

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Camp Topridge (Component 10)

and or common Great Camps of the Adirondacks Thematic Resources

2. Location

street & number 1 mile south of Keese Mills Road, upper St. Regis Lake  
not for publication

city, town Keese Hill vicinity of

state New York code 36 county Franklin code 33

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> -NA in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> -NA being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Roger Jakubowski

street & number Suite 2100, 4800 Boardwalk

city, town Ventnor City, vicinity of state New Jersey

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Franklin County Government Center

street & number

city, town Malone state New York 12953

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Inventory of Historic Resource  
has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1978-1979 federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and  
Historic Preservation

city, town Albany state New York 12238

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>NA</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Camp Topridge is an Adirondack Great Camp located approximately one mile south of Keese Mills Road in the town of Brighton, Franklin County. Sited along a steep north-south ridge or hogback that separates the Spectacle Ponds from Upper St. Regis Lake to the southeast, Camp Topridge is a complex of 45 buildings and structures built approximately between 1923 and 1970; of these, 36 features (30 buildings, 6 structures) built during the period of historic significance (1913-1936) are contributing, while 9 features (4 buildings, 5 structures) do not contribute to the significance of the camp. The nominated boundary encompasses 105 acres, including all of lower Spectacle Pond, part of upper Spectacle Pond, and the adjacent land on which all historic features associated with Camp Topridge are located. The nomination boundary also corresponds to the current legal boundary of the Topridge parcel in private ownership.

Camp Topridge is a redesigned and rebuilt camp complex which expanded upon an earlier camp of undetermined date on the site. Like many other Great Camps of the Adirondack region, Camp Topridge was originally accessible only by boat from nearby Paul Smiths. Point of entry was via the extraordinary (extant) rustic boathouse on St. Regis Lake, with its extensive organic cedar fretwork and bark-clad timber framing. From the boathouse, guests ascended the steep ridge either by electric tram lift or by way of a massive cobblestone stair to the main camp above. The immense main lodge, flanking north and south guest houses, and special purpose cottages are perched atop the hogback amid tall trees. To the north of the main lodge where the terrain flattens out is the camp service complex of staff houses, workshops, garage and storage structures, all built of similar materials with a rustic flavor. Most buildings are sheathed with pine slab siding or clapboard painted yellow or green. The one- and two-story guest sleeping cottages and the principal lodge retain rustic log embellishments. In most cases, however, log trim on these buildings has been painted to match or contrast with the exterior siding.

The lodge, the exterior of which is framed in massive peeled and painted log trunks supported by a cobblestone foundation, functions as a large living-dining pavilion. Large-picture windows of plate glass provide dramatic views of the lake and mountains beyond. The extravagance of the interior space supplements the dramatic character of the building site. The rustic work has been stripped of bark and polished, the theme repeated on interior walls, staircases, staircase balcony railings, upper gallery railings, and radiator screens.

The upper level living room of the lodge, a huge expanse of space open to the roof support system of massive hewn timbers, is visually dominated by two huge stone fireplaces and a museum quality collection of American Indian artifacts used as interior decorative elements, including animal skins, stuffed owls, possum, and fox, Indian rugs and tapestries, and large chandeliers of joined antlers. The whole is an appropriate exhibition space for an extensive private collection and

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40 weekend house guests. The adjacent dining room is characterized by a rough stone fireplace, and stretched, shaggy, birch wall coverings. These two rooms are the largest and most architecturally dramatic of any interiors among the Adirondack Great Camps.

The original Lothrop camp on the site, which may have been developed as early as 1897, was partially demolished and reconstructed as Camp Topridge for Mrs. Marjorie Post. It is possible that portions of the principal camp buildings (the huge lodge, the flanking guest cabins, the central stone staircase, and the elaborate rustic boat house) date from this early period, although they have been greatly altered. Topridge, occupied seasonally by Mrs. Post between the 1920s and 1970s, was altered, remodeled, improved and enlarged under her supervision, although the camp currently reflects the integrity of ca.1935 except as noted below. Post-1973 alterations include a glass enclosure of a screened dining room porch in the lodge and the removal of a lattice screened drying yard adjacent to the laundry in the service complex. Otherwise both interior and exterior features of the camp, including most furnishings, accessories and decorative arts, remain intact as they were during Mrs. Post's ownership of the property.

