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, facing southwest. (Source: WLA Studio).

Miscellaneous Small-Scale Features in Hewlett Lodge Vicinity

Various small-scale features in the area surrounding Hewlett Lodge include granite curbing, a flagpole, and a plaque commemorating the creation of the Chattahoochee River National Water Trail at the east end of Hewlett Lodge's cul-de-sac (**Figure 3.80**); two large circular gristmill runner stones loosely situated in the vegetation islands west of Hewlett Lodge (**Figure 3.81**); a double mailbox on the east end of the vegetation island in the center of Island Ford Parking Lot; and a plastic rain gauge attached to a wood post in the administrative area between the Metal Storage Building and Hewlett Lodge.

There is a mailbox at the Northridge Road entrance to the park (**Figure 3.16**).



Figure 3.81: Circular grinding stone in vegetation island at Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, facing southeast. (Source: WLA Studio).

Fences, Gates, Bollards, and Handrails

There are three steel vehicular gates with reflectors and stop signs in the landscape. The gate at the Northridge Road entrance consists of two horizontal panels mounted on square steel posts (**Figure 3.16**). An electric mechanism opens the gate when a code is entered on one of two associated keypads, one on each side of the entrance. On the west side of the gate there are two steel bollards with diamond shaped reflector panels. There is a steel-tube gate set on a round post with diagonal bracing at the north end of the road to Hewlett Field Drop Off (**Figure 3.82**). The NPS uses the gate to regulate public vehicular access to the field and boat ramp. A similar steel gate at the east end of the drop off prevents unauthorized vehicular access to the field.

There is an approximately 12-foot-tall galvanized chain-link fence around the main portion of the maintenance complex. There are three double gates in the fence, one at the east end where the paved maintenance loop road enters the fenced area and two on the west end where the paved and gravel loop roads exit the complex.

Many of the site's walkways, stair sets, and earthen trails have associated handrails of either steel, aluminum, or wood. The handrails along the concrete and stone-paved walkways as well as stair sets surrounding Hewlett Lodge, the parking lot, and the administrative areas to the south are of aluminum tubing (**Figure 3.83**). The handrails along the concrete Hewlett Lodge walking path are of steel tubing.



Figure 3.82: Steel vehicular gate at west end of Hewlett Field Drop Off, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).

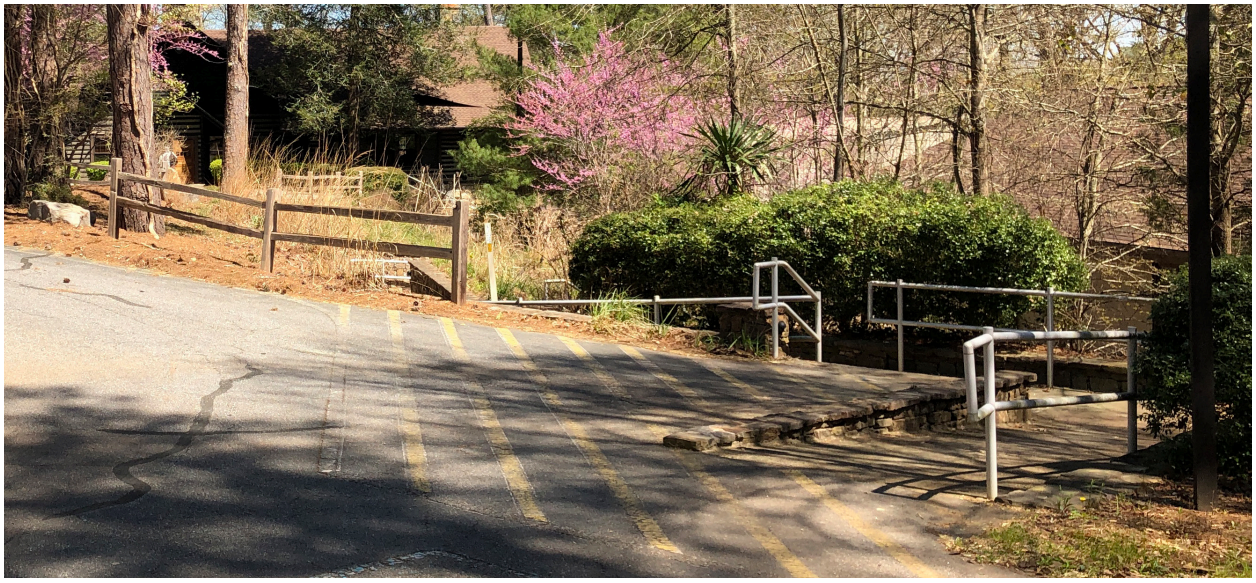


Figure 3.83: Typical aluminum handrails and two-rail timber fences in Hewlett Lodge vicinity, facing northeast from south portion of Island Ford Parking Lot. (Source: WLA Studio).

At the north end of the trail that runs alongside the Chattahoochee River there is an approximately 145-foot-long wood fence running along the top of the timber retaining wall (**Figure 3.32**). The fence, with its four horizontal rails, serves as a handrail along the trail.

There are five separate split-rail fences along the margins of pedestrian circulation features in the study area, including two on the south edge of Hewlett Lodge's cul-de-sac, one in the southeast corner of Island Ford Parking Lot, one at the Barbecue Pavilion site, and one at the pond loop trailhead near trail map IF-5. These wooden fences are of a standard design that consists of vertical timbers with mortise holes that receive the horizontal rails. The posts are set directly into the ground.

Remnant Fencing

There are several remnants of barbed-wire fencing in the southwest portion of the site, located at several points along the north edge of the floodplain of the stream that runs along the south site boundary. The fence remnants include short sections of barbed-wire attached to large trees and/or creosote fence posts. The fencing materials have degraded to the point that determining a date of construction and spatial organization on the landscape is not possible. That said, the remnants generally align with the former cleared area west of Hewlett Field—the portion of the field that has gradually reforested since the 1950s.

Utilities

The site's utilities include electricity, water, and phone. Because these utilities are primarily serviced underground there are very few utility poles in the landscape. Small-scale features associated with utilities include overhead lighting features, electrical poles, pad-mounted transformers, junction boxes, fire hydrants, water supply boxes, and sewer/septic access boxes.

Overhead Lighting

The outdoor overhead lighting features in the landscape include large light fixtures on steel poles and smaller, pedestrian-scale light fixtures on shorter poles. The lights operate on either a timed schedule to illuminate automatically at night or include a motion sensor.

Lighting features in Hewlett Lodge and parking lot vicinity include a large fixture on a steel pole in the vegetation island between Hewlett Lodge and the Operations Building, a large fixture on a steel pole just east of the stair set between the north and central portions of Island Ford Parking Lot, a large fixture with solar panel on a steel pole at the northwest end of the parking lot (**Figure 3.84**), and a pedestrian-scale fixture on a square steel pole at the northwest end of the ramp and stair set feature north of the Operations Building (**Figure 3.85**).



Figure 3.84: Large-scale overhead light feature with solar panel at north portion of Island Ford Parking Lot, facing northwest. (Source: WLA Studio).

Lighting features in the maintenance areas include two large lights on steel poles at the south end of the gravel walkway south of the Maintenance Building (one with a solar panel and one without), a large light with solar panel on steel pole at the northeast corner of the NPS boat barn, a large light with solar panel on steel pole in the northwest corner of the fenced complex, and a pedestrian-scale light fixture on a roughly 20-foot-tall steel pipe at the southwest corner of Pavilion 2.

Electrical Supply

Electrical supply within the site is serviced underground except where it enters the study area at the Northridge Road park entrance. There are two wood power poles at the entrance, one on either side of the gate, that service the main municipal electrical line. From the eastern-most pole, the main line runs underground to a large junction box mounted to two wood posts north of the gate. There is a service panel and junction box on a wood pole to the west of Pavilion 2. There are three pad-mounted transformers in the study area, including one in the vegetation island between Hewlett Lodge and the Operations Building, one southwest of the Maintenance Building, and one at the gravel pad northwest of Pavilion 2.

Phone Line Junction Boxes

Underground wires provide municipal phone service to the Maintenance Building, Lodge and Operations Building, and the Quarters Building. The phone lines enter the study area at the Northridge Road entrance and there are three phone line junction boxes, one north of the Quarters Building, one at the southwest corner of the intersection of Island Ford Parkway and the road to Hewlett Field Drop Off, and one on the east end of the vegetation island between the central and south portions of Island Ford Parking Lot (**Figure 3.86**).



Figure 3.85: Cast-concrete bench and pedestrian-scale light-pole feature northwest of Operations Building, facing southeast. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.86: Damaged phone line junction box at east end of vegetation island in Island Ford Parking Lot, facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 3.87: Fire hydrant and cast-concrete water-supply marker north of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, facing north. (Source: WLA Studio).

Water Supply and Sewerage Features
Water supply to the site is serviced via underground pipes. The small-scale features associated with water supply include meter and valve boxes set into the ground and fire hydrants with associated concrete markers (**Figure 3.87**).

The site's sewerage systems include septic tanks and drain fields at the Maintenance Building, Quarters Building, and Lodge area. Associated small-scale features include in-ground junction boxes.

Management Boulders
The NPS installs and maintains management boulders at strategic locations in the study area to retain a naturalistic environment while preventing unauthorized vehicular circulation. There are management boulders along the edges of Island Ford Parkway, Hewlett Lodge's cul-de-sac, the administrative areas surrounding Hewlett Lodge, the gate to Hewlett Field Drop Off, the drop off cul-de-sac, the Northridge Road entrance, in the picnic area north of Island Ford Boat Ramp, and within the maintenance complex.

Small-Scale Features:

- Park identity signs
- Park regulations signs
- Pedestrian wayfinding and special regulations signs
- Vehicular wayfinding and regulatory signs
- Entrance fee stations
- Informational kiosk
- Waysides
- Water fountain
- Bicycle rack
- Benches and other seating features
- Picnic tables
- Grill
- Waste receptacles
- Pet waste station
- Mail boxes
- Flag pole
- River trail plaque
- Granite curbs
- Gristmill runner stones
- Rain gauge
- Fences
- Gates
- Bollards
- Barbed-wire fence remnants in southwest portion of site
- Handrails
- Power and light poles
- Site utility access features
- Management boulders

Views and Vistas

Views within the cultural landscape are limited by areas of vegetation and the topography of the adjacent landscape. Several of these limited views are nevertheless features of the existing cultural landscape and include the views of the Chattahoochee River from Hewlett Lodge's back yard and patio, as well as from the Barbecue Pavilion site and the rock outcrop (**Figure 3.2**), the views of forests and the river from the park's earthen trails and paved walkways, and the north views of the pond from the pond loop trail. There are axial views of the park's natural forests from roadways and most pedestrian circulation features. There are axial views of Falling Branch, the Spring House, and Island Ford Retaining Wall from the earthen trail that follows the stream (**Figure 3.88**). While panoramic views of Hewlett Field are available from all edges of the field itself, visitors commonly experience them from Hewlett Field Drop Off, Island Ford Boat Ramp, and the shady picnic area north of the boat ramp (**Figure 3.6**). While large trees obscure views of Hewlett Lodge's front (west) façade, Hewlett Lodge and its surroundings are generally visible from nearby walkways and earthen trails as well as from points in Island Ford Parking Lot and the administrative areas near the Operations Building.

Several vantages along the highest elevations within the study area provide scenic views across the rugged and forested landscape to the Chattahoochee River, Falling Branch, the stream

along the south boundary of the site, and of the pond. In many cases such views are not accessible to visitors via the established park walkways and earthen trails (**Figure 3.3**, **Figure 3.5**, **Figure 3.8**).

Features:

- Views north, east, and south of the Chattahoochee River from the rear of Hewlett Lodge, the Barbecue Pavilion site, the rock outcrop, the shady picnic area, and earthen trails in the east portion of the site
- Views of Hewlett Lodge from surrounding walkways, earthen trails, and parking areas
- View to and from the front entry of the building
- Axial views of forests from on-site route of Northridge Road, Island Ford Parkway, and the road to Hewlett Field Drop Off
- Scenic views of streams, forests, and pond from high elevations in the central and west portions of the site
- Views within and of Hewlett Field
- Views at Maintenance Complex
- Views at site of Pavilions 1 and 2
- Views at Quarters Building



Figure 3.88: View of Falling Branch from adjacent earthen trail, facing west from point near the east end of the trail. (Source: WLA Studio).

Archeological Sites

Archeological reports from the 1970s to the 2000s note that Native Americans likely used the cliffs within the study area for shelter and travel. While extant resources related to such occupancy within CHAT show occupation and use dating back thousands of years, they are limited primarily to archeological sites, many of which have been compromised by development.

The NPS conducted an archeological survey of portions of the Island Ford unit of CHAT in the late 1990s. The extent of the study and findings are reported in *Cultural Resources Survey, Proposed New Trail System, Island Ford Unit, Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, Fulton County, Georgia*. (Gantt and DeRosa 2000). Hewlett Lodge vicinity was not included in the study area for that survey.

A variety of Civil War sites are located within CHAT boundaries. While the 2007 Historic Resource Study for CHAT states that "Rifle pits are said to exist on the west side of the river in District 17, Land Lot 1035, and at Island Ford," the NPS has not conducted a formal study of earthworks or depressions in the Island Ford unit. There are no known earthworks within the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape. The 2009 *Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement* for CHAT states that "The Gold Branch/Morgan Falls rifle pits/picket posts (1864) is a National Register-eligible historic structure(s) associated with the Civil War in this area. Other rifle pits (Island Ford areas) are potentially eligible properties, pending additional research."[185]

185. "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement," 136.

Trailhead
'S'
Stone curbing
Entrance Fee Station
Pet Waste Station
Phone-line Jct.
Mailbox
Bench
Ramps/Stair w/ rails
Water Fountain
Waste receptacle
Informational Kiosk
Stone ret. wall and concrete landing
Railings
Curbs
Railings
Stair/walk w/ railings
Entrance Fee Station
Grinding Stone
Park I.D. Sign
Grinding Stone
Rail fences
Plaque
Flagpole
Timber ret. wall
Pad-Mounted Trsf.
RAMP
DECK
DECK
Dry-laid stone ret. wall
Large stones forming ret. wall
Timber ret. wall
Concrete curbs/ headwalls w/ culvert
Stone-lined drain, culvert, and headwalls
PAVED WALK TO BBQ PAVILION
Stone ret. wall
Timber ret. wall
STONE PATIO
Bench
Remnant timber ret. wall
Railings
Stone walks
RAMP
Stone ret. wall
1
2
3
4
5
6
7

Credits:
1. National Park Service, CHAT Archives
2. USGS Earth Explorer (aerial imagery
3. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2021).

0 25 50 75 100 US Feet

Feature Key

1 Hewlett Lodge
2 Dormitory
3 Metal Storage Building
4 Water Supply Vault
5 Island Ford Parking Lot
6 Admin Parking Lot
7 Island Ford Cul-de-sac

Water/Sewer Feature
Fire Hydrant/Water Supply Port
Regulatory Sign
Wayfinding Sign
Road Sign
Overhead Lighting ('S' indicates solar equipped
Natural Forest
Grass and Forb Mix
Tree
Shrub (individual)
Shrub Mass

Notes:
See Illustration 3.6 for existing vegetation information for Hewlett Lodge vicinity.



Illustration 3.1
Existing Conditions: Hewlett Lodge Vicinity
Island Ford Lodge
Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area
OCTOBER 2021

Railing
Hewlett Lodge
Railings
Tulip poplar
NORTH PORTION OF ISLAND FORD UNIT
Dry-laid stone ret. wall
White pine
STONE PATIO
Timber retaining wall
Wayside
Oak spp.
Oak spp.
Oak spp.
Beech
Oak spp.
Tulip poplar
Stone stair set
Stone ret. walls
Stone patio
Stone benches
Oak spp.
White pine
HEWLETT LODGE WALKING PATH
Timber retaining wall
Boulder steps at natural pool
Stone ret. wall
Railing
Rail fence
Stone step
Timber steps
Rhododendron
Rhododendron
Bench
Bridge
Timber ret. walls w/ wood rails
NORTH PORTION OF ISLAND FORD UNIT
Area w/ rock outcrops
CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER
0 25 50 75 100 US Feet

Feature Key

1 Barbecue Pavilion
2 Picnic area
3 River overlook at rock outcrop
4 Spring House
5 Island Ford Retaining Wall

Water/Sewer Feature
Regulatory Sign
Wayfinding Sign

Earthen trail
Informal footpath

Natural Forest
Grass and Forb Mix
Tree
Shrub Mass

Credits:
1. National Park Service, CHAT Archives
2. USGS Earth Explorer (aerial imagery
3. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2021).

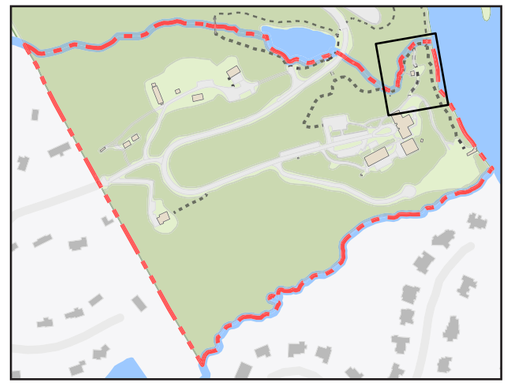
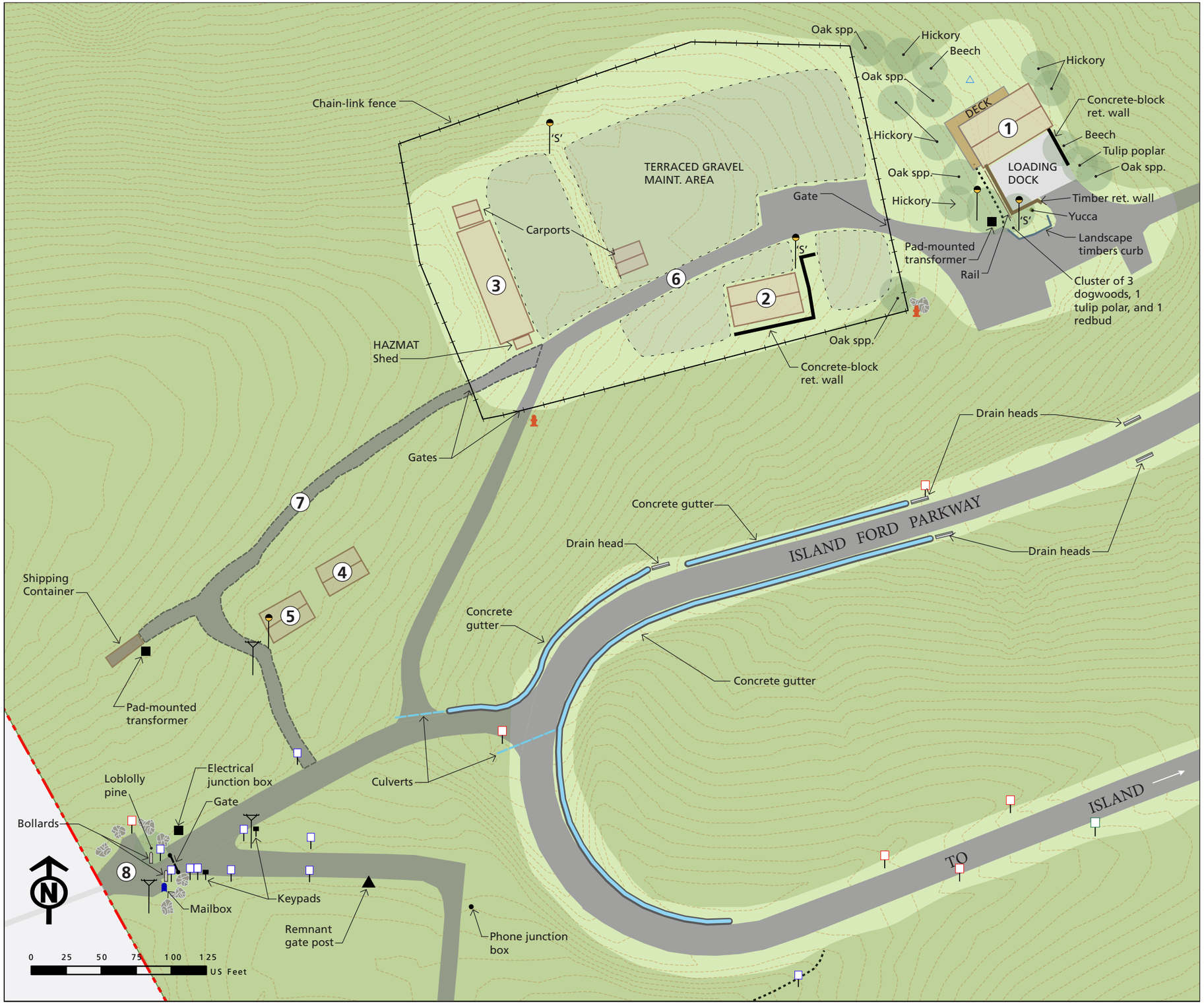


Illustration 3.2

Existing Conditions: Barbecue Pavilion Vicinity Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

OCTOBER 2021



Feature Key

1 Maintenance Building
2 NPS Boat Barn
3 Bally Building
4 Pavilion 1
5 Pavilion 2
6 Paved Maint. Loop Rd
7 Gravel Maint. Loop Rd
8 Northridge Rd Entr/Turn-Around

△ Water/Sewer Feature
Fire Hydrant/Water Supply Port
Regulatory Sign
Wayfinding Sign
Road Sign
Overhead Lighting ('S' indicates solar equipped
Power pole
Earthen trail
Informal footpath
Natural Forest
Grass and Forb Mix
Tree

Credits:
1. National Park Service, CHAT Archives
2. USGS Earth Explorer (aerial imagery
3. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2021).

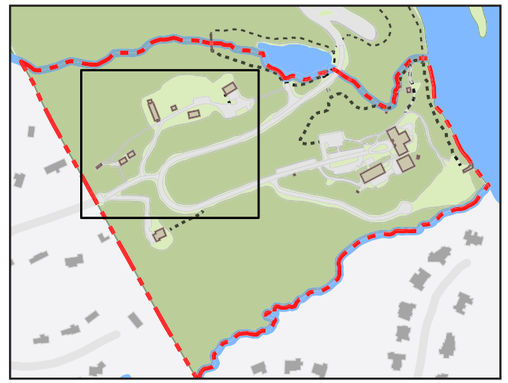


Illustration 3.3

Existing Conditions: Maintenance Complex and Northridge Gate Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

OCTOBER 2021



Feature Key

1 Hewlett Field
2 Island Ford Boat Ramp
3 Hewlett Field Drop Off
4 Hewlett Lodge
5 Metal Storage Building
6 Dormitory
7 Water Supply Vault
8 Admin Parking Lot
9 Point of Unauthorized Park Access

Regulatory Sign
Wayfinding Sign
Earthen trail
Informal footpath
Natural Forest
Grass and Forb Mix
Tree
Shrub (individual)
Shrub Mass

Notes:

See Illustration 3.1 for existing conditions information for the Hewlett Lodge vicinity;see Illustration 3.6 for existing vegetation information for Hewlett Lodge vicinity.

Credits:

1. National Park Service, CHAT Archives
2. USGS Earth Explorer (aerial imagery
3. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2021).

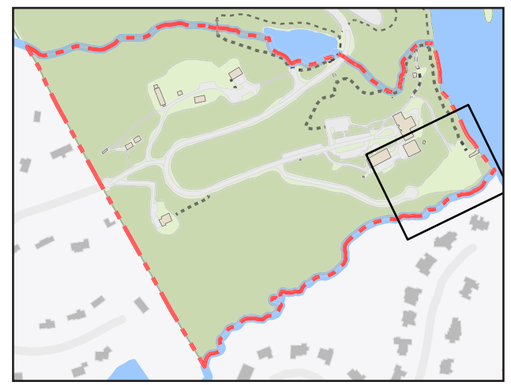


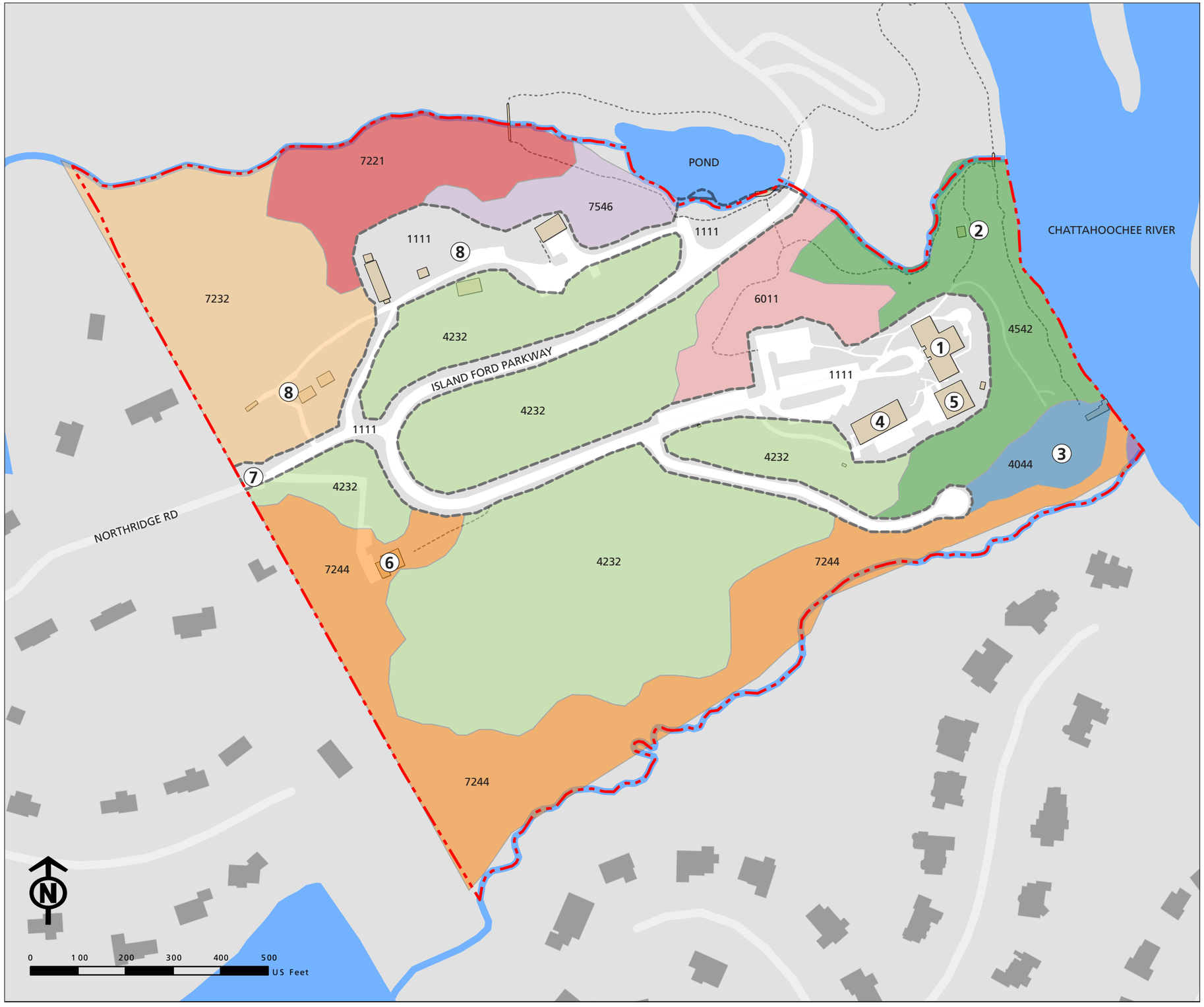
Illustration 3.4

Existing Conditions: Hewlett Field Vicinity

Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

OCTOBER 2021



Feature Key

1 Hewlett Lodge
2 BBQ Pavilion/Rock Outcrop
3 Hewlett Field
4 Dormitory
5 Metal Storage Building
6 Quarters Building
7 Northridge Rd Entrance
8 Maintenance Complex

Vegetation Associations Key

1111 - Human Influence
4044 - Successional Broomsedge
4232 - Piedmont Loblolly Pine-Oak Forest
4542 - Piedmont Rocky Mesic Mafic Forest
6011 - Early- to Mid-Successional Loblolly Pine Forest
7221 - Interior Mid- to Late-Successional Tuliptree-Hardwood Upland Forest [Acid Type]
7232 - Piedmont Dry-Mesic Basic White Oak-Hickory Forest
7244 - Interior Southern Red Oak-White Oak Mixed Forest
7546 - Loblolly Pine-Tuliptree Successional Forest

Credits:
1. Clipped plant association data from Vegetation Mapping at Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area: Photointerpretation Key and Final Vegetation Map (NPS Natural Resources Stewardship and Science office, Fort Collins, Colorado, 2010).
2. Basemap created by WLA Studio (2018-2021).

Illustration 3.5
Plant Associations
Island Ford Lodge
Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area
OCTOBER 2021

Natural regenerative forests surrounding Hewlett Lodge, the administrative area, and Island Ford Parking Lot includes representations of Early- to Mid-Successional Loblolly Pine Forest (6011), Piedmont Rocky Mesic Mafic Forest (4542), and Piedmont Loblolly Pine-Oak Forest (4232) (see Illustration 3.5 and the Existing Conditions section of this CLR.

Forb Mix: Goldenrod, Northern Sea Oats, Fringed Blue Star, Pink Ladies, Small Ragwort, Catchflies spp., Lemon Balm, Wild Geranium, Virginia Spiderwort

Oak
Japanese Aucuba
2 White Pine
Locust
Japanese Ternstroemia
Locust
3 Hemlock
Azalea Spp.
4 Indica Azalea
Oak
Am Holly
Mock Orange
Loblolly Pine
Buckeye
3 Oakleaf Hydrangea
2 Loblolly Pine
Honeysuckle
3 Azalea Spp.
2 Y. Holly
3 Beautyberry
2 Japanese Aucuba
Hemlock
Yaupon Holly
Boxwood
Cherry
3 Oak
4 Dogwood
Dogwood
Oak
2 Dogwood
Green & Gold
Red Bud
Loblolly Pine
2 Beautyberry
3 Azalea Spp.
Yucca
Buckeye
Yaupon Holly
4 Loblolly Pine
Mulberry
Camellia Spp. & Allspice
Grass & Forb Mix
Yucca
Allspice
Oakleaf Hydrangea
3 Azalea
Yucca
2 Dogwood
Juniper
Loblolly Pine
3 Redbud
Grass
5 Hemlock
Y. Holly
Beauty Berry
2 Dwarf Fothergilla
Buckeye
Azalea
2 Azalea
Doghobble
Grass/Forb Mix: Switchgrass, Dwarf Cinquefoil, Spiderwort
Redbud
Dogwood

0 25 50 75 100 US Feet

Feature Key

1 Hewlett Lodge
2 Dormitory
3 Metal Storage Building
4 Water Supply Vault
5 Island Ford Parking Lot
6 Admin Parking Lot
7 Island Ford Cul-de-sac

Natural Forest
Grass and Forb Mix
Tree
Shrub (individual)
Shrub Mass

Credits:
1. National Park Service, CHAT Archives
2. USGS Earth Explorer (aerial imagery
3. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2021).

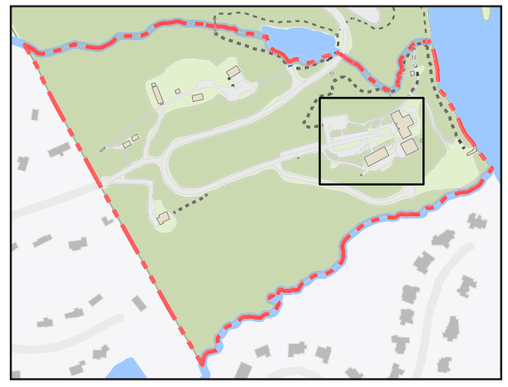


Illustration 3.6

Existing Vegetation: Hewlett Lodge Vicinity

Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

OCTOBER 2021

Analysis and Evaluation

Introduction

For cultural landscapes such as that of Island Ford Lodge, documenting existing conditions and analyzing and evaluating natural and human-made historic resources are critical in the development of a strategy for their management and treatment. Cultural landscape analysis involves two primary activities: evaluating historic significance and assessing historic integrity. Both use criteria determined by the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), which has developed nationally recognized methods for evaluating the significance and integrity of historic buildings and landscapes. The evaluation of historic significance identifies the important historical associations of the property, as well as its architectural, archeological, and social value. The property's significance is tied to a discrete period of time (period of significance) in which its important contributions were made and the broader historic contexts (historic context themes) within which the activities that occurred on the property may be placed.

