

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 49 Hawks Nest State Park Road

☐

not for publication

city or town Anstead

☒

vicinity

state West Virginia code WV county Fayette code 019 zip code 25812

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: national X statewide local

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

 entered in the National Register

 determined eligible for the National Register

 determined not eligible for the National Register

 removed from the National Register

 other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park
Historic District
Name of Property

Fayette County, West
Virginia
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

☐ private
☐ public - Local
☒ public - State
☐ public - Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

☐ building(s)
☒ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4	0	buildings
0	0	district
0	0	site
17	1	structure
5	0	object
26	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

New Deal Resources in West Virginia State Parks
and Forests

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/ Outdoor

Recreation

LANDSCAPE/ Park

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/ Outdoor

Recreation

LANDSCAPE/ Park

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER / Rustic

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE/ Sandstone

walls: STONE/ Sandstone

WOOD/ Log

roof: ASPHALT/ Asphalt Shingle

other: STONE/ Sandstone

New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park
Historic District
Name of Property

Fayette County, West
Virginia
County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

Hawk's Nest State Park is located in central Fayette County, southwest of Anstead. The 276-acre park overlooks the New River at the point where the river turns south. The park consists of three primary recreation areas: the original picnic and scenic overlook area along US Route 60 and near the current western boundary of the park; an area developed during the 1960s and 1970s near the current eastern boundary of the park; and a concession area alongside the New River, also developed during the 1960s and 1970s.

All of the park's New Deal-era resources are located within the original picnic and scenic overlook area. The historic district encompasses this 71-acre portion of the park. Within the historic district, a total of 10 New Deal resource types have been identified: stone work; water fountains; fireplaces and picnic pads; trails; a culvert; a multi-use building with a museum, observatory, and residence; a concession building; storage building; picnic shelter; and restroom buildings.

Narrative Description

Hawk's Nest State Park is situated above the New River, which is a popular recreational destination. A ca. 1934 hydroelectric dam and reservoir are below the park. Nearby, the ca. 1930 Hawk's Nest Tunnel passes through the Gauley Mountain. Occupying a mountainside site, the park is known for its panoramic views of the rugged topography that characterizes central Fayette County. A scenic overlook with extensive views of the river is a prominent feature within the historic district. Walking trails provide access to the main overlook and a loop that takes visitors to a lower vantage point; the loop also connects to a cliffside trail that leads to the newer resources in the eastern portion of the park. Other visitor amenities include a concession building, museum, observatory, and restrooms. A picnic area is located northeast of the parking lot and scenic overlook. In addition to a New Deal-era picnic shelter, the picnic area features stone fireplaces and picnic pads. Walking trails lead from the picnic area through wooded areas. Of the historic district's 27 architectural resources, 26 are contributing and 1 is non-contributing. All of these are described in greater detail below.

(see continuation sheets)

New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park
Historic District
Name of Property

Fayette County, West
Virginia
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL HISTORY

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

CONSERVATION

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1935-1942

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)

National Park Service (NPS)

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance, 1935 to 1942, spans the period from the establishment of the park to the end of CCC activity here upon the abandonment of Camp Lee.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park
Historic District
Name of Property

Fayette County, West
Virginia
County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District is associated with the New Deal Resources in West Virginia State Parks and Forests Multiple Property Listing. Hawk's Nest State Park first opened in 1935 when West Virginia purchased 31 acres to create a new state park. Creation of the park was directly related to President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal programs for work relief, conservation, and developing recreational opportunities within each state. The National Park Service (NPS) assisted with the initial park planning and design. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was responsible for the first construction projects within the park. Consequently, the Hawk's Nest historic district is associated with the following historic contexts as explicated in the New Deal Resources in West Virginia State Parks and Forests Multiple Property Listing: State Park and Forest Development in West Virginia, 1933-1942; New Deal Federal Relief Programs in West Virginia State Parks and Forests, 1933-1942; Rustic Style Architecture in West Virginia State Parks and Forests, 1933-1942; and Landscape Design and Landscape Management in West Virginia State Parks and Forests, 1933-1942. The historic district is significant at the state level under Criteria A in the areas of significance of Social/History, Politics/Government, Conservation, and Entertainment/Recreation for its association with New Deal-era federal work relief programs, with conservation programs initiated at the federal level and carried out at the state level, and with recreational development in the state of West Virginia. The historic district also is significant under Criterion C in the area of significance of Architecture for its rustic architecture as designed and carried out by the CCC and for its use of NPS park planning and design principles. The period of significance, 1935 to 1942, spans the period from the establishment of the park to the end of CCC activity here upon the abandonment of Camp Lee.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

See continuation sheets.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Additional developmental history and historic context information is available in the Multiple Property Documentation Form, New Deal Resources in West Virginia State Parks and Forests (Sweeten 2010).

New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park
Historic District
Name of Property

Fayette County, West
Virginia
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

See Continuation Sheets.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other
Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 71 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A 17 488954 4218843
Zone Easting Northing

C 17 488420 4219112
Zone Easting Northing

B 17 488657 4218976
Zone Easting Northing

D 17 488660 4219448
Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheets for additional UTM References.

Verbal Boundary Description (See Continuation Sheets.)

Boundary Justification (See Continuation Sheets.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lena L. Sweeten, Senior Principal Investigator

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date June 14, 2010

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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Maps:** A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park
Historic District
Name of Property

Fayette County, West
Virginia
County and State

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

(see continuation sheet)

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

New Deal Resources in Hawks Nest State Park Historic District
Name of Property Fayette County, West Virginia
County and State New Deal Resources in West Virginia State Parks and Forests
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Narrative Description (continued)

Resource No. 1, 2

Resource Type: Engineering resource

Resource Name: Stone work along US Route 60

Construction Date: ca. 1935

Status: Contributing structure

Count: 2

Stone work is a prominent feature at Hawk's Nest State Park. Included within this category are the primary scenic overlook, trails, retaining walls, and walkways. In general, the stone work is comprised of dry stacked stone; many of the joints have been infilled with mortar over the years. The scenic overlook is located south of US Route 60 (Photo 1). It has a flagstone floor with mortared joints. The overlook is accessed via a set of flagstone steps with mortared joints (Photo 2). Stone walls flanking the steps extend outward to encircle the overlook area. A short, picketed metal fence is atop the walls, and weep holes in the walls allow water drainage. Stone benches are within the overlook area. A trail to the overlook features fencing comprised of stone piers with capstones and round log rails between the piers.

North of US Route 60, the parking area and picnic area both feature stone retaining walls that are approximately 5 feet in height (Photo 3). Within the picnic area, there is a series of stone walkways and stone steps that lead to picnic pads and to walking trails and a playground area.

Resource No. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

Resource Type: Mechanical resource

Resource Name: Water fountains

Construction Date: ca. 1935

Status: Contributing objects

Count: 5

There are a total of five water fountains in the historic district. One is located at the head of the steps leading to the scenic overlook. It consists of a large stone with exposed plumbing, a stone base, and a stone step. A second water fountain stands on the rear patio of the concession building. It consists of a tapered square stone that stands about 3 feet, 6 inches in height (Photo 4). A third water fountain is in front of the multi-use building and is identical in appearance to the second fountain. Two water fountains are incorporated into a stone wall that encircles the picnic shelter.

