

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes no

Property Name: Rocks State Park Inventory Number: HA-2047

Address: 3318 Rocks Chrome Hill Road Historic district: X yes no

City: Jarrettsville Zip Code: 21084 County: Harford

USGS Quadrangle(s): Fawn Grove, Jarrettsville

Property Owner: Maryland Department of Natural Resources Tax Account ID Number: N/A

Tax Map Parcel Number(s): _____ Tax Map Number: _____

Project: MD 24 at Rocks State Park Agency: MD State Highway Administration

Agency Prepared By: MD State Highway Administration

Preparer's Name: SHA Consultant Architectural Historian Rebecca Crew Date Prepared: 06/24/2013

Documentation is presented in: MIHP Form HA-2047, on file at Maryland Historical Trust

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: _____ Eligibility recommended X Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:

Name of the District/Property: _____

Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: yes Listed: yes

Site visit by MHT Staff yes X no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

For additional information on Rocks State Park, please refer to the MIHP Addendum prepared concurrently with this DOE.

Rocks State Park is not eligible for listing in the NRHP as a cultural landscape or rural historic district. The park is a typical state park of the 1950s and 1960s, similar to those found throughout Maryland and the country. Its pre-park history does not represent an identifiable significant historic theme as represented by extant features.

Rocks State Park is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A as an example of a state park used for conservation and recreation. Although this was the most appropriate manner within which to evaluate the park as defined by its boundaries, it is not significant as a conservation and recreation landscape. In the years following World War II, states throughout the nation, including Maryland, established parks, forests, and recreation areas that responded to the increased demand for outdoor recreation. As such, Rocks State Park exhibits the pattern of events and associated park management strategies that are similar to those that have occurred across the Maryland State Park system. The need for Rocks State Park was justified for its recreational use, and the selection of this location was based on scenic beauty, resulting in conservation of a natural resource. However, the modest improvements and visitor amenities built during the post-war period do not indicate that this particular park was intended to exemplify mid-century conservation and recreation efforts in Maryland. The Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP #HA-469) is separately

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Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended X
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MHT Comments:

Christina Jones ✓
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

7/24/2013
Date

Palantze
Reviewer, National Register Program

7/31/13
Date

evaluated as a historic natural and scenic site.

Remnant landscape features that predate the development of Rocks State Park do not convey a uniform theme that is historically significant. Individual resources within the park, including the Leopold House (MIHP # HA-1249) and the Kellog House (MIHP # HA-1250) were previously determined eligible for the NRHP, but these are not closely associated with the park's development and do not form a cohesive historic district. Similarly, residential properties outside the park boundaries include the Gladden Farm, which is listed on the NRHP, and the La Grange House (MIHP # HA-31), which SHA recommends eligible for listing on the NRHP in a separate Determination of Eligibility. The Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP #HA-469) is recommended individually eligible for the NRHP as a natural landmark with historical associations as an excursion point in a separate DOE evaluation; it includes the area that contains remnant quarry features although this aspect is not as historically significance. Resources related to the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad are assessed as an entity (MIHP # HA-29) and recommended not eligible for the NRHP, due to a lack of integrity. Some archeological sites in the park have been identified but not evaluated for NRHP-eligibility, and it is beyond the scope of this project to evaluate them.

Rocks State Park is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A as an example of an industrial landscape. Extant features are all minor in nature and do not convey the early industrial uses. The most significant industrial association of the Rocks State Park property is with La Grange Iron Works, which was in operation ca. 1832-1874. The Furnace (18HA311) was located along the present-day White Trail, and the Forge was located at the site of the present-day Wilson Picnic Area bathhouse. The Furnace location is marked by a historic marker erected by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. An artificial terrace on the hillside is the site of the furnace, and there are ruins of stone masonry, remnants of a roadbed, a collier pit, and a possible slagheap. These features do not retain the material or design integrity to be assessed as a standing structure. Goodwin's data form for this site recommends a Phase I archeological survey of the furnace location to determine the horizontal extent of the ruins, as well as the degree of integrity and research potential associated with the resource. Thus the Furnace archeological site remains unevaluated for its NRHP eligibility. The Forge location is completely obscured by the ca. 1990 construction of the Wilson Picnic Area bathhouse; remnants of an associated mill race can be seen on the horseshoe-shaped flood plain around the bathhouse, connecting two points of Deer Creek. While archeological survey occurred prior to the bathhouse construction, the archeological report has not been relocated. Despite the negative survey results, large scale archeological features were reported to have been exposed during construction. The landscape component of the millrace across the flood plain does not retain the integrity of the design, materials, or workmanship to successfully illustrate the historic significance of the La Grange Forge.

In the early 1860s, chrome mining occurred at the area that now forms Rocks State Park. The Baltimore Chrome Mining Company mined the area, but no structures relating to chrome mine are known to remain within the park. During the 1890s, the Maryland Granite Company purchased land formerly owned by Evans Stanley Rogers of La Grange Iron Works, and they constructed an elaborate cable car system that transported material from quarry location to the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad. Mechanical remnants and drill holes on the rock outcrop are artifacts of the cable car system, but they do not convey the overall size and purpose of the system, as depicted in the image found in the John A. Roebling's Sons Company Price List. While the cableway was one of the largest cableways produced by the John A. Roebling's Sons Company, this association is not effectively apparent by the few extant cableway remnants. However, the cableway remnants are located within the site boundaries of The Rocks of Deer Creek, which is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP. The overall landscape does not illustrate that of an industrial landscape, and while extant features remain, they are small in nature and do not form a cohesive example of a nineteenth-century industrial landscape.

As a whole, Rocks State Park is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A as an example of a nineteenth-century recreation site or railroad village. The extant elements that illustrate this use include the railroad bed of the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad, which also transported tourists, and inscriptions carved on the surfaces of the Rocks outcrop by nineteenth

| MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Eligibility recommended | | | | Eligibility not recommended | | | | | | | | | |
| Criteria: | A | B | C | D | Considerations: | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | |
| MHT Comments: | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services | | | | | | | Date | | | | | | |
| Reviewer, National Register Program | | | | | | | Date | | | | | | |

century visitors, as well as the outcrop itself. However, significant elements that contributed to the use of the area for informal recreation are no longer extant. The Ramsay Store (which re-used a tenant house previously owned by Evans Stanley Rogers) was replaced by the former concession building near the Rapids Parking Area. The Rocks Station, adjacent the Ramsay Hotel and Store are no longer standing. The bridges, trestles, and rails, ties, and ballast related to the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad, which brought tourists to the Rocks, have been removed, leaving a graded route, a few retaining walls, and abutments. The general lack of integrity of the railroad corridor results in it being recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP (MIHP # HA-29). Therefore, the area's use as an excursion spot is limited to the actual peaks of the Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP # HA-469), which is recommended as individually-eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

Rocks State Park is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion B, as historic research and information obtained from the MIHP form indicate that the property does not have significant associations with past or present significant persons who have made specific contributions to society within a regional or national context. Users of the park and landscape may include significant persons, but the association is not directly related to the historic importance of these persons. Similarly, the Rocks of Deer Creek have been the source of creative inspiration, but the resulting works are not important enough for their authors to be considered significant persons in either regional or national context. The characters in the fables Wysong recorded (with self-admitted elaboration and/or fabrication) may have existed, but no documentary evidence supports their existence. The Susquehannocks' ceremonial use of these rocks remains undocumented in scholarly archeological and ethnohistorical studies. Modern Native American tribes consulted did not indicate the existence of any oral tradition related to the King and Queen's Seat.

Rocks State Park is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C because it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. The park's existing pattern of spatial organization, circulation networks, vegetation related to land use, and response to the natural environment convey the land uses and activities related to its management as a state park since 1951. The distinctive characteristics of mid-twentieth century state parks focus on balancing conservation and recreation and include automobile-centered circulation patterns, recreational and comfort facilities for visitor use, and maintenance and administrative areas for staff use. While Rocks State Park exhibits these characteristics of state park design in the post-World War II period, it does so minimally, lacking new roads that include vistas of the King and Queen Seat rock formation, and including only one picnic area dating from the 1960s and limited hiking trails. No individual designer has been identified with the design of Rocks State Park, as it was developed over several decades and most likely was the result of many different Maryland Park Service employees; therefore, it does not represent the work of a master. While Rocks State Park has aesthetic value, it is primarily derived from pre-existing natural features and cannot be considered of high artistic value; the design of buildings, structures, circulation patterns, and small-scale elements are characterized as functional and developed over a period continuing to the present. The combination of all the landscape components that form Rocks State Park does not create a significant and distinguishable designed entity. Therefore, Rocks State Park is not eligible under Criterion C.

As an entity, Rocks State Park was not evaluated for listing under Criterion D as part of this assessment, in large part due to the lack of comprehensive archeological survey of the park. Many unrecorded archeological sites are expected to exist, dating to both the prehistoric and historic periods. A number of known archeological sites, listed in the MIHP (HA-905, HA-502), have been never been formally recorded or evaluated as archeological sites. Five other sites are referenced in the Goodwin 2004 MIHP form without any MIHP or archeological site number designation. Several archeological sites recorded by Goodwin in 2008 as a result of limited archeological survey of the MD 24 corridor have not been evaluated (18HA311 and 18HA314). Other archeological sites in the MD 24 corridor within the boundaries of Rocks State Park are not individually eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D because they have not yielded and are not likely to yield information important to prehistory or history (Sites 18HA308, 18HA309, 18HA310, 18HA322, and 18HA323). Two of these sites, Rocks Station (18HA322) and the Ramsay Hotel and Store (18HA323), recorded by the Ottery Group in 2012 and 2013, are related to the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad,

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Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

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which is separately evaluated as a railroad corridor in the Determination of Eligibility for HA-29.

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Location: Harford County, MD

Introduction

R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. (Goodwin) surveyed Rocks State Park in 2004 for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. The firm documented the state park as a potential historic district on a Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) form, considering all the historic built resources pre-dating 1960 within the park's boundaries. This work included no archeological survey. Goodwin identified two buildings and nine sites within Rocks State Park that pre-dated 1960 and the establishment of the park in 1951. Twenty additional buildings and structures within the park were not considered potential resources at that time, as they post-dated 1960. Both pre-1960 buildings, the Leopold House (former Leypoldt House) (MIHP # HA-1249) and the Kellog House (former Crowther House) (MIHP # HA-1250), were previously determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Two of the sites, the Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP # HA-469) and Falling Branch Falls (MIHP # HA-904 and also known as Kilgore Falls) are natural features, while the remaining seven are archeological, though none of these had been formally recorded and assigned archeological site numbers. Goodwin determined that the pre-1960 resources of Rocks State Park did not meet the definition to represent any of the four types of cultural landscapes that may qualify for listing in the NRHP.(1)

The primary purpose of an MIHP form is to document a property and provide an historic context, but generally, this process does not include a formal Determination of Eligibility. Goodwin's 2004 MIHP form for Rocks State Park provides a thorough history of the property from the contact and settlement period to the present and includes descriptions of the man-made resources that illustrate the following property types: landscape features, industrial, domestic, and agricultural/subsistence. Using these classifications, Goodwin found that Rocks State Park did not meet the definition to represent the four types of cultural landscapes. At the time of their survey in 2003, the majority of the built resources within the park were less than 50 years of age, but a decade later, in 2013, they are approaching, or have reached 50 years of age. These include the Middle Area Pump House, the Rock Ridge Pavilion, the Rock Ridge Restroom, the Rock Ridge Pump House, the former Nature Center, and the former Concession Building. When considering Rocks State Park as a recreational and conservation landscape, additional components such as natural features, circulation routes, vegetation patterns, and small-scale elements contribute to the historic characteristics of the landscape that express the mid-twentieth century parkland use of the land.

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Likely because most of the park-era resources were not yet fifty years of age during the 2004 study, Goodwin did not consider Rocks State Park as a cultural landscape expressing recreational and conservation use as a state park in the mid-twentieth century, but because the Goodwin 2004 MIHP form established the boundaries to reflect the park's boundaries, it is appropriate to now evaluate the park as a mid-twentieth-century state park. The guidance set forth in the NRHP bulletin titled How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes clearly demonstrates that Rocks State Park would not qualify as a designed landscape. The only designed landscape components within the park boundaries are a few minor roadways and parking areas, the adaptation of existing roadways (including the placement of large rock barriers along the roadways), and select hiking trails. These few features do not elevate the park to the status of a designed landscape and, therefore, the resource will not be evaluated within that context.

In addition, because it is a conglomeration of several parcels of land exhibiting elements of the pre-park history, it is appropriate to evaluate the park as a potential rural historic district using the guidelines set forth in National Register Bulletin 30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes. A cultural landscape is a geographic area that includes cultural and natural resources associated with an historic event, activity, person, or group of people. A rural historic landscape can be listed in the National Register as a site or as a district. It is defined as "a geographical area that historically has been used by people, or shaped or modified by human activity, occupancy, or intervention, and that possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of areas of land use, vegetation, buildings and structures, roads and waterways, and natural features." While pre-park uses are evident on the landscape, the extant features do not present a unifying theme of historic significance retaining the integrity to convey the significance of any such theme.

Description

Rocks State Park is comprised of three non-contiguous parcels of land totaling 920 acres in Harford County. The largest section is the main Rocks State Park area along MD 24, Rocks Hill Chrome Road, and St. Clair Bridge Road, built around the centerpiece of the Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP # HA-799), which is a natural rock outcrop formation rising 190 feet above Deer Creek. This formation is part of the topographic feature known as Rock Ridge, and the fabled metamorphosed rocks called the King and Queen Seat are at its summit. This area will be referred to as the Main Rocks Area. The Hidden Valley Natural Area, located at the intersection of Madonna, Telegraph, and Carea Roads, contains approximately 150 acres. The Falling Branch Area at Falling Branch Road near Clermont Mill Road contains 67 acres.

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The Main Rocks Area of Rocks State Park is primarily forested with defined recreational use areas. It has three picnic areas; a network of trails (totaling 3.55 miles); maintenance, administration, and other buildings; and parking areas. Common recreational uses include fishing, swimming, tubing, and paddling in Deer Creek and rock climbing and rappelling at the Rocks. Bow-hunting of white-tailed deer is allowed on 120 acres of the park. Rural residences and youth camps surround the park. Please see Goodwin's 2004 MIHP form for detailed descriptions of the property types in Rocks State Park.

According to National Register Bulletin 30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes, 11 characteristics form a classification system for reading the landscape. These characteristics also provide a logical means of describing landscape features within Rocks State Park. The first four characteristics are processes that shape the land, and the last seven are components that are evident on the land. Each of these characteristics is detailed below.

1) Land Use and Activities:

The current land use of Rocks State Park is predominantly recreational and reserved for conservation of natural resources, with the forested areas occupying the largest land area. The recreational areas include three distinct picnic areas. Each picnic area has a pavilion, restrooms, playground equipment, picnic table, and grills. The park has several miles of multi-use trails, merging the recreational layer with forested areas. Swimming, tubing, and paddling are recreational uses possible in Deer Creek. Deer Creek is also a stocked put-and-take trout fishing area. Established routes for rock climbing and rappelling are part of the appeal of the King and Queen Seat rock formation. Bow-hunters may use a designated area of the park to hunt white-tailed deer. All these uses allow visitors the opportunity to recreate and appreciate beautiful scenery and wildlife in its natural setting. Additionally, large portions of the park are young forest, rarely accessed by humans. Small percentages of the park's holdings are dedicated to parking and roads, as well as administrative and maintenance uses. These areas are more heavily used, thereby concentrating impacts on the land. Aerial photography shows that some areas within the park boundaries are in agricultural cultivation; however, these areas are not visible from public areas of the park.

A variety of pre-park land uses is evident, mostly through small scale features, structural ruins, and other archeological sites. Nineteenth-century domestic use is most evident through the extant and NRHP-eligible Leopold House (former Leyboldt House) (MIHP # HA-1249) and the Kellog House (former Crowther House) (MIHP # HA-1250), but also through the stone ruins of house foundations, such as archeological sites 18HA310 and 18HA309.

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Nineteenth-century industrial use is most notably represented by the site of the La Grange Iron Works; the furnace (18HA311) and forge related to this company, founded in 1834, were located within what is now Rocks State Park. (A mill at the south end of the park near Prestons Ford (18HA314) was present as early as the mid-eighteenth century, but its features do not remain above ground. Chrome mining also occurred in the mid-nineteenth century, but no known structures or ruins remain that are associated with this industrial use.) While no intact structures relating to the Iron Works remain standing, the furnace's ruins, a millrace, charcoal processing locations, slag heaps, and wagon roadbeds are found on the landscape; these elements are concentrated near St. Clair Bridge Road. The ironworks owners needed water for power, so they harnessed Deer Creek. They required large tracts of land with trees that they slowly burned to make charcoal to fuel their furnace. Other tracts of land provided iron ore and limestone slag. The ironmasters required roads to transport charcoal, iron ore and limestone to the furnace by wagons drawn by horses, oxen, or mules. The roads also allowed the wagons to carry processed iron to market (via White Hall the closest rail station for a line headed to Baltimore). It appears that the first roads reached La Grange Iron Works from the north; a bridge over Deer Creek at La Grange was first requested in 1837, but not completed until 1847. The road that has become MD 24 existed prior to 1858.

The forge-related millrace in the Wilson's Picnic Area is a grassy depression that bisects the natural floodplain in a horseshoes bend of Deer Creek. The millrace helps to illustrate the process and spatial arrangement of the La Grange iron Works' forge and furnace along Deer Creek. The La Grange Iron Works furnace site is located on an elevated flattened terrace along a pair of wagon roads, with squared stone ruins set into the hillside. Other furnaces in Maryland retain intact furnace stacks, and even more remain in Pennsylvania. It is fairly common for an ironmaster's house to be the sole remnant of a nineteenth-century ironworks plantation, and for the site of the ironmaster's house to be slightly elevated so that he could physically oversee the work of the forge and furnace. Proximity to swiftly flowing water was also necessary for water-powered ironworks, and a hillside was often desirable for a furnace location, in order to load materials into the top of the furnace stack.

When plans developed to bring a railroad through this area to connect Baltimore with Delta, Pennsylvania, the LaGrange owners invested in the railroad company, as a railroad posed multiple economic benefits to them: the railroad needed iron to be constructed and once constructed, a closer railroad line would reduce the cost of transporting their goods to market. The railroad eventually arrived in 1884, after La Grange no longer produced iron. Plans for a railroad to reach the Rocks of Deer Creek date back to the mid-nineteenth century, but specific plans emerged in the 1870s with the founding of the Baltimore and Delta Railroad. The final tracks connecting Baltimore, Maryland and Delta,

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Pennsylvania were laid in December 1883, but by this time, the railroad was known as the Maryland Central Railroad. After a time being known as the Baltimore and Lehigh Railroad, it became the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad in 1901. The railroad's route is visible in Rocks State park, often paralleling MD 24 at a slightly higher elevation. Its flat grade was made possible by stone retaining walls, some of which are still extant, and railroad cuts. The railroad's crossing over Deer Creek The railroad's crossing over Deer Creek is monumentally marked by extant stone masonry bridge abutments. The railroad's eventual route through the gorge required crossing from the west side of Deer Creek to the east side. The rails, bridges, and trestles have all been removed from the railroad right-of-way, but the path is visible through Rocks State Park and used as an unofficial trail. Evidence showing the railroad use of the area includes a towering rock abutment for the bridge over Deer Creek, and a less visible stone retaining wall along the bank of Deer Creek that once supported a mortared stone abutment on the Rocks Road side of the stream, the rail grade, retaining walls along the west side of MD 24, cuts through bedrock, and the archeological site of Rocks Station (18HA322).

Late nineteenth-century quarrying is evident through the remnants of a cable-car system used to transport raw materials from a quarry area on the west side of Deer Creek to the rail cars of the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad on the east side of the stream. Slightly downhill from the King and Queen Seat, near another monolithic rock known as Moby Dick, are a winch, at least one iron bar placed into a foundation, and an overgrown foundation for a steam house. The cable system, built in the 1890s, consisted of iron cables connected to winches that were anchored to the surrounding rock. Small cars were connected to the iron cables. The cableway was the work of John A. Roebling's Sons Company of Trenton, New Jersey, and included in the company's 1903 Price List as an example of work they had completed. The Rocks cableway was a two-and-a-half-inch diameter steel cable spanning 750 feet, allowing the easy transport of fifteen-ton stone blocks from the quarry across the river to railroad cars. The Roebling Company called it one of the largest and most complete cableways ever constructed; the company had produced more than twenty different types in 1903. John A. Roebling, the famous bridge designer, was the first engineer to introduce wire-rope tramways in America. He died in 1869, during construction of the Brooklyn Bridge, so he himself was not directly involved with The Rocks cableway. (2)

Recreational use of the Rocks of Deer Creek began in the nineteenth century, prior to the arrival of the railroad. The use of the site for informal recreation in the nineteenth and early twentieth century is exhibited by names and dates carved on the rock outcropping by visitors from as early as the mid-nineteenth century, perhaps corresponding with road improvements between 1847 and 1858. The Rocks include the King and Queen Seats, a phrase used by Harford County author Thomas Turner

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Wysong in the nineteenth century and J.B. McComas in 1914. (1) The Rocks near the King and Queen Seats bear carved inscriptions from nineteenth century visitors, as indicated by the dates accompanying their names and initials. The written record tells of the Rocks of Deer Creek as a popular picnic destination during the nineteenth century, including letters written by John Wilkes Booth and various newspaper reports. While the east wall of the Deer Creek water gap through Rock Ridge rises nearly as high as the west, forming a deep gorge, the rock outcrops on the east side of Deer Creek are less spectacular. The lack of monolithic exposure and the placement of Rocks Road on the west side of Deer Creek resulted in fewer visitors to the east half of the gorge. Accordingly, no known contributing elements are found on the high point on the east side of Deer Creek, although the east bank eventually became the route of the railroad which brought visitors to the Rocks of Deer Creek and the associated Ramsey Hotel and Store (18HA323) and Rocks Station (18HA322).

Domestic archeological sites along Rocks Road do not portray information that is specific to the Rocks of Deer Creek location. This includes site 18HA308, which was later disturbed by the construction of the former Rocks State Park concession stand. While it was associated with Evans Stanley Rogers of the La Grange Iron Works, it was not the owner's residence. It was later modified into the Ramsay Store (distinct from the Ramsay Hotel and Store at Rocks Station) which was also an early gas station. The site has been heavily disturbed, compromising archeological integrity. The stone masonry wall at the former concession stand correlates with the construction of the concession stand and can be considered a park-related resource. Archeological sites 18HA309 and 18HA310 also represent domestic sites.

2) Patterns of Spatial Organization:

Spatial organization is predominantly based on natural forms, as Deer Creek forms a gorge where roads and railroad could penetrate Rock Ridge, thus shaping the original development of the area. The large floodplain at the north end of the gorge was created by Deer Creek in response to surrounding subsidiary ridges that constrained the direction of its flow, resulting in large horseshoe bend. This geological action provided suitable terrain for the development of the La Grange Iron Works, and the necessary setting to harness waterpower. The northern flank of Rock Ridge and the valley cut the surrounding ridges by Gladden Run controlled the location of the rail corridor north and east of the Rocks area. These same features dictated the location of Rocks Station Road, which makes an abrupt turn to the northeast at the north end of the gorge. The small floodplain created by the confluence of Gladden Run and Deer Creek created suitable open terrain for the location of Rocks Station and the Ramsay Hotel and Store. The gorge and rock outcrops themselves were the source of a long-standing recreation and tourist industry that continues today with focus on The Rocks of Deer Creek. During the

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brief spate of stone quarrying, the rock outcrop provided suitable raw material accompanied by a means of transporting the stone to markets via the rail system through the gorge.