The Analysis and Evaluation section of this CLR considers the site's history within recognized historic contexts to determine its contribution to the broad patterns of American history. It is important to note that historic resources, particularly cultural landscapes, change over time. As a result, a cultural landscape may have several areas of historical significance and multiple periods of significance. In order to determine whether a landscape feature contributes to the historic significance of the landscape at Island Ford Lodge, this chapter compares the existing conditions of landscape features to its understood historic state. The objective of this analysis is to identify the specific features associated with that historic period and assess to what degree they continue to convey their historic significance.

To aid in this assessment, landscape features are categorized based on their contribution to our understanding of the historic character of the landscape during the period of significance, which spans from Hewlett Lodge's construction in 1935 to 1950, when Samuel D. Hewlett, Sr., sold the property to the Buckhead Century Club. The categories of contribution include:

- Contributing;
- Noncontributing; and
- Undetermined.

Contributing landscape features are those that survive from the period of significance and continue to reflect their historic appearance and function. Noncontributing landscape features include those added to the site since the end of the period of significance or that no longer retain physical integrity to convey their historic appearance or function. Features with an undetermined contribution status include those for which the age cannot be determined or for which the contribution to the historic landscape is unknown.

The process to identify landscape elements follows a National Park Service (NPS) methodology that categorizes all landscape elements as one of thirteen landscape characteristics:

- Archeological Sites
- Buildings and Structures
- Circulation
- Arrangement of Buildings
- Constructed Water Features
- Cultural Traditions
- Land Use
- Natural Systems and Features
- Small-Scale Features
- Spatial Organization
- Topography
- Vegetation
- Views and Vistas

Landscape characteristics are the "tangible and intangible aspects of an inventory unit which have either influenced the history of the development of the landscape, or are products of its development, respectively."[186] Further, "these aspects individually and collectively give a landscape its historic character and aid in the understanding of its cultural importance."[187] Based on this understanding of the landscape, National Register of Historic Places methodology aids in establishing a site's significance.

National Register Status

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 authorized the creation of the NRHP as the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. The NPS is responsible for maintaining the list and coordinating with public and private entities to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archeological resources. The NPS has developed criteria for evaluating historic resources to determine their eligibility for listing on the NRHP. The National Register Criteria for Evaluation examine a property's age, integrity, and significance. To be historic, a property typically needs to be at least fifty years old. To possess integrity, a historic landscape needs to look and feel to some degree how it did in the past. The categories of integrity used to evaluate a property include: location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling, and association. The property must also be associated with historical events, activities, or developments that were important in the past. The NRHP identifies the type of significance of a property based on the following criteria:

- Criterion A: Association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- Criterion B: Association with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- Criterion C: Embodiment of the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- Criterion D: Yielding or potential to yield information in history or prehistory.

A site may be significant in any or all four criteria. Based on these criteria, a statement of significance can be drafted for a site.

Summary of National Register-Listed Features

On November 4th, 2016, the Keeper of the National Register signed the certifying document that effectively lists Hewlett Lodge into the NRHP. Although the National Register nomination is specific to the Hewlett Lodge building itself, there are three contributing structures, seven noncontributing buildings, and one noncontributing structure included in the listing. The 2016 *Island Ford Lodge National Register Nomination Form* provides the following summary narrative description of the features:

> The Island Ford Lodge is a 10.0-acre complex in suburban Fulton County, Georgia, in the city of Sandy Springs. Located in a cul-de-sac at the end of Island Ford Parkway, it is part of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area owned and managed by the National Park Service. The property consists of the Rustic-style main house, seven buildings, and four structures. The property is located on the west bank of the Chattahoochee River. Atlanta attorney Samuel D. Hewlett built the lodge in 1935 as a retreat home for his family. Designed in the manner of the Adirondack camps of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the one-story house is constructed with V -notched cypress logs that were felled on property Hewlett owned on the Okefenokee Swamp in south Georgia. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles and supported by cypress-log brackets. The foundation is of field stone construction and is exposed at the lodge's daylight basement which is visible from the building's rear and side elevations. Hewlett added a barbecue pavilion, retaining wall, and spring house to the property in 1945. Like the exterior, the interior spaces are finished in

186. Robert R. Page, "National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory Professional Procedures Guide" (U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships, Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Program, January 2009), 7–9.
187. Page, "National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory Professional Procedures Guide," 53.

> cypress logs. The core of the floor plan, as built in the early 1930s, is T -shaped with bedrooms, kitchen, and bathrooms at either end and a living room or great room in the central block. The lodge building, barbecue pavilion, spring house, and landscape features are in good condition and have retained their historic integrity. Since the construction of the complex in 1935 by Samuel D. Hewlett, its uses have evolved from a family summer retreat to a private club (Buckhead Century Club) and later as a church retreat facility (Atlanta Baptist Association). In the 1950s, a large dormitory building and a storage building were added to the property by the Atlanta Baptist Association. Between 1970 and 2002, the National Park Service (NPS) added several buildings and a structure to the property: Bally Building (1970); Maintenance Building (1972); Island Ford Quarters (1973); Stone Patio (1984); and Hazmat Building (2002). It currently serves as the headquarters for the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area (CRNRA), a unit of the NPS.

Period of Significance

The period of significance for Hewlett Lodge is 1935-1950. This period begins with the initial construction of Hewlett Lodge by Samuel D. Hewlett, Sr., and terminates with its sale to the Buckhead Century Club.

Statement of Significance

Hewlett Lodge is an excellent and rare example of a rustic-style building in Georgia. It is constructed of natural materials such as stone, exposed log, log siding with rabbeted edges and log bracing. Rustic-style influences can be seen in the eaves, dormers, vestibule, and foundation walls. This building style was especially popular for mountain vacation homes in the early twentieth century. As such, Hewlett Lodge is deemed significant at the state level in the area of architecture. This significance meets National Register Criterion C.

Criterion C: Architecture

Hewlett Lodge is significant in the area of Architecture as a rare and excellent example of a rustic-style building in Georgia. This style of building is characterized by the extensive use of natural materials. The 2016 Island Ford National Register Nomination Form describes the building materials thusly:

> locally gathered field stones and the unhewn cypress logs harvested from the owner's property in the Okefenokee Swamp in south Georgia. The foundation, steps, and fireplaces, as well as barbecue pit, spring house, and retaining wall, are built of field stones. V- notched cypress logs cover the exterior of the building and remain exposed on the interior.

While Hewlett Lodge exterior shows evidence of changes to the original building fabric, the interior layout remains much as it was at the time of construction and includes the original exposed log walls, log siding on the ceiling and some of the stud walls. While Hewlett Lodge has seen an NPS renovation and alterations as it has changed owners through the years, it remains an excellent example of a rustic-style building. This building style is particularly rare in Georgia, even more so as a residential example. There is only one other National Register-listed residential rustic-style building in Georgia.

Hewlett Lodge and the associated contributing resources are in good condition, retain their historic integrity, and embody the distinctive characteristics of rustic-style architecture in Georgia.

Analysis of Landscape Characteristics

Natural Systems and Features

Historic Condition

Prior to the period of significance, the natural systems and features of the Upper Piedmont underwent significant changes as settlers cleared forests for agriculture and human communities such as the town of Roswell and smaller crossroads communities. During the nineteenth century, European and American settlers cleared vast swaths of forests that once provided fuel and game to Native Americans. However, settlers chose the most arable and flattest land first, leaving isolated pockets of forests intact—the subject landscape included. Such forests often served as buffers between agricultural fields, streams, home sites, towns, cities, and industrial facilities. Even still, settlers left essentially no native forest of the Upper Piedmont untouched. Even the most hard-to-reach

areas were eventually logged for building material or fuel. During the twentieth century, reduced land cultivation resulted in natural reforestation and many farm fields and cut-over lands reverted to second-growth forests. Suburban development of the twentieth and twenty-first century have resulted in a patchwork of mixed naturally-regenerated forests and developed areas.

The steep slopes and rocky uplands that dominate the Island Ford Lodge landscape made farming crops difficult except in the floodplain areas; thus, it is likely that most of the subject landscape remained uncleared prior to the 1930s. A 1938 aerial image of the property shows the vast majority of the site covered with woodland communities and only the floodplain along the south edge of the site cleared (**Figure 4.1**).

Those who have owned and managed the landscape since at least the 1930s have preserved the site's forest ecosystem, which is representative of that of the larger river valley and remains a character-defining feature of the landscape. Historically, the natural buffer and ambiance provided by the forest ecosystem made the site an ideal location for Samuel D. Hewlett's vacation retreat. Subsequent use of the site as a recreational landscape by the Buckhead Century Club, the Atlanta Baptist Association, and the NPS has similarly benefitted from the preservation of the existing forest ecosystem.

The terrain of the site, with relatively few level and dry areas, influenced the configuration of the built environment, including the siting of Hewlett Lodge, associated buildings, roads, trails, and other features.

Concerning climate, the Upper Piedmont's relatively cool climate drew many of Georgia's early settlers from coastal areas.

Historic built features, including the mortared-stone stair sets, retaining walls, patios, and the Spring House, respond directly to the need to stabilize the steep terrain to facilitate circulation and recreational use of the landscape. These features also respond to the site's natural hydrology, as in the active channeling of Falling Branch imposed by the Island Ford Retaining Wall and the configuration of the Spring House.

The close connection between the natural and cultural environment is evident in the use of large stones in their natural location as viewing platforms and/or steps both above and beside the site's waterways. Examples being the rock outcrop and the boulder steps at Falling Branch (**Figure 4.2**).

Samuel Hewlett performed minimal clearing during his ownership of the property, limited only to areas where necessary for the construction of Hewlett Lodge, the access road, the Barbecue Pavilion, trails, and river views. As the area would have likely been timbered in the nineteenth century, the forested areas Hewlett cleared were second-growth successional forests. Successional forests in the Southeast are often reflective of what lay dormant in the soil, but typical successional flora include pines, scrubby oaks, various grasses, and a diverse mixture of herbaceous plants. The 1938 aerial shows the clearings for Hewlett Lodge and an unidentified structure (no longer extant) at the current site of the north portion of Island Ford Parking Lot. That same image shows a relatively dense forest buffer immediately surrounding the two buildings and sparse forests dominating the remainder of the landscape. The site of the Barbecue Pavilion is not evident in the 1938 image.

The cycle of landscape disturbance and revegetation likely impacted the presence of animal species on site. These animals, such as white-tailed deer, native bees and wasps, and various birds, influenced the development of the forest through pollination and seed dispersal.

Further impacts to the adjacent landscape occurred due to rapid development, mostly occurring after World War II and particularly during the real estate boom of the early 1970s. Suburban development associated with increasing population of Metro-Atlanta continues to impact adjacent areas.

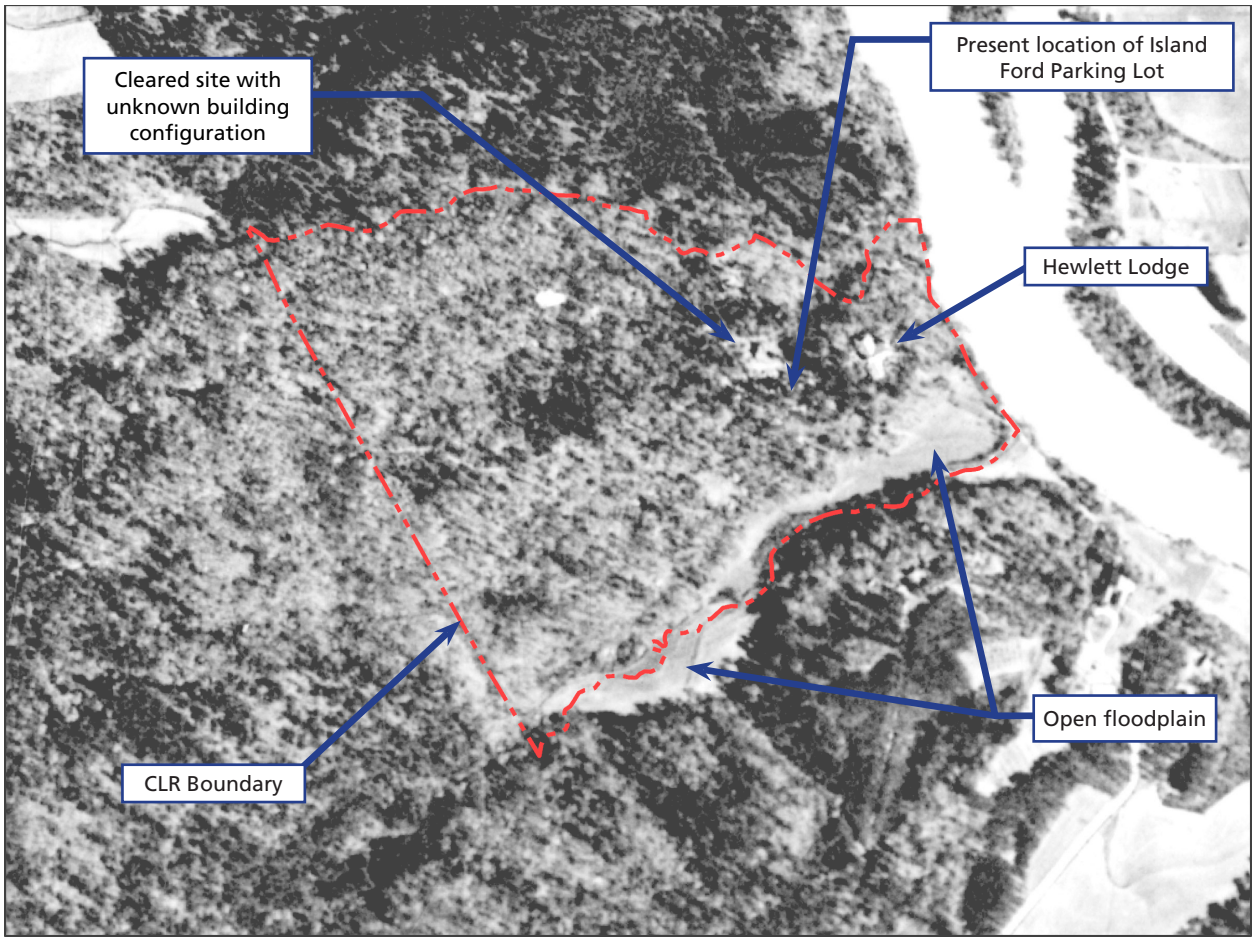


Figure 4.1: 1938 aerial image of Island Ford Lodge landscape; markup by WLA Studio. (Source: UGA Map Library Aerial Imagery Collection, ATL-3-35, April 10, 1938).



Figure 4.2: An earthen path likely established during the historic period terminates at these naturally-occurring boulder steps on the south bank of Falling Branch; facing north. (Source: WLA Studio).

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

The Buckhead Century Club acquired Hewlett Lodge and surroundings in 1950, representing the end of the period of significance. The building's Historic Structure Assessment Report, finalized by NPS in 2000, states that the Club "was largely responsible for many of the significant changes to the building." While the Club altered the building's interior significantly and added a swimming pool nearby, analysis of historic aerial images reveals that the Club made only a few alterations to the site's natural systems and features.

A 1955 aerial image (**Figure 4.3, on the following spread**) shows two alterations to the natural forested areas that are visible in the 1938 image—a relatively large cleared area to the west of Hewlett Lodge and a roughly 25-foot-wide cleared swath running east-west through the center of the site that is likely associated with access road improvement. Research has not revealed the precise date of the clearing or who performed the alterations. It is suspected, however, that the changes occurred in conjunction with the Buckhead Century Club's rehabilitation of the site. The cleared area is rectangular, measures approximately 150' east-to-west and 100' north-to-south and connects directly to the suspected road. It is likely that the Club cleared the area for a parking lot. The central and south portions of Island Ford Parking Lot currently occupy that clearing.

Other notable changes to natural systems and features revealed in the comparative analysis of the 1938 and 1955 aerial images includes a suspected filling-in of portions of the field adjacent to the site's south boundary, minor but noticeable thinning of the forests in the area that is currently occupied by the maintenance complex (northwest of Hewlett Lodge), and significant clear-cutting or thinning of the forests north of the study area.

The Buckhead Century Club sold the property to the Atlanta Baptist Association in 1955. The Association owned the property and used it as a summer retreat destination until 1979 when the NPS acquired the property. Based on analysis of aerial images from 1960, 1966, and 1972, the Association made the following alterations to natural systems and features of the study area:

- Clearing of forested areas for the construction of the Metal Storage Building, Operations Building, Pavilions 1 and 2, three unknown buildings in the north portion of the site (no longer extant);
- Clearing of forested areas for three sections of road, including the current location of the north portion of Island Ford Parkway, the current location of the maintenance loop roads, and a roughly 230-foot-long road running north-south near the center of the site that is no longer extant;
- Continued succession of natural forests in the west portion of the open field in the south portion of the site as well as the clear-cut areas north of the site;
- Reestablishment of the east portion of that same open field, which remains open as Hewlett Field today; and
- Construction of the earthen dam that forms the pond north of the study area.

Since 1979, the NPS has protected the natural systems and features on site, allowing the continued succession of natural forests in much of the areas cleared prior to Hewlett's ownership. The site's two small streams still flow to the Chattahoochee River and wildlife have been afforded protection from adverse impacts.

Regarding the climate that drew the Georgia coast-based settlers to the Upper Piedmont, the Environmental Protection Agency estimates that since 1970, "average annual temperatures in the region have increased by about 2°F, with the greatest warming occurring during the summer."[188] As such, the climate today does not exactly reflect that of the historic period. As a protected park, the Island Ford Lodge landscape provides habitat for a number of animal species to continue influencing the maintenance and development of the site.

Summary

Various natural systems and features informed the development of the Island Ford Lodge site, most of which are still present in the landscape due to

188. US EPA, "Climate Impacts in the Southeast," Overviews and Factsheets, accessed July 30, 2019, / climate-impacts/climate-impacts-southeast.

its protected status. Hewlett Lodge site was likely chosen for its high-ground position overlooking a west-to-north bend in the Chattahoochee River just upstream from the natural shoals at Island Ford. Hewlett Lodge and other historic constructed features and circulation features respond to the natural terrain. The remote wooded environment of the site historically provided respite from regional development at Roswell and, later, Sandy Springs, making the property an ideal summer retreat destination both during and after the period of significance. Regional fauna along with successional vegetation processes informed the development of the existing forests and open areas.

People have ascribed cultural value to several of the site's natural features. The rock outcrop, exposed boulders on the banks of the river and its tributaries, and natural forest clearings historically provided the ambiance desired by Hewlett when establishing his summer retreat destination. Subsequent owners embraced such natural features and preserved the remote, wooded setting, which constitutes an ideal place for outdoor recreation. The flora of the site also continues to attract attention by park visitors. Lastly, the overall scenic quality of the site is based on the natural beauty of the Chattahoochee River, its two tributaries on site, the lush forest, and rugged terrain.

Changes to the natural systems and features that were present during the period of significance include the expansion of the forest west of Hewlett Field, which was previously open agricultural field, and clearing for several new buildings and structures, as well as roadways and parking lots. The regional climate is now warmer, though still mostly reflects that of the period of significance. Despite these changes, overall, the natural systems and features of the site strongly reflect the period of significance.

Natural Systems and Features:

- Regional Climate - Contributing
- Hydrological system (*Chattahoochee River, Falling Branch, stream at south boundary of site, and drainages*) - Contributing
- Floodplains - Contributing
- Ridge and Upland Areas - Contributing
- Geology and Soils - Contributing
- Rock Outcrop (*near the northeast corner of the site*) - Contributing
- Forest Ecosystem - Contributing
- Regional Fauna – Contributing

Topography

Historic Condition

The natural topography that characterizes the region influenced the historical development of the Island Ford Lodge landscape. During the period of significance, Samuel D. Hewlett used the natural topography of the site while developing his summer retreat destination. At that time, the primary access to the site was via the present route of Northridge Road, which takes advantage of the flat topography of the ridgeline in an east-west orientation. Entering the site from the west, the road extends to the east end of the ridge where it ends at the cul-de-sac west of Hewlett Lodge. Hewlett constructed Hewlett Lodge on the eastern-most edge of the ridgeline, taking advantage of the steep slopes to the north, east, and south for views of the Chattahoochee River and creation of day-light basement interior spaces. Hewlett constructed the Barbecue Pavilion on a relatively small, but flat, clearing atop the rock outcrop, taking advantage of picturesque views of the surrounding woodlands, Falling Branch, and the Chattahoochee River. Additionally, the siting of a set of stone stairs leading from the Barbecue Pavilion to the floodplain of Falling Creek, Island Ford Retaining Wall, the Spring House, and associated circulation features respond to the natural topography.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

During the Buckhead Century Club and Atlanta Baptist Association occupancies the site underwent several topographical modifications associated with the construction of new buildings and structures, roads, and the pond north of the study area. The comparative analysis of aerial images from 1955, 1960, and 1966 reveal the following alterations to the topography (**Figure 4.3**, **Figure 4.4**, **Figure 4.5, on the following spread**):

- Grading for road along present route of the north portion of Island Ford Parkway within the study area;

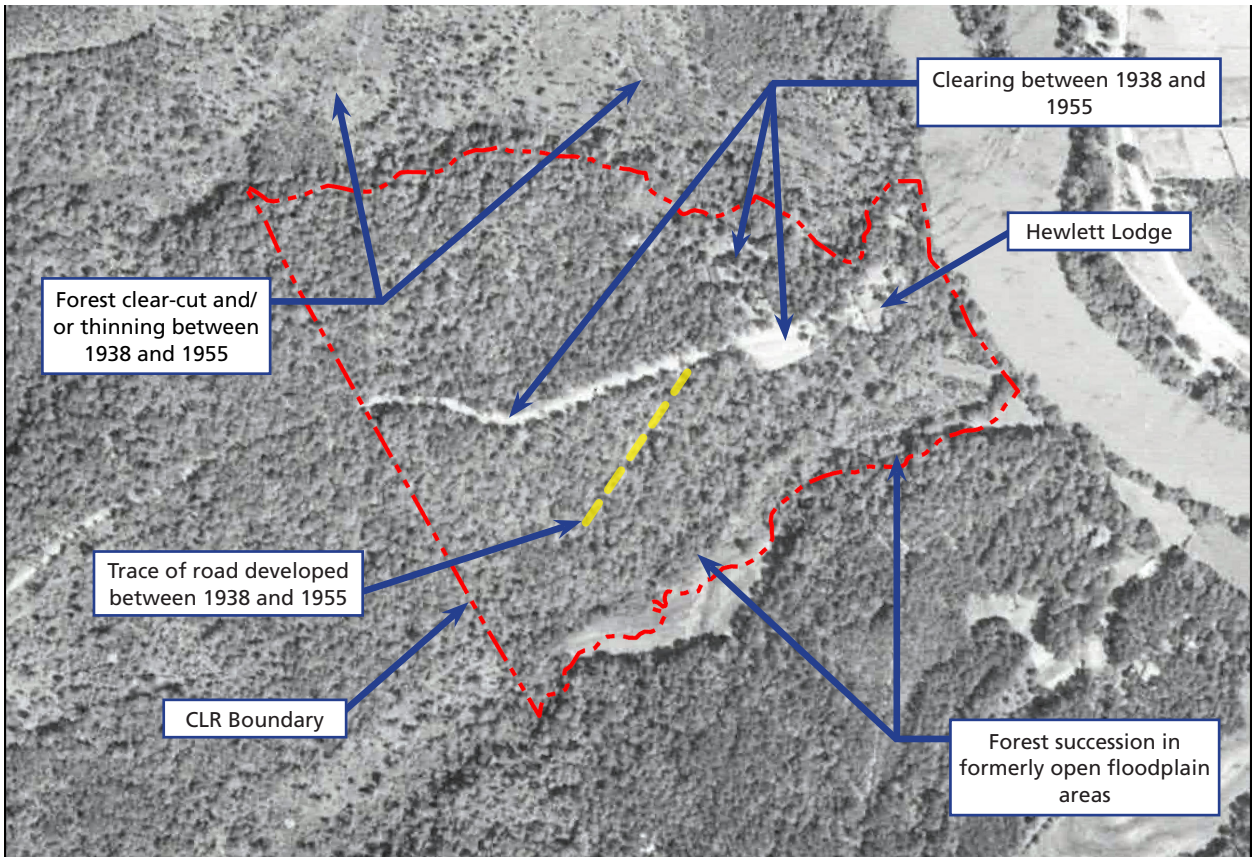


Figure 4.3: 1955 aerial image of Island Ford Lodge landscape; markup by WLA Studio. (Source: UGA Map Library Aerial Imagery Collection, ATJ-8P-45, May 5, 1955).

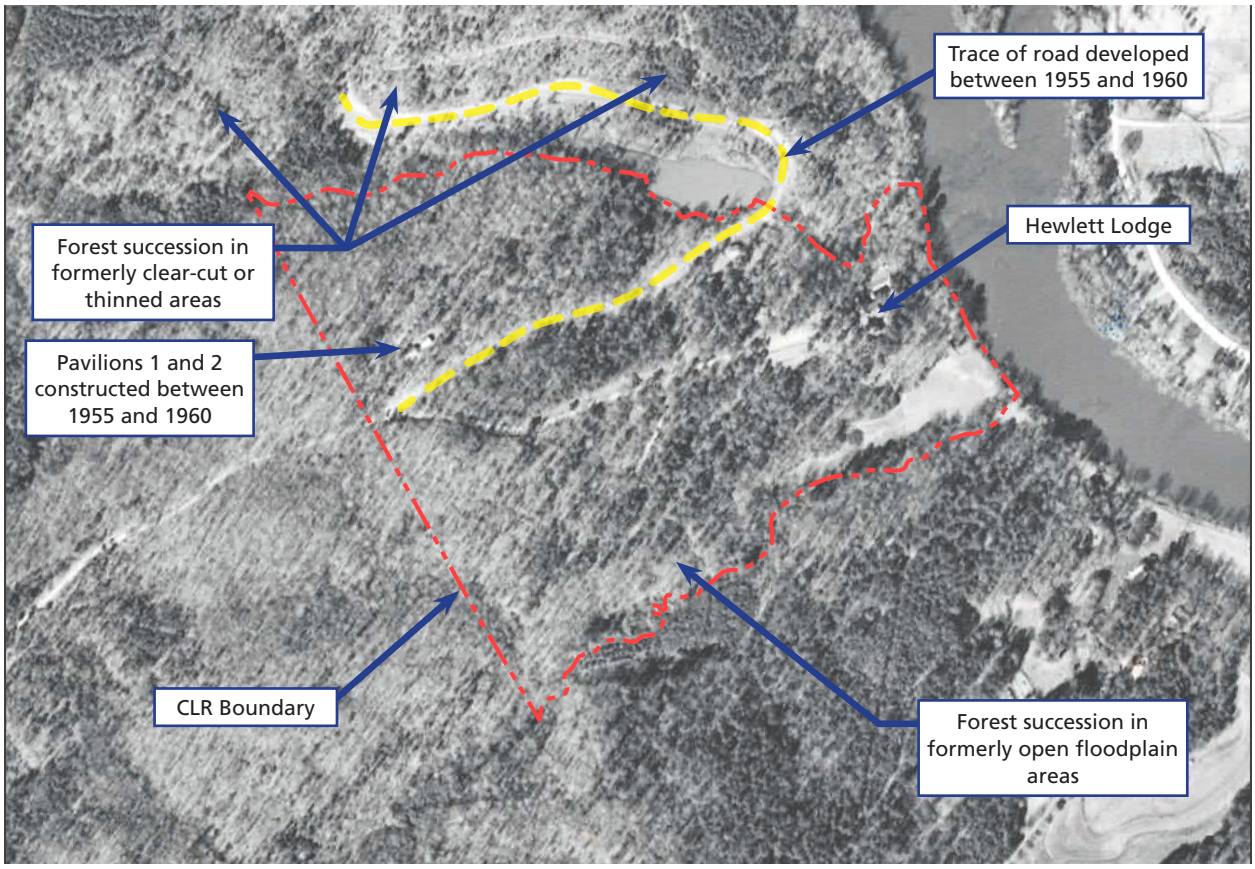


Figure 4.4: 1960 aerial image of Island Ford Lodge landscape; markup by WLA Studio. (Source: UGA Map Library Aerial Imagery Collection, ATJ-4AA-97, February 23, 1960).

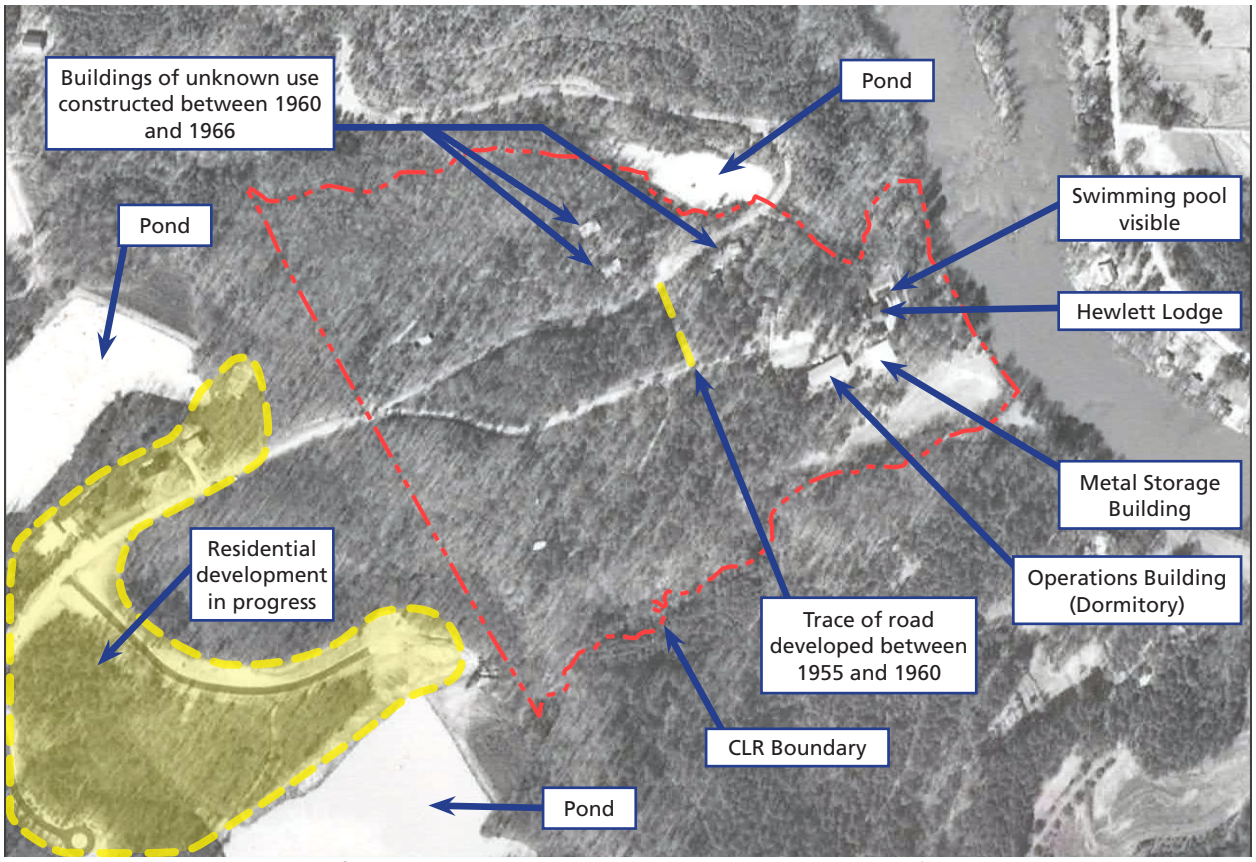


Figure 4.5: 1966 aerial image of Island Ford Lodge landscape; markup by WLA Studio. (Source: UGA Map Library Aerial Imagery Collection, ATJ-3GG-65, March 9, 1966).