Resource No. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19

Resource Type: Recreational resource

Resource Name: Fireplaces and picnic pads

Construction Date: ca. 1935

Status: Contributing structures

Count: 12

There are 10 picnic pads with fireplaces built into the back stone retaining walls, and two picnic pads without fireplaces (Photo 5). The pads are essentially long rectangles with stone retaining walls on three sides with the side walls sloping down to the ground. The fireplaces are about 5 feet high and 4 feet wide, while the pads are one of two dimensions: the smaller are 25 feet long and 11 feet wide; the larger are 37 feet long and 12 feet wide.

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New Deal Resources in Hawks Nest State
Park Historic District

Name of Property

Fayette County, West Virginia

County and State

New Deal Resources in West Virginia State
Parks and Forests

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

These are located as follows: one behind the concession building; one between the concession building and picnic shelter; five behind the picnic shelter; and five between the picnic shelter and restroom buildings. The pads contain a picnic table or two and a trash can in addition to the fireplaces.

Resource No. 20, 21

Resource Type: Recreational resource

Resource Name: Trails

Construction Date: ca. 1935

Status: Contributing structures

Count: 2

Thus far, two trails have been documented as dating from the New Deal era: the Overlook Trail leading to the scenic overlook, and the Loop Trail behind the picnic shelter (Figure 1; Photo 6). The Overlook Trail is currently paved with asphalt but has maintained its historic alignment. The Loop Trail is a dirt trail through the woods northwest of the picnic shelter; a short spur leads to a New Deal-era storage building and museum/observatory/residential building.

Resource No. 22

Resource Type: Engineering resource

Resource Name: Culvert

Construction Date: ca. 1935

Status: Non-contributing structure

Count: 1

A New Deal-era culvert is located directly at the rear (northeast) of the picnic shelter (Photo 7). Partially filled in and deteriorated, the culvert is largely hidden from view. The visible portions are composed of stacked stone while the pipe appears to be terra cotta. The culvert was likely placed in this location to divert water away from the rear of the shelter. It no longer retains integrity.

Resource No. 23

Resource Type: Recreational/residential resource

Resource Name: Museum and observatory with assistant superintendent's residence

Construction Date: ca. 1936

Status: Contributing building

Count: 1

The museum, observatory, and assistant superintendent's residence are composed of two rectangles placed at angles to one other and connected by a hyphen (Figure 6; Photo 8). The rustic-style museum occupies a tall, one-story, side-gabled building with a raised cut stone foundation. The 5-by-2 bay museum measures approximately 47 feet in length and 27 feet, 9 inches in depth. The entrance porch appears to be built of replacement materials, including square support posts and a wood deck. Stone steps with flanking stone walls lead up to the porch. A three-sided, gable-roofed bay with multiple-pane wood windows projects from the rear wall; a wood window seat occupies the interior of this bay. A massive, cut stone chimney is on the northeast wall; on the interior, it is accented with a stone surround and wood mantel (Photo 9). The asphalt-shingled roof has two gabled dormers on the front and three on the rear. Log construction with "V" saddle notches and cement chinking and horizontal board siding are visible in the gable ends and on the dormers. The windows retain 6-over-6 wood sash, some of which are covered with metal bars.

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New Deal Resources in Hawks Nest State Park Historic District
Name of Property Fayette County, West Virginia
County and State New Deal Resources in West Virginia State Parks and Forests
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

The museum's interior features an exposed roof truss system of large square logs and is supported by square logs with scrolled brackets and chisel-point ends. Historic metal light fixtures, including sconces and pendants, and tongue-and-groove wood flooring are extant. The interior side walls are divided into bays that originally housed the museum's display cases. The CCC built the display cases specifically for the museum, but the cases are currently housed in the Anstead City Hall, which is open to the public during their hours of operation. Mr. Clyde Crowley, Superintendent of Hawk's Nest State Park from 1952-1956, stated that the CCC workers harvested and milled the wood for the display cases, while a wood shop in Rainelle built them. Some of the display cases were designed to fit the interior bays on the side walls of the museum and the remainder was arrayed across the open floor space.

On the southwest wall of the museum, an elevated, gable-roofed hyphen leads to a two-story, hip-roofed, hexagonal observatory building with a circular deck on the upper floor. Each side of the hexagon is 9 feet in length and the total length of the hyphen and observatory wing is 28 feet. The hyphen is enclosed with 6-pane, wood sash windows and board-and-batten siding panels. On the rustic-style observatory, the lower walls rise from a raised, cut stone foundation and are built of cut sandstone. Above the stone courses is a circular deck supported by large knee braces with chisel point ends. The upper portion of the observatory features a series of six- and three-pane wood window sash as well as wood siding. On the interior, the observatory features stained wood paneling, flagstone flooring, and an exposed roof truss system (Photo 10). The observatory is surrounded by a stone wall with stone piers and square wood rails.

Connected to the museum via an enclosed hyphen, the rustic-style, Assistant Superintendent's residence originally was a picnic shelter but was soon converted to staff lodging. The residence is a one-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed building with a projecting, one-story, end gable porch with a flagstone floor. The 4-by-2 bay building measures approximately 40 feet, 4 inches in length and 11 feet in depth. The main block of the residence rises from a cut stone foundation with grapevine joints, while on the rear, a cantilevered, gable-roofed, projecting bay is supported by large, round logs on stone piers. The current primary façade of the residence was the original rear of the picnic shelter and was accessed by a set of stone steps that are no longer extant. A gable-roofed entry porch with square columns now shelters the main entry. The residence's walls feature log construction with V-notches and cement chinking. Horizontal board siding sheathes the gable ends and the rear bay. Asphalt shingles cover the roof and gabled dormers punctuate the rear slope. A large, exposed stone chimney is located on the south wall; the stone extends beyond the chimney to form part of the perimeter wall. The windows feature a variety of sash, including a replacement picture window, 1-over-1 sash, metal casements, and sliding sash, as well as historic-period 6-over-6 and 4-over-4 wood sash. A window with a 9-pane wood sash occupies each of the rear dormers.

Resource No. 24

Resource Type: Recreational resource

Resource Name: Concession building

Construction Date: ca. 1938

Status: Contributing building

Count: 1

The concession building, known as the "Trading Post," stands just north of US Route 60 (Figure 7; Photo 11). Rendered in the rustic style, it is a two-story, side-gabled building with the end gable elevation facing US Route 60. Dry stacked stone walls extend along the front and sides of the building. The 4-by-2 bay building is composed of two wings, with the south wing at the same grade as Route 60 and the north wing on an elevated grade. The south wing measures 47 feet, 4 inches in length and 23 feet in depth, while the north wing is 20 feet in length.