The piecemeal acquisition of land for the park depended upon the willingness of former landowners to sell. When the park was established, trails were built to provide hiking, and most of the trails lead to the King and Queen Seat rock formation at the top of Rock Ridge. The three picnic areas are located far enough apart to be considered separate entities, each accessible from paved roads.

Landforms, historic maps, and extant buildings illustrate the pattern of the La Grange Iron Works site. The millrace in the Wilson's Picnic Area bisects the natural floodplain in a horseshoe bend of Deer Creek, while the hillsides on either side of Deer Creek separated the La Grange Furnace and Forge from the Ironmaster's house, but allowed visibility between the two clusters. A terraced area on the furnace hillside illustrate the furnace's location, and wagon paths that allowed for the transportation of raw and processed materials are also visible. The construction of bridges, roads, and railroads were important to the owners of La Grange Iron Works in order to maximize their iron production and minimize their transportation efforts.

As discussed above, the Rocks of Deer Creek limited the placement of roads through the gorge. Because the road was placed on the west bank of the creek, the railroad was placed on the east bank, requiring a railroad bridge to cross Deer Creek. When excursion visitors arrived at Rocks Station, they then needed to cross back over Deer Creek in order to access the Rocks of Deer Creek. Research has not revealed the exact method of how the excursionists crossed Deer Creek, whether they forded the stream, or used existing bridges, or used a pedestrian bridge that is no longer extant. If the Rocks Station and Ramsay Hotel and Store were still extant standing structures, the area might be able to convey the pattern of a railroad village in the historic context of transportation and recreation/commerce. Although there is little above ground evidence of these resources, the sharp turn of both the railroad bed as it leaves the Deer Creek gorge and ascends the Gladden Run valley, and the corresponding sharp turn in Rocks Station Road where it rises to, and crosses the railroad bed, clearly mark their former locations. As archeological sites, both 18HA322 and 323 contribute to the district.

3) Response to the Natural Environment:

The natural environment plays an important role in the landscape of Rocks State Park, and park-planning efforts responded directly to these natural features. Rock Ridge is formed by pre-Cambrian meta conglomerate and quartzite of the Wissahickon formation, forming a band 4 miles long and 0.25 to 0.5 miles wide. The juncture of Rock Ridge and Deer Creek in the form of a water gap exposed the "Rocks

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of Deer Creek," which, capped by the natural metamorphosed rocks called the King and Queen Seat, rise approximately 190 feet above the creek. The Rocks of Deer Creek are "fine-grained siliceous sandstone and quartz conglomerate that have been metamorphosed or mineralogically altered under great pressure and have, in consequence, been thoroughly impregnated with a secondary deposit of silica."

(4) The rocks include the following minerals: muscovite (located in continuous wavy membranes), blue kyanite (in large radiating tufts), chlorite, magnetite and tourmaline, garnet, and rutile. (5) The unyielding qualities of the quartzite and quartz conglomerate are responsible for the rock towers and turbulent channel where Deer Creek crosses the ridge at "The Rocks." (6)

Pre-park land use was also dependent upon the natural environment and its resources. The natural topography affected the location of circulation routes and settlement. Deer Creek itself provided power for mills that appear to be one of the first uses of the area, as the Milford Mill, which became Preston's Mill, dates to the middle eighteenth century. (7) By the 1830s, Deer Creek provided power for La Grange Iron Works, and the surrounding lands provided trees that were felled to produce charcoal that was combined with iron ore (mined elsewhere) and limestone flux to produce iron bars, which was mostly then shipped elsewhere for transformation into other uses. The broad Deer Creek floodplain north of St. Clair Road was the site of the La Grange forge and ancillary activities, and a race was constructed near the back of the floodplain terrace. The iron master's house and outbuildings remain standing on the east side of Deer Creek, outside the park boundaries. Later in the century, resource extraction continued through chrome mining and rock quarrying.

Because The Rocks are so steep, the logical placement of roads was along the banks of Deer Creek. When built, the railroad also ran along the base of the north side of Rock Ridge (along Gladden Run) and then south through the Deer Creek gorge rather than over the difficult terrain. Historic archeological sites within the park boundaries are often close to Deer Creek, and they include domestic sites, a railroad station, hotel/store, and a general store, dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The archeological remains of the La Grange Iron Works Furnace are on a higher artificial terrace.

The area that became Rocks State Park also had a leisure and commercial use prior to park development. The natural formations are impressive enough that they became an excursion destination in the nineteenth century, resulting in an accompanying general store, hotel/store, and train station to serve the tourists. The acquisition of this natural landmark by the State of Maryland reflected an intention to conserve the natural environment for its scenic beauty and to provide access to Deer Creek for various forms of recreation (initially fishing and swimming).

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4) Cultural Traditions:

According to much-repeated local tradition, the Susquehannock Indians used the King and Queen Seat rock formation for council meetings and ceremonial purposes. Folklore further suggests that the formation served as the customary thrones for the supreme chief of the Deer Creek confederated Susquehannock villages and his wife, giving the rock formation its name. The source of most, if not all, of these traditions is Thomas Wysong's 1880 publication *The Rocks of Deer Creek, Harford County, Maryland: Their Legends and History* includes stories involving the King and Queen Seat rock formation as well as Falling Branch Falls. However, additional research by the Cultural Resources staff of the Maryland State Highway Administration was unable to verify reported pre-Contact or Contact period Native American cultural utilization of the King and Queen Seat Rocks. (8) Reviews of ethnographic and archeological records and consultation of experts on the Susquehannocks found no additional evidence of cultural connection to the Susquehannocks, a now extinct tribe. Furthermore, consultation with modern Native Americans from Maryland (Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs, Piscataway Indian Nation, Cedarville Band of Piscataway Indians, Piscataway Conoy Tribe) and New York (Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca, and Tuscarora) also failed to uncover knowledge or oral tradition of the Susquehannock connection or of traditional use. Although the Piscataway were given about 285 acres land in the Rocks vicinity in the 1970s, this was outside of their traditional territory in southern Maryland, and involved no connection to the King and Queen Seat. Based on the research completed to date, it does not appear that there is sufficient evidence of traditional Native American association with the King and Queen Seat for this feature to be considered a Traditional Cultural Property.

5) Circulation Networks:

The primary circulation patterns in Rocks State Park build upon the extant state and county roads that pre-date the park's establishment. The routes of these roads are influenced by the topography of the area and the route of Deer Creek. Northern Harford County was sparsely populated in the eighteenth century, but the Milford Mill was established on Deer Creek in 1752; it later became Preston's Mill which is noted on historic maps. Greater development occurred during the first half of the nineteenth century, and primitive roads would have been established then, although they are not seen on Lucas' 1841 *Map of the State of Maryland*, due to the larger scale of this map. A reference to the public road crossing Deer Creek at La Grange dates to 1838 when Isaac Rogers, Ignatius Rutledge, and Thomas Street (all residents of the area) were appointed commissioners to build a bridge at this location. A covered bridge in this location was completed by 1847. (9) A precursor to the current Rocks Road does appear on the

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1858 Jennings and Herrick *Map of Harford County, Maryland*, but the road, while hugging the path of Deer Creek, has a slightly different alignment than it currently exhibits. The 1878 Martenet *Map of Harford County, Maryland* shows a route close to that of today, but the crossing of Deer Creek is slightly different. The Maryland State Roads Commission relocated MD 24, also known as Rocks Road, to its current alignment in 1934 when the current bridge was built, generally following its older route through the Deer Creek gorge, as shown on the 1878 Martenet Map of Harford County.

Today, MD 24 runs north and south along the eastern part of the park, from south of Sharon Road to north of Rocks Station Road. It parallels Deer Creek's path for its route through the park, with the exception of the northernmost section. St. Clair Bridge Road, which separates the sites of the La Grange Forge and Furnace, cuts across the base of the horseshoe-shaped meander of Deer Creek, then generally follows Deer Creek's path through the park west from the MD 24 Bridge over Deer Creek. Rocks Chrome Hill Road, which extends west from MD 24 south of the Rocks, dates from at least the mid-nineteenth century, as both the Kellog House (c. 1850) and the Leopold House (c. 1810) face this road. Rocks Station Road, leading southeast from MD 24, provides some access to the eastern side of the park where the former railroad ran.

Three truss bridges are present within, or immediately adjacent to, Rocks State Park. The bridge that carries MD 24 over Deer Creek, built in 1934, is individually-eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C, and is at least the fourth bridge over Deer Creek at La Grange, preceded by a covered bridge constructed in 1847, an iron bridge from 1871, and the truss bridge built in 1907 now accessing Carter Farm. The previous 1907 bridge was moved to the very south end of the park, and is now called the Carter Farm Bridge (MIHP # HA-799); it is recommended not eligible for listing on the NRHP, due to its change of original location. The Cherry Hill Road Bridge is another individually-eligible truss bridge, also eligible under Criterion C.

The abandoned Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad right-of-way is contained in Rocks State Park, but it is not noted on current park maps. The railroad bed associated with the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad (alternately referred to as the Ma & Pa Railroad) passes through the eastern section of Rocks State Park, crossing Deer Creek and following a route along the east bank of the creek. This rail line was originally built between 1880 and 1883 as a narrow gauge line and was later upgraded in 1900 to a standard gauge line. The line moved industrial freight, agricultural goods (especially milk), mail, and passengers between York, Pennsylvania, Baltimore, Maryland, and points in-between until it was abandoned in 1958. (10) The tracks and rail were removed from the rail bed in 1958 at the close of operations. The stone abutment and in-stream retaining wall where the railroad crossed Deer Creek (Ma & Pa Railroad Bridge Abutments, MIHP #HA-29), the rail grade, and associated cuts and retaining

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walls for the bed remain within the park boundary. Just outside the park boundary is a retaining wall that helped support the Copper Rock Trestle.

Drill holes associated with a cable-car system for quarrying activities are also located on rock faces on the Rocks of Deer Creek outcrop. This cable system, built in the 1890s, consisted of iron cables connected to winches that were anchored to the surrounding rock. Small cars were connected to the iron cables and were used to transport raw materials from a quarry area to rail cars at the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad. The cableway was the work of John A. Roebling's Sons Company of Trenton, New Jersey, and was included in the company's 1903 Price List as an example of work they had completed. The Rocks cableway was a two-and-a-half-inch diameter steel cable spanning 750 feet, allowing the easy transport of fifteen-ton granite blocks from the quarry across the river to railroad cars. The Roebling Company called it was one of the largest and most complete cableways ever constructed; the company had produced more than twenty different types. John A. Roebling, the famous bridge designer died in 1869, during the construction of the Brooklyn Bridge, so he himself was not directly involved with the Rocks cableway, but he was the first engineer to introduce wire-rope tramways in America. (11)

The Preston family owned land on both sides of Deer Creek, living on one side and owning a mill on the other. Possible remnants of the historic Preston's Ford are just south of Cherry Hill Road (18HA314). The ford, possibly dating from the mid-eighteenth century when the first mill in the area was constructed, would have been used to cross Deer Creek prior to the construction of the Cherry Hill Bridge which occurred between 1885 and 1900. (12) The only portions of the ford that remain include three submerged log cribs and one log crib protruding from the stream bank. Other remnants of the ford were likely destroyed during past flood events.

A road extending southeast from St. Clair Bridge Road provides access to the Rock Ridge Picnic Area. It was built purposefully for the park. The Red Trail leads gently from the Rock Ridge Picnic Area to the King and Queen Seat rock formation. The Purple Trail leads from the Rapids Parking Area steeply up hill to the King and Queen Seat, and the White Trail transverses the mountain leading from the Wilson Picnic Area, past the site of La Grange Furnace, to the King and Queen Seat. Other trails circulate throughout the park for the pursuit of hiking and enjoyment of nature. Deer Creek is used for circulation by fishers (generally wading upstream) and by paddlers and tubers (generally traveling downstream).

The two smaller areas of the park are several miles from the Main Rocks Area. They are accessible by private vehicle over state and county roads. Falling Branch Area has a parking area along Falling Branch

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Road and a main trail leading to the waterfall. The Hidden Valley Natural Area has a small parking area. One trail runs through this natural area.

6) Boundary Demarcations:

The legal boundaries of Rocks State Park are primarily marked by fences along the property lines. Within the park, boundary demarcations include large boulders placed at points along MD 24 to serve as guardrails and to prevent parking along the road; they are park-related resources. Contact stations at the entrance of each of the picnic areas serve as day-use fee payment locations. Collectively, these demarcations define Rocks State Park.

7) Vegetation Related to Land Use:

As a state park, vegetation is primarily forested with evergreen and deciduous trees. Mowed areas of grass are located within the picnic areas, but most of these are also shaded by trees. Ornamental plantings are present at Hills Grove and Wilson's Picnic areas.

Many historical features and archeological sites in the park have become overgrown and forested, reflecting the evolution of the landscape and modern use as a park.

8) Buildings, Structures, and Objects:

Rocks State Park includes many buildings including two nineteenth-century stone houses, three pump houses, three pavilions, two restroom buildings, one comfort station building, three contact stations, one radio shed, one barbecue shelter, one former nature center, one former concession building, one c. 1965 house, one c. 1972 house and garage, and one office/shop. Except for the nineteenth-century stone houses, the buildings were built between 1960 and 1997. Non-building structures at Rocks State Park include drainage pipes and culverts under MD 24.

9) Clusters:

Each of the three picnic areas within Rocks State Park can be considered a cluster. Each contains a contact station, parking, a pavilion, restrooms, picnic tables, grills, and playground equipment. Other clusters are the parking areas along Deer Creek, which generally contain information kiosks, guardrails, and directional signage.

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Historically, clusters of functionally-similar resources occur in La Grange Ironworks area around the St. Clair Bridge Road and Wilson Picnic Area (furnace, forge, iron masters house, etc.), the Rocks Station area (archeological sites of station and hotel/store), and the King and Queens Seat area (recreation and quarrying).

10) Archeological Resources:

Rocks State Park includes several known archeological resources noted by Goodwin (2004): the Isaac Jones Mill/Ruins (MIHP # HA-905) at Falling Branch, John Stewart's Barnyard Wall (MIHP # HA-502) at Hidden Valley, the LaGrange Iron Works Furnace in the Main Rocks Area, and various stone walls and ruins, none of which had been assigned archeological site numbers. In 2008, Goodwin conducted a Phase I archeological survey for the MD 24 corridor Sections A through G only, that identified a number of additional archeological resources (18HA308, 18HA309, 18HA310, 18HA311, and 18HA314).

Supplementary Phase I archeological survey for Section A of the MD 24 corridor was conducted by the Ottery Group in 2012-13 and recorded two additional archeological sites (18HA322 and 18HA323). Archeological site locations are protected by state and federal law and are not included on the maps in the current document.

Archeological Site 18HA308 is called the Rogers House/Ramsay General Store Site. A structure at this location appears on 1858 and 1878 maps attributed to "Rogers" and "E. S. Rogers" but it is noted that the Rogers family, owners of La Grange Iron Works, owned numerous houses in the area, and likely did not live in this exact location. The dwelling was sold to James W. Gladden (who established Rocks Station for the Ma & Pa Railroad on the opposite side of Deer Creek). The building was later converted to a general store fronted by a row of gas pumps by John R. Ramsay, who also operated the Ramsay Hotel and Store next to Rocks Station. While a stone wall was present during the era of the Ramsay store, it is not the same design of the stone wall that is now present, as indicated by historic photographs. The archeological site consists of a late nineteenth to early twentieth century domestic and architectural artifacts from a mixed fill context. (11) The site lacks integrity caused by demolition and construction of a concession stand in the 1960s. The Rogers House/Ramsay General Store Site is recommended as not individually eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Site 18HA309, related to the John C. Ayers family, consists of a historic domestic site that also functioned for a time as a store. Structural remains include a partial concrete dwelling foundation, a possible outbuilding remnant, along with a scatter of late nineteenth to early twentieth century artifacts. The east and west walls are not visible and the north wall is missing. The remnants of a cinder block chimney are within the northeastern corner of the site. A rectangular hole south of the

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foundation is a possible apple house or root cellar outbuilding. Historic artifacts, primarily kitchen and architectural items, ranged in age from the late nineteenth to early twentieth centuries. (14) Artifacts were recovered on the surface or the upper stratum. No intact sub-surface features were identified within the site area during testing. Site 18HA309 is recommended as not individually eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Site 18HA310, which archival records indicate was a structure formerly owned by Miss Ella V. Rodenmyer per 1930s plats, consists of a stone foundation, depression, concrete well shaft, and associated late nineteenth to mid-twentieth century historic artifacts deposits. The primary structure had a partial rubble-laid fieldstone foundation cut into the adjacent hillside; the only remaining wall section measures 1.5 meters (5 feet) high and 61 centimeters (2 feet) thick, although a concrete well liner, steps, and trash dump are extant. Remnants of the outbuilding consist of a bowl-shaped depression located north of the primary structure. Disturbances due to grading and road construction activities are present throughout the site area. (15) Historic artifacts recovered from Site 18HA310 are primarily domestic and architectural in nature were recovered exclusively from the surface and upper soil profile. (16) Grading and roadway construction at the site has mixed artifact deposits disturbed the archeological features at this site. No intact sub-surface features were identified within the site area during testing. Due to the disturbances present and the lack of site integrity, Site 18HA310 is recommended as not individually eligible for listing on the NRHP.

Site 18HA311 consists of the remains of the La Grange furnace, a probable collier pit, and road traces, all located south of St. Clair Bridge Road and west of MD 24. This site was examined by pedestrian survey only and has not been evaluated for NHRP significance, though it represents tangible remains of the core of iron industry at La Grange. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has installed an interpretive panel. No other portions of the La Grange Iron Works were included in Goodwin's 2008 survey area, so they are not included in 18HA311 boundaries. In 2012-13 a narrow strip adjoining Deer Creek along the north and west sides of the Wilson Picnic Area was examined by the Ottery Group, who recovered no artifacts from systematic shovel testing. An earlier survey of the Wilson Picnic Area prior to the construction of the comfort station and parking lots was reportedly conducted in the early 1990s, with negative results. The letter report by Harrill (1992), cited in Goodwin's 2004 MIHP form, has not been relocated. Bellows pits, and foundations were reportedly exposed during construction, but were not documented prior to backfilling or otherwise reported (Cook 2008, Grove and Schein 2003). Surface indications of a partially filled in race are still present in the Wilson Picnic Area. The Wilson Picnic Area is considered to have high archeological potential.

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Site 18HA314 consists of the previously discussed Preston Ford represented by in-stream cribbing. A concentration of secondarily-placed stones extending across the streambed a short distance downstream from the cribbing is in the location of Preston's ford as shown in 1858; however, the stones may also represent a modern fish dam.

Sites 18HA322 and 18HA323 document the former locations of the Rocks Station and the associated Ramsay Hotel and Store on the east side of Deer Creek. The railroad was constructed in the Rocks area in 1884. Improvements were initiated by James Gladden in 1886 with the construction of a stable and post office. In the early 1890s, John R. Ramsay operated the stable, post-office, and general store and hotel which served as the railroad station until the construction of the one-story platform with attached ticket office. Ramsay served as storekeeper, postmaster, and railroad ticketing agent. The station operated until 1954 when the Ma & Pa Railroad ended passenger service through Rocks. The Ramsay hotel and store burned in 1958, having been abandoned sometime earlier.

The Ramsay Hotel and Store was a four-story, five gable, wooden structure with an 88 x28 foot stone foundation, and later frame extensions. Archeological survey and testing of the hotel and store located below-ground foundation remnants and a late-nineteenth through mid-twentieth century artifact assemblage, showing evidence of burning, and a 1928 date nail used in track construction. Demolition of the remains appears to have involved some grading, affecting the integrity of Site 18HA323; though burn layers are also present.

Plans and plats from 1913 and 1915 indicate that the Rocks Station had a siding and main track, with a station, extended platform, smaller milk platform, garage and shed, and possibly a warehouse. A nearby wooden water tank was located to the south, at the base of the Rock Ridge gorge around the bend from the station. Archeological survey and testing located the partially above-ground poured concrete foundation of the garage approximately 48 x 11 feet, with a builder's trench. A small artifact assemblage included a lead boxcar seal for the Pennsylvania Railroad. The station and platform appears to have been set on posts. Integrity of Site 18HA322 was affected by the removal of the railroad tracks and ties in 1958. Neither site is considered individually eligible for NRHP listing. (17)

11) Small-scale Elements:

Site furnishings are contemporary, including park benches, signage at park entrances, informational kiosks at parking areas, picnic tables, and grills. Wood benches and a screen form the Rock Ridge Amphitheater. Along Deer Creek, footbridges and wooden steps provide access to the creek. A mill stone and stone pillar with embedded metal fastenings is placed as art or artifact along the sidewalk

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from the parking lot to the restroom at Wilson's Picnic Area. The source of the mill stone and pillar is not documented and is not officially attributed as related to La Grange Iron Works.

A USGS stream gage stands along Deer Creek; it dates from the 1920s, and is neither a park-related structure, nor a significant historic resource. It is assessed independently on a Short Form for Ineligible Properties.

Historic Context

The history of the Rocks State Park area can be discussed in many historic contexts including the pre-park land uses of mills; iron production; resource extraction by mining and quarrying; as a nineteenth century tourist destination and recreation location; and the establishment of a railroad village. The history of Rocks State Park itself is limited to the mid-twentieth century after the park was established in 1951. Events in the establishment and development of the Rocks State Park occurred during the 1950s and 1960s.

Pre-park History

The establishment of Rocks State Park is due to the existence of the "High and Wonderful Rocks of Deer Creek," the natural formation surveyed as 23 acres in 1798 and patented to Henry Myers in 1799. In 1817, John Clendenen acquired the property and throughout the nineteenth century, the Rocks were a popular destination for picnics and outings, as described in Booth Family letters, as well as published accounts of the annual Harvest Home Picnic that attracted farmers from Baltimore, York, and Harford Counties in Maryland and Pennsylvania. (18) In 1879, Thomas Wysong published *The Rocks of Deer Creek, Harford County, Maryland: Their Legends and History*, recording and embellishing upon traditional stories of the Rocks.

Rocks State Park includes the site of the La Grange Iron Works, which was an important Harford County industrial site in the mid-nineteenth century. Established by Isaac Rogers and his son Joseph in 1834, following establishment of an earlier Forge by John Lewin. (19) La Grange Iron Works was later headed by Isaac's younger son Evans Stanley Rogers, and its blast was extinguished in 1874.

The La Grange Iron Works was one of about forty-seven furnaces in Maryland established between 1722 and 1889. Of these, the La Grange Iron Works was fairly typical in its amount of production and length of operation. It began with a forge, which is defined as a workplace for heating metals, and by 1836, a furnace was added, allowing for raw iron to be produced from charcoal, flux (usually limestone) and iron ore. La Grange used brown hematite ore, from regional locations (mostly in northeast Baltimore

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County), including Thomas Hope's and a small bed in Westminster, Carroll County. Other Maryland furnaces that used brown hematite ore included Hampton, Harford, Catocin, and Antietam, and it was the same kind of ore found in France and in Lancashire, England. The first La Grange furnace was a cold-blast, water-powered charcoal furnace, 28 feet high by 6 feet in diameter. At a later date, it had a hot-blast furnace, which was a technique first used around 1836, which allowed anthracite coal to replace charcoal for fuel. La Grange's hot-blast furnace was thirty-five feet tall and six feet wide, and it was probably built prior to the 1850 Manufacturing Census, which documented the La Grange Furnace as worth \$35,000, employing 8 men, and producing 700 tons of pig iron (requiring 2,000 tons of ore and 98,000 bushels of coal) valued at \$18,200. The La Grange Forge was also valued at \$35,000, employed 10 men, and produced 200 tons of bar iron (valued at \$14,000) from 300 tons of pig iron and 90,000 bushels of coal. In 1853, La Grange's capacity was 1,000 tons of iron per annum, which was the smallest amount produced by the thirty-one furnaces in Maryland at the time. In comparison, the largest iron company, Ashland Furnace in Baltimore County, produced 7,000 tons of iron a year. By 1859, the La Grange Hot-blast Charcoal Furnace could produce 780 tons of iron in only 6 months of the year. Harford County Historian C. Milton Wright later wrote that La Grange had employed 300 men. (20) Census Records of 1860 and 1870 enumerate forgers, founders, blacksmiths, and wagoners living in the area, as well as the household of the iron works' owner, Evans Stanley Rogers (son of La Grange's founder, Isaac Rogers). In 1860, Rogers also employed a clerk, manager, and apprentice. By 1870, his wealth had greatly increased, showing that the Civil War had brought great demand for iron, from which La Grange had benefitted.

