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NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Combination Shelter

other names/site number CCC Shelter 151-018-05009

2. Location

street & number Pokagon State Park — N/A not for publication

city, town Angola — [X] vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Steuben code 151 zip code 46703

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property: Contributing	Noncontributing	
[ ] private	[X] building(s)	1	0	buildings
[ ] public-local	[ ] district	0	0	sites
[X] public-State	[ ] site	0	0	structures
[ ] public-Federal	[ ] structure	2	0	objects
	[ ] object	3	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing: New Deal Resources in Indiana State Parks

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] nomination [ ] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [X] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Patrick R. Roberts — 1-4-92

Signature of certifying official — Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

[ ] entered in the National Register.
[ ] See continuation sheet.

[ ] determined eligible for the National Register. [ ] See continuation sheet.

[ ] determined not eligible for the National Register.

[ ] removed from the National Register.

[ ] other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
RECREATION: Outdoor Recreation

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
RECREATION: Outdoor recreation

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)
OTHER: NPS Rustic

Materials (enter categories from instructions)
foundation STONE
walls STONE
WOOD: Log
roof ASPHALT
other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Combination Shelter, today known as the CCC Shelter, is built into and at the crest of a wooded hillside overlooking Lake James to the west. An outstanding example of the CCC's local interpretation of the park rustic style. The L-shaped building has a gabled roof with fly rafters, exposed rafter ends, and exposed brackets. It is seventy-seven feet long (east and west elevatons), forty-five feet on the south elevation, and thirty feet on the north. There are two frame gabled vent dormers west of center, one facing north and one south, on the east-west gabled section. The roofing material is asphalt shingles; originally wood shingles likely would have been used. The lower story is constructed of split rock masonry; the upper story, which overhangs the lower, is of round (adzed) logs and mortar. The logs came from trees on the park site. The foundation is stone, of various rocks found in the park and its vicinity. The shelter contains two massive split rock fireplace chimneys, in the east and in the north gable ends. The fireplaces serve the upper story, which is almost entirely a picnic shelter.

The interior, virtually open on the east and west, is dominated on the north by a twelve-foot wide fireplace of split-rock masonry. Inside the shelter at the south end is the former concession stand, now enclosed and used for storage and cross country ski rental. Within this enclosed space, at the south end of the east elevation, is the other massive fireplace, similar to the one in the north end. The shelter has a poured concrete floor.

Essentially, there are two main facades. The east, at the crest of the hill, is one story. The fireplace chimney on the east gable end dominates the southern third of the facade; the remainder is nearly all open, supported by three timber uprights. (Two are the original adze-hewn logs; the center support is milled and probably a replacement.) It faces a large, grassy open space surrounded by woods. The west facade, facing the lake, is two stories. The lower level, comprised entirely of stone, supports with a triple arch the partially enclosed upper level, which in effect has an open veranda supported by hewn log uprights with a rustic railing. Beneath the segmented arches is a stone floor, and on the north end, a fireplace, smaller and slightly to the west of the flue for the upper level fireplace. The stone floor extends out (west) into a patio, defined by a stone retaining wall.

[X] See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☐ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
ARCHITECTURE	1936-1942	1936
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION		
SOCIAL HISTORY		

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Civilian Conservation Corps

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Superbly adapted to its hillside location, the combination shelter at Pokagon is one of the finest examples of a park rustic shelterhouse built by the Civilian Conservation Corps to be found in an Indiana state park. As such, it offers a splendid material record of an important area of New Deal public works and recreational development in Indiana state parks during the 1930s, as described in the historic context "New Deal Work Programs in Indiana State Parks." As noted in the associated property type identified as "Properties associated with New Deal work projects related to recreational activities," the combination shelter is eligible under Criterion A (in the areas of recreation and in social history) because it is associated with the New Deal's work programs and park development in the 1930s. The building is also eligible under Criterion C because it is representative of the work and the style of architecture typical of the CCC. The combination shelter meets all the standards of integrity established in the multiple property nomination "New Deal Resources in Indiana State Parks." That is, the building stands in its original location and in its original setting, or more accurately, with surrounding vegetation now sufficiently matured to create the setting originally desired. But for minor alterations noted in the description (e.g., the replacement of one timber support) the design and materials remain intact, and the building is representative of and associated with two types of CCC workmanship--hewn timber construction and split-rock masonry. The integrity of the property's feeling is strong.