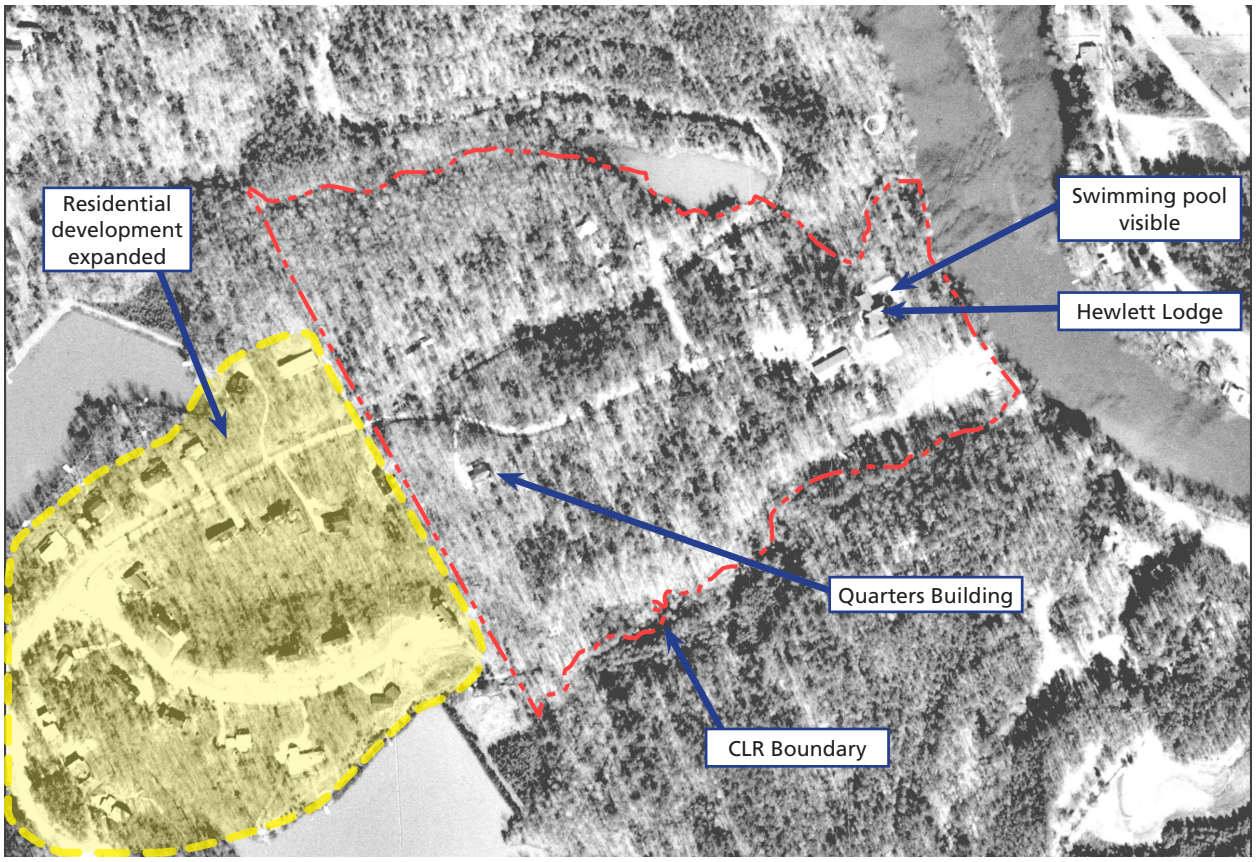


Figure 4.6: 1972 aerial image of Island Ford Lodge landscape; markup by WLA Studio. (Source: UGA Map Library Aerial Imagery Collection).

- Grading for short north-south road near center of site;
- Grading for suspected parking lot west of Hewlett Lodge;
- Grading for site of Maintenance Building, Operations Building, Metal Storage Building, and Pavilions 1 and 2, as well as associated access roads and parking areas;
- Grading for the site of three buildings of unknown use and configuration that are no longer extant; and
- Construction of the earthen dam at the pond north of the study area.

Additional known alterations to the topography date to the period of NPS ownership (1979-present), including grading for the construction of earthen hiking trails, timber stair sets, the ramp and stair set feature north of the Operations Building, the large terraces at the fenced maintenance complex, maintenance areas west of the fenced maintenance complex, and rerouting of the west end of Island Ford Parkway (July 1986 to summer 1987) and the road to Hewlett Field Drop Off (August 2010 to February 2011).

Active erosion of steep slopes and portions of established earthen trails occurs at several places in the landscape, especially where surface water runs off of both paved and unpaved surfaces. Areas of notable erosion include the following:

- Steep slopes south of the pond loop trail where water runs off of the paved and gravel surfaces in the maintenance complex (**Figure 4.7**);
- Steep slopes north of Hewlett Lodge where water runs off of the sites of Hewlett Lodge and Island Ford Parking Lot (**Figure 4.8**); and
- Moderate slopes west of Island Ford Parking Lot, including portions of the earthen trail that leads to Falling Branch (**Figure 4.9**).

While the grading and erosion that has occurred since the period of significance does not compromise the integrity of the historic topography, some alteration to the site's storm water management systems may be required to prevent further degradation to natural terrain and historically graded areas. Of particular concern is active erosion along the south bank of Falling



Figure 4.7: Active erosion occurs on the steep slope south between the east end of the maintenance complex and the pond loop trail, facing south. (Source: WLA studio).



Figure 4.8: Active erosion occurs in the forested area west of Island Ford Parking Lot; the NPS has placed piles of fallen tree limbs and debris to slow erosion; facing east. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 4.9: Active erosion occurs on the steep slopes between Hewlett Lodge and Island Ford Spring House, facing south. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 4.10: Active erosion of the south bank of Falling Branch at the east end of Island Ford Retaining Wall, facing northwest. (Source: WLA Studio).



Figure 4.11: Active erosion occurs at several steep portions of both earthen and paved pedestrian circulation features in the landscape; facing southeast at intersection of the earthen trail to the Barbecue Pavilion site and Hewlett Lodge Walking Path. (Source: WLA Studio).

Branch at the east end of Island Ford Retaining Wall (**Figure 4.10**) and portions of both paved and earthen pedestrian circulation features in the landscape (**Figure 4.11**).

Summary

Despite weathering and alteration to a few topographical features, overall site topography reflects that of the period of significance and helps define the character of the Island Ford Lodge landscape. Hewlett Lodge is still located on the east end of a ridge at around 920' above mean sea level (AMSL), while the Chattahoochee River, Falling Branch, and the stream along the south site boundary are still located at around 860' AMSL. The ridgelines, highpoints, steep slopes, and rock outcrop remain and are used for recreation, including walking, hiking, picnicking, wildlife viewing, and river access. Other historic topographical features such as the grading for Hewlett Lodge, Barbecue Pavilion, Island Ford Retaining Wall, the Spring House, and associated historic circulation features are also still present in the landscape and demonstrate how Hewlett worked with rather than against the site's natural terrain when developing the site in the 1930s. Alterations to the topography that have occurred since the end of the period of significance, such as grading for park roads, pedestrian circulation features, and post-1950 buildings and structures, including drainage ditches and gutters, are noncontributing landscape features. Such features have minimal impact on the overall integrity of the historic topography site-wide. The Treatment chapter of this CLR provides recommendations for protection of historic and contemporary landscape features threatened by active erosion.

Topography Features:

- Floodplains - Contributing
- Steep slopes above floodplains - Contributing
- Ridge and upland areas - Contributing
- Sheer cliff formed by rock outcrop - Contributing
- Naturally flat Hewlett Lodge site - Contributing
- Naturally flat Barbecue Pavilion site - Contributing
- Highest point in landscape - Contributing

- Naturally flat site of Island Ford Quarters - Contributing
- Naturally flat portions of circulation routes - Contributing
- Graded areas associated with historic circulation features, parking areas, and building and structures – Contributing
- Graded areas associated with circulation features, parking areas, and buildings and structures constructed since the period of significance - Noncontributing
- Grading for the paved and rock-filled gutters and drainage ditches along Island Ford Parkway - Noncontributing



Figure 4.12: Remnant of barbed-wire fencing along the north edge of the reforested floodplain in the southwest portion of the study area, facing north. (Source: WLA Studio).

Land Use

Condition Prior to the Period of Significance

Prior to Samuel D. Hewlett's purchase of what is presently the Island Ford Lodge landscape, Native Americans and perhaps even early white settlers of the region used the property primarily as a hunting ground. While it is possible that such people farmed portions of the site, the steep and rocky terrain above the floodplains made farming the site difficult. Thus, any intensive agricultural production on the site would likely have been limited to Hewlett Field and reforested areas of the associated floodplain. While property owners and/or tenants may have grazed livestock in other portions of the study area prior to Hewlett's ownership, research has not revealed evidence of such use. Likewise, there is no known evidence of crop terracing within the study area.

Analysis of the 1938, 1955, and 1960 aerial photographs indicates land transition in the southwest portion of the southern floodplain area from open field to successional forest. There are remnants of barbed-wire fencing at places along what was the field's north edge (**Figure 4.12**).

Historic Condition

Upon Hewlett's purchase of the property in 1925, the land was forested, rough, and without major improvements. These conditions provided the ambiance and seclusion desired for a summer-retreat destination. Hewlett constructed the Rustic-style Lodge, walking trails, stone stair-sets, the Barbecue Pavilion, and other features to facilitate both residential and recreational use of the landscape.

The 1938 aerial photograph shows at least one building site of unknown use within the study area (**Figure 4.1**). The former site occupied a small clearing approximately 300' west of Hewlett Lodge. Although no evidence of the clearing and building site remain, the north end of Island Ford Parking Lot occupies a portion of the historically-cleared site. Research has not revealed the number, size, configuration, or purpose of the building(s)/ structure(s).

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

Later owners, including the Buckhead Century Club, the Atlanta Baptist Association, and the NPS, also used the site primarily for recreation. Each

group engaged in minor alteration of the natural terrain and added new facilities and altered those constructed by Hewlett to facilitate recreational use of the landscape as a summer retreat destination.

The Buckhead Century Club used Hewlett Lodge as a social meeting hall for private dinners and gatherings. They added a commercial-style kitchen, large dining room, a swimming pool, dressing rooms with showers, and slot machines. Hewlett, himself a member of the Club, sold the property with the stipulation that he retain the right to use a private apartment with two rooms and a bathroom in Hewlett Lodge, thus retaining the site's residential use for a time.

Hewlett relinquished his life-state apartment in 1955 when the Atlanta Baptist Association purchased the property. For nearly the next twenty years, the Association maintained Hewlett Lodge and site as a retreat/camp facility for members of specific churches in the Association. The Association constructed several purpose-built facilities to facilitate outdoor recreation, overnight housing for large groups, and an indoor gymnasium.

The NPS took possession of the property in 1979 and rehabilitated the site in the early 1980s. As part of that rehabilitation, NPS established the headquarters of CHAT on the site and developed a facility associated with park-wide maintenance operations. At that time, the park engaged in rehabilitation, preservation, and interpretation of the Hewlett-era buildings and structures (those listed in the National Register of Historic Places) and constructed various features to facilitate public recreational and educational uses of the site.

Summary

In summary, during the period of significance the primary land use of the site was residential and recreational rather than agricultural, as may have been the case prior to Hewlett's ownership. Under the Buckhead Century Club's ownership recreational land uses continued but became more focused on Hewlett Lodge than its natural surroundings. After its acquisition by the Atlanta Baptist Association, recreational uses continued and were reoriented to those associated with the remote character of the landscape, such as hiking, nature observation, and access to the river. While such uses continue under NPS ownership, the 1980s rehabilitation of the site facilitated new, more public-oriented uses such as historical tourism, educational programing, picnicking, and scientific study of the natural ecosystem. The most significant new uses are park administration and maintenance activities. As such, the present recreational land uses of the site partially reflects the period of significance and the administrative- and maintenance-related uses do not.

Land Use Features:

- Residential - Missing
- Recreation - Contributing
- Historic interpretation (Hewlett-era resources) - Noncontributing
- Environmental conservation and research - Noncontributing
- Administrative - Noncontributing
- Maintenance - Noncontributing

Cultural Traditions

Condition Prior to the Period of Significance

Based on historic aerial photographs and remnants of agricultural fencing within the study area, it is likely that the primary cultural traditions that influenced the development and function of the site prior to Samuel D. Hewlett's purchase were associated with hunting and gathering, selective harvesting of timber for fuel and lumber, livestock grazing, and cultivation of agricultural crops in the cleared floodplain of the southern portion of the site.

Historic Condition

During the period of significance, cultural traditions associated with building, landscaping, and labor influenced the development and use of the site. Hewlett's design of a summer retreat--complete with a main home place (Hewlett Lodge) and auxiliary buildings and circulation features (Barbecue Pavilion, Spring House, and various patios and walkways) placed in a natural setting—reflects the building and landscaping traditions of the Rustic Style. The Rustic Style derives from the nineteenth-century work of Frederick Law Olmstead, Calvert Vaux, and H. H. Richardson and is closely related to the Great Camp Movement of the 1870s as well as Gustav Stickley's Craftsman Movement of the early twentieth century.

Although there is no documentation of a formal designer or architect for the subject landscape, the preserved naturalistic architecture and overall historic site plan represent a rare example of the implementation of the Rustic Style in Georgia.

Unfortunately, there is no known documentation of formal landscaping traditions present at Island Ford Lodge during the period of significance. Research did not reveal the presence of any formal gardens, ornamental or culinary, nor did research reveal any other definitively historic vegetation features. However, naturalistic vegetation such as large naturally-occurring and potentially planted trees, ornamental shrubs, flowering plants, and formally-laid hedges may have been planted during the period of significance. As is the case with the site's historic buildings, the influence of the natural environment is evident in the arrangement and species of the potentially historic vegetation.

Regarding labor traditions that influenced the development of Hewlett Lodge/retreat destination, Hewlett's role as owner, architect, and general contractor, with two men, John Epps and Mr. Howell (first name unknown), as the only known builders, is quite interesting given the large scope and scale of the project. Likewise, the fact that Epps may have lived on the property with his wife during construction is significant. The arrangement between Hewlett and the builders situates the site's historic resources within American building and labor traditions of the early- to mid-twentieth century. The best known examples of Rustic-style homes and camps in the United States were designed by well-known architects and funded and built by communal organizations such as the Works Progress Administration, and the Civilian Conservation Corps; and nearly all in the state of Georgia were designed as nonresidential sites. The labor traditions that resulted in the construction of the historic resources of Island Ford Lodge landscape may have been very rare for the time. Further research related to Hewlett's design and construction process for this particular site may be revealing, especially if compared with similar custom home/retreat sites elsewhere.

Traditions associated with outdoor recreation also influenced the site's development during the period of significance. The close relationship between the site's historic features and the natural environment and setting suggest that Hewlett sought relatively seamless access to the outdoors. Hewlett Lodge and Barbecue Pavilion's siting on wooded high points overlooking the river and the extensive use of natural materials reflects an embrace of the outdoors. Similarly, the site's remote location separated from larger regional cities and towns afforded relative isolation, providing respite in the outdoors.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the period of significance, the cultural traditions of naturalistic, camp-like building and landscaping, as well as outdoor recreation continued. The Buckhead Century Club utilized the existing outdoor facilities, including architectural features of Hewlett Lodge that engage the outdoors, such as the daylight basement areas, patios, and stone walkways, as well as the Barbecue Pavilion and Spring House, for Club activities. Likewise, the Atlanta Baptist Association's use and development of the site aligns with Hewlett's embrace of the natural environment and remote setting. Although research has not revealed the existence of formal landscape and/or building plans, the Association developed the site without major alteration to historic resources and/or land uses.

Since 1979, when the NPS purchased the property, new cultural traditions have influenced the development of the site. These include historic preservation, historic tourism, and environmental conservation. The cultural traditions of historic preservation and tourism began with the NPS's acquisition of the property and continues today. Efforts to rehabilitate and preserve the historic built features of the site resulted in the present character of the landscape, with Hewlett Lodge serving as CHAT Headquarters and other historic features preserved and interpreted for park visitor use. The purchase of Hewlett's vacation residence was not just to preserve the home, but also to protect the natural environment. Protecting the landscape from overt human impact is a cultural tradition that has been part of American society since the mid-nineteenth century, and reflects values concerning wildlife, scenic quality, education, and recreation among others. Outdoor recreation continues to influence the site's development as the NPS allows public access to historic and contemporary landscape features.

Summary

The cultural traditions that shaped the development of the cultural landscape left an indelible impression, most obviously through the construction of Hewlett Lodge and its associated walks, patios, and auxiliary buildings and structures. Other influencing cultural traditions present during the period of significance ended, while others, such as historic preservation were introduced. Outdoor recreation and environmental conservation are the predominant cultural traditions presently influencing the landscape today.

Cultural Traditions Features:

- Outdoor Recreation - Contributing
- Historic Preservation - Noncontributing
- Environmental Conservation - Noncontributing

Spatial Organization

Historic Condition

During the period of significance, Hewlett utilized a central east-west road along a ridge near the center of the study area to access Hewlett Lodge site. He constructed Hewlett Lodge in a small clearing at the east end of that same ridge. He constructed the Barbecue Pavilion, stone stairs to Falling Branch, Island Ford Retaining Wall, and the Springhouse to the north the ridge. Both Hewlett Lodge and the Barbecue Pavilion are sited on high points, affording good drainage and views of the Chattahoochee River and surrounding woodlands. Hewlett organized the built features to respond to the site's natural features—including ridgelines, steep slopes, the river and its tributaries, and both open and wooded floodplain areas. The natural features, therefore, define the spatial organization during the historic period. All those features remain in their original organization and are legible on the landscape despite the features constructed since the end of the period of significance.

Post-historic and Existing Condition

Since the end of the period of significance, the various owners of the property have added new roads, walkways, buildings, structures, and eventually trails, picnic areas, and parking lots. The primary road that Hewlett used to access Hewlett Lodge remains intact and includes the east end of Northridge Road and the south leg of Island Ford Parkway. Non-historic buildings, structures, circulation features, and small-scale features are located primarily on the naturally-flat areas in Hewlett Lodge area, maintenance complex area, and floodplains. Like the historic built features of the site, new features respond to the natural terrain and are situated in the remote forest environment.

Summary

Little is known about the spatial organization of the site prior to 1938; however, analysis of historic aerial photographs, deed records, and NPS documents provides a relatively clear narrative of the property's spatial development since Hewlett's purchase. Like Hewlett, subsequent owners have utilized the ridgelines, high points, and/or relatively-small cleared areas for building and recreation. Likewise, non-historic circulation features respond to the steep terrain by generally following the natural contours. Steep slopes and floodplain areas remain undeveloped and retain their wooded or open-field (Hewlett Field) character, as they did during the period of significance. The spatial organization of the site's built features, which are situated in the remote wilderness setting, remains much as it did in the historic period and defines the character of the cultural landscape.

Spatial Organization Features:

- Organization of constructed features, trails, and open and wooded areas in floodplains – Contributing
- Route of trails and organization of associated structures, topography, and small-scale features in areas with steep, transitional slopes – Contributing
- Organization of constructed and vegetative features in upland areas of the site – Contributing
- Route of Northridge Road – Contributing
- Route of Island Ford Parkway and Hewlett Field Road – Noncontributing

Cluster Arrangement

Historic Condition

The only known cluster of buildings and structures in the study area during the period of significance includes Hewlett Lodge, Barbecue Pavilion, Springhouse, and Island Ford Retaining Wall. The 1938 aerial photograph shows an additional building or structure (no longer extant) to the west of Hewlett Lodge.

The 1955 aerial image shows all of the aforementioned historic buildings that make up Hewlett Lodge cluster as well as an additional cluster of buildings or structures of unknown use to the northwest of the Hewlett Lodge cluster (on the south side of the present-day route of Island Ford Parkway where it enters the study area). Research has not revealed the dates of construction, designers/builders, configuration, or use of those resources.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

Research has not revealed if the cluster of buildings and/or structures visible in the 1955 aerial photograph mentioned above (northwest of Hewlett Lodge cluster) existed prior to 1950, when the Buckhead Century Club acquired the property. The referenced cluster is visible on the 1960, 1966, and 1972 aerial photographs.

From 1955 to around 1960, the Atlanta Baptist Association expanded Hewlett Lodge cluster by constructing the Operations Building and Metal Storage Building. Several buildings and structures now part of the maintenance complex cluster date to the Association's period of ownership (1955-1979), including Pavilions 1 and 2 (circa 1958), Maintenance Building (1972), and Bally Building (circa 1973). The Quarters Building cluster is visible on the 1972 aerial photograph and the *Island Ford Lodge National Register Nomination Form* suggests a construction date of 1973.

All other clusters identified in the Existing Conditions chapter of this CLR were added by the NPS since 1979.

Summary

Although at least one building or structure has been demolished and several features have been added to the Hewlett Lodge cluster since 1950, the historic arrangement remains intact and legible on the landscape. A second cluster of buildings and/or structures that may have existed during the historic period (located northwest of Hewlett Lodge cluster) remained on the site until at least 1972. All other existing clusters date to after the end of the period of significance and are noncontributing features.

Cluster Arrangement Features:

- Pond overlook cluster – Noncontributing
- Maintenance complex – Noncontributing
- Northridge Road entrance cluster – Noncontributing
- Quarters Building cluster – Noncontributing
- Hewlett Lodge cluster (both historic and contemporary features) – Contributing
- Visitor-services cluster at north end of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac – Noncontributing
- Hewlett Field Drop Off cluster – Noncontributing
- Island Ford Boat Ramp cluster – Noncontributing
- Shady picnic area cluster – Noncontributing

Circulation

Historic Condition

During the period of significance there were two vehicular circulation features within the study area, a road that closely followed the present-day route of Northridge Road and a turn-around/parking area just west of Hewlett Lodge (present-day location of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac). The road ran from west to east along the site's central ridgeline and ended at Hewlett Lodge. The 1938 aerial photograph of the site shows the road and the clearing in which Hewlett Lodge and cul-de-sac are situated. While it is likely that pedestrian trails or paths led from Hewlett Lodge to the Barbecue Pavilion, Springhouse, Hewlett Field, the present-day location of Island Ford Boat ramp, Falling Branch, and other locations in the landscape, research has not revealed specific evidence of their exact locations or configurations.

Historic circulation features immediately adjacent to Hewlett Lodge include stone walkways and stair sets. Although Hewlett may have constructed circulation features in the cleared areas around Hewlett Lodge and cul-de-sac, research has not revealed evidence of any such features.

Analysis of the 1938 and 1955 aerial photographs suggests that a portion of the clearing to the west of Hewlett Lodge, present-day location of Island Ford Parking Lot, may have been used for parking during the period of significance.

Historic circulation features at the Barbecue Pavilion site include the adjacent stone patio and stone step, the cleared area in which the pavilion sits (now covered with a thin gravel surface), and the stone stair set leading to Falling Branch (Shadow RIS-HS #091881). A portion of the existing earthen trail along Falling Branch, between the bottom of the stone stair set and the Springhouse, follows the most-likely route of pedestrian access to the Springhouse during the historic period.

Research has not determined if the existing remnant of a dirt road south of the present-day intersection of Island Ford Parkway and Hewlett Field Road existed during the period of significance; however, the clearing for that road is visible on all aerial photographs taken after 1955.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

The 1952 and 1955 aerial photographs show no major alterations of the road and parking area used by Hewlett and his family during the period of significance, which suggests that the Buckhead Century Club also used the features. Although research has not revealed if, or how, members of the Club accessed Hewlett Field or other places in the study area, sometime between 1950 and 1955, the Club added a swimming pool just northeast of Hewlett Lodge.

The Atlanta Baptist Association made several alterations to circulation on site—primarily associated with access to new buildings and structures built during their ownership (1955-1979). Analysis of aerial photographs from 1955, 1960, 1966, and 1972 reveals the following:

- Vehicular circulation features constructed between 1955-1960 include (1) a road of unknown surface material running east-west along the present-day north portion of Island Ford Parkway from the present-day location of the dam that forms the pond north of the study area to the Northridge Road park entrance; (2) a road of unknown surface material running north-south near the center of the site, which linked the original Lodge access road to the new road; and (3) a road of unknown surface material running roughly from the present-day location of the Northridge Road park entrance, northeast past the site of Pavilions 1 and 2, and to the west end of the present-day location of the park's maintenance complex.
- Although the Atlanta Baptist Association likely constructed roads and pedestrian circulation features to provide access to the Operations Building and Metal Storage Building, analysis of aerial photography is inconclusive regarding the exact location and/or configuration of any such features.
- The pool and patio that once existed northeast of Hewlett Lodge is clearly visible on the 1960, 1966, and 1972 aerial photographs.
- The 1966 and 1972 aerial photographs show cleared areas in the north portion of the site that may be associated with vehicular and/or pedestrian circulation in the area southeast of the existing Maintenance Building.
- Between 1966 and 1972, workers constructed the Quarters Building driveway, which runs north-south linking the Quarters Building site to the west end of the original road to Hewlett Lodge.
- The 1968 and 1972 aerials show cars parked in the clearing at the present-day location of Island Ford Parking Lot; a feature that appears to be a sidewalk leading from the center of the north façade of the Operations Building toward the parking lot; two trails in the forested area

north of the east end of Hewlett Field; and an unidentified circular feature in the east portion of Hewlett Field. The two trails north of Hewlett Field visible in the historic aerials align with the present-day paved route of Island Ford Lodge walking path and the earthen trail along the Chattahoochee River, respectively. The circular feature in Hewlett Field appears to include a small rectangular structure at the center with amphitheater-type seating surrounding it.

In 1986-1987, the NPS established Island Ford Parkway as the primary site access road. The asphalt road, which winds from Roberts Drive (north of the study area) through the center of the site and to Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, occupies a portion of the north road constructed during the Atlanta Baptist Association's ownership, as well as the original Lodge road. The NPS constructed the hair-pin turn section of Island Ford Parkway during that same road project. The NPS also paved the west end of Northridge Road within the study area, a portion of the maintenance complex loop road, and the driveway to the Quarters Building.

Subsequent NPS road and parking lot improvement projects include paving Island Ford Parking Lot (dates unknown), establishment of the paved road and administrative parking lot south and east of the Operations Building (dates unknown), and establishment of the paved road to Hewlett Field Drop Off (2010-2011).

In the 1980s, the NPS infilled the pool northeast of Hewlett Lodge and constructed the existing stone-paved patio area. Between 1979 and the present, the NPS constructed all concrete walkways, stair sets, wooden ramps and footbridges, and earthen trails within the study area to facilitate public recreation. Although earlier owners of the property may have accessed the Chattahoochee River at the present-day location of Island Ford Boat Ramp, the paved ramp and dock structure were constricted by the NPS.

Summary

A number of circulation features have been preserved since the period of significance, such as the stone-paved walkways and stair sets surrounding Hewlett Lodge and Barbecue Pavilion. Additionally, portions of modern paved and unpaved roads, parking areas, and some pedestrian circulation features align with circulation features used during the period of significance. Their legibility on the landscape demonstrates how the site functioned historically. Those features are, therefore, listed as contributing. In some cases, such as the pedestrian access to the Spring House along Falling Branch, research has not revealed the exact location of circulation routes. Portions of existing circulation features that may align with historic features are listed below with undetermined contribution status. That determination is based on analysis of the historical research summarized in Chapter 2 of this CLR and historic aerial images. All other site circulation features were added or altered since the end of the period of significance and are, therefore, listed as noncontributing.

Circulation Features:

- Island Ford Parkway (north portion constructed c. 1960) – Noncontributing
- Hair-pin turn in Island Ford Parkway (constructed by NPS 1986-1987) -- Noncontributing
- Island Ford Parkway (south portion, east end of historic road to Hewlett Lodge) – Contributing
- Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac – Contributing
- Island Ford Parking Lot – Undetermined
- Northridge Road (portion within study area, west end of historic road to Hewlett Lodge) – Contributing
- Maintenance loop roads (paved and gravel) – Noncontributing
- Quarters Building driveway – Noncontributing
- Hewlett Field Road – Noncontributing
- Hewlett Field Drop Off – Noncontributing
- Hewlett Field Boat Ramp – Noncontributing

- Administrative driveway – Noncontributing
- Remnant of road in forested area south of the intersection of Island Ford Parkway and Hewlett Field Road – Undetermined
- Administrative parking lot – Noncontributing
- Concrete walkways – Noncontributing
- NPS-constructed earthen trails (site access and hiking) – Noncontributing
- Portion of earthen trail along Falling Branch north of Barbecue Pavilion and Springhouse site – Undetermined
- Earthen trail between Hewlett Lodge and Barbecue Pavilion site – Undetermined
- Steel and wood bridge at northeast end of study area – Noncontributing
- Set of wood steps and boardwalk at west end of pond – Noncontributing
- Stone walkways, patios, landings, and stair sets adjacent to Hewlett Lodge (does not include large patio at former swimming pool) – Contributing
- Stone stair set at Island Ford Pavilion (Shadow RIS-HS #091881) – Contributing
- Stone Patio at Hewlett Lodge (former location of swimming pool) - Noncontributing
- Wood, concrete, and stone ramps, decks, and stair sets (vicinity of Hewlett Lodge and administrative area) – Noncontributing
- Informal footpaths – Noncontributing

Vegetation

Historic Condition

Due to limited documentation, research has not revealed the full extent of the vegetative character of the Island Ford Lodge landscape for the period of significance. The following analysis of the site's vegetation between 1935 and 1950 derives from (1) historic aerial photographs from 1938 and 1952, (2) an oral history relayed to Nancy Beck in 1990 by Mrs. Clare Hewlett-Alexander (daughter of Samuel D. Hewlett, Sr.), (3) a one-page summary of the site's history entitled "A Bit of History" (author unknown), and (4) an 1866 map of the Sixth District of Gwinnett County, Georgia.[189]

Natural Vegetation

The 1866 map of the Sixth District of Gwinnett County includes surveys with boundary lines for 372 land lots. The study area includes a portion of the Lot 360, as shown on that map. Surveyors reference six trees and two stationary points, labeled "Sta," as markers for Lot 360's boundaries. Trees identified include "Bo," "Pine," "Who," and "Per," interpreted as meaning black oak, pine, white oak, and persimmon respectively. Only the white oak, which marks a point along the southwest boundary of Lot 360, is situated on the border of Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape.

Line item number six of "A Brief History" (Island Ford History file held at Southeast Regional Office, NPS) states that "The driveway leading to Hewlett Lodge was once covered with pines, and extended all the way to Roswell Road." As this document is undated and originates from an unknown source, its value for analysis of the landscape is limited. It is worth noting, however, that the 1938 and 1952 aerial photographs show the driveway situated in a mature, or successional maturing, natural forest of mixed hardwoods and pines.

In the 1938 and 1952 aerial photographs, scattered woods—some areas denser than others—appear throughout the study area. The densest areas of vegetation were located along steep slopes and the rock outcrop in the northeast portion of the site. Cleared areas are visible in the floodplain of the stream that forms the site's south boundary and the

189. Clare Hewlett Alexander, "Interview by Nancy Beck," Island Ford, September 12, 1990, Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service; Unknown, "A Bit of History" (n.d.), Island Ford History File 1/3, Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service.

present-day location of Hewlett Field; along the east-west access road; along an additional road in the west portion of the site, the present-day area of Pavilions 1 and 2; immediately surrounding Hewlett Lodge and a second building or structure to the west; and at the present-day site of Island Ford Parking Lot.