The two decades following the Civil War, from 1865-1885, marked a rapid decline in Maryland iron industry, as twenty-seven furnaces were abandoned, including La Grange, which was abandoned in 1874. Evans Stanley Rogers had made a significant amount of money by this time, and he was engaged with other economic and social pursuits, such as investing in banks and railroads. He was one of the largest subscribers to, and a director of the Baltimore and Delta Railroad, which was planned to run through his vast land holdings. He planned to re-start the furnace when the railroad arrived, but he died in 1882 shortly before the railroad was completed in 1883, but by this time, the iron industry had greatly changed, due to the spread of the Bessemer process. Invented in 1855, the Bessemer process produced steel from iron more efficiently, by removing impurities from pig iron by oxidation caused by air being blown through the molten iron. Thus iron products were phased out and replaced by steel ones, which were stronger than iron.

Unfortunately, very little structural remains are evident of La Grange Iron Works. The locations of the Forge and Furnace were both within the park. The Forge was located in the modern location of the

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Wilson's Picnic Area. The Furnace (18HA311) was located south of St. Clair Bridge Road, along the present-day the White Trail. This site includes stone walls built into a steep hillside, traces of wagon roads that led to the bottom of the furnace and to its top, a level terrace at the base of the furnace, a possible slag heap, and a possible collier pit. A Department of Natural Resources interpretive panel marks the furnace's location. From the Furnace site, one can look across MD 24 and Deer Creek, to the La Grange House, home of the ironmasters of La Grange Iron Works and their families. Although the La Grange House and Outbuildings (MIHP # HA-30) are residential in nature and are not direct examples of industrial architecture, they retain a high level of integrity and visually represent the history of La Grange Iron Works.

In the early 1860s, chrome mining occurred at the area that now forms Rocks State Park. The Baltimore Chrome Mining Company mined the area, but no extant, above-ground structures relating to chrome mine have been documented to date within the park.

Local residents of the Rocks area, including the Rogers family who owned La Grange Iron Works, were influential in bringing the railroad to the Rocks. Evans Stanley Rogers was one of the largest subscribers to the Baltimore and Delta Railroad, as a railroad located near La Grange Iron Works would have benefitted his business by reducing the effort of transporting iron by wagon to other railroads. However, La Grange Iron Works ended production in 1874, and it was not until December 1883, that Maryland Central Railway completed the gap between Bel Air (Maryland) and Delta (Pennsylvania), connecting the cities of Baltimore, Maryland, and York, Pennsylvania. Thus, the railroad era of Rocks is separate from the iron production era. With the arrival of the train, the Rocks of Deer Creek became a possible day-trip excursion, as the trains made two stops at the Rocks Station. (21) The Rocks Station was built on the eastern side of Deer Creek on property owned by James Gladden. In 1885, Gladden also built a large, three-story frame structure that was a store, hotel, and post office. Eventually, this became the Ramsay Hotel and Store, operated by John R. Ramsay. This structure was destroyed by fire in 1958. The railway became the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad in 1901 and service continued until 1958, after the establishment of Rocks State Park.

During the 1890s, the Charles Carroll Egerton of the Maryland Granite Company purchased land formerly owned by Evans Stanley Rogers of La Grange Iron Works on the west side of Deer Creek and other lands owned by John and Mary Gladden on the east side of Deer Creek. The Maryland Granite Company commissioned the John A. Roebling's Sons Company to design and build an elaborate cable car system that transported material from quarry location above the east side of Deer Creek to the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad at the base of the gorge on the west bank of Deer Creek. The cableway was one of the largest cableways produced by the John A. Roebling's Sons Company of

Prepared by: SHA Consultant Architectural Historian Rebecca Crew

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Trenton, New Jersey, but the quarrying operation lasted only a short time, from approximately 1891-1893. (22)

Park History

The Maryland State Parks Department began its efforts of forest conservation in the early twentieth century, with the 1906 establishment of the Board of Forestry. By 1940, the Maryland Department of Planning had identified the Rocks at Deer Creek as a scenic resource with swimming and other recreational opportunities that contained several thousand affordable acres that could be acquired for establishment of a park called Deer Creek Valley. (23) In 1941, the new state agency of the Maryland Department of State Forests and Parks resulted from the recognition that state forests were being used for recreational purposes. Although World War II postponed land acquisition at the Rocks, following the war, public demand for outdoor recreational opportunities increased. (24) In 1951, the Maryland Department of Forests and Parks began acquiring property for Rocks State Park. Early names for the park were Deer Creek State Park, the Rocks Recreation Reserve, and the Rocks Geological Reserve, signifying the importance of both the geologic value of the Rocks and the recreational value of the creek.

As described in Goodwin's 2004 MIHP form, the park began with a 2-acre purchase from Woodrow and Bessie Ayers in September 1951. By the following year, the Maryland Department of Forests and Parks owned 82 acres of Rocks parkland. By August 1957, the Rocks property had grown to 202 acres. By 1966, it had obtained 269 acres out of a proposed 720. By the end of the decade, the park had grown to 483 acres, and by the end of the 1970s, it had 842 acres, including 150 acres that became Hidden Valley Natural Area. Eleven acres were added in the 1980s, and in the 1990s, the Falling Branch Area was acquired, resulting in the current park size of approximately 920 acres. (25) This piecemeal acquisition was influenced by the availability of funds designated by the state and by the willingness of former landowners to sell.

The first park-purpose-built buildings at Rocks State Park were not constructed until 1960. The Rock Ridge picnic area development and construction of the nature center, concession building, and staff housing, occurred between 1960 and 1964. The development included a pavilion, restrooms, a playground, maintenance buildings, and a road to access the summit and designated parking areas.

The development of Rock Ridge pre-dated the 1964 arrival of Spencer Ellis, a trained landscape architect, as Director of the Maryland Department of Forests and Parks. Other aspects of the park's

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development may be linked to Ellis, as he hired park planners to create the 1966 Master Plan for Outdoor Recreation: 1967-1976, which called for additional facilities for parks and emphasized automobile access and accommodation. (26)

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the state's land conservation program, Program Open Space, was established in 1969. At that time, the Maryland Park Service became the agency managing the state's parks. (27) The 1972 construction of housing for park rangers and the office/shop relate to the increased state park budget. The 1976 acquisition of Hidden Valley Natural Area and the 1990s acquisition of the Falling Branch Area are a result of Program Open Space and the efforts of local land trusts and environmental groups. The 1980s construction of the Hills Grove Picnic Area and the 1990s development of the Wilson Picnic Area are the result of further development of the park for recreational purposes.

As part of developing a context within which to evaluate Rocks State Park, consideration was given to the potential influence that groundbreaking federal initiatives may have had on the state park's development. In 1955, the National Park Service began Mission 66 to modernize national parks by the 50th anniversary of the park service in 1966. Its intention was to permit the "wisest possible use, maximum enjoyment for those who use them; and maximum protection of the scenic, scientific, wilderness, and historic resources that give them distinction." It specified construction of modern roads, well planned trails, utilities, camp and picnic grounds, and many kinds of structures needed for public use or administration. Mission 66 improvements were to be designed and located to reduce the impact of public use on valuable and destructible features. No direct influence is known between the National Park Service and the development of Rocks State Park, although the general intentions are similar, to balance the enjoyment of park visitors with the protection of resources. In National Parks, Mission 66 manifested most characteristically in Modern visitors centers. At Rocks State Park, the construction of roads, picnic areas, hiking trails, and parking lots worked to balance recreational use with conservation of resources. However, the design elements are not particularly Modern, but rather rustic and traditional. The walls of the former concession building (c. 1962) are a rock veneer, and large rocks were placed strategically to prevent roadside-parking along MD 24 and to create a scenic reference to the name of the park. The gable-roofed picnic pavilion (c. 1962) at Rock Ridge has concrete masonry construction and massive shouldered chimneys. The Rock Ridge Rest Room (c. 1962) has concrete masonry construction, a gable roof, and exposed rafter ends (as does the former concession

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Name of Property: Rocks State Park

Location: Harford County, MD

building). An inlaid triangular pattern in the concrete blocks is a small design element that may reference the Native American associations of the park. The former Nature Center (c. 1962) can be described as mid-century modern with an angular roof and functionally-derived floor plan, although it is a weak expression of the style. Thus, the early development of Rocks State Park shares the timeframe and objective of Mission 66, although Rocks State Park does not well-represent the Modern design that is characteristic of Mission 66.

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- (2) John A. Roebling's Sons Company, "Price List." (Trenton, NJ: John A. Roebling's Sons Company, 1903), 88-89.
- (3) Cleveland Abbe, Jr. "A General Report on the Physiography of Maryland," in Maryland Weather Service, Vol. 1, ed. William Bullock Clark (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1899), 47-48.
- (4) George Huntington Williams, "The Petrography and Structure of the Piedmont Plateau in Maryland," in Bulletin of the Geological Society of America, Vol. 2. (NY: Geological Society of America, 1891), 309.
- (5) Abbe, 135.
- (6) Kathryn G. Dixon, Nathan S. Workman, Jennifer L. Evans, and Joshua Roth. Phase I Cultural Resource Investigations for Proposed Improvements to Maryland 24 From South of Stirrup Run to the St. Clair Bridge over Deer Creek, Harford County, Maryland. (Frederick, Maryland: R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, Inc., 2009), 17.
- (7) Carol Ebright, "Summary of Research on the King and Queen Seat," On File, Maryland State Highway Administration, 2004.
- (8) "La Grange Iron Works or Rocks Road Covered Bridge, Maryland Covered Bridges, accessed March 18, 2013, <http://mdcoveredbridges.com/lagrange.html>.
- (9) C. Milton Wright, Our Harford Heritage: A History of Harford County, Maryland. (Privately published, 1967), 130-33.

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Name of Property: Rocks State Park

Location: Harford County, MD

(10) Dixon, et al.

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(13) Ibid.

(14) Ibid.

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(17) Karl Franz and Tom Bodor, Supplemental Testing to Phase I Cultural Resource Investigations for Proposed Improvements to MD 24 From South of Stirrup Run to the St. Clair Bridge Over Deer Creek, Harford County, Maryland. (The Ottery Group for Maryland State Highway Administration, May 2013), page 9.

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(20) Wright, 145.

(21) George Hilton, The MA & PA: A History of the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad (Baltimore: John Hopkins Press, 1999), 23.

(22) John A. Roebling's Sons Company, "Price List." (Trenton, NJ: John A. Roebling's Sons Company, 1903), 88-89.

(23) 1940 Maryland State Planning Commission publication, Maryland Recreation Areas

(24) History of Maryland State Parks, <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/sfpshistory.html>, updated February 1, 2005, accessed May 5, 2009.

(25) Goodwin, Section 8, Continuation Page 1.

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Location: Harford County, MD

(26) Robert F. Bailey, III. Images of America: Maryland's Forests and Parks: A Century of Progress. (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2006), 93.

(27) History of Maryland State Parks, <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/sfpshistory.html>, updated February 1, 2005, accessed May 5, 2009.

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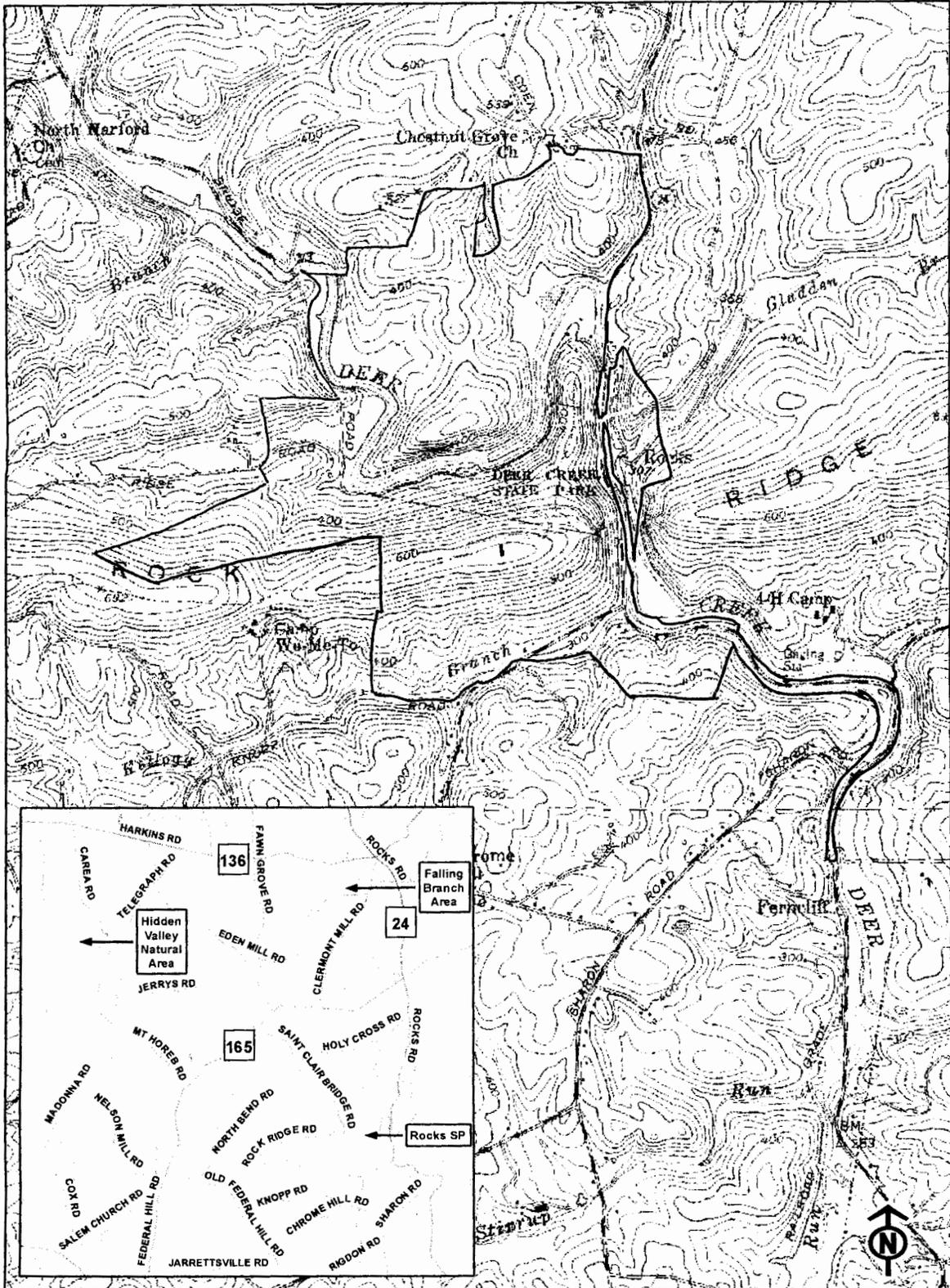
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USGS Fawn Grove Quad and Jarrettsville Quad



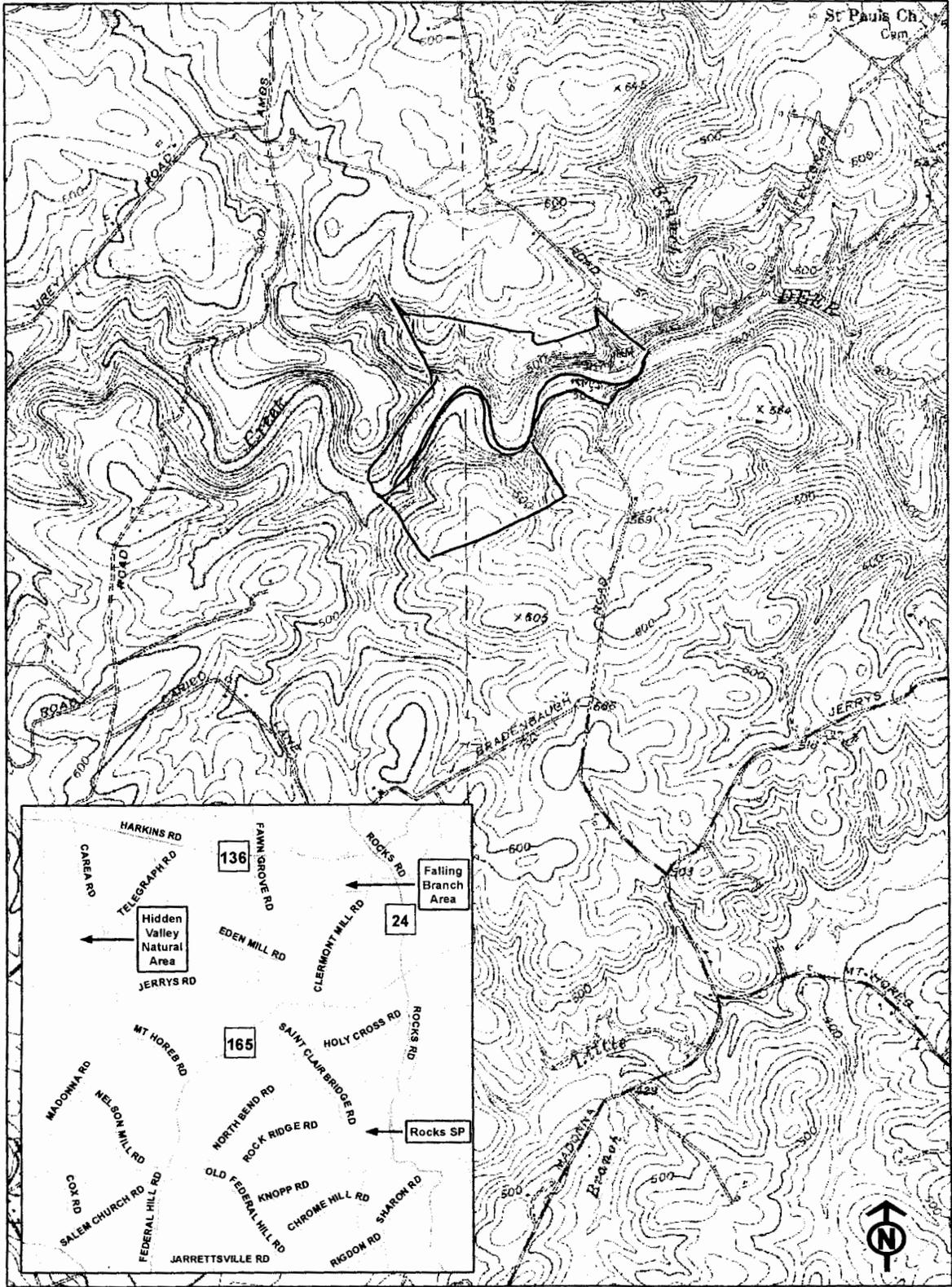
Property

0 1,000 2,000 Feet 1:24,000

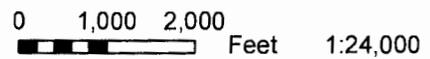
Hidden Valley Natural Area
Rocks State Park HA-2047

Hidden Valley Natural Area
Rocks State Park HA-2047
Harford County, MD

USGS Norrisville Quad and Fawn Grove Quad

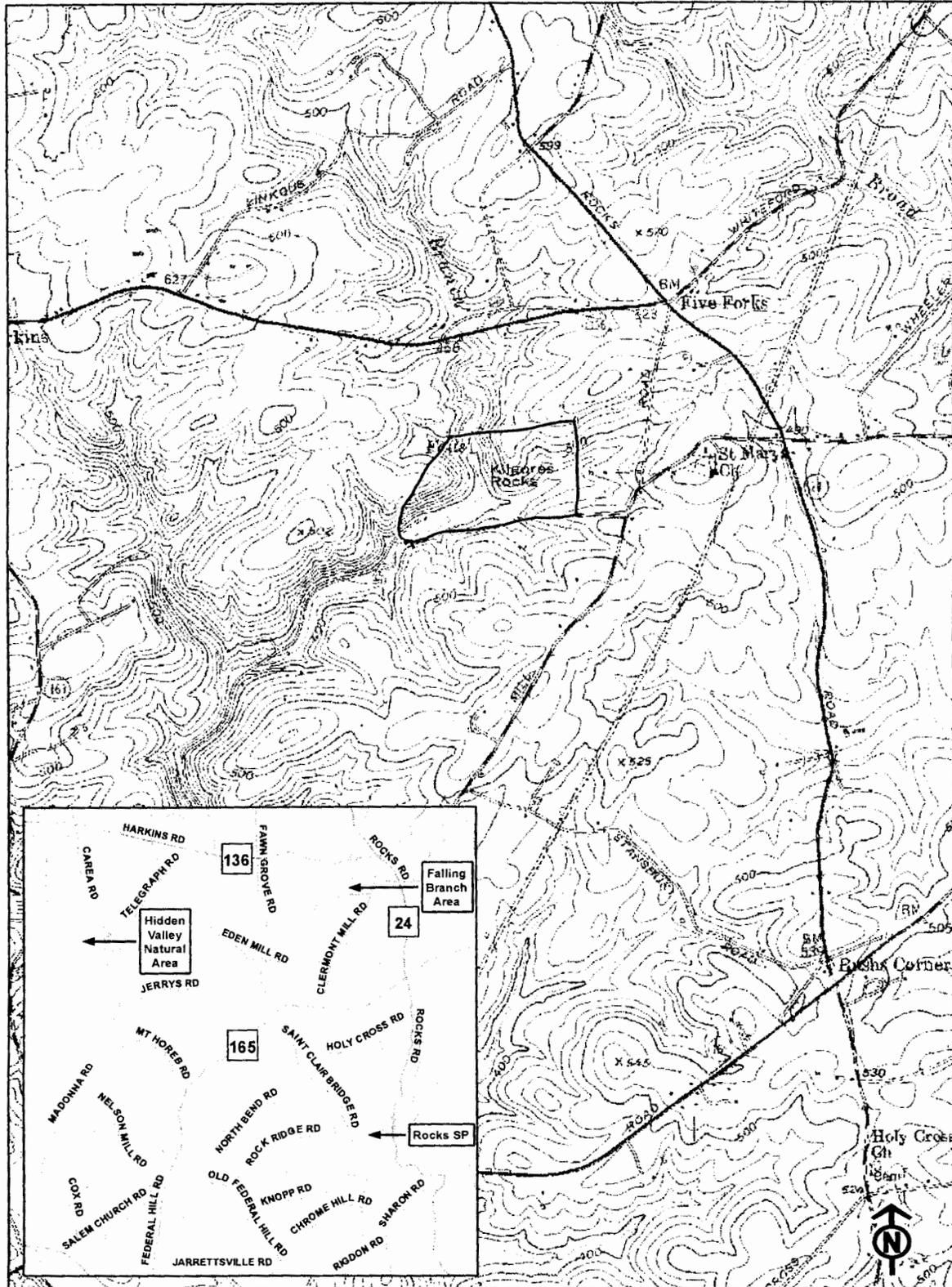


Property

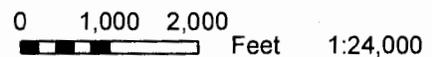


Falling Branch Area
Rocks State Park HA-2047

Falling Branch Area
Rocks State Park HA-2047
Harford County, MD
USGS Fawn Grove Quad



Property



Digital Photo Log

MIHP No.: HA-2047

Property Name: Rocks State Park

County: Harford

Photographer: Rebecca Crew

Date: 4 May 2009

Ink and Paper Combination: Pigment-based HP Vivera 564 ink and HP Premium Plus photo paper

CD/DVD: CD-R Gold, Delkin Archival Gold with Phthalocyanine dye

| Image File Name | Description of View |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HA-2047_2009-05-04_01 | Facing southwest toward former concession building on west side of MD 24 |
| HA-2047_2009-05-04_02 | Facing northwest towards former nature center (c. 1962) |
| HA-2047_2009-05-04_03 | View facing northeast towards Deer Creek and former Ward House (c. 1972) |
| HA-2047_2009-05-04_04 | View facing north towards Middle Area Pump House (c. 1960) on east side of MD 24 |
| HA-2047_2009-05-04_05 | View facing southeast towards Rock Ridge Pavilion (c. 1962) and Barbeque Shelter (c. 1983) |
| HA-2047_2009-05-04_06 | View facing west towards Rock Ridge Pump House (c. 1962, foreground) and Radio Shed (c. 1965, background) |
| HA-2047_2009-05-04_07 | View facing east towards Rock Ridge Restroom (c. 1962) |
| HA-2047_2009-05-04_08 | View facing southwest towards Rock Ridge amphitheater |
| HA-2047_2009-05-04_09 | View facing south towards Wilson Comfort Station (c. 1997) |
| HA-2047_2009-05-04_10 | View facing northwest towards Hills Grove picnic area |
| HA-2047_2009-05-04_11 | View facing west towards Offices/Shop building (c. 1972) on Rocks Chrome Hill Road |
| HA-2047_2009-05-06_12 | View facing southeast towards Falling Branch Falls (MIHP # HA-904) |
| HA-2047_2009-05-06_13 | View facing east towards ruins in the Falling Branch Area. |
| HA-2047_2009-05-06_14 | View facing west at Hidden Valley Natural Area. |
| | |



MIHP # HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Harford Co, MD

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

MD SHPO

Facing southwest towards former

Concession Building (c. 1964)

on west side of MD 24

1 of 14



MI-809 X
Rocks State Park

Hartford Co., MI

R. crew

May 4, 2009

Negatives, MI 51120

Facing northwest towards former
nature center (c. 1962) on MD 24

#2 of 14



MID # HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Hartford Co, MD

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

Negatives, MD 5H020

View facing northwest towards Deer Creek
to Former Ward House Co. (1972)

3 of 14



NIHP # HA-2042

Rocks State Park

Hartford Co, MD

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

MD SHPO

View facing north towards Middle Area

Pump House (c. 1960) on east side of A M
MD 24.

