



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

1753

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Choctaw Lake Ranger Residence

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number [REDACTED] not for publication

city or town [REDACTED] vicinity

state [REDACTED]

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Michael G. Facza FPO 1/27/2000
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
USDA Forest Service
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Kenneth H. P. Park 10/27/98
Signature of commenting official/Title Date
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer 10/27/98
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper (for)

Date of Action

Annalee D. Bpe 7/25/01

Choctaw Lake Ranger Residence

Name of Property

Choctaw County, Mississippi
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2		buildings
		sites
1		structures
		objects
3		Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

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

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic:Single Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic:Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and early 20th century
architecture.
Other:Rustic architecture

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
walls Wood
roof Composition shingles
other

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1936-1938

Significant Dates

1936-1938

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Not Documented

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property

[REDACTED]

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 [REDACTED]
Zone Easting Northing
[REDACTED]

3 [REDACTED]
Zone Easting Northing
4 [REDACTED]

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Todd Sanders, Architectural Historian

organization N/A date 2/26/98

street & number 1115A Polk Street telephone 287-7870

city or town Corinth state Mississippi zip code 38834

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name USDA, Forest Service, National Forest in Mississippi

street & number 100 W. Capitol Street, Suite 1141 telephone 601-965-4391

city or town Jackson state Mississippi zip code 39269

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Choctaw Lake Ranger Residence
Choctaw County, Mississippi

Section number 7 Page 1

Description

The Choctaw Lake Recreation Area Ranger Residence was designed and built by the Works Progress Administration between 1936 and 1938. [REDACTED]

The Ranger Residence is a one-story, timber frame, L-plan building. The exterior walls of the residence are covered with irregular, rough-cut cypress siding. The gable roof of the residence portion of the structure is supported by peeled log rafters, the ends of which are exposed. Located at the south-western end of the building is a three-story hip roofed water tower. All roof surfaces are covered with composition shingles. The corner posts of the residential part of the structure are peeled logs. The porch posts of both the northeastern facing open porch (toward the lake), and the screened-in porch located in the northern corner of the residence, are large peeled logs. These posts support the porch roofs with the aid of brackets constructed of logs. The foundation of the residence portion of the structure has a conventional foundation of native stone, whereas the water tower wing rests on a slab foundation. The slab foundation of the water tower wing is faced with native stone to tie in with the conventional foundation of the rest of the structure. The base of the water tower is distinguished by a slight slope as it rises from the foundation.

[REDACTED] This chimney-like element contains the bathroom. The entrance door is a replacement paneled door located behind a simple screen door. The windows of the residence portion of the structure are 6 over 6 double-hung sash windows, with 1 over 1 double-hung sash windows located in the area of the southern elevation that links the residence portion of the structure with the wing containing the screened-in porch, guest room, garage and water tower. The windows of the guest room are also 6 over 6 double-hung sash windows. The garage is located between the guest room and the water tower and is accessed through original, double-leaf rustic style garage doors.

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Choctaw Lake Ranger Residence
Choctaw County, Mississippi

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The three story, hip-roofed water tower is the dominant feature of the structure. Originally the structure contained a water tank on the third floor. Water from a spring was pumped into this tank to supply the residence. The water tank is now missing. The detailing of the tower is different from that of the rest of the structure. The corners of the tower are not defined by peeled log corner posts, as is the residential part of the building, but rather the irregular cypress siding of each elevation meets at each corner. The base of the tower splays out at the foundation to emphasize the height and mass of the structure. The windows of the tower are six light casements rather than the double-hung sash used in the rest of the structure.

The interior of the Ranger Residence continues the rustic style so skillfully displayed on the exterior. The main entrance opens into a small hallway. Located on the left is the living room and to the right are two bedrooms and the bathroom. The living room is dominated by a huge stacked stone fireplace. This fireplace occupies almost the entire western end of the room. The vaulted living room ceiling is supported by beams of skinned logs. Throughout the interior, the wall surfaces are covered with vertical board paneling. The interior doors are original rustic style doors. To the right of the living room fireplace is the entrance to the kitchen. Beyond the kitchen is a small laundry/utility room area that opens onto the screened porch. Opening off the southern end of the porch is the guest room.

Overall, the architectural integrity of the building is quite good with much of the original interior and exterior detailing remaining.