The Indiana Department of Conservation acquired and opened Pokagon State Park in the 1920s, and as with most of its other state parks, had developed it minimally. A large inn was built above Lake James, a picnic area established, a few trails built. With the establishment of CCC Company 556 at Camp SP-7 in 1934, Pokagon undertook an ambitious development program, which included reforestation, landscaping, road building, and construction of numerous outdoor recreational facilities. Among the finest of the latter was the "combination" shelter, so called because it contained a concession stand that served the beach and picnic areas, as well as ample room for picnic tables. ☒ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Archival Collections

National Archives, Washington, D.C.
Records of the National Park Service: Civilian Conservation Corps

Indiana Division, Indiana State Library, Indianpaolis
Clipping Files, CCC
Clipping Files, Indiana State Parks
Outdoor Indiana, 1934-1942

Archival Files, Park Office, Pokagon State Park

[X] See continuation sheet

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:
- [X] State historic preservation office
- [ ] Other State agency
- [ ] Federal agency
- [ ] Local government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Specify repository: Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property: Less than one acre

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	16	663490	4619220
B			
C			
D			

[ ] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Bounded on the east by the west edge of the access lane that connects the north and south beach parking lots, from a point approximately 60 feet to the north of the northeast corner of the shelter, south to a point approximately 100 feet to the south of the southeast corner of the shelter.

[X] See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Property extends down the hill from the building to include the two drinking fountains because they were part of the original design concept: the hilltop shelter with the patio on the west overlooking the beach with steps leading down toward each fountain.

[ ] See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Glory-June Greiff
organization: _____ date: July 15, 1991
street & number: 1753 South Talbott telephone: 317/637-6163
city or town: Indianapolis state: Indiana zip code: 46225

★U.S.GPO:1988-0-223-918

The southern portion of the west facade is the gable end, which extends west twelve feet. The lower level of the gabled section is enclosed and contains restrooms. Entrances are on the west and south; beside each is a small arched single sash window.

Both the south and north elevations ease from two stories to one from west to east. The north elevation is dominated by the stone fireplace.

From each end of the patio, stone steps continue down the heavily wooded hillside toward the beach. Past the end of each of the steps, a bit more than halfway down the hill, is a sheltered drinking fountain, consisting of a stone base, water pipe surrounded by concrete, and a small gabled roof supported by four round log uprights. One continues down to the beach by means of a path (north) or a dirt service road (south).

The Combination Shelter is in very good condition and virtually unaltered, except that obviously it has required reroofing. The stone retaining wall surrounding the patio has suffered from vandalism, but is mostly intact. Photographs from the 1930s reveal that there were some large trees around the top of the hill at the time of construction, but trees on the hillside itself were relatively small. The shelter today is very likely as its planners had envisioned it to be; nestled in a beautiful oak forest.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1 Combination Shelter

It was sometimes referred to as the beach shelter, although it is about two hundred yards above the beach. The CCC boys completed work on it by early 1936.

The building is an especially fine example of local adaptation of the park rustic style favored by the National Park Service. Such a style, interpreted with native materials, harmonized visually with the park environment, a goal stated both by NPS and the State Department of Conservation. CCC workers hewed local timber with adzes to construct the upper story, and split native stone for the lower story. For the most part the masonry exhibits excellent craftmanship, with mortar joints seldom exceeding a quarter inch, typical of most of the CCC split rock work in the park. The building exhibits numerous Craftsman elements, such as exposed rafter ends and fly rafters. Typically, large shelterhouses such as this were, when the CCC was most likely to create more detail and stylistic elements. Among the most used recreational buildings in the parks, beautiful and visually harmonious shelterhouses may have enhanced the visitors' encounters with the outdoors.

Bibliography (continued)

Government Publications

"Annual Report of Department of Conservation," Yearbook of Indiana. 1925-1945.

United States Department of Interior, National Park Service. Park and Recreation Structures. 3 Vol. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1938.

Other

Interview with Roger W. Woodcock. Former CCC enrollee at Pokagon. November 3, 1990.

Greiff, Glory-June. "New Deal Resources in Present Indiana State Parks." June 1990-May 1991. Sponsored by Indiana University, Indianapolis, and on file with the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA), 402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204. Field survey and inventory of existing CCC and WPA constructed buildings, structures, and sites.

_____. "New Deal Work Programs in Indiana State Parks, 1933-1942." Related historic context, 1991. On file at DHPA.

COMBINATION SHELTER, POKAGON

Verbal Boundary Description

The north and south boundaries are imaginary lines each extending to a point 200 feet west of the north and south extremities, respectively, of the east boundary. The west boundary is yet another imaginary line connecting those two points. The distance between is a little under 240 feet. This west boundary incorporates the two drinking fountain shelters on the hillside.

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