4 of 14



MIHP # HA - 2047

Rocks State Park

Hartford Co., MD

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

MD SHPO

View facing southeast towards Rock Ridge
Pavilion (c.1962) and Barbeque Shelter (c.1962)

5 of 14



MIHP #HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Harford Co, MD

R. Crew

May 4, 2009

MD SHPO

View facing west towards Rock Ridge Pump House
(c. 1962, foreground) and Radio Shed (c. 1865,
background)

6 of 14



MHP # HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Hartford County, Maryland

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

Negatives, MD SHPO

View facing east towards Rock Ridge Restroom (c. 000

7 of 14

1062)



111111 # HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Hartford County, Maryland

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

Negatives, MD SHPO

View facing southwest towards Rock Ridge
amphitheater

8 of 14



VAN

MHP # HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Harford County, MD

R. crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

Negatives, MD SHPO

View facing south towards

Wilson Comfort Station (c. 1997)

9 of 14



MIHP # HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Harford County, MD

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

Negatives, MD SHPO

View facing northeast towards
Hills Grove Picnic area

#10 of 14



MIHP #HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Hartford County, Maryland

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

Negatives, MD SHPO

View facing west towards Office/Shop (c. 1972)
on Rocks Chrome Hill Rd.

11 of 14



MIHP # HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Hartford County, MD

R. Crew, photographer

May 6, 2008

Negatives, MD SHPO

View facing southeast towards Falling Branch Falls (MIHP #

HA-904)



MIHP # HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Jarrettsville, Harford County, Maryland

R. Crew, photographer

May 6, 2009

MD Historical Trust (negatives)

View facing east towards ruins in Falling Branch Area.

13 of 14



MIHP # HA-2042

Rocks State Park

Harford County, MD

R. Llewellyn, Photographer

May 8, 2009

Negatives, MD STPD

View facing west at Hidden Valley Natural Area
Area parking lot.

#14 of 14



HA-2047

La Grange Mill Race, Rocks State Park

Hartford Co, MD

R. Crew

6/11/13

MD SHPO

view facing southwest at Wilson's Farm area
along former mill race associated
with La Grange Forge

1/7



HA-2047

LaGrange Furnace, Rocks State Park

Hartford Co, MD

R. Crew

6/11/13

MD SHPD

View facing northwest towards stone foundation

Set into hillside at former site of LaGrange Furnace

2/7



HA-2047

LaGrange Furnace, Rocks State Park

Harford Co., MD

R. Crow

6/11/13

MD SHPB

View facing southwest towards stone foundation
in hillside at former site of LaGrange Furnace

3/7



HA-2047

La Grange Furnace, Rocks State Park,

Harford Co., MD

R. Crew

6/11/13

MD SHPO

view facing south of artificial terrace on hillside
between Rocks Road and White Trail at
4/7 former site of La Grange Furnace



HA-2047

La Grange Furnace, Rocks State Park

Hartford Co, MD

R. crew

6/11/13

MD SHPD

View facing east of possible colliery pit
Near former site of La Grange Furnace
S/7



#A-2047

LaGrange Furnace, Rocks State Park

Hartford Co, MD

R. Crew

6/11/13

MD SHPO

View facing south along wagon road

south of former site of LaGrange Furnace

6/7



HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Hartford Co, MD

R Crew

6/11/13

MD SHPD

View facing north towards flood plain in
Wilson Picnic Area

7/7

CAPSULE SUMMARY

Rocks State Park

MIHP # HA-2047

Rocks vicinity

Harford County, Maryland

Park=1951

Public

Rocks State Park encompasses approximately 920 acres in north central Harford County, Maryland. Park land was acquired between 1951 and 1997. The park has three separate and discontinuous areas: the main Rocks State Park area, the Hidden Valley Natural Area, and the Falling Branch area. The Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP # HA-469) overlooking Deer Creek are a centerpiece of the park. The Rocks were acquired for park use due to their scenic beauty and their recreational potential. The Falling Branch Falls (Kilgore Falls) (MIHP # HA-904), located five miles north in the Falling Branch Area, are another impressive natural feature of the park.

The purpose of this Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) form is to evaluate Rocks State Park as a potential historic district and to assess each MdDNR-owned built resource constructed prior to 1960 applying the *National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d])* and the criteria for the *Maryland Register of Historic Properties (Article 83B, Title 5 Annotated Code of Maryland)*. No park buildings were constructed before 1960 in any of the three areas that comprise Rocks State Park. The Leopold House (Former Leypoldt House) (MIHP # HA-1249), constructed ca. 1810, and the Kellogg House (Former Crowther House) (MIHP # HA-1250), constructed ca. 1850, are individually eligible for National Register listing under Criterion C for their architecture.

The Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP # HA-469) formation is a natural feature that has attracted visitors for informal recreation since the mid nineteenth century. The area is not an example of a designed landscape, nor is it an example of a historic vernacular landscape that evolved through informal improvements over time. Historically, the resources of the area were used to support industrial activities. The denuded landscape associated with the charcoal industry is no longer evident, nor does physical evidence of the quarrying activities from the early twentieth century remain intact. Therefore, the landscape of the Rocks no longer possesses integrity to illustrate industrial processes. The only evidence of the use of the Rocks as the destination for informal recreation by seasonal visitors is the nineteenth-century graffiti on the rocks. The graffiti itself may represent a cultural expression that may have historical significance, but it was outside the scope of this project to evaluate it. The documentation is inconclusive and anecdotal to support the evaluation of Rocks as an ethnographic landscape associated with Native American history. Thus, it does

HA-2047

not appear that Rocks State Park meets the definition to represent any of the four types of landscapes as defined in Birnbaum (1994) to qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

7. Description

Inventory No. HA-2047

Condition

| | |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> altered |

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

SUMMARY

Rocks State Park contains approximately 920 acres located in north central Harford County, Maryland (Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MdDNR) 2002a; MdDNR 2002b:5). The park incorporates three discontinuous areas: the main Rocks State Park Area, accessed off Maryland Route 24; the Hidden Valley Natural Area, located at the intersection of Madonna, Telegraph, and Carea Roads; and, the Falling Branch Area on Falling Branch Road near Clermont Mill Road.

The main Rocks State Park Area is the largest of the three areas. The park is named for the rock formations known as the ROCKS OF DEER CREEK (MIHP # HA-469). These formations rise from the floor of the west shore of the Deer Creek stream valley and are part of the Rock Ridge, a dramatic landform that rises to 600 feet above main sea level and traverses the park from east to west. Deer Creek, a swiftly flowing stream, cuts the ridge and has steeply sided banks at this point. The topography is less dramatic north and south of the ridgeline and along the banks of Deer Creek. The landscape gradually becomes more subtle and rolling. The slopes of the ridge and the creek banks are wooded.

Much of the acreage that comprises Rocks State Park was denuded of its forest in the second half of the nineteenth century. During the twentieth century, the area was allowed to reforest naturally. Today most of the soils are moderately eroded and stony but fertile enough to support hardwood forests, an occasional Virginia pine, and, in some locations, dense undergrowth.

Deer Creek is a picturesque drainage, reaching on average only approximately fifty feet in width. The creek is shallow and rocky, although deep pools do exist along its length. The water temperature remains cool enough to support stocked populations of trout in all seasons with the exception of the mid to late summer months. During these months, the creek waters warm significantly (MdDNR 2003b).

The main Rocks State Park Area is the developed section of the park. Property for this area was acquired between 1951 and 1984. MdDNR constructed recreational facilities post 1960. The main Rocks State Park Area contains three picnic areas: Rock Ridge (developed in the early 1960s), Hills Grove (developed primarily in the 1980s), and Wilson (developed primarily in the 1990s). Park facilities are dispersed in the public-use areas, and many of these structures are fashioned of local stone. The park facilities at Rock Ridge include a picnic pavilion, a restroom, and a pumphouse. The facilities, as well as the access road, were constructed between 1960 and 1964. Park facilities and former residences are surrounded by mowed lawns and contain trees of various sizes, including some sizeable specimens. The roads that provide access to and traverse the park are county roads.

The Hidden Valley Natural Area, purchased in 1976, consists of undeveloped forest. Deer Creek winds through this section of the park. Although a house foundation (north of the bridge over the creek) and the ruins of JOHN STEWART'S BARNYARD WALL (MIHP # HA-502) have been reported in this area, no structural remnants were identified during survey.

The Falling Branch Area is an undeveloped parcel purchased in the 1990s that features FALLING BRANCH FALLS (Kilgore Falls) (MIHP # HA-904) along Falling Branch, a tributary of Deer Creek. The Falling Branch Area consists of a floodplain with steep slopes, rock walls, and hiking trails (Welch to Dunmyer 1993). Pre-1960 structural remnants in the Falling Branch Area include the ruins of a dwelling and several stone retaining walls. Ruins from the eighteenth-century ISAAC JONES MILL (MIHP # HA-905) were not located during field investigations. Only one post-1960 building, the former Place House constructed in 1965, stands on this park parcel (MdDNR 2002c). A Baltimore Gas & Electric power line abuts the Falling Branch Area on the north.

Rocks State Park contains two built resources predating 1960. These resources are two nineteenth-century dwellings, the LEOPOLD HOUSE (Former Leyboldt House) (MIHP # HA-1249) and the KELLOG HOUSE (Former Crowther House) (MIHP #

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HA-2047

Name Rocks State Park

Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

HA-1250). Both houses stand within the boundaries of the main Rocks State Park Area. Two resources are natural landscape features: the ROCKS OF DEER CREEK (MIHP # HA-469) in the main Rocks State Park Area and FALLING BRANCH FALLS (Kilgore Falls) (MIHP # HA-904) in the Falling Branch Area. The remaining resources include ruins and retaining walls, and the site of the LaGrange Furnace/Iron Works. No pre-1960 MdDNR-built resources are located in Rocks State Park. No archeological sites in the park have been recorded in the archeological site files maintained by the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT).

METHODS

The overall purpose of this project is to provide the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MdDNR) with consistent data on the cultural resources contained within Rocks State Park. The survey area consisted of MdDNR-owned lands within the boundaries as of June 2003 based on a review of property maps verified by park personnel. No MdDNR leased properties were surveyed as part of this project. Property owned by other state agencies, such as the State Highway Administration, private entities, or county maintained facilities, such as ball fields, recreation centers, or museums on state land were not surveyed as part of this project.

Historical Research

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties forms and the archeological site files on file at MHT and MdDNR provided the base-line data for historical research conducted for each MdDNR-owned land unit included in the survey. An analysis of the property types and occupation periods of cultural resources provided the basis for identifying the historic themes/historic contexts appropriate to evaluate the historic resources in the park. The development of historic contexts that encompassed the history of the park prior to state ownership was synthesized from the architectural and archeological forms and expanded to incorporate information contained in historic maps and other secondary sources, such as published county and local histories and National Register documentation. Research in primary archival materials, such as deeds or genealogical materials available in local historical societies, was not conducted for this project.

Historical research also was undertaken to document the history of the MdDNR land unit. Research was conducted at MdDNR to provide an overview of how each unit came into existence and how the lands that comprise each unit were assembled. The purpose of this research was to determine the reasons behind the establishment of land unit and subsequent management practices. Sources examined in this research effort included MdDNR real estate acquisition files, land unit files, personnel interviews, master plans, and relevant secondary sources on the development of parks in the state of Maryland.

Field Survey

Archeological reconnaissance survey focused on the relocation of archeological sites recorded in the archeological site files maintained by MHT. The data in the archeological site files was augmented through review of published literature and unpublished reports available at the MHT library. The mapped or reported location of each recorded site was visited and its condition was assessed, based on surface conditions, (e.g., undisturbed, plowed, eroded, graded/contoured, collected, vandalized, dredged, or other). No archeological resources in Rocks State Park have been officially recorded in the MHT archeological site files.

Architectural field survey comprised built resources constructed prior to 1960, the landscape elements associated with the individual resources, and the overall landscape of the MdDNR-owned land unit. The list of built resources included in the survey was compiled from the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties maintained at the Maryland Historical Trust and the Detailed

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HA-2047

Name Rocks State Park

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Maintenance List (DMI) provided by the MdDNR. The DMI, compiled during the late 1990s, contained information about building materials and components, as well as information on location, estimated construction date, dates of renovations, and an assessment of condition. The list of built resources for survey was refined through a review of 1:600 scale maps provided by MdDNR and through interviews with MdDNR personnel. No efforts were made to reconcile the building list for buildings identified as constructed post 1960 beyond information gathered from knowledgeable MdDNR personnel. Construction dates for built resources were assigned based on available MIHP or published documentation, MdDNR Detailed Maintenance Inventory (DMI), historic maps, building construction materials, stylistic ornamentation, and building typologies.

Architectural field investigations were conducted on the exteriors of all pre-1960 buildings to verify the character-defining features and materials of previously identified historic buildings as recorded on MIHP forms and to assess the integrity and overall physical conditions of the exterior materials of the resources. No additional architectural data or photographs were collected for pre-1960 MdDNR-owned buildings that are pending demolition for which MdDNR has obtained MHT concurrence letters or MHT Determinations of Eligibility classifying the resource as not eligible. The architectural survey of built resources at Rocks State Park was conducted in April and September 2004.

Building conditions of excellent, good, fair, poor, or ruin were assigned during the architectural survey based on the physical appearance of the exterior materials present on the resource at the time of the site visit. The building classifications do not necessarily reflect those condition assessments recorded in the MdDNR's DMI. For the purposes of this survey, excellent was defined as the overall absence of conditions requiring maintenance or cosmetic repairs. Good meant that building systems and materials appeared to be sound with minimal problems noted. Cosmetic conditions, such as minor paint failure due to age of paint or minor rot in wood elements, could still be classified as good condition if they appeared to be correctable with minor repair. Fair condition was used to denote problems in several types of exterior materials or systems, such as rot in wood elements in several systems, that could be corrected through maintenance, but without apparent structural damage. Poor denoted systematic problems in several materials or systems, such as large sections of missing siding or roofing, often resulting in evidence of structural failure. Ruin was used to classify buildings or structures that were no longer usable in their current condition.

DESCRIPTIONS

The following descriptions are organized by property type. The property classifications were based on the primary historic function of the property as defined by the National Register of Historic Places (U.S. Department of Interior 1997). The property categories are detailed in the accompanying table. Construction dates assigned to the built resources are based on published documentation, historic maps, and field inspection.

LANDSCAPE FEATURES

The ROCKS OF DEER CREEK (MIHP # HA-469) are located in the central portion of the main Rocks State Park Area west of Maryland Route 24. This sizeable outcrop rises significantly along the highway, jutting eastward from a nearly vertical slope. The large stone mass has been shaped by the forces of erosion over millennia and may have once been part of a natural dam eroded by Deer Creek (Maryland Historical Trust n.d.). The outcrop known as the King and Queen Seats that rises 190 feet above Deer Creek was nominated as a Harford County Landmark in 1985 (Kimmel to Reuwer 1985). Folklore associated with this rock formation suggests that Native American cultures may possess connections with this location. (See Resource History, Section 8.) The surfaces of the Rocks outcrop exhibit carved graffiti and inscriptions dating from the nineteenth century when the site served as a popular local tourist destination during the late nineteenth and the first half of the twentieth centuries. A stop on the Maryland and Pennsylvania (MD & PA) Railroad allowed access to visitors from Baltimore to the Rocks area. The Ramsey Hotel provided

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the rail traveler with convenient lodging (Schein personal communication 2003). The rock surfaces also possess scars of early twentieth-century quarrying activity. Material was transported to railcars of the MD & PA Railroad via a cable car system. The receiving end of the system was located in the area of the former Ward house, which was constructed in 1972 on the east side of Deer Creek (Grove and Schein personal communication 2003; MdDNR 2002c). Some mechanical remnants and drill holes can be seen on the body of the outcrop. A metal ring and turnbuckle are present, and a swing gate is located near the area where railcars were loaded. The complete mechanisms remained in place until the 1950s (Grove and Schein personal communication 2003). The Rocks currently offer modern recreational rock climbing and vistas of stunning landscape. Rock-climbing and civil-service groups frequently visit and patrol the area for trash (Grove and Schein personal communication 2003). The condition of the Rocks outcrop and the immediate surroundings is good, despite a continuing tradition of name carving on the rocks.

The FALLING BRANCH FALLS (Kilgore Falls) (MIHP # HA-904) cascade 19 feet 2 inches on the east side of Falling Branch, a tributary of Deer Creek. The falls are known as Maryland's second highest vertical waterfalls. They are set in rocks within the forest and are accessed by a hiking trail that appears to have been a former road. Hand-cut steps are present in the rocky cliff across Falling Branch from the falls. Large rocks are present in the stream below the falls. A second hiking trail that also appears to have been a former road leads to the top of the falls.

INDUSTRIAL

The ISAAC JONES MILL/RUINS AT FALLING BRANCH (MIHP # HA-905) were not located during field investigations in the Falling Branch Area. Previous work in the area referenced ruins of a former eighteenth-century mill and dwelling house owned by Isaac Jones on Falling Branch below the falls (McGrain 1977; Wright 1967:96). One source identified the location of the ruins as "fifteen to twenty yards of the falls and directly opposite them" (Wysong 1880:64-65). No physical evidence of the mill or dwelling house was found.

A large area of the main Rocks State Park Area was part of a nineteenth-century charcoal and iron processing industrial complex known as the LAGRANGE FURNACE/IRON WORKS. The location of the furnace/iron works is believed to be in the area of Maryland Route 24 and St. Clair Bridge Road. Today little evidence of cultural disturbance upon the landscape can be observed. What appears to be the remnant of a possible millrace is visible on the ground surface. Banks and retaining walls in the developed area are believed to be foundations or remains associated with historic industrial development. Park rangers have encountered slagheaps, charcoal processing locations, and house foundations of colliers and millworkers. An archeological survey was performed in a section of the Wilson Picnic Area prior to its development in the 1990s, but no evidence of the furnace was found (Harrill 1992). Foundations of possible bellows pits were discovered when the picnic area parking lot was constructed, but no official archeological site is recorded (Grove and Schein personal communication 2003).

DOMESTIC

The LEOPOLD HOUSE (Former Leypoldt House) (MIHP # HA-1249), constructed ca. 1810, is located south of Rocks Chrome Hill Road in the main Rocks State Park Area. The stone, four-bay by one-bay, side-by-side double house is a narrow residence that was built into a hillside that descends from the road. The house is one story on the north elevation (road frontage) and two stories on the south elevation. This building rests upon a stone foundation and is constructed of irregularly coursed and roughly dressed rubble stone. The gable roof is sheathed in asphalt and fiberglass shingles. A cornice consisting of a brick course of headers and a brick course of stretchers ornaments the eave. The eaves on the gable ends are marked by raking boards. An interior brick chimney projects from the central roof ridge. Entrances are located in opposing end bays of the north and south elevations. The doorways have granite sills, lintels, and stoops. Windows are wood-frame, six-over-six-light, double-hung sash units with thin

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muntins and batten shutters. The window lintels are roughly dressed thick stones, and the slip sills are roughly dressed thinner stones. The first-floor windows on the rear elevation have been boarded over. A brick patio is located along the south elevation. This building is in good condition. A few shutters are missing. Windows and doors are boarded over and windowpanes have been broken. The exterior wall masonry appears to have been repointed with Portland cement mortar. Some of the shingles surrounding the chimney are loose or damaged. A stone stoop appears unsteady.

The KELLOG HOUSE (Former Crowther House) (MIHP # HA-1250), constructed ca. 1850, is located on the north side of Rocks Chrome Hill Road, immediately west of the Rocks State Park headquarters. This stone, two-story, three-bay by one-bay residence was built in a simplified Greek Revival style. The dwelling faces south and rests on a random-rubble foundation. The house has a side-hall plan with an ell. The stone walls of the principal block are irregularly coursed. The corners are delineated by large quoins. The front-elevation stones have been more finely dressed than those of the side and rear elevations. The gable roof is sheathed in asphalt and fiberglass shingles. A concrete-block exterior chimney is located on the west elevation. This chimney is proximal to an older interior unit. A metal stovepipe is also located in the area. The cornice has been recently boxed with modern soffit and fascia. The recessed main entry is located in the east bay of the front elevation and contains a six-panel wood door. This door is surrounded with three-light sidelights and a six-light transom. A wood-and-glass storm door covers the doorway. A stone, one-bay stoop and stairs with pressure-treated wood railings provide access to the entrance. A plank-door cellar entrance is located on the west side. Windows are wood-frame, six-over-six-light, double-hung sash units and one-over-one-light, double-hung sash units. Lug sills and lintels are cut from granite. Small window units illuminate the basement. The stone rear ell rises one-and-one-half stories. The foundation, exterior wall construction, roof form and sheathing, and windows are similar to those of the principal block. A wood door with a single light provides entry on the east elevation of the rear ell. A three-quarter height, two-panel wood door is located on the upper story of the north elevation. This door is accessed by metal steps. A concrete slab has been poured along the east side of the rear elevation. The slab is sheltered by a wide, open shed roof. The residence is in excellent condition. The landscaping is well maintained.

