

FINAL

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 Hominy Ridge Shelterhouse

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number Salamonie River State Forest N/A not for publication

city or town Lagro  vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Wabash code 169 zip code 46941

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.)

*Richard R. Rott*

8/5/94

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
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

- 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:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Hominy Ridge Shelterhouse  
Name of Property

Wabash County, Indiana  
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	
1	1	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
1	0	objects
3	1	Total

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

N/A

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

0

**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: park rustic

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls STONE

WOOD: log

roof WOOD: shingles

other

**Narrative Description**

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

Hominy Ridge Shelterhouse  
Name of Property

Wasasii County, Indiana  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 3.5

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	6
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6	1	1	0	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	5	1	8	4	7	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

3 

1	6
---	---

6	1	1	0	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	5	1	8	1	4	0
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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 Glory-June Greiff, Consulting Historian

organization (for CCC Company 589) \_\_\_\_\_ date October 22, 1993

street & number 1735 South Talbott telephone 317/637-6163

city or town Indianapolis state IN zip code 46225

**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 Indiana Department of Natural resources, Divn. of Forestry

street & number 402 W. Washington St., Rm 296 telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Indianapolis state IN zip code 46204

**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.

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.)

- Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
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.
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:

- owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
removed from its original location.
a birthplace or grave.
a cemetery.
a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
a commemorative property.
less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- ARCHITECTURE
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION
SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1937-1944

Significant Dates

1937

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Civilian Conservation Corps

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 #

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1Hominy Ridge Shelterhouse  
Wabash County, Indiana

The Hominy Ridge Shelterhouse stands surrounded by large deciduous trees in a grassy picnic grove atop Hominy Ridge. Many of these trees were planted by the CCC boys, who moved them from the valley below before Hominy Lake was flooded. Scattered mainly to the north with a few to the east of the shelterhouse are a total of thirteen picnic tables constructed of stone with tabletops and seats constructed of two-by-sixes and two-by-eights, respectively. (The boards have been replaced numerous times but duplicate the original construction.) One of these tables, approximately due north of the shelterhouse, is sited on a stone platform partially surrounded by a wall into which is built a fireplace (photo 1). Northeast of the shelterhouse just at the edge of the ridgetop is a bit of stone wall, the remains of a CCC-built outhouse building. About thirty yards east of the shelterhouse is the present pit toilet, constructed in the 1950s. Southwest of this is a well with a hand pump. The shelterhouse is a contributing building, the picnic grove to the north and east (encompassing all the picnic tables) is a contributing site, the well is a contributing object, and the pit toilet is a noncontributing building.

The shelterhouse is not sited true to compass but a few degrees north northwestward; however, for ease of understanding the sides will be referred to as north, east, south, west. The building is an elongated octagon, or it may be considered as rectangular with a five-sided porch on each end, north and south. It rests on a stone foundation. The walls of the rectangular portion are of fieldstone with timber supports and framing; the ends are entirely timber (see photos 2 and 3). The entire building is 67 feet long and 23 1/2 feet wide.

The rectangular section sports five open bays on each side. The north and south portions are enclosed to window height with each end (that is, north and south) open. The hipped roof is covered with wood shingles (last replaced seventeen years ago), which approximate the original material. A notch has been cut from the overhang and a rafter slightly shortened on the south end to accommodate the growth of a large encroaching walnut tree. A stone chimney protrudes from each end of the peak. On the west side of the building (photo 4) is a stone terrace the length of the rectangular section, with a short stone wall along its west edge that flanks two steps.

The interior is intact, with open rafters and bracing of full-dimension two-by-sixes. The two main crossbeams each sport a finial. The floor is stone. Facing the center room on each end are two large stone fireplaces, nearly nine feet wide. The fireplaces (see photo 5) are each flanked by segmental-arched openings leading into the end enclosures; the opposite sides of the fireplaces extend out to form grills that serve each of the porch sections.

The Hominy Ridge Shelterhouse is in good condition and virtually unaltered but for accommodating the walnut tree's growth. Most of the stone picnic tables are intact, although the stone platform has suffered from vandalism or perhaps neglect. A photograph of the shelterhouse taken within a few years after its completion shows the building essentially as it appears today, albeit that the sparse woods of the late 1930s has matured into the beautiful forest setting as planned.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Hominy Ridge Shelterhouse  
Wabash County, Indiana

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Nestled beneath its forest canopy atop Hominy Ridge in the midst of Salamonie River State Forest, the Hominy Ridge Shelterhouse and Picnic Grove is an especially fine example of a park rustic shelterhouse built by the Civilian Conservation Corps on state recreational land in Indiana. As such, it offers a splendid material record of an important area of New Deal public works and recreational development on Indiana state lands during the 1930s, much as described in the historic context "New Deal Work Programs in Indiana State Parks, 1933-1942." Although that context is technically limited to state parks, it notes that "there was little distinction among the kinds of resources the New Deal agencies constructed on the various types of state lands. Although there was less emphasis on recreational development in the state forests, shelters and picnic areas were among the projects on these properties as well." Such was the case at Hominy Ridge. Indeed, CCC Company 589 arrived at their new camp in what was to become Salamonie River State Forest (then abandoned farmland) in July 1935, having completed their work at McCormick's Creek State Park, where the company originated. Started the previous year, the shelterhouse was completed in 1937.

As described in the associated property type identified as "Properties associated with New Deal work projects related to recreational activities" the shelterhouse with its surrounding picnic grove 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 shelterhouse and picnic grove meet all the same standards of integrity established in the multiple property nomination "New Deal Resources in Indiana State Parks." The building stands in its original location in its original setting. The design and materials remain intact, and the building is representative of and associated with typical CCC workmanship—timber construction and stone masonry.

Two shelterhouses at Ouabache State Park, formerly Wells County State Forest, are similar to the Hominy Ridge building and were constructed by the CCC around the same time. But both of the buildings at Ouabache exhibit a deviation from the original blueprints; each was built on a T plan, creating a roofed wing where the Hominy Ridge shelterhouse has an open terrace. At least one other shelterhouse exists that was built to the same plan as that at Hominy Ridge. The WPA constructed such a building in 1938 at the then-White River Land Utilization Project, which later became Crane Naval Depot. Its roof, however, has been replaced by one of metal. The integrity of the Hominy Ridge shelterhouse as well as its setting in the midst of a planned picnic grove is very much intact.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9,10 Page 3 Hominy Ridge Shelterhouse  
Wabash County, Indiana

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Archival Collections

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

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

Government Publications

"Annual Report of Department of Conservation," Yearbook of Indiana, 1933-  
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

Department of Public Works, Conservation Department, Blueprint for  
Shelter House (4 sheets), 1936.

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 IN  
46204. Field survey and inventory of existing CCC- and WPA-  
constructed buildings, structures, and sites.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The following essentially encompasses the top of Hominy Ridge, an area of  
3.5 acres. Just west of the small children's playground is a white oak  
tree 16 inches in diameter. Starting at a point 9.5 feet due south of this  
oak tree, proceed east northeast 90 yards, northwest along edge of ridgetop  
236 yards, south southwest along edge of ridgetop 80 yards, then southeast  
183 yards to point of origin. 1"=400' map enclosed shows boundaries. This is  
the most detailed scale map available of the site.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries encompass the Hominy Ridge picnic area and include all its  
historic resources.

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