The following is an annotated list of structures included in this nomination built, enlarged, or otherwise developed at Camp Topridge during Mrs. Post's ownership of the property:

NYS033-06-0018-D02 Lodge (rebuilt 1923) map key #1, Contributing

The lodge is a large two-story, hip-roofed, wood-framed structure characterized by exterior siding of painted rusticated clapboards framed by peeled and painted whole log trunk supports. Roof overhangs are supported by brackets of curvilinear tree limbs and the principal doorway displays a hip-roofed hood supported on both sides by whole vertical logs and brackets of tree limbs. The building is built on a cobblestone foundation. Interior features include a huge upper living space dominated by large picture windows, an exposed roof support system of hewn beams and rafters, elaborate use of peeled and polished whole logs for horizontal paneling, stairway and gallery railings, window and doorway trim. A large stone chimney breast and recessed fireplace compose the south end of the space. Twin windows flanking the fire grate are built into the masonry chimney wall. The arched recess forms an inglenook with flanking benches on a raised hearth. In the northwest opposite corner of the space is a secondary chimney breast and fireplace of equally imposing dimensions. Within this great living room space is displayed an impressive collection of American Indian artifacts and decorative arts including Indian rugs, fur - upholstered chairs, Indian baskets as table lamps and small

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hanging chandeliers, stuffed and mounted animals and trophy heads.

Adjacent to the living room space is a stretched birch bark paneled dining room with a third stone fireplace. Off the dining room is a recently enclosed eating porch and a large service kitchen.

NYS033-06-0019-D02 Covered walkway (c1935) rustic timber framing and posts, map key #2, Contributing

NYS033-06-0020-D02 Utility building (ca.1931) map key #3, Contributing

This is a rectangular, single-story, wood-framed, 1 x 1 bay, hip-roofed structure sheathed in rusticated clapboard siding.

NYS033-06-0021-D02 Pump house (unknown) map key #4, Non-contributing

This a 2 x 2 bay, single-story, concrete block, hip-roofed utility building, no historical/architectural significance.

NYS033-06-0022-D02 Transformer vault (c1970) concrete block, lacks historical/architectural significance, map key #5, Non-contributing

NYS033-06-0023-D02 Ridge cabin (ca.1935) map key #6, Contributing

This is a long rectangular, two-and-one-half story, hip roofed, wood-framed structure built on stone rubble piers on the ridge of the hogback. Features include rusticated clapboard siding, stone chimneys and rustic porches.

NYS033-06-0024-D02 Deenie's cabin (1927) map key #7, Contributing

This is a single-story, hip-roofed, wood-framed cabin with rustic log trim built on the ridge of the hogback. Features include rusticated clapboard siding, stone chimneys, and rustic porches.

NYS033-06-0025-D02 Dacha (1937) map key #8, Non-contributing

This building is a replica of a Russian log summer house or dacha. Features include gaily painted decorative window and door trim, solid log construction, and an interior space of one large room used by Mrs. Post as a dancing hall.

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NYS033-06-0026-D02 Honeymoon cabin (ca.1930) map key #9, Contributing

A rectangular, wood-framed two-story, hip-roofed structure, this building features rusticated clapboard siding, a recessed lake-side porch supported by log posts on rubble piers and several rustic porches.

NYS033-06-0027-D02 South guest cabin (rebuilt 1923) map key #10, Contributing

Built into the hogback ridge this structure is a nearly square, wood-framed, two-story, hip-roofed guest cottage with a large central stone rubble chimney. The exterior is shingled.

NYS033-06-0028-D02 Lower Tramway shelter (unknown) map key #11, Contributing

This is a single-story rustic pavilion used as a shelter for the principal escalator -lift to the lodge. It is characterized by whole cedar trunk posts in pairs supporting two levels of hipped-roofs. The paired trunk columns are joined by naturally curved cedar limbs to form arched openings. Rustic railings enclose the interior spaces used for entry into the caged lift. The lift operates on a narrow-gauge railway up the side of the ridge connecting with a larger rustic pavilion at the top in close proximity to the lodge.