Also located on the nominated property is a small garden /storage shed. This one-story, wood-frame shed was apparently constructed at the same time as the Ranger Residence. This structure is covered by a canted gable roof with composition shingles. The shed has the same rough - cut cypress siding as the ranger residence. This building, which is located to the northwest of the Ranger Residence is historic and contributing.

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Choctaw Lake Ranger Residence
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Located at the entrance to the driveway leading to the Ranger Residence are two random rubble-work native stone gateposts. Just to the southeast of this gateway is a similar entrance flanking the road leading to Choctaw Lake. These two entrances are linked by a low curving stone wall. Each of the two outer gateposts have a similar curving wall that curves away from the roads. These entrance gates were constructed around the same time as the Ranger Residence and are historic and contributing.

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Choctaw Lake Ranger Residence
Choctaw County, Mississippi

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Statement of Significance

The Choctaw Lake Ranger Residence has local and statewide significance under Criterion C in the area of architecture as one of Mississippi's best examples of rustic park architecture built by various federal relief agencies during the Great Depression.

The residence is an excellent example of the rustic style of architecture favored by designers working for various depression-era relief agencies such as the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration. Most structures surviving from the 1930's located on National Forest land in Mississippi were constructed by the CCC. The Choctaw Lake Ranger Residence was constructed as a part of a larger recreational complex under the oversight of the WPA for the Soil Conservation Service.

The Ranger's Residence is eligible under Criterion C in the area of architecture as an excellent example of the rustic style of park architecture from the 1930's. Most structures built by the WPA in Mississippi were not rural recreation facilities but rather were community houses. The rustic style of architecture used by the WPA and other government agencies during the years of the Great Depression developed to fulfill a wide range of design aesthetics. The primary goal of the designers in creating a structure in this rustic style was to give visitors the illusion that each building was constructed by local artisans using traditional building techniques and native materials such as wood and stone. While most of these structures do indeed use native materials, the design of each building originated from architects and landscape architects working for these various agencies. Another effect of this rustic style of architecture was to provide a form of escape from the harsh reality of daily life during the depression to an idealized past. These simple basic buildings served as a type of visual link to our nation's past and perhaps renewed the faith of Americans in their nation during a time of great national struggle.

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Choctaw Lake Ranger Residence
Choctaw County, Mississippi

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Between 1936 and 1938 the Works Progress Administration constructed Choctaw Lake and several buildings located around the lake. Among these structures were a dance pavillion, lodge, bath house, cabins, manager's residence, etc. From construction until the mid 1960's Choctaw Lake Recreation Area fulfilled a public recreation need. The cabin/lodge complex and group camp facilities were leased to campers until 1965. After this time land use philosophies changed resulting in the subsequent destruction of most of these structures. The manager's residence, now known as the Ranger's Residence, is the most significant structure remaining from the original development of the recreation area by the WPA.

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Choctaw Lake Ranger Residence
Choctaw County, Mississippi

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9. Bibliographical References

Historic Resources Inventory Files, Historic Preservation
Division, Mississippi Department of Archives and History,
Jackson.

Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. The
National Forest of Mississippi: A Cultural Resources
Survey, John Linn Hopkins, preservation consultant.

Site Visit, October 6, 1997, by Todd Sanders, Historic
Preservation Consultant, Corinth, Mississippi.

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is delineated by the
four sided figure whose vertices are marked by the following
UTM reference points:



Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the Works Progress
Administration constructed Ranger Residence and associated
structures.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section: Photos Page: 7

Choctaw Lake Ranger Residence
Choctaw County, Mississippi

PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Choctaw Lake Ranger Residence
2. [REDACTED]
3. Todd Sanders
4. October 1997
5. Mississippi Department of Archives and History

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Photo 1 of 10 | View of Gatepost [REDACTED] |
| Photo 2 of 10 | View of Main entrance [REDACTED] |
| Photo 3 of 10 | View [REDACTED] Water Tower [REDACTED] |
| Photo 4 of 10 | [REDACTED] |
| Photo 5 of 10 | View [REDACTED] garage, [REDACTED] |
| Photo 6 of 10 | View [REDACTED] |
| Photo 7 of 10 | View of fireplace in living room, [REDACTED] |
| Photo 8 of 10 | View of corner of fireplace, [REDACTED] st |
| Photo 9 of 10 | View of Bathroom door, [REDACTED] |
| Photo 10 of 10 | View of Outbuilding, [REDACTED] |