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New Deal Resources in Hawks Nest State Park Historic District
Name of Property Fayette County, West Virginia
County and State New Deal Resources in West Virginia State Parks and Forests
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Measuring 4 feet, 6 inches in length, an enclosed hyphen connects the two wings and appears to be original. Rising from a stone foundation, the first story of each wing is composed of cut stone, while the upper stories are sheathed with horizontal wood siding. A gabled dormer punctuates the southwest elevation of the south wing, while a gabled wall dormer serves as an entrance bay on the opposite side of the same wing. Asphalt shingles clad the roof. An interior corbelled brick chimney with an arched brick chimney hood pierces the roof. Gutters extend along the eaves.

The front and rear facades of the north wing originally were accessed via entries with large double doors. The doors have been removed and board and batten siding fills the openings. Square logs with scrolled brackets frame each opening. The rear of the north wing faces a large, circular, stone patio with stone retaining walls and a stone water fountain; a short flight of stone steps leads from the building to the patio. The window openings feature a combination of six-over-six wood sash and metal casement sash. Some of the windows feature stone lintels and sills. The extant entry doors retain original iron strapwork hinges and door latches with replacement locksets.

Resource No. 25

Resource Type: CCC-related resource

Resource Name: Caretaker's garage/storage building

Construction Date: ca. 1939

Status: Contributing building

Count: 1

Standing northeast of the museum/observatory/residence building, the CCC-era caretaker's garage is a one-story, gable-roofed building (Figure 4; Photo 12). Measuring 21 feet, 6 inches by 22 feet, 7 inches, the 2-by-2 bay building rises from a cut sandstone foundation. Horizontal wood board siding clads the perimeter walls, while asphalt shingles sheathe the roof. An oversized opening on the west wall has double doors, while the east bay features both a garage door and a standard-sized, single-leaf door. The window openings have 6-over-6 wood sash.

Resource No. 26

Resource Type: Recreational resource

Resource Name: Picnic shelter

Construction Date: ca. 1935

Status: Contributing structure

Count: 1

The rustic-style picnic shelter at Hawk's Nest State Park is a one-story structure that measures approximately 92 feet, 8 inches long by 24 feet deep (Photo 13). The 5-by-1 bay building rises from a sandstone foundation. The primary facade of the shelter is open and features round wooden columns with round railings. The side and rear elevations are built of cut sandstone. The central bay features an end-gabled roof and is flanked by side-gabled wings. The wings, in turn, are attached to flanking octagonal extensions topped by hipped roofs with wood finials; the log truss systems are exposed on the interior. The central bay measures approximately 24 feet in width, while the front of each octagonal bay is 10 feet wide. The only access to the shelter's interior is by way of a gabled bay on the central block. The entry bay is accented by an exposed truss system of logs that sit on a projecting stone shelf. Asphalt shingles cover the multiple-level roof and the exposed log rafter ends are visible at the eaves. A massive cut sandstone chimney highlights the rear wall of the central bay. On the interior, the arched fireplace features keystones with fan and flower motifs. At each end of the building, a stacked stone wall curves outward to terminate with a water fountain fronted by two stone steps.

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New Deal Resources in Hawks Nest State Park Historic District
Name of Property Fayette County, West Virginia
County and State New Deal Resources in West Virginia State Parks and Forests
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Resource No. 27

Resource Type: Mechanical resource

Resource Name: Restroom building

Construction Date: ca. 1935

Status: Contributing building

Count: 1

A two-story circular building houses restrooms at Hawk's Nest State Park (Photo 14). The rustic-style building measures approximately 37 feet in diameter. Built partially into a slope, the building's exterior stone walls merge into the parking's lots stone retaining walls. The foundation and walls are composed entirely of cut sandstone. Asbestos shingles cover the pyramidal roof. The roof is topped with a metal louvered finial and pierced by small, hipped-roofed stone dormers. The first story of the building contains the men's restroom and its entrance is below grade. The second story contains the women's restroom and is accessed via a sloping walk. The second story's entry is fronted with a projecting, gable-roofed bay with slatted wooden walls. The bay's roof is supported by square wooden posts sitting atop a closed stone railing and decorated with scrolled brackets. Vertical board siding covers the peak at the roof's gabled end. The window openings retain either historic-period, 9-pane wooden sash or wooden louvers. The exterior retains the original light fixtures.

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New Deal Resources in Hawks Nest State Park Historic District
Name of Property Fayette County, West Virginia
County and State New Deal Resources in West Virginia State Parks and Forests
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Narrative Statement of Significance (continued)

Hawk's Nest Area Prior to 1934

Hawk's Nest State Park is located alongside US Route 60 in northeastern Fayette County. This site has witnessed human activity for hundreds of years. The current highway generally follows the same route as a Native American trail that extended approximately 100 miles from present-day White Sulphur Springs to Charleston, West Virginia. In the vicinity of Hawk's Nest State Park, the trail paralleled the New River. During the nineteenth century, the James River and Kanawha Turnpike was constructed along this route. Built between 1820 and 1851, the turnpike became a major east-west surface transportation route. The road also featured scenic attractions, including Marshall's Pillar, named for U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall, who first visited the area in 1812. Marshall's Pillar later was renamed Hawk's Nest Rock for the ospreys (fish hawks) that nested in the cliff faces. A New Deal-era scenic overlook of the New River now is located on Hawk's Nest Rock (Gioulis 2008). During the 1910s, the Colorado-based Midland Trail Association marked a transcontinental route made up of various state and local roads. Dubbed the Midland Trail, in West Virginia the route followed a portion of the old James River and Kanawha Turnpike. The Midland Trail later became the basis for U.S. Highway 60; the portion of the highway that passes through Hawk's Nest State Park is now part of the Midland Trail Scenic Byway (Midland Trail Scenic Highway Association 2010).

As happened throughout rural West Virginia, the vicinity around Hawk's Nest saw extensive coal mining and lumbering during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The Hawk's Nest Coal Company, Ltd., was organized in London, England, in 1875. The firm assumed control of the failed Gauley-Kanawha Coal Company's assets and built a 4-mile spur railroad off the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad to reach the town of Anstead. In addition to providing a means to ship raw materials, the rail line allowed tourists to visit the scenic New River. In 1870, Hawk's Nest Rock became a tourist destination upon construction of the Gauley Mountain House. The resort included a zoo, lookout tower, hotel, café, gas station, and living quarters, all located along present-day Route 60. Although fire destroyed the Gauley Mountain House in 1902, other tourist-oriented businesses remained through the 1920s (Gioulis 2008).

In March 1930, the Union Carbide Corporation began construction of a tunnel through Gauley Mountain to divert water from the New River to a hydroelectric generating station. Project engineers soon realized that excavation for the tunnel passed through a vast deposit of nearly pure silica. Union Carbide expanded the tunnel's diameter to mine the silica. The tunnel workers were not provided with protective gear nor informed of the deadly effects of inhaling silica dust. By the time the project was completed in 1935, hundreds of workers are known to have died as a result of silica exposure, making the tunnel's construction one of the worst industrial disasters in American history (Rice 2006:572-573). The scenic overlook at Hawks Nest State Park overlooks the ca. 1934 hydroelectric dam and lake that were constructed as part of Union Carbide's project.