DWELLING RUINS are located in the Falling Branch Area, south of Falling Branch Falls (Kilgore Falls) and east of Falling Branch. The ruins consist of a large rubble stone chimney remnant and rubble stone foundation walls that are 18 inches thick. The foundation suggests a U-shaped ground plan for the dwelling. The house foundation faces west toward Falling Branch. It measures approximately 38 by 30 feet and appears to have accommodated five rooms and a basement. The chimney remnant rises 13 feet on the exterior of the east elevation of the house. The remaining chimney base measures 7 feet in length, and the flue section measures 16 inches across. Two stone markers stand upright very close to the south elevation. Park rangers reported that a farmstead, comprising a two-story, wood-frame house with massive chimneys and a bank barn, stood in the Falling Branch parcel (Grove and Schein personal communication 2003). These dwelling ruins may be associated with the reported farmstead; no barn remains were identified.

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE

JOHN STEWART'S BARNYARD WALL (MIHP # HA-502) in the Hidden Valley Natural Area was not located during field investigations. This wall was described as "dry stone construction around two huge unevenly shaped rocks from which smaller stones have been taken for construction while the original stones remain part of the wall, shaped to some extent to serve that purpose" (Maryland Historical Trust n.d.).

UNKNOWN

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The following stone ruins are located in the Falling Branch Area:

A STONE WALL AND LOOSE STONES exist immediately across Falling Branch from Falling Branch Falls (Kilgore Falls). These remains are located on a hill in front of the rocky cliff in which steps are hand-cut. It is not clear if the stone wall, which measures approximately two to three feet in height, is a building foundation or a retaining wall. The ground enclosed by the wall is overgrown with vegetation.

Two levels of STONE RETAINING WALLS are located south of Falling Branch Falls (Kilgore Falls) and east of Falling Branch along the hiking trail to the falls. The walls run north to south. The lower wall stands approximately three to four feet tall. The upper wall rises approximately six to seven feet. The hiking trail appears to have been a former road.

Another STONE RETAINING WALL is located southeast of Falling Branch Falls (Kilgore Falls) and east of Falling Branch on a hiking trail that leads up a hill to the top of the falls. This hiking trail appears to have been a former road. The stone retaining wall runs north to south for approximately 150 to 160 feet. The wall rises to a maximum of approximately 12 feet on the north end and tapers in height toward the south end. The wall is linked to the hiking trail/former road below.

TABLE OF RESOURCES AT ROCKS STATE PARK

| MHP/Site # | MdDNR DMI # | MHT Name | MdDNR/Other Names | County | Quad | Address | Property Category | Property Sub-Category | Property ID | Date of Resource | Condition | Resource Count | Notes | MHT Concurrence |
|------------|-------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------|------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| HA-1249 | 20 | Leopold House | Former Leopoldt House | Harford | Fawn Grove | Rocks Chrome Hill Road | Domestic | Single Dwelling | house | ca. 1810 | Good | building-1 | | |
| HA-1250 | 12 | Kellog House | Former Crowther House | Harford | Fawn Grove | Rocks Chrome Hill Road | Domestic | Single Dwelling | house | ca. 1850 | Good | building-1 | | |
| HA-469 | | Rocks of Deer Creek | | Harford | Fawn Grove | Rocks Road (MD 24) | Landscape | Natural Feature | rocks on top of cliff | | N/A | site-1 | Harford County Landmark; 19th-century carved graffiti on rocks. | |
| HA-904 | | Falling Branch Falls | Kilgore Falls | Harford | Fawn Grove | Falling Branch off Clermont Mill Road | Landscape | Natural Feature | waterfall | | N/A | site-1 | | |
| HA-905 | | Isaac Jones Mill/Ruins at Falling Branch | | Harford | Fawn Grove | Falling Branch off Clermont Mill Road | Industry/Processing/Extraction | Manufacturing Facility/ Single Dwelling | mill and house ruins | 18th century | Unknown | site-1 | Not observed | |
| HA-502 | | John Stewart's Barnyard Wall | | Harford | Fawn Grove | Hidden Valley off Carea Road | Agriculture/Subsistence | Animal Facility | stone barnyard ruins | 19th century? | Unknown | site-1 | Not observed | |
| | | | LaGrange Furnace/ Iron Works | Harford | Fawn Grove | MD 24 and St. Clair Bridge Road | Industry/Processing/Extraction | Manufacturing Facility | furnace/ iron works | 19th century | Unknown | site-1 | Not observed | |
| | | | Dwelling Ruins | Harford | Fawn Grove | Falling Branch off Clermont Mill Road | Domestic | Single Dwelling | house ruins | 19th century? | Unknown | site-1 | | |

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TABLE OF RESOURCES AT ROCKS STATE PARK

| MIHP/Site # | MdDNR DMI # | MHT Name | MdDNR/Other Names | County | Quad | Address | Property Category | Property Sub-Category | Property ID | Date of Resource | Condition | Resource Count | Notes | MHT Concurrence |
|-------------|-------------|----------|------------------------------------|---------|------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| | | | Stone Wall and Loose Stones | Harford | Fawn Grove | Falling Branch off Clermont Mill Road | Unknown | | | 19th century? | Unknown | site-1 | Across Falling Branch from waterfall | |
| | | | Stone Retaining Walls - Two Levels | Harford | Fawn Grove | Falling Branch off Clermont Mill Road | Unknown | | | 19th century? | Unknown | site-1 | Along former road to bottom of waterfall | |
| | | | Stone Retaining Wall | Harford | Fawn Grove | Falling Branch off Clermont Mill Road | Unknown | | | 19th century? | Unknown | site-1 | Along former road to top of waterfall | |
| | 4 | | Middle Area Pump House | Harford | Fawn Grove | Off MD 24 | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | pump house | 1960 | Fair | | Vacant | |
| | 6 | | Rock Ridge Pavilion | Harford | Fawn Grove | St. Clair Bridge Road | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | picnic shelter | 1962 | Fair | | | |
| | 10 | | Rock Ridge Restroom | Harford | Fawn Grove | St. Clair Bridge Road | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | comfort station | 1962 | Fair | | | |
| | 3 | | Rock Ridge Pump House | Harford | Fawn Grove | St. Clair Bridge Road | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | pump house | 1962 | Fair | | | |
| | 18 | | Radio Shed | Harford | Fawn Grove | St. Clair Bridge Road | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | shed | 1965 | Poor | | Vacant | |
| | 15 | | Rock Ridge Contact Station | Harford | Fawn Grove | St. Clair Bridge Road | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | contact station | 1975 | Poor | | DNR drawing | |
| | 17 | | Rock Ridge Barbecue Shelter | Harford | Fawn Grove | St. Clair Bridge Road | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | barbecue shelter | 1983 | Good | | | |

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TABLE OF RESOURCES AT ROCKS STATE PARK

| MIHP/Site # | MDNR DMI # | MHT Name | MDNR/ Other Names | County | Quad | Address | Property Category | Property Sub-Category | Property ID | Date of Resource | Condition | Resource Count | | Notes | MHT Concurrence |
|-------------|------------|----------|------------------------------|---------|------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------|--|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | 5 | | Former Nature Center | Harford | Fawn Grove | Off MD 24 | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | storage | 1962 | Poor | | | | |
| | 2 | | Former Concession Building | Harford | Fawn Grove | Off MD 24 | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | storage facility | 1964 | Fair | | | DNR drawing 19 Dec. 1962 | |
| | 25 | | Former Place House | Harford | Fawn Grove | Falling Branch Road | Domestic | Single Dwelling | house | 1965 | Fair | | | In-kind residence | |
| | 21 | | Former Ward House | Harford | Fawn Grove | Off MD 24 | Domestic | Single Dwelling | house | 1972 | Good | | | Rental | |
| | 22 | | Former Ward Garage | Harford | Fawn Grove | Off MD 24 | Domestic | Secondary Structure | garage | 1972 | Fair | | | | |
| | 1 | | Office/ Shop | Harford | Fawn Grove | Rocks Chrome Hill Road | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | office/shop | 1972 | Good | | | | |
| | 19 | | Hills Grove Pump House | Harford | Fawn Grove | St. Clair Bridge Road | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | pump house | 1979 | Good | | | | |
| | 16 | | Hills Grove Pavilion and BBQ | Harford | Fawn Grove | St. Clair Bridge Road | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | picnic shelter | 1980 | Good | | | | |
| | 14 | | Hills Grove Contact Station | Harford | Fawn Grove | St. Clair Bridge Road | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | contact station | 1982 | Poor | | | | |
| | 8 | | Hills Grove Restroom | Harford | Fawn Grove | St. Clair Bridge Road | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | comfort station | 1987 | Good | | | | |
| | 23 | | Wilson Contact Station | Harford | Fawn Grove | St. Clair Bridge Road | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | contact station | 1982 | Poor | | | | |

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TABLE OF RESOURCES AT ROCKS STATE PARK

| MIHP/Site # | MdDNR DMI # | MHT Name | MdDNR/ Other Names | County | Quad | Address | Property Category | Property Sub-Category | Property ID | Date of Resource | Condition | Resource Count | | Notes | MHT Concurrence |
|-------------|-------------|----------|------------------------|---------|------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------|----------------|--|-------|-----------------|
| | 24 | | Wilson Pavilion | Harford | Fawn Grove | St. Clair Bridge Road | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | picnic shelter | 1991 | Good | | | | |
| | 26 | | Wilson Comfort Station | Harford | Fawn Grove | St. Clair Bridge Road | Recreation/Culture | Outdoor Recreation | comfort station | 1997 | Good | | | | |

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8. Significance

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| Period | Areas of Significance | Check and justify below | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> performing arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2000- | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> social history |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | | <input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

Specific dates 1951 **Architect/Builder** N/A

Construction dates N/A

Evaluation for:

National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

SUMMARY

Rocks State Park encompasses approximately 920 acres in north central Harford County, Maryland. Park land was acquired between 1951 and 1997 (Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MdDNR) 2002a; MdDNR 2002b:5). The park has three separate and discontinuous areas: the main Rocks State Park, the Hidden Valley Natural Area, and Falling Branch. The Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP # HA-469), located in the main park area, are a centerpiece of the park. This large natural rock outcrop rises above Deer Creek. The Rocks were acquired for park use due to their scenic beauty and their recreational potential. The Falling Branch Falls (Kilgore Falls) (MIHP # HA-904), located five miles north in the Falling Branch Area, are another impressive natural feature of the park. No park buildings were constructed before 1960 in any of the three areas that comprise Rocks State Park.

The purpose of this Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) form is to evaluate Rocks State Park as a potential historic district and to assess each MdDNR-owned built resource constructed prior to 1960 applying the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]) and the criteria for the Maryland Register of Historic Properties (Article 83B, Title 5 Annotated Code of Maryland). Two built resources in Rocks State Park constructed prior to 1960 are the Leopold House (Former Leypoldt House) (MIHP # HA-1249), constructed ca. 1810, and the Kellog House (Former Crowther House) (MIHP # HA-1250), constructed ca. 1850. Both houses are individually eligible for National Register listing under Criterion C for their architecture.

The Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP # HA-469) is a natural feature that has attracted visitors for informal recreation since the mid nineteenth century. The area is not a historic site that has been associated with a significant historic event. It is not an example of a designed landscape, nor is it an example of a historic vernacular landscape that evolved through informal improvements over time. Historically, the resources of the area were used to support industrial activities. The denuded landscape associated with the charcoal industry is no longer evident, nor does physical evidence of the quarrying activities from the early twentieth century remain intact. Therefore, the landscape of the Rocks no longer possesses integrity to illustrate industrial processes. The only evidence of the use of the Rocks as the destination for informal recreation by seasonal visitors is the nineteenth-century graffiti on the rocks. The graffiti itself may represent a cultural expression that may have historical significance, but it was outside the scope of this project to evaluate it. The documentation is inconclusive and anecdotal to support the evaluation of Rocks as an ethnographic landscape associated with Native American history. Thus, it does not appear that Rocks State Park meets the definition of any of the four types of landscapes as defined in Birnbaum (1994) to qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

PARK HISTORY

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Located along Deer Creek, eight miles northwest of Bel Air on Maryland Route 24 in Harford County, Rocks State Park encompasses approximately 920 acres acquired between 1951 and 1997 (MdDNR 2002a; MdDNR 2002b:5). The park has three discontinuous areas: the main Rocks State Park Area, the Hidden Valley Natural Area, and the Falling Branch Area.

Rocks State Park was originally conceived as Deer Creek State Park, a stream valley park and recreation area proposed along the 52-mile stretch of Deer Creek in Maryland. This plan was not implemented (Grove and Schein personal communication 2003). Rocks State Park was created in September 1951 when the State of Maryland purchased two acres of land from Woodrow W. and Bessie Ayers (MdDNR 2002a). This transaction represented the State's first purchase of land in the Central Region specifically targeted for the establishment of a park (MdDNR 2003a).

The park has undergone steady expansion since the initial two-acre purchase. By 1952, the Department of Forests and Parks owned 82 acres of Rocks parkland. At this time, the purchase of land for Rocks was one of the most expensive Maryland park acquisitions. The purchase price for the land averaged almost \$200 per acre, in contrast to an average of \$73 per acre paid for other land in the system (Maryland State Planning Commission 1952:50, 114). By August 1957, the Rocks property had increased to a total of 202 acres. Land purchases during the 1960s expanded the holdings to 483 acres. The 1970s brought 359 more acres to the park, including 150 acres obtained from Orville W. Crowder, a founder of the Maryland Ornithological Society, that became the current Hidden Valley Natural Area. The park contained a total of 842 acres by the end of the decade. Only 11 acres were added to the park in the 1980s. Land acquisitions in the 1990s were used to establish the Falling Branch Area and resulted in the present-day park size of approximately 920 acres (MdDNR 2002a).

The centerpieces of the main Rocks State Park area are Deer Creek and the Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP # HA-469). This natural rock formation rises 190 feet above the creek and contains the King and Queen Seats. The King and Queen Seats formation was nominated as a Harford County Landmark in 1985. Local tradition holds that the Rocks were formerly used for Native American ceremonies (Kimmel to Reuwer 1985; Wysong 1880:22-28). Deer Creek at this point has rapids and large boulders. The hillsides are forested. The forest has regrown naturally. Large-scale tree planting by the park has not been necessary, although previous landowners may have planted stands of trees before their property became park land (Grove and Schein personal communication 2003).

The Hidden Valley Natural Area, five miles northwest of Rocks, is located at the intersection of Madonna, Telegraph, and Carea Roads. The parcel contains approximately 150 acres of land that were acquired in 1976 and remain undeveloped (MdDNR 2002a). The area offers hiking trails and fishing along Deer Creek (MdDNR 2003a).

The Falling Branch Area, five miles north of Rocks, is located on Falling Branch Road and encompasses approximately 65 acres of land that were purchased in the 1990s (MdDNR 2002a). This undeveloped area features Falling Branch Falls (Kilgore Falls) (MIHP # HA-904), located along Falling Branch, a tributary of Deer Creek. A hiking trail leads to the scenic falls, which are known as Maryland's second highest vertical waterfalls at 19 feet 2 inches (MdDNR 2003a). The falls have been described as a "picturesque setting" and a "spot of primitive beauty" (Wright 1967:95-96).

Rocks State Park is a recreation destination open for day use. In 1952, annual attendance was projected at 40,000 (Maryland State Planning Commission 1952:116). Annual visitation was first recorded for Rocks in 1953. Records indicated that the park had 54,526 visitors that year. For almost a decade, annual attendance averaged between 50,000 to 60,000 visitors. An increase in attendance occurred in fiscal year 1963, when annual attendance reached 113,701. Visitation continued to rise in subsequent years and reached a peak of 250,963 visitors in 1976. Between 1977 and 1983, annual attendance ranged from a low of 115,119 in 1977 to a high of 239,037 in 1981 (Maryland Board of Natural Resources 1953-1965; MdDNR 1979-1983).

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The 1952 Master Plan for the Maryland State Parks and Recreation Areas documented the initial purchase of Rocks State Park and its original purpose as a park. The land was acquired for its scenic natural properties and recreational potential. Described as one of many Maryland natural features that were "so intrinsically important and attractive to almost a spectacular degree that they should be a common possession of the people of the State," the Rocks land was initially classified as primarily a geological recreation reserve (Maryland State Planning Commission 1952:68, 114). By 1952, the Department of Forests and Parks had purchased 82 acres for Rocks State Park, including "the northern half of the "Rocks" to the west of the highway, considerable mountaintop land and two roadside houses one of which contains a store" (Maryland State Planning Commission 1952:114-115). The plan recommended an additional acquisition of 225 acres, "the development of a picnic center at the north near the creek, distributed picnic facilities in other sections of the reserve, a well defined, easy walk to the summit, [and] a series of trails and parking facilities" (Maryland State Planning Commission 1952:115). The plan anticipated that the present store could later be replaced with a "modern concession building," and the smaller of the two houses could serve as the residence for a custodian (Maryland State Planning Commission 1952:115). Access to the park was provided by county roads that traversed park property. No road access to the ridge top was planned. A single trail through the park area was depicted on the 1956 USGS Fawn Grove Quadrangle map. The trail led from near the current Wilson Picnic Area southward up Rock Ridge, then turned westward along Rock Ridge, and ended near the intersection of Rock Ridge and Rush Roads on property outside the park boundaries (USGS Fawn Grove 1956). This trail may be associated with older logging roads that were converted to park trails.

During the 1960s, recreational facilities were constructed at the park and reflected changes to the 1952 master plan. The picnic area planned near Deer Creek was moved to the summit of Rock Ridge near the King and Queen Seats (Grove and Schein personal communication 2003). In 1959, an internal road to the summit of the Rocks was approved for construction (MdDNR 1959 drawing). In 1960, the road to access the King and Queen Seats was completed (Maryland Board of Natural Resources 1960:98). The 1960 Annual Report stated that during fiscal year 1959-1960 the Rock Ridge Picnic Area with picnic sites, parking, fireplaces and water and sanitary facilities was planned for construction and \$32,000 was appropriated for general improvements (Maryland Board of Natural Resources 1960:98, 102; MdDNR drawings files). A pavilion, a restroom, and a pumphouse were built in 1962. The 1962 Annual Report noted the construction of a picnic pavilion during that fiscal year (Maryland Board of Natural Resources 1962:94). After the picnic area was completed, the annual attendance at Rocks State Park nearly doubled between 1961 and 1963. Visitation consistently ranged between 50,000 to 60,000 visitors for several years and jumped to 113,701 in fiscal year 1963 (Maryland Board of Natural Resources 1954-1965). According to park rangers, the Rock Ridge parking lots were constructed in 1964 (Grove and Schein personal communication 2003).

Additional recreation facilities were added to the park by 1965. By 1964, a new concession building was constructed on the west side of MD Rte 24 at the foot of the Rocks. The concession building was designed in 1962 (MdDNR 1962 drawing). The Board of Natural Resources 1964 Annual Report reported the completion of "a new concession building ... with walkways and landscaping" (MdDNR 2002c; Maryland Board of Natural Resources 1964:107). The former Nature Center was apparently also constructed during the 1960s on property acquired by MdDNR in 1962 (MdDNR 2002c; MdDNR 2002a).

During the late 1960s, plans for Rocks State Park were proposed to expand the recreation facilities to accommodate two campgrounds, including one for primitive camping. An amphitheater, a swimming basin that would transfer water between the creek and a large swimming facility, and a sledding run with a warming station also were proposed. These plans were never implemented (Grove and Schein personal communication 2003).

Rocks State Park currently offers various outdoor activities, including fishing, canoeing, hiking, picnicking, rock climbing, repelling, and deer hunting with bow and arrow. Swimming, wading, and tubing are allowed in three old-fashioned swimming holes in the creek. The main Rocks State Park Area contains three picnic areas: Rock Ridge (developed in the early 1960s), Hills Grove (developed primarily in the 1980s), and Wilson (developed primarily in the 1990s). Each picnic area features pavilions, picnic

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tables, grills, playgrounds, and comfort stations (restrooms). The current trail system provides a loop that encircles Rock Ridge Picnic Area. Access points from the base of Rock Ridge are the Wilson Picnic Area and Rocks Chrome Hill Road. Additional trails branch off the main loop trail to lead to scenic spots, including the trail that accesses the Rocks formation. The only section of the current trail system that appears older than the 1960s is the portion that leads south from Wilson Picnic Area up the slope of Rock Ridge. This portion of the trail appears to be in the approximate location of a trail depicted on the 1956 USGS map. Future plans include the establishment of a Greenway along Deer Creek that will link Rocks State Park to Susquehanna State Park and open the length of Deer Creek to recreational activities.

Previous architectural surveys at Rocks State Park were conducted by John D. Hnedak in September 1979 and by Dave Cooper in October 1986. Both surveys included the Leopold House (Former Leypoldt House) (MIHP # HA-1249) and the Kellog House (Former Crowther House) (MIHP # HA-1250).

HISTORIC CONTEXT

Contact and Settlement Period (1570-1750)

The first recorded European exploration of the Chesapeake Bay area was a religious venture. The Woodstock Letters, written by Father Andrew White, noted the explorations of Father Segura, a Spanish Jesuit missionary who investigated the Bay region in 1570 (Wright 1967:2).

English exploration of North America began in earnest during the later decades of the 16th century. Elizabeth I, motivated by the success of Spain's New World Colonies, sponsored numerous explorers and supported several colonizing ventures (Chittenden et al. 1988). These efforts culminated in the establishment of the Jamestown Colony in 1607. In 1608, Captain John Smith explored the upper Chesapeake Bay and provided a detailed account of the area. He sailed up the Susquehanna River and explored a few miles near the mouth of Deer Creek (Weeks 1993). Smith's visit to the area is considered to be the earliest authenticated exploration of Harford County, with several of Smith's original place names still in use today.

The first English settlement in Maryland was established in 1634, at St. Mary's City by Cecilius Calvert, the second Lord Baltimore and proprietor of the Maryland colony. He had inherited the charter for the region from his father George Calvert in 1632 (Wilstach 1931:35). George Calvert had secured the charter from Charles I for economic as well as religious reasons. The successful tobacco cultivation in Virginia as well as the fur trade along the Potomac River and the upper Chesapeake Bay promised similar financial rewards, along with the establishment of a safe haven for Catholics.

The Native American peoples inhabiting Harford County during this period included the Mingos, the Massawomeks, and the Susquehannocks. These were primarily village dwellers with an agrarian focus, in addition to hunting and foraging. The Susquehannocks initially deterred settlement of Harford County with their warlike nature. In 1652, a treaty was negotiated with the Susquehannocks that opened the northern areas to settlement. A company of Rangers organized during the later part of the seventeenth century also established outposts and a defense line against them. By the mid eighteenth century, the Susquehannocks had been pushed out of the county (Larew 1981:5).

Folklore regarding the natural rock formation known as the King and Queen Seats, a Harford County Landmark located within the Rocks State Park boundaries, suggests that the Susquehannocks used the site for council meetings and ceremonial purposes. The Seats served as the customary thrones for the supreme chief of the Deer Creek confederated Susquehannock villages and his wife. One story describes the rivalry between Susquehannock chief Lone Wolf and Bird-That-Flies-High, the son of Bald Eagle, the supreme chief. The two men vied for the affection of Fern-Shaken-by-the-Wind, the daughter of an Iroquois chief. During a

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council meeting at the King and Queen Seats, Chief Lone Wolf jealously destroyed a gift given to Fern by Bird. As a result of their conflict, a bow-and-arrow contest of skill took place ten days later. Bird lost the contest and subsequently threw Chief Lone Wolf off the rocks to his death. Bird married Fern, and his father appointed him supreme chief (Wysong 1880:22-28).

