### Colton Point State Park

**Site Information**

- **Class:** Building
- **District:** 1925-1949
- **Architect:** CCC Camp S-155
- **Builder:** Stone/Wood

**Black and White Print(s)**

31/2" x 8" enlargement or medium format contact on negative of location in block 24.

**Site Plan with North Arrow**

See accompanying photos.

**Description**

Colton Point State Park encompasses 368 acres on the west rim of the Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania. Tiadaghton State Forest surrounds the park, which was designed to accommodate tent camping and day use activities. A single historic district, encompassing the entire park, is proposed. The district contains eight places of historic significance.

**History, Significance and/or Background**

CCC Camp S-155 developed Colton Point State Park between June 1935 and late 1941. Named for Henry Colton, a local lumberman, the park is located on land purchased by the state in the late nineteenth century for use as a State Forest. Colton Point State Park offers panoramic vistas of the Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania. The scenic overlooks constructed by the CCC are a significant resource within the park. Colton Point State Park opened to the public in 1936.

**Sources of Information**

See No. 9 on National Register nomination form.

**Computer Coding (BHP Survey Grantees Must Complete)**

- **County:** 117
- **Style:** 03
- **Construction Material:** 01, 02, 03
- **Roof:** 01, 03
- **Design Type:** 03
- **Historic Function:** 160900P, 160902P
- **Construction Feature:** 32, Ext. Wall, 01, 02, 03
- **Facade Width:** 32
- **Roof Material:** A
- **Stories:** 1
- **Exterior Design:**
- **Interior Design:**

**Prepared by:**

John Milner Associates

**Date:** 10/86

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**Notes:**

- A/B = A/B, C/D = C/D
- 5a, South of U.S. Route 6
- 6. County
- 7. Township
- 8. Section
- 9. Other Name (historic name if any)
- 10. July
- 11. Bureau for Historic Preservation
- 12. PA Historical & Museum Commission
- 14. (215) 561-7637
- 15. 1133 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107
- 16. 1026
- 17. Harrisburg, PA 17120
- 18. Tiadaghton
- 19. Park - Day Use
- 20. Park - Day Use
- 21. good
- 22. good
26. (continued).

buildings and nine structures. One of the buildings is modern, and does not contribute to the character of the district.

Maintenance Building (105-1) Rectangular, gable-roofed building with exposed log rafters at gable ends. Clad with both horizontal and vertical waneked siding.

Reservoir (105-2) Underground reservoir covered with low, hipped roof.

Pavilion No. 1 (105-3) Large stone pavilion with stone fireplace and gabled roof.

Pavilion No. 2 (105-4) Open pavilion with pyramidal roof supported on log columns. A standard design.

Pavilion No. 3 (105-5) Large stone pavilion with stone fireplace.

Pavilion No. 4 (105-6) Large stone pavilion with stone fireplace along back wall. Gabled roof supported on timbers. (Deteriorated framing is being replaced. Plans also call for construction of a new roof. Original stone work will remain intact).

Latrine (105-8) Gable-roofed latrine sided with clapboards. A standard design.

Latrine (105-10) Similar to Latrine 105-8.

Latrine (105-11) Similar to Latrine 105-8.

Latrine (105-12) Similar to Latrine 105-8.

Latrine (105-13) Similar to Latrine 105-8.

Latrine (105-14) Similar to Latrine 105-8.

Additional CCC-built structures and facilities in the park consist of simple stone fireplaces, built to standardized CCC designs, the remains
26. (continued)

of a brick and stone incinerator, three scenic overlooks, hiking trails, and roads.

The single non-contributing resource in the district is the Park Office (105-16), constructed in 1983.

27. (continued)

Colton Point State Park Historic District appears to meet Criteria A and C for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It is associated with the Emergency Conservation Work performed by the Civilian Conservation Corps, one of the most important of the federal relief efforts initiated under the New Deal, an exceptionally significant development in the twentieth century history of the United States. These buildings and structures also exemplify the rustic style of architecture espoused by the National Park Service. This style and philosophy have come to characterize most national and state parks in the United States.

More specifically, Colton Point State Park Historic District is significant in the following areas:

**Architecture/Landscape Architecture:**

The buildings and structures epitomize the rustic style and philosophy of architecture espoused by the National Park Service. Rustic buildings and structures are designed to blend with the natural environment. They make use of local, natural materials and represent a perceived notion of pioneer American architecture. Buildings are placed on the landscape so as not to detract from the natural environment.

**Conservation/Recreation:**

These buildings and structures have been used as recreational facilities for approximately fifty years. They represent the results of a massive federal effort to construct and improve outdoor recreational facilities across the United States.
27. (continued)

**Politics/Government:**

These buildings and structures were constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), one of the most important federal relief programs created under Roosevelt's New Deal. They are thus representative of the federal building programs that constituted one of the major developments of the Depression Era. Built on state-owned property, they also represent an unprecedented cooperation between state and federal government.

**Social/Humanitarian:**

These buildings and structures constitute a massive humanitarian program initiated by the federal government during the depths of the Depression. The construction of these buildings employed thousands of jobless young men, many of whom were homeless before they joined the Civilian Conservation Corps.

**Boundary Information**

Beginning at a point at the northeast corner of the intersection of Deadman Hollow Road and Colton Road, thence east approximately 1,200 feet to a point on the west bank of Pine Creek. Thence in a southerly direction along the west bank of Pine Creek approximately 5,000 feet to a point at the north side of the mouth of Fourmile Run. Thence upstream along the north bank of Fourmile Run approximately 3,000 feet to a point at the south side of the mouth of Rexford Branch. Thence north approximately 3,200 feet to a point. Thence east approximately 1,200 feet to the starting point. These boundaries include all of the resources associated with the Colton Point State Park Historic District.

**Acreage of Nominated Property:** 187

**UTM Coordinates:** Zone 18

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