NYS033-06-0029-D02 Boathouse and cabin (rebuilt 1923) map key #12, Contributing

One of the most elaborate rustic buildings at the camp, this structure is the principal entryway to the complex. Built on the lake on the customary crib work and pilings, the platform for the structure consists of a series of wood decks and water slips which support whole cedar tree trunk posts as structural members which in turn support the roofs and attic floor of the building. These trunk posts are bark-clad and bracketed with multiple curved cedar limbs which support interior rustic floor joists and eave extensions in an elaborate interplay of curvilinear forms. A shed-roofed two-bay porch in the second level is also ornamented with structural supports and brackets of curvilinear tree limbs. At one end of the structure is a stone ashlar chimney and fireplace which serves an open, trunk supported single-story, rustic, hip-roofed pavilion. This additional wing of the boathouse serves as a sheltered embarkation waiting area. Each of four post supports is accented by built-in rustic benches; the two flanking the chimney accented with backs of twisted and naturally curved tree roots and limbs--all bark-clad. There are several water slips within the ground floor of the five-bay-long boathouse. Above the second floor is a guest suite.

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NYS033-06-0030-D02 North guest cottage (rebuilt 1923) map key #13,  
Contributing

Built into the hogback ridge, this structure is a nearly square, wood-framed, two-story, hip-roofed guest cottage with a large central stone chimney. The exterior is shingled.

NYS033-06-0031-D02 Storage house (ca.1935) map key #14, Contributing

This is a rectangular, two-story, wood-framed, gable-roofed structure with rusticated clapboard siding.

NYS033-06-0032-D02 Secretary's cabin, also known as Adirondack cabin  
(ca.1930) map key #15, Contributing

This is a single story, hip-roofed, small, wood-framed cabin sheathed in rusticated clapboards. There is a small rustic entry porch of bark-clad posts and railings. Another feature is the large stone ashlar chimney.

NYS033-06-0032A-D02 Lake shore cabin (pre-1923) map key #16, Contributing

Originally an open gazebo, this small single story pavilion features a hipped roof and rusticated clapboard siding.

NYS033-06-0033-D02 Service boathouse (ca.1935) map key #17, Contributing

A long rectangular, two-story, wood-framed building, the service boathouse is hip-roofed and utilitarian. The structure is sheathed in rusticated clapboard siding. A second escalator-lift links the building with the freight escalator building on the hogback ridge above.

NYS033-06-0034-D02 Moffat cabin, also known as Steward's cabin, (ca.1935)  
map key #18, Contributing

A simple, single-story, wood-framed, rectangular cabin, this building is sheathed with rusticated clapboards and has a hipped roof.

NYS033-06-0035-D02 Guides house and laundry (ca.1935) map key #19,  
Contributing

This service building is a large, L-shaped, two-and-one-half-story, wood-framed hip-roofed structure sheathed in rusticated clapboard siding. The drying yard for the laundry is an attached deck originally screened with 7-foot-high lattice work. This building, built on the backside of the hogback ridge on a gentle slope, forms the south border of a large

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greensward in the midst of the staff-service area of the camp.

NYS033-06-0036-D02 New boys' annex and woodshed, also known as Linhart lodge (ca.1930) map key #20, Contributing

A service structure rehabilitated in ca.1925, this building has served as the camp carpentry shop and guides' quarters. After rehabilitation it was used for kitchen staff and watchman housing. It is a single-story, gable-roofed building sided in shingles and wood slats over a wood frame.

NYS033-06-0037-D02 Girls' building, also known as Bickford house (ca.1930) map key #21, Contributing

This is a rectangular, two-story, hip-roofed, service structure sheathed in rusticated clapboard siding. A shed-roofed porch characterizes the principal elevation. The building was used as staff housing for laundresses, chamber maids and female servants. The first floor was used at one time for guides' housing.

NYS033-06-0038-D02 Boys' building (ca.1930) map key #22, Contributing

This is a 2 x 3 bay, two-story, hip-roofed, wood-framed structure characterized by rusticated clapboard siding. Features include a rustic shed-roofed porch on the principal elevation supported by bark-clad posts and railings. Two stone chimneys interrupt the roof line.

