

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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area

other names/site number Umstead State Park

### 2. Location

street & number roughly bounded by I-40, US 70, & RDU Airport N/A not for publication

city or town Raleigh N/A vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Wake code 183 zip code 27612

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

William S. Pinney SHPO 4.25.95  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain): _____	_____	_____

Crabtree Creek RDA  
Name of Property

Wake, NC  
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	
128	40	buildings
6	8	sites
6	1	structures
		objects
140	49	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)  
Historic and Architectural Resources  
of Wake County, NC (ca. 1770-1941)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register**  
-0-

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Domestic/camp
- Recreation & Culture/outdoor recreation
- Landscape/park
- Landscape/forest
- Landscape/natural feature
- Landscape/conservation area
- Transportation/pedestrian-related
- Transportation/road-related

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Domestic/camp
- Recreation & Culture/outdoor recreation
- Landscape/park
- Landscape/forest
- Landscape/natural feature
- Landscape/conservation area
- Transportation/pedestrian-related
- Transportation/road-related

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: NPS Rustic

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone  
walls wood  
roof asphalt  
other concrete

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more 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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Architecture
Landscape Architecture
Entertainment/Recreation
Politics/Government
Conservation

Period of Significance

1933-1943

Significant Dates

1933
1943

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Marks, J.R.- landscape architect
Stout, J.D.- landscape designer
Derrick, G.R.- Architectural designer
Johnson, F.J.-draftsman

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

Umstead State Park Office

Crabtree Creek RDA

Wake, NC

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 4912.16 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

\* See Continuation Sheet

UTM grid boxes 1 and 2 with labels Zone, Easting, Northing

UTM grid boxes 3 and 4 with labels Zone, Easting, Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Helen P. Ross, consultant; North Carolina SHPO; Raleigh City Planning Dept.

organization North Carolina Dept. of Cultural Resources date March, 1995

street & number 109 East Jones Street telephone (919) 733-6545

city or town Raleigh state NC zip code 27601-2807

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

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

name NC Dept of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources

street & number 512 North Salisbury St. telephone (919) 733-7275

city or town Raleigh state NC zip code 27604-1148

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.



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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Wake County, NC

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### SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area (RDA) Historic District is defined by the 1943 boundaries of the land parcels acquired by the New Deal agencies that constructed the park. The district contains a variety of buildings and structures designed to accommodate outdoor daytime recreational activities and overnight camping. The some 4912.16 acres included in the district were the subject of a detailed Master Plan completed in 1940 and include such resources as two twenty-five-acre lakes (and a fifty-five-acre lake that was planned, but not constructed until 1962) that serve as focal points for the park's recreational and scenic resources; four group camps which include ninety-two cabins and four lodges; two picnic areas with stone water fountains, a picnic shelter, and stone campfires; a free-standing frame privy remaining from a former Civilian Conservation Corps work camp; two stone-veneered vehicular bridges; a network of roads and trails; and land reclamation features such as reforestation, check dams, and firebreaks. Between 1936 and 1941, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) constructed all contributing buildings and structures, created the lakes by building dams and spillways on Sycamore Creek and Reedy Creek, and executed the park's landscaping, which includes over thirty miles of hiking/bridle trails interwoven among the developed areas. All contributing buildings, structures, and sites in the district are related to a single theme, the culmination of the national movement in the Progressive and New Deal eras to create public parks and the accompanying rise of rustic architecture. The foundation source for the design of National Park architectural was Park and Recreation Structures, published by the National Park Service in 1938. The district combines examples from this architectural pattern book with quality craftsmanship and careful consideration of the relationship between architectural and landscape design to maintain the spirit and character in which the park was originally conceived and built. It includes 128 contributing buildings, six contributing structures, six contributing sites, and forty noncontributing buildings, eight noncontributing sites, and one noncontributing structure.

### DESCRIPTION

The Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area (Renamed William B. Umstead State Park in 1955) is located within the present city limits, approximately twelve miles north of downtown Raleigh, in Wake County, North Carolina. There are two entrances: the north one is located on US 70 while the southern one is on Harrison Avenue at the Interstate 40 interchange near Cary. Although the park was initially surrounded by agricultural and wooded tracts, recent major public and private development projects have changed the character of its environs. The south park boundary is near Interstate 40, a major thoroughfare. The Raleigh-Durham International Airport lies near its west boundary, and the lot lines of privately-held land parcels form the north boundary. The east boundary is near Ebenezer Church Road which is scheduled to become a collector street.

The rolling topography of the district contains three primary watercourses: Crabtree Creek, Reedy Creek, and Sycamore Creek. Crabtree and Reedy creeks flow west to east through the southern portion of the park while the Sycamore Creek wends its way north to south in the northern and eastern sections. Throughout the forested lands are small tributaries which drain into one or more of the primary creeks.

There are over thirty miles of bridle/bicycle trails and hiking paths, many of which were constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). There are CCC-era paved roads and firebreaks, lakes, and dams on the main watercourses and branches of the Reedy, Sycamore and Crabtree creeks. The cabins and auxiliary buildings that compose camps Lapihio, Crabtree, and Sycamore that were built by the CCC are located in the central western portion of the park, and

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Camp Whispering Pines, also a CCC project, is near the southwest section of the park. The eastern and western regions of the park contain a few trails within almost completely unbroken forest. The majority of the park's natural landscape features, which include streams, drainage areas, ridges, and forest, remain essentially unchanged since the CCC undertook the reclamation of the landscape in the 1930s.

There are two designated ecosystems within the district: the Crabtree Natural Area and the Piedmont Beech Natural Area, which are not developed. The larger of the two, the Piedmont Beech Natural Area encompasses 105 acres located in the southeast portion of the park between a powerline clearing on the east and the old Reedy Creek Park Road on the west. It was set aside as a National Natural Landmark by the National Park Service in May 1974 because it exhibits one of the finest examples of a mixed mesophytic forest in North Carolina. The smaller sanctuary is the 90-acre Crabtree Natural Area within the Reedy Creek section south of Crabtree Creek and north of Reedy Creek Picnic Area and ranger residences. It was designated primarily for its abundance of over fifty shrub species. These natural areas were created to permit the park to serve as a protected habitat for the various plants which include several threatened and rare species (LeGrand, Harry E., Jr. and Astey, Cheryl J. Inventory of the Natural Areas of Wake County, North Carolina. Wake County Parks and Recreation Commission Grant, August, 1987, pp. 83, 85).

The largest and most scenic of the obvious planned landscape features are the three lakes. Between 1936 and 1962, three large bodies of water were formed by the damming of two of the primary streams. Centrally located amidst hilly topography is the twenty-five-acre Sycamore Lake, the park's first CCC-era dam-and-lake project created by the flow restriction of Sycamore Creek. CCC landscape planners selected the lake site as the focal point for water-related recreational activities of the three surrounding group camps, Camp Sycamore (2-G) on the northern shore, and Camp Crabtree (3-B) and Camp Lapihio (1-G) bordered the west and south beaches of the lake. Situated near the park's southeast boundary is Reedy Creek Lake, and the second CCC-era established dam-and-lake project. Originally the smaller of the two lakes when opened to the public in 1940, Reedy Creek Lake is sited below steep terrain. To the lake's west is Camp Whispering Pines (4-B) a single group camp, built between 1939 and 1940. Around 1959, the lake was enlarged to its present size of twenty-five acres. In northwest corner, is the fifty-five-acre Big Lake, the last of the lakes developed by damming Sycamore Creek. Although it was mentioned in the 1940 Master Plan, it was not actually constructed until 1962.

Some of the less tangible man-made landscape elements are the results of the CCC-era land reclamation efforts. Features such as fire and erosion controls, drainage ditches and culverts, hillside terraces, and reforestation, are located throughout the park's more remote regions. Accessed by the foot paths or fire roads, these entities helped slow and stop the physical destruction of the land and relate to the history of the CCC and its conservation philosophy.

The RDA Historic District is composed of 189 resources, 140 of which have been identified as contributing. The district is predominantly a natural environment with man-made landscape and architectural features which were sensitively designed to blend in with the existing topography. In addition to 128 contributing buildings and six contributing structures, there are six contributing sites. For example, there are three CCC-era trails which were designed to allow the hiker to experience the park's scenic highlights. Besides natural beauty, CCC-era man-made enhancements include small stone check dams (entry IV) on tributaries, and mature stands of loblolly and short-leaf pines in hillsides. Modern amenities such as footbridge and trail marker

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replacements are considered non-contributing although they are in scale and character with resources from the park's historic period.

Other examples of contributing sites are the day-use facilities, better known as the picnic areas. There are two in the park, the Crabtree Creek Picnic Area and the Reedy Creek Picnic Area. Because of the beginning of World War II, neither facility was completely finished by the CCC. In 1940, only the physical environs of the sites were landscaped and basic sewer and water systems were installed. However, the dining conditions were extremely crude. Stone water fountains were erected; three in Crabtree, one in Reedy Creek; and three to five sets of picnic tables and benches were clustered about stone fireplaces; seven in Crabtree, three in Reedy Creek. Essentially, these small CCC-built structures, the stone water fountains and the fireplaces, are the most numerous contributing resources in the picnic areas with the exception of one CCC picnic shelter in Crabtree Creek picnic area. Resources that are non-contributing because of their age are located in the picnic areas and include buildings such as the ca. 1952 picnic shelters in Crabtree and Reedy Creek; and four modern bathrooms in Crabtree Creek, and two in Reedy Creek; and structures like metal fire grates, paved walkways, information boards, handicap water fountains, garbage containers, and small frame recycling centers. Although these resources were added later, their design, scale, and siting follow in intent and character the CCC-era 1940 Master Plan for the Crabtree Creek RDA.

Almost all buildings and associated structures in the park display the distinctive rustic style developed by the National Park Service in the 1930s. Exceptions include four 1952 and 1962 ranger residences which are standardized frame houses; the 1952 and 1962 maintenance and shop concrete block buildings; the 1962 frame boat house; and the concrete block wash house in the family camping area. However, wherever possible these elements have been designed with the sensitivity to the scale, color, scheme, and construction methods of the CCC-era buildings. The frame construction and stone or concrete pier foundations of the CCC-era buildings suggest a picturesque effect. The exterior wood siding is coarsely machine hewn to produce what became known as "waney" cladding. It is employed in vertical and horizontal arrangements. All of the buildings are unassuming and have screens or single-glazed sash windows that are protected by top-or side-hinged wood "shutters". Typically, the organized camps are arranged into several units or clusters, with cabins haphazardly arranged in a circle with a latrine, a stone fire circle, a water pump, and sometimes a lodge. The units are centered around a core of service structures, which consist of three to five building types. These include a dining hall/kitchen, office/administration building, infirmary, craft cabin, staff quarters, and storage facilities. When possible, the forest and the terrain are utilized so that cabins and lodges are sited on ridges to permit cooling breezes, scenic vistas or privacy. In addition to the construction of public recreation facilities, the CCC enrollees reclaimed and conserved soil, water, and the forest. The Recreational Demonstration Area (RDA) lands became a showcase of a successful federal program. As seen today, the group camps and day-use areas have remained generally uncompromised by modern alterations or new construction. Overnight camping, the original purpose, is still enjoyed by children's groups.

In conclusion, the underlying order of the New Deal-era landscape design and the visual connections realized through certain natural and man-made elements, such as the roads, trails, forests, and lakes, help to weave the landscape of various distinct parts into a visually and functionally cohesive whole.

## BASIC BUILDING TYPES

Sleeping Quarters: Cabins - ca. 1937-1940

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Representing the largest percentage of the buildings in the district are the 88 group camp cabins. Usually found in clusters, there are a number of variations to the form, but the most often seen is a one-story tall, single-pile, three-bay-wide, gable-front building that can accommodate four campers. Another common version is the two-person model which has an engaged porch. In Camp Lapihio, a variation on an alternate floor plan is found. The cabins are larger, able to sleep four and six campers, and have an L-shaped plan with an engaged front porch. Egress for the four person cabin is obtained through a central front door under the porch and in the six person cabin via a gable end door.

Administrative/Service: Dining Hall/Kitchen, Central Wash house, Staff Quarters, Canteen, Cook's Cabin, Infirmary - ca. 1937-1940

The collection of these buildings serves as the functioning core of the group camps. Ideally, they are located equidistant to the cabin units, and the Dining Hall/Kitchen provides temporary shelter to campers on rainy days and at mealtimes. There are four dining halls in the park; each one is basically L-shaped, has three entrances, a massive stone chimney and hearth, and at least one covered entrance. The kitchens have been updated to current health standards. Most of the original rustic-style dining hall tables and benches are still used; however, some table tops have been covered with Formica. Two of the three entrance ways to the Camp Lapihio dining hall/kitchen (entry 93) have been altered with the construction of handicap ramps.

There are two central wash houses in the park. These were originally built as separate men's and women's facilities and were later adapted to serve mixed group activities. Each one has board and batten siding, lattice windows, and well-crafted examples of wrought-iron hardware. There are two similar versions of the central wash house (entries 72, 73, 163, and 164) in the two remaining group camps, Crabtree and Whispering Pines. Another variant of the wash house is the latrine, which is a smaller building that has an engaged porch with a cement floor and wash basin, and three commodes. There are nine latrine units throughout each of the cluster cabin units in the large group camps, Sycamore and Lapihio. There are two types of Staff Quarters in the park. The larger version (entries 38 and 97) is a T-shaped building able to sleep eight persons. It has a central projecting section which is flanked by secondary wings. The other staff quarters (entry 166) in Whispering Pines is much smaller and resembles, in form, two, two-person cabins placed back-to-back.

Each group camp has a canteen. Used for the storage of goods, and administrative offices, the size of the building is in direct correlation to the size of the group camp. The largest canteen (entry 91) is found in Lapihio; the most unique, due to its breezeway, is in Camp Crabtree (entry 69); while the canteens in Camp Whispering Pines (entry 167) and Camp Sycamore (entry 37) share the same floor plan.

There are four cook's cabins and each one is in close proximity to the dining halls/kitchens. They are very similar in form to the small version of the staff quarters with the addition of horizontal porch rails.