The New Deal and Hawk's Nest State Park

By the late 1920s, the landscape along the New River and in the vicinity of Hawk's Nest had been extensively damaged by clear-cutting timber, coal mining, forest fires, and droughts. As described in the New Deal Resources in West Virginia State Parks and Forest Multiple Property Listing (Sweeten 2010), numerous areas in West Virginia, as well as throughout the United States, suffered similar environmental degradation. The onset of the Great Depression after the stock market crash of 1929 created an economic crisis of unprecedented scale.

The origins of New Deal resources at Hawk's Nest State Park lay in the federal relief programs implemented by President Franklin D. Roosevelt as part of the New Deal. In conceptualizing the New Deal, Roosevelt emphasized work relief and natural resource conservation among his top priorities. Creating publicly accessible

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New Deal Resources in Hawks Nest State Park Historic District
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recreational venues also figured prominently among his goals. The New Deal coupled work relief programs with addressing public needs by focusing on infrastructure projects. In 1933, Roosevelt called for the creation of a "Civilian Conservation Corps" that would focus its efforts on forestry, soil erosion prevention, flood control, and similar projects. Furthermore, the CCC could be used to create publicly accessible venues for tourism and recreation. As a result, West Virginia was able to use the New Deal as a launch point for creating a state park system.

The establishment of Hawk's Nest State Park began with the acquisition of a 31-acre parcel by the state of West Virginia. The NPS carried out planning for the park under the supervision of Bunker Hill and John Garrett (Gioulis 2008:169-170). The park's development was undertaken by two CCC camps, both of which also worked at nearby Babcock State Park.

CCC Company 1522 established Camp Beaver on May 14, 1934, alongside State Route 11 across from a campground at Babcock State Park and near the town of Clifftop. It operated until August 14, 1937. Captain John H. Enlow served as the first company commander and James H. Baldwin as the camp superintendent. This camp built the picnic shelter and museum building at Hawk's Nest State Park. Funding for the camp's tenth period of operation, from October 1937 through March 1938 did not receive federal approval, leading to the abandonment of Camp Beaver on August 14, 1937 (Harr 1992:31, 33; Gioulis 2008:169-170).

Located on the present-day Babcock campground, Camp Lee was occupied by CCC Company 532 on July 10, 1935, and remained active until late 1941 or early 1942. The first company commander was Lt. Earle D. Burson. James H. Baldwin served as the camp superintendent, the same office he held at Camp Beaver. The Camp Lee men are credited with building the concession building, public restroom building, and other facilities at Hawk's Nest State Park. Camp Lee is believed to have existed until early 1942 (Harr 1992:31, 33; Gioulis 2008:170).

The CCC-constructed resources at Hawk's Nest are located along both sides of US Route 60 within the original 31-acre park tract. They are near the western end of the park's present-day boundaries. The Superintendent's Residence was originally a private residence that predated the park's establishment. The state purchased the dwelling during the 1930s, and CCC workers renovated the building using the same rustic design principles applied to other park resources.

Park Development after 1945

Although Hawk's Nest State Park began with a 31-acre tract, it later was enlarged to 276 acres. Further park development has taken place on the south side of US Route 60 at the eastern edge of the park's present-day boundaries. During the 1960s and early 1970s, a construction and improvement campaign led to several major additions to the park. These newer amenities include a 31-room guest lodge, aerial tramway, swimming pool, game courts, and trails. Architects Collaborative, a Walter Gropius firm located in Boston, Massachusetts, designed the ca. 1967 lodge. At the lower tram area alongside the New River, there are more recently constructed concession and restroom buildings, a nature center, picnic area, and boat docks and rentals. Newer hiking trails with scenic views also have been constructed. None of these more recently constructed resources are within the historic district boundaries.

Significance and Integrity

The Hawk's Nest historic district is associated with all four of the historic contexts described in the New Deal Resources in West Virginia State Parks and Forests Multiple Property Listing. Hawk's Nest is significant for its association with State Park and Forest Development in West Virginia, 1933-1942. This association also relates to

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the areas of significance of Conservation and Entertainment/Recreation. The state of West Virginia acquired land to create Hawk's Nest in 1935, making it one of many publicly accessible parks established by West Virginia using New Deal programs. In addition to providing recreational opportunities, the park system initiated conservation and environmental restoration efforts on lands previously deemed marginal and worthless. Awareness of the need to conserve natural resources to foster economic development and environmental health played an important role in the maturing environmental movement of the twentieth century.

Hawk's Nest State Park was associated with New Deal Federal Relief Programs in West Virginia State Parks and Forests from 1933 to 1942. This association also relates to the areas of significance of Politics/Government and Social/History. Two CCC camps undertook construction projects at Hawk's Nest. The CCC provided job training and employment opportunities to its enrollees, as well as a net positive economic impact on nearby communities. As a result, the government program was an important component of the Roosevelt administration's efforts to ameliorate the effects of the Great Depression. The social effects of the CCC lingered for decades thereafter. The enrollees who had participated in the program gained job training and educational benefits that were useful throughout their lives. The economic benefits provided to nearby communities aided in social cohesion and created opportunities that permitted local residents to stay near their homes. The parks and forests improved by the CCC also became tourist destinations that have continued to draw visitors through the present day.

Hawk's Nest retains numerous examples of rustic architecture, making it significant for its association with Rustic Style Architecture in West Virginia State Parks and Forests, 1933-1942. This association also relates to the area of significance of Architecture. All of the major architectural features at Hawk's Nest, including the scenic overlook, picnic shelter, and multi-use building with a museum, observatory, and residence, are fine examples of rustic design. The use of natural, locally available materials, particularly sandstone and wood, is a defining characteristic of the style. Labor-intensive construction methods and fine craftsmanship also are evident. As illustrated by the drawings of the concession building, museum, and custodian's garage/storage building, the NPS worked closely with the West Virginia Conservation Commission in designing the buildings at Hawk's Nest (Figures 2-4).

Also with regard to the architecture area of significance, the original layout, spatial relationships, and circulation patterns at Hawk's Nest are associated with Landscape Design and Landscape Management in West Virginia State Parks and Forests, 1933-1942. Both rustic architecture and landscape design called for harmonizing with nature and use of locally available materials. This approach allowed the man-made forms to blend with their overall setting. An example of this landscape design esthetic is shown in the plan for walks at Hawk's Nest (Figure 1). Furthermore, since the 1930s, the park's woodlands and landscape have been managed according to the forestry and conservation principles that evolved from the CCC's work.

Hawk's Nest State Park conveys its historical associations and significance due to its high level of integrity. The park's New Deal historic resources retain integrity of design, location, setting, feeling, workmanship, materials, and association.

