

## VISIT THESE CCC SITES IN GROTON STATE FOREST

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC's) of the 1930s was instrumental in park and campground development not only in Vermont, but across the United States. Trails, roads, forest fire lookouts, picnic and camping areas, ski areas, and dams were all constructed by these hardworking men.

### NEW DISCOVERY STATE PARK

- ◇ In 1933, CCC Company 146 from Rhode Island was stationed along the road to Osmore Pond. Approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile from the campground on the left, you will see the remains of a stone fence at the entrance to the camp, the Recreation Hall chimney, and cellar holes. Company 146 was responsible for building structures at New Discovery, Osmore Pond, Owl's Head, and Kettle Pond.
- ◇ Around Osmore Pond, a 75-person log shelter, 19 picnic sites with stone fireplaces, and four remote campsites were built. The gray picnic tables in the shelter are original, as are the 3 remote lean-tos on the east side of the pond.
- ◇ Area "B" in the campground was designed and built by Company 146. All 21 sites still have usable stone fireplaces.
- ◇ The park ranger house at the entrance to New Discovery was also built by Company 146 and was the main CCC headquarters for the Forest.
- ◇ The Norway spruce plantations around New Discovery were also planted during this time by the CCCs.

### OWL'S HEAD

- ◇ A stone fire tower built in 1935 is the highlight at the summit. As you are hiking to the summit, notice the stone steps that were constructed by the CCC. Just to the right of the trail as you reach the peak, you will see a pile of rock. The pile was left by the CCC after building the fire tower. In 2007, this leftover rock was used to erect the interpretive kiosk using similar techniques. The log picnic shelter with a stone fireplace is still in use near the parking area. The trail to the right of the shelter was the skid trail used to haul the rock up the mountain to build the fire tower.

### KETTLE POND

- ◇ Six remote lean-tos dot the hiking trail around Kettle Pond. Three are still in use, and five stone fireplaces are still in existence. Site #11 is one of the few remaining vertical log leantos built by the CCCs.

### STILLWATER STATE PARK

- ◇ This Park was originally a picnic area with stone fireplaces. In 1938, four campsites, a central bathroom, a picnic shelter with fireplaces on both ends, and a small caretaker's house were built. All facilities are still in use.

### RICKER POND STATE PARK

- ◇ In 1933, CCC Company 1217 from New York City was stationed at Ricker Mills and then followed by Company 1162 in 1935. Ricker Pond was originally a picnic area with a log shelter, 10 picnic sites with stone fireplaces, and a staff cabin (rangers quarters). Where the current campsite #1 exists, you can find an 8' granite picnic table carved into the rock. In 1941-42, another small cabin was built, which is used today as a weekly rental cottage.

***New Discovery, Stillwater, and Ricker Pond State Parks are listed in the National Register of Historic Places***

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:**

[www.ccclegacy.org](http://www.ccclegacy.org)

[www.cccalumni.org](http://www.cccalumni.org)

[www.vermonthistory.org](http://www.vermonthistory.org)

[www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com](http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com)