The park has two infirmaries. The smaller of the two (entry 165) looks like a cook's cabin except the common wall is pierced by a doorway. One room functions as an office/dispensary, while the other is for reclining patients. The more elaborate and spacious of the two is in Camp Lapihio (entry 95). It houses five rooms, including the nurses' quarters and a quarantine space. The building is T-shaped in plan, has three entrances and an attached front porch.

Recreational/Cultural: Lodges, crafts cabins

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There are five lodges located in the park, four are associated with the group camps and one, Maple Hill Lodge (entry 21), is intended for reserved day uses. There are two floor plans, one is rectangular in shape while the other is a T-plan. By varying the placement of the chimneys, doorways, and attached porches, exact duplication is reduced. Other features include wood casement windows and outdoor kitchens. All are in good condition except for the Oak Hills Unit Lodge (entry 105) in Camp Lapihio which is closed because of systems failure.

An Arts and Crafts cabin is located in Camp Lapihio and Camp Sycamore (entries 96 and 40). Both share an identical rectangular form floor plan and exterior elements such as gable-end stone chimneys, attached front porches, and ranks of wood casement windows. The Lapihio example has been vandalized.

**CRABTREE CREEK RECREATIONAL DEMONSTRATION AREA AFTER WORLD WAR II**

In 1943, the Crabtree Creek RDA was sold by the federal government to the state of North Carolina for one dollar. Immediately after the war, the district was heavily used by the public and there was little or no maintenance of the existing facilities. In 1952, a state-funded building campaign realized elements of the 1940 Master Plan in areas where development of the park was incomplete. With the exception of two picnic shelters and an information center which display the distinctive rustic style developed by the National Park Service in the 1930s, the 1950s buildings are of unobtrusive, one-story wood or concrete block construction. After the war many of National Park Service buildings were rather plain, functional structures, that made reference to vernacular forms. This approach is quite evident in the park's two park office/utility building compounds, the two rangers residences, several pump houses, and a dynamite shed.

Ten years later, around 1962 the final phase of the 1940 Master Plan was executed when the northern section of the park was developed with the construction of Big Lake and associated buildings such as the boat house and a filter house. Further north, the Family Campground was developed at the same time. This campground contains twenty-eight sites, each with a table and bench combination, a metal or stone fireplace, and a refuse container. These campsites are located on either side of a loop drive with a central wash house, a firewood storage shed and a pump house. In addition, two frame rangers residences were constructed, one near the William B. Umstead Office/Utility Complex, and the other in the Reedy Creek Office/Utility area.

In the 1970s, privies were located at the Maple Hill Lodge and the Youth Camping Area. In the early 1990s, two bathrooms were closed and another four in the picnic areas were updated and made handicap-accessible. Within the last couple of years, a pedestrian foot bridge over Crabtree Creek, a vehicular bridge, and a handicap parking and access area to Big Lake were completed.

**INVENTORY LIST**

The following Inventory List classifies resources in the Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area as Contributing (C) or Noncontributing (N). The list identifies resources, gives an approximate construction date and describes their features. Unless otherwise stated, all Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) buildings are single story, frame, and gable-roofed. A highly popular source for their designs was Park and Recreation Structures, published by the National Park Service in 1938, which defined the rustic architectural style. The Inventory List is based on an existing numerical system from a 1987 building inventory conducted by William B. Umstead

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State Park staff and students from the North Carolina State University School of Design. Estimated construction dates are extracted from numerous sources. First, the CCC photographic index catalogs the names of structures and buildings constructed between July 1936 and September 1937. This list is found in the three ring notebook entitled "William B. Umstead State Park History", located in the park office near the US 70 entrance. Second, the 1987 inventory, known as "Facility Inventory and Inspection Program (FIIP)," provides building date information, but it is not accurate in all cases. The alphabetized numerical numbering system applied to some of the individual buildings or structures in the inventory list are agency identification numbers. Third, the fifty-four-page 1940 Master Plan Report delineates the status of existing structures and proposed structures constructed between 1936 and July, 1940. Fourth, since the CCC laborers did not vacate Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area until the late winter of 1941, erected buildings and structures that are mentioned as proposed to be constructed in the 1940 Master Plan can be pinpointed as being built between July 1940 and early 1941. The group camps and day-use facilities were funded by the federal government. After 1943, when the park became a state-owned property, very little, if any, money was budgeted for the labor required for materials replacements. Not until 1952, were state appropriated funds released for the construction of new buildings and maintenance of the CCC-era buildings. Like most frame buildings in North Carolina's state parks, the CCC-built structures show many signs of heavy usage and poor maintenance. However, because of low maintenance budgets, most of the original buildings have not been modernized. The rustic forms and materials of the buildings and structures; the natural landscaping; and sensitive park design all combine into the historic CCC characteristics that remain tangible throughout the historic district.

Numbered resources are grouped under general paragraphs describing complexes, sites, or areas within the historic district. All primary resources are indicated by a number (the 1987 Park building inventory) that corresponds to the accompanying map, while the landscape features are indicated by a roman numeral on the same map. At certain sites, such as the Family Camping Area, only major resources are counted. Minor contributing and non-contributing resources, such as tables, grills, or fire rings, are not counted.

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List#      1987 B.I.#      Date      Description/Comments

N site I                      1952      US 70 Entrance

The ca. 1952 enhancements of the main entrance echo the rustic treatment of architecture throughout the park. Wood frame elements include the entry and road-hugging split rail fence, the double gates, and the two carved signs. Stone work is employed in the entrance gate piers/posts and the sign bases. The western gate post has a semicircular base which extends north and south of the post. Entrance and egress are regulated by security gates which open at sunrise and close at sunset. The entrance signs were carved in 1955 when the park was renamed to William B. Umstead State Park.

N bldg 1                      010001      1950      Information Center; this frame building is one story, gable-roofed, and has an engaged front porch. The interior has a terrazzo tile floor and modest interpretative exhibits. Within the last five years, additional enhancements include a handicap path and water fountain, and a wood frame recycling center.

**Rangers Residential Area**

When additional funding became available in 1947 and 1952, the North Carolina Department of Parks and Recreation increased the number of park rangers from one to three. Hence, two residences were built, one in either section, i.e., Crabtree and Reedy Creek. Located just south of the original CCC dwelling, this is a single story, frame, gable roof house with ranch-style features such as a spacious floor plan with a multipurpose room, fewer walls between rooms, and a backyard view. The southern-most treated wood porch is a recent addition as are two, single-story storage sheds between the houses. A small, frame pumphouse completes the residential area.

N bldg 2                      010002      1939      Stone and frame CCC-built ranger's residence, with gable roof; severely altered, moderate woodsiding and replacement windows and doors

N bldg 3                      010003      1952      Ranger's residence

N bldg 4                      010004      1952      Ranger's residence pumphouse

**Family Camping Area**

Originally envisioned as part of the 1940 Master Plan, the family camping area was not developed until the early 1960s. Twenty-eight individual sites blend into the rolling topography. Each site is equipped with a garbage can, a picnic table, and a campfire grill. Near the center of the grounds is a single-story, concrete block, gable-roofed washhouse. Located to the east of the washhouse is a frame firewood storage building. Both buildings were constructed in 1962. Continuing eastward across the park road, is an outdoors amphitheater. Ten, twelve by twelve



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wood posts lie on their sides in a wide V-formation, facing towards a painted plywood screen. The family camping area is closed Monday through Wednesday to reduce human impacts on the land.

N bldg 5	010005	1962	Family Camping Washhouse
N bldg 6	010007	1962	Family Camping Pumphouse
N bldg 7	010133	1962	Camping Area Firewood Storage

### William B. Umstead State Park Headquarters Complex

With the exception of the naturalists' shed and a stone drainage culvert which were constructed by the CCC around 1939, the remaining buildings and structures were erected between 1950 and 1962. The single-story, frame, gable-roofed shed has 4/4 and 6/6 windows. Residential buildings are the ranger residence (ca. 1958) and the barracks (1962) and a 1993 mobile home. The majority of structures are service-related, have either masonry or frame construction, and shed roofs. An early twentieth cemetery is occupied by Learys and Smiths.

N bldg 8	010006	1952	Park Office
N bldg 9	010008	1952	Paint Storage Building
N bldg 10	010009	1952	Warehouse
N bldg 11	010010	1952	Garage
N bldg 12	010011	1952	Shop
N bldg 13	010012	1952	Plumbing and Lumber Storage
N bldg 14	010013	1962	Barracks
C bldg 15	010014	1939	2 bays Storage CCC-building with facade gable; very intact horizontal wood siding, 1 bay entry vestibule, 6/6 windows

[Note: 010015 was demolished]

N bldg 16	010016	1962	Residence Storage Shed
N bldg 17	010017	1952	Pumphouse
N bldg 18	010018	1962	Ranger Residence
N bldg 19		1993	Mobile Home (removed April, 1995)



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NC site II	e.20c	Smith Cemetery; typical small, rural, family cemetery with plain granite gravestones interspersed among pine trees. Of the some ten gravestones, about half are damaged.
C strc III	1937	Sal's Branch Bridge; very intact; 22-foot steel reinforced concrete T-beam bridge with stone veneer

### Youth Camping Area

Basically a circular clearing in the woods, the purpose of the area is to introduce young people to primitive camping. Located halfway between the parking lot and the clearing, a frame pit toilet built in 1973 is the only structure. A fire ring, water pump, recycling center, and a picnic table and bench are the only other provisions.

N bldg 20	010020	1973	Youth camping pit toilet
C bldg 21	010019	1939	Maple Hill Lodge; very intact. This lodge takes its name from the stand of nearby maple trees and the hill upon which it is sited. It is similar in form and materials to the unit lodges in the group camps. It has a rectangular form with two attached porches, wooden casement windows and horizontal and vertical wood siding. The interior has three built-in closets and storage benches opposite the stone fireplace. Designated specifically for short-term use, the area's facilities include two pit toilets, a pumphouse, water pump, picnic tables and benches, campfire stoves, garbage cans, and a recycling center
N bldg 22	010021	1974	Mens pit toilet--Maple Hill
N bldg 23	010022	1974	Womens pit toilet--Maple Hill

### Crabtree Creek Picnic Area

Up to the point of the removal of the CCC Camp in early 1942, this area had received minimal attention. Only Picnic Shelter No. 2, ten stone camp fireplaces, twenty picnic table and bench combinations, and a sixty-four space automobile parking area had been developed. Not until ten years later in 1952, after the release of several General Assembly appropriations, was funding available to complete the plan. The North Carolina Department of Parks and Recreation altered the design by omitting the addition of three picnic shelters, a nature building, an outdoor lecture hall, a recreation building and a bath house.

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Recently, within the last seven years, various enhancements have occurred such as the renovation of two toilet houses, the paving of footpaths, and the construction of handicap water fountains.

N bldg 24	010023	1952	Pumphouse near picnic shelter
N bldg 25	010024	1952	Pumphouse near picnic shelter
N bldg 26	010025	1952	Mens toilet upper picnic area; closed
N bldg 27	010026	1952	Womens toilet upper picnic area; closed
N bldg 28	010027	1993	Mens toilet--picnic shelter
N bldg 29	010028	1993	Womens toilet--picnic shelter
C bldg 30	010029	c.1936	Picnic Shelter Two; This is the sole example of a CCC-built public recreation structure of its type in the park. It exhibits distinctively rustic features such as exterior "waney" board cladding, employed in vertical and horizontal arrangements, the use of native granite in the chimney, fireplace, and stone floor, and post-and-beam construction with 10" x 10" square wood posts. As documented in the <u>News and Observer</u> , the shelter was heavily used by the public throughout the 1940s. In 1952, it was complemented by the construction of another more spacious picnic shelter.
N bldg 31	010030	1952	Picnic Shelter One; Built during the summer of 1952 and non-contributing only because of its age, this structure is one of the tangible results of several NC State Legislature appropriations earmarked for park improvements. It employs more stone and less timber frame than the CCC-built picnic structure and is much more spacious. At the south elevation is a stone-constructed storage area with double doors while in the north wall, there is an exquisite stone central chimney. The entire facility has finely laid stone and cost \$3,901 to construct. Its design exemplifies early post World War II National Park Service designs that were rooted in those found in <u>Park and Recreation Structures</u> published by the National Parks Service in 1938.
C strc IV		1937	Check dam on Sal's Branch; Besides bank sloping, seeding and sodding, and tree planting, the construction of temporary and permanent check dams on tributaries

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and small streams greatly reduced soil erosion in denuded areas. In every small watercourse in the park there is at least one check dam. This atypical example is the most massive one located during the survey. In the 1940 Master Plan, a trail crossed over the dam. Today, two trails, the loop trail and Sycamore Trail are accessible by traversing the dam. More numerous are the small check dams which employ random laid rubble. During and after a rainstorm, the water collects in pools created by the check dam, allowing for sediment to settle rather than wash away. An unknown number exist throughout the historic district.

C site V

1937

Sal's Branch Trail; Sal's Branch Trail is one of the original footpaths designed for the Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area. By hiking the trail, one gets an idea of the benefits of the land reclamation measures carried out by the CCC. The elements consist of fire hazard reduction and erosion control. The more permanent features such as stone check dams, field stone walls, and tree planting are the most obvious physical reminders. A water storage tank was dismantled in 1991 when the provision of City water occurred. The tower's cement piers are still evident. On the trail's southside, there are three CCC stone grills which were used at one time, however due to changing park philosophy, their employment is discouraged. Also on the trail are two pumphouses and a septic tank which were built in the early 1950s and 1962, respectively. Most recent improvements are evidenced by the frame foot bridges and Carsonite trail markers.

**Big Lake**

In the 1940 Master Plan for the Crabtree Creek RDA, there is a proposed day-use facility which has some of Big Lakes' features. However, due to WWII and the abandonment of the CCC program, the realization of the lake-side facility was cut short. Over twenty years later in the early 1960s, the damming of Sycamore Creek created the fifty-five acre Big Lake. Since then, additional improvements have enhanced the facility. These features include a boating compound, two pedestrian bridges, a handicap parking area and an interpretative board.