Legend also holds that the Susquehannocks may have a connection to the Falling Branch Falls (Kilgore Falls) (MIHP # HA-904). It is speculated that these Native Americans "of large size and much strength" may have been responsible for carving a series of stone steps in a bank leading to the top of the falls (Wysong 1880:64; Wright 1967:95). The name Kilgore Falls comes from the nineteenth-century owner of the property, Jas. R. Kilgore, on Martenet's 1878 map of Harford County (Martenet 1878).

Baltimore County was established and mentioned in a 1660 Lord Proprietary's writ (Brugger 1988:799). The county's boundaries were loosely defined and encompassed much of the western shore from the Chesapeake Bay to present-day Frederick County. A 1664 document created Cecil County from land formerly administered as part of Baltimore County and provided the first reference to formal boundaries (Brooks and Rockel 1979). By 1680, 43 patents had been granted in what is now Harford County. Towns developed slowly due to the tobacco-oriented economy and the persistence of the southern settlement system. Difficulties also persisted over the creation of a county seat, which was moved to six different locations during the colonial period.

Rural Agrarian Intensification (1680-1815)

After the coastal and riverine settlements were established, settlers gradually moved into the interior uplands following the smaller creeks and drainages. Settlement was slow due to the lack of roads and navigable waterways. The Maryland Port Act of 1706 called for the establishment of more towns to serve as trade centers. Joppa was designated the county seat in 1709. Its location on the Gunpowder River allowed for the development of a tobacco shipping point. However, by 1760, the siltation of the River and competition from the newly founded town of Baltimore on the more navigable Patapsco River resulted in Joppa's decline.

The second half of the eighteenth century brought about several major changes in the economic focus of the county. Agricultural concentration shifted from tobacco to cereal grains due to an increased worldwide demand for wheat. An influx of German farmers from Pennsylvania further bolstered this production. Industry expanded in the county with an increase in the construction of flour mills. Iron furnaces and flint mills appeared, bolstered by the discovery of bog iron in the upper piedmont portion of the county (Wesler et al. 1981:93).

Several sources claim that the Isaac Jones Mill (MIHP # HA-905) was constructed on Falling Branch in the eighteenth century, within the present-day Rocks State Park boundaries. The mill and the miller's dwelling house were reported to have been located within fifteen or twenty yards of and directly opposite of the Kilgore Falls. Jones reportedly planted a row of Lombardy poplars in front of his dwelling (Wysong 1880:64-65; Wright 1967:96; McGrain 1977). Neither Jennings & Herrick's 1858 map of Harford County nor Martenet's 1878 map depicted a mill in the area of the falls; however, the waterfalls were not indicated on either map.

In 1768 Baltimore became the county seat; however, its location proved to be inconvenient to the residents of the northern part of the county. In 1773, they petitioned to form a new county. This was granted by the General Assembly, and Harford County was formed in 1773, being named for Henry Harford, the sole heir of the last proprietor of Maryland. Harford Town, the new county seat, was established on the post road at the head of Bush River.

At the time of the revolution, Harford County numbered some 13,000 residents. During the war it supplied 17 companies of infantry and 2 rifle companies, as well as supplying the American Army with agricultural products (Larew 1981:9). In 1798, the county seat was moved to its present-day location of Bel Air, a town of some 157 residents. The town included a Methodist Meeting House, four inns, three stores, two blacksmith shops, a chair maker, a shoemaker, a wheelwright, a tailor, and a courthouse

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(Mason 1955:7).

Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870)

During the nineteenth century, Harford County prospered economically. The grain-based agricultural tradition established during the previous century continued to prosper along with the expansion of mills and other industries. The improvement of roads and the construction of the Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal between 1783 and 1839 stimulated the local economy. With the construction of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore (PW&B) Railroad through the eastern portion of the county during the 1830s, growth continued. By 1860, Harford County's population had grown to 23,415, including 1,800 slaves and 3,644 free African Americans (Wesler et al. 1981). Conflicting views on slavery brought about local confrontations resulting in martial law being established in Harford County in 1863 in order to control the barn burning and incidents of violence that occurred during the Civil War (Leslie 1951).

The LaGrange Furnace/Iron Works flourished during this period. The site of the former furnace/iron works is within the boundaries of Rocks State Park. The complex began with a forge and slitting mill that were constructed in 1832 by John Withers, one of the organizers of Harford Furnace. J. Rogers and Son built a cold-blast, water-powered charcoal furnace on the site in 1836. The furnace measured 28 feet high by 6 feet wide. J. Rogers and Son employed 72 workers. The furnace stack was later raised to 35 feet to accommodate hot-blast techniques (McGrain 1977). The furnace/iron works played a national and international industrial role. Local high-grade iron ore was smelted, and the high-quality pig iron was used at Long Island to build the U.S.S. Monitor ship. On the international scene, the pig iron was purchased by Baltimorean Ross Winans to use under contract with Czar Nicholas I for the construction of railroads from Moscow to St. Petersburg (Weeks 1996:283). In the 1850 census, the furnace was valued at \$35,000 and had eight employees, while the forge was also valued at \$35,000 and had ten employees (McGrain 1977). The site is listed as LaGrange Iron Works on Jennings & Herrick's 1858 map of Harford County and as LaGrange Furnace on Martenet's 1878 map. Both maps indicated two structures on the site. The company owned 2,000 acres and at one time employed 300 workers. The E. Stanley Rogers Company was the last owner. The Rogers family descended from Isaac Rogers of Chester County, Pennsylvania, who came to Maryland ca. 1800 with sons Joseph, Ivan, and Stanley. The furnace/iron works operated until 1874, with the holdings being disposed of in 1886 (McGrain 1977). By 1870, today's current park was treeless because the trees were burned to make charcoal to smelt the iron ore (Grove and Schein personal communication 2003).

By 1858, the LaGrange Ironworks was a crossroads community (Jennings & Herrick 1858). A turnpike was located east of Deer Creek, but the LaGrange Ironworks was linked to the turnpike by a local county road following the approximate route of MD Route 24 along the west bank of Deer Creek. The creek and its many branches of Deer Creek supported many mills. Two mills were depicted along Falling Branch. A turnpike passed through nearby Five Forks and a local road was located on either side of Falling Branch, but the location of the falls was not indicated on the map. However, Jennings & Herrick's map (1858) did include a drawing depicting the Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP # HA-469), indicating the prominence of the scenery of the natural landscape in the county.

Two stone dwellings associated with the Kellog and Street families were constructed during this period within the current Rocks State Park boundaries. The Leopold House (Former Leopoldt House) (MIHP # HA-1249) was built ca. 1810 and was owned in the nineteenth century by members of both families, who inhabited much of the area. The Kellog House (Former Crowther House) (MIHP # HA-1250), constructed ca. 1850 by a member of the Kellog family, was built on land previously associated with the Street family. This house was not clearly shown on either Jennings & Herrick's 1858 map of Harford County nor on Martenet's 1878 map. The Leopold House appeared to be owned by S. H. Kellogg on the 1878 map.

Industrial/Urban Dominance (1870-1930)

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Following the Civil War, Harford County's population increased. New towns were created, and the existing communities grew as well. Flint mining increased, and the canning industry flourished from 1880 to 1920. Fifty canneries were located in the eastern portion of the county during this time. In agriculture, the dairy industry expanded considerably with the rail lines to Baltimore giving farmers access to a ready market.

The Baltimore and Delta (B&D) Railway was formed in 1878, and a narrow gauge line was built. Martenet's 1878 map of Harford County depicted this line, which crossed Deer Creek and passed along the eastern edge of today's Rocks State Park. The B&D Railway served local communities by transporting milk and agricultural products to Baltimore. The railway also served the slate quarries in Delta. The line eventually became part of the Baltimore and Lehigh (B&L) Railway (Sansonetti 1997). The LaGrange Furnace was depicted on the map (Martenet 1878) with a blacksmith and wheelwright shop. A single dwelling was located at the base of the Rocks, but no owner was depicted along the top of the Rock Ridge west of Deer Creek. Mills continued to operate along Deer Creek and its many branches (Martenet 1878).

Not depicted on the 1878 Martenet Map of Harford County was Rocks Station located on the east side of Deer Creek. This train station and post office was founded by James Gladden, who owned the Rocks property during the late nineteenth century. He received considerable funds by renting the picnic grounds on or near the Rocks (Weeks 1996:364). The lore of the Rocks was reported by Thomas Turner Wysong, who published a local history in 1880. Wysong rhapsodized about the Rocks as follows: "Every genuine Harfordonian is enthusiastic in his admiration of the Rocks. They are with him the Great Curiosity; they belong to him; he is proud of them. He loves them, because associated with them are memories of happy hours passed with congenial associates on their summits or at their base by the waters of his favorite stream. Their inspirations are sweet to him, and their presence creates sympathies loving and tender. In their presence, he has a higher appreciation of Nature, and an intenser sympathy with the spirit of poetry which dwells amid such scenes" (Wysong 1880:14).

Wysong (1880:14) also opined: "Will the coming of the Railroad and the development of the commercial and business life, as has been feared, lessen the attractions of the Rocks?" Wysong, instead, hoped that the railroad's crossing at Deer Creek would allow an attractive vista towards the Rocks (Wysong 1880:14). Wysong (1880:78) further hoped that the railroad, which he described as coming to the area in 1880, would allow the marketability of local rocks and minerals, attract visitors to the natural scenery of the Rocks and Deer Creek, and re-energize local agriculture.

The Maryland and Pennsylvania (MD & PA) Railroad, which connected Baltimore and York, was organized in 1901 as the result of a merger between the Baltimore and Lehigh Railway Company and the York Southern Railroad Company. The Maryland portion operated until 1958 (Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad Preservation and Historical Society brochure). The MD & PA Railroad passed through the eastern section of what is now Rocks State Park, crossing Deer Creek and following a route along the east bank of the creek. In its prosperous early years, the railroad line provided passenger, mail, and express services, as well as daily milk transport. The MD & PA Railroad promoted recreational opportunities, and carried many city families for Sunday visits to the popular Rocks of Deer Creek (Sansonetti 1997). The former Rocks Station, located on the east side of Deer Creek, included the Ramsey Hotel (no longer extant) for those visitors who preferred an overnight stay (Grove and Schein personal communication 2003).

In addition to its recreational appeal, the Rocks of Deer Creek also served as a quarry site in the early twentieth century. A cable-car system transported material to railcars of the MD & PA Railroad. The receiving end of the system was located on the east side of Deer Creek near the railroad station (Grove and Schein personal communication 2003).

While the growth and dominance of the industrial power of Baltimore adversely affected the smaller county industries (Ervin

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1990:16), the establishment of Aberdeen Proving Ground and Edgewood Arsenal in 1918 bolstered the economy of Harford County. The construction of the Conowingo Dam and Hydroelectric Plant on the Susquehanna during the 1920s curtailed the problematic periodic flooding of that river and continues to provide electrical power to the present.

Modern Period (1930-Present)

The rural character of Harford County has been altered considerably during the last 70 years with the expansion of Baltimore's suburban communities northward. The construction of Interstate 95 and the expansion of other highways have allowed easy access to Rocks State Park. The scenery of Rock Ridge has attracted other recreational uses. By the mid-1950s, Rocks State Park was established, as well as Camp Wo-Me-To west of Rocks State Park and a 4-H camp east of Deer Creek. The properties of both camps adjoin Rocks State Park. Although the county has retained strong connections to its agrarian roots (it was among the top five dairy-producing counties in the state, Maryland Business Almanac 1988), its population has more than doubled since 1950 as it has become home to many of Baltimore's commuters.

EVALUATION

The purpose of this Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) form is to evaluate Rocks State Park as a potential historic district and to assess each MdDNR-owned built resource constructed prior to 1960 applying the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]) and the criteria for the Maryland Register of Historic Properties (Article 83B, Title 5 Annotated Code of Maryland). Archeological sites, ruins, and landscape features were not evaluated as part of this current investigation. In order to undertake this evaluation, it is appropriate to discuss the park as a cultural landscape applying the National Register Criteria for Evaluation; Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes, Bulletin 30 (McClelland and Keller 1995); and, Protecting Cultural Landscapes: Planning, Treatment and Management of Historic Landscapes, Preservation Briefs Number 36 (Birnbaum 1994).

A cultural landscape is defined as "a geographic area, including both cultural and natural resources and the wildlife or domestic animals therein, associated with a historic event, activity, or person or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values" (Birnbaum 1994:1). The landscape must have been "shaped or modified by human activity, occupancy, or intervention" (McClelland and Keller 1995:2) and must be a property type identified by the National Register of Historic Places and meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]) (NR Bulletin 15:1997).

Rocks State Park was established in 1951 to protect a notable natural landscape feature, the Rocks of Deer Creek, and to enhance their recreational potential. The first public land acquisition for Rocks State Park occurred in 1951; the last parcel was purchased in 1997. Archival evidence revealed that initial formal development of the park for recreation occurred between 1960 and 1964. Development included a road to the summit of Rock Ridge, improved access to the Rocks, and the construction of a picnic pavilion, restroom, and pumphouse. These facilities post-date 1960, the cut-off date for evaluation of built resources under the scope of work for this current investigation. These built resources were not assessed under the current investigation.

The Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP # HA-469), a monumental natural rock outcrop, rise above Deer Creek. The Rocks were depicted on an 1858 map of Harford County (Jennings & Herrick 1858) and have long been a local destination for informal recreation as evidenced by the carved graffiti left by late nineteenth-century visitors. The Rocks feature the Harford County Landmark, known as the King and Queen Seats, which local tradition holds were associated with the Native Americans that inhabited the county prior to the arrival of English settlers. These local legends were reported in a late nineteenth-century romantic history of the area (Wysong 1880).

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Nineteenth-century historic maps suggest that the area immediately around the Rocks and Rock Ridge was uninhabited (Jennings & Herrick 1958; Martenet 1978). The industrial complex of LaGrange Furnace was depicted north of the Rocks and a few houses were located along the county roads, such as Chrome Hill Road, that skirt the base of Rock Ridge. Historically, the area's natural resources supported industry. The forests on Rock Ridge were used to make charcoal to support the LaGrange Furnace/Iron Works. Drill holes and remnants of metal mechanisms on the Rocks represent early twentieth-century quarrying activity in the area. Since the early part of the twentieth century, Rock Ridge has been allowed to reforest.

The Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP # HA-469) are a natural feature that have attracted visitors for informal recreation since the mid nineteenth century. The area is not a historic site that has been associated with a significant historic event. It is not an example of a designed landscape since it was not consciously designed or laid out by a landscape architect, master gardener, architect, or horticulturalist. Nor is it an example of a historic vernacular landscape that evolved through informal improvements over time. The resources of the area were used to support industrial activities. The denuded landscape associated with the charcoal industry is no longer evident, nor does physical evidence of the quarrying activities from the early twentieth century remain intact. Therefore, the landscape of the Rocks no longer possesses integrity to illustrate industrial processes.

The Rocks have an historical association with the evolution of local recreation during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Visitors traveled to the Rocks on the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad, which promoted recreational opportunities. The Ramsey Hotel at Rocks Station accommodated overnight travelers. Picnic rentals provided a source of income for the owner of the Rocks. However, no built resources associated with this history survive within the park boundaries. The only tangible evidence to illustrate the Rocks as a recreation destination by seasonal visitors is the nineteenth-century graffiti carved on the Rocks. The graffiti itself may represent a cultural expression that has historical significance, but it was outside the scope of this project to evaluate it. Further investigation is warranted.

The documentation is inconclusive and anecdotal to support the evaluation of an ethnographic landscape associated with Native American history. A late nineteenth-century source (Wysong 1880) suggested that the Rocks had significance and contained heritage resources for an associated Native American group; however, those people departed from the area by the mid eighteenth century. No modern-day descendants have claimed the Rocks as a traditional cultural property (Birnbaum 1994). However, the Piscataway-Conoy, an Indian group that is currently seeking federal recognition, has made a claim that a tributary of Deer Creek may possibly be a traditional cultural property to the Piscataway and descendants of the Susquehannocks (USACE 1999).

The Falling Branch Falls (Kilgore Falls) (MIHP # HA-904), formed by a tributary of Deer Creek known as Falling Branch, is also a natural feature that is significant as the second highest waterfall in Maryland and that has natural beauty and a picturesque setting. The falls were not evaluated since they are a natural feature. While available secondary documentation is not conclusive, no evidence was found in the records that the falls were historically an informal recreation destination in the same way that the Rocks were. Human occupation is evidenced near the falls by the remains of stone retaining walls and the steps along one side of the falls. The Isaac Jones Mill (MIHP # HA-905), a reported eighteenth-century mill and house, was not located during the field investigations. The age, use, and associations of these elements were not documented as part of this investigation. No built resources constructed prior to 1960 are in this area.

The Hidden Valley Natural Area also has a reported house foundation and John Stewart's barnyard wall (MIHP # HA-502). These elements could not be located during the course of this present investigation and were not evaluated.

In order to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, a landscape must be recognizable as one of the four types of landscapes: historic designed landscape, historic vernacular landscape, historic site, or ethnographic landscape. In addition, the landscape must possess significance under one of the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and must also possess integrity. It

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does not appear that Rocks State Park meets the definition to represent any of the four types of landscapes as defined in Birnbaum (1994) to qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or the Maryland Register of Historic Properties.

Two built resources located within Rocks State Park Boundaries possess the qualities of significance for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C: the Leopold House (Former Leypoldt House) (MIHP # HA-1249), constructed ca. 1810, and the Kellog House (Former Crowther House) (MIHP # HA-1250), constructed ca. 1850. Both of these rubble stone houses with granite sills and lintels represent vernacular craftsmanship using local materials. In Christopher Weeks' *An Architectural History of Harford County, Maryland*, about one-third of the selected sites in the Bel Air area and the northwest quarter of the county were constructed of stone (Weeks 1996). Both the Leopold House and the Kellog House are representative of a popular type of local construction (stone), but are rare examples for their respective time periods. Weeks identified only about one dozen stone houses from the early nineteenth century and about one dozen from the mid-nineteenth century, with some of these houses having been built with cut stone, not rubble stone. Furthermore, the Leopold House is a rare example of a side-by-side double house, and the Kellog House is characteristic of the national Greek Revival style. Both houses maintain historic integrity. They remain in their original locations, and their design, materials, and workmanship are intact, creating a sense of past time and place.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 920

Acreage of historical setting 920

Quadrangle name Fawn Grove

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries of the survey area comprise all property owned by Maryland Department of Natural Resources within the legal boundaries of Rocks State Park as of June 2003.

11. Form Prepared By

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The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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HA-2047

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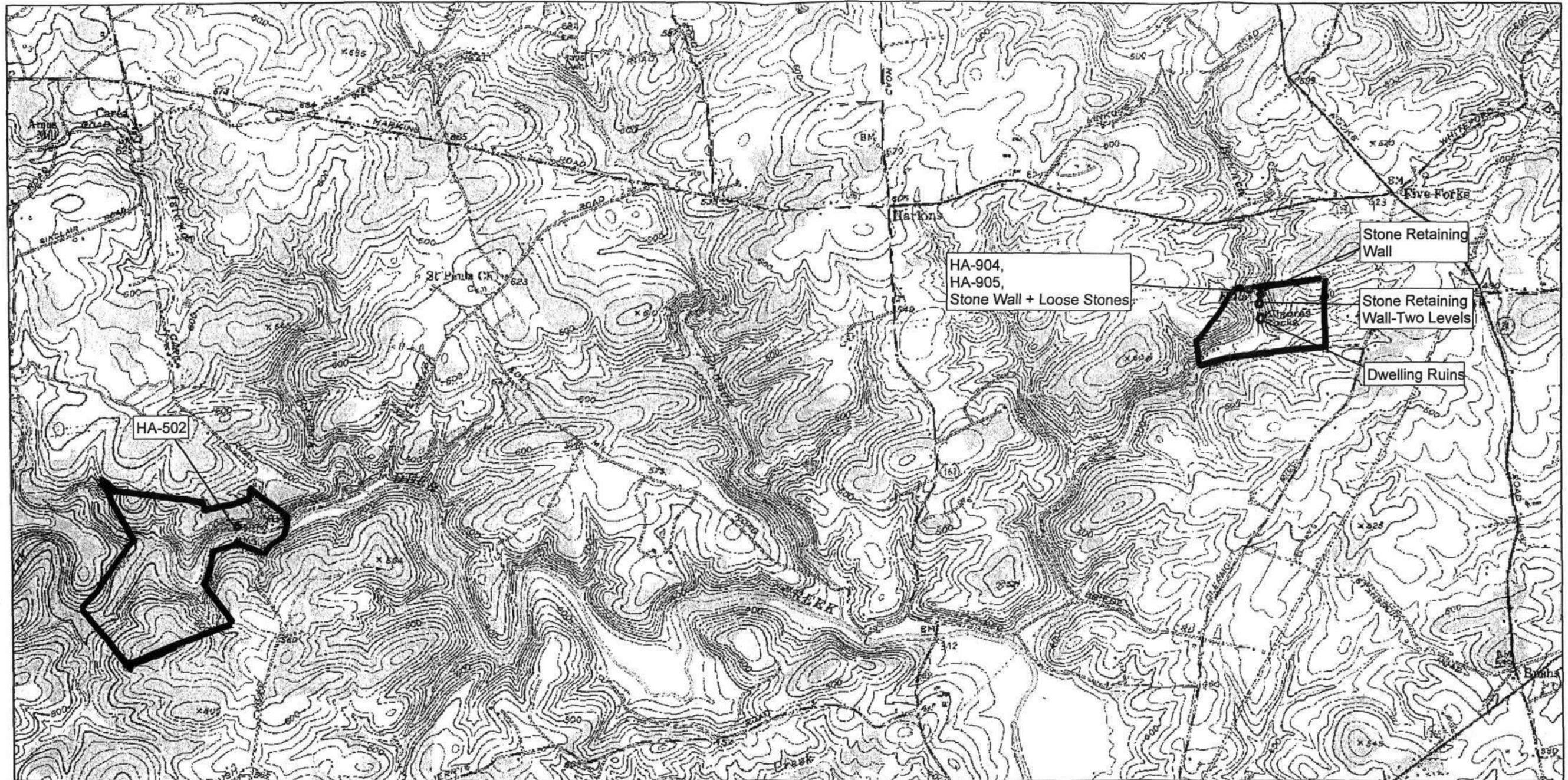
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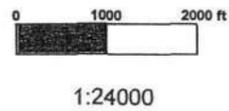
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-  ROCKS BUILT RESOURCES
-  ROCKS STATE PARK



R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.
 241 East Fourth Street, Suite 100 Frederick, MD 21701

ROCKS STATE PARK
 (HA-2047)
 HARFORD COUNTY, MD

DATE: 02/16/2004

PREPARED BY: TAG

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HA-2047

Rocks State Park, Harford County, Maryland
Continuation Sheet

Number Photo log Page 1

The following information is the same for each photograph:

1. MIHP # HA-2047
2. Rocks State Park
3. Harford County, Maryland
4. R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.
5. April and September 2003
6. MD SHPO

Photo

1. Deer Creek from near the junction with Rocks Chrome Hill Road and MD Route 24, view north
2. The Rocks of Deer Creek/King and Queen Seats (HA-469), view southeast
3. 1879 Graffiti on the Rocks of Deer Creek (HA-469), view south
4. Falling Branch Falls (HA-904), view north
5. Leopold (Leypoldt) House (HA-1249), northeast corner
6. Kellog (Crowther) House (HA-1250), south elevation
7. Dwelling Ruins, Falling Branch Area, view east
8. Stone Retaining Wall along former road to bottom of Falling Branch Falls, view east



HA-2047

Rocks state Park

Harford Co., MD

RCGA

4/2003

MD SHPO

Deer Creek near Rocks Chrome Hill Rd. MD Rte 24

looking N

1 of 8

RETOUCH3.

0-319192 N-Order007-021A 0-1

archive

35mm FILM



HA-2047
Rocks State Park
Harford Co. MD

RCGA
4/2003
MD SHPO

Rocks of Deer Creek, view SE
2 of 8

RETIUCH3,

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Archive

FUJIFILM

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JOHN W. TENNISON
1879

1-79
TET. GEN. INTL.