NYS033-06-0039-D02 Freight Tramway shelter (ca.1935) map key #23, Contributing

This is a simple, small, square, single-story, hip-roofed, wood-framed structure sheathed in rusticated clapboard siding.

NYS033-06-0040-D02 Watchman's cabin (ca.1935) map key #24, Contributing

This is a single-story, hip-roofed, wood-framed building with rusticated clapboard siding. The building is used for staff housing.

NYS033-06-0041-D02 Girls' building (ca.1930) map key #25, Contributing

This is an imposing, U-shaped, two-story, hip-roofed, wood-framed structure with the characteristic rusticated clapboard siding common to the camp. An unusual feature is the two-tiered rustic porch extending the length of the building between the two extending wings of the principal elevation. This porch is supported by peeled and painted cedar posts. Rustic crossed, peeled and painted poles make-up the railings on both first and second floors. The building was used as housing for chambermaids. The structure forms the north border to a

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large greensward in the center of the service complex.

NYS033-06-0042-D02 Garage (ca.1930) map key #26, Contributing

Located in the service complex, this garage is a single-story, wood-framed, gable-roofed structure with a large attic loft for storage. A wide single bay opening in the gable end gives access to the interior.

NYS033-06-0043-D02 Staff recreation hall and shop (ca.1935) map key #27, Contributing

This is a single-story, wood-framed, hip-roofed structure with wide porches formed by overhanging eaves. The building is sheathed with rusticated clapboard siding.

NYS033-06-0044-D02 Small garage and tank building (ca.1935) map key #28, Contributing

A single-story, wood-framed, gable-roofed structure sheathed in rusticated clapboards; the building is partially built into an embankment. A cobblestone retaining wall is adjacent to the building.

NYS033-06-0045-D02 Boat storage shelter (ca.1950) map key #29, Non-contributing

This is a single-story, pole shed without historical/architectural significance.

NYS033-06-0046-D02 40KW Generator building and pump house (ca.1935) map key #30, Contributing

This is a square, single-story, hip-roofed service building with a gable dormer in one elevation. The building is sheathed in rusticated clapboards.

NYS033-06-0047-D02 Boat shelter (ca.1960) map key #31, Non-contributing

This is a single-story, open pole shed without historic/architectural significance.

NYS033-06-0048-D02 Night watchman's cabin (ca.1935) map key #32, Contributing

This is a small, single-story, nearly square, wood-framed guard house with multiple large louvered windows. The building has a gable-roofed entry porch and is hip-roofed.



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NYS033-06-0049-D02 Lean-to (ca.1935) map key #33, Contributing

Built of solid logs, this structure has a lean-to roof, board floor, and an open front typical of the vernacular Adirondack lean-to type.

NYS033-06-0050-D02 Pump house (ca.1950) map key #34, no historical/architectural significance, Non-contributingNYS033-06-0051-D02 Putting green shelter (ca.1950) map key #35, no historic/architectural significance, Non-contributingNYS033-06-0052-D02 Tennis shelter #2 (c.1925) map key #36, Contributing

This is a small, single-story, open log pavilion consisting of a pitched roof supported by braced log posts and brackets. A rustic bench with railing for a back rest forms the rear partition.

NYS033-06-0053-D02 Tennis shelter #1 (c.1925) map key #37, Contributing

This is a 3/4 enclosed, single-story, gable-roofed, log-supported pavilion with a rustic gable end screen and rustic benches.

NYS033-06-0054-D02 Tennis pavilion (c.1925) map key #38, Contributing

This is a large rustic single-story, partially open, hip-roofed structure containing an interior sitting room dominated by large stone chimney and fireplace. Features of the interior include exposed bark-clad cedar roof support trusses and rafters.

NYS033-06-0055-D02 Putting green shelter (ca.1950) map key #39, no no historic/architectural significance, Non-contributingNYS033-06-0056-D02 Frog Pond bridge (c.1925) map key #40, Contributing

Linking land between Frog Pond and Spectacle Pond, this rustic bridge has log railings of crossing diagonals and a board deck.