As discussed in the Natural Systems and Features section of the Existing Conditions chapter of this CLR, it is likely that the property was logged, at least selectively, prior to Hewlett's occupation. The forests present during the period of significance were likely in a successional state. Typical successional flora of the Georgia Piedmont includes pines, scrubby oaks, sweetgum, various grasses, and a diverse mixture of herbaceous plants. The cleared area—unless seeded with another grass—would likely have featured a mix of understory species including broomsedge (*Andropogon virginicus*), purple top (*Tridens flavus*), and little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*).

Cultural Vegetation

Unfortunately, there is little known evidence of the configuration of cultural vegetation during the period of significance. Given that Hewlett developed the property as a remote summer retreat destination, it is inferred that the native forests were predominant in all areas other than Hewlett Lodge vicinity. In her 1990 oral account, Mrs. Alexander mentions placing her son "in a playpen on the lawn in front of the [back] porch," suggesting the existence of an open, grassy area adjacent to Hewlett Lodge. Items seven and eight of the one-page document entitled "A Brief History" suggests that at least some ornamental plantings existed during the historic period. Those items state that "7. The rhododendron in the area came from North Carolina [and] 8. The camelias were brought from Charleston, South Carolina." The document includes no reference to the extent of such plantings, nor does it indicate when or where they were made.

Due to insufficient data, it is undetermined if any of the existing ornamental trees, shrubs, and forbs surrounding Hewlett Lodge existed during the period of significance.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

Since 1950, at least some changes have occurred to the cultural vegetation, and the natural vegetation has expanded and matured.

Regarding natural vegetation of the site, all owners and managers of the site have generally allowed the continued succession of natural forests within the study area since the end of the period of significance. Analysis of the historic aerials since the 1950s indicates that the landscape has transitioned from a thin forest of predominately pine to a mixed successional hardwood forest, characterized by a denser tree canopy and significant understory growth. Since the NPS purchased the property in 1979, park staff have noticed increasing infiltration of exotic and invasive vegetation. This is particularly apparent in the wooded buffer area between Hewlett Field and the stream that forms the site's south boundary.

Cultural vegetation exists in many places within the study area, including mature ornamental trees, shrubs, and forbs. While plantings are most prevalent in the areas immediately surrounding Hewlett Lodge and cul-de-sac, they also exist at the sites of the Maintenance Building and Quarters Building. Unfortunately, research has revealed very little information regarding the age of the plantings, and it is, therefore, difficult to determine their contribution to the site's historic integrity. Based on undocumented accounts, park staff suspect that many of the native and exotic wild flowers and ornamental shrubs and trees surrounding Hewlett Lodge and administrative buildings were planted by former NPS employees. Park staff also suspect the hemlocks growing next to Hewlett Lodge's west façade were planted by a former park employee. During the 2000s, members of the Dunwoody Garden Club helped establish the perennial flower beds in the vegetation island at the Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac.

Since the year 2000, the NPS has conducted two vegetation studies of CHAT, *Vascular Flora of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, Atlanta, Georgia,* by Karin Heiman, April 2000, and *Vegetation Mapping at Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area,* by David L. Cotton, et al., 2019. In the 2000 report, Karin Heiman states that:

> [The Island Ford unit] has a wide range of upland and low woods communities with a number of unusual species including pink lady slipper (presently known only from this unit). Annual monitoring of the lady slipper location is recommended. There is one drainage with an interesting group of hybridized azaleas. The spring house area has a rich white oak forest near a loblolly forest. The rich forest is home to a number of interesting species such as mock orange (*Philadelphusin odorus*), adders mouth (*Malaxis unifolia*), and black cohosh.[190]

Unfortunately, it remains undetermined whether the vegetative features/conditions described by Heiman were present during the historic period. Research has not revealed evidence to suggest that those features/conditions are the result of human influence.

Summary

As part of the Chattahoochee River corridor, the natural habitat of Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape is unusual for the Piedmont of the southern United States. The natural plant communities of the site are more-closely associated with those of the Appalachian Mountains.

Because natural forests dominated the vegetative character of the steep slopes and ridges during the period of significance, the site's existing forests contribute to the site's overall historic integrity. Likewise, the native grass species present in the open floodplain area of Hewlett Field is representative of the historic period. Since acquiring the property in 1979, the NPS has actively maintained both Hewlett Field and the natural forest environment of the remainder of the site by removing invasive species.

Analysis of the 1938 and 1952 aerial photography is inconclusive regarding the existence of specific ornamental forb, shrub, and/or tree plantings in the study area, and there are no known photographs of Hewlett Lodge or property dating to the historic period. Due to the lack of sufficient documentation of historic conditions, the contribution status of the site's cultural vegetation is undetermined. However, it is worth mentioning that the NPS maintains the cultural vegetation in a manner that reflects the naturalistic landscape planning that is a characteristic of typical early- to mid-twentieth century Rustic-style retreat homes in America—for which Hewlett Lodge is significant as listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Vegetation Features:

- Natural forests within the study area – Contributing
- Hewlett Field – Contributing
- Cultural vegetation in human influenced areas (surrounding buildings, roads, walkways, and trails) – Undetermined

Buildings and Structures

While there is no formal documentation of the designer, architect, or builders of the historic buildings and structures of the site, several reports published by NPS describe their development based on oral accounts, including (1) the *Historic Structure Assessment Report* for Island Ford Lodge (SERO, 2000), (2) the Historic Resource Study for CHAT (SERO, 2007), and (3) *Island Ford Lodge National Register Nomination Form* (NPS, 2016). The two most reliable accounts of the property's historic condition are those documented in formal interviews between NPS staff and Mrs. Clair Yancey Alexander, daughter of Samuel D. Hewlett, Sr., in 1990 and 1999. Additionally, the Historic Assessment Report for Hewlett Lodge includes a summary of an oral interview with Mr. Leroy Stubblefield, a NPS employee during the 1980s and 1990s. Mr. Stubblefield's 1999 recollection of rehabilitation work performed by NPS at the site informs the analysis of buildings and structures after the historic period.

Historic Condition

Research has revealed that during the historic period Samuel D. Hewlett, Sr., commissioned the construction of Hewlett Lodge, Barbecue Pavilion, Spring House, and Island Ford Retaining Wall, all of which remain intact on the site. Analysis of the historic aerials reveals that there may have been as many as four other buildings and/or structures present in the study area during the historic period that are no longer extant—located to the west and northwest of Hewlett Lodge.

190. Karin Heiman, "Vascular Flora of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, Atlanta, Georgia" (National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy, April 2000), 29, NPS IRMA.

Based on the NPS reports and the interviews with Mrs. Alexander, Samuel D. Hewlett, Sr., acted as the primary contractor for Hewlett Lodge's construction. Mrs. Alexander was not aware of an architect or the existence of any formal architectural plans. The author of Hewlett Lodge's *Historic Structure Assessment Report* notes that the relatively "high style" character of the building is likely the product of a schooled architect and that it may be possible that the design was conceived through use of a mail-order pattern book typical of the time. There is, however, no supporting information to back up this claim.

In both interviews, Mrs. Alexander clearly recalled that an African-American man named John Epps was the primary laborer on site during construction. She remembered that Mr. Epps was an ex-convict and that he resided on the property from the beginning of construction in 1935 until sometime after Hewlett Lodge's completion around 1935 or 1936. She specifically credited Mr. Epps for the masonry. Mrs. Alexander also recalled that a "Mr. Howell" (first name unknown) worked as an assistant to Mr. Epps.

Research has not revealed whether Mr. Epps and Mr. Howell were involved in only Hewlett Lodge's construction or also that of the Barbecue Pavilion, Spring House, Retaining Wall, and/or any associated buildings and structures on site.

Conjectural information on the unauthored one-page document entitled "A Bit of History," available in the Island Ford History file at SERO archives, states that:

> 2. Mr. Sam Hewlett, former Judge of the Georgia Supreme Court, contracted to have the house built.
> 3. The stone work was done by a Mr. John Epps. He used rocks from Stone Mountain and a nearby rock quarry.
> 4. The logs came from the Okeefenokee Swamp.

In her 1999 interview, Mrs. Alexander also stated that a "hay barn" was present on the property during the historic period. She states that the barn burned during her childhood and that the "rough" condition of the road prevented fire trucks from accessing and saving the building. She also noted that her father "raised goats in the lower pasture," but did not mention any associated animal sheltering structures.

On June 29, 2020, Lamar Hamilton Ellis Jr. (grandson of Samuel D. Hewlett, Sr.) told Chris Jackson (project historian, WLA Studio) in a phone conversation that he remembers an African American care-taker living on the property during the historic period. He also recalled that the Hewlett family kept horses on the property. Further, Mr. Ellis recalled that his mother, Sarah Hewlett Ellis (daughter of Samuel D. Hewlett, Sr.) lived at Hewlett Lodge with her parents while his father, Lamar Hamilton Ellis, served abroad with the U. S. Navy for an unknown time period during World War II (1939-1945). Though he was very young, Mr. Ellis clearly recalled residing at Hewlett Lodge with his mother during that time. He also recalled short-term visits to the property as a child.

Regarding the buildings and/or structures west and northwest of Hewlett Lodge—those visible on the 1938 and 1952 aerial photographs that are no longer extant—it is possible that one or more of those features served any combination of the following purpose(s) during the historic period:

- Mr. Epps's residence during the historic period;
- An unidentified care-taker(s)' residence onsite during the historic period;
- The "hay barn" described by Mrs. Alexander in 1999;
- Livestock shelter(s).

Analysis of the 1955, 1960, 1966, and 1972 aerial photographs is inconclusive regarding the exact dates of construction and demolition of those four buildings and/or structures. The feature closest to Hewlett Lodge, which was located at the present-day north end of Island Ford Parking Lot, was presumably the caretaker's house.

Hewlett Lodge Interior Configuration and Use
In her 1990 interview, Mrs. Alexander recalled the following details pertaining to Hewlett Lodge's interior, as recorded by Nany Beck:

> The "lobby or front [west] room was a combination reception room/library and the north walls were lined with books. Mr. Hewlett placed a sun above the mantel and fireplace.

> The largest room, east of the lobby (now open offices) was a living room. Above the fireplace in this room, Mr. Hewlett place a crescent moon (still there, today), so that his four daughters could "spoon" under the moon and not leave the family living area.
>
> Beyond the living room and facing the river (present kitchen area), was the porch. It stretched all the way across the east end of the building.
>
> The south wing of the lodge contained a guest bedroom (present Chief Ranger's office), bathroom (present bathroom), kitchen (present law enforcement specialist's office), breakfast room (present maintenance chief's office, and huge dining room (open office area).
>
> The back-to-back fireplaces (lobby and "great room") were large enough for four men to stand erect inside.
>
> The north wing was family sleeping quarters and a bathroom.

Nine years later, the author of the Historic Structure Assessment Report noted the following additional information during an interview with Mrs. Alexander:

- East Wing - Family/living room with partially enclosed porch along the east end. The porch was later infilled by the [Buckhead Century Club]. Her father placed the crescent above the mantle in the east wing so his daughters would not have to go "parking" with boys to look at the moon.
- North Wing - Family sleeping space. Rooms arranged symmetrically along the north-south central hall (arrangement changed slightly by the NPS). The "split log" siding is remembered as original to the construction .
- South Wing - Kitchen and dining room. The Dining room dominated the space where the cubicles are today. The kitchen was aligned along the south wall toward the southwest comer. The fireplace was used to separate the dining room from a breakfast nook on the south side. She does not remember either of the staircases present in this corner of the building. The exterior steps date to construction (previously thought possibly to have been an afterthought). The space also contains an additional guest bedroom where the office currently is along the west wall.
- Lobby/Entry Hall - Originally had bookcases to either side of the door leading to the north wing.
- Basement - Mrs. Alexander remembers the basement space as unfinished until the [Buckhead Century Club] renovated the space as a place for their slot machines. She thinks the bathrooms (dressing rooms) were also added by the [Buckhead Century Club] because they were responsible for building the pool as an amenity for members. Basement doors on the east wing were added at this time (or, rather, were not present at the time of the original construction).

Stone-Paved Patio Northeast of Hewlett Lodge
Research has not revealed sufficient evidence to determine the exact configuration of the stone-paved walkways and/or patio features surrounding Hewlett Lodge during the historic period. The 1952 aerial image, however, shows a small clearing northeast of Hewlett Lodge, the area where the Buckhead Century Club later constructed a swimming pool (present-day location of the stone-paved patio structure).

Barbecue Pavilion
Research has not revealed substantial documentation of the historic configuration of the Barbecue Pavilion and associated structures, including the stone retaining walls, patio, and brick barbecue pit. As described in the Existing Conditions chapter of this CLR, the stonework of the chimney, retaining walls, and patio matches that of Hewlett Lodge's in materials and uncoursed bond pattern. The mortar joints of the chimney and grill are beaded while those of the other stone features are flush. There is no evidence to suggest that these aspects of the building and site have been altered or moved since their construction around 1945.

The NPS reconstructed the brick interior portion of the firepit/grill and replaced the original roof structure and roofing material in 2004. The *Island Ford Lodge National Register Nomination Form* states that the existing roof design is substantially different than the original; however, research has not revealed formal documentation of the precise alterations.

Island Ford Spring House and Island Ford Retaining Wall
As is the case for the features at the Barbecue Pavilion site, research has not revealed substantial documentation of the historic configuration of the Spring House and Retaining Wall. NPS documents and the National Register Nomination Form state that both were constructed around 1945 and that they have been preserved since the end of the period of significance. The materials and craftsmanship of both features match that of Hewlett Lodge and the retaining walls and chimney at the Barbecue Pavilion. While the features exhibit no evidence of major alterations, a steel band bolted to the north side of the Spring House opening suggests that there may have been a gate or door attached at some point. If such a gate or door existed, research is inconclusive as to whether it was fixed or hinged. Likewise, the material composition is unknown. The National Register Nomination Form states that "it is believed that [the Spring House] once had a wire gate across the front side."

Post-Historic and Existing Condition
After Hewlett sold Hewlett Lodge and property in 1950, subsequent owners rehabilitated the site and altered, demolished, and constructed buildings and structures. The following analysis of those changes to the site is based on the oral histories, NPS reports, and historic aerial photographs.

Buckhead Century Club Period (1950-1955)
In 1950, when Hewlett sold Hewlett Lodge property to the Buckhead Century Club, he retained the right to use an apartment consisting of two rooms and a bathroom in the southwest corner of the building. Because of that stipulation, that portion of Hewlett Lodge remained unaltered during the Club's ownership. Otherwise, the Club made substantial alterations to the building during the five years it owned the property. The Historic Structure Assessment Report states that:

> The [Buckhead] Century Club renovated the kitchen for institutional use, infilled (with windows) the porch on the east wing to make room for dining tables, and added a swimming pool. Additionally, the basement was partially finished, presumably, given the presence of the swimming pool, to add showers and dressing rooms. Because the club was somewhat out of the way from Atlanta, dues were relatively low compared to other organizations in town. However, the Century Club had another amenity not altogether common at the time –slot machines – which were kept in the basement.[191]

Analysis of the 1952 and 1955 aerial photographs indicates that the four buildings west of Hewlett Lodge (those that are no longer extant) remained on site during the Club's ownership.

Atlanta Baptist Association Period (1955-1979)
While the Atlanta Baptist Association made very few alterations to Hewlett Lodge itself, they added and removed several buildings and structures on the site during the twenty-four-year period of ownership. The only documented alteration to Hewlett Lodge during that period is a renovation of the shower facilities in the basement.

Analysis of the 1955, 1960, 1966, 1968, and 1972 aerial photographs document the following alterations of the cultural landscape during the Association's ownership:

- 1955-1960: Pavilions 1 and 2 constructed in west-central portion of study area; no alterations to pre-1955 buildings or structures noted; earthen dam constructed north of the study area (obstructing the natural flow of Falling Branch).
- 1960-1966: Operations Building, Metal Storage Building, and Maintenance Building constructed; no alterations to pre-1955 buildings or structures noted; unidentified building or structure constructed approximately 95 feet south of Maintenance Building (no longer extant).
- 1966-1972: Quarter's Building constructed; unidentified structure or site constructed

191. National Park Service Southeast Region Cultural Resources, "Historic Structure Assessment Report, Island Ford Lodge, Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area," July 2000, 5.

> at east end of Hewlett Field (likely a communal meeting place/amphitheater—no longer extant); no alterations to pre-1955 building or structures noted.

The swimming pool constructed by the Buckhead Century Club just northeast of Hewlett Lodge is visible on all aerial images from the Association's period of ownership—suggesting that members used it as part of the retreat/camp landscape.

Research has not revealed who designed or built Pavilions 1 and 2, and there is no known evidence of association with a specific church(es). Based on the materials and structural design of the pavilions, both are presumed to have been open-air facilities used by churches for outdoor gatherings and meals.

The Historic Structure Assessment Report states that the Association constructed the Operations Building as a communal housing facility and the Metal Storage Building as a gymnasium for the retreat/camp landscape.

Research has not revealed how, or even if, the Atlanta Baptist Association used the Maintenance Building during its ownership of the property. The configuration of the interior, with fireplace and large rooms suggests it may have been used as a meeting facility or for lodging. Additionally, it is worth noting that the unidentified building or structure that once sat south of the Maintenance Building (visible in the 1966 and 1972 aerials but no longer extant) was of a very similar shape and size.

There is no known documentation of the designer, builder(s), or use of the Quarters Building during the Association's ownership of the landscape.

NPS Ownership (1979-Present)
When the National Park Service purchased the property in 1979 it established secondary offices for CHAT in the Operations Building. Soon after the purchase, however, park administrators decided to rehabilitate the site's buildings to house the park's headquarters.

The NPS rehabilitated Hewlett Lodge beginning in the 1980s. The project included re-roofing, door and window replacement, carpeting, and refinishing of much of the interior to include offices. Shortly after Hewlett Lodge rehabilitation project, the park filled in the swimming pool and constructed the existing stone patio in its place. Park administration and expenditure records associated with Hewlett Lodge rehabilitation are very limited due to records purging over the year. Therefore, the 1999 account of one NPS employee, Mr. Stubblefield, who was heavily involved in Hewlett Lodge's rehabilitation is the most reliable source of information regarding NPS's alterations. The author of the Historic Structure Assessment Report recorded the following notes during a 1999 walkthrough with Mr. Stubblefield:

> EXTERIOR (touring around the structure clockwise from the west facade)
>
> Door on north wing (main floor) added c. 1984-85. Previously a fire escape and window. Note remnant rung from fire escape on wall.
>
> Sidewalk outside north wing facade partially replaced after a water line was added/replaced c. 1985-85
>
> Pool infilled - 1980s
>
> Rusted sign above rear foundation door on north wing once read "WOMEN". Has since rusted to become virtually unreadable.
>
> NPS blocked in foundation windows in northeast comer of the north wing with CMUs c. 1984.
>
> The east wing (rear) once had divided-light doors on the side where the false panel "doors" are now. A small landing and steps were present on each side.
>
> The 2/2 horizontal sash insulated foundation windows on the east wing are NPS era replacements. The composition of the original windows is not known.
>
> Underground gutter drainage was installed at some point after construction. It is hypothesized that this was done when the pool was added so water would not collect around the foundation on the concrete. Note that these drains are typical throughout the exterior of the structure.
>
> Gutters and roof replaced early.

NPS replaced the double-leaf divided-light back door (east elevation). Original situation prior to porch enclosure unclear, although the replacement is similar to the door found when the NPS took over.

The concrete pigeon slopes on the top of the window frames predate the NPS.

NPS removed screen doors throughout.

Masonry in rear of south wing does not quite match up, needs to be checked (NOTE: Steps original as confirmed by Mrs. Claire Alexander in later interview)

NPS added chimney caps.

Examples of downspout ground caps in use prior to NPS occupation are present near the exterior foundation adjacent to the south wing.

Step removed from west entrance and slop brought to grade.

INTERIOR

All interior cypress surfaces clear sealed during NPS tenure (late 1980s)

Interior sprinkler system added in July 1995 as per installation manual (hand dated) hanging in basement near water mains.

Cinder block walls in east wing of the basement predate NPS and were used to separate the space for the men's dressing rooms.

All windows on interior double-hung.

North Wing - Some doors openings moved (one remains, note only remaining door with transom above). New doors installed, LS can't recall original, probably 5-panel similar to exterior on foundation. Originally had a bathroom (w/ window and fire escape) on the far end of the center-hall where the new door is now. Individual roofs were furred out to make room for electrical conduit. Note windows sill and jambs have also been rebuilt to accommodate addition depth in the walls. (c.1985)

South Wing - Kitchen removed (was along south wall). Some doors moved/added, but wall integrity is good. A room divider (stud wall) was inserted to create two rooms on the south wall. The floor has been raised slightly in the two south-most rooms because of repairs (built-up) to water damaged flooring from the kitchen. All offices walls along the south and west wall have been furred out to accommodate conduit. (c.1985)

All interior masonry surfaces have been clear sealed during NPS occupation.

The "split log" siding used as ceiling treatment on the interior has a rabbet-lap with a rubber gasket for insulation.

Current carpet is a second replacement. The floor was replaced in the entry hall/front room following the rupture of a pipe caused by frozen water in a water fountain in the foyer. Water damage spread throughout the entry-hall/front room and ruined the oak floor.

East Wing - Kitchen and mail room space added. Originally a symmetrical set of door accede the porch with picture windows to the left and right. Interior stairwell added prior to NPS although the NPS has boxed the well in with sheetrock and re-tread the steps.

Also during the 1980s, the park established the existing maintenance complex in the north portion of the site. In doing so, the park rehabilitated the Maintenance Building and added several additional buildings and structures, including the NPS Boat Barn (2015), two carports (2003 and 2018), the HAZMAT storage structure south of the Bally Building (circa 1973), and the shipping container in the west portion of the complex (installation date unknown). The NPS enclosed Pavilion 1 with oriented strand board (OSB) panels at an unknown time.

Since its purchase of the site, the NPS has constructed structures that facilitate recreational use of the landscape, including Island Ford Boat Ramp, foot bridges and boardwalks along the site's earthen paths, and the pond overlook structure. The NPS also constructed stone and stacked-timber walls in the landscape to support the site's

naturally steep slopes where required for adequate pedestrian circulation.

The NPS is also responsible for the construction of the site's utility and surface-water management structures, including the water vaults, gutters, and ditches along Island Ford Parkway, the pond drain outlet, inlets, headwalls, and culverts within the study area.

Summary

Based on historic aerial photographs, at least four buildings and/or structures stood to the west and northwest of Hewlett Lodge. Unfortunately, little is known regarding the configuration and use of those landscape features that are no longer extant. Oral histories suggest that they were associated with a caretaker living on site as well as with livestock kept in the study area. Despite some changes to the interior and exterior configurations, the historic buildings and structures of the site—including Hewlett Lodge, Barbecue Pavilion, Spring House, and Retaining Wall, as well as associated structures—remain intact much as they did during the period of significance. Those features possess integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and are, therefore, character-defining and contribute to the landscape's historic significance. Beginning in 1955, the owners and managers of the site added buildings and structures to facilitate recreational use and maintenance. The utilities and structures associated with storm-water management of the site during the historic period are unknown. Those that exist on site today were constructed by either members of the Atlanta Baptist Association or the NPS since the late 1950s. The non-historic buildings and structures in the cultural landscape are noncontributing but do not substantially reduce the landscape's integrity of setting, feeling, and association.

Buildings and Structures Features:

- Hewlett Lodge (Shadow CRIS-HS #091878) - Contributing
- Barbecue Pavilion (Shadow RIS-HS #091879) - Contributing
- Island Ford Spring House (Shadow RIS-HS #091882) - Contributing
- Island Ford Retaining Wall (Shadow RIS-HS #091880) - Contributing
- Stone Patio at Hewlett Lodge (former location of swimming pool) - Noncontributing
- Operations Building - Noncontributing
- Metal Storage Building - Noncontributing
- Pavilion 1 - Noncontributing
- Pavilion 2 - Noncontributing
- Quarters Building - Noncontributing
- Maintenance Building - Noncontributing
- Bally Building - Noncontributing
- NPS boat storage barn - Noncontributing
- Maintenance carports - Noncontributing
- Pad-mounted HAZMAT storage shed - Noncontributing
- Shipping container - Noncontributing
- Island Ford Boat Ramp - Noncontributing
- Foot bridge at northeast corner of site - Noncontributing
- Pond overlook deck - Noncontributing
- Stair set and boardwalk along pond loop trail - Noncontributing
- Stone, timber, and concrete retaining walls - Noncontributing
- Water vaults - Noncontributing
- Concrete drain outlet at base of pond - Noncontributing
- Ditches, gutters, drain inlets, headwalls, and culverts - Noncontributing

Small-Scale Features

Historic Condition

As a domestic landscape for the duration of the period of significance, small-scale features would have primarily pertained to this land use. Unfortunately, the lack of documentation of the site prevents assessment of small-scale features prior to the 1970s—with two exceptions, the remnant fencing in the southwest portion of the site and the loose circular gristmill stones situated in the vegetation islands west of Hewlett Lodge. As a domestic landscape, typical small-scale features may have included fencing for livestock or

pets, planting bed edging, and other objects and implements related to landscape maintenance.

Remnant Fencing
The remnants of barbed-wire livestock fencing in the south portion of the site may date to the historic period or may pre-date it. The fencing material and configuration, consisting of five or six strands of woven barbed wire stapled directly to trees and creosote fence posts, is typical of livestock fencing of the early- to mid-twentieth century. The remnants are located along what was the north edge of a historically-cleared portion of the floodplain in the south part of the site, west of present-day Hewlett Field. The location and materials of the remnant fencing suggest that Samuel D. Hewlett, Sr., may have maintained the area as a pasture for grazing livestock. Although research has not revealed definitive evidence of such land use, Mrs. Alexander's statement in 1999 about her father "[raising] goats in the lower pasture" aligns with that possibility.[192] Likewise, Mr. Lamar Hamilton Ellis, Jr.'s, comments during a phone conversation with Chris Jackson (CLR project historian, WLA Studio) on June 29, 2020, suggest that the Hewlett's may have kept horses in the field. Aerial photographs from the 1950s and later document the gradual encroachment of adjacent natural forest. Therefore, it is likely that the fenced "pasture" had been abandoned by about 1950.

Due to a lack of substantial documentation of the historic fencing on site, the contribution status of the fence remnants is undetermined.

Gristmill Runner Stones
There is no evidence to suggest that the circular runner stones loosely situated in the vegetation islands west of Hewlett Lodge were located on site during the historic period. The stones are typical of those used in gristmills for grinding wheat or other grains during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century in the Southern Piedmont. Gristmills were very common in the Roswell area before Hewlett purchased Hewlett Lodge property; however, there is no evidence of a former gristmill within the study area. Research is inconclusive regarding if the stones originate from the area, who brought them, and when.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition
After the period of significance, the new site managers altered or removed the small-scale features within the site. No known small-scale features remain from Hewlett's ownership other than the remnant fencing in the southwest portion of the site. In their place, the site's owners and managers installed new features to facilitate recreational use of the landscape as well as maintenance. Research suggests that the Buckhead Century Club made very few, if any, alterations to or additions of small-scale features on site.

Modern small-scale features added by the Atlanta Baptist Association and NPS primarily relate to visitor services and orientation, park administration, park maintenance, and contemporary utilities. Nearly all existing small-scale features date to the NPS's period of ownership. They include all vehicular, pedestrian, regulatory, and wayfinding signs; waysides and information kiosks; the entrance fee stations, bicycle rack, water fountain, benches, picnic tables, grill, and waste receptacles; miscellaneous features in Hewlett Lodge's vicinity such as granite curbing, flagpole, commemorative plaque, mailboxes, and rain gauge; all fences, gates, bollards, and handrails on site; all site utilities, including overhead lighting and features associated with underground electrical, water, and phone-line supply; and surface-water and sewerage features and management boulders.

Summary
During the period of significance, most of the small-scale features within the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape pertained to residential land use. However, most of these features are undocumented or no longer exist. The only small-scale features that remain from the historic period are remnants of barbed-wire fencing in the southwest portion of the site. Documentation of the historic configuration and use of those remnants is insufficient to determine their contribution to the site's historic significance and integrity. After the period of significance, the Atlanta Baptist Association and the NPS either removed or altered any historic small-scale features that may have existed and installed a number of new small-scale features related to interpretation,

192. Southeast Region, "Historic Structure Assessment Report, Island Ford Lodge, Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area," Interviews, 3 of 4.

visitor orientation, and visitor services. As such, the small-scale features present today do not reflect the period of significance.

Small-Scale Features:

- Barbed-wire fence remnants in southwest portion of site – Undetermined
- Park identity signs – Noncontributing
- Park regulations signs – Noncontributing
- Pedestrian wayfinding and special regulations signs – Noncontributing
- Vehicular wayfinding and regulatory signs – Noncontributing
- Entrance fee stations – Noncontributing
- Informational kiosk – Noncontributing
- Waysides – Noncontributing
- Water fountain – Noncontributing
- Bicycle rack – Noncontributing
- Benches and other seating features – Noncontributing
- Picnic tables – Noncontributing
- Grill – Noncontributing
- Waste receptacles – Noncontributing
- Pet waste station – Noncontributing
- Mail boxes – Noncontributing
- Flag pole – Noncontributing
- River trail plaque – Noncontributing
- Granite curbs – Noncontributing
- Gristmill runner stones – Undetermined
- Rain gauge – Noncontributing
- Fences – Noncontributing
- Gates – Noncontributing
- Bollards – Noncontributing
- Handrails – Noncontributing
- Power and light poles – Noncontributing
- Site utility access features – Noncontributing
- Management boulders – Noncontributing

Views and Vistas

Historic Condition

Specific views within the Island Ford Lodge landscape were not documented prior to the 1938 aerial photograph; however, the availability of views of the site's natural forests and water courses affected the site's development. This is especially evident in the location and siting of both Hewlett Lodge and Barbecue Pavilion, which Hewlett constructed on high points on the east end of the ridge overlooking the Chattahoochee River. Hewlett Lodge's interior, with all primary living spaces on its first floor and porch on the east wing, was originally organized to maximize views of the natural surroundings and the river below.

While there is no substantial documentation of an overall site design or plan, it is likely that Hewlett consciously chose to construct other buildings and structures well away from, and to the west of, Hewlett Lodge and Barbecue Pavilion sites to limit obstruction of views to the north, east, and south.

Due to the gradual succession of the site's natural forests, views from Hewlett Lodge and vicinity as well as from the Barbecue Pavilion site were generally more open during the historic period than in present day. Likewise, a significant portion of the floodplain in the south portion of the study area has become forested since the end of the period of significance—slowly degrading the panoramic viewshed that existed during and prior to the historic period.

Based on analysis of the aerial photographs, the axial views along the roadway leading from the west end of the site, along the central east-west ridgeline, to Hewlett Lodge remain much as they did during the period of significance.

Areas that were heavily forested during the period of significance, including those in the site's steep, marginal areas above the Chattahoochee River, Falling Branch, and the south stream, historically provided scenic views of the natural forests. Those views remain intact but are not easily accessible to visitors due to a lack of trails, particularly in the northwest and southwest portions of the site.

Post-Historic and Existing Condition

After the period of significance, the Buckhead Century Club, the Atlanta Baptist Association, and the NPS allowed the forest to naturally grow, retaining the historic forest views. The NPS maintains the east portion of the open floodplain area along the south end of the site, which provides a reference to historic conditions despite the loss of views in the west portion of that floodplain.

The axial views along the route of Northridge Road, a portion of which is now Island Ford Parkway, remain but were altered slightly by the widening of the corridor in the late 1950s. By 1960, the Atlanta Baptist Association had cleared an approximately 450-foot-long swath of forest, running generally southwest to northeast, for the construction of a new roadway (present-day north portion of Island Ford Parkway). The axial views along that corridor remain today but do not contribute to the historic condition of the landscape.

