Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No: GRN.J

Historic Name: Granville State Forest - Hubbard Brook Campground

Common Name:

Address:

Granville City/Town:

Village/Neighborhood:

Local No:

Year Constructed:

Architect(s): Civilian Conservation Corps

Architectural Style(s):

Use(s): Camp; Other Recreational

Archaeology, Historic; Architecture; Politics Government; Significance:

Recreation

Area(s):

Designation(s):

Building Materials(s):



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> Commonwealth of Massachusetts Massachusetts Historical Commission 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125 www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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FORM A - AREA

Massachusetts Historical Commission 220 Morrisey Boulevard Boston, Massachusetts 02125 Assessor's Sheets USGS Quad Area Letter Form Numbers in Area

West Granville



See attached

Town Granville Place (neighborhood or village) Name of Area Granville State Forest - Hubbard Brook Present Use State forest Construction Dates or Period 1932 - 35 Overall Condition Good Major Intrusions and Alterations Roads have been paved and new comfort stations built Acreage Approximately 20 acres Recorded by Shary Page Berg Organization Mass DEM Date (month/day/year) 6/95

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ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION see continuation sheet

Describe architectural, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.

Granville State Forest, located just south of Route 57 near West Granville, consists of 2,397 acres of forested land. West Hartland Road, which runs through the center of the forest, provides the primary access. CCC-built roads, trails and water holes can be found throughout the forest but CCC resources are concentrated in two areas, Hubbard Brook and Halfway Pond. The Hubbard Brook facilities today consist of a linear campground (1) extending about one mile along the east side of Hubbard Brook and a similar day use area (2) along the west side. The area is completely forested. The brook is the major attraction. Each side is served by a paved road which follows the alignment of the original gravel roads built by the CCC. Facilities are primitive with only a parking area and picnic table provided for each site. The CCC-built shelters, rustic bridges and latrines are no longer extant and the subtle clearing and planting undertaken by the CCC has become overgrown. Comfort stations and park furnishings (such as picnic tables, entrance gates and signs) are of recent construction. Only the concrete foundation of one CCC latrine (3) was found on the west side of Hubbard Brook near the entrance to the day use area. Despite the absence of specific CCC structures and the loss of subtle landscape features, the area retains the rustic quality consistent with the original design.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE see continuation sheet Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this area relates to the historical development of the community.

Granville State Forest was established in the early 1920s when the state acquired cut over land from Tiffany and Pickett Lumber Company. Subsequent acquisitions brought total state holdings in the area to 4,682 acres by 1933 (some of this is now part of Tolland State Forest). This property was unusual for Massachusetts state forests in that recreational facilities (a campground) existed there as early as 1932. In 1933 President Franklin D. Roosevelt created the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), a federal program to provide employment opportunities for young men and to improve the forest and recreational resources of the country. CCC Camp SP - 4, Company 114 was established at Granville the same year. Unlike many camps, which were under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service, Camp SP - 4 was placed under the auspices of the National Park Service because of the potential for recreational use at Granville. However, as at other CCC camps, road building and forestry were the first priorities, with several miles of heavy duty road built and many miles of truck trail cut and brushed. Along Hubbard Brook the campground and picnic area were expanded and enhanced with trails, vistas, rustic bridges and shelters. Camp SP - 4 was abandoned in fall of 1935 and the camp area was converted to the Halfway Brook campground. Several of the rustic bridges built by the CCC were destroyed by flooding the following year and not replaced. Other CCC crews, including Camp SP - 24 from Robinson State Park, did some forestry work at Granville after the resident camp was closed. The present headquarters building was erected in 1959.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

see continuation sheet

Civilian Conservation Corps records, DEM Region 5 files.
Massachusetts Department of Conservation, Annual Reports, 1922 - 1940.

Recommended as a National Register District. If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.