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New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State
Park Historic District

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UTM References (continued)

E. 17 488985 4219673

F. 17 489145 4219369

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries for the New Deal Resources in Hawks Nest State Park Historic District are as follows: beginning at the northwest end of the Hawk's Nest Dam and proceeding east along the boundary of Hawk's Nest Lake, then turning north to coincide with the park's legal western boundary. North of the northernmost loop of the Cliffside Trail, the historic boundary turns east and continues to follow the park's legal boundary to the west side of US Route 60. The boundary then turns south to a point just north of the park's restroom building, after which the historic boundary extends northeast to parallel the legal boundary to a point north of the Loop Trail. The historic boundary runs southeast and then southwest, still following the legal boundary. After the historic boundary reaches the park's private drive, it continues southeast on a straight line to the south boundary of Hawk's Nest Lake. It then follows the lake's southern shore to the southeast end of Hawk's Nest Dam. The historic boundary next turns northwest to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The historic district boundaries encompass 71 acres within the Hawk's Nest State Park's total 276 acres, and include the concentration of New Deal-era resources in Hawks Nest State Park. These include the scenic overlook and picnic area, museum with attached observatory and residence, a storage building, parking lot, walking trails and features such as water fountains, picnic pads with fireplaces, and stonework.

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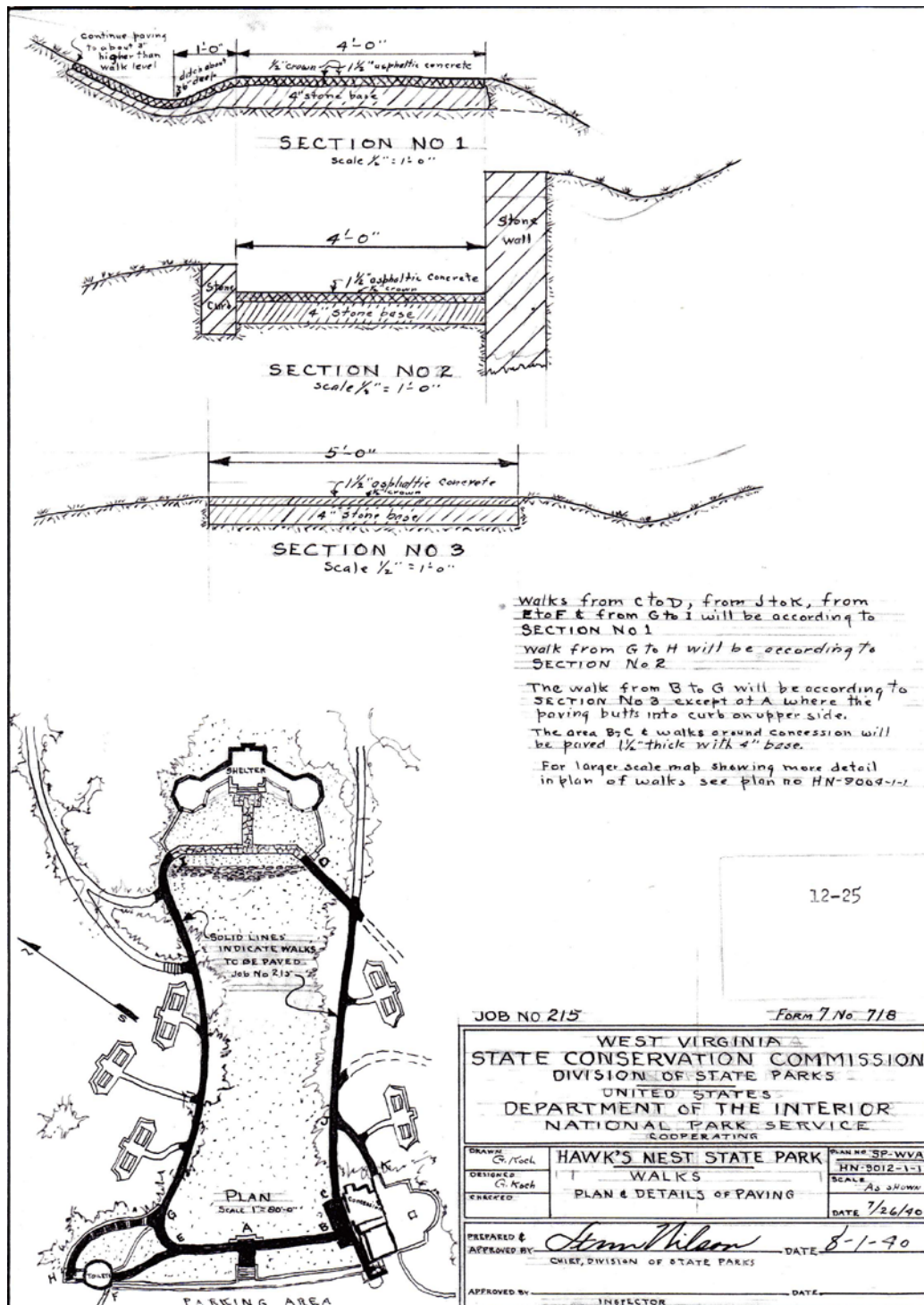


Figure 1. Hawk's Nest State Park Walks Plan and Details of Paving (West Virginia State Conservation Commission – Division of State Parks 1940).