Other non-historic views include those at the site of Pavilions 1 and 2; the Maintenance Complex; Quarters Building; roadway to Hewlett Field Drop Off; the site's earthen trails; the sites of the Operations Building, Metal Storage Building, and administrative areas near Hewlett Lodge; and along the edge of the pond north of the study area. As those views were made available by clearing activities performed by either the Atlanta Baptist Association or the NPS after the period of significance, they do not reflect the historic condition of the landscape.

While the Operations Building and Metal Storage Building compromise the views from Hewlett Lodge to the south and southwest, the views to the east and north remain much as they did during the historic period. The location of circulation features, including Island Ford Parking Lot, the site's roadways, and the earthen trails throughout the site, do not compromise the integrity of the historic views from Hewlett Lodge and Barbecue Pavilion.

Summary

Intact historic views in the Island Ford Lodge landscape include those of the Chattahoochee River and Falling Branch to the west, north, and east from Hewlett Lodge and the Barbecue Pavilion; views of the natural forest and Falling Branch in the northeast and northwest portions of the site; the axial view along the former main road to and from Hewlett Lodge; and the partially retained views of the open floodplain at Hewlett Field. The site's views, whether preserved since the period of significance or developed after Hewlett's ownership, are a paramount attraction for park visitors—providing a sense of the naturalistic character of the landscape, which was predominant during the historic period and remains so today. Therefore, the new views do not substantially degrade the historic integrity of the site. Several views of the natural forests that remain from the historic period are not easily accessible to park visitors due to a lack of trails in the west portion of the site.

Views and Vistas Features:

- Views north, east, and south of the Chattahoochee River from the rear of Hewlett Lodge, the Barbecue Pavilion site, the rock outcrop, the shady picnic area, and earthen trails in the east portion of the site – Contributing
- Views of forests from on-site route of Northridge Road and south portion of Island Ford Parkway (former route of primary Lodge access road) – Contributing
- Axial views along north portion of Island Ford Parkway – Noncontributing
- Views of Hewlett Lodge from surrounding walkways, earthen trails, and parking areas – Contributing
- View to and from the front entry of the building – Contributing
- Scenic views of streams, forests, and pond from high elevations in the central and west portions of the site – Contributing
- Views within and of Hewlett Field – Contributing
- Axial views along road to Hewlett Field Drop Off – Noncontributing
- Views at Maintenance Complex – Noncontributing
- Views at site of Pavilions 1 and 2 – Noncontributing
- Views at Quarters Building – Noncontributing

Archeological Sites

The Island Ford Unit of CHAT exists within the traditional lands of the Cherokee and the Native Americans that predated their presence along the Chattahoochee River. While the use of the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape by indigenous peoples was ended by the forced removal policies of the United States, over millennia their use of the site produced a wealth of archeological information. In particular, investigations of the rock shelters along the river valleys of the area have produced a general understanding of land use locally.

Although there are a variety of Civil War archeological resources and sites in CHAT, none are located within the study area. According to the 2007 Historic Resource Study for CHAT, there have been reports of Civil War-era rifle pits existing "near Island Ford, but the integrity and significance of these sites have not been assessed."[193]

There have been no archeological investigations of historic-period conditions of the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape.

193. Marti Gerdes, Scott Messer, and Tommy Jones, "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Historic Resource Study" (National Park Service, Cultural Resources Division, Southeast Regional Office, February 2007), 100–102.

Evaluation of Landscape Integrity

Landscape integrity refers to a cultural landscape's ability to convey its historic significance. *National Register of Historic Places Bulletin 16A* defines historic integrity as "the authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property's prehistoric or historic period." In *National Register Bulletin 15*, the National Register defines seven aspects of integrity to use when evaluating a historic property:

> **Location** is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred;
>
> **Setting** is the physical environment within and surrounding a property;
>
> **Design** is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property;
>
> **Materials** are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property;
>
> **Workmanship** is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory;
>
> **Feeling** is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time; and
>
> **Association** is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.

To retain historic integrity, a property must possess several, and usually most, of these seven aspects. Evaluating historic integrity involves first determining the historic significance of a property and then identifying the existing features that contribute to our ability to recognize and understand this significance. Character defining features are those distinctive features or

qualities that make a property unique. They are the individual parts that make the whole place special and worthy of our recognition as a historic property.

Location

While many historic features have been removed and many new features have been added, the principal historic features of the site remain in their original locations. Hewlett Lodge, the Barbecue Pavilion, the Spring House, Island Ford Retaining Wall, and associated stone walkways, stair sets, and walls remain in their original location in the landscape. Several areas retain historic vegetation as well, in particular the vegetation communities located along the ridges, steep slopes, and open portions of the site. Other natural features still located in the study area include the Chattahoochee River, two of its on-site tributaries that define its north and south site boundaries, and the various animal and plant species that occupy the site. Overall, the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape possesses a high degree of integrity of location.

Setting

Throughout the period of significance, the Island Ford Lodge site was located in a remote forested setting overlooking the Chattahoochee River. Being within reasonable driving distance of Atlanta but lacking the in-town setting of nearby towns such as Roswell and Alpharetta, Mrs. Alexander stated that at the time of its construction Hewlett Lodge was "way out in the country."[194] Unfortunately, the exact setting prior to 1938 is unknown; however, due to natural features—the Chattahoochee River, its on-site tributaries, native vegetation, and site topography in particular—the overall setting was likely characterized by a domestic core set within a mostly undeveloped natural environment. More open domestic spaces would have immediately surrounded the house, while woodlands would have existed on the periphery and throughout the rest of the site other than the cleared pasture land in the south portion. It is likely that the woods were slightly less expansive and dense than they are today on account of logging for timber and fuel.

The setting of Hewlett Lodge property between 1938 and 1979 can be characterized as "scenic recreational," with a distinctly ornamental domestic landscape at the core (Hewlett Lodge and Barbecue Pavilion sites) surrounded by recreational facilities associated with its use by the Atlanta Baptist Association as a camp/retreat facility. While retaining certain aspects from the historic period, the site has compromised integrity of setting due to the addition of features related to its use as a camp/retreat—including buildings constructed very near Hewlett Lodge (Metal Storage Building and Operations Building) and associated circulation features. Other Atlanta Baptist Association alterations to the landscape that compromise the historic setting include the addition of a roadway in the north portion of the site (present-day north end of Island Ford Parkway); the addition of the Quarters Building, Pavilions 1 and 2, and the Maintenance Building; and the removal of at least four buildings and/or structures of unknown use in the area to the west and northwest of Hewlett Lodge, which may have reinforced the residential setting of the site during the period of significance.

From 1979 to the present, the NPS has made alterations to Hewlett Lodge landscape as part of a rehabilitation of the site for use as a park unit of CHAT. The rehabilitation included the addition of new features and alteration of historic and non-historic features to facilitate public recreation and education, scientific study, and park administration and maintenance. The primary alterations that affect the site's integrity of setting include the addition of vehicular and pedestrian circulation features in the administrative area south of Hewlett Lodge and at the maintenance complex, as well as the addition of various small-scale features throughout the landscape. Regarding the maintenance-related features, because they are located well away from Hewlett Lodge itself, in areas that are closed to the public and generally not visible from the public spaces, they do not drastically affect the overall integrity of setting. The small-scale and circulation features in the administrative area south of Hewlett Lodge, however, are located in proximity to Hewlett Lodge and thus compromise the site's historically natural setting. Other NPS features, such as earthen trails in the east portion of the site and features associated with access to the river and Hewlett Field, slightly compromise the site's setting

194. Alexander, "Interview by Nancy Beck."

but only minimally as they respond to the natural topography and environment. The NPS's alteration of the cultural vegetation, stone patio, and adjacent walkways are in keeping with the naturalistic character of the Rustic architectural style for which Hewlett Lodge is significant; therefore, those changes have minimal impact on the integrity of setting.

Despite the alterations, due to the intact presence of Hewlett Lodge, the Barbecue Pavilion, Spring House, Retaining Wall, and the natural environment surrounding the historic core of the property, the site possesses integrity of setting. It is worth noting that suburban development northward from Atlanta has for decades been, and remains, rampant along the Chattahoochee River corridor east and west of Georgia HWY 400. As such, the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape is one of very few remaining examples of a remote domestic landscape set in a natural forested environment in metropolitan Atlanta.

Design

Design features that characterized Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape during the period of significance include the primary east-west access road running along the site's central ridge, Hewlett Lodge and the adjacent stone-paved circulation features, a small clearing to the west of Hewlett Lodge, a partially open area to the west and northwest of Hewlett Lodge with at least four buildings and/or structures, the Barbecue Pavilion site, the Spring House, and Island Ford Retaining Wall.

Regarding the site's primary access road during the period of significance, the historic route remains generally intact and legible on the landscape despite post-historic-period widening of the corridor and application of the existing asphalt covering. The integrity of the road's design is, therefore, retained.

While undergoing a number of alterations to both its interior and exterior, Hewlett Lodge still reflects historic period conditions. The house is recognized as an excellent and rare example of a Rustic-style building in Georgia. Although there is no record of a schooled architect working on its design, it possesses many characteristics of the well-documented academic architectural style.

Perhaps the most noteworthy design element that reflects the Rustic style is the extensive use of natural materials, including locally gathered field stones and V-notched unhewn logs. The unboxed eaves with exposed rafter tails, the two eyebrow dormers with louvered attic vents, projecting front gable vestibule on the west side, large log braces in the gable ends, mosaic-patterned stone work with beaded mortar joints are also characteristic of the style.

The influence of the Rustic style is also evident in Hewlett Lodge's setting, siting, and associated historic buildings, structures, and circulation features. Those aspects of the site contribute to the overall integrity of the cultural landscape's historic design. The materials and design details of the Spring House, Island Ford Retaining Wall, as well as the patio, retaining walls, barbecue pit, and chimney at the Barbecue Pavilion site match that of Hewlett Lodge. Like Hewlett Lodge, those features are sited to take advantage of the natural topography and respond to the site's natural systems and features. While all stone features at the Barbecue Pavilion site remain as they did historically, the NPS removed the old roof and constructed the existing roof in 2004. The National Register Nomination Form states that the new roof design is markedly different than the original; however, there is no known documentation of the historic roof configuration and material.

In terms of plant material and organization, the naturalistic design of the existing cultural vegetation surrounding Hewlett Lodge reflects Rustic-style influences; however, there is insufficient documentation of the historic vegetation to determine the design integrity of the landscaping.

The loss of at least four buildings and/or structures in the area west and northwest of Hewlett Lodge slightly compromises the overall site design and organization. Likewise, the various features added to the site since the end of the period of significance—including those of the Maintenance Complex, administrative area south of Hewlett Lodge, small-scale features, and circulation features—do not convey the historic site design.

Despite those alterations, additions, and subtractions, the site's primary historic built features reflect the design of the period of

significance and the route of the historic access road remains in use; therefore, the site retains integrity of design.

Materials

Historic materials in the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape pertain primarily to Hewlett Lodge, Barbecue Pavilion, Spring House, Island Ford Retaining Wall, and the associated stone circulation features. Historic materials present in those features include primarily local stone and cypress logs (Lodge structure). Though much of Hewlett Lodge's interior has been remodeled, a large amount of historic fabric remains. Likewise, the majority of the existing stone walkways and stair sets surrounding Hewlett Lodge exhibit little alteration since the end of the period of significance. The most explicit alteration to those stone circulation features is the addition of the patio northwest of Hewlett Lodge, which was added by the NPS to replace the non-historic pool that once occupied the location. It is undetermined if any historic stonework was altered or removed for the construction of the pool and/or subsequent patio.

There is little evidence of alteration to the historic built features north of Hewlett Lodge in the vicinity of the Barbecue Pavilion. Documented losses of historic materials of those features includes the replacement of the fire bricks in the Barbecue Pavilion grill and the replacement of its roof structure and covering.

Natural features in the landscape similarly reflect the period of significance. Individual features such as rocky high points and ridgelines and the exposed rock outcrop in the northeast portion of the site reflect historic period conditions, with little to no change in their material composition. The forest within the property, while denser and more extensive than during the historic period, likely reflects the plant material present during the period of significance. The species of grasses and forbs present in Hewlett Field are also presumably characteristic of the historic period. While research has not revealed precisely what cultural plant material existed during the historic period, there are a number of mature shrubs and trees that could date to the period of significance.

Due to the retention of material of these essential features, the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape retains integrity of materials.

Workmanship

The historic built features of Island Ford Lodge landscape continue to display the skilled craftmanship possessed by laborers that constructed Hewlett Lodge and other contributing buildings and structures. The mosaic-patterned stonework with beaded mortar joints and the solid cypress-log construction of those features remain in good condition and reflect the workmanship of those who labored to construct them.

The workmanship of those who established the site's primary access road during the period of significance is evident at the existing south portion of Island Ford Parkway, where the original route remains in use as a park road. Similarly, the workmanship of the unknown laborers who cleared the floodplain areas in the south portion of the site remain intact at Hewlett Field.

For the retention of these constructed features, the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape retains integrity of workmanship to the period of significance.

Feeling

During the period of significance, land use at the property was primarily residential, with a number of adults and children occupying the site seasonally and year-round (primarily caretakers). For the Hewletts, the landscape and Lodge served as a private secondary home and remote retreat destination. As such, outdoor recreation was also a primary land use during the period of significance. The tangible and intangible activities of the family and caretaker(s), along with their associated sights and sounds, gave the site the feeling of a lived-in but highly remote and isolated destination.

With the ending of its private residential use during the Buckhead Century Club's ownership between 1950 and 1955 and continuing to today, that feeling gradually diminished. As such, the present-day feeling of the site—despite the continued presence of the house and associated historic features in the landscape—does not fully reflect historic conditions. While the remote and natural setting

of the site and its continued recreational land use as a public component of CHAT continues to generally reflect the period of significance, the lack of continued residential use and the addition of park administrative use results in degradation of integrity of feeling. Therefore, the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape does not possess integrity of feeling.

Association

The Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape retains its association with the period of significance through its retention of essential landscape features that date to the historic period, including Hewlett Lodge, Barbecue Pavilion, Spring House, Retaining Wall, stone stair sets and walkways, natural setting, cleared areas along the primary access road and of Hewlett Field, as well as remnant site features including naturalistic landscaping and vegetation. Despite the impacts of the gradual succession and encroachment of the natural forests and the site's rehabilitation first into a summer camp/retreat and, subsequently, an administrative/public recreational landscape, the cultural landscape retains integrity of association to the period of significance.

Table 1: Cultural Landscape Features

Feature Name	Date of Origin	Contributing	Noncontributing
Natural Systems & Features			
Regional climate	N/A	X	
Hydrological systems	N/A	X	
Floodplains	N/A	X	
Ridge and upland areas	N/A	X	
Geology and soils	N/A	X	
Rock outcrop	N/A	X	
Forest ecosystems	N/A	X	
Regional fauna	N/A	X	
Topography			
Floodplains	N/A	X	
Steep slopes above floodplains	N/A	X	
Ridge and upland areas	N/A	X	
Sheer cliff formed by rock outcrop	N/A	X	
Naturally flat Hewlett Lodge site	N/A	X	
Highest point in landscape	N/A	X	
Naturally flat site of Island Ford Quarters	N/A	X	
Naturally flat portions of circulation routes	N/A	X	
Graded areas associated with historic circulation features, parking areas, and buildings and structures	Prior to 1950	X	
Graded areas associated with circulation features, parking areas, and buildings and structures constructed since the period of significance	1950-present		X
Grading for the paved and rock-filled gutters and drainage ditches along Island Ford Parkway	1979-present		X
Land Use			
Recreational	1935-present	X	
Historic interpretation (Hewlett Lodge)	1979-present		X
Environmental conservation and research	1979-present		X
Administration	1979-present		X
Maintenance	1979-present		X
Missing Circulation			
Residential	1935-1955		
Cultural Traditions			
Outdoor recreation	1935-present	X	
Historic preservation	1979-present		X
Environmental conservation	1979-present		X

Table 1: Cultural Landscape Features (continued)

Feature Name	Date of Origin	Contributing	Noncontributing
Spatial Organization			
Organization of constructed features, trails, and open and wooded areas in floodplains	1935-present	X	
Route of trails and organization of associated structures, topography, and small-scale features in areas with steep, transitional slopes	1935-present	X	
Organization of constructed and vegetative features in upland areas of the site	1935-present	X	
Route of Northridge Road	1935-present	X	
Route of Island Ford Parkway and Hewlett Field Road	1956-present		X
Cluster Arrangement			
Pond overlook cluster	NPS period		X
Maintenance complex	1973-present		X
Northridge Road entrance cluster	NPS period		X
Quarters Building cluster	1972		X
Hewlett Lodge cluster (includes both historic and contemporary features)	1935-present	X	
Visitor-services cluster at north end of Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac	NPS period		X
Hewlett Field Drop Off cluster	NPS period		X
Island Ford Boat Ramp cluster	NPS period		X
Shady picnic area cluster	NPS period		X
Circulation			
North portion of Island Ford Parkway	c. 1960		X
Hair-pin turn in Island Ford Parkway (constructed by NPS)	1986-1987		X
South portion of Island Ford Parkway (east end of historic road to Hewlett Lodge)	c. 1935	X	
Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac	c. 1935	X	
Northridge Road (portion within study area, west end of historic road to Hewlett Lodge)	c. 1935	X	
Maintenance loop roads (paved and gravel)	1950s-present		X
Quarters Building driveway	1972		X
Hewlett Field Road	Post-1955		X
Hewlett Field Drop Off	NPS period		X
Hewlett Field Boat Ramp	NPS period		X
Dormitory Building driveway	1972		X
Administrative parking lot	NPS period		X
Concrete walkways	NPS period		X
NPS-constructed earthen trails (site access and hiking)	NPS period		X

Table 1: Cultural Landscape Features (continued)

Feature Name	Date of Origin	Contributing	Noncontributing
Steel and wood bridge at northeast end of study area	NPS period		X
Set of wood steps and boardwalk at west end of pond	NPS period		X
Stone walkways, patios, landings, and stair sets adjacent to Hewlett Lodge (does not include large patio at former swimming pool)	c. 1935	X	
Stone Patio at Hewlett Lodge (former location of swimming pool)	NPS period		X
Stone stair set at Barbeque Pavilion (Shadow RIS-HS #091881)			
Wood, concrete, and stone ramps, decks, and stair sets (vicinity of Hewlett Lodge and administrative area)	NPS period		X
Informal footpaths	NPS period		X
Undetermined Contribution Status – Circulation			
Portion of earthen trail along Falling Branch north of Barbecue Pavilion and Springhouse site – Undetermined	Unknown	Undetermined	Undetermined
Earthen trail between Hewlett Lodge and Barbecue Pavilion site	Unknown	Undetermined	Undetermined
Remnant of road in forested area south of the intersection of Island Ford Parkway and Hewlett Field Road	Pre-1938	Undetermined	Undetermined
Island Ford Parking Lot	Unknown	Undetermined	Undetermined
Vegetation			
Natural forests within the study area (second generation)	Late 19th, early 20th Century	X	
Hewlett Field	Pre-1935	X	
Undetermined Contribution Status – Vegetation			
Cultural vegetation in Human Influence areas (surrounding buildings, roads, walkways, and trails)	1935-present	Undetermined	Undetermined
Buildings and Structures			
Hewlett Lodge (Shadow RIS-HS #091878)	c. 1935	X	
Barbecue Pavilion (Shadow RIS-HS #091879)	1945	X	
Island Ford Spring House (Shadow RIS-HS #091882)	1945	X	
Island Ford Retaining Wall (Shadow RIS-HS #091880)	1945	X	
Stone Patio at Hewlett Lodge (former location of swimming pool)	c. 1985		X
Dormitory Building	c. 1955-1960		X
Metal Storage Building	c. 1955-1960		X
Pavilion 1	c. 1958		X
Pavilion 2	c. 1958		X
Quarters Building	c. 1972		X

Table 1: Cultural Landscape Features (continued)

Feature Name	Date of Origin	Contributing	Noncontributing
Maintenance Building	c. 1973		X
Bally Building	c. 1973		X
NPS boat storage barn	2015		X
Maintenance carports	2003 and 2018		X
Pad-mounted HAZMAT storage shed	NPS period		X
Shipping container	NPS period		X
Island Ford Boat Ramp	c. 1990		X
Foot bridge at northeast corner of site	c. 1990		X
Pond overlook deck	c. 1990		X
Stair set and boardwalk along pond loop trail	c. 1990		X
Stone, timber, and concrete retaining walls	NPS period		X
Water vaults	Unknown		X
Concrete drain outlet at base of pond	c. 1990		X
Ditches, gutters, drain inlets, headwalls, and culverts	NPS period		X
Small-Scale Features			
Park identity signs	NPS period		X
Park regulations signs	NPS period		X
Pedestrian wayfinding and special regulations signs	NPS period		X
Vehicular wayfinding and regulatory signs	NPS period		X
Entrance fee stations	NPS period		X
Informational kiosk	NPS period		X
Waysides	NPS period		X
Water fountain	NPS period		X
Bicycle rack	NPS period		X
Benches and other seating features	NPS period		X
Picnic tables	NPS period		X
Grill	NPS period		X
Waste receptacles	NPS period		X
Pet waste station	NPS period		X
Mail boxes	NPS period		X
Flag pole	NPS period		X
River trail plaque	NPS period		X
Granite curbs	NPS period		X
Gristmill runner stones	Pre-1935 and moved to current location during NPS period		X
Rain gauge	NPS period		X
Fences	NPS period		X

Table 1: Cultural Landscape Features (continued)

Feature Name	Date of Origin	Contributing	Noncontributing
Gates	NPS period		X
Bollards	NPS Period		X
Handrails	NPS period		X
Power and light poles	Varies from 1955-present		X
Site utility access features	NPS period		X
Management boulders	NPS period		X
Undetermined Contribution Status – Small-Scale Features			
Barbed-wire fence remnants in southwest portion of site	Pre-1935	Undetermined	Undetermined
Views and Vistas			
Views north, east, and south of the Chattahoochee River from the rear of Hewlett Lodge, the Barbecue Pavilion site, the rock outcrop, the shady picnic area, and earthen trails in the east portion of the site	N/A	X	
Views of forests from on-site route of Northridge Road and south portion of Island Ford Parkway (former route of primary Lodge access road)	c. 1935	X	
Axial views along north portion of Island Ford Parkway	Post-1955		X
Views of Hewlett Lodge from surrounding walkways, earthen trails, and parking areas (views historically available, retained to present)	c. 1935	X	
View to and from the front entry of the building	c. 1935	X	
Scenic views of streams, forests, and pond from high elevations in the central and west portions of the site	N/A	X	
Views within and of Hewlett Field	N/A	X	
Axial views along road to Hewlett Field Drop Off	Post-1955		X
Views at Maintenance Complex	Post-1955		X
Views at site of Pavilions 1 and 2	Post-1958		X
Views at Quarters Building	Post-1972		X

Natural Regenerative Forest
Steep Slope Above Floodplain
Stone ret. wall and concrete landing
PAVED WALK TO BBQ PAVILION
STONE PATIO
Stone walkways
Stone stair sets and walkways
Stone walks and stair sets
Stone ret. wall
Natural Ridge
HISTORIC ROUTE OF ROAD TO HEWLETT LODGE
Natural Regenerative Forest
Natural Regenerative Forest
Steep Slope Above Floodplain
0 25 50 75 100 US Feet

Feature Key

Contributing landscape features labeled in red; those with undetermined status highlighted with yellow.

1 Hewlett Lodge
2 Island Ford Cul-de-sac
3 Contributing View
4 Cultural Vegetation

Natural Forest
Grass and Forb Mix
Tree
Shrub (individual)
Shrub Mass

Notes:
See Illustration 3.6 for existing vegetation information for Hewlett Lodge vicinity.

Credits:
1. National Park Service, CHAT Archives
2. USGS Earth Explorer (aerial imagery
3. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2020).

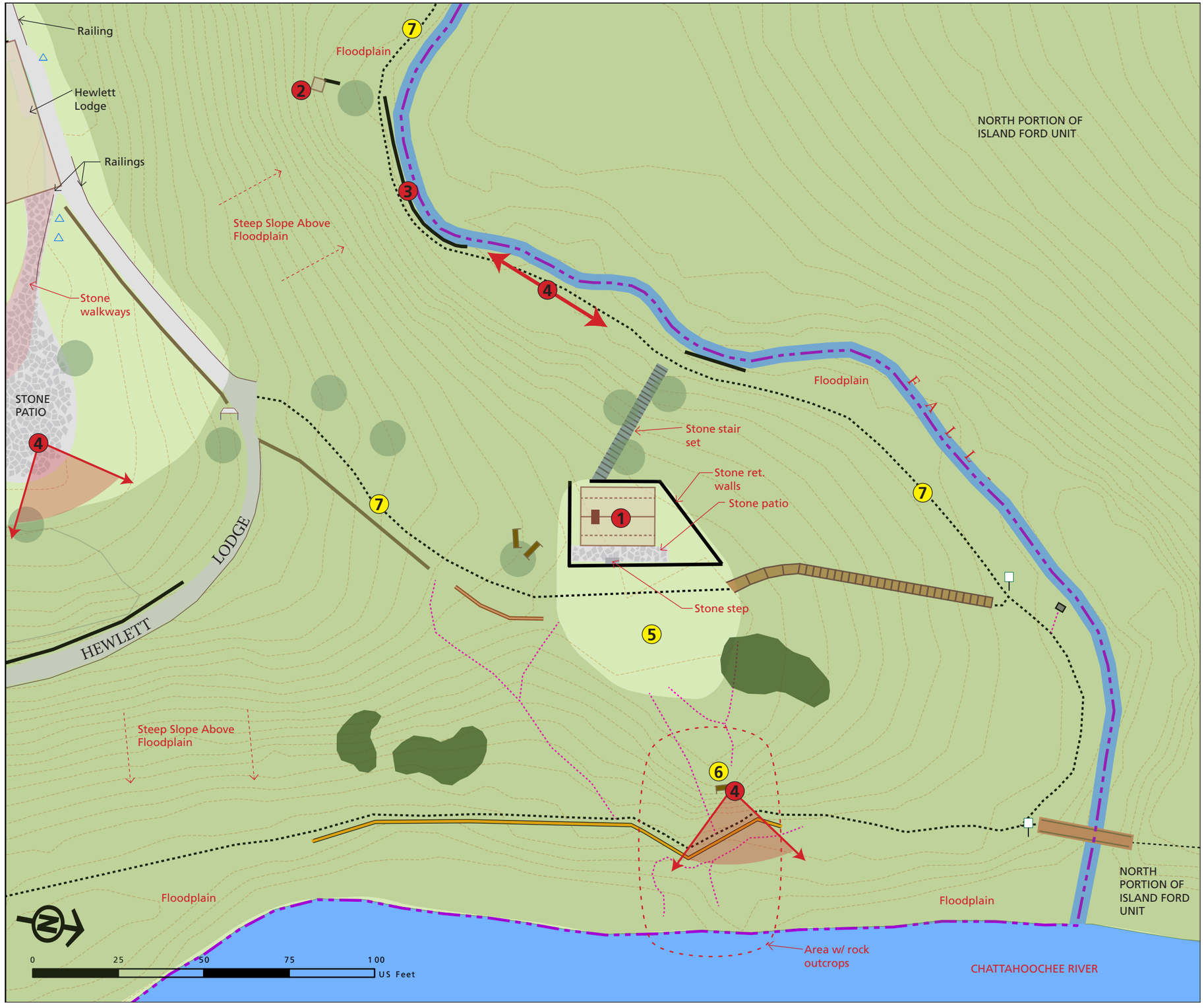


Illustration 4.1

Landscape Feature Contribution Status: Hewlett Lodge Vicinity Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

OCTOBER 2021



Feature Key

Contributing landscape features labeled in red; those with undetermined status highlighted with yellow.

1 Barbecue Pavilion
2 Island Ford Springhouse
3 Island Ford Retaining Wall
4 Historic view
5 Open picnic area
6 River overlook at rock outcrop
7 Earthen trail with undetermined contribution status

Earthen trail
Informal footpath
Natural Forest
Grass and Forb Mix
Tree
Shrub (individual)
Shrub Mass

Credits:
1. National Park Service, CHAT Archives
2. USGS Earth Explorer (aerial imagery
3. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2020).

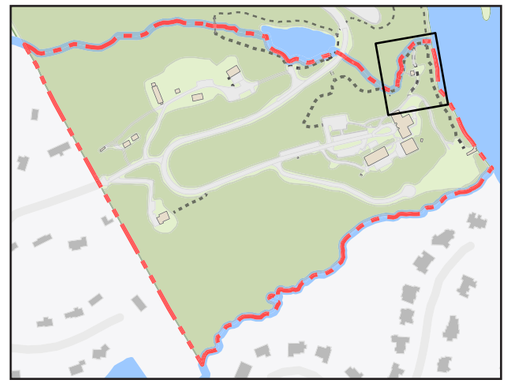
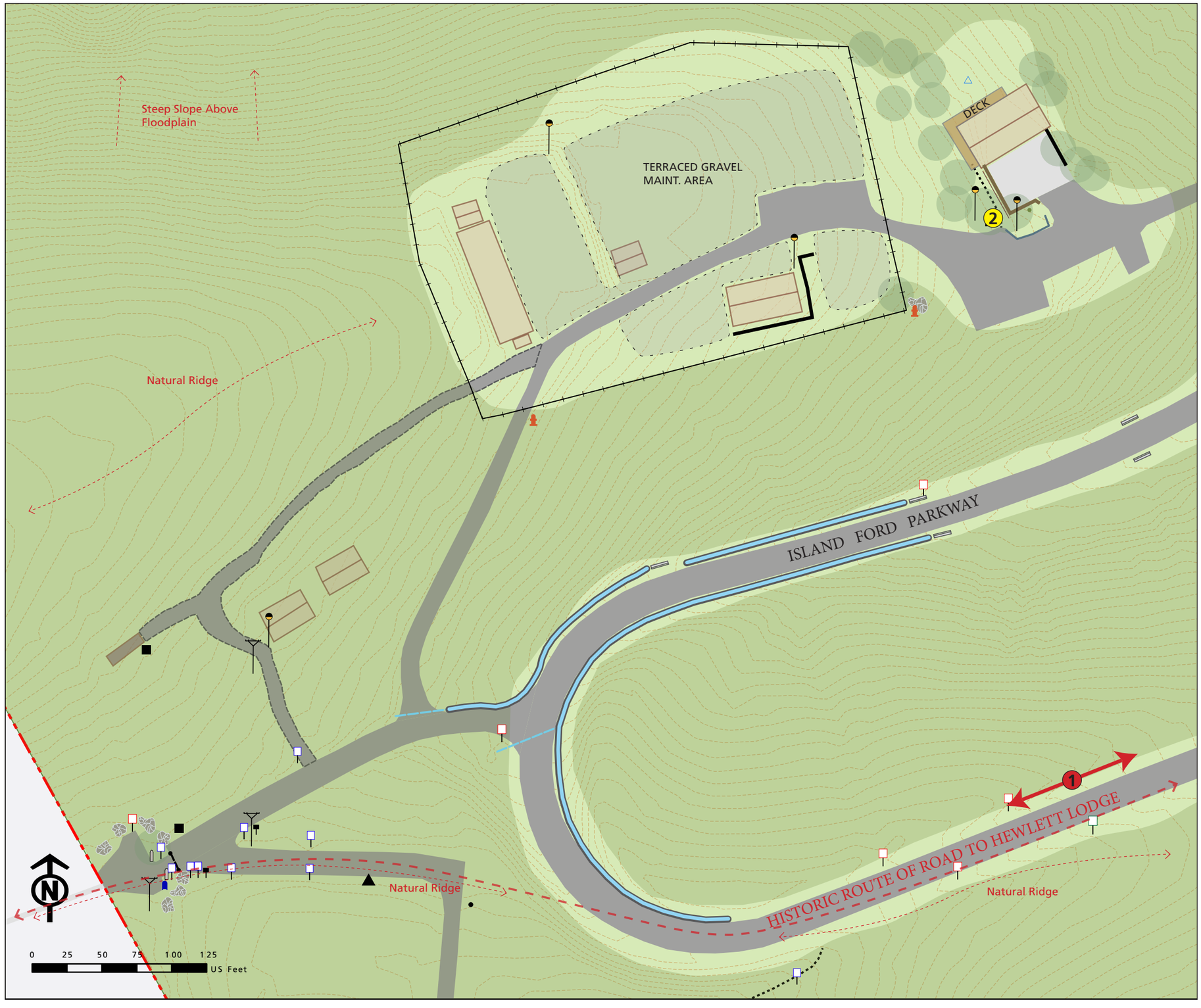


Illustration 4.2

Landscape Feature Contribution Status: Barbecue Pavilion Vicinity Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

OCTOBER 2021



Feature Key

Contributing landscape features labeled in red; those with undetermined status highlighted with yellow.