LAND

G.M.I.

HA-2047
Rocks State Park
Harford Co. MD
RCGA

4/2003

MD SHPo

Detail of 187 graffiti on Rocks (HA-469),

View 5

3 of 8

RETOUCH3,

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HA-2047
Rocks State Park
Harford Co. MD
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MD SHPO

Falling Branch Falls (HA-904), View N

4 of 8

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HA-2047
Rocks State Park
Harford Co. MD
RCGA

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Leopold Hse (HA-1249), NE Corner
5 of 8

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HA-2047
Rocks State Park
Harford Co. MD
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Kellog Hse (HA-1250), S elevation

6 of 8

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HA-2047
Rocks State Park
Harford Co. MD

ECG-A

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MDSHPO

Daelling River, Falling Branch Area,

View

7 of 8

RETOUCHES

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RETOUCHES



HA-2047
Rocks State Park
Harford Co. MD

ECGA

9/2003

MD SHPO

stone retaining wall, Falling Branch Area,

View E,

8 of 8

RETOUCH 13,

D-31-192 N-Order014-027A U-1

Crystal Archive

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

Attachment 4
NR Eligible: yes
no

Property Name: Rocks State Park Inventory Number: HA-2047
 Address: 3318 Rocks Chrome Hill Road Historic district: yes no
 City: Jarrettsville Zip Code: 21084 County: Harford
 USGS Quadrangle(s): Fawn Grove, Jarrettsville
 Property Owner: Maryland Department of Natural Resources Tax Account ID Number: N/A
 Tax Map Parcel Number(s): _____ Tax Map Number: _____
 Project: MD 24 at Rocks State Park Agency: MD State Highway Administration
 Agency Prepared By: Parsons Brinckerhoff
 Preparer's Name: Rebecca Crew Date Prepared: 10/29/2009
 Documentation is presented in: MIHP Form HA-2047, on file at Maryland Historical Trust
 Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: _____ Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended
 Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
 Name of the District/Property: _____
 Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: yes no Listed: yes no
 Site visit by MHT Staff yes no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Introduction

R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates (Goodwin) surveyed Rocks State Park in 2004 for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. The firm documented the state park as a potential historic district on a Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) form, considering all the historic built resources pre-dating 1960 within the park's boundaries. Goodwin identified two buildings and nine sites within Rocks State Park that pre-dated 1960 and the establishment of the park in 1951. Twenty additional buildings and structures within the park were not considered potential resources at that time, as they post-dated 1960. Both pre-1960 buildings, the Leopold House (former Leyoldt House) (MIHP # HA-1249) and the Kellog House (former Crowther House) (MIHP # HA-1250), were previously determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Two of the sites, the Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP # HA-469) and Falling Branch Falls (MIHP # HA-904 and also known as Kilgore Falls) are natural features, while the remaining are archeological. Goodwin determined that the pre-1960 resources of Rocks State Park did not meet the definition to represent any of the four types of cultural landscapes that may qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. (1)

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| MHT Comments: <u>INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. NO DETERMINATIONS OF ELIGIBILITY HAVE BEEN MADE.</u> | |
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However, Goodwin did not consider Rocks State Park as a cultural landscape expressing recreational and conservation use as a state park in the mid-twentieth century. The most appropriate context within which to evaluate Rocks State Park is as a cultural landscape. In addition, because it is a conglomeration of several parcels of land, it is appropriate to evaluate the park as a potential rural historic district using the guidelines set forth in National Register Bulletin 30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes. A cultural landscape is a geographic area that includes cultural and natural resources associated with an historic event, activity, person, or group of people. A rural historic landscape can be listed in the National Register as a site or as a district. It is defined as "a geographical area that historically has been used by people, or shaped or modified by human activity, occupancy, or intervention, and that possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of areas of land use, vegetation, buildings and structures, roads and waterways, and natural features." The guidance set forth in the NRHP bulletin titled How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes clearly demonstrates that Rocks State Park would not qualify as a designed landscape. The only designed landscape components within the park boundaries are a few minor roadways and select trails. These few features do not elevate the park to the status of a designed landscape and, therefore, the resource will not be evaluated within that context.

The primary purpose of an MIHP form is to document a property and provide an historic context, but generally, this process does not include a formal Determination of Eligibility. Goodwin's 2004 MIHP form for Rocks State Park provides a thorough history of the property from the contact and settlement period to the present and includes descriptions of the man-made resources that illustrate the following property types: landscape features, industrial, domestic, and agricultural/subsistence. Using these classifications, Goodwin found that Rocks State Park did not meet the definition to represent the four types of cultural landscapes. At the time of their survey in 2003, the majority of the built resources within the park were less than 50 years of age. Currently, many of these resources are now at least 45 years of age. These include the Middle Area Pump House, the Rock Ridge Pavilion, the Rock Ridge Restroom, the Rock Ridge Pump House, the former Nature Center, and the former Concession Building. When considering Rocks State Park as a recreational and conservation landscape, additional components such as natural features, circulation routes, vegetation patterns, and small-scale elements contribute to the historic characteristics of the landscape that express the mid-twentieth century parkland use of the land.

Description

Rocks State Park is comprised of three discontinuous parcels of land totaling 920 acres in Harford County. The largest section is the main Rocks State Park area along MD 24, Rocks Hill Chrome Road, and St. Clair Bridge Road, built around the centerpiece of the Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP # HA-799), which is a natural rock outcrop formation rising 190 feet above Deer Creek. This formation is part of the topographic feature known as Rock Ridge, and the fabled metamorphosed rocks called the King and Queen Seat are at its summit. This area will be referred to as the Main Rocks Area. The Hidden Valley Natural Area, located at the intersection of Madonna, Telegraph, and Carea Roads, contains approximately 150 acres. The Falling Branch Area at Falling Branch Road near Clermont Mill Road contains 67 acres.

The Main Rocks Area of Rocks State Park is primarily forested with defined recreational use areas. It has three picnic areas; a network of trails (totaling 3.55 miles); maintenance, administration, and other buildings; and parking areas. Common recreational uses include fishing, swimming, tubing, and paddling in Deer Creek and rock climbing and rappelling at the Rocks. Bow-hunting of white-tailed deer is allowed on 120 acres of the park. Rural residences and youth camps surround the park. Please see Goodwin's 2004 MIHP form for detailed descriptions of the property types in Rocks State Park.

According to National Register Bulletin 30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes, 11 characteristics form a classification system for reading the landscape. These characteristics also provide a logical means of describing landscape features within Rocks State Park. The first four characteristics are processes that shape the land, and the last

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seven are components that are evident on the land. Each of these characteristics is detailed below.

Land Use and Activities:

The current land use of Rocks State Park is predominantly recreational and forested, with the forested areas occupying the largest land area. The recreational areas include three distinct picnic areas. Each picnic area has a pavilion, restrooms, playground equipment, picnic table, and grills. The park has several miles of multi-use trails, merging the recreational layer with forested areas. Swimming, tubing, and paddling are recreational uses possible in Deer Creek. Deer Creek is also a stocked put-and-take trout fishing area. Established routes for rock climbing and rappelling are part of the appeal of the King and Queen Seat rock formation. Bow-hunters may use a designated area of the park to hunt white-tailed deer. All these uses allow visitors the opportunity to recreate and appreciate beautiful scenery and wildlife in its natural setting. Additionally, large portions of the park are young forest, rarely accessed by humans. Small percentages of the park's holdings are dedicated to parking and roads, as well as administrative and maintenance uses. These areas are more heavily used, thereby concentrating impacts on the land. Aerial photography shows that some areas within the park boundaries are in agricultural cultivation; however, these areas are not visible from public areas of the park.

A variety of pre-park land uses is evident, mostly through small scale features and structural ruins. Nineteenth-century domestic use is most evident through the extant and NRHP-eligible Leopold House (former Leypoldt House) (MIHP # HA-1249) and the Kellog House (former Crowther House) (MIHP # HA-1250), but also through the stone ruins of house and barn walls. Industrial use of the area for charcoal and iron processing in the nineteenth century is visible through a millrace, retaining walls, charcoal processing locations, and slagheaps. Early twentieth century quarrying is evident through the remnants of a cable-car system used to transport raw materials from a quarry area to the rail cars of the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad. The faces of the Rocks outcrop possess drill holes associated with the former cable-car system. The cable system consisted of iron cables connected to winches that were anchored to the surrounding rock. Small cars were connected to the iron cables. The drill holes used to anchor the winches are the only remnant of the cable car system still present. The related railroad use of the area is limited to a single rock abutment, rail grade, and cuts. The use of the site for informal recreation in the nineteenth and early twentieth century is exhibited by names and dates carved on the rock outcropping by visitors from as early as the mid-nineteenth century. The written record tells of the Rocks of Deer Creek as a popular picnic destination during the nineteenth century, and this popularity expanded with the construction of the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad.

Patterns of Spatial Organization:

Spatial organization is predominantly based on natural forms, as Deer Creek forms a gorge where roads could be built, thus shaping the original development of the area. The piecemeal acquisition of land for the park depended upon the willingness of former landowners to sell. When the park was established, trails were built to provide hiking, and most of the trails lead to the King and Queen Seat rock formation at the top of Rock Ridge. The three picnic areas are located far enough apart to be considered separate entities, each accessible from paved roads.

Response to the Natural Environment:

The natural environment plays an important role in the landscape of Rocks State Park, and park-planning efforts responded directly to these natural features. Rock Ridge is formed by white conglomeratic quartzite sandstone, forming a band 4 miles long and 0.25 to 0.5 miles wide. The juncture of Rock Ridge and Deer Creek forms the exposed "Rocks of Deer Creek," which, capped by the natural metamorphosed rocks called the King and Queen Seat, rise 190 feet above the creek. The Rocks of Deer Creek are "fine-grained siliceous sandstone and quartz conglomerate that have been metamorphosed or mineralogically altered under great

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pressure and have, in consequence, been thoroughly impregnated with a secondary deposit of silica." (2) The rocks include the following minerals: muscovite (located in continuous wavy membranes), blue cyanite (in large radiating tufts), chlorite, magnetite and tourmaline, garnet, and rutile. (3) The unyielding qualities of the quartzite and quartz conglomerate are responsible for the rock towers and turbulent channel where Deer Creek crosses the ridge at "The Rocks." (4)

Pre-park land use was also dependent upon the natural environment and its resources. The natural topography affected the location of circulation routes and settlement. Because Rock Ridge is so steep, the logical placement of roads was along the banks of Deer Creek. When built, the railroad also ran through the gorge rather than over the difficult terrain. Recorded historic archeological sites within the park boundaries are often close to Deer Creek. The mineral makeup of the area allowed for charcoal production and quarrying, and Deer Creek powered mills. Resource extraction characterizes the pre-park industrial use of this area.

Although not useful for settlement or resource extraction, the Rocks of Deer Creek had a leisure and commercial use prior to park development. The natural formations are impressive enough that they became a leisure destination in the nineteenth century, resulting in an accompanying general store, hotel, and train station to serve the tourists. The acquisition of these land features by the State of Maryland reflected an intention to conserve the natural environment for its scenic beauty and to provide access to Deer Creek for various forms of recreation (initially fishing and swimming). Land acquisition on the east side of Deer Creek was necessary to protect the undeveloped view from the King and Queen Seat rock formation.

Cultural Traditions:

According to folklore tradition, the Susquehannocks used the King and Queen Seat rock formation for council meetings and ceremonial purposes. Folklore further suggests that the formation served as the customary thrones for the supreme chief of the Deer Creek confederated Susquehannock villages and his wife, giving the rock formation its name. Thomas Wysong's 1880 publication The Rocks of Deer Creek, Harford County, Maryland: Their Legends and History includes stories involving the King and Queen Seat rock formation as well as Falling Branch Falls. However, additional research by the Cultural Resources staff of the Maryland State Highway Administration was unable to verify reported Susquehannock utilization of the King and Queen Seat Rocks. (5) Reviews of ethnographic and archeological records could find no additional evidence of cultural connection to the Susquehannock. Based on the completed research, it does not appear that there is sufficient evidence of traditional cultural association with the King and Queen Seat for them to be considered Traditional Cultural Properties.

Circulation Networks:

The primary circulation patterns in Rocks State Park build upon the extant state and county roads that pre-date the park's establishment. The Maryland State Roads Commission relocated MD 24, also known as Rocks Road, to its current alignment in 1934, generally following its older route through the Deer Creek gorge, as shown on the 1878 Martenet Map of Harford County. MD 24 runs north and south along the eastern part of the park, from south of Sharon Road to north of Rocks Station Road. It parallels Deer Creek's path for its route through the park, with the exception of the northernmost section. St. Clair Bridge Road follows Deer Creek's path through the park west from the MD 24 Bridge over Deer Creek. Rocks Chrome Hill Road, which extends west from MD 24 south of the Rocks, dates from at least the mid-nineteenth century, as both the Kellog House (c. 1850) and the Leopold House (c. 1810) face this road. Rocks Station Road, leading southeast from MD 24, provides some access to the eastern side of the park where the former railroad ran.

The abandoned Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad right-of-way is contained in Rocks State Park, but it is not noted on current park maps. The railroad bed associated with the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad (alternately referred to as the Ma & Pa Railroad) passes through the eastern section of Rocks State Park, crossing Deer Creek and following a route along the east bank of the creek. This rail line was originally built between 1880 and 1882 as a narrow gauge line and was later upgraded in 1900 to a standard gauge line. The line moved freight, mail, and passengers between York, Pennsylvania, and Baltimore, Maryland, until it

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

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was abandoned in 1958. (6) The tracks and rail were removed from the rail bed in 1958 at the close of operations. The stone abutments where the railroad crossed Deer Creek (Ma & Pa Railroad Bridge Abutments, MIHP #HA-29), the rail grade, and associated cuts of the bed remain within the park boundary.

Drill holes associated with a cable-car system are also located on rock faces on the Rocks of Deer Creek outcrop. This cable system consisted of iron cables connected to winches that were anchored to the surrounding rock. Small cars were connected to the iron cables and were used to transport raw materials from a quarry area to rail cars at the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Preston family owned land on both sides of Deer Creek, living on one side and owning a mill on the other. Possible remnants of the historic Preston's Ford are just south of Cherry Hill Road. The ford would have been used to cross Deer Creek prior to the construction of the Cherry Hill Bridge between 1885 and 1900. (7) The only portions of the ford that remain include three submerged log cribs and one log crib protruding from the stream bank. Other remnants of the ford were likely destroyed during past flood events.

A road extending southeast from St. Clair Bridge Road provides access to the Rock Ridge Picnic Area. It was built purposefully for the park. The 0.4 mile Red Trail leads from the Rock Ridge Picnic Area to the King and Queen Seat rock formation. Other trails circulate throughout the park for the pursuit of hiking and enjoyment of nature. Deer Creek is used for circulation by fishers (generally wading upstream) and by paddlers and tubers (generally traveling downstream).

The two smaller areas of the park are several miles from the Main Rocks Area. They are accessible by private vehicle over state and county roads. Falling Branch Area has a parking area along Falling Branch Road and a main trail leading to the waterfall. The Hidden Valley Natural Area has a small parking area. One trail runs through this natural area, but the general circulation pattern is by fishers from the parking area to Deer Creek.

Boundary Demarcations:

The legal boundaries of Rocks State Park are marked by fences. Within the park, boundary demarcations include large boulders placed at points along MD 24 to serve as guardrails and to prevent parking along the road. Contact stations at the entrance of each of the picnic areas serve as a signal to pay the day-use fee. Deer Creek itself is a natural demarcation form. Collectively, these demarcations define Rocks State Park.

Vegetation Related to Land Use:

As a state park, vegetation is primarily forested with evergreen and deciduous trees. Mowed areas of grass are located within the picnic areas, but most of these are also shaded by trees. Ornamental plantings are present at Hills Grove and Wilson's Picnic areas.

Buildings, Structures, and Objects:

Rocks State Park includes two nineteenth-century stone houses, three pump houses, three pavilions, two restroom buildings, one comfort station building, three contact stations, one radio shed, one barbecue shelter, one former nature center, one former concession building, one c. 1965 house, one c. 1972 house and garage, and one office/shop. Except for the nineteenth-century stone houses, the buildings were built between 1960 and 1997. Structures at Rocks State Park include drainage pipes and culverts under MD 24.

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Clusters:

Each of the three picnic areas within Rocks State Park can be considered a cluster. Each contains a contact station, parking, a pavilion, restrooms, picnic tables, grills, and playground equipment. Other clusters are the parking areas along Deer Creek, which generally contain information kiosks, guardrails, and directional signage.

Archeological Resources:

Rocks State Park includes several known archeological resources: the Isaac Jones Mill/Ruins (MIHP # HA-905) at Falling Branch, John Stewart's Barnyard Wall (MIHP # HA-502) at Hidden Valley, the LaGrange Furnace/Iron Works in the Main Rocks Area, and various stone walls and ruins. In 2009, Goodwin conducted a Phase I Survey that identified a number of additional archeological resources. These archeological sites are not included on the maps in the current document due to concerns related to archeological site protection (accordance with Maryland Historical Trust procedures the public release of archeological site locations).

The Rogers House/Ramsay General Store Site (18HA308) consists of a late nineteenth to early twentieth century artifact scatter. The site measures approximately 30 meters by 20 meters (98.4 feet by 65.6 feet) in size. Recent excavations recovered historic artifacts, primarily consisting of domestic and architectural items including window glass, bottle glass, and wire nail fragments. All artifacts were recovered from a mixed fill context. (8) The site contains a complete lack of vertical and horizontal integrity caused by demolition and construction activities in the 1960s. Due to these disturbances and the type and mixed context of artifacts recovered, the Rogers House/Ramsay General Store Site is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register.

Site 18HA309 consists of a historic domestic occupation that included a partial concrete dwelling foundation, a possible outbuilding remnant, and a historic scatter of late nineteenth to early twentieth century artifacts. The site measures approximately 30 meters by 30 meters (98.4 feet by 98.4 feet) in size. The southern wall is a partial poured concrete foundation measuring 5.9 meters (19.5 feet) long with a width of 15.2 centimeters (6 inches) and is extant above ground. The east and west walls are not visible and the north wall is missing. The remnants of a cinder block chimney are within the northeastern corner of the site. A rectangular hole located 20 meters (65.6 feet) to the south of the foundation is a possible apple house or root cellar outbuilding. Historic artifacts recovered consisted primarily of kitchen and architectural items. (9) All of the artifacts recovered ranged in age from the late nineteenth to early twentieth centuries. Artifacts were recovered on the surface or within the top A-horizon, reflecting an early twentieth century occupation or activity area. No intact sub-surface features were identified within the site area during testing. Site 18HA309 is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register.

Site 18HA310 consisted of a historic stone foundation, depression, concrete well shaft, and associated late nineteenth to mid-twentieth century historic artifacts deposits. The site measured approximately 95 meters (312 feet) by 34 meters (111.5 feet) in size, containing a primary structure and outbuilding. The primary structure had a partial rubble-laid fieldstone foundation cut into the adjacent hillside. The structure's only remaining wall section measures 1.5 meters (5 feet) high and 61 centimeters (2 feet) thick, although a concrete well liner, steps, and trash dump are extent. Remnants of the outbuilding consist of a bowl-shaped depression located 53 meters (85.3 feet) north of the primary structure. Disturbances due to grading and road construction activities are present throughout the site area. (10)

Historic artifacts recovered from Site 18HA310 are primarily domestic in nature and include bottle glass and ceramics. The ceramic types present consisted of whiteware, red and white-bodied earthenware, stoneware, and pearlware. Architectural items recovered included principally window glass and machine-cut nails. All of the artifacts recovered ranged in age from the late nineteenth to early twentieth centuries. Historic artifacts were recovered exclusively from the surface and upper soil profile and

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were temporally mixed. (11) Grading and roadway construction at the site has disturbed the layers of archeological features at this site. No intact sub-surface features were identified within the site area during testing. Due to the disturbances present and the lack of site integrity, Site 18HA310 is recommended not eligible for listing on the National Register.

Small-scale Elements:

Site furnishings are contemporary, including park benches, signage at park entrances, informational kiosks at parking areas, picnic tables, and grills. Wood benches and a screen form the Rock Ridge Amphitheater. Along Deer Creek, footbridges and wooden steps provide access to the creek. A mill stone is placed as art or artifact along the sidewalk from the parking lot to the restroom at Wilson's Picnic Area.

Historic Context

While the history of the Rocks at Deer Creek is colorful and can be traced through historical documents to the eighteenth century, the history of Rocks State Park is limited to the mid-twentieth century after the park was established in 1951. Events in the establishment and development of the Rocks State Park occurred during the 1950s and 1960s.

Pre-park History

Rocks State Park is centered around the "High and Wonderful Rocks of Deer Creek," the natural formation surveyed as 23 acres in 1798 and patented to Henry Myers in 1799. In 1817, John Clendenen acquired the property and throughout the nineteenth century, the Rocks were a popular destination for picnics and outings, as described in Booth Family letters, as well as published accounts of the annual Harvest Home Picnic that attracted farmers from Baltimore, York, and Harford Counties. (12) In 1879, Thomas Wysong published The Rocks of Deer Creek, Harford County, Maryland: Their Legends and History, recording and elaborating upon traditional stories of the Rocks.

In December 1883, the Maryland Central Railway completed the gap between Bel Air (Maryland) and Delta (Pennsylvania), connecting the cities of Baltimore, Maryland, and York, Pennsylvania. The Rocks of Deer Creek became a possible day-trip excursion, as the trains made two stops at the Rocks Station. (13) The railway became the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad in 1901 and service continued until 1958, after the establishment of Rocks State Park.

Park History

The Maryland State Parks Department began its efforts of forest conservation in the early twentieth century, with the 1906 establishment of the Board of Forestry. By 1940, the Maryland Department of Planning had identified the Rocks at Deer Creek as a scenic resource with swimming and other recreational opportunities that contained several thousand affordable acres that could be acquired for establishment of a park called Deer Creek Valley. (14) In 1941, the new state agency of the Maryland Department of State Forests and Parks resulted from the recognition that state forests were being used for recreational purposes. Although World War II postponed land acquisition at the Rocks, following the war, public demand for outdoor recreational opportunities increased. (15) In 1951, the Maryland Department of Forests and Parks began acquiring property for Rocks State Park. Early names for the park were Deer Creek State Park, the Rocks Recreation Reserve, and the Rocks Geological Reserve, signifying the importance of both the geologic value of the Rocks and the recreational value of the creek.

As described in Goodwin's 2004 MIHP form, the park began with a 2-acre purchase from Woodrow and Bessie Ayers in September 1951. By the following year, the Maryland Department of Forests and Parks owned 82 acres of Rocks parkland. By

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August 1957, the Rocks property had grown to 202 acres. By 1966, it had obtained 269 acres out of a proposed 720. By the end of the decade, the park had grown to 483 acres, and by the end of the 1970s, it had 842 acres, including 150 acres that became Hidden Valley Natural Area. Eleven acres were added in the 1980s, and in the 1990s, the Falling Branch Area was acquired, resulting in the current park size of approximately 920 acres. (16) This piecemeal acquisition was influenced by the availability of funds designated by the state and by the willingness of former landowners to sell.

The first park-purpose-built buildings at Rocks State Park were not constructed until 1960. The Rock Ridge picnic area development and construction of the nature center, concession building, and staff housing, occurred between 1960 and 1964. The development included a pavilion, restrooms, a playground, maintenance buildings, and a road to access the summit and designated parking areas.