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

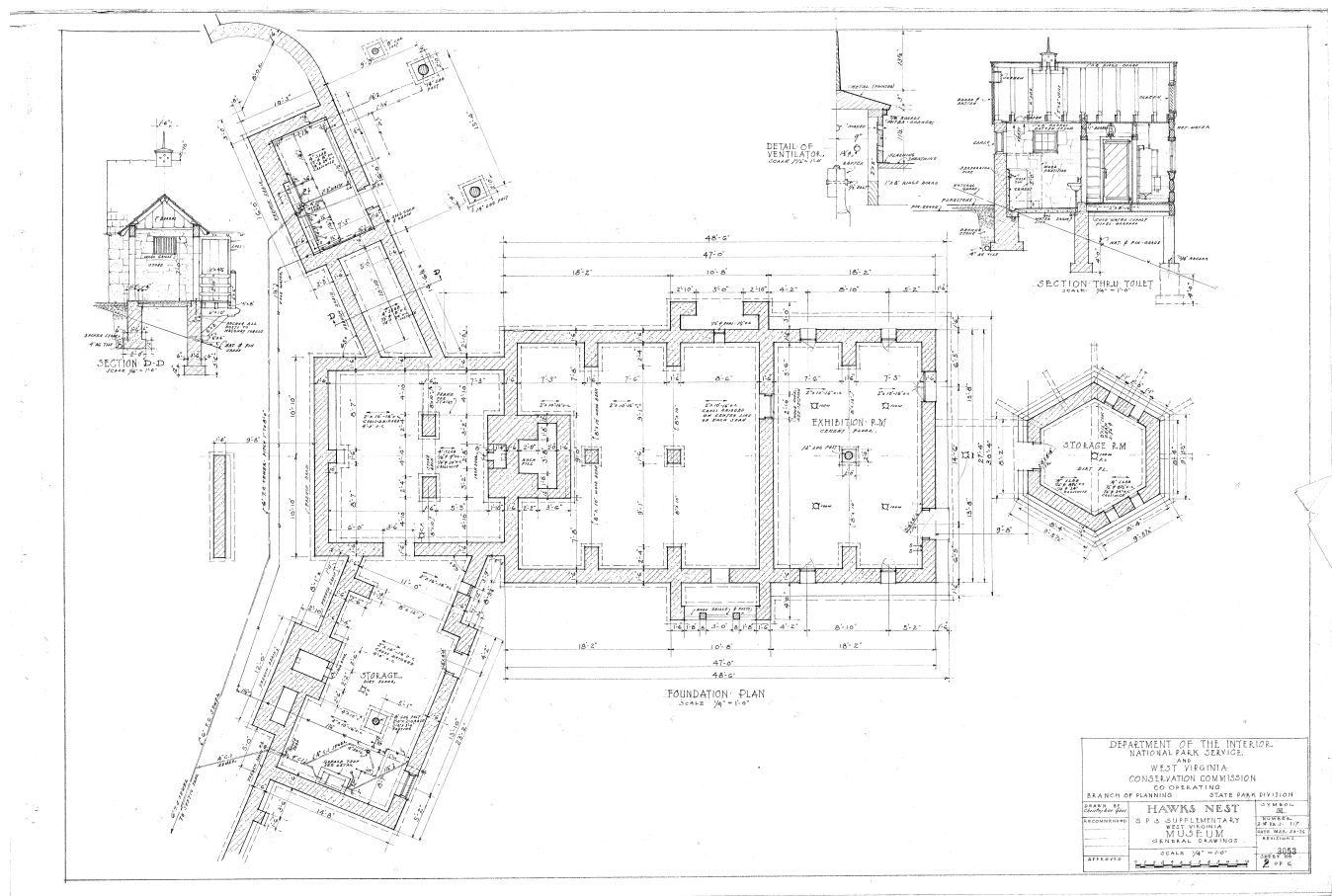


Figure 2. *Museum – General Drawings* (United States Department of the Interior National Park Service and West Virginia Conservation Commission, March 30, 1936).

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

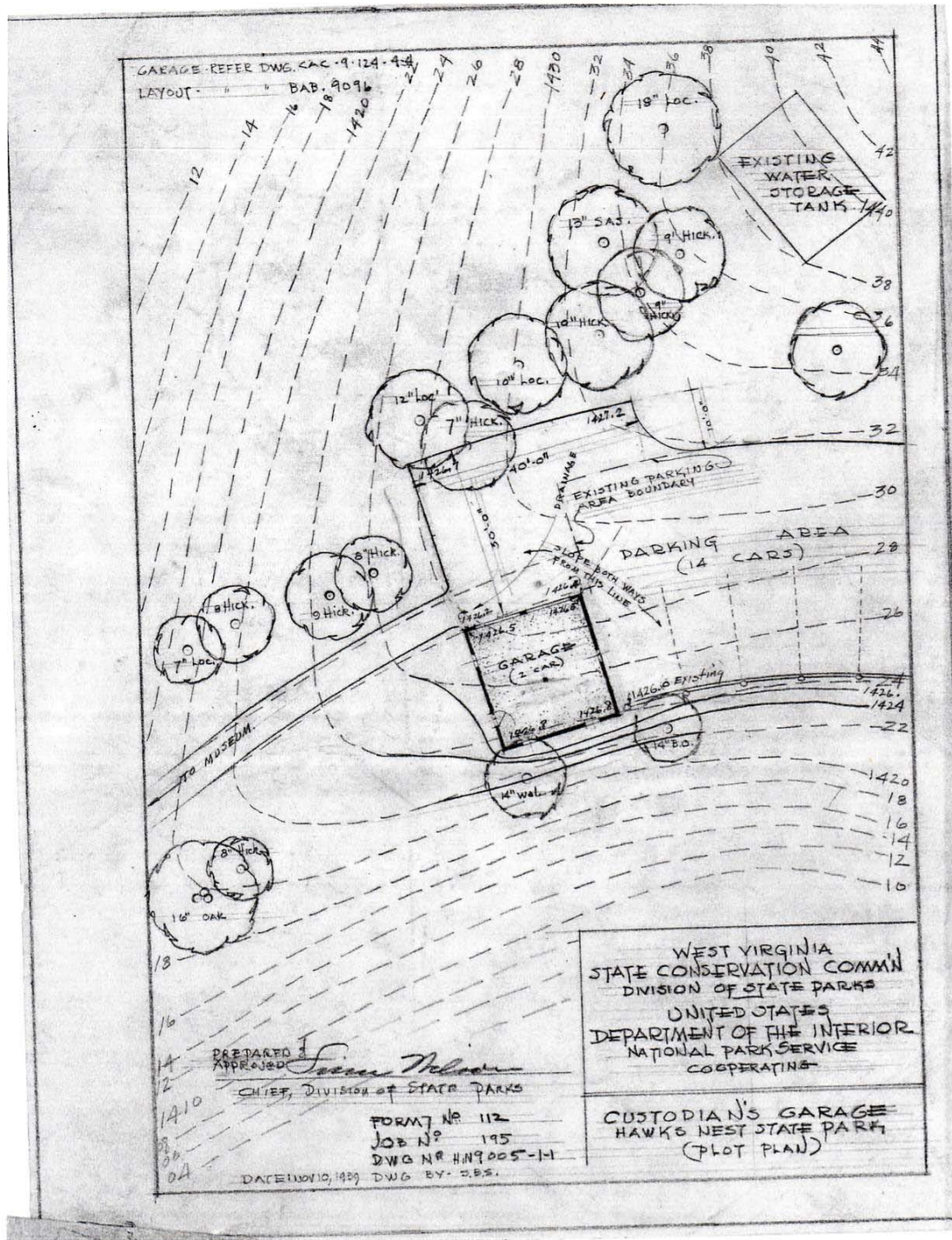


Figure 4. Custodian's Garage Plot Plan (West Virginia Conservation Commission and United States Department of the Interior National Park Service, November 10, 1939).

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New Deal Resources in West Virginia State Parks and Forests
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Photographs

Name of Property: New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District

City or Vicinity: Anstead

County: Fayette

State: West Virginia

Photographer: Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Date Photographed: September 2008

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Scenic overlook along US Route 60, camera facing southwest

1 of 14

Name of Property: New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District

City or Vicinity: Anstead

County: Fayette

State: West Virginia

Photographer: Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Date Photographed: September 2008

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Flagstone steps to scenic overlook, camera facing northeast

2 of 14

Name of Property: New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District

City or Vicinity: Anstead

County: Fayette

State: West Virginia

Photographer: Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Date Photographed: September 2008

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Stone wall at parking lot, camera facing north/northwest

3 of 14

Name of Property: New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District

City or Vicinity: Anstead

County: Fayette

State: West Virginia

Photographer: Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Date Photographed: September 2008

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Water fountain, camera facing northeast

4 of 14

Name of Property: New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District

City or Vicinity: Anstead

County: Fayette

State: West Virginia

Photographer: Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Date Photographed: September 2008

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New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State
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Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Picnic pad and retaining wall, camera facing south/southeast
5 of 14

Name of Property: New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District

City or Vicinity: Anstead

County: Fayette

State: West Virginia

Photographer: Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Date Photographed: September 2008