1 Historic view
2 Cultural vegetation

Earthen trail
Natural Forest
Grass and Forb Mix
Tree

Credits:
1. National Park Service, CHAT Archives
2. USGS Earth Explorer (aerial imagery
3. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2020).

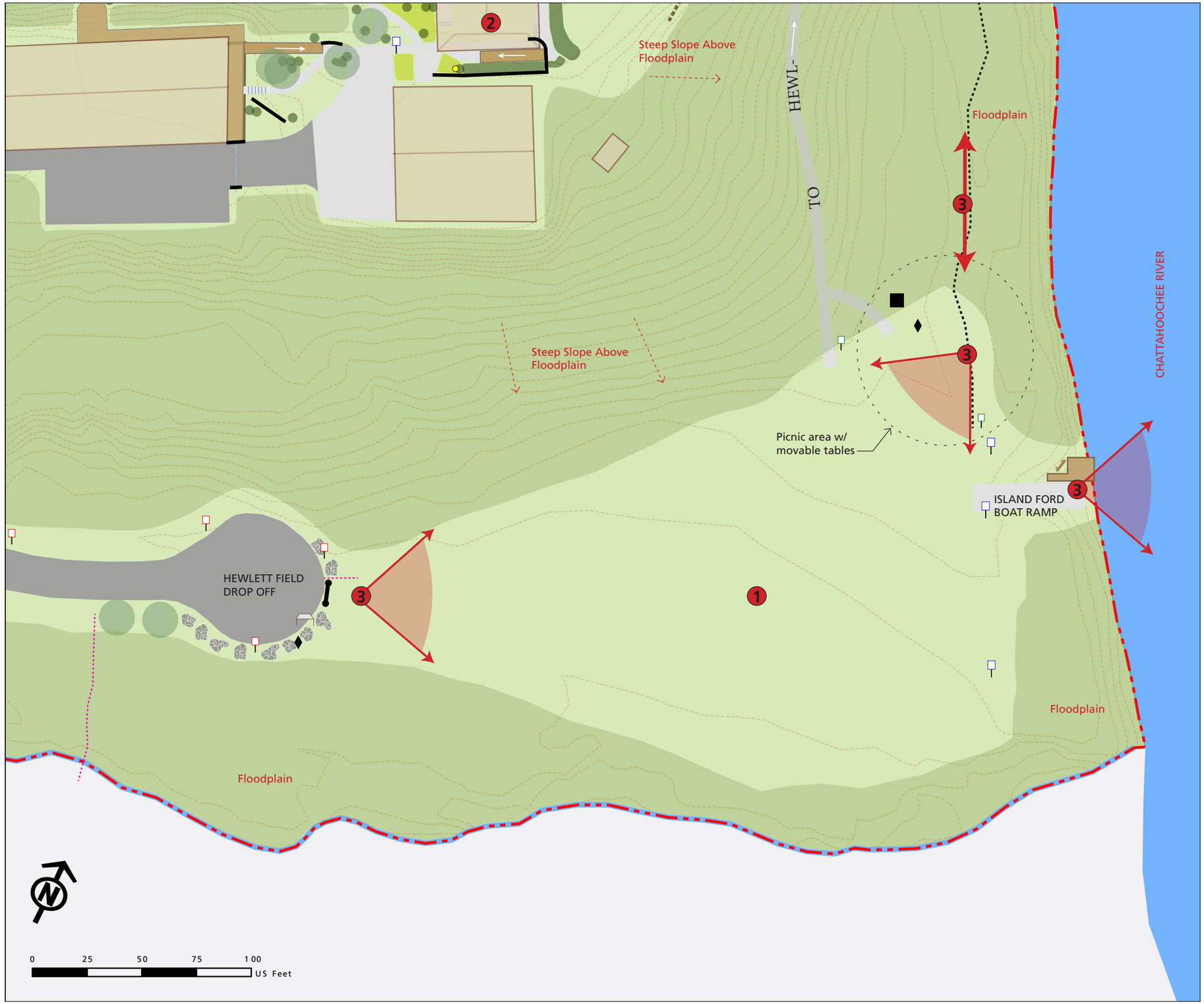


Illustration 4.3

Landscape Feature Contribution Status: Maintenance Complex and Northridge Gate Vicinity Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

OCTOBER 2021



Feature Key

Contributing landscape features labeled in red; those with undetermined status highlighted with yellow.

1 Hewlett Field
2 Hewlett Lodge
3 Historic view

Earthen trail
Informal footpath

Natural Forest
Grass and Forb Mix

Tree

Shrub (individual)
Shrub Mass

Notes:

See Illustration 3.1 for existing conditions information for the Hewlett Lodge vicinity.

See Illustration 3.6 for existing vegetation information for Hewlett Lodge vicinity.

Credits:

1. National Park Service, CHAT Archives
2. USGS Earth Explorer (aerial imagery
3. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2020).

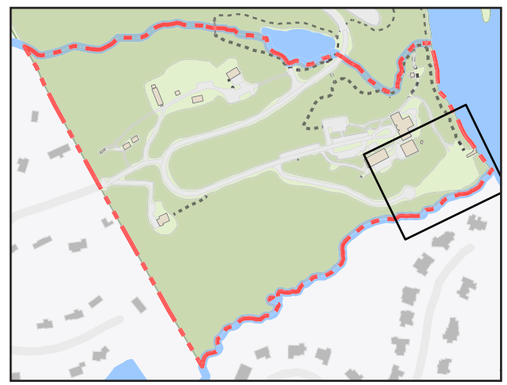


Illustration 4.4

Landscape Feature Contribution Status: Hewlett Field Vicinity Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

OCTOBER 2021

Treatment

Introduction

The treatment recommendations for this Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) propose a preservation strategy for long-term management of the cultural landscape based on research, inventory, and analysis. The appropriate preservation approach considers the evolution of the landscape alongside significance, existing conditions, and current use. The CLR combines the site history and analysis with input from the current site managers to formulate an appropriate treatment and management philosophy. The treatment recommendations provide guidance on how to best manage Island Ford Lodge landscape as a cultural resource integrated into the natural setting.

Recommendations follow National Park Service policy, including the *Director's Orders No. 28: Cultural Resource Management Guidelines and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*. These documents identify four types of treatment: preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. Each treatment ranges by level of physical intervention and includes specific guidelines and standards.

> Preservation is the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of a historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the on-going maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction. New exterior additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project.
>
> Rehabilitation is the act or process of making possible a compatible use of a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features that convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values.
>
> Restoration is the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other historic periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make the property functional is appropriate within a restoration project.
>
> Reconstruction is the act or process of depicting, by means of new construction, the form, features, and details of a non-surviving site, landscape, building, or objects for the purpose of replicating its appearance at a specific period of time in its historic location.[195]

Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment

Standards for Preservation:

- A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that maximizes the retention of distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships. Where treatment and use have not been identified, a property will be protected and, if necessary, stabilized until additional work may be undertaken.
- The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The replacement of intact or repairable historic materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.

195. Charles A. Birnbaum, ed. The Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes, (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1996), 9, 18, 48, 90, and 128.

- Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Work needed to stabilize, consolidate, and conserve existing historic materials and features will be physically and visually compatible, identifiable upon close inspection, and properly documented for future research.
- Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.
- Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.
- The existing condition of historic features will be evaluated to determine the appropriate level of intervention needed. Where the severity of deterioration requires repair or limited replacement of a distinctive feature, the new material will match the old in composition, design, color, and texture.
- Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.
- Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.

Standards for Rehabilitation:

- A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.
- The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.
- Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.
- Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.
- Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.
- Deteriorated historic features will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in design, color, texture, and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features will be supported by documentary and physical evidence.
- Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.
- Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.
- New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work will be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.
- New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

Standards for Restoration:

- A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that reflects the property's restoration period.
- Materials and features from the restoration period will be retained and preserved. The removal of materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize the period will not be undertaken.
- Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Work needed to stabilize, consolidate and conserve materials and features from the restoration period will be physically and visually compatible, identifiable upon close inspection, and properly documented for future research.
- Materials, features, spaces, and finishes that characterize other historical periods will be documented prior to their alteration or removal.
- Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize the restoration period will be preserved.
- Deteriorated features from the restoration period will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in design, color, texture, and, where possible, materials.
- Replacement of missing features from the restoration period will be substantiated by documentary and physical evidence. A false sense of history will not be created by adding conjectural features, features from other properties, or by combining features that never existed together historically.
- Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.
- Archeological resources affected by a project will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.
- Designs that were never executed historically will not be constructed.

Standards for Reconstruction:

- Reconstruction will be used to depict vanished or non-surviving portions of a property when sufficient documentary and physical evidence is available to permit accurate reconstruction with minimal conjecture and when such reconstruction is essential to the public understanding of the property.
- Reconstruction of a landscape, building, structure, or object in its historic location will be preceded by a thorough archeological investigation to identify and evaluate those features and artifacts which are essential to an accurate reconstruction. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.
- Reconstruction will include measures to preserve any remaining historic materials, features, and spatial relationships.
- Reconstruction will be based on the accurate duplication of historic features and elements supported by documentary or physical evidence rather than on conjectural designs or the availability of different features from other historic properties. A reconstructed property will re-create the appearance of the non-surviving historic property in materials, design, color, and texture.
- A reconstruction is clearly identified as a contemporary re-creation. Designs that were never executed historically will not be constructed.

Management Philosophy

The NPS manages the Island Ford Lodge landscape according to the management approach/prescriptions for Alternative F of the 2009 *Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement* (*2009 GMP*) for CHAT. Alternative F "best balances the park's need to provide high-quality visitor experiences and protect park resources."[196] Compared to the other five alternatives, Alternative F "provides more opportunities throughout the park for 'hardened' types of access and development (such as boat ramps, paved trails, parking areas, restrooms, etc.) and increased diversity of experience."[197]

While not expressed in the terms of the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment*, the current management of the Island Ford Lodge landscape most closely aligns with an ultimate Rehabilitation treatment.

CHAT Management Zones

Because CHAT includes a wide variety of different physical, biological, and social conditions, the *2009 GMP* provides management prescriptions according to a system of "management zoning," described as follows:

> Management zoning is the method used by the National Park Service to identify and describe the appropriate variety of natural resource conditions, cultural resource conditions, and visitor experiences to be achieved and maintained in the different areas of a park. Management zones also define appropriate levels and types of facilities and development for various areas of the park. Management zones do not specify the location, design particulars, or footprint of any facility nor do they guarantee that any particular type of facility, although permitted by the zone definition, will ever be developed within that zone.[198]

The factors that determine each management zone and, therefore, the associated management prescriptions include (1) the desired visitor experience and (2) desired natural and cultural resource conditions. Regardless of the target experience and condition, all management prescriptions "conform to park-specific purpose, significance, and mission goals."[199]

The Island Ford Lodge landscape includes two specific management zones—the *river zone* and the *historic resource zone* (**Figure 5.1**). The *2009 GMP* describes the zones and desired use/treatment prescriptions on pages 43-53, with the following pertaining to the Island Ford Lodge landscape.

River Zone

The river zone allows for boating and fishing limited only by natural conditions on the river. It is applied to all waterways in CHAT so that fishing and boating are permitted wherever possible in accordance with State laws and private property rights. At the park-wide scale, boat ramps and step-down facilities for canoes, rafts, kayaks, and motorized vessels provide public access to the river zone. The river zone provides a moderate degree of solitude in some riverside areas that enables visitors to experience the natural river environment. The *2009 GMP* identifies a high degree of "challenge or risk" for visitors utilizing this zone due to the relative absence of park staff presence and distance between access points. A high degree of outdoor skills, including understanding of boat safety, swimming, and self-reliance, are required for typical visitor use of this zone.

Management Focus

The management focus for the river zone is on the natural environment and enjoyment of the river experience. Therefore, the management prescriptions for the river zone specify restoration and maintenance of the natural state to the highest degree possible. Given the national recreation area's urban setting, such treatment requires a high degree of management for exotic species of flora and fauna as well as protection of natural and cultural resources from degradation by human use within CHAT. The management prescriptions

196. "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement" (National Park Service, September 2009), x.
197. "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement," 64.
198. "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement," 43.
199. "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement," 42.

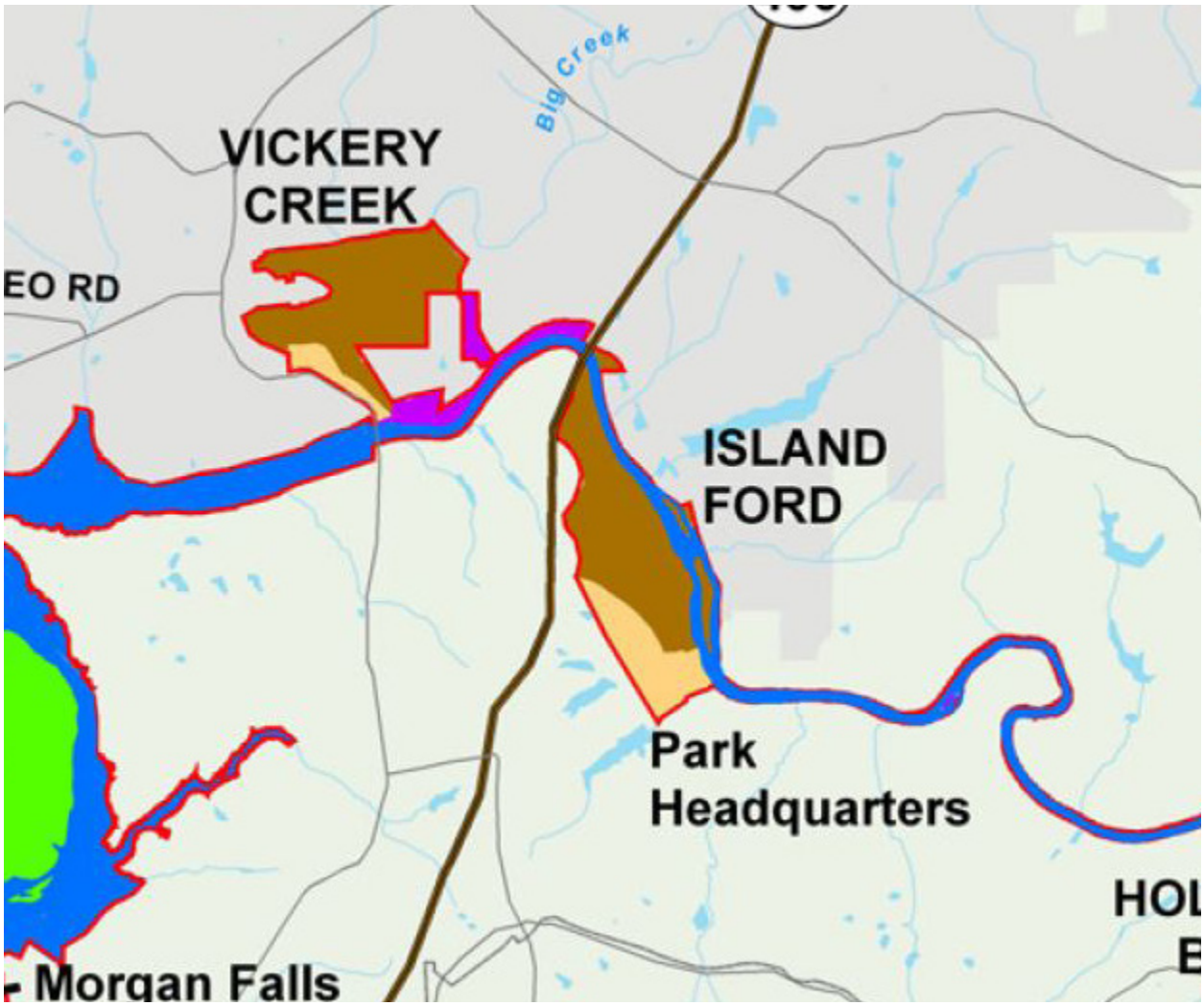


Figure 5.1: Excerpt of management zoning map for Alternative F of the 2009 Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Final General Management Plan/EIS (Figure 9, page 68). Beige area designated "Historic Resource Zone" and blue area "River Zone." (Source: 2009 GMP).

may also prescribe recommendations concerning development outside of the park boundary.

Appropriate activities in the river zone include nature observation, interpretive activities on a limited basis, scientific research, and boating and fishing. Because there is a low tolerance for resource degradation in this zone, public access to the river is provided via trails, step-down ramps for hand-carried boats, boardwalks, and minimal bridge/dock structures.

Historic Resource Zone

All portions of the Island Ford Lodge landscape, except the river corridor itself, are part of CHAT's historic resource zone. This zone includes resources identified as possessing significant cultural value that are targeted for preservation, rehabilitation, or restoration. The NPS established the zone to protect cultural resources within the national recreation area while allowing public enjoyment and promoting public appreciation of their value. Historic resource zones are clearly defined by the archeological and historic resources present and provide visitors with educational opportunities as well as relative solitude and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Management Focus

The primary management objective for the historic resource zone is the protection and/or restoration of historic and cultural resources in accordance with NPS policies. According to the *2009 GMP*, restoration may include "habitat manipulation to achieve similar plant communities that were present historically (such as crops associated with a farmstead, or a landscape associated with

a former mill site)."[200] Development of new park facilities in this zone aligns with the historical and/or archeological context of the resource(s) present while allowing for an optimal visitor experience.

Because relative visitor isolation is preferred and protection of historic and cultural resources is a top priority, a more limited variety of activities are allowed, and a high degree of management is required. Appropriate activities include day hiking, nature observation, picnicking, interpretive activities, scientific research, canoeing, rafting, kayaking, fishing, and limited use of motorized vessels. The NPS prohibits off-road bicycling and equestrian activities within historic resource zones of the national recreation area.

New facilities such as trails, paved walkways, restrooms, benches, kiosks, picnic areas, roads, bridges, and administrative facilities are appropriate as long as they are developed in the context of the historic resource(s) present. Routine maintenance and periodic updating of existing visitor/administrative facilities, including those that support river access, are appropriate management treatments.

Treatment Period

This report adopts the 1935-1950 period of significance to align with the site's National Register status as described in the *Island Ford Lodge National Register Nomination Form*.

When evaluating potential treatment options for a historic landscape, it is important to understand the historical themes associated with the site's resources. In National Register terms, the Island Ford Lodge landscape is significant as a representative example of the use of the Rustic architectural style in Georgia. However, as identified in the Analysis and Evaluation section of this CLR, there are other themes that may contribute to the site's historic significance—including outdoor recreation, which was an important aspect of the Rustic-style of architecture and landscape design as implemented at Island Ford Lodge during the period of significance.

200. "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement," 50.

This CLR documents the ways in which those who designed, developed, and used the Island Ford Lodge landscape—both during and after the period of significance—consistently embraced the site's natural environment in terms of land use, cultural traditions, and organization of the built environment. In this way, the periods in which the Buckhead Century Club and the Atlanta Baptist Association owned the property represent a continuation of the historic theme of outdoor recreation that began during the Hewlett's ownership. Furthermore, recreational land use remains active as the NPS continues to manage the site as a historic and recreational facility.

This report does not call for a reevaluation of the site's significance, integrity, and historic period in terms of the National Register. Rather, it aims to provide a balanced management/treatment approach that takes into account the preservation and conservation of landscape characteristics associated with both the site's architectural significance and its historic outdoor recreational use, including those pre- and post-dating the National Register period of significance.

Treatment Recommendations

Since the NPS acquired the property, the agency has concentrated efforts on resource stabilization, maintenance, and rehabilitation focused on providing adequate facilities for visitors, park administration, and maintenance while preserving the site's historic integrity. In the 1980s, when the NPS established its administrative headquarters at the site, the agency performed a substantial rehabilitation of Hewlett Lodge, which included re-roofing, door replacement, carpeting, and refinishing of interior spaces to include offices and storage for archival materials. Several other buildings, sites, and landscape features were subsequently altered. Changes of note include the creation of a park maintenance complex; new office spaces in the Operations Building; filling of the swimming pool and addition of the stone patio at Hewlett Lodge; addition of new paved access roads, parking lots, and various circulation features; and alteration and addition of various features associated with providing visitor services, utilities, safety, and accessibility.

The NPS's current management focus for the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape revolves around preservation and interpretation of the historic characteristics of the site while providing adequate public access for outdoor recreational pursuits and education and provisions for park administrative and maintenance related uses. As such, the treatment recommendations for the Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape align with those objectives.

Primary Treatment

As stated in the 2009 GMP, the primary management objective for CHAT's historic resource zones *is the protection and/or restoration of historic and cultural resources* in accordance with NPS policies. The primary goal of treatment for Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape is, therefore, to retain and reinforce the historic character of the site. Due to the site's heavy recreational use and the park's needs associated with administration and maintenance, an overall preservation treatment focus for the site is not feasible. Furthermore, at the time of this report, there is not enough historical documentation to recommend a restoration treatment for Hewlett Lodge or the associated historic landscape features. As such, this CLR recommends **rehabilitation** as the ultimate treatment.

Rehabilitation allows the park to continue the current uses while protecting the historic character of the site by preserving existing historic features and/or restoring aspects of those features when adequate documentation allows.

Treatment Goals

The overall goal of treatment is to protect and improve the interpretation of the cultural landscape. Because there is a need to maintain and improve features associated with visitor orientation, access, and circulation, rehabilitating the cultural landscape involves (1) preservation of features that contribute to the historic significance of the site, (2) reestablishing specific well-documented features to facilitate interpretation, and (3) adding/altering new features to support visitor/administrative access.

The overall character of the cultural landscape during the historic period was:

- A landscape designed to support the values and aesthetic preferences of the Hewlett family, who occupied and recreated on the site as a vacation destination; and
- A scenic landscape that emphasized the natural environment of the area.

General Treatment Issues

General treatment issues concerning the site include the effects of weather and climate on historic materials, missing historic features, site drainage, site access, visitor circulation, and protection of the natural ecosystem.

Park-Identified Treatment Issues

In 2020 and 2021, CHAT staff and administrators formally identified several specific issues related to visitor experience, accessibility, site infrastructure, and administrative use at the Island Ford Unit. Based on those issues, the park developed the following list of potential site upgrades within Island Ford Lodge landscape:[201]

- Site-wide updates to utilities—including water supply, septic/sewerage systems, gas, electrical, phone, and internet services;
- Creation of additional parking lot(s);
- Construction of a new stand-alone restroom facility within the general area of Hewlett Lodge;
- Improvement of river access;
- Updates to existing gravel and paved drives and parking areas within the maintenance complex;
- Addition of or alteration of features to improve universal accessibility in Hewlett Lodge vicinity; and
- Realignment of the road to the administrative parking lot.

201. In spring of 2021, CHAT administration is engaged in the process of applying for grant funding through the Great American Outdoors Act to improve maintenance facilities, utilities, and visitor-services features on a park-wide scale. This list is limited to park-identified needs that may involve alteration of existing features or construction of new features within the study boundary of this CLR. This list is general and does not necessarily reflect the updates that CHAT staff and administrators may eventually undertake.

Interpretation

According to the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Long-Range Interpretive Plan (LRIP), published by NPS in August 2011,

> In the hierarchy of planning approaches used by the National Park Service, interpretive planning is the primary planning approach focused directly on visitors and their needs. Interpretive planning seeks to understand how and why people choose to visit a site, what kinds of experiences they expect to have while there, and what kinds of programs and materials a park can provide to enhance those experiences and facilitate meaningful, personal connections with the park and its resources. While the park's management, land use, or facilities management planning may complement its interpretive plan, the interpretive plan stands as the fundamental planning tool for developing potential visitor experiences at a park.[202]

As such, the LRIP provides general and specific recommendations aimed at strengthening interpretive programing and materials at the park-wide, unit-wide, and even site-wide scales. The LRIP establishes four interpretive themes as the framework for recommended public outreach activities, interpretive programing, media installations, facilities initiatives, and staffing support. The four interpretive themes are:

- **Primary Theme # 1:** The natural, undeveloped environment of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area is an irreplaceable contributor to the quality of life in metropolitan Atlanta, offering a place for healthy recreation and unstructured play.
- **Primary Theme # 2:** The Chattahoochee River is the primary water source for a significant portion of the state of Georgia, including Lake Sidney Lanier, metropolitan Atlanta, and Columbus.
- **Primary Theme # 3:** The Chattahoochee River corridor contains a rich record of human history dating back thousands of years and extending to the present day.
- **Primary Theme # 4:** The Chattahoochee River and its watershed constitute a unique geological and biological setting that supports and sustains a vast variety of native plant and animal communities.[203]

In the context of the established themes, the LRIP recommends key steps related to improving public outreach, facilities, interpretive media, and staffing. The LRIP recommends the following key steps pertaining directly to Hewlett Lodge landscape:

- **Outreach recommendations:** engage in targeted, community-focused efforts such as establishing volunteer committees and dedicated friends groups. In addition to stimulating public enthusiasm, such outreach may aid in "reinvigorating a sustained, high-profile and widespread emphasis on safety on the river." [204]
- **Facilities recommendations:** "focus on bold initiatives to make park interpretation far more accessible to most park visitors, including . . . repurposing the existing visitor contact station at Hewlett Lodge. Additional interpretive facilities recommendations include adding roving interpretation by use of outfitted interpretive vans and watercraft, installing satellite concessions at high-traffic areas . . .."[205]
- **Interpretive media recommendations:** "focus on more extensive use and integration of an array of electronic media, including social media, for key messaging, including safety and primary themes; creating a new orientation film for the park; upgrading traditional print materials; [and] improving the park's identity, branding, and messaging through upgraded exterior exhibits and wayfinding . . .."[206]

202. "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Long-Range Interpretive Plan" (National Park Service, August 2011), vi.
203. "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Long-Range Interpretive Plan," vii.
204. "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Long-Range Interpretive Plan," viii.
205. "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Long-Range Interpretive Plan," viii.
206. "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Long-Range Interpretive Plan," viii.

- **Interpretive staffing recommendations:** "have been formulated to support significant changes in [CHAT's] interpretive facilities, visibility with the public, and corresponding staffing increases to offer more visitor interactions and roving (not only on foot, but also by van and by boat). Through a combination of permanent and seasonal employees, the teacher-ranger-teacher program, trained volunteers, and additional supporting personnel, this plan envisions a well-staffed [CHAT] interpretive program that can continue providing high-quality, engaging interpretation for park visitors in the coming years."[207]

Current interpretation of the site's history is limited to two waysides, minimal exterior signage, interior exhibits within the front room of Hewlett Lodge, and print media available to visitors. While these resources and installations provide interested visitors basic information about Hewlett Lodge and its surroundings, the remainder of the Island Ford Lodge historic landscape is left largely uninterpreted despite being generally reflective of the treatment period. Interpretation recommendations therefore focus on landscape interpretation within the thematic framework established in the LRIP.

Recommendations

The four primary interpretive themes established in the LRIP provide a general framework for planning interpretive programing and design of interpretive media. The LRIP also defines subthemes and sample "storylines" within each primary theme. Park staff that engage in interpretive planning for Hewlett Lodge landscape should use the historic narrative documented in this and other NPS reports in conjunction with the LRIP-established themes and subthemes to develop specific programing and materials to enhance visitor curiosity and understanding of the site's history and significance.

Recommended Storylines

The following sample storylines are specific to Hewlett Lodge landscape and fit well into the established themes and subthemes:

- Storylines associated with Primary Theme # 1:
    - The life of Samuel Dunbar Hewlett as someone who chose to build a retreat home within the natural and remote environment of the Chattahoochee River corridor as a place of respite, solitude, healthy recreation, and unstructured play.
    - Use of the site by Hewlett and his extended network of family and friends.
    - The history of outdoor recreation at the site, which continued after the end of the period of significance and remains.
- Storylines associated with Primary Theme # 3:
    - Principles and history of the Rustic-style of architecture, particularly the influence of naturalistic landscape design, in terms of the design of remote retreat destinations in America and the south during the early twentieth century.
    - The role of individuals, likely African Americans, who constructed the landscape and may have resided thereon.
- Storylines associated with Primary Theme # 4:
    - Environmental history of the site—including historic and current land use (foraging, transportation, logging, gold mining, farming, recreation, etc.) as well as geology, climate, and biology.
    - The effects of human use of the landscape, especially in terms of native and naturalized plant and animal communities embodied in

207. "Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area Long-Range Interpretive Plan," viii.

the existing regenerative forests, open areas, exotic and invasive plants and animals, and rare and endangered species.

- The effects of climate change on the river, forest, and other ecosystems present.

Recommended Interpretative Programing and Media
The Island Ford Lodge landscape functions as CHAT headquarters, a primary maintenance facility, and a recreational/educational site. In terms of potential visitor interpretation, the landscape is relatively easy to access due to availability of parking, restrooms, walkways, river access, trail access, wayfinding signage, and visitor-services features such as waste containers and fee stations. Hewlett Lodge functions both as park headquarters and as the national recreation area's visitor center. Visitors can enter Hewlett Lodge and experience two of the restored interior rooms and they may visit exterior features such as the Barbeque Pavilion, Springhouse, and Retaining Wall, and historic stone-paved walks.

Recommended programing and media installations to enhance interpretation related to the themes and storylines previously discussed include:

- **Guided tours or docent-led walks of the historic landscape:** The NPS could offer a series of historically-themed tours with the option of an interior tour of Hewlett Lodge. Potential tour themes include the life of Samuel Hewlett, twentieth-century development of the site, history of Rustic-style architecture and retreat destinations of the early twentieth century, naturalistic landscape design, history of African American residents of the site, and the history of recreation at the site. Content development will require additional research.
- **Self-guided tours:** The NPS could use cell phone app-based or traditional wayside exhibits on digital or printed guides for self-guided tours. Park staff can create self-guided tours to fit within a broad range of historic, cultural, and ecological contexts and themes. Once the necessary infrastructure (signage, audio, WiFi, video, print materials) is in place, the NPS can offer self-guided tours to visitors with minimal staff support. Content for self-guided tours will closely relate to, and likely overlap with that used for online and in-person interpretative/educational programing.
- **Educational programing for school-aged youth:** As such, the site offers a unique opportunity for park staff to develop interdisciplinary educational programming associated with diverse fields of study such as human history, environmental history, geology, geography, sociology, ecology, and others.
- **Waysides:** With only two waysides currently installed, the site lacks sufficient interpretive signage. The NPS should consider targeting areas for additional historically-themed waysides including the Barbeque Pavilion site, the site of Island Ford Springhouse and Retaining Wall, the stone patio at the former pool behind Hewlett Lodge, and the potential former location of a caretaker's house.

This CLR's recommendations for further research emphasize further developing the existing body of knowledge about the site to inform future interpretive programing and content.

Natural Systems and Features

Natural features, including the Chattahoochee River corridor, its two tributaries on site, the floodplains and uplands, and the woodlands, contribute to the setting and character of the Island Ford Lodge landscape. The NPS should, therefore, seek to preserve these features as part of the landscape's overall rehabilitation treatment approach. The Chattahoochee River and related ecosystems, including the forests, are part of a larger, regional cultural landscape associated with CHAT.