NYS033-06-0057-D02 Life guard lake-side storage shed (ca.1950), no historical/architectural significance, map key #41, Non-contributingNYS033-06-0058-D02 Owner's cabin, also known as Mrs. Post's cabin (c.1925) map key #42, Contributing

Built as Mrs. Post's cabin this structure is a single-story, wood-framed, rectangular, hip-roofed building. The exterior is clad in rusticated clapboards painted white with rustic log trim painted red. The interior spaces include a rustic sitting room graced by a large stone fireplace

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and chimney breast. Mrs. Post's bedroom and dressing room do not retain this rustic decorative character.

NYS033-06-0059-D02 Pressing room (ca.1935) map key #43, Contributing

A small single-story, rusticated clapboard-clad; wood-framed, building with a hipped roof.

NYS033-06-0060-D02 Beach house (ca.1935) map key #44, Contributing

A single-story, wood-framed, hip-roofed, rectangular structure clad in rusticated clapboards.

NYS033-06-0061-D02 Boathouse (ca.1935) map key #45, Contributing

An open, single-story, hip-roofed pavilion supported by braced log posts and containing two large water slips with surrounding board decks.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1923-1936

Builder/Architect Theodore Blake

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Camp Topridge is historically and architecturally significant as an outstanding example of an Adirondack Great Camp that reflects the last phase of Great Camp design in the early twentieth century. Topridge was developed beginning in 1923 for General Foods magnate Marjorie Merriweather Post on the site of an existing camp. The redevelopment was undertaken to the design of Theodore Blake, a member of the prominent New York City architectural firm of Carrere and Hastings. The formal spacial arrangement of the camp buildings on a ridge to take advantage of the spectacular natural setting was a feature of the earlier camp that was retained in Blake's design. This design concept had been introduced into the Great Camp idiom around the turn of the century, notably in the work of architects Robert H. Robertson (Camp Santanoni (1888)) and William L. Coulter (Moss Lodge (1898), Eagle Island (1902) and Prospect Point (1903-1905), all individual components). Although Blake's remodeling involved substantial demolition and reconstruction, some of the present camp buildings incorporate portions of buildings from the earlier camp. The latest and most opulent of all the camps identified and included in the nomination, Topridge is a monumental composition of 36 contributing buildings and structures built between 1923 and ca. 1936. Its primary exterior fabric is clapboard embellished with rustic details that are elaborate, distinctive and unusual, incorporating tree trunks, tree stumps, notches, burls, crooks, bends and naturally formed curves. Its interior spaces - primarily the expansive open spaces within the massive main lodge - are lavishly embellished with peeled and polished logs and organic fretwork, stretched, shaggy birch wall coverings and huge rustic stone fireplaces that contribute to their distinction as the most architecturally dramatic interiors of all the Great Camps. In the context of the Great Camp form, Topridge can be seen as a dramatic, stylized interpretation of regional rustic architecture that exemplifies the final stage in the social and architectural evolution of the Great Camp as well as demonstrating its survival well into the twentieth century. Mrs. Post occupied Topridge seasonally and entertained there lavishly until her death in 1971. Although she made continuous additions and alterations to the complex in a compatible rustic style, the period of significance extends only to 1936 to include all features of the camp that were extant during its historic period.

The original camp on the Topridge site was owned by Alvin M. Lothrop, owner of the Woodward & Lothrop Department Stores in Washington D.C.. The Lothrop camp was partially demolished in preparation for a more elaborate camp "more typical of its Adirondack surroundings," or at least more suitable for the lavish entertainments Mrs. Post had become known for. Alvin M. Lothrop owned property on Upper St. Regis Lake as

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early as 1897.

Topridge's original structures, which included a lodge, north and south guest houses and the principal boathouse, were extant in 1920 when Mrs. Post purchased the property from Lothrop. Extensive renovations were undertaken, however, particularly to the lodge and the boathouse, under the supervision of Theodore Blake (1870-1949), an associate in the architectural firm of Carrère and Hastings and collaborator in the Neoclassical designs for the New York Public Library and the House and Senate Office Buildings in Washington D.C.. Blake studied at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts and worked with Carrère and Hastings for 32 years (between 1895-1927) before embarking on his own to design the Mount Hope Bridge