N bldg 32            010031            1962            Filter House

N bldg 33            010032            1962            Boathouse; A realization of the 1940 Master Plan Day-Use facility, the Boat House was constructed in 1962, soon after the development of Big Lake. The single-

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story, wood frame, gable-sided structure is four bays wide. The enclosed bay functions as an equipment rental storage area and service counter while the remaining three bays provide a sheltered waiting space. There are no windows, only 26 wood louvers provide light. Just south of the boat house is a long concrete slab where eleven slips provide anchorage for to row boats and canoes. Along the lake's edge, farther north, is a ca. 1962 filter house. It is a vacant single story, concrete block building. These structures represent the final building phase in the realization of the 1940 Master Plan for Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area.

N site VI 1962 Big Lake

### Camp Sycamore

According to Ed Littrell, William B. Umstead State Park Superintendent, Camp Sycamore (Camp 2-G) was the park's first CCC-built camp. The total capacity of the camp is 96 people and it has three cabin clusters that surround a core of service buildings. Each cluster has eight sleeping cabins, a latrine, fire ring and water pump, with the exception of the West Unit which has a lodge in addition to the above features. The camp's service buildings include the dining hall/kitchen, cook's cabin, canteen, staff quarters, central washhouse and an arts cabin. A playing field is situated north and east of the dining hall while another path starts at the dining hall, passes south through Central Unit, to the Sycamore Lake swimming area.

C bldg 34	010033	1936-1937	Hewn Log Pumphouse, near Camp Sycamore; very intact, only one in park, gable-sided, 6/6 windows
C bldg 35	010034	1936-1937	Sycamore Dining Hall/Kitchen; very intact; horizontal and vertical wood-siding, wood shutters over windows, massive exterior stone chimney, small breezeway
C bldg 36	010035	1936-1937	Sycamore Central Washhouse; very intact; lattice windows, open shower area, gable-sided roof, board and batten siding
C bldg 37	010036	1936-1937	Sycamore Canteen; very intact; stone steps and piers, timber porch posts; "waney" wood siding, heavy frame door
C bldg 38	010037	1936-1937	Sycamore Staff Quarters; very intact; 6/6 windows, T-plan, 1 of 2 in park, stone entrance porch, concrete piers, "waney" wood-siding

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C bldg 39	010038	1936-1937	Sycamore Lodge House; very intact; 8 light wood casement windows, 2 attached porches, stone chimney, concrete piers, built-in closets, storage benches
C bldg 40	*	1936-1937	Sycamore Crafts Cabin; very intact; attached 3 bay porch; concrete foundation, "waney" wood-siding, 8 light casement windows, stone fireplace, 1 of 2 in park
C bldg 41	010039	1936-1937	Sycamore Cook's Cabin; very intact; gable front roof, "waney" wood-siding, 2 engaged porches, wood shutters
C bldg 42	010040	1936-1937	Sycamore East Unit Latrine; very intact; original fixtures, cement platform, engaged porch, "waney" wood-siding, horizontal vents at foundation level
C bldg 43	010041	1936-1937	Sycamore West Unit Latrine; very intact; original fixtures, cement platform, engaged porch, "waney" wood-siding, horizontal vents at foundation level
C bldg 44	010042	1936-1937	Sycamore Central Unit Latrine; very intact; original fixtures, cement platform, engaged porch, "waney" wood-siding, horizontal vents at foundation level
C bldg 45	010043	1936-1937	Sycamore Central Unit Cabin K1; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, concrete piers, engaged porch, front gable roof
C bldg 46	010044	1936-1937	Sycamore Central Unit Cabin K2; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, concrete piers, engaged porch, front gable roof
C bldg 47	010045	1936-1937	Sycamore West Unit Cabin K1; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, concrete piers, engaged porch, facade gable roof
C bldg 48	010046	1936-1937	Sycamore West Unit Cabin K2; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, concrete piers, engaged porch, facade gable roof

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C bldg 49	010047	1936-1937	Sycamore East Unit Cabin K1; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, concrete piers, engaged porch, facade gable roof
C bldg 50	010048	1936-1937	Sycamore East Unit Cabin K2; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, concrete piers, engaged porch, facade gable roof
C bldg 51	010049	1936-1937	Sycamore Central Unit Cabin C1; very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 52	010050	1936-1937	Sycamore Central Unit Cabin C2; very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 53	010051	1936-1937	Sycamore Central Unit Cabin C3; very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 54	010052	1936-1937	Sycamore Central Unit Cabin C4; very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 55	010053	1936-1937	Sycamore Central Unit Cabin C5; very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 56	010054	1936-1937	Sycamore Central Unit Cabin C6; very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 57	010055	1936-1937	Sycamore West Unit Cabin C1; very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 58	010056	1936-1937	Sycamore West Unit Cabin C2; very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 59	010057	1936-1937	Sycamore West Unit Cabin C3; very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 60	010058	1936-	Sycamore West Unit Cabin C4

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		1937	very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 61	010059	1936-1937	Sycamore West Unit Cabin C5 very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 62	010060	1936-1937	Sycamore West Unit Cabin C6 very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 63	010061	1936-1937	Sycamore East Unit Cabin C1 very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 64	010062	1936-1937	Sycamore East Unit Cabin C2 very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 65	010063	1936-1937	Sycamore East Unit Cabin C3 very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows; slated for demolition
C bldg 66	010064	1936-1937	Sycamore East Unit Cabin C4 very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 67	010065	1936-1937	Sycamore East Unit Cabin C5 very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 68	010066	1936-1937	Sycamore East Unit Cabin C6 very intact, gable front, cement piers, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows

[Note: The Crafts Cabin and 010067 were not counted in original survey]

### Camp Crabtree

Camp Crabtree (Camp 3-B) is located directly west of Sycamore Lake. Designed to accommodate sixty-four people, it is the smallest camp of the three group camps situated around the lake. With the exception of a lodge building and a canteen, Camp Crabtree is very similar in form to Camp Whispering Pines (Camp 4-B). Unit B consists of eight, two-person and four-person sleeping cabins, the lodge, a washhouse, a fire circle and water pump. A first aid station does not exist here, most likely because of the large infirmary at neighboring Camp Lapihio. The service

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buildings consist of the dining hall/kitchen, a cook's cabin and the canteen. All of the frame buildings employ the use of rustic wood siding in vertical and horizontal arrangements and some have stone foundations while others have concrete slabs. The topography of the campground is mostly flat except for the ridge behind the dining hall which slopes downward to Unit B. A gravel road bisects the grassy playing field. On its eastern edge a footpath leads to Sycamore Lake. Approximately 60,000 board feet of lumber was employed in the construction of this camp.

C bldg 69	010068	1939	Crabtree Canteen with breezeway; very intact; only 1 in park, side gable roof, 6/6 windows, central screened bay flanked by a 2 single pile rooms
C bldg 70	010069	c.1938	Crabtree Dining Hall/Kitchen; very intact; side-gabled main block, extended cross-gabled portico supported by hewn logs; stone chimney, piers, and steps, concrete foundation, vertical and horizontal wood siding, 6/6 windows, few modern updates, 2 porches
C bldg 71	010070	c.1938	Crabtree Cooks Cabin; very intact gable front roof, "waney" wood siding, 2 engaged porches, wood shutters
C bldg 72	010071	c.1938	Crabtree Washhouse Unit B; very intact; L-shape plan, 6-light casement and lattice windows, cement pad, "waney" wood siding, central open area, original sinks
C bldg 73	010072	c.1938	Crabtree Washhouse Unit A; moderately intact; similar to Unit B with exception of horizontal vent windows and modern vertical board and batten siding
C bldg 74	010073	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit A; 2 person cabin; very intact; gable front, engaged front porch, vertical and horizontal wood-siding, stone piers and steps
C bldg 75	010074	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit A; 2 person cabin; very intact; gable front engaged front porch, vertical and horizontal wood-siding, stone piers and steps
C bldg 76	010075	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit B; 2 person cabin; very intact; gable front, engaged front porch, vertical and horizontal wood-siding, stone piers and steps
C bldg 77	010076	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit B; 2 person cabin; very intact; gable front, engaged front porch, vertical and horizontal wood-siding, stone piers and steps



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C bldg 78	010077	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit A; very intact; gable front, stone piers and steps, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 79	010078	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit A; very intact; gable front, stone piers and steps, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 80	010079	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit A; very intact; gable front, stone piers and steps, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 81	010080	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit A; very intact; gable front, stone piers and steps, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 82	010081	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit A; very intact; gable front, stone piers and steps, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 83	010082	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit A; very intact; gable front, stone piers and steps, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 84	010083	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit B; very intact; gable front, stone piers and steps, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 85	010084	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit B; very intact; gable front, stone piers and steps, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 86	010085	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit B; very intact; gable front, stone piers and steps, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 87	010086	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit B; very intact; gable front, stone piers and steps, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 88	010087	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit B; very intact; gable front, stone piers and steps, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows
C bldg 89	010088	c.1938	Crabtree Cabin Unit B; very intact; gable front, stone piers and steps, board and batten siding, wood shutters over screen windows

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C bldg 90      010089      c.1938      Crabtree Lodge at Unit B; very intact; horizontal and vertical wood siding, 8 light wood casement windows, attached porch, stone chimney, fireplace, piers and porch flooring

**Camp Lapihio**

Camp Lapihio (Camp 1-G) displays the largest collection and widest variety of CCC-built park buildings. There are four clusters or units centered around the service buildings. Each cluster consists of seven, three- and four-person sleeping cabins, a latrine, fire circle and water pump. Besides these buildings, two of the units, Oaks and Lakes, have single-story, lodges. Some of the service buildings are larger versions of similar structures found in the park's other group camps: the dining hall/kitchen, washhouse, infirmary and canteen. An arts and crafts cabin is sited near the playing field which is surrounded by dense forest. All of the buildings exhibit the typical CCC use of rough-hewn frame and rough-cut stone. Between the Pines and Lakes units, a downward-sloping footpath leads to the Sycamore Lake Swim Area. The camp can accommodate up to 124 people.

C bldg 91      010090      1936-1937      Camp Lapihio Canteen; very intact; largest of 4 in park, horizontal "waney" wood siding, 6/6 windows, gable side roof, stone steps, landing and piers, engaged porch in west bay

C bldg 92      010091      1936-1937      Lapihio Washhouse Central; very intact; horizontal and vertical wood-siding, concrete foundation, lattice windows, rectangular form, hand-forged iron hardware.

C bldg 93      010092      1936-1937      Camp Lapihio Dining Hall/Kitchen; intact; two handicap ramps (1994), largest of four in park, vertical and horizontal "waney" wood siding, T-plan, two porches; stone chimney, fireplace, steps and foundation

C bldg 94      010093      1936-1937      Lapihio Cook's Cabin, very intact 6/6 windows, T-plan, 1 of 2 in park, stone entrance porch, concrete piers, "waney" wood siding

C bldg 95      010094      1936-1937      Lapihio Infirmary. This is the larger of two infirmaries in the park, the other is located in Camp Whispering Pines (Camp 4-B). Nestled among the other service buildings, the infirmary exhibits typical CCC features such as vertical and horizontal wood siding and stone foundation piers. The three-bay-wide, attached front porch has a weather boarded front gable and wood flooring. Inside there are five rooms: the

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ward, an isolation room, the dispensary, the nurse's living space and a bathroom. The interior is finished with pine panelling and flooring, a brick chimney, and 6/6 double hung sash windows.

C bldg 96	010095	1936-1937	Lapihio Crafts Cabin; Exhibiting the typical CCC-era elements of wood frame construction and stone chimney and fireplace, this crafts cabin is one of two such buildings in the entire park. Primarily crafts instruction and fabrication occurred inside; hence, the appearance of three-foot-high work tables along the walls. Above the tables are ranks of wood casement windows. Two corner closets are in the gable end opposite the stone fireplace. A three-bay attached front porch greets the visitor. The structure has been vandalized.
C bldg 97	010096	1936-1937	Lapihio Staff Quarters; this single story, frame, cross-gable-roofed structure functions as the staff living quarters. It is one of two such buildings in the park, the other located in Camp Sycamore. The characteristic vertical and horizontal wood siding and use of stone are evident here. However, stone is reserved for the entrance steps and landing; brick is employed in the fireplace and chimney and the nine foundation piers are concrete. Inside there are three bedrooms and a living room finished with pine panelling and floorings. Each room has built-in closets and 6/6 double hung sash windows. Currently, the building is being adapted for handicap accessibility.
N bldg 98	010097	1952	Lapihio Pumphouse
C bldg 99	010098	1936-1937	Lapihio Stone Pumphouse; very intact; facade gable, 6/6 windows, partial roof
C bldg 100	010099	1936-1937	Lapihio Lakes Latrine; very intact; "waney" wood siding, screen windows, gable front; concrete foundation 8"x 8" porch columns
C bldg 101	010100	1936-1937	Lapihio Hills Latrine; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, screen windows, gable front; concrete foundation, 8"x 8" porch columns
C bldg 102	010101	1936-	Lapihio Pines Latrine; very intact; "waney"

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		1937	wood-siding, screen windows, gable front; concrete foundation, 8"x 8" porch columns
C bldg 103	010102	1936-1937	Lapihio Oaks Latrine; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, screen windows, gable front; concrete foundation, 8"x 8" porch columns
C bldg 104	010103	1936-1937	Lapihio Lakes Lodge; very intact; "waney" wood siding; 8 light wood casement windows; stone chimney, fireplace, platform and piers; built-in closets and storage benches
C bldg 105	010104	1936-1937	Lapihio Oaks Lodge; deteriorated; "waney" wood siding; 8 light wood casement windows; stone chimney, fireplace, platform and piers; built-in closets and storage benches
C bldg 106	010105	1936-1937	Lapihio Lakes Cabin K1; very intact; "waney" wood-siding; three-bay facade, off-center engaged porch; gable-sided stone piers
C bldg 107	010106	1936-1937	Lapihio Oaks Cabin K1; very intact; "waney" wood-siding; three-bay facade, off-center engaged porch; gable-sided stone piers
C bldg 108	010107	1936-1937	Lapihio Hills Cabin K1; very intact; "waney" wood-siding; three-bay facade, off-center engaged porch; gable-sided stone piers
C bldg 109	010108	1936-1937	Lapihio Pines Cabin K1; very intact; "waney" wood-siding; three-bay facade, off-center engaged porch; gable-sided stone piers
C bldg 110	010109	1936-1937	Lapihio Pines Cabin C2; very intact; facade gable, three-bay attached front porch, screen windows, wood batten shutters; stone piers, board and batten siding
C bldg 111	010110	1936-1937	Lapihio Pines Cabin C4; very intact; facade intact; facade gable, three-bay attached front porch, screen windows, wood batten shutters; stone piers, board and batten siding
C bldg 112	010111	1936-1937	Lapihio Pines Cabin C3; very intact; three-bay attached front porch, gable side cabin with stone piers and screen windows, "waney" wood-siding

