FORT FREDERICK STATE PARK #1
BIG POOL, MARYLAND

Fort Frederick State Park #1, which is dominated by the central feature of Fort Frederick, or better known locally as "Old Fort Frederick", was built in 1756 by the early settlers of Maryland. It is situated on a hill 100 ft. above and 600 yds. northeast of the Potomac River about 12 miles east of Hancock, Washington County, Maryland. From its position an excellent and nearly circumspective panorama is available.

To the south, Big Pool, one of the feeding basins of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, built in 1838, the Potomac River and the rugged foothills of the Allegheny Mountains may be seen. To the north and west this ruggedly mountainous aspect continues far into Pennsylvania, while to the east, though blocked from view by a mile of wooded foothills, lies the open and fertile Shenandoah Valley.

Before starting the restoration of the Fort Walls and Barracks; District Officer, Mr. Weatherwax - District Inspectors, Mr. Nicolet and Mr. Bullock, decided that a study of all the historical information available, should be made. This was done.
by Mr. Reed, the resident Architect. The only information he could find was two histories in the Washington County Library. These were conflicting: one stated that the barracks were built of stone; the other that they were built of logs.

This useless information on hand, it was decided to remove the top-soil and about 4 in. of sub-soil from the area (2 acres) within the Fort Walls; then excavate trenches 2 ft. deep, 1 ft. wide, dug in a criss cross manner and 8 ft. apart. The latter project, 28e, was carried on both in and outside of the Fort-Walls. The purpose; to locate the exact corners of barracks, wells, out-buildings, etc. We stripped approximately 3,000 cu. yds. of top-soil, (photograph page 2, bottom) 1,200 cu. yds. of sub-soil, excavated 6,000 lin. ft. of trench 1 ft. wide, 2 ft. deep, outside of the Fort and 10,000 lin. ft. inside.

While excavating we found 4 cannon balls approximately 3 1/2 in. in diameter weighing about 8 lbs. apiece, numerous metal buttons, several arrow heads, a pewter spoon made in London, numerous pieces of flint used in flint lock guns, several flint locks, a great quantity of round musket balls (sizes 1/2 in. and 1/4 in. in diameter), old forks, English coins (one dated 1756 and another 1723), and various other articles too numerous to mention. All of these pieces are
in the hands of the Caretaker! We also located the exact corners, fireplaces and cross walls of the Barracks, a fireplace (photograph page 2, top) about 10 ft. in front of center of the south Barrack that is supposed to have been an old time bake oven, some brick gutters in several places about 7 ft. in front of the south and north Barracks (photograph page 2, top) also stone foundations that were probably supports for porches along Barracks. This work accomplished we hadn't proved that the Barracks were either stone or log.

It was then decided to restore the foundations of the 3 barracks to a height flush with the finished grade. (photograph page 2, top) At the present time we have finished this restoration on the north and Officer's Barracks (photograph page 1), removed approximately 700 cu. yds. of the original 4 ft. thick stone wall around the NW Bastion (photograph page 1, bottom) and replaced about 450 cu. yds. of this wall. This work completed with the assistance of one skilled laborer and 15 C.C.C. enrolled boys.

**Telephone Line**

We have completed 8 miles of telephone line! This line extends from the Cross Mountain Fire Tower to the Public Telephone line in Blairs Valley, Washington County, Maryland. (Cross Mountain Fire Tower is located about 1/2 mile north of the Mason & Dixon line in Franklin County, Pennsylvania and
was erected by Fox Camp, located near Fort Loudon, Penna.)

It was necessary to hand drill and blast about 1/3 of the holes on this line. All of the poles were cut by hand, loaded on trucks and placed along the R.O.W. This project was completed with C.C.C. labor.

Road

One mile of road 14 ft. wide with 4 ft. shoulders, 5 ft. gutters and slopes 5 ft. to 1 has been completed. (photographs pages 3 and 4) All of the stone was trucked from farms in the neighborhood, napped by hand to a depth of 8 in. and rolled, upon this a 3 in. layer of shale was placed. This in turn was then rolled giving a fairly smooth hard surface. All of this work was accomplished by C.C.C. labor with the exception of the rolling.

Forest Stand Improvement

Twenty-eight acres completed of Forest Stand Improvement. This work accomplished by hard work and perseverance with C.C.C. men. At one time 65 of the boys had poison ivy.

Flood Control, clearing River Bank

Flood Control, clearing River Bank, (photographs page 4) 37,000 sq. yds. completed. Quite a lot of this work will have
to be done over as the high water, (rains Nov. 29, 1934) deposited large quantities of drift wood and other rubbish along the river bank.

The pencil sketches enclosed in this report were drawn by Foster McKenzie, Landscape Architect.

Geo. L. Schindel, Supt.
Camp SP#1 Fort Frederick
1934 or 1935

US National Archives
Washington, D.C.
Record Group 79

Also 10 photographs and 1 sketch remain
Record Book No. 11, Vol. 79