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Head of Loop Trail, camera facing northeast
6 of 14

Name of Property: New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District

City or Vicinity: Anstead

County: Fayette

State: West Virginia

Photographer: Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Date Photographed: September 2008

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Culvert, camera facing southeast
7 of 14

Name of Property: New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District

City or Vicinity: Anstead

County: Fayette

State: West Virginia

Photographer: Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Date Photographed: September 2008

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Museum and observatory with assistant superintendent's residence southeast facade, camera facing northeast
8 of 14

Name of Property: New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District

City or Vicinity: Anstead

County: Fayette

State: West Virginia

Photographer: Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Date Photographed: September 2008

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Cut stone chimney on northeast wall of museum, camera facing northeast
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Name of Property: New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District

City or Vicinity: Anstead

County: Fayette

State: West Virginia

Photographer: Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Date Photographed: September 2008

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Wood paneling on interior of observatory, camera facing south

10 of 14

Name of Property: New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District

City or Vicinity: Anstead

County: Fayette

State: West Virginia

Photographer: Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Date Photographed: September 2008

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Concession building southeast façade, camera facing northwest

11 of 14

Name of Property: New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District

City or Vicinity: Anstead

County: Fayette

State: West Virginia

Photographer: Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Date Photographed: September 2008

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Caretaker's garage/storage building, camera facing southeast

12 of 14

Name of Property: New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District

City or Vicinity: Anstead

County: Fayette

State: West Virginia

Photographer: Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Date Photographed: September 2008

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Picnic shelter southwest façade, camera facing northeast

13 of 14

Name of Property: New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State Park Historic District

City or Vicinity: Anstead

County: Fayette

State: West Virginia

Photographer: Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

Date Photographed: September 2008

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

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New Deal Resources in Hawk's Nest State
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Name of Property
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New Deal Resources in West Virginia State
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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

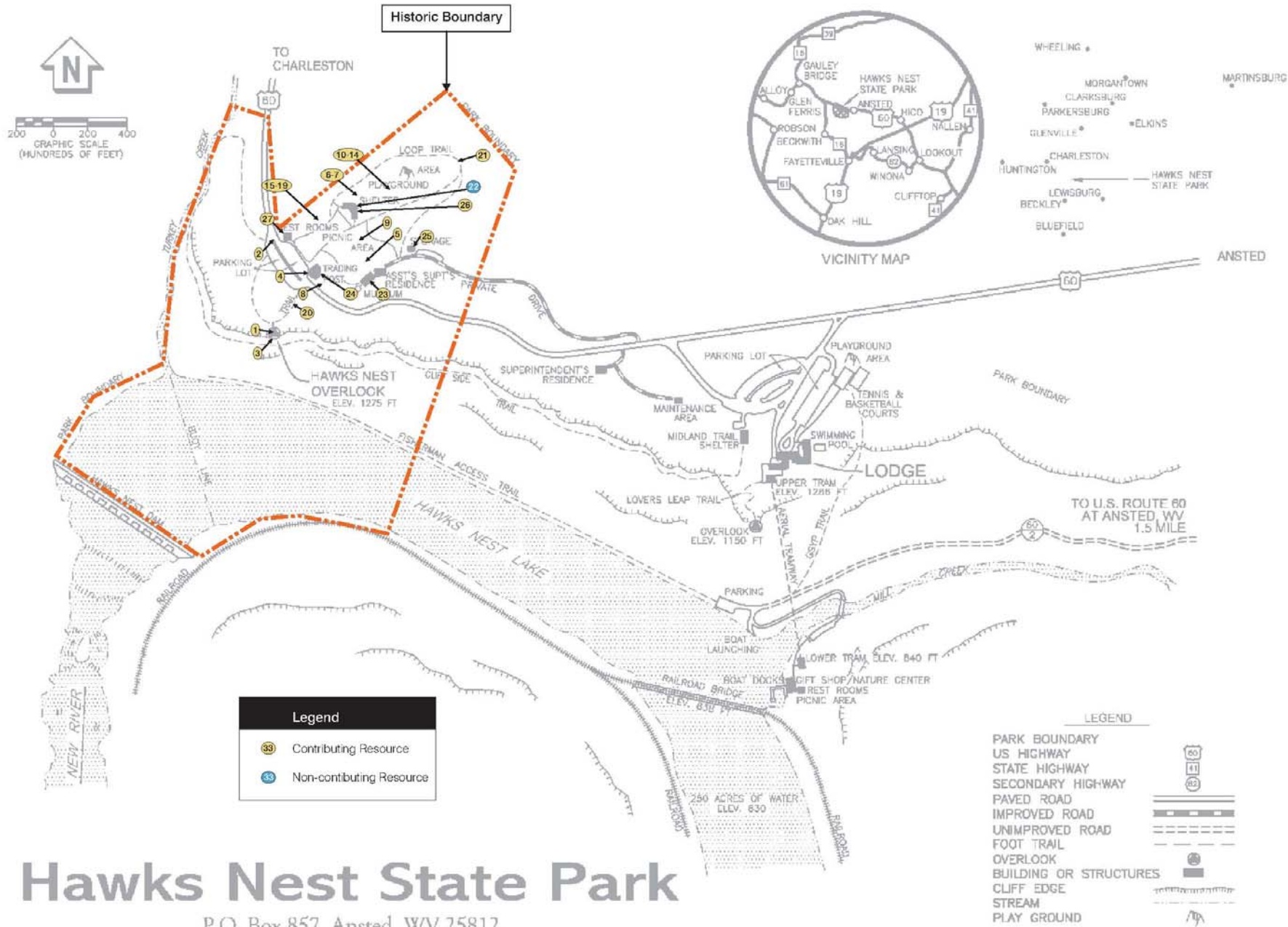
Restroom building, south façade, camera facing north
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New Deal Resources in Hawks Nest State Park Historic District
Name of Property
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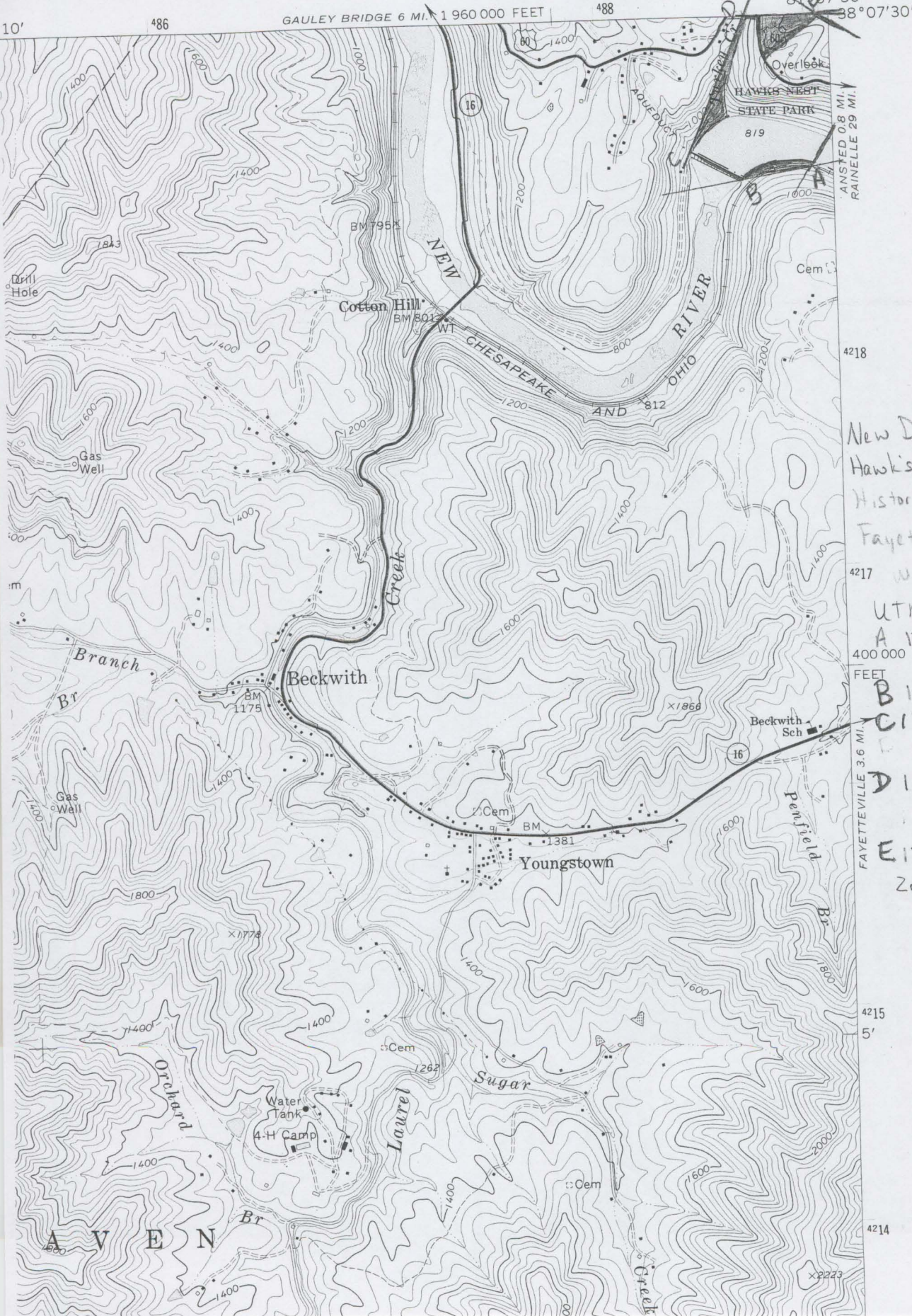