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C bldg 113	010112	1936-1937	Lapihio Pines Cabin C5; very intact; three-bay attached front porch, gable side cabin with stone piers and screen windows, "waney" wood-siding
C bldg 114	010113	1936-1937	Lapihio Hills Unit Cabin C4; very intact; facade gable, three-bay attached front porch, screen windows, wood batten shutters; stone piers, board and batten siding
C bldg 115	010114	1936-1937	Lapihio Hills Unit Cabin C5; very intact; three-bay attached front porch, gable side cabin with stone piers and screen windows, "waney" wood-siding
C bldg 116	010115	1936-1937	Lapihio Hills Unit Cabin C6; very intact; facade gable, three-bay attached front porch, screen windows, wood batten shutters; stone piers, board and batten siding
C bldg 117	010116	1936-1937	Lapihio Hills Unit Cabin C2; very intact; facade gable, three-bay attached front porch, screen windows, wood batten shutters; stone piers, board and batten siding
C bldg 118	010117	1936-1937	Lapihio Hills Unit Cabin C1; very intact; three-bay attached front porch, gable side cabin with stone piers and screen windows, "waney" wood-siding
C bldg 119	010118	1936-1937	Lapihio Hills Unit Cabin C3; very intact; three-bay attached front porch, gable side cabin with stone piers and screen windows, "waney" wood-siding
C bldg 120	010119	1936-1937	Lapihio Lakes Cabin C5; very intact; three-bay attached front porch, gable side cabin with stone piers and screen windows, "waney" wood-siding
C bldg 121	010120	1936-1937	Lapihio Lakes Cabin C3; very intact; three-bay attached front porch, gable side cabin with stone piers and screen windows, "waney" wood-siding
C bldg 122	010121	1936-1937	Lapihio Lakes Cabin C1; very intact; three-bay attached front porch, gable side cabin with stone piers and screen windows, "waney" wood-siding
C bldg 123	010122	1936-	Lapihio Lakes Cabin C6; very intact; facade

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		1937	gable, three-bay attached front porch, screen windows, wood batten shutters; stone piers, board and batten siding
C bldg 124	010123	1936-1937	Lapihio Lakes Cabin C4; very intact; facade gable, three-bay attached front porch, screen windows, wood batten shutters; stone piers, board and batten siding
C bldg 125	010124	1936-1937	Lapihio Lakes Cabin C2; very intact; facade gable, three-bay attached front porch, screen windows, wood batten shutters; stone piers, board and batten siding
C bldg 126	010125	1936-1937	Lapihio Oaks Cabin C1; very intact; three-bay attached front porch, gable side cabin with stone piers and screen windows, "waney" wood-siding
C bldg 127	010126	1936-1937	Lapihio Oaks Cabin C5; very intact; three-bay attached front porch, gable side cabin with stone piers and screen windows, "waney" wood-siding
C bldg 128	010127	1936-1937	Lapihio Oaks Cabin C2; very intact; facade gable, three-bay attached front porch, screen windows, wood batten shutters; stone piers, board and batten siding
C bldg 129	010128	1936-1937	Lapihio Oaks Cabin C6; very intact; facade gable, three-bay attached front porch, screen windows, wood batten shutters; stone piers, board and batten siding
C bldg 130	010129	1936-1937	Lapihio Oaks Cabin C4; very intact; facade gable, three-bay attached front porch, screen windows, wood batten shutters; stone piers, board and batten siding
C bldg 131	010130	1936-1937	Lapihio Oaks Cabin C3; very intact; three-bay attached front porch, gable side cabin with stone piers and screen windows, "waney" wood-siding
C bldg 132	010131	1936-1937	Lapihio Pines Cabin C1; very intact; three-bay attached front porch, gable side cabin with stone piers and screen windows, "waney" wood-siding
C bldg 133	010132	1936-1937	Lapihio Pines Cabin C6; very intact; facade gable, three-bay attached front porch, screen windows, wood batten shutters; stone piers, board and batten siding

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| C site VII  | c. 1937   | Sycamore Lake; This lake is the first of three bodies of water to be developed in the park. The creation of Sycamore Lake happened when the CCC dammed the creek sometime between late 1935 and early 1936. This dam and lake project was one of the park's initial land reclamation projects. The earthen fill dam is thirty feet high and 475 feet long. A dry masonry retaining wall is located adjacent to the dam for reducing water erosion below the spillway. The resulting lake is approximately twenty-five acres. Soon after the dam was completed, the CCC men excavated the lake bed and built a saw mill nearby in order to manufacture the downed timber. Three group camps Lapihio, Sycamore, and Crabtree surround the lake which provides swimming and boating recreational activities for campers. |
| C site VIII | c. 1936   | Sycamore Trail; intact; named after the creek which it follows, Sycamore Trail is the longest CCC-built trail in the park, stretching a distance of six-and-one-half miles. The trailhead is located just east of the Picnic Shelter One in the Crabtree Creek Picnic Area. Along the footpath, the hiker can discern CCC land reclamation improvements: reforested hillsides, and check dams; early 20th century human occupied areas; the White family cemetery and a stone chimney ruins; and modern trail enhancements, numerous frame foot bridges and Carsonite trail markers. Some of the more notable trail highlights are Sycamore Creek Bridge (c. 1936-37), the Maple Hill Lodge (c. 1939), and the granite quarry.  |
| N bldg 134  | 1952      | Dynamite Shed; Sycamore Trail   |
| C strc IX   | 19th c    | Graylynn Road; Another of the 19th century roads still open to vehicular traffic, albeit park-owned, Graylynn Road came into existence sometime between 1885 and 1920. (Hill, p. 3) It is the park's north-south route and at one time connected Old Middle Hillsboro Road with Hillsboro Road (US 70). Before the CCC destroyed them, there were as many as eight houses on either side of the road. With the exception of the King family cemetery, wisteria vines and mimosa trees mark the locations of some of the homestead sites.  |
| C strc X    | 1936-1937 | Sycamore Creek Bridge; after initial approval, land reclamation efforts in the CCRDA were the priority of the Emergency Conservation Work program.  |

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Besides improvements to the landscape, transportation needs were focused on, too. This bridge is one of two vehicular bridges that span watercourses in the park. Completed in 1937 it is a single span, steel reinforced concrete, T-beam bridge covered with a stone veneer and measures forty two feet in length, including the wing walls. Carrying north- and south-bound traffic along Graylynn Road, this was, and remains, a major access route through the park.

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| C strc XI    | 1936-1937 | Erosion Control Wall; this is an example of one of the land reclamation and stabilization projects found throughout the park. Besides the construction of flood channels, walls were built, too, to regulate the flow of water. Made of stone, this wall roughly measures twelve feet wide at its base while, near the top, it is nearly four feet across. A channel has been cut through the wall as a means to control the amount and flow of runoff water into nearby Sycamore Creek.   |
| C site XII   | 1935      | CCC Camp Headquarters Site; covered with board and batten siding, this single seat privy is the sole surviving building in what was the Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Headquarters. Erected sometime in mid-1935, the camp buildings sheltered up to 200 WPA and CCC laborers. The privy was associated with the administrative office building; the stone foundations are located several hundred feet to the east.  |
| NC strc XIII | 19th c    | Old Middle Hillsboro Road; intact. This is one of a few old roads that traverse the park. Still passable, although limited to park vehicles, the Old Middle Hillsboro Road was known in the 1870s as Mill Road. (Fendol Bevers Map of 1871). It was the most direct east-west route between Adam's Crossroads (now RDU Airport) and Method. In the late nineteenth century, after the slow creation of Graylynn Road, vehicular passage moved in a more direct fashion, northward to Hillsboro Road (today US 70). Thus, the name change. Currently, the eastern section is Reedy Creek Road; it originates at Blue Ridge Road, opposite the Polk Youth Detention Center. Before the CCC demolished them in the mid-1930s, as many as thirteen houses were located along Old Middle Hillsboro Road. An easily visible clue to previous human occupation is the neatly manicured Warren Cemetery. |



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Reedy Creek Picnic Area

This picnic area was developed in 1952 by the North Carolina Department of Parks and Recreation. Prior to 1952, the CCC established the picnic area by installing a water system and building a single stone water fountain and three stone fireplaces. The circa 1952 frame and stone picnic shelter represents the post-World War II National Park Service architectural style that made reference to vernacular forms using modern techniques and the use of cut stone is far greater than that of rough-hewn wood. Improvements within the last five years include connection to the Raleigh city water utility; rebuilding of the 1952 toilet facilities; and the installation of handicap water fountains and small recycling centers.

N bldg 135	010202	1952	Picnic Shelter; non-contributing only because of its age, this picnic shelter represents the culmination of 20th century federal and state efforts to provide recreational facilities with rustic architecture located in natural landscapes. It was built in 1952, when several General Assembly appropriations were released to the state parks system. The structure has typical CCC features such as frame construction with exterior "waney" board cladding, the use of native granite obtained from the nearby quarry, and unobtrusive siting which blends with the surrounding topography; however, stone is the major building material and it is better manipulated than the CCC-era masonry work.
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Situated to the west of and connected to the shelter is a concession building and unprotected deck area. With the exception of one frame wall (east elevation) all other walls of the smaller structure are made of cut stone. The upper end gables are frame and the concrete deck sits on a cut stone foundation wall.

N bldg 136	010203	e.1990s	Womens Toilet House
N bldg 137	010204	e.1990s	Mens Toilet House

Reedy Creek Office Complex

There is only one building in the complex which dates from the CCC era, a single-story, stone, storage shed behind the park office building. The two remaining utilitarian structures, the shop building and the office, although proposed in the 1940 Master Plan were not erected until the 1952 General Assembly appropriations. The two ranger's residences complete the complex. Each one is frame construction, single-story and covered with painted board and batten siding. Additional landscape enhancements include an information board, a recycling center, a public telephone and a paved parking lot.

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C bldg 138	010201	1940	Stone Storage House; very intact; gable front, 6/6 windows, exposed rafter tails; gable "waney" wood siding
N bldg 139	010205	1962	Ranger Residence
N bldg 140	010206	1952	Ranger Residence
N bldg 141	010207	1952	Shop Building
N bldg 142	010208	1952	Storage and Office Building
N bldg 143	010209	1952	Reedy Creek Pumphouse

**Camp Whispering Pines**

Built exclusively for the surrounding area's black population, Camp Whispering Pines (Camp 4-B) is one of four group camps developed by the CCC in the park between 1937 and 1940. Similar to Camp Crabtree, it can accommodate sixty-four people. The sleeping cabins are divided into two units, A and B, each cluster has 8 cabins, a latrine, a fire circle and a water pump. In between the two units are several core buildings which serve the group camp. At Camp Whispering Pines there are five buildings: the dining hall/kitchen, a cook's cabin, an infirmary, storage building (former canteen) and naturalists' shed. All of the buildings are wood frame and incorporate rustic siding and stone foundations. Except for the Dining Hall/Kitchen and washhouses panelled pine interior walls, the remaining camp buildings have exposed frame walls, screen windows, and solid wood frame doors. The landscape setting consists of loblolly pines and an open playing field which is encircled by a gravel service road. A footpath leads campers down a winding steep slope to the Reedy Creek Lake Beach.

C bldg 144	010210	1939-1940	Whispering Pines A Dining Hall Kitchen; built around 1940, this large multifunctional structure is one story, frame and gable-roofed. With a T-shape plan, the mess hall exhibits many of the rustic CCC-built qualities such as exterior horizontal and vertical wood siding, single sash windows, with some 3/3 units in the kitchen, and stone foundation wall and piers. An engaged porch is on the northwest elevation while the northeast corner, an attached porch with 6x6 square posts shelters the double door main entrance. Inside, in the dining area, there is vertical pine panelling, heart pine flooring, and built-in storage benches on either side of the stone fireplace and chimney. A half dozen original pine dining tables and benches line the walls. On the north end of the building, there is an updated kitchen which has two stainless steel sinks, and a ten-burner, double-
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			door, gas oven. Some of the wood storage counters are original with modern stainless steel tops.
C bldg 145	010211	1939-1940	Whispering Pines B Cabin; 2 person cabin; very intact; three-bay, engaged front porch; "waney" wood siding, screen windows, board and batten shutters; stone piers
C bldg 146	010212	1939-1940	Whispering Pines A Cabin; 2 person cabin; very intact; three-bay engaged front porch; "waney" wood siding, screen windows, board and batten shutters, stone piers
C bldg 147	010213	1939-1940	Whispering Pines A Cabin; 2 person cabin; very intact; "waney" wood siding, screen windows, board and batten shutters, stone piers
C bldg 148	010214	1939-1940	Whispering Pines B Cabin; 2 person cabin; very intact; three-bays, engaged front porch; "waney" wood siding, screen windows, board and batten shutters, stone piers
C bldg 149	010215	1939-1940	Whispering Pines B Cabin; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, stone piers, screen windows and board and batten shutters; 3 bay facade, exposed roof rafters
C bldg 150	010216	1939-1940	Whispering Pines B Cabin; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, stone piers, screen windows and board and batten shutters; 3 bay facade, exposed roof rafters
C bldg 151	010217	1939-1940	Whispering Pines B Cabin; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, stone piers, screen windows and board and batten shutters; 3 bay facade, exposed roof rafters
C bldg 152	010218	1939-1940	Whispering Pines B Cabin; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, stone piers, screen windows and board and batten shutters; 3 bay facade, exposed roof rafters
C bldg 153	010219	1939-1940	Whispering Pines B Cabin; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, stone piers, screen windows and board and batten shutters; 3 bay facade, exposed roof rafters
C bldg 154	010220	1939-1940	Whispering Pines B Cabin; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, stone piers, screen windows and board and batten shutters; 3 bay facade, exposed roof rafters