Due to high visitation numbers, the park has determined that additional parking and a comfort station should be constructed within the study area. Because the areas outside of currently cleared/developed areas are primarily forested, the addition of new parking and/or a comfort station

will likely impact natural systems and features that contribute to the landscape's historic character. As such, the following recommendations focus on limiting environmental and aesthetic impact caused by such rehabilitation efforts. See the sections for Buildings and Structures and Circulation below for specific recommendations related to new parking areas and an additional comfort station.

Recommendations

- Continue to coordinate natural resource management with inter-agency and public partnerships. The Island Ford Unit of CHAT and the cultural landscape at Hewlett Lodge protect an important tract of natural forest land in a sprawling suburban region of Georgia, and the NPS should manage it as a unified resource.
- Maintain trails and associated drainage structures to prevent erosion and degradation of natural vegetation.
- Continue to utilize woodlands for passive recreation and river access.
- Preserve the natural characteristics of the Chattahoochee River corridor, including the environment of the two on-site tributaries.
- Regularly remove debris and trash from Falling Branch, the stream at the south end of the site, and on-site drainage ditches; assess storm-water impacts following major storm events.
- Continue to maintain forest edges at Hewlett Field and along open roadways of the site. Monitor and manage associated invasive species.
- Maintain forested areas at their existing extent in the areas immediately surrounding Hewlett Lodge, the Barbeque Pavilion, the administrative area, and the parking lots to preserve existing canopy while avoiding vegetative encroachment on built features.
- New parking areas and/or a comfort station should be located where the minimal amount of clearing is required, such as along the edges of existing roadways and/or other developed areas. Where clearing is required, determine and maintain a new forest line as closely as possible to the cleared area (see Illustration 5.1).
- Continue to maintain Hewlett Field as an open, grassy field. Because the field is a contributing natural feature of the landscape, the NPS should carefully consider the visual and environmental impact of any new feature(s) that may be added, such as parking areas or improvements to the boat ramp area (see Circulation below for recommendations related to allowing vehicular circulation within Hewlett Field). Refrain from planting shrubs or trees within the existing field boundary.
- Minimize forest clearing when updating existing utilities or adding new infrastructure. This can be done by locating features that require clearing in areas that are already clear—such as along existing roadways and walkways.

Buildings and Structures

The Island Ford Lodge landscape includes four contributing buildings and structures—Hewlett Lodge, the Barbeque Pavilion, Island Ford Springhouse, and Island Ford Retaining Wall. The site's historic and cultural significance is directly associated with these features, making their preservation a top priority. In addition to keeping their physical location and materials intact, it is important to preserve the overall setting, feeling, and association by maintaining the existing viewshed, circulation, and vegetation in proximity to the features.

Additions and Alterations

This CLR does not recommend the addition of new buildings or structures; the preferred treatment is preservation and continued maintenance of contributing and noncontributing buildings and structures. If the NPS determines that existing buildings or structures require alteration, or if the need for new buildings or structures becomes apparent, the park should consider the following general recommendations:

- Avoid adding new buildings or structures in the vicinity of Hewlett Lodge, the

Barbeque Pavilion, and the site of Island Ford Springhouse and Retaining Wall. Minimize visual and functional impact on the historic features by locating new buildings/structures out of view from Hewlett Lodge Cul-de-sac and the trails to the Barbeque Pavilion site and along Falling Branch. The northwest end of Island Ford Parking Lot may be an appropriate location for new a new comfort station; however, to minimize visual and environmental impact, any new buildings and/or structures should be small, one-story, and of uncomplicated massing.

- Any alterations to existing buildings and structures (including noncontributing features) may impact the overall character of the site and, thus, should be evaluated in terms of potential visual and spatial impact.
- Clearing for new buildings and structures, and for the circulation features that support their use, will impact the existing viewsheds, circulation, and the extent of forested/cleared areas. As part of the design process, determine where forest edges will be reestablished and managed to provide visual and audible buffer(s).
- Because utility upgrades may require the addition of new structures—such as pad-mounted electrical transformers, plumbing cleanouts and vaults, and service panels—route new utilities so that any above-ground features will be out of view of, or visually buffered from, contributing features in the landscape.

Hewlett Lodge and Associated Stone Paths and Patio

Hewlett Lodge is the primary historic feature at the site and, therefore, its preservation should be a top priority for the NPS. As opposed to the larger cultural landscape, research has revealed sufficient information to restore the house to its 1935-1950 conditions; however, given its current use as the visitor center and headquarters building, this is not the park-preferred nor the recommended treatment. To best align with an ultimate rehabilitation treatment approach, this CLR recommends that the NPS preserve Hewlett Lodge in its current state and continue the existing mixed use.

This recommended treatment pertains to both the interior and exterior of the building, as well as for historic and contemporary features in the immediate surroundings. The NPS should consider producing a Historic Structure Report (HSR) for Hewlett Lodge to identify character defining features and make recommendations for further preservation (see recommendations for further research later in this report). Until an HSR is completed for the building, the NPS should consider the following treatment recommendations:

Interior

Because the Hewlett family designed the building as a dwelling, it includes rooms of assorted sizes that form functionally segregated zones. The functionality of the interior has changed quite drastically since the original construction, but its residential character remains generally intact. The most drastic interior alterations are on the lower level. These spaces house administrative offices and archival storage and are not open to the public. The center, front room (a former living room) and the right side of the building are accessible to the public and include original exposed log surfaces, board ceilings, doors, and moldings.

The ultimate rehabilitation treatment allows for changes of use within specific rooms or zones of the building (such as office/private rooms vs. public areas like the gift shop and restrooms) but calls for retention of all historic interior features—including the floor plan, flooring, wall and ceiling coverings, windows, doors, and moldings.

This CLR recommends that the NPS produce an HSR prior to undertaking any alteration to use, layout, and/or material composition of the interior of Hewlett Lodge. If alterations are planned prior to completing an HSR, the NPS should, at a minimum, review the Historic Structure Assessment Report (HSAR) for the building and consider ways to minimize impact to historic features identified in the document.

Exterior

Owners have modified the exterior of Hewlett Lodge only slightly since the period of significance, having minimal impact on the historic character. As such, the rehabilitation recommendation will allow the NPS to preserve the exterior and effectively protect the historic integrity while continuing the current public and administrative use. Routine maintenance and as-needed preservation projects should be sufficient for long-term protection of Hewlett Lodge. The following general practices are recommended:

- Establish a routine maintenance and inspection plan specific to the building's exterior envelope (roof, walls, foundation, windows and doors, and drainage features). See the Maintenance, Schedules, and Inspection section of *Preservation Brief 47: Maintaining the Exterior of Small and Medium Size Historic Buildings* for guidance in developing a plan.[208] The plan should include at least annual inspections of roof, flashing, chimneys, and penetrations (doors and windows), along with quarterly inspections of gutters and downspouts, attic, crawlspace, exterior walkways and stair sets, and site drainage features.
- Maintain positive drainage away from Hewlett Lodge. Consult *Preservation Brief 39: Holding the Line: Controlling Unwanted Moisture in Historic Buildings* for additional information.[209]
- Clean and re-point exterior masonry surfaces as needed following NPS guidance in *Preservation Brief 1: Assessing Cleaning and Water-Repellent Treatments for Historic Masonry Buildings* and *Preservation Brief 2: Repointing Mortar Joints in Historic Masonry Buildings.*[210]
- Maintain and repair exposed log surfaces and chinking following NPS guidance in *Preservation Brief 26: The Preservation and Repair of Historic Log Buildings.*[211]
- Retain all existing stone walkways and the noncontributing stone patio; consider interpreting the stone patio to inform visitors that there was once a pool in its location. See the recommendations for circulation for more detail about the walkways and patio.
- Avoid alteration of Hewlett Lodge's foundation, exterior stair sets, stone walkways, and patio when updating utilities and/or existing septic systems.

Barbecue Pavilion and Associated Stone Patios and Walls

The Barbecue Pavilion site includes both well-preserved and altered historic features, which are identified in the Analysis and Evaluation chapter of this report. Each feature within the vicinity of the Barbecue Pavilion requires specific treatment to align with the national recreation area's interpretation and use goals. The NPS maintains the pavilion as an open-air picnic site. It is freely available for public use and is not interpreted as a component of the historic cultural landscape. Therefore, it is recommended that the NPS establish a goal for the pavilion's intended future use prior to determining the appropriate treatment. Recommended treatments align with the ultimate rehabilitation treatment and include:

- Fully document the building's chronology of development and use through further research. Research should focus on the

208. Sharon C. Park, "Preservation Brief 47: Maintaining the Exterior of Small and Medium Size Historic Buildings," accessed May 24, 2021, https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/47-maintaining-exteriors.htm.

209. Thomas C. Jester and Sharon C. Park, "Preservation Brief 32: Making Historic Properties Accessible," accessed April 16, 2021, https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/32-accessibility.htm.

210. Robert C. Mack and Anne E. Grimmer, "Preservation Brief 1: Assessing Cleaning and Water-Repellent Treatments for Historic Masonry Buildings," 2, accessed May 24, 2021, https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/1-cleaning-water-repellent.htm; Robert C. Mack and John P. Speweik, "Preservation Brief 2: Repointing Mortar Joints in Historic Masonry Buildings," accessed May 24, 2021, https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/2-repoint-mortar-joints.htm.

211. Bruce D. Bomberger, "Preservation Brief 26: The Preservation and Repair of Historic Log Buildings," accessed May 24, 2021, https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/26-log-buildings.htm.

pavilion's use by the Hewlett family as well as documentation of the historic configuration of the adjacent stone walls and patio.

- The Barbecue Pavilion site is ideal for small-group use, including picnicking and passive recreation. As an enhancement, the park may consider allowing visitors to reserve the space for private gatherings. This is an appropriate treatment as long as it does not result in damage to the pavilion and associated features such as the chimney, stone walls, and patio. Given the physical condition of the fire pit and stone chimney, it is not recommended that the park allow visitors (even small groups renting the space) to cook or build fires in the fire pit.
- Continue to manage the Pavilion site to support visitor use for picnicking and passive recreation. Management activity should continue to be focused on preserving the pavilion, chimney and fire pit, stone walls, patio, and open character of the site—including continued routine maintenance of the non-historic roof structure and covering, cleaning and repointing of stone features, and vegetation management. Reconstruction of the original roof configuration is not recommended unless further research reveals documentation of the historic configuration and materials.
- An option to close the site to picnicking and passive use is also appropriate for the long-term preservation of the physical features; however, this is not preferred because it will limit available spaces within the park for such use. Given the rehabilitation approach for the cultural landscape, this option should be considered only if the park determines that public use is resulting in damage to the site's historic and/or ecological resources.
- Install interpretive wayside(s) that discuss topics such as (a) the history of Hewlett Lodge's development, (b) the embrace of nature that influenced the Rustic style of architecture and landscape design, and (c) the NPS's dedication to preservation of historic cultural landscapes.
- Maintain the pavilion site without electrical or plumbing facilities.
- Avoid constructing new buildings or structures in the vicinity of the Barbecue Pavilion.

Island Ford Spring House and Retaining Wall

Treatment recommendations specific to Island Ford Spring House and Island Ford Retaining Wall align with those of the site's other historic features. Their continued preservation will benefit the overall historic integrity of the cultural landscape. Adverse conditions affecting these features, such as mortar failure, moisture infiltration, and undermining of the structure, should be dealt with in accordance with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards*. Before undertaking maintenance and repair on these features review NPS guidance in *Preservation Brief 1: Assessing Cleaning and Water-Repellent Treatments for Historic Masonry Buildings* and *Preservation Brief 2: Repointing Mortar Joints in Historic Masonry Buildings*.[212]

The NPS does not currently provide interpretive information regarding the association of these features with Hewlett Lodge and the Barbecue Pavilion. As such, a wayside or other interpretive media along the trail that follows Falling Branch will enhance the overall interpretation of the site's identified historic themes.

This CLR recommends the following treatments at the Spring House site:

- Clean, repair, and repoint Island Ford Retaining Wall.
- Install interpretive media near the Spring House.

212. Mack and Grimmer, "Preservation Brief 1: Assessing Cleaning and Water-Repellent Treatments for Historic Masonry Buildings," 2; Mack and Speweik, "Preservation Brief 2: Repointing Mortar Joints in Historic Masonry Buildings."

Noncontributing Buildings and Structures

To avoid degrading the overall historic integrity of Island Ford Lodge landscape, noncontributing buildings and structures in the vicinity of Hewlett Lodge should remain in their current location and configuration or be removed/relocated further away. If the NPS decides to alter noncontributing buildings, consideration should be given to the potential effect. For example, when designing alterations, consider maintaining the existing scale, height, and location of buildings and associated circulation features and avoid altering the existing viewsheds and vegetation.

Because Island Ford Quarters and the buildings and structures in the maintenance areas are not visible from the cultural landscape's historic core (Hewlett Lodge, Barbecue Pavilion, and Island Ford Spring House areas), their alteration will have little to no impact. The NPS should consider potential impacts to the existing forest edge and viewsheds prior to altering these buildings and structures or updating associated circulation features and utilities.

Land Use Zones and Spatial Organization

In terms of current land use, Island Ford Lodge landscape can be separated into three distinct zones, including areas managed for (1) park administration, (2) maintenance, and (3) public use. The site's historic resources are in the public use zone. Although the administrative zone is separated slightly from Hewlett Lodge and the associated contributing landscape features, various contemporary walkways, trails, structures, and small-scale features are scattered amongst the historic features and are, thus, at least slightly intrusive to the overall historic integrity. Compared to the administrative zones, the maintenance zones are much more distinct and separated from the site's historic core at Hewlett Lodge, making them less intrusive. Access is restricted to both the administrative and maintenance zones, and the NPS manages the associated landscape features accordingly.

Maintaining the legibility of Island Ford Lodge's historic spatial organization is vital to preserving the site's historic integrity. Therefore, the organization of contemporary features—especially those associated with administrative and maintenance-related activities, as well as utilities and visitor services—should not degrade the legibility of the historic organization.

If the NPS intends to continue to operate administration/maintenance facilities onsite, it is recommended that they retain the current three distinct use zones in keeping with the treatment period conditions. The NPS should avoid erecting barriers or planting vegetation that create additional spaces or disrupt the visual plane above and through the historic core of the site—especially in the vicinity of Hewlett Lodge, the Barbeque Pavilion site, the Chattahoochee River, Falling Branch, and Hewlett Field.

This CLR recommends that the NPS consider enhancing existing interpretation of the historic spatial organization by adding interpretive media such as waysides along the trails and walkways. Target areas for waysides include the edges of the Hewlett Lodge cul-de-sac, open areas north and east of Hewlett Lodge, the Barbeque Pavilion site, the northeast end of Hewlett Field, and at various places along the walkways and trails adjacent to Falling Branch and the Chattahoochee River.

Vegetation

The Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape and the rest of the Island Ford Unit are heavily vegetated. The forests that extend across most of the study area provide benefits to visitors, adjacent landowners, and the fauna that occupies the site. The NPS should carefully plan modifications to the vegetative character to avoid degrading wildlife habitat and/or historic character. The following recommendations provide a framework for determining appropriate vegetation management strategies.

Hewlett Lodge Vicinity

There is little historic documentation for the vegetation around Hewlett Lodge, Island Ford Parking Lot, and the adjacent administrative areas. If future research results in additional understanding of the historic conditions, rehabilitation efforts should focus on reestablishing or preserving any historic vegetation. Based on the oral history interviews summarized in the Historic Structure Assessment Report and other documentation, the general character of the

vegetation at Hewlett Lodge during the treatment period was vernacular with an emphasis on the natural regenerative forests. While much of the existing cultural vegetation is not native to the site, whether having been imported during or after the treatment period, the overall character remains naturalistic. This CLR prescribes treatments for vegetation that will help maintain the naturalistic setting and feeling.

The current maintenance program for Hewlett Lodge vicinity is effective in protecting the site's cultural vegetation; however, to improve the naturalistic character of the site, it is recommended that NPS staff develop a formal maintenance program focused on (1) monitoring existing conditions and (2) adopting vegetation management strategies to enhance the overall naturalistic aesthetic. The maintenance program should reference known dates of existing plantings, whether historic or not, and be updated periodically to reflect new plantings.

Parks have a reasonable duty of care to inspect and maintain trees. In terms of tree selection for removal and assessing risk, the NPS should keep in mind there are no "safe" trees and that each tree has potential to damage cultural resources on site. NPS policy in Director's Order 77 (DO-77) should be adhered to, but tree risk assessment should also follow the guidance found in ANSI A300 (Part 9 in particular) as well as ANSI Z133 (for safety). Lastly, document all tree inspections and mitigations, as this allows DOI SOL to defend the agency in case of damage or injury. Documentation also demonstrates reasonable duty of care.

The following strategies are recommended for the Hewlett Lodge vicinity:

- Maintain the existing forest edge by clearing saplings and seedlings that appear outside of the existing forest boundary as indicated in Illustrations 5.1-5.3.
- Remove invasive species; use sensitive means of removal, such as hand removal, whenever possible.
- Retain all healthy native trees, shrubs, forbs, vines, and grasses but identify declining vegetation and non-native vegetation for replacement. If a mature tree or shrub cannot be saved or is targeted for removal, it may be possible to underplant the feature with the same plant material in close proximity to the original location prior to loss or removal.
- In the vicinity of Hewlett Lodge, gradually remove non-native vegetation and plant native or naturalized vegetation from the recommended vegetation plant list (see Table 2). See vegetation removal recommendations, indicated in red in Illustration 5.2.
- Maintain existing vegetation and/or choose new plantings to correspond with the recommended vegetation zones shown on Illustration 5.2; when selecting new vegetation, use the recommended vegetation list by category—trees, shrubs, herbs and vines, or grasses and sedges (see Table 2).
- Consider adopting pruning techniques and schedules that promote natural plant forms (**Figure 5.2**). Tree pruning and hazard tree assessment should follow NPS policy in DO-77. See the following for specific guidance on naturalistic pruning techniques and scheduling:
    - *Pruning Ornamental Plants*, published by Penn State University Cooperative Extension[213]
    - *Pruning Ornamental Plants in the Landscape*, published by University of Georgia Extension[214]
- To improve the naturalistic character of the foundation vegetation at Hewlett Lodge, consider replacing the azaleas at the front and rear entrances with open-formed shrubs such as beautyberry, Carolina spicebush, native azalea, or a dwarf cultivar of oakleaf hydrangea. Recommended evergreen options include dwarf cultivars of inkberry holly, yaupon holly, and Florida anise.
- Continue to maintain the areas of low-growing grass/forb mix east of Hewlett

213. James C Sellmer et al., "Pruning Ornamental Plants," 2004, 28.
214. "Pruning Ornamental Plants in the Landscape," University of Georgia Extension, n.d., https://secure.caes.uga.edu/extension/publications/files/pdf/B%20961_5.PDF.



Figure 5.2: While research has not revealed evidence of historic foundation plantings at Hewlett Lodge, the unnatural form of the azalea (left) and holly shrubs near the front and back entrances are not indicative of the site's overall naturalistic character. This CLR recommends that the park replace the existing shrubs with a mixture of more appropriate plantings (see discussion in body of report) as well as adoption of a long-term pruning schedule and hand pruning techniques. The image on the right is an azalea with a natural form. (Source: left, WLA Studio, 2020; right, WLA Studio, 2021).



Figure 5.3: Areas of bare ground adjacent to the paved surface at Island Ford Boat Ramp and Hewlett Field Drop Off are susceptible to erosion. The park should consider seeding these areas with grass and forb species present in Hewlett Field. Erosion matting or an organic mulch material can be installed to support the slope while grass and forb species are established. (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).



Figure 5.4: The low-lying areas in the south portion of Hewlett Field tend to collect surface water. Consider constructing subterranean drainage and/or bioswales at the surface level to drain these areas to the adjacent stream to the south. (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

Lodge and in the administrative areas as NPS Turf Class B1, Functional-Short.

- Consider establishing an upland meadow plant community in the vegetative islands between Hewlett Lodge Cul-de-sac, the Operations Building, and Hewlett Lodge. Under this treatment, these areas should be managed as NPS Turf Class B2, Functional Tall. For recommendations related to establishing an upland meadow, see the Roadside Bioswales section below.
- Maintain a mature shrub and/or tree buffer along the north side of the Operations Building.

Hewlett Field

- Continue to maintain Hewlett Filed as NPS Turf Class B2, Functional Tall.
- Prune low branches of trees and shrubs on the edges of Hewlett Field each spring and fall to allow easier mowing at edges.
- At places that become thin and/or vulnerable to erosion—particularly in the areas immediately adjacent to Hewlett Field Drop Off, the boat ramp, and the picnic area (**Figures 5.3**)—overseed annually or as necessary with a grass/forbs mixture consisting of plant species found currently in Hewlett Field. A mixture with primarily broomsedge, bluestem, velvet panicum, and purpletop tridens is recommended.
- While reestablishing turf in places that have eroded, consider using grass-pave or tile drain as temporary stabilizers.
- Install a subterranean drainage structure (such as a tile drain) or a narrow bioswale to drain rainwater out of the small low-lying area in the southwest portion of Hewlett Field; (**Figure 5.4**) drain this low area to the south to the adjacent stream (see Illustration 5.1).

Maintenance Complex and Site of the Quarters Building

The maintenance complex and Island Ford Quarters are located in areas dominated by natural forests and are generally not visible from the historic core of the cultural landscape. This CLR recommends the following:

- Continue to maintain the dense natural forests that form a visual and audible barrier around the maintenance complex.
- Avoid clearing of the forested areas between the maintenance complex and the pond loop trail to the north and Island Ford Parkway/Northridge Road to the southeast, south, and southwest.
- Maintain the existing forests in the west part of the maintenance complex—the portion of the complex that is not fenced.
- Maintain forest boundary at the existing extent surrounding Island Ford Quarters.

Roadside Bioswales

The graded areas along either side of the site's roadways include either mature tree canopy cover or are open with a mix of low grasses and forbs (**Figure 5.5**). NPS staff mows the lawn in the roadside bioswales very short and trims rock-filled ditches routinely. This management aligns with treatment for NPS Turf Class B1, Functional Short.

The soil in these open areas are generally dry and rocky with a very thin layer of topsoil. Based on conditions, the NPS may want to consider establishing an upland meadow plant community in these areas, management of which would align with NPS Turf Class B2, Functional Tall. Once established, upland meadows require minimal maintenance, are drought hardy, help prevent erosion, and fit the naturalistic aesthetic of the cultural landscape.

When establishing and maintaining an upland meadow, consider the following recommendations:

- Prior to establishing a meadow, remove any undesirable and/or invasive vegetation through a combination of herbicide application, tillage, and/or other mechanical means; competition from undesirable species is generally the most limiting factor in establishing a meadow.
- Hand seed or broadcast an upland meadow seed mixture such as those available through regional nurseries and



Figure 5.5: This CLR recommends establishing upland meadows in roadside bioswales to minimize maintenance requirements and protect areas with bare soil to prevent future erosion. (Source: WLA Studio, 2020).

seed companies; prior to choosing seed mix, test the pH of the soil and select species adapted to the existing pH.

- Limit fertilizer application in these areas. It is not necessary to apply lime or fertilizer to upland meadows; in fact, fertilizer may promote undesirable species.
- In the first growing season, let the meadow reach a height of 18" and then trim to 8", and repeat as necessary throughout the growing season. Avoid using lawn mowers for trimming as they will cut the desired vegetation too short and will allow fast-growing weeds to establish themselves. Stop trimming by mid-September.
- In the early spring of the second growing year (preferably after undesirable seedlings have emerged but meadow species are less than 2" tall), trim standing residual growth from the previous year to a height of about 2".
- Resume trimming regimen based on plant growth rate—when vegetation reaches a height of approximately 18", trim to 8".
- Weeds should be targeted and removed by hand or by spot spraying with an approved herbicide on a routine basis, at least once per season.

Vegetation for Managing Erosion in Forested Areas

The NPS should consider protecting the edges of paved surfaces from erosion. Choosing native plants for erosion control will benefit the native ecosystem and reinforce the site's naturalistic aesthetic character. In areas with full sun (generally adjacent to paved walkways and earthen trails), grasses and forbs from the recommended vegetation list are appropriate. In forested areas with moderate- to full-canopy cover, small trees, large shrubs, and various forbs from the recommended vegetation list are appropriate.

Invasive Vegetation

Park biologists and managers have noted the presence of invasive species in various places within the study area. Noted species include eleagnus (*Eleagnus* spp.), stilt grass (*Microstegium vinineum*), wisteria (*Wisteria sinensis*), English ivy (*Hendera helix*), wintercreeper (*Euonymus fortunei*), privet (*Ligustrum sinense*), and wine raspberry (*Rubus phoenicolasius*). There is a significant amount of invasive exotic vegetation south of Hewlett Field. The NPS has managed and removed some of this plant material; however, there is not currently an established maintenance program directed at their removal. This CLR recommends the following:

- Continue current efforts to monitor and remove invasive species from the entire study area.
- Develop a formal program for monitoring and systematically removing all invasive species.
- In areas with ornamental shrub, forb, or grass species—especially in the Hewlett Lodge vicinity—remove invasive plants by hand or spot spray them with an approved herbicide to avoid damaging other vegetation.
- In areas with large, dense clusters of invasive shrubs, such as the area south of Hewlett Field, consider using a combination of tillage, herbicide application, and hand removal of invasive vegetation.

Views and Vistas

The Island Ford Lodge landscape has a well-established visual buffer between it and the surrounding suburban development—especially at the historic core surrounding Hewlett Lodge. As such, viewshed management and preservation is important. The views and vistas within the site should be maintained with strategic landscape management. As the site was historically characterized by its natural regenerative forest aesthetic, which remains generally intact, the scenic woodland views do not require significant management beyond routine monitoring of forest health and removal of invasive species.

Recommendations

- Preserve and protect the natural forest of the site as (1) the primary viewshed buffer between the site's core and developed areas outside of the cultural landscape and (2) as a character-defining element of the naturalistic landscape. Monitor

forest health routinely to detect threats to the ecosystem and specific vegetation early. Consult specialists such as forest ecologists, foresters, and arborists as necessary.

- Continue to provide public access to the axial and panoramic views identified in the Existing Conditions chapter of this CLR. Consider improving access to certain views by clearing small areas of vegetation at strategic viewing locations. The NPS could also provide seating and/or interpretive media at such locations, especially along earthen trails and at the rock outcrop (see viewshed indications on Illustrations 5.1-5.3).
- Retain mature trees and mix of medium- and low-growing shrubs, grasses, and forbs within Hewlett Lodge vicinity to preserve the historic views of Hewlett Lodge, surrounding forest, and the Chattahoochee River from points along Island Ford Parkway, within the parking lot and cul-de-sac, and Hewlett Lodge's rear yard.
- If the NPS removes the hemlock trees near the front (west) of Hewlett Lodge or the hemlocks in the parking lot island, they should replace these features in kind or with a compatible native tree species such as Eastern red cedar.
- Maintain the open character of the picnic area at Island Ford Barbeque Pavilion site.

Circulation

The circulation features at Island Ford Lodge landscape provide access to the site's historic core, natural forests, bottom land, waterways, and administrative/maintenance areas. Circulation features also connect the site to the larger Fulton County community. As the site is a popular day-use destination and CHAT headquarters, the existing circulation features, historic and contemporary, are used quite heavily. The primary historic circulation feature is the route through the site along the ridgeline between the Northridge Road entrance and Hewlett Lodge. When altering existing circulation systems, the park should carefully consider potential impacts to that historic route, especially in terms of the axial view(s) along it.

The recommendations for circulation focus on ways that the park can protect the site's historic character when altering circulation to (1) enhance visitor access and (2) continue park administrative/maintenance use.

Recommendations

Roads and Parking

- Maintain the existing road configuration that preserves the historic route to Hewlett Lodge as the primary visitor and administrative access road (currently including the south end of Island Ford Road and the portion of Northridge Road within the study area). By maintaining this route, the park will preserve the axial view along the road to Hewlett Lodge.
- Continue to limit access at the Northridge Road entrance.
- Maintain the existing one-way vehicular circulation around the vegetation island in the east portion of Island Ford Parking Lot.
- Maintain the restricted access roads to and from the maintenance complex. Alteration of paved and gravel surfaces on the roads to, from, and within the maintenance complex will have no adverse effect on the site's historic character.
- If alteration of the paved driveway to Island Ford Quarters is required, ensure that the forested buffer between Hewlett Lodge and Island Ford Quarters is preserved.
- Retain the size, configuration, and restricted access of Hewlett Lodge Cul-de-sac.
- Due to increasing visitor numbers, the park has identified the need for additional parking in the vicinities of Hewlett Lodge and Island Ford Boat Ramp. Consider the following:

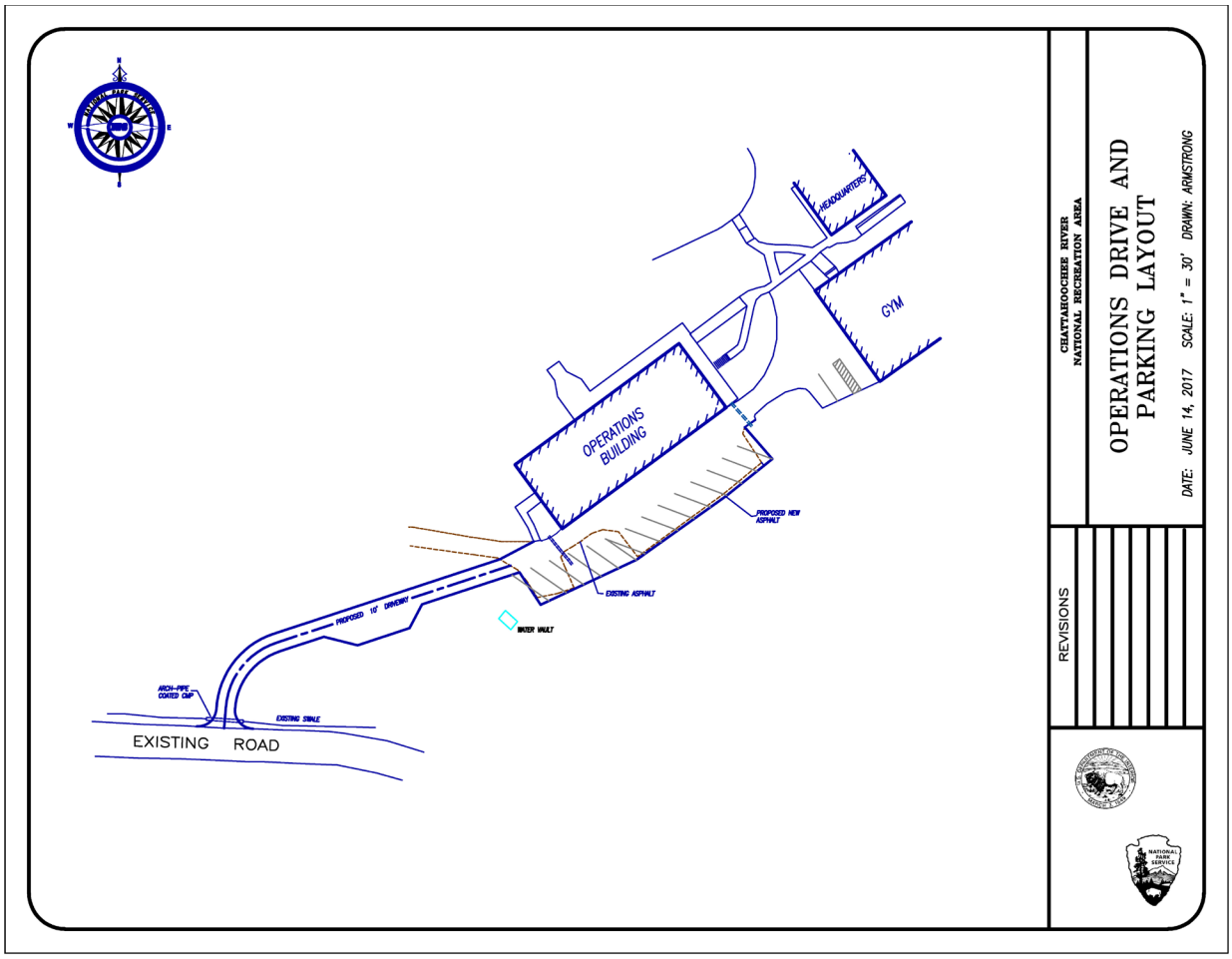


Figure 5.6: Internal park planning schematic drawing for a proposed rerouting of the access road connecting the administrative parking area south of the Operations Building to Island Ford Road. (Source: CHAT, 2021).