Hawks Nest State Park

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Historic District
Fayette County,
West Virginia
UTM References
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B 17 488657 4218976
C 17 488420 4219112
D 17 488660 4219448
E 17 488985 4219673
Zone Easting Northing

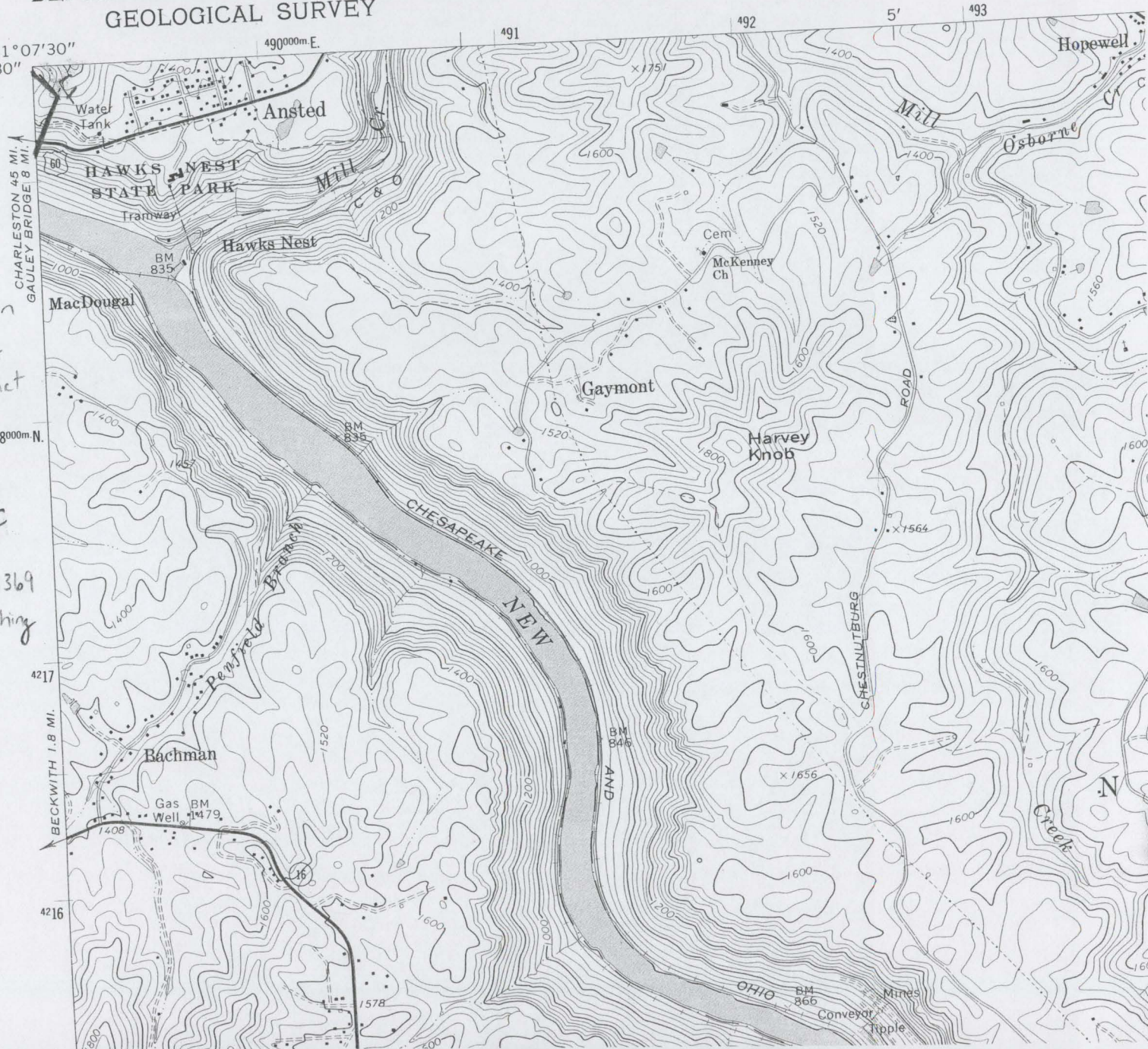
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(GAULEY BRIDGE)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF

New Deal Resources in
Hawk's Nest State
Park Historic District
Fayette County,
West Virginia

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17 489145 4219369
Zone Easting Northing















← TRAIL

















PARK CLOSURE
DUE TO
ROADWORK TO IMPROVE THE
VIEW OF THE FALLS