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C bldg 155	010221	1939-1940	Whispering Pines A Cabin; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, stone piers, screen windows and board and batten shutters; 3 bay facade, exposed roof rafters
C bldg 156	010222	1939-1940	Whispering Pines A Cabin; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, stone piers, screen windows and board and batten shutters; 3 bay facade, exposed roof rafters
C bldg 157	010223	1939-1940	Whispering Pines A Cabin; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, stone piers, screen windows and board and batten shutters; 3 bay facade, exposed roof rafters
C bldg 158	010224	1939-1940	Whispering Pines A Cabin; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, stone piers, screen windows and board and batten shutters; 3 bay facade, exposed roof rafters
C bldg 159	010225	1939-1940	Whispering Pines A Cabin; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, stone piers, screen windows and board and batten shutters; 3 bay facade, exposed roof rafters
C bldg 160	010226	1939-1940	Whispering Pines A Cabin; very intact; "waney" wood-siding, stone piers, screen windows and board and batten shutters; 3 bay facade, exposed roof rafters
C bldg 161	010228	1939-1940	Whispering Pines Cook's Cabin; very intact; 2 engaged porches; facade gable; "waney" wood siding; stone piers; screen windows, board and batten shutters
C bldg 162	010229	1939-1940	Whispering Pines B Washhouse; very intact; T-plan; concrete foundation; open central bay has original wash basin; louvered vents; "waney" wood-siding
C bldg 163	010230	1939-1940	Whispering Pines A Washhouse; very intact; T-plan; concrete foundation; open central bay has original wash basin; louvered vents; "waney" wood-siding
C bldg 164	010231	1939-1940	Whispering Pines A First Aid; very intact; small infirmary with 3 bay facade; stone piers, screen windows, board and batten shutters; "waney" wood siding
C bldg 165	010232	1939-1940	Whispering Pines A Naturalist House; very intact; similar to Cook's cabin form and material
C bldg 166	010233	1939-	Whispering Pines A Canteen/Storage Shed; very

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|            | 1940      | intact; stone steps, landing, and piers; "waney" wood siding, gable sided; timber porch posts   |
| C site XIV | 1939-1940 | Company Mill Trail; intact; this trail is another of the original footpaths created by the CCC. The goal in designing the trails was to provide access to the parks' most scenic areas. The old Company Mill site was a well-known attraction because of the mill pond on Crabtree Creek. Other CCC man-made features in the landscape include firebreaks, check dams and reforested hillsides. Evidence of 19th and 20th century occupation is seen in some sections of the Old Mill Road, a rock-lined spring, and the Camp Craggy site, a 1920s Boy Scout Camp and associated swimming lake (both which have reverted back to nature). In the last five years much-needed improvements include footbridges and Carsonite trail markers to aid hikers. The trail is over 4.5 miles in length and twice crosses the Old Middle Hillsboro Road.   |
| NC site XV | e19c      | Company Mill Site; around 1800, the area known as William B. Umstead State Park was settled by homesteaders. Many earned a living from the soil, forest, or water. Sometime in that first decade Anderson Page, an entrepreneur and industrialist, established a water-powered mill on the Crabtree Creek. According to published photographs, the Company Mill was a large, two-and-one-half story, stone, brick, and frame structure on a high stone basement. From miles around, people travelled along Old Middle Hillsboro Road then south, down the Mill Road, to Crabtree Creek to get their grains ground and to catch up on the latest gossip. According to an 1850 census, the mill produced 1,166 barrels of flour. The mill was in operation until the 1920s. In the mid-1930s when the government eyed the mill pond as a boating area, the sturdy stone dam wall was still in place. A major flood in the late 1930s all but erased the last traces of the mill; however, a portion of the dam wall exists on the south side of Crabtree Creek. |
| C strc XVI | e19c      | Mill Road Trace; deteriorated. Sometime in the first quarter of the nineteenth century, a road evolved to provide access to the Company Mill on Crabtree Creek. The wagon road, known as Old Mill Road, branched south from Old Middle Hillsboro Road, traversed a  |

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sloping downgrade which eventually led to the mill. Throughout the previous century and into the early twentieth century, the road was the lifeline to the mill. When the CCC was in the park, it became a fire road.

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| C bldg 167            | 1936  | CCC Dynamite Shed; Company Mill Trail; This is one of two dynamite sheds located in the park. Both are single story, masonry, shed-roofed structures with single door openings. This shed utilizes random coursed stone with recent remortaring. The stone walls are over 2 1/2 feet thick, and two ventilation gaps, one on the east and west elevation, are situated just below the concrete slab roof. Built into the upward slope of the hill, the storage of dynamite and other explosives occurred here.  |
| C site XVII           | 1939  | Reedy Creek Lake; In the late 1930s, the CCC created Reedy Creek Lake by building an earthen dam on Reedy Creek. The dam and lake project is another example of the CCC's goal in land reclamation. The twenty-five acre lake provides water recreational activities for visitors and group campers. It is accessed on the north by a bridle/bicycle path and on the west by a footpath from Camp Whispering Pines.   |
| N site XVIII          | 1960s | US 40 Entrance; Some of the similarities between the US 70 and US 40 park entrances are the employment of split rail fencing, security entry gates and signage. Wood frame and stone are noticeably absent at this passage. Instead of timber entrance gates, each of the double rolled metal bar gates at the US 40 egress is attached to metal posts which are replacements for wooden piles.   |
| NC site(s) XVIXa,b,c, |       | Early 20th century; two family cemeteries; the Young family Cemetery near the Reedy Creek entrance is a cedar-shaded plot that measures approximately 25 feet by 36 feet. Although the markers have been vandalized, there are five recognizable gravestones with bases that date from between 1877 and 1929. In addition to the marked gravestones, there are about 10 monument fragments and foot stones. All of the graves face east and are enclosed by a simple iron fence that once featured decorative finals on each fence post. The King family cemetery is located on Ebenezer Church Road in the northeast quadrant of the historic district. Although all the burials occurred in the early twentieth |

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century, six of the graves are marked with modern polished granite gravestones. There are two earlier tablet-style gravestones, the oldest of which dates from 1937, and a small oblong marker that may have marked an infant's burial. The entire approximately 25-by-50-foot plot is enclosed by a modern chain-link fence, and pine trees were planted in each corner. The Warren Cemetery on the Old Middle Hillsboro Road is an approximately 30-by-60-foot grassy enclave surrounded on three sides by forest growth and punctuated by about a dozen early-twentieth century polished granite gravestones. It is separated from the roadway by a simple wire cable strung between short metal posts.

\*unassigned number in 1987 Building Inventory

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The Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area is a locally important example of a Depression-era public works project, the purpose of which was to convert exhausted farmland into an outdoor recreational park. Significant for its architecture, landscape architecture, and conservation management techniques, the 5,337-acre park is located about twelve miles northwest of downtown Raleigh and was one of two Recreational Demonstration Areas established in North Carolina by the federal government relief agencies in the 1930s. The application of New Deal federal relief programs to the acquisition and construction of parks and recreation facilities is addressed in Historic and Architectural Resources of Wake County, North Carolina (ca. 1770-1941), (Wake County MPFD), under "Context 4: Boom, Bust, and Recovery Between World Wars (1919-1941)." The genesis of the present-day park occurred in 1934 when the then newly-formed Resettlement Administration began assembling some four hundred tracts of farm land for reclamation and reforestation. Following the land acquisition, the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration recruited laborers from among the region's unemployed young men. Under the supervision of architects, landscape architects, foresters, and engineers, the laborers built rustic-style group camps, bridges, roads, trails and picnic areas. They also planted forests, dammed creeks to create lakes, and instituted land management practices that reversed the land erosion caused by years of poor agricultural practices. The result of this multi-agency federal effort in Wake County is North Carolina's premier collection of New Deal rustic architecture and landscape architecture. Many of the designs found in Park Structures and Facilities, a pattern book published by the National Park Service (NPS) in 1935, and a subsequent and expanded 1938 version, Parks and Recreation Structures, Parts I, II, and III, are found in the Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area. Landscape design in the park was formalized in a Master Plan that was adopted in 1940 and adapted in post-war construction and development projects. The general building and structure types found in the Demonstration Area are listed in the Wake County MPFD under "Property Type 7: Recreational Structures and Sites."

The Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area is also significant in the history of government as an embodiment of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's efforts to combine public works, emergency employment relief, and land conservation projects during the Great Depression. The nationwide network of parks and recreational areas that resulted from these cooperative efforts is among the most enduring legacies of the New Deal. Federal efforts in the Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area ceased in 1942, and in 1943, the entire reclamation and recreation area was deeded to the State of North Carolina for the sum of one dollar with the stipulation that the land remain a recreational resource in perpetuity. In 1952, the North Carolina General Assembly appropriated the sum of \$611,549 for state-wide park improvements that resulted in significant construction in Crabtree Creek State Park (later renamed in 1955 for Governor William Bradley Umstead, who died in office the previous year) that was in keeping with the spirit and intent of the original 1940 Master Plan. As a result of this, many of the post-period resources found in the park, although non-contributing because of their age, are in character and keeping with the resources from the period of significance. Today, in spite of (and, more importantly, because of) tremendous metropolitan growth in its environs, the Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area Historic District remains one of the most important resources in the region for natural recreational activities and natural resource conservation. As such, it fulfills the vision of its builders and stands as the region's largest and most extensive result of the New Deal in North Carolina.



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### POLITICS/GOVERNMENT CONTEXT:

Three interrelated factors which became established around the turn of the twentieth century combined into a definition of new recreational goals in America and sparked the development of organized park and campground facilities. The first was a back-to-nature movement that increased with the initiation of the National Park Service in 1916. Parallel to this movement, there was a growing amount of leisure time enjoyed by the general populace combined with the perception that this healthful and relaxing pastime was best nurtured in natural, non-urban surroundings.

The third major factor to define park systems development was the automobile as means to get to the designated areas. The pursuit of hours of pleasure in outdoor recreational areas led to autocamping in the century's first two decades. Generally, there were two kinds of camps, free municipal camps that provided facilities and campsites, or any appealing stretch of the road where one could set up a tent and stove. As more citizens gained access to automobiles in the late 1920s, the quality of the former deteriorated while the rising practice of roadside camping on private property was declared illegal and became increasingly unsafe. Eventually, touring motorists discovered refuge, health, and recreation in a small number of state- and federally-owned parks and forests (Warren James Belasco, Americans on the Road: From Autocamp to Motel, 1910-1945 (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1971, pp. 71, 89, 126-27).

President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal of the 1930s was a broad executive plan for national recovery from the economic devastation of the Great Depression. On March 31, 1933, he signed an Act of Congress known as the Emergency Conservation Work Act (ECW) that included under its authority the formation of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC).

The CCC was part of an emergency effort intended to provide for the restoration of the country's depleted natural resources and the advancement of an orderly program of useful public works. Specifically, the CCC was assigned conservation work on municipal, state, and federal projects, and in some instances, on private lands (John Salmond, The Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1942: A New Deal Case Study (Durham: Duke University Press, 1967, p. 19).

Administration of the CCC program was a cooperative exercise among the U.S. Departments of War, Interior, Agriculture, and Labor. The Labor Department and each state recruited men, while the U.S. Army assumed responsibility for the training and care of enrollees. Daily conservation work was overseen by the Agriculture and Interior Departments. Young men who wanted to join the CCC ranks had to meet several criteria. To qualify, a male had to be between the age of seventeen and twenty-eight, unmarried, from a destitute family, and willing to serve at least one six-month term. In return, each enrollee received an allowance of one dollar per day, room and board, clothing, medical attention and an opportunity for training. The participants were further required to send at least twenty-two dollars a month to needy dependents.

Each CCC company was directed by a commanding officer and his aides, who were supported by technical personnel in the disciplines of engineering, landscape architecture, mechanics, and tool maintenance. Leaders, assistant leaders, and enrollees formed the ranks of the corps. Upper-level men with specialized knowledge were amply compensated. For example, in 1939 the company superintendent of the Recreational Demonstration Area's CCC Camp number SCS-29 earned an annual salary of \$2,700.00; a senior foreman, \$1,740.00; and a trained mechanic, \$1,680.00 (Camp Inspection Report, November 27, 1939; Salmond, p. 87; and Norman T. Newton, Design on the Land Cambridge: Harvard University Press 1971, p. 576).

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President Roosevelt saw an opportunity to combine his programs to employ men to build easily accessible recreational areas with a solution to the problem of exhausted agricultural lands near population centers. Since the funds allocated to the Civilian Conservation Corps, the Works Progress Administration, and the Public Works Administration could not be used to acquire land, he asked the Public Works Administration to allocate \$25 million to the Land Program of the Federal Surplus Relief Administration (FSRA) for land purchases. In May, 1935, the Land Program was relocated into the Resettlement Administration, and later, in 1936, it was absorbed into the National Park Service (NPS) (Wirth, p. 189; and Newton, p. 588).

Consequently, the NPS accepted responsibility for surveying the recreational needs of the public, selecting the desired locations, investigating the land, securing options on the land, recommending lands for purchase, and planning its development. Once land became federal property, a CCC company and WPA laborers were mobilized to begin the physical work to bring a master development plan to realization (William B. Umstead State Park History Binder, Section A, Application for Purchase and Development of Crabtree Creek; Wirth, p. 184; and Newton, p. 580).

The NPS proposed one of four types of facilities for lands acquired for recreational purposes. They were national park and monument expansions; state scenic extensions; wayside parks; and vacation developments near urban centers. The last group evolved into Recreational Demonstration Areas (RDAs), which was one of the most successful results of the CCC and the New Deal (Wirth, pp. 176-78).