- New parking areas should be located out of view from Hewlett Lodge to avoid adverse impact on the historic setting. See Illustration 5.1 for recommended additional parking areas. This CLR recommends paving small expansions to existing parking areas rather than constructing a large new parking lot in the study area. Such expansions can be designed to minimize clearing and alteration of existing topography. Where clearing is required, the park should determine where forest edges will be reestablished and managed to provide visual and audible buffer(s).
- If not defined by pavement extent and ground paint, new parking areas should be clearly defined and marked with minimal signage to avoid unauthorized parking in environmentally sensitive areas.
- Adding permanent parking facilities and/or extension(s) of the paved roadway at Hewlett Field would have a profound impact on the visual and environmental character. However, if the park determines that providing temporary parking is necessary, such as at the boat ramp during special events, access should be limited to a set number of vehicles and confined to a designated area. Temporary posts and ropes can be used to indicate the extent of parking areas/temporary roadway(s) connected to the paved section of Hewlett Field Road. To prevent compaction and other mechanical damage to the field, care should be taken to avoid

frequent and/or heavy traffic, especially when the field is wet. Illustration 5.1 shows the general location that parking may be best. Providing temporary parking in this way will likely require staff to be present to manage circulation and prevent overuse.

    - If the park determines that adding vehicular access directly to the boat ramp is required, consider installing a grass-pave surface across the center of Hewlett Field, connecting Hewlett Field Drop Off to the boat ramp. Such a drive could be limited to pick-up and drop-off and not include designated parking.

- The park has identified the need to alter vehicular access to the administrative parking lot south of the Operations Building. The configuration of the intersection with Island Ford Parkway is especially inadequate. This CLR recommends rerouting the drive to connect directly to the Hewlett Field Drop Off road, as proposed in an internal park plan dated 2017 (see **Figure 5.6**). If the existing driveway is closed, remove the pavement from the site, regrade the route to afford adequate drainage, and plant the route with native forest vegetation.

Hewlett Lodge Vicinity

- Retain all historic stone walkways and stair sets in Hewlett Lodge vicinity.
- Retain non-historic stone patio east of Hewlett Lodge.
- Retain concrete walkways and wood decks and ramps in Hewlett Lodge vicinity and the administrative areas.
- If improvement to universal access is required, place emphasis on avoiding alteration of historic stone walkways over concrete and wood features. Refer to the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation* and *Preservation Brief 32: Making Historic Properties Accessible* for guidance when designing for accessible circulation.
- Routinely clean and repair stone and concrete walkways and stairs according to best practices outlined in *Preservation Brief 1: Assessing Cleaning and Water-Repellent Treatments for Historic Masonry Buildings* and *Preservation Brief 2: Repointing Mortar Joints in Historic Masonry Buildings.*[215]
- Continue to allow unrestricted public access in the areas west, north, and east of Hewlett Lodge; maintain restricted access to the administrative area southwest of Hewlett Lodge and surrounding the Metal Storage Building and the Operations Building.

Trail to Barbecue Pavilion

During moderate to heavy rainfall, surface water runs swiftly off of the concrete walkway north of Hewlett Lodge and onto the earthen trail to the north (the route to the Barbecue Pavilion). The steepest portion of the earthen trail is heavily eroded and difficult to access. Consider modifying this portion of the trail with the following improvements (see also **Illustration 5.3**):

- Construct a catchment drain to redirect the flow of water running off of the concrete walkway before it reaches the intersection with the earthen trail.
- Use a combination of large anchoring boulders and dry-laid stone swales to redirect surface water off of the trail and slow the rate of erosion.
- Replace the three northernmost (lower) timber water diverters with stone swales.
- Replace the two existing timber steps and the water diverter at the south (top) end of the trail with a series of larger timber steps. The steps in the redesigned set should be substantially larger so as to extend over the steepest portion of the trail (approximately 20 feet north of the edge of the concrete walkway). Fill the steps with a compactable aggregate (such as #8 crushed stone).

215. Mack and Grimmer, "Preservation Brief 1: Assessing Cleaning and Water-Repellent Treatments for Historic Masonry Buildings," 2; Mack and Speweik, "Preservation Brief 2: Repointing Mortar Joints in Historic Masonry Buildings."

- Consider maintaining a layer of compactable aggregate or hardwood mulch on portions of the trail; a mulch surface will need to receive applications more often than an aggregate surface.
- Stabilize the bare soil along the sides of trail by planting and cultivating native shrubs and/or forbs.

Barbeque Pavilion Site

- Maintain existing route of earthen paths to the Barbeque Pavilion site, rock outcrop, Falling Branch, and the Spring House.
- Continue to allow unrestricted access to the rock outcrop and over look at the pavilion site.
- Routinely clean and repoint the stone-paved patio and stair set in the pavilion area.
- Maintain a compactible aggregate surface (such as #8 crushed stone) in the open picnic area east and south of the pavilion.

Concrete Walkways and Earthen Trails

- Continue to provide unrestricted access to the site's concrete walkways and earthen trails as hiking/walking trails.
- Continue to maintain the concrete walkways in their current location and configuration unless improved universal access is required.
- Infill and establish native vegetation and/or use an erosion matting where surface water is eroding the soil adjacent to both concrete walkways and earthen trails in the study area.
- Consider constructing an earthen trail to provide access to the west portion of the study area.
- Refer to the park's trail plan (contracted to be produced in the fall of 2021) for future trail updates.

Informal Footpaths

- Consider ways to stop unauthorized access to the site occurring periodically along informal footpaths connected to adjoining private property, especially on the south end of the site.
- Pedestrian traffic along the informal footpaths south of the Barbeque Pavilion do not appear to be causing significant damage to the cultural landscape and, thus, may not need treatment. However, if the park determines the need to restrict such informal circulation, staff should consider using native vegetation to establish a barrier at the top and/or bottom the trails. Temporary signs and/or physical barriers may be required to allow plantings to mature.

Small Scale Features

The lack of documentation of the site prevents assessment of small-scale features prior to the 1970s. The key management strategies for treatment of small-scale features, therefore, should be oriented toward providing adequate visitor and staff services—such as wayfinding, regulatory/safety understanding, and interpretation—while remaining visually unobtrusive to the historic character of the site.

Recommendations

- Maintain the existing park signs. Avoid adding unnecessary signage, especially in the vicinity of Hewlett Lodge.
- Maintain existing site lighting. As the park is closed during night hours, lighting updates are not required to assist public access; however, the park may choose to update site lighting for administrative and/or safety concerns. Appropriate lighting updates might include down lighting along circulation features as opposed to large overhead fixtures. Lighting updates should be compliant with NPS best practices related to Night Skies programing.[216]
- If roads, parking areas, walkways, trails, picnic areas or new buildings are added within the site, the park will likely have to add a variety of small-scale features to support visitor use. New signs should

216. See NPS Night Skies programing website for more information: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nightskies/index.htm

remain uniform in type, using similar materials, fonts, and graphics as existing signs. Signage, pay stations, lighting, and other features, such as benches and picnic tables should be kept to a minimum.

- Generally, avoid adding new signs, kiosks, or other small-scale features in the vicinity of Hewlett Lodge, the Barbeque Pavilion, and Island Ford Springhouse; except new interpretive media (waysides). Note the recommended locations for interpretive media indicated on Illustrations 5.1-5.3.
- Recommended waysides at the Barbeque Pavilion and Island Ford Springhouse—consider interpreting principles of naturalistic landscape design, the Rustic style of architecture, the Hewlett family's use of the site, history of outdoor recreation at the site, and physical alteration of the pavilion.
- Research has not revealed when the loose gristmill stones were carved, used, or brought to the site. Furthermore, there is no evidence of association with any milling operations on or near the site. As such, the stones do not contribute to the cultural landscape's significance and this CLR recommends continuing no active treatment or interpretation.

Archeology

Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape has not been systematically or comprehensively investigated for below-ground cultural resources. A survey of the landscape surrounding the historic core is needed to identify the location of potential former caretaker's quarters, outbuildings, fence lines, garden plots, roads, and pedestrian circulation features. Such findings are likely the only way to accurately rehabilitate the landscape to its historic condition.

Recommendations:

- To comply with best practices, all ground disturbance activities—such as grading for roadways, trenching for underground utilities, and/or excavation for construction for new buildings or structures—should be monitored by a trained or professional archeologist.
- The park should consider performing an archeological study targeted in the area to the north of Island Ford Parking Lot, the likely location of several former buildings, structures, and/or small-scale features. Such study may reveal important information about the site's historic period.
- This CLR recommends that the park complete Section 106 and Section 110 compliance for any alteration project involving ground disturbance, including archeological studies. Compliance may include coordination with Native American Tribes (namely Creek and Cherokee Nations). Prior to archeological survey or study, the park should consider reviewing management requirements associated with tribal consultation described in the General Management Plan for CHAT.

Resilience to Natural Hazards

Cultural resources "are fixed in place or derive much of their significance from the place within which they were created. Many are non-living, and all are unique. As a result, the capacity of cultural resources to adapt to changing environments is limited."[217] Natural hazards can impact cultural vegetation with even the slightest variation in temperature and moisture. As stated in the Director's Policy Memorandum 14-02, "NPS cultural resource management must keep in mind that (1) cultural resources are primary sources of data regarding human interactions with climate change; and (2) changing climates affect the preservation and maintenance of cultural resources."[218]

Relevant climate changes that are projected for CHAT include increased temperature, increased humidity, potentially increased precipitation,

217. National Park Service, "Cultural Resources and Climate Change," (n.p., 2016), accessed December 9, 2016, https://www.nps.gov/subjects/climatechange/upload/06-CCRP-Cultural-Resource-Brief-FEB-2016.pdf.
218. John B. Jarvis to All National Park Service Employees, memorandum, 10 February 2014, Climate Change and Stewardship of Cultural Resources, Policy Memorandum 14-02, https://www.nps.gov/policy/PolMemos/PM-14-02.htm.

and increased extreme weather events.[219] These have distinct impacts on cultural resources within cultural landscapes, including the following:[220]

- Heat stress on culturally significant vegetation and decline/disappearance of some vegetation species;
- Decreased soil fertility from erosion, waterlogging, and/or leaching;
- Limited ability to plant in waterlogged soil;
- Loss of historical integrity with improved drainage systems;
- Increased stress (e.g. desiccation, warping, cracking, etc.) on constructed landscape features;
- Loss of landscape features;
- Increased susceptibility to destructive fungi on/in built features;
- Loss of landscape features;
- Advanced soil erosion which may lead to reduction in or loss of access due to washing out or damage to roads, trails, and landscape features.

Recommendations

The park should consider preparing for any number of the impacts identified above by developing actionable strategies incorporated in all planning documents to address maintenance, repairs, and preservation of cultural resources. *Planning for a Changing Climate: Climate-Smart Planning and Management in the National Park Service*, published by NPS in 2021, "guides NPS planners and managers in developing robust climate change adaptation strategies to better protect park resources and assets today and for future generation."[221]

This CLR recommends that the park implement the "NPS adaptation planning process" outlined in *Planning for a Changing Climate*, summarized as follows:

- Step 1. Inform the planning process by defining the scope and current management goals associated with climate change, engaging participants and partners, and compiling relevant background and context information;
- Step 2. Assess climate vulnerabilities and risks by identifying projected climate futures and assessing climate vulnerabilities and risks;
- Step 3. Evaluate climate implications for management goals by assessing continued feasibility of current goals, and identifying modifications or updates for climate-compromised goals;
- Step 4. Identify potential adaptation strategies by identifying an array of strategies to address important climate risks;
- Step 5. Evaluate and select priority adaptation strategies by evaluating and comparing promising adaptation strategies and selecting priority adaptation strategies; and
- Step 6. Implement strategies and track changing conditions and adaptation effectiveness. Implement priority adaptation strategies, evaluate the implementation and effectiveness of adaptation strategies and actions, monitor conditions to assess how the future is emerging, document outcomes and adjust actions and plans as needed.

219. Marcy Rockman et al., "Cultural Resources Climate Change Strategy" (Washington, DC: Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science and Climate Change Response Program, National Park Service., 2016).
220. Rockman et al.
221. National Park Service, *Planning for a Changing Climate: Climate-Smart Planning and Management in the National Park Service* (Fort Collins, Colorado: NPS Climate Change Response Program, 2021).

Recommendations for Further Research

Maintenance Plan

The NPS should consider developing a formal maintenance plan for the entire site. Refer to *Guide to Developing a Preservation Maintenance Plan for a Historic Landscape,* published in 1999 by the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, NPS. The guide outlines a framework for developing a comprehensive preservation plan to include conditions monitoring, specific treatment needs and technique, and a maintenance schedule. To best protect the historic character of Island Ford Lodge cultural landscape, the preservation maintenance plan should define specific routine and as-needed treatment activities for each contributing landscape feature documented in this CLR. Specific items to address in the plan may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Vegetation management protocol and scheduling;
    - Pruning schedule for shrubs and trees in heavily used areas;
    - Consider implementing a pruning plan that will emphasize the natural form of plantings in the vicinity of Hewlett Lodge and the Barbeque Pavilion;
    - If roadside bioswales and areas in the vicinity of Hewlett Lodge are converted to upland meadow, develop an appropriate trimming schedule as outlined in the vegetation section above;
    - Mowing schedule for Hewlett Field;
- Routine conditions assessments of all buildings and structures, especially the exterior envelope of Hewlett Lodge and the Barbeque Pavilion;
- Routine cleaning and repointing of all stone and other masonry features of the site;
- Routine assessment of known areas of active erosion throughout the site;
- Scheduled applications of compactable aggregate and/or mulch along earthen trails and picnic areas; and
- Any future treatment recommendations identified in a Historic Structure Report for Hewlett Lodge or other NPS reports.

Long-term Forest Monitoring

Maintaining the natural forest buffer between the site's historic features and outside development is critical for preserving the overall historic integrity. The forests are also a major draw for visitors interested in outdoor recreation. As such, the park should consider including a long-term forest monitoring program within the framework of the preservation maintenance plan or as a stand-alone protocol. Goals of such a plan might be to:

- Determine the current status and overall health of the forest;
- Define measurable changes in condition of the forest ecosystems over time;
- Note early warning signs for abnormal conditions and/or the presence of potentially damaging conditions;
- Create a data set to better understand the condition of the ecosystem and to draw comparisons with other similar ecosystems;
- Provide a record of treatment that aligns with legal mandates and criteria related to natural resource protection;
- Enable the park to set goals for protecting the ecosystem and plan for the future needs of the park amidst a changing climate; and
- Enable the park to measure progress toward such goals and assess the rate of success of specific interventions.

Historic Structure Report

The Historic Structure Assessment Report for Hewlett Lodge, produced in 2000, includes both general treatment recommendations (in the executive summary) and itemized recommendations for specific features of Hewlett Lodge. Within the last twenty years the park

has addressed a number of the issues noted; however, some may remain unresolved and new issues may now be apparent. This CLR recommends that the park produce a Historic Structure Report for Hewlett Lodge and, perhaps, the Barbeque Pavilion. Such report(s) will help inform future preservation treatments, identify adverse conditions, and potentially reveal additional information about the historic condition. If additional research reveals adequate documentation of the historic condition of Hewlett Lodge, pavilion, or other site features, the NPS should consider reconstructing lost or altered features or aspects of the site as a whole.

Call for Public Assistance

Limited site documentation exists for the period of significance. This CLR recommends that the park develop a strategy for public outreach to solicit photographs and information concerning the history of the site. No specific individuals or groups have been identified as having the potential to yield significant documentation; however, the use of social media and other online campaign(s) may help engage the public. Consider focusing efforts on identifying and interviewing former members of the Buckhead Century Club and the Atlanta Baptist Association.

National Register Nomination Updates/Corrections

Island Ford Lodge National Register Nomination Form identifies one contributing building, three contributing structures, seven noncontributing buildings, and one noncontributing structure in the study area. This CLR identifies several buildings and structures, as well as other landscape characteristics and features, that are not listed in the nomination form. As the study boundaries of the CLR align with those of the National Register nomination, there may be a need to update the nomination to more accurately reflect the existing condition of the site.

Table 3 identifies the discrepancies between the two documents. Also note that the Operations Building is listed in the National Register nomination form as "Dormitory Building." This CLR recommends that the NPS engage Georgia Department of Community Affairs, Historic Preservation Division, to discuss discrepancies and potentially amend the existing nomination form.

Table 2: Recommended Vegetation List

Common Name	Botanical Name	Common Name	Botanical Name
Trees			
American beech	*Fagus grandifolia*	Post oak	*Quercus stellata*
American hornbeam	*Carpinus caroliniana*	Red maple	*Acer rubrum*
American sycamore	*Platanus occidentalis*	Sassafras	*Sassafras albidum*
Black cherry	*Prunus serotina*	Scarlet oak	*Quercus coccinea*
Black oak	*Quercus velutina*	Shagbark hickory	*Carya ovata*
Black walnut	*Juglans nigra*	Shortleaf pine	*Pinus echinata*
Blackgum	*Nyssa sylvatica*	Smallflower pawpaw	*Asimina* cf. *parviflora*
Blackhaw	*Viburnum* cf. *prunifolium*	Sourwood	*Oxydendrum arboreum*
Blackjack oak	*Quercus marilandica*	Southern red oak	*Quercus falcata*
Box-elder	*Acer negundo*	Southern shagbark hickory	*Carya carolinae-septentrionalis*
American basswood	*Tilia americana* var. *heterophylla*	Southern sugar maple	*Acer barbatum*
Common persimmon	*Diospyros virginana*	Sweetgum	*Liquidambar styraciflua*
Eastern redbud	*Cercis canadensis*	Tuliptree	*Liriodendron tulipifera*
Eastern red cedar	*Juniperus virginiana*	Virginia pine	*Pinus virginana*
Flowering dogwood	*Cornus florida*	Water oak	*Quercus nigra*
Hophornbeam	*Ostrya virginiana*	White ash	*Fraxinus americana*
Loblolly pine	*Pinus taeda*	White fringetree	*Chionanthus virginicus*
Northern red oak	*Quercus rubra*	White oak	*Quercus alba*
Painted buckeye	*Aesculus sylvatica*	Willow oak	*Quercus phellos*
Pignut hickory	*Carya glabra* var. *glabra*	Winged elm	*Ulmus alata*

Table 2: Recommended Vegetation List (continued)

Common Name	Botanical Name	Common Name	Botanical Name
Shrubs			
American beauty-berry	*Callicarpa americana*	Flameleaf sumac	*Rhus copallinum*
American holly	*Ilex opaca*	Mapleleaf viburnum	*Viburnum acerifolium*
American witch-hazel	*Hamamelis virginana*	Mountain azalea	*Rhododendron canescens*
Black highbush blueberry	*Vaccinium fuscatum*	Northern spicebush	*Lindera benzoin*
Blue Ridge blueberry	*Vaccinium pallidum*	Oakleaf hydrangea	*Hydrangea quercifolia*
Common serviceberry	*Amerlanchier arborea* var. *arbrea*	Possumhaw	*Ilex decidua*
Deerberry	*Vaccinium stamineum*	Rusty blackhaw	*Viburnum rufidulum*
Eastern sweetshrub	*Calycanthus floridus*	Strawberry bush	*Euonymus americana*
Farkleberry	*Vaccinium* cf. *arboreum*	Wild hydrangea	*Hydrangea arborescens*
Herbs and Vines			
Anise scented goldenrod	*Solidago odora*	New York fern	*Thelypteris noveboracencis*
Christmas fern	*Polystichum acrostichoides*	Nakedflower tick trefoil	*Desmodium nudiflorum*
Cinnamon fern	*Osmunda cinnamomeum*	Netted chainfern	*Woodwardia areolata*
Crossvine	*Bignonia capreolata*	Partridgeberry	*Mitchella repens*
Dogfennel	*Eupatorium capillifolium*	Perfoliate bellwort	*Uvularia perfoliata*
Downy rattlesnake plant	*Goodyera pubescens*	Rattlesnake fern	*Botrychium virginianum*
Dwarf cinquefoil	*Potentilla canadensis*	Rattlesnakeweed	*Hieracium venosum*
Early St. Johnswort	*Hypericum nudiflorum*	Rice button aster	*Symphyotrichum dumosum*
Ebony spleenwort	*Asplenium platyneuron*	Roundlobe hepatica	*Hepatica nobilis var. obtusa*
Evening trumpetflower	*Gelsemium sempervirens*	Sensitive fern	*Onoclea sensibilis*
Feathery false lily of the valley	*Maianthemum racemosum* spp. *racemosum*	Smooth Solomon's seal	*Polygonatum biflorum*

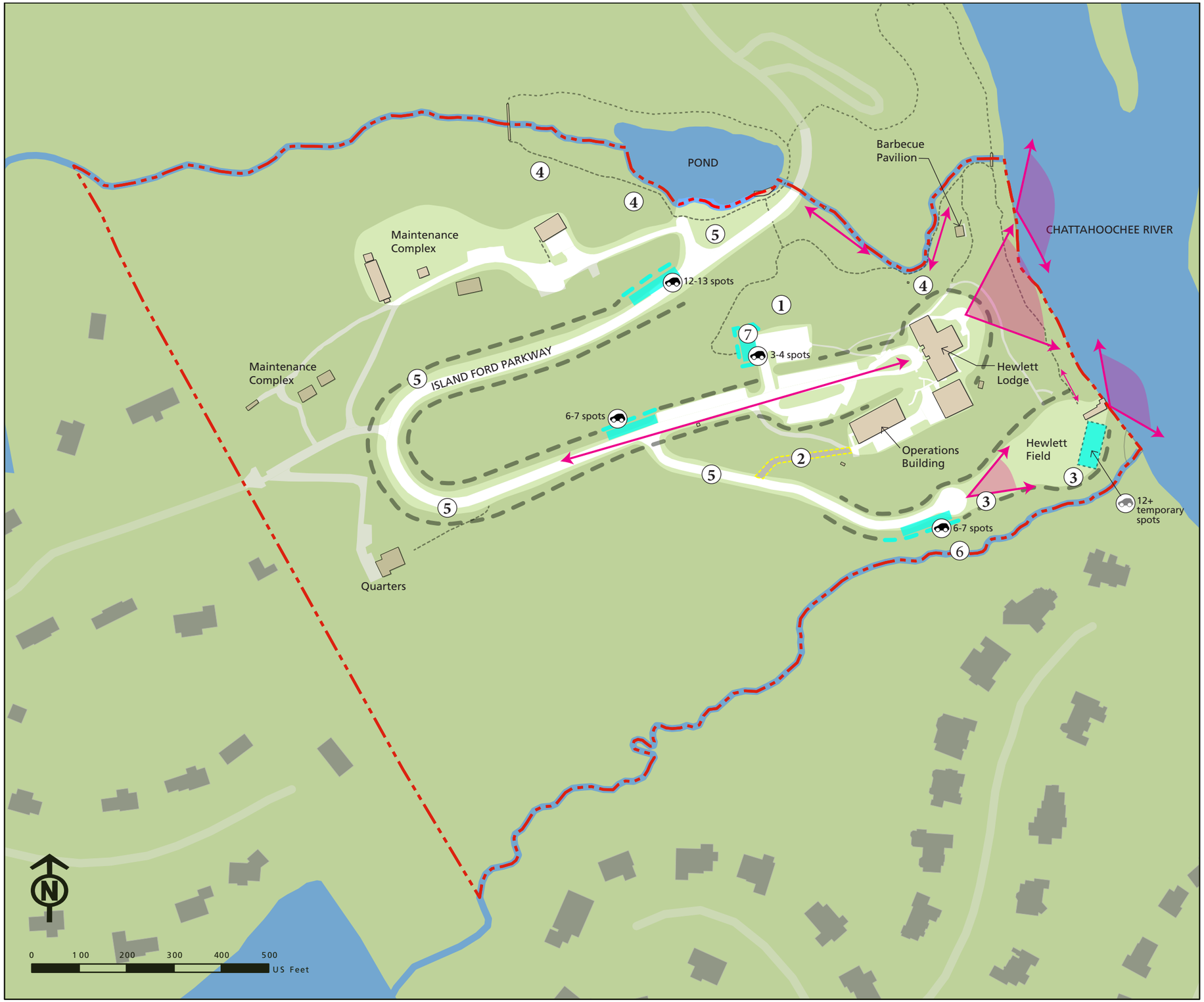
Table 2: Recommended Vegetation List (continued)

Common Name	Botanical Name	Common Name	Botanical Name
Flowering spurge	*Euphorbia corollata*	Spotted geranium	*Geranium maculatum*
Greater tickseed	*Coreopsis major*	Striped prince's pine	*Chimaphila maculata*
Greenwhite sedge	*Carex albolutescens*	Summer grape	*Vitis aestivalis*
Hairy skullcap	*Scutellaria elliptica*	Sweetscented joe-pye weed	*Eupatorium purpureum*
Heartleaf foamflower	*Tiarella cordifolia var. collina*	Tall rattlesnakeroot	*Prenanthes altissima*
Indian cucumber	*Medeola virginiana*	Virginia creeper	*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*
Indian physic	*Porteranthus stipulatus*	Virginia snakeroot	*Aristolochia serpentaria*
Littlebrownjug	*Hexastylus arifolia*	Western brackenfern	*Pteridium aquilinum*
Muscadine	*Vitis rotundifolia*	Woodvamp	*Decumaria barbara*
Grasses and Sedges			
Broomsedge bluestem	*Andropogon virginicus*	Purpletop tridens	*Tridens flavis*
Eastern bottlebrush grass	*Elymus hystrix var. hystrix*	River oats	*Chasmanthium latifolium*
Fringed sedge	*Carex crinita*	Threeway sedge	*Dulichium arundinaceum*
Littlehead nutrush	*Scleria oligantha*	Virginia wildrye	*Elymus virginicus*

Table 3: National Register Listing Discrepancies

	Listed in National Register Nomination (2016)			Identified in this CLR (2021)		
Feature Name	**Contributing**	**Non- contributing**	**Not Identified**	**Contributing**	**Non- contributing**	**No Longer Extant**
Hewlett Lodge	X			X		
Barbecue Pavilion	X			X		
Island Ford Retaining Wall	X			X		
Island Ford Spring House	X			X		
Operations Building (park preferred name); listed as Dormitory Building in NR		X			X	
Metal Storage Building		X			X	
"Shed" –identified as "Pavilion 1" in CLR		X			X	
Pavilion 2			X		X	
Quarters Building		X			X	
Maintenance Building		X			X	
Bally Building		X			X	
Stone Patio (at Hewlett Lodge)		X			X	
HAZMAT Storage		X				X
NPS Boat Storage Barn			X		X	
Maintenance Carports			X		X	
Pad-Mounted HAZMAT Storage Shed			X		X	
Shipping Container			X		X	
Island Ford Boat Ramp			X		X	
Foot Bridge at northeast corner of site			X		X	
Pond Overlook Dock			X		X	
Stair set and boardwalk along pond loop trail			X		X	
Stone, timber, and concrete retaining walls			X		X	
Utility and stormwater features			X		X	
Island Ford Parkway (historic portion)			X	X		
Island Ford Parkway (post-historic portion)			X		X	
* Stone walkways, landings, and stair sets adjacent to Hewlett Lodge			X		X	

* Note: these features are described in the National Register nomination but not listed in the resource count.



Feature Key

- Earthen path
- Natural Forest
- Grass and Forb Mix

Recommendations

1. Recommend archeological study in this vicinity
2. Proposed re-route to admin parking lot
3. Drain low areas of Hewlett Field to the south
4. Address active erosion issues
5. Establish upland meadow at roadsides
6. Address unauthorized park access occurring here
7. Potential comfort station location

- Preserve historic view
- Maintain forest buffer
- Suggested locations for new parking
- Redefine forest buffer if cleared for parking or other use

Credits:

1. National Park Service, CHAT Archives
2. USGS Earth Explorer (aerial imagery)
3. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2020).

Illustration 5.1

Treatment Recommendations: Study Area

Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

JULY 2021

The natural forests surrounding Hewlett Lodge, the administrative area, and Island Ford Parking Lot include representations of Early- to Mid-Successional Loblolly Pine Forest (6011), Piedmont Rocky Mesic Mafic Forest (4542), and Piedmont Loblolly Pine-Oak Forest (4232) (see Illustration 3.5 and the Existing Conditions section of this CLR.

Japanese Aucuba
Japanese Ternstroemia
3 Hemlock
4 Indica Azalea
Azalea spp.
2 Japanese Aucuba
Honeysuckle
Hemlock
Yaupon Holly, Camellia spp., & Allspice
Yaupon Holly
2
2
2
1

Credits:
1. National Park Service, CHAT Archives
2. USGS Earth Explorer (aerial imagery)
3. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2020).

N

0 25 50 75 100 US Feet

Feature Key

- Natural Forest
- Grass and Forb Mix
- Tree
- Shrub (individual)
- Shrub Mass

Recommendations

1 Proposed re-route to admin parking lot -- minimize forest clearing

2 Restore natural forest when existing admin road is closed

Spp. Replace non-native and undesired ornamental vegetation with native species from recommended plant list

Spp. Restore natural plant form by adopting pruning plan to promote natural plant form

Maintain low-growing grass/forb mix at ground level under existing trees

Maintain medium-height shrubs with forbs/grasses below

Maintain forest edges



Illustration 5.2

Treatment Recommendations: Hewlett Lodge Vicinity

Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

JULY 2021

Island Ford
Spring House

Hewlett
Lodge

NORTH PORTION OF
ISLAND FORD UNIT

Maintain and repoint Island Ford Retaining
Wall; repair damage at south end

1

Dry-laid stone
retaining wall

Construct a drain to
divert water running off
of paved surface

Replace existing stair set
with larger timber steps

STONE
PATIO

Existing
Wayside

Replace timber
water diverters
with dry-laid
stone swales

2

Maintain and repoint stone
patio and stair set as needed

Barbeque
Pavilion

3

Boulder steps
at natural pool

Timber steps

HEWLETT LODGE WALKING PATH

Rail fence

3

Bench

Bridge

NORTH
PORTION OF
ISLAND FORD
UNIT

Area w/ rock
outcrops

CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER

0 25 50 75 100
US Feet

Feature Key

- Earthen trail
- Informal footpath
- Natural Forest
- Grass and Forb Mix
- Tree
- Shrub Mass

Recommendations

1. Area with localized erosion
2. Update earthen trail to Barbeque Pavilion
3. Maintain compacted aggregate surface

- Recommended Wayside/Interpretive Media location
- Recommended Location for View/Vista Interpretation or Seating
- Maintain forest edges

Credits:
1. National Park Service, CHAT Archives
2. USGS Earth Explorer (aerial imagery
3. WLA Studio's Field Study for CLR (2018-2020).

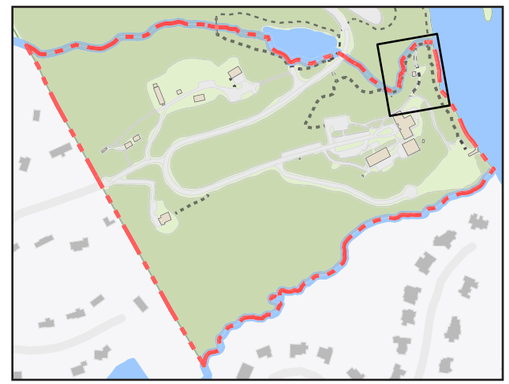


Illustration 5.3

Treatment Recommendations: Barbecue Pavilion Vicinity Island Ford Lodge

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

JULY 2021

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Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

Island Ford Lodge
Cultural Landscape Report

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