The development of Rock Ridge pre-dated the 1964 arrival of Spencer Ellis, a trained landscape architect, as Director of the Maryland Department of Forests and Parks. Other aspects of the park's development may be linked to Ellis, as he hired park planners to create the 1966 Master Plan for Outdoor Recreation: 1967-1976, which called for additional facilities for parks and emphasized automobile access and accommodation. (17)

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the state's land conservation program, Program Open Space, was established in 1969. At that time, the Maryland Park Service became the agency managing the state's parks. (18) The 1972 construction of housing for park rangers and the office/shop relate to the increased state park budget. The 1976 acquisition of Hidden Valley Natural Area and the 1990s acquisition of the Falling Branch Area are a result of Program Open Space and the efforts of local land trusts and environmental groups. The 1980s construction of the Hills Grove Picnic Area and the 1990s development of the Wilson Picnic Area are the result of further development of the park for recreational purposes.

As part of developing a context within which to evaluate Rocks State Park, consideration was given to the potential influence that groundbreaking federal initiatives may have had on the state park's development. In 1955, the National Park Service began Mission 66 to modernize national parks by the 50th anniversary of the park service in 1966. Its intention was to permit the "wisest possible use, maximum enjoyment for those who use them; and maximum protection of the scenic, scientific, wilderness, and historic resources that give them distinction." It specified construction of modern roads, well planned trails, utilities, camp and picnic grounds, and many kinds of structures needed for public use or administration. Mission 66 improvements were to be designed and located to reduce the impact of public use on valuable and destructible features. No direct influence is known between the National Park Service and the development of Rocks State Park, although the general intentions are similar, to balance the enjoyment of park visitors with the protection of resources. In National Parks, Mission 66 manifested most characteristically in Modern visitors centers. At Rocks State Park, the construction of roads, picnic areas, hiking trails, and parking lots worked to balance recreational use with conservation of resources. However, the design elements are not particularly Modern, but rather rustic and traditional. The walls of the former concession building (c. 1962) are a rock veneer, and large rocks were placed strategically to prevent roadside-parking along MD 24 and to create a scenic reference to the name of the park. The gable-roofed picnic pavilion (c. 1962) at Rock Ridge has concrete masonry construction and massive shouldered chimneys. The Rock Ridge Rest Room (c. 1962) has concrete masonry construction, a gable roof, and exposed rafter ends (as does the former concession building). An inlaid triangular pattern in the concrete blocks is a small design element that may reference the Native American associations of the park. The former Nature Center (c. 1962) can be described as mid-century modern with an angular roof and functionally derived floor plan, although it is a weak expression of the style. Thus, the early development of Rocks State Park shares the timeframe and objective of Mission 66, although Rocks State Park does not well-represent the Modern design that is characteristic of Mission 66.

Significance Evaluation

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

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Rocks State Park is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a cultural landscape or rural historic district. The park is a typical state park of the 1950s and 1960s, similar to those found throughout Maryland and the country. Remnant landscape features that predate the development of the state park do not convey the area's industrial or informal recreational uses in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Individual resources within the park, including the Leopold House (MIHP # HA-1249) and the Kellog House (MIHP # HA-1250) were previously determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, but these are not closely associated with the park and do not form a cohesive historic district. The Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP #HA-469) may be individually eligible for the National Register as a natural landmark, but it is outside the scope of this assessment to evaluate this resource in that manner.

Rocks State Park is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A as an example of an industrial landscape. Extant features are all minor in nature and do not convey the early industrial uses. These features include retaining walls, slagheaps, and charcoal processing locations. Mechanical remnants and drill holes on the rock outcrop are small relics of the cable car system that transported material from quarry location to the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad. The remnants of the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad, in turn, are exhibited by a rail bed, cuts, and abutments of a single bridge. The denuded landscape associated with earlier charcoal production has been reforested. The overall landscape does not illustrate that of an industrial landscape, and while extant features remain, they are small in nature and do not form a cohesive example of nineteenth-century charcoal production or early twentieth century quarrying activities.

Rocks State Park is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A as an example of a nineteenth-century recreation site. The extant elements that illustrate this use include the railroad bed of the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad, which also transported tourists, and inscriptions carved on the surfaces of the Rocks outcrop by nineteenth century visitors, as well as the outcrop itself. However, significant elements that contributed to the use of the area for informal recreation are no longer extant. The Rogers House/Ramsay General Store, where visitors stayed and shopped, is no longer extant and its archeological site has been found to have a complete lack of vertical and horizontal integrity due to the disturbances caused by demolition and construction activities in the 1960s. The Rocks Station, adjacent Ramsey Hotel, and the majority of the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad, which brought tourists to the Rocks, have been demolished. Therefore, important features that conveyed the park's passive recreational uses are no longer extant.

Rocks State Park is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A as an example of a rural historic landscape within a state park setting used for conservation and recreation. Although this was the most appropriate manner within which to evaluate the park, it is not significant as a conservation and recreation landscape. In the years following World War II, the nation, including Maryland, established parks, forests, and recreation areas that responded to the increased demand for outdoor recreation. As such, Rocks State Park exhibits the pattern of events and associated park management strategies that are similar to those that have occurred across the Maryland State Park system. The need for Rocks State Park was justified for its recreational use, and the selection of this location was based on scenic beauty, resulting in conservation of a natural resource. However, the modest improvements and visitor amenities built during the post-war period do not indicate that this particular park was intended to exemplify mid-century conservation and recreation efforts in Maryland. The Rocks of Deer Creek (MIHP #HA-469) may have potential importance as a historic (and possibly pre-historic) natural and scenic site. However, they were not evaluated individually as part of this effort.

Rocks State Park is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion B, as historic research and information obtained from the MIHP form indicate that the property does not have significant associations with past or present significant persons who have made specific contributions to society within a regional or national context. Users of the park and landscape may include significant persons, but the association is not directly related to the historic importance of these persons. Similarly, the Rocks have been the source of creative inspiration, but the resulting works are not important enough for their authors to be considered

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significant persons in either regional or national context. The characters in the fables Wysong recorded (with self-admitted elaboration and/or fabrication) may have existed, but no documentary evidence supports their existence. American Indian ceremonial use of these rocks remains unknown, and confirmation by modern-day descendants was outside the scope of this evaluation.

Rocks State Park is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C because it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. The park's existing pattern of spatial organization, circulation networks, vegetation related to land use, and response to the natural environment convey the land uses and activities related to its management as a state park since 1951. The distinctive characteristics of mid-twentieth century state parks focus on balancing conservation and recreation and include automobile-centered circulation patterns, recreational and comfort facilities for visitor use, and maintenance and administrative areas for staff use. While Rocks State Park exhibits these characteristics of state park design in the post-World War II period, it does so minimally, lacking new roads that include vistas of the King and Queen Seat rock formation, and including only one picnic area dating from the 1960s and limited hiking trails. No individual designer has been identified with the design of Rocks State Park, as it was developed over several decades and most likely was the result of many different Maryland Park Service employees; therefore, it does not represent the work of a master. While Rocks State Park has aesthetic value, it is primarily derived from pre-existing natural features and cannot be considered of high artistic value; the design of buildings, structures, circulation patterns, and small-scale elements are characterized as functional and developed over a period continuing to the present. The combination of all the landscape components that form Rocks State Park does not create a significant and distinguishable entity. Therefore, Rocks State Park is not eligible under Criterion C.

As an entity, Rocks State Park was not evaluated for listing under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Endnotes

- (1) R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. 2004. "Rocks State Park." Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) form. On file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland.
- (2) Cleveland Abbe, Jr. "A General Report on the Physiography of Maryland," in Maryland Weather Service, Vol. 1, ed. William Bullock Clark (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1899), 47-48.
- (3) George Huntington Williams, "The Petrography and Structure of the Piedmont Plateau in Maryland," in Bulletin of the Geological Society of America, Vol. 2. (NY: Geological Society of America, 1891), 309.
- (4) Abbe, 135.
- (5) Carol Ebright, "Summary of Research on the King and Queen Seat," On File, Maryland State Highway Administration, 2004.
- (6) Kathryn G. Dixon, Nathan S. Workman, Jennifer L. Evans, and Joshua Roth. Phase I Cultural Resource Investigations for Proposed Improvements to Maryland 24 From South of Stirrup Run to the St. Clair Bridge over Deer Creek, Harford County, Maryland. (Fredrick, Maryland: R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, Inc., 2009).
- (7) Dixon.
- (8) Ibid.
- (9) Ibid.
- (10) Ibid.
- (11) Ibid.
- (12) Dinah Faber, Tour of Booth Family Historic Sites, Historical Society of Harford County, Inc. March 2002, <http://www.harfordhistory.net/boothtour.htm>, accessed 4/28/09.
- (13) George Hilton, The MA & PA: A History of the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad (Baltimore: John Hopkins Press, 1999), 23.

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- (14) 1940 Maryland State Planning Commission publication Maryland Recreation Areas
- (15) History of Maryland Sate Parks, <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/sfpshistory.html>, updated February 1, 2005, accessed May 5, 2009.
- (16) Goodwin, Continuation Sheet Number 8, Page 1.
- (17) Robert F. Bailey, III. Images of America: Maryland's Forests and Parks: A Century of Progress. (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2006), 93.
- (18) History of Maryland State Parks, <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/sfpshistory.html>, updated February 1, 2005, accessed May 5, 2009.

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

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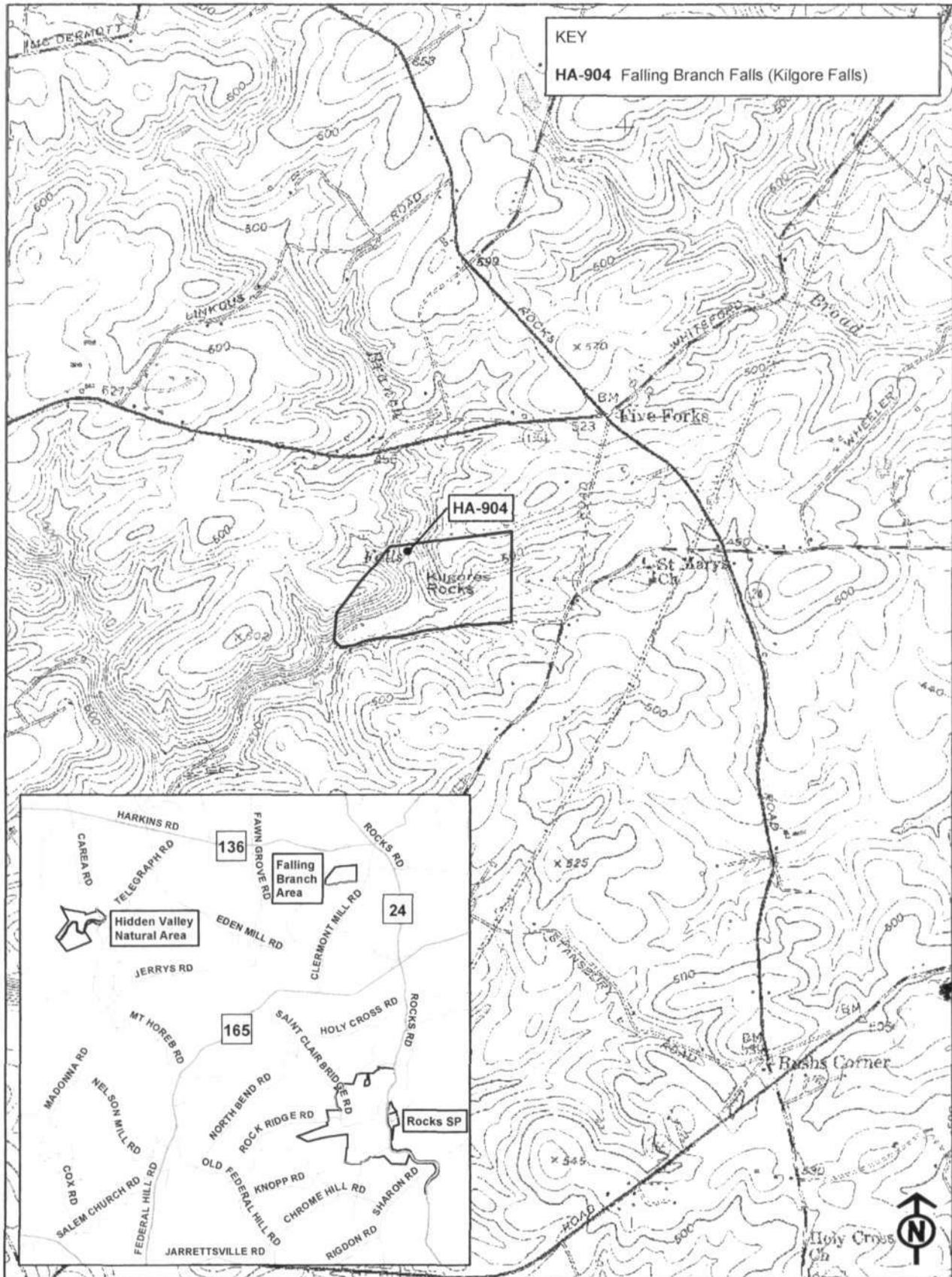
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Date

Falling Branch Area
Rocks State Park HA-2047

Falling Branch Area
Rocks State Park
Harford County, MD
USGS Fawn Grove Quad



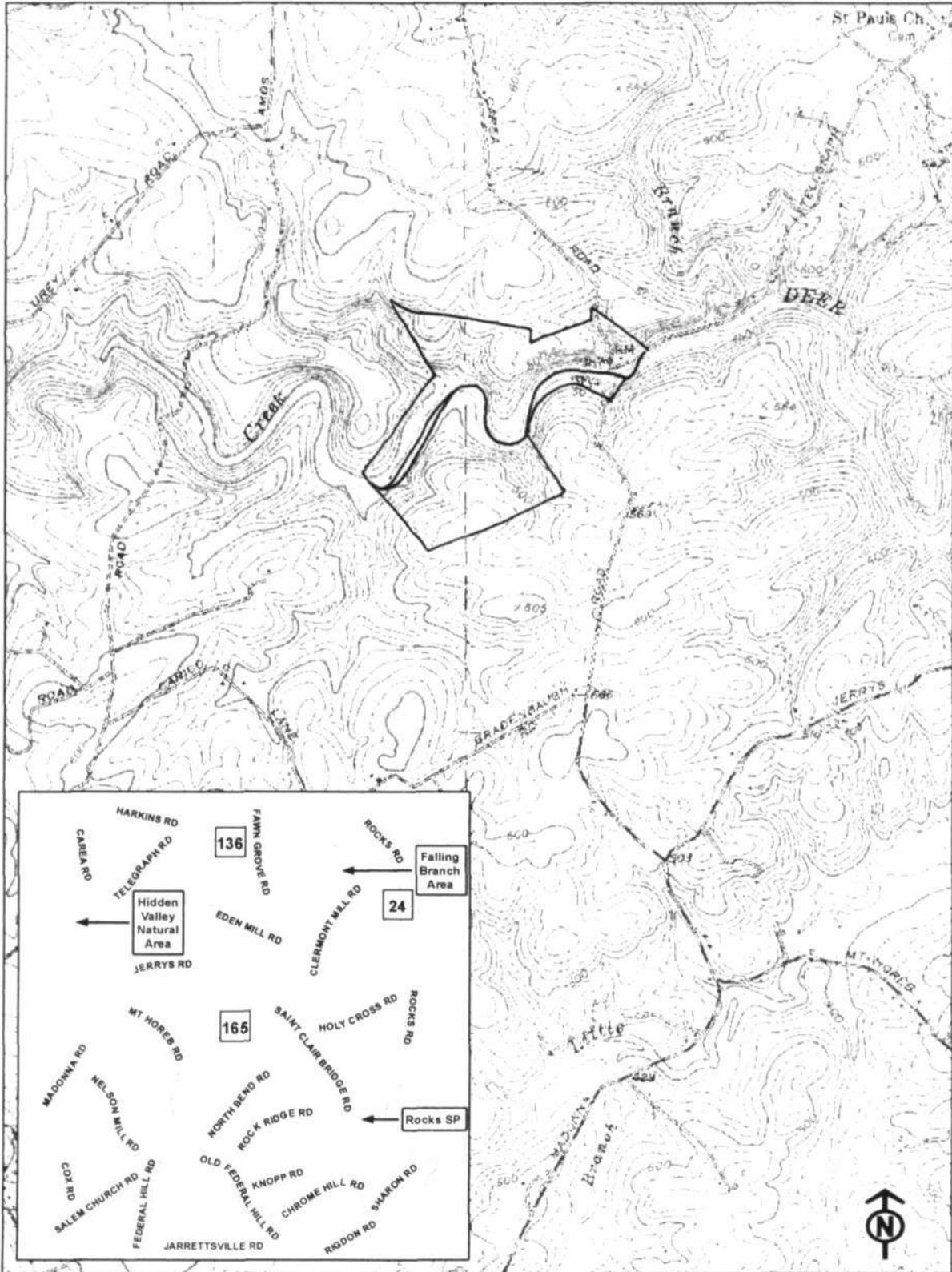
State Park Boundary

0 1,000 2,000 Feet 1:24,000

Hidden Valley Natural Area
Rocks State Park HA-2047

Hidden Valley Natural Area
Rocks State Park HA-2047
Harford County, MD

USGS Norrisville Quad and Fawn Grove Quad



Property

0 1,000 2,000 Feet 1:24,000



MIHP # HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Harford County, Maryland

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

Negatives Maryland Historical Trust

Facing southwest towards former Concession Building (c. 1964)
on west side of MD 24

1 of 14



MHP # HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Harford County, Maryland

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

Negatives, Maryland Historical Trust

Facing ~~Northwest~~ towards former nature center (c. 1962)
on MD 24

2 of 14



HA-2047 Rocks State Park

Harford County, Maryland

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

Negatives, Maryland Historical Trust

View facing northeast towards Deer Creek &
Former Ward House (c. 1972)

3 of 14



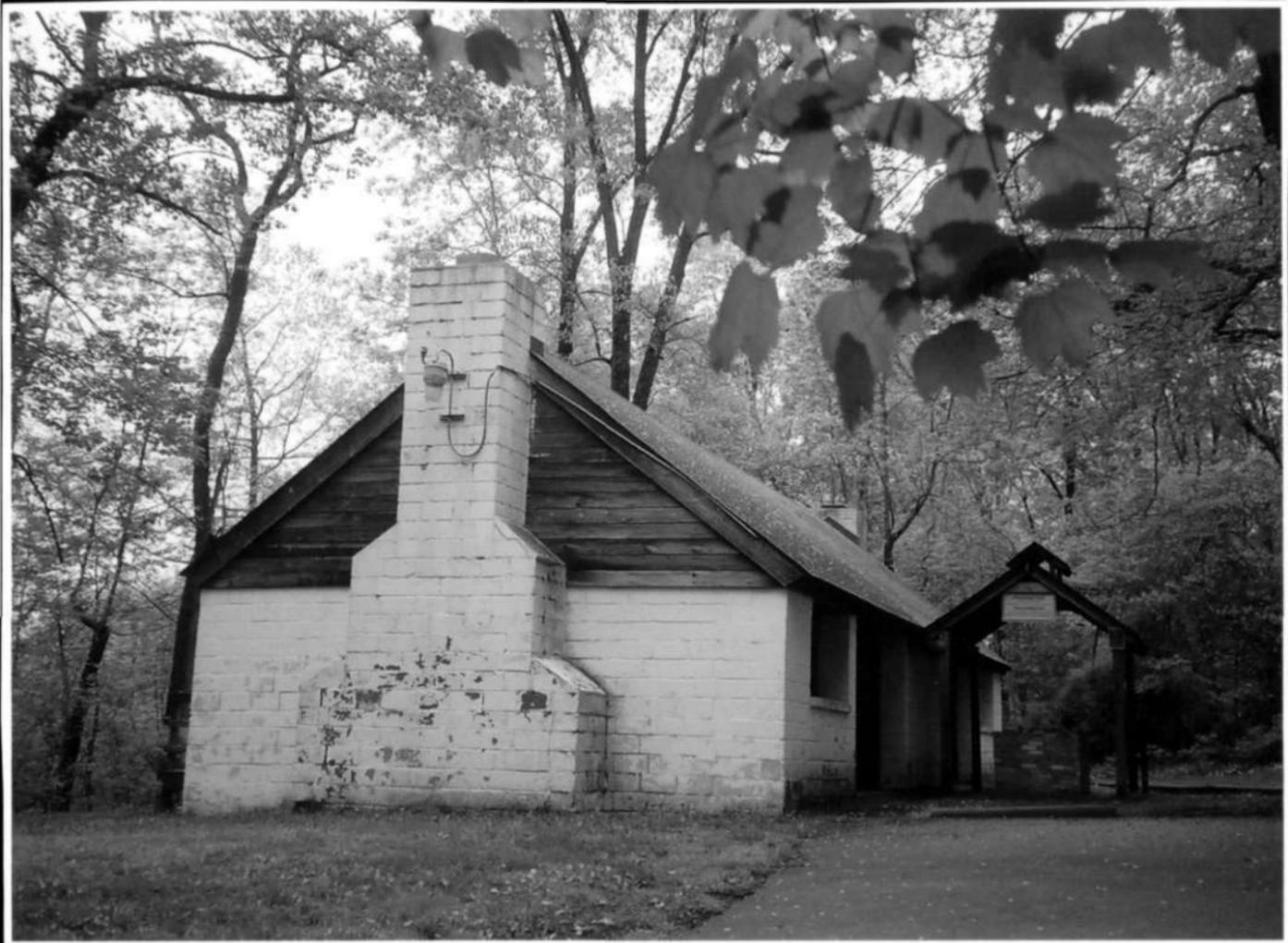
HA-2047 Rocks State Park
Harford County, Maryland

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009, Negatives Mdt Historical Trust

View facing north towards Middle Area Pump House
(c. 1960) on east side of MD 24

4 of 14



HA-2047 Rocks State Park

Hartford County, Maryland

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009; Negatives Md Historical Trust

View facing southeast towards Rock Ridge Pavilion
(c. 1962) and Barbeque Shelter (c. 1983)

5 of 14



HA-2047 Rocks State Park

Hartford County, Maryland

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

Negatives, MD Historical Trust

View facing west towards Rock Ridge Pump House (c. 1962,
foreground) and Radio Shed (c. 1965, background).

6 of 14



MHP # HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Harford co, MD

R. Crew

May 4, 2009

MD SHPO

View facing east towards Rock Ridge
Restroom (c. 1962).

7 of 14



MHP #1 HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Hartford County, Maryland

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

Negatives, MD SHPO

View facing southwest towards
Rock Ridge amphitheater

#8 of 14



RESERVED
PARKING
VAN

MIHP # HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Hartford County, Maryland

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2007

Negatives, MD SHPO

Views facing south towards Wilson Comfort Station (c. 1997)

9 of 14



Rocks State Park

Harford County, Maryland

HA-2047

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

Negatives, MD SHPO

View facing northeast towards Hills Grove picnic area

10 of 14



MIHP # HA - 2047

Rocks State Park

Harford County, Maryland

R. Crew, photographer

May 4, 2009

Negatives, MD SHPO

View facing west towards Office/Shop building
on Rocks Chrome Hill rd. C. 1972

#11 of 14



HA-2047

Rocks State Park

Harford County, MD

R. Crew, photographer

May 6, 2009

Negatives, MD SHPO

View facing southeast towards

#12 of 14

Falling Branch Falls (MI
(# HA-904) # HA



HA-2047 Roc KS State Park

Hartford County, MD

R. Crew, photographer

May 16, 2009

Negatives, MD SHPO

View facing east towards ruins in Falling Branch Area.

13 of 14



PARK WATCH

PETS MUST BE ON A LEASH AT ALL TIMES

HA-2047 Rocks State Park

Harford County, MD

R. Crew, photographer

May 6, 2009

Negatives, MD State

View facing west at Hidden Valley Natural Area
parking lot.

#14 of 14