Criteria for a RDA included a land mass of 2,000 to 10,000 acres; a proximity of fifty miles to a population center of 300,000 people; an abundance of water and building material; and generally, interesting or scenic surroundings (Wirth, pp. 187-188). Eventually, through employment of Federal Economic Relief Act funds and CCC camps, forty-six RDAs were identified, acquired, planned and developed in twenty-four states. Of those, thirty-four were intended primarily as vacation areas, outfitted with organized camps; the remaining twelve were roadside facilities or extensions to existing state or national parks (Newton, p. 589).

Between 1933 and 1942, more than 75,800 men from North Carolina were enrolled in the CCC and over 76,600 enrollees served in the state. An average of forty-five camps a year were operated with a total financial obligation within the state of over \$82 million. Two RDAs were established in North Carolina, the one at Crabtree outside of Raleigh, and Singletary Lake in Bladen County ("History of the North Carolina State Parks System; 1915-1990," pp. 9, 11).

### CONSERVATION CONTEXT:

Before the construction of public recreational facilities took place, soil, water, and forest conservation programs were implemented on the sites. This conservation work varied, depending on the ownership of the land and the purposes for which that land and its resources were being administered and protected. The majority of the vast range of CCC activities were roughly divided into forest protection and forest improvement projects. Tangible accomplishments were the construction of roads and trails that enabled men, supplies, and equipment to be transported faster; and telephone lines and lookout towers which facilitated communication between fire-fighting units. Forest protection was only one portion of the range of work carried out by enrollees working with the Forestry Service. Forest improvements maximized the timber yield of the resource. Roads and trails were constructed to permit greater access to large areas for increased timber harvest. Forest management applications also included the development of areas for recreation. Such activities included stream improvements; dam and lake projects; and clearing areas and installing water and disposal systems for campgrounds. Reforestation was

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another widespread phenomenon and included the gathering of forest seed; the nurturing of growing seedlings in nurseries; and the planting of trees on denuded areas. Other less-numerous projects touched upon wildlife and soil conservation, preservation and restoration of historical sites and monuments, irrigation projects and devising and implementing small- and large-scale flood control schemes (Fechner, pp. 5-6; and Salmond, pp. 122-123).

### ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE CONTEXTS:

As CCC programs enjoyed increasing popularity and funding during the 1930s, the NPS recognized the need to formalize design guidelines and improve job-related training of the men in the respective organizations. To facilitate this, the NPS published *Park Structures and Facilities* in 1935. Intended as a textbook for the training of new enrollees involved in the construction of park architecture, it is a collection of photographs, plans, and descriptions of architecture and man-made landscape features (Newton, p. 586). The editor, architect Albert H. Good, offered the definitive statement on rustic architecture by the NPS prior to World War II:

Successfully handled, [rustic] is a style which, through the use of native materials in proper scale, and through the avoidance of rigid, straight lines and over-sophistication, gives the feeling of having been executed by pioneer craftsmen with limited hand tools. It thus achieves sympathy with natural surrounds [sic], and with the past (Albert H. Good, *Park and Recreation Structures, Part III: Overnight and Organized Camp Facilities* (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1938, p. 62).

It quickly became apparent that the CCC camps themselves needed a codified styling and design as well. In 1936, the NPS determined that all Corps camp structures were to be standardized and easily disassembled. Detailed design standards called for each camp to be made up of four barracks measuring 100 feet by 20 feet, twelve officers' and service buildings, a mess hall, education building, hospital, bathhouses, and a latrine block. These were arranged around a "U"-shaped space planted as a lawn or cleared for sports use, depending upon individual topographic features, in one of fifty or more layouts usually near the group camps. The most common exterior wall treatments which covered weatherboard siding were brown or green paint, the brown-blackish creosote, or tar paper (Salmond, p. 136).

The guidelines sought to make the camps general enough so as not to exclude any type of user, yet be flexible enough to accommodate large as well as small groups. Thus, although the site plans are general and conservative, the discipline of landscape architecture is clearly demonstrated. The design standards resulted in group camps and day-use facilities that were thoughtfully designed and orderly. As Newton writes:

The changed approach recognized the power of simple spatial geography to influence human responses and resulted in easy, relaxed use by the public rather than chaos. Convincingly enough, another consequence was the almost invariable lessening of litter (Newton, pp. 580-581).

While it is impossible to determine who designed which features at the Crabtree Creek RDA, names and professional titles indicate who was at work there. In 1937 landscape architect,

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J. R. Marks is recorded as working in the Crabtree section, and in 1939, architectural draftsman and designer J. D. Stout produced drawings for projects there. Architectural draftsman and designer, G. R. Derrick and draftsman, F. J. Johnson were at work on the Reedy Creek section (Master Plan for CCRDA 1940, various plan sheets).

A trio of recognizable NPS camp building topology evolved. They are administration/service buildings, recreational/cultural buildings, and sleeping quarters. The lodges and crafts cabins provided sheltered spaces for group and creative activities. An infirmary was usually nearby in case of illness. Latrines and wash houses served hygienic needs while the dining hall/kitchen was available for meals and inclement weather pursuits. In the Crabtree Creek RDA, the administrative office of each group camp shared floor space with a canteen. Sleeping quarters, in the form of camping cabins and staff quarters, are found in the public recreational facilities. These buildings and associated functions allowed poor, uneducated, and sometimes troubled children, as well as mothers and youngsters, the opportunity for physical exercise, arts and crafts, and dramatics in the natural and healthful out-of-doors.

After 1935, the NPS building designs were standardized as work programs increased and complete information had to be disseminated to the camps and state park offices. Published through the Government Printing Office, the extremely valuable work was entitled *Park Structures and Facilities*. When reprinted in 1938 it was re-titled *Park and Recreation Structures* and in three parts, "Administrative and Basic Service Facilities," "Recreational and Cultural Facilities," and "Overnight and Organized Camp Facilities." Albert H. Good, a staff architect with the Recreational Demonstration Project Division, had collected successful park and recreation structures (Wirth, p. 204; and Newton, p. 586).

Through a uniform, homogenous approach, the architectural designs and landscape plans echoed romantic appeal. Not only were they designed to harmonize with their immediate environment, but they were also intended to harmonize in a cultural sense. The employment of pioneer or traditional building techniques and construction standards reinforced perceived historic settlement patterns. This theme of regional cultural content as a part of non-obtrusive architecture would grow to include not only log cabins, but also Indian pueblos, Spanish Colonial adobes, and "New England Colonial" frame structures (Tweed, et. al., National Park Service Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942, Government Printing Office, 1977, p. 35).

Group camps, defined as organized camps, were designed to handle 25 to 100 campers broken into units of 16 to 32 persons, with 24 the ideal number. It was thought the small groups invited individual attention, focused interests, and controlled communicable diseases (Good, reprint "Organized Camp Facilities," p. 3, 5, 8). Small group camps could accommodate 24 to 32 persons; medium-camps, 48 to 64 persons in two clusters; and large-camps, 72 to 96 persons in three or four units. Since privacy was a paramount factor, 600 feet was the recommended distance between cabins, except for those occupied by children, where 50 feet between cabins and no more than 150 feet to a latrine were suggested (Good, p. 6).

Two of the group camps (Whispering Pines and Crabtree) at Crabtree Creek RDA/William B. Umstead State Park are the standard medium-size. By this definition, they feature two units per camp that accommodate campers in two- and four-person group structures, while the other two camps (Lapihio and Sycamore) are large, with four and three clusters per camp, respectively.

### ENTERTAINMENT AND RECREATION CONTEXTS:

Besides providing work and a steady income, the CCC charged itself with the education, entertainment, and personal edification of its enrollees. The CCC education program at Crabtree

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Creek's camp number SCS-29 was fivefold. Academic subjects were taught in an effort to combat illiteracy and the provision of vocational training aimed at giving the men a skill for post-CCC employment. On-the-job experience complemented in-camp teaching and informal activities were organized into recreation programs. Hobbies and sports competitions were supported; pool tables, table tennis and occasional camp dances were some of the indoor activities. In addition, a library with 300 volumes, current magazines, and daily newspapers was available for men's amusement (National Park Service, Civilian Conservation Corps, RG 33, Camp Inspection Reports, November 27, 1939, April 5, 1941).

The Corps largely achieved the natural and human conservation goals of its founding. It provided employment and a positive application of youthful energy at a time of national joblessness and idleness; it resulted in numerous parks for public recreation; and it promoted outdoor activities as necessary and healthful pastimes (Newton, p. 564).

The land conservation benefits of the CCC program remain unchallenged. President Roosevelt's New Deal programs resulted in an increase of park land in the nation from 599,091 acres in 1933 to 3,859,087 acres in 1936 (Wirth, p. 175). Recreational demonstration areas such as that at Crabtree Creek in Wake County have been credited with not only offering publicly-owned sites and facilities for group camps, but as inspiration for state park officials. According to Wirth, they provided the "most needed links in the nation's park and recreation programs" (Wirth, p. 177).

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:**

European occupation of the lands now encompassed by the William B. Umstead State Park Historic District date to the early nineteenth century. The uplands of the present park were covered with forests of hardwoods composed primarily of white oak and hickory, while beech, tulip poplar, walnut and maple anchored the moist soil slopes. Early settlers were attracted to the area by the plenitude of wood needed to build their homes. Eventually, the uplands were stripped for timber and firewood. The resultant rocky, denuded lands were either abandoned or painstakingly cultivated. The region slowly became characterized by the presence of small farms and mills. Corn and cotton were the dominant crops until at least 1880; historic sites from this period located within park boundaries include the ruins of several mills and southern folk-type cemeteries. At least cemeteries which date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries are located within park boundaries (Garth Hamilton, interview with author, June 22, 1994). The removal of major sections of the forest allowed the resulting erosion to eventually destroy the soils and gully the once stable land. By the early 1900s, subsistence farming continued to provide the basis for a constant but extremely weak economy. Residents and tenant farmers continued to overcut what timber they could find to sell and use for fuel, building materials and cooking (William B. Umstead State Park History Binder, Section E, pp. 1-2).

The land tracts that make up the present Umstead Park were assembled by the Resettlement Administration as Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area (RDA) in the mid-1930s. In the summer of 1934, federal government officials in North Carolina began the search for a large tract of submarginal land, which they located in northern Wake County. This Wake County tract was one of more than 400 sites around the nation that were investigated for RDA potential. Crabtree was one of the two sites located in North Carolina (the other was Singletary Lake State Park in Bladen County) and served an estimated 625,862 inhabitants within a fifty mile radius, (William B. Umstead Park History Binder, 1991, Application for Purchase, Exhibit II-A-4-b). The Wake County site met all of the criteria of the Recreational Development

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Area formula and local authorities and organizations stepped up their support for the opportunity to host such a federal project.

the (North Carolina) Department of Conservation and Development is deeply interested in the plan of the Federal Government to purchase a tract of submarginal land consisting of some 10,000 acres in the county of Wake to the north of Cary and Method for development for recreational purposes. Such a plan fits in admirably with one of the four major objectives which this Department has recently set, - the formation of a system of State Parks, Forest, Game Refuges and Public Hunting and Fishing Grounds. (R. Bruce Etheridge, Director, letter to A.M. Parmenter, August 27, 1934, William B. Umstead Park History Binder, 1991, Section A, Exhibit II-A-3).

The original acquisition plan, idealistic in terms of size and cost, included all the land (roughly 22,000 acres) in the drainage areas of Crabtree Creek and its tributaries, which is in the vicinity of two railroads and three US highways. In 1933, tenants in this purchase area who could not pay their rents and who were in arrears to the county tax collector numbered over forty percent. Of these 265 families, almost one-third received some sort of government relief because of the prevailing economic and social conditions generated by the Depression (William B. Umstead Park History Binder, 1991, Application for Purchase, Schedule I, p. 2; Exhibit 1-B-7; and Exhibit 1-B-10-a). The Raleigh Times stated that during this era, the people there "in hopeless poverty were trying to make a living growing cotton on worn-out soil." (April 1, 1967).

For the black and white farmers, life on the rural lands eventually acquired by the Resettlement Administration for the Crabtree Creek RDA was defined by the restraints of large families supported by small farms. The Mount Herman School in the area west of the park that is now Raleigh-Durham International Airport, held classes for first through sixth grades. East and north of the future park was Graylynn Road that led to the Ebenezer Community Baptist Church and its cemetery. Dampier's Store stood nearby at the corner of Ebenezer Church Road and served as a community center as well as a goods outlet for those who did not venture further out to the nearby towns of Morrisville to the south or Leesville to the north (Leader Magazine, November 5, 1987, pp. 2, 5). The grist mills situated on nearby creeks closed by the mid 1930s for lack of business and competition from electrified ones with modern equipment (William B. Umstead State Park History Binder, 1991, Exhibit I-B-10-a).

The federal process of purchasing the submarginal lands for the Crabtree Creek RDA began with an appraisal process to determine the actual value of each tract. Throughout the acquisition period of the project, the actual appraisal value of each tract formed the basis for each federal offer to purchase. By June 1935, offers to sell had been secured on approximately 8,000 acres within the purchase area. Following preliminary investigation work on surveys and appraisals, secured options were made on nearly 6,000 acres at a cost of \$67,791.32, a figure that averaged out to \$11.30 an acre. This average was above the national average of ten dollars per acre, and considered very fair by Land Program officials (William B. Umstead State Park History Binder, 1991, Exhibit II-A-4).

At the same time options were accepted on the land, the Land Program Division of the Federal Housing Relocation Agency made application on June 12, 1935, for Works Progress Administration labor. The total estimated cost for project development was \$672,891.67 (William B. Umstead State Park History Binder, 1991, Exhibit II-A-4). CCC camp Company number 3404 arrived at Crabtree Creek on July 8, 1935 (Camp Inspection Report, March 4, 1942).



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The government's plan for assembling 6,000 acres of land continued to be implemented through the late 1930s. However, several landowners were not quite as willing to give up their lands as they originally had indicated. In 1940, some 457 acres of interior tracts crucial for the development of the recreation area were still owned by private individuals. Eventually, the government exercised its right of eminent domain and condemned their lands. That single judgment against 174 landowners, concluded in 1944, brought the government an additional 1,737 acres, including 457 acres of interior tracts, and increased the total size of the actual purchase area to over 5,000 acres (Master Plan for Crabtree Creek RDA, 1940, page 7; and Hill, pp. 4,5).

H.D. Farrell, Administrator of District Number 18, a division of the North Carolina Emergency Relief Administration, was responsible for identifying the neediest families in the purchase area. Those best suited to farming were encouraged to continue doing so, while families who were already on relief were provided with temporary employment. In addition, many persons purchased small tracts outside the boundaries of the park or moved in with nearby relatives after selling their land for the project (Hamilton, interview; Williams, p. 2; and William B. Umstead State Park History Binder, Exhibit II-A-4).

While the majority of landowners moved out of the purchase area, some families remained as the CCC Camp became established. Initially, the CCC men erected tent camps, which served as shelter during the two to three months it took to construct the permanent camp. There were an estimated 200 CCC men in residence, and a smaller number of WPA laborers from the surrounding communities. However, recruiting a sufficient number of men to carry out the substantial land reclamation and building tasks at Crabtree Creek RDA was a problem. The optimal number of men per CCC camp was 200, but the average per year in the CCC camp at Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area was 175. Labor shortages plagued the development of intended projects and work slowdowns occurred. Camp Superintendent E.V. McGehee oversaw camp operations in 1939, and according to Special Investigator, Neill McL. Coney, Jr., 3,344 man hours were lost from the project between August and October 1939. This amounted to a forty-one percent non-effectiveness rate. CCC men employed on campsite preparation and camp construction accounted for nearly fifty percent of the lost time (Camp Inspection Report, November 27, 1939).

Labor needs (based on a quota of 200 men) at Crabtree Creek per year were approximately fifty percent unskilled, thirty percent intermediate, sixteen percent skilled, and three percent professional and technical. Professional and technical skills included that of an agricultural engineer and forester; skilled, blacksmith's helper and auto mechanic; and intermediate, truck driver and a clerk-typist (Camp Inspection Reports, 1939, 1941, 1942).

The development of natural landscape features was the first priority. The permanent CCC camp was erected, the main entrance to the park off of Highway 70 was excavated, and newly acquired land was cleared of human settlement. A photographic inventory details the intent of the land reclamation projects in fourteen pages. Mainly, roads and truck trails were cleared of stumps, graded, and drained (William B. Umstead State Park History Binder, Section B).

Actual construction of group camps began in early 1936 in Camp Lapihio. Cabins were erected first, followed by the dining hall/kitchen, the central wash house, the septic tank, and the latrines (William B. Umstead State Park History Binder, Section C).

Four organized camps were planned initially and, with the exception of Camp Whispering Pines (4-B), work commenced on them almost simultaneously. Although Camp Lapihio (1-G) and Camp Sycamore (2-G) were in operation for the 1938 summer season, they were unfinished; but

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all four group camps were virtually complete by 1940 (North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development, Biannual Report, 1938, p. 74; and 1940, p. 70).

Although Crabtree Creek RDA's accessibility to major highways was intentional, access for low-income groups to transportation was problematic since the system was designed in part to accommodate the autocamping travellers of moderate income or better. One of the main purposes of the Crabtree Creek RDA was to provide recreational opportunities for young people from the remote rural areas of the park's service area. Since the park was designed as a series of organized camps, a genre born of the precedents of private, educational and character-building organizations, most campers were bussed in by sponsoring groups. During the summer months, a camp was operated by a sponsoring organization, with the facilities let to a variety of outdoor recreational groups during the balance of the year. Boys and girls were always segregated. Claud Humphreys, Executive Director of the Occoneechee Council of the Boy Scouts of America described his vision for the RDA as follows:

An opportunity offered through this proposed recreational center for our boys to come and camp on a site with adequate space, water facilities, protected by wardens, supervised by foresters, and men interested in conservation, would be [a] real contribution not only to our program but we believe to the general public. We can picture Scouts camping in small groups under proper supervision in various sites on the area, white boys in their area, and colored boys in theirs, and white girls, and colored girls; children, and grown-ups, all receiving the benefit of such a project. (William B. Umstead State Park History Binder, Section A, Exhibit II-B-I-C).

In the early years of the RDA, only a few local organizations used the group camps. The white camps were leased by the Girl Scouts, the Occoneechee Council of the Boy Scouts, and the Durham YMCA. The various black organizations were sponsored by the Merrick-Moore Memorial Park Association that in turn leased Camp Whispering Pines for Girl and Boy Scout organizations (Hill, page 5; NC Department of Conservation and Development, Biannual Reports, 1940, 1942, 1944).

After the completion of Camp Whispering Pines in 1940, additional construction of picnic and parking areas, foot trails, day-use facilities and the creation of Reedy Creek Lake was carried out by CCC camp NP-24/Company 446. They arrived from Brunswick, Georgia on April 1, 1940 and vacated in March, 1941 (NC Department of C&D, Biannual Report, 1940 p. 70).

World War II brought to a close the park's development provided by the CCC and the WPA. The group camps were utilized through the summer of 1941 by the various youth-oriented organizations. For two weeks in August 1941, the abandoned CCC camp hosted 169 British Navy seamen and 21 officers. Their vessel, the *H. M. S. Astoria* was in an undisclosed American port for repairs of damage sustained during the evacuation of Dunkirk (Raleigh Times, August 1, 1941; and Reedy Creek State Park, history file, handwritten notes, p. 3).

Nearly two years later, in 1943, the Federal Government, through the Secretary of the Interior, released to the State of North Carolina all right and title to Crabtree Creek RDA. On April 6, 1943, the state accepted the Crabtree Creek RDA, together with stored equipment such as trucks, a tractor, grader, office furniture, fire fighting equipment, and tools for the price of one dollar. The contract between the State and the U. S. Department of the Interior included the stipulation that the land be used strictly for recreational purposes, and that any violation of that



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stipulation would trigger a reversion of the land to the original owner (NC Department of C&D, Biannual report, 1944, p. 69).

Because the park was primarily accessed by private automobiles and busses, war-time gas rationing curtailed public attendance figures to an all-time low. This prompted the state to permit several Army regiments from Camp Butner to train troops in the area's 5,088 acres, in July and August 1943. During this period, nearly 7,000 soldiers and 500 vehicles took advantage of the park's topographical and camp features (NC Department of C&D, 1944, p. 69).

During the war years, park maintenance was neglected, but in 1945 a comprehensive maintenance program was initiated by the state. A two-year extensive repair program for the group camps, water and sewer systems, and other utilities was undertaken. In 1947, a \$94,000 permanent improvement fund was appropriated for the park but was later frozen. In 1952, the 1947 funding was combined with other General Assembly appropriations for a total of \$611,549 earmarked for park advancement. These improvements were part of a large state-wide expansion program, the first developed with state funds (N C Department of C&D, 1948, p. 77; and Raleigh Times, 1952).

In 1950, 1,234 acres were designated as a separate park for blacks and named Reedy Creek State Park. This area was carved out of the existing park boundaries in the southern and eastern sections. The entrance to this section was on US 40, and led to the Reedy Creek Picnic Area that had been established by the CCC and improved in 1952 with the construction of a wood and granite picnic shelter inspired by NPS designs. Organized recreational groups used the CCC-built Camp Whispering Pines and the nearby Reedy Creek Lake. The separate black and white facilities in the original Crabtree Creek RDA were maintained until 1966 when the two sides were re-united.

In 1952, more foot trails were extended and a number of permanent day-use facilities added, including two picnic shelters, rangers residences, and maintenance and shop buildings for Crabtree and Reedy Creek sections. The designs of picnic shelters are based on those found in the 1930s-era National Park Service pattern books, and the small utility buildings are constructed of concrete block.

On Sunday, August 28, 1955, Crabtree Creek State Park was designated the William B. Umstead State Park in honor of former Governor William Bradley Umstead who had died in office in 1954. Elected in 1953, Governor Umstead invigorated the Board of Conservation and Development by supporting the State's park system and environmental issues during his short tenure.

During the forty years since the recreational demonstration area was transferred by the federal government to the state, it has been threatened with modern intrusions and inappropriate development. In 1968, a proposal was put forth to turn the natural recreational area into a developed one that included such diverse uses as a golf course, shooting range, and a zoo. This proposal generated widespread public protest and was ultimately denied on the basis of the deed restrictions contained in the federal transfer of the land to the state (Raleigh Times, April 1, 1967; Durham Morning Herald, May 19, 1968; Greensboro Daily News, July 14, 1968). In 1970, about fifty acres along the southern boundary of the park were condemned for the construction of Interstate 40. In 1990, members of Governor Jim Martin's administration proposed selling large portions of the park to private sector interests for metropolitan development. This proposal, like the 1968 intensive recreational development plan, was derailed by the 1943 deed provisions. Today the park is the most heavily visited in the state's system, with an estimated 600,000 visitors in 1994.

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The William B. Umstead State Park Historic District has local significance as a recreational demonstration area established by the federal government to reclaim depleted natural resources and provide public recreation facilities. The planned and reclaimed landscape, is the result of one of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's most successful human conservation efforts, while the rustic architecture the men of the CCC and the WPA constructed is representative of the rising popularity of parks, organized camping, and motoring to and from natural settings that was facilitated by automobiles and the boom in park and parkway construction.

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	Zone	Easting	UTM References
			Northing
1.	17	701800	3974100
2.	17	702920	3974100
3.	17	703240	3973800
4.	17	703100	3973800
5.	17	703080	3972020
6.	17	704600	3971160
7.	17	705360	3969880
8.	17	705620	3967900
9.	17	705140	3967380
10.	17	703780	3966740
11.	17	703040	3966760
12.	17	702520	3967320
13.	17	702000	3967600
14.	17	702000	3968380
15.	17	700620	3968740
16.	17	700600	3969740
17.	17	699840	3969680
18.	17	699820	3970180
19.	17	700900	3970740
20.	17	701060	3973040
21.	17	701800	3973540

Verbal Boundary Description

The 1943 boundaries of the Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area were calculated by the City of Raleigh Geographic Information Network mapping system using a 1935 Resettlement Administration and National Park Service map, a ca. 1942 property sketch map, and the March 12, 1943 Quitclaim Deed parcel descriptions. These boundaries are shown on the accompanying City of Raleigh GIS map titled "Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area" and drawn to a scale of 1" = 800'. The boundary of the nominated property is also drawn within the polygon whose vertices are marked by the following UTM reference points 1: 2: 3: etc. on the accompanying Raleigh West, NC; Cary, NC; Bayleaf, NC; and Southeast Durham, NC quadrangle USGS maps.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of Crabtree Creek Demonstration Area Historic District reflect the boundaries of the park lands that were deeded to the State of North Carolina by U.S. Department of the Interior on March 12, 1943. The historic district boundaries provide an appropriate setting for all the significant buildings, structures, landscapes, natural features, and settings associated with the nomination's period of significance (1933-1942), and that are mentioned in the 1940 Master Plan of the property.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 1 Crabtree Creek RDA (Umstead State Park)  
Wake County, NC

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Photograph List                      Crabtree Creek Recreational Demonstration Area

Photographs/Maps

All photographs share the following information:

Raleigh, North Carolina  
Wake County  
by Helen P. Ross  
June/July 1994  
negatives, North Carolina Archives and History

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Old Middle Hillsboro Road  
looking east  
photo 1

Warren Family Cemetery  
looking north  
photo 2

Sycamore Lake, from Camp Lapihio  
looking northeast  
photo 3

Culvert, near road to William B. Umstead Administrative Office  
photo 4

Dining hall/Kitchen--Camp Whispering Pines  
looking southwest  
photo 5

Cabin A-2, Unit A--Camp Whispering Pines  
looking northeast  
photo 6

Cabin, Unit A--Camp Whispering Pines  
looking northeast  
photo 7

Canteen--Camp Crabtree  
looking north  
photo 8

Pumphouse--Camp Lapihio  
looking northwest  
photo 9

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number      photos Page 2

Crabtree Creek RDA (Umstead State Park)  
Wake County, NC

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Cabin K-1, Hills Unit--Camp Lapihio  
looking northwest  
**photo 10**

Central Washhouse--Camp Lapihio  
looking northwest  
**photo 11**

Central Washhouse, detail: door--Camp Lapihio  
looking west  
**photo 12**

CCC privy  
looking east  
**photo 13**

Sycamore bridge, Graylynn Road  
looking west  
**photo 14**

Reforestation, Sycamore Trail  
looking northwest  
**photo 15**

Picnic Shelter No. 2--Crabtree Creek Picnic Area  
looking northeast  
**photo 16**

Water fountain--Crabtree Creek Picnic Area  
looking east  
**photo 17**

Erosion control wall, near Graylynn Road  
**photo 18**

Check dam, Sycamore Trail  
**photo 19**

Maple Hill Lodge  
looking northwest  
**photo 20**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number      photos      Page 3

Crabtree Creek RDA (Umstead State Park)  
Wake County, NC

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Boathouse--Big Lake  
looking southwest  
**photo 21**

Picnic Shelter--Reedy Creek Picnic Area  
looking north  
**photo 22**

US 70 entrance  
**photo 23**

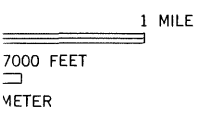
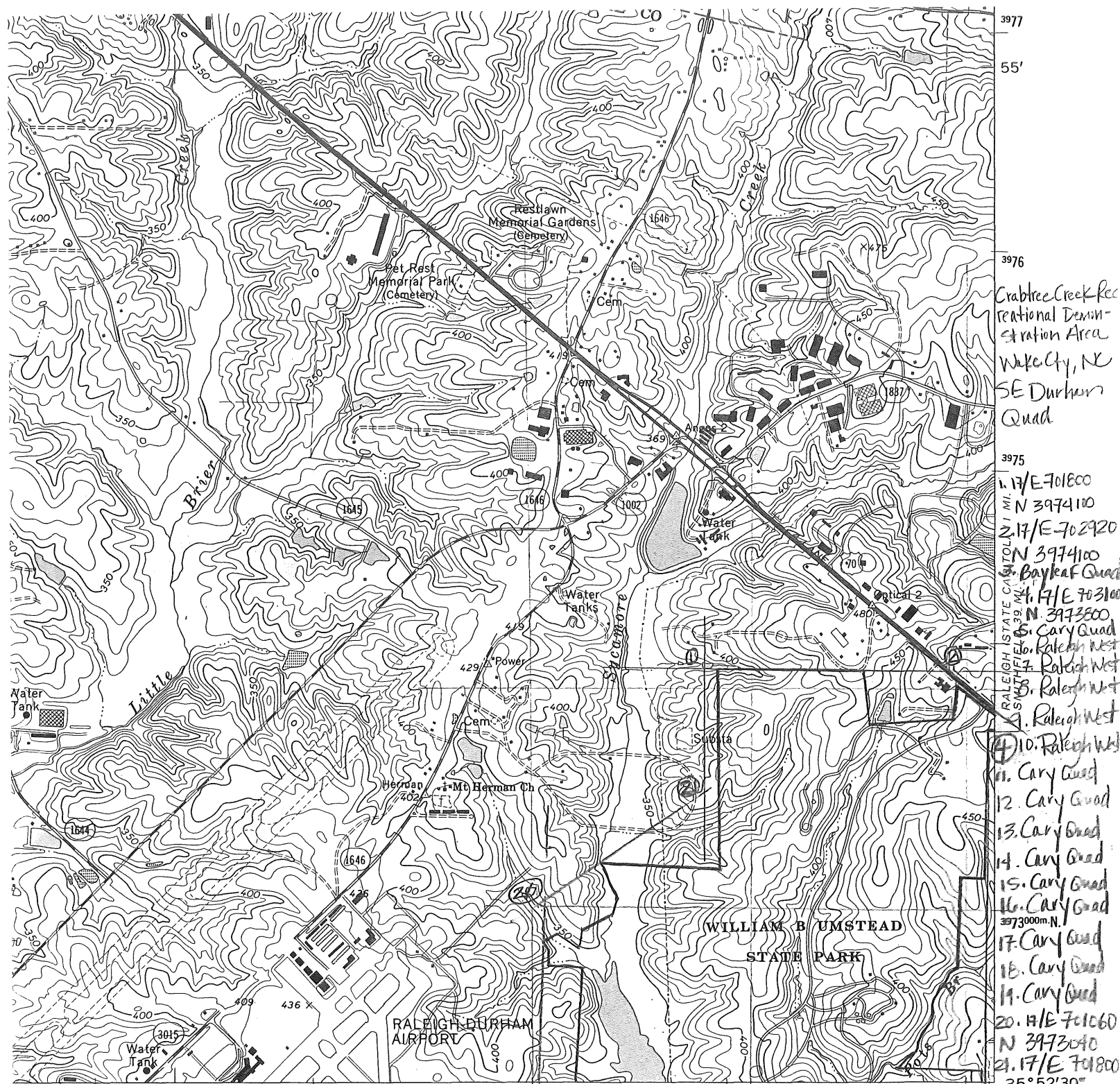
Family Camping Area  
looking north  
**photo 24**

Washhouse--Family Camping Area  
looking west  
**photo 25**

Ranger's residence--Reedy Creek Administrative Area  
looking east  
**photo 26**







**ROAD CLASSIFICATION**

Primary highway, hard surface \_\_\_\_\_ Light-duty road, hard or improved surface \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary highway, hard surface \_\_\_\_\_ Unimproved road \_\_\_\_\_

○ Interstate Route    ◻ U. S. Route    ○ State Route

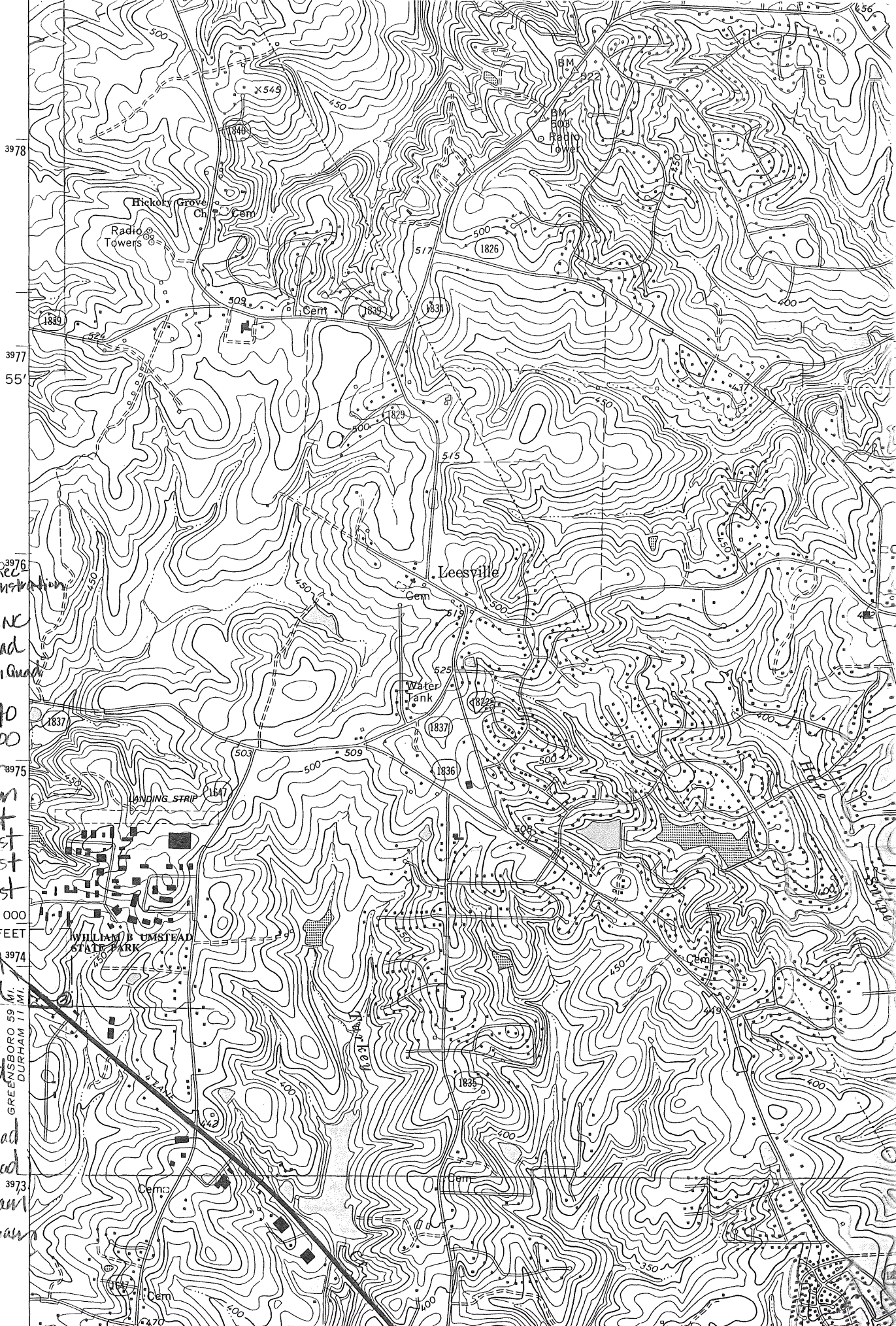


QUEST

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation with State of North Carolina agencies from aerial photographs taken 1984 and other sources. This information not field checked  
Map edited 1987

**SOUTHEAST DURHAM, N. C.**  
NE/4 DURHAM SOUTH 15' QUADRANGLE  
35078-H7-TF-024  
1973  
PHOTOREVISED 1987  
DMA 5255 IV NE-SERIES V842

(RALEIGH WEST)  
5255 I SW



Crabtree Creek Rec<sup>3976</sup>  
 Featural Demonstration  
 Area  
 Wake County, NC  
 Bayleaf Quad  
 1. see SE Durham Quad  
 2. " " " "  
 3. 17/E 704240  
 N 3973800  
 4. SE Durham<sup>3975</sup>  
 5. SE Durham  
 6. Raleigh West  
 7. Raleigh West  
 8. Raleigh West  
 9. Raleigh West  
 10. Raleigh West  
 11. Cary Quad  
 12. Cary Quad  
 13. Cary Quad  
 14. Cary Quad  
 15. Cary Quad  
 16. Cary Quad  
 17. Cary Quad  
 18. Cary Quad  
 19. Cary Quad  
 20. SE Durham<sup>3973</sup>  
 21. SE Durham

CARY QUADRANGLE  
 NORTH CAROLINA  
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
 SE/4 DURHAM SOUTH 15' QUADRANGLE

52551 NW  
 (BAYLEAF)

47'30" 700 701 2 070 000 FEET 702 703 78°45' 35°52'30"



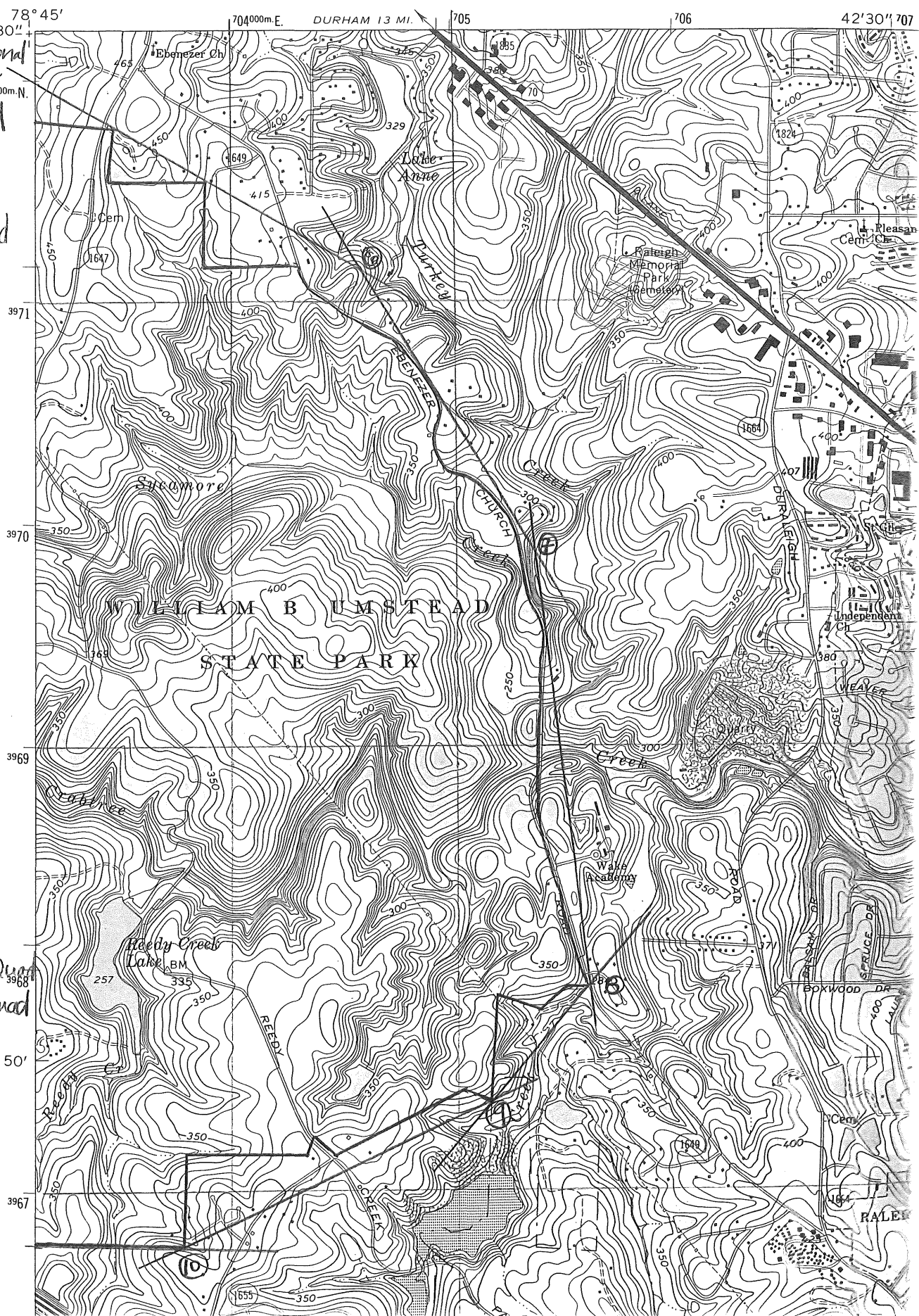
- Crabtree Creek Recreational  
 Demonstration Area  
 Wake Co., NC  
 Cary Quad
1. SE Durham Quad
  2. SE Durham Quad
  3. Bayleaf Quad
  4. SE Durham Quad
  5. 17/E 703080  
N 3972020
  6. Raleigh West Quad
  7. Raleigh West Quad
  8. Raleigh West Quad
  9. Raleigh West Quad
  10. Raleigh West Quad
  11. 17/E 703040  
N 3966760
  12. 17/E 702520  
N 3967320
  13. 17/E 702000  
N 3967600
  14. 17/E 702000  
N 3968380
  15. 17/E 700620  
N 3968740
  16. 17/E 700600  
N 3969740
  17. 17/E 699840  
N 3969680
  18. 17/E 699820  
N 3970180
  19. 17/E 700900  
N 3970740
  20. SE Durham Quad
  21. SE Durham Quad

3972  
 3971  
 3970  
 3969  
 3968  
 50'  
 RALEIGH (STATE CAPITOL) 8 MI.



5255 IV NE  
SOUTHEAST DURHAM

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



Crabtree Creek Recreational  
Demonstration Area  
Wake Cty, NC  
Raleigh West Quad

1. SE Durham Quad
2. SE Durham Quad
3. Bayleaf Quad
4. SE Durham Quad
5. Cary Quad
6. 17/E 704600  
N 3971160
7. 17/E 705360  
N 3969880
8. 17/E 705620  
N/3967900
9. 17/E 705140  
N 3967380
10. 17/E 703780  
N 3966740
11. Cary Quad
12. Cary Quad
13. Cary Quad
14. Cary Quad
15. Cary Quad
16. Cary Quad
17. Cary Quad
18. Cary Quad
19. Cary Quad
20. SE Durham Quad
21. SE Durham Quad

50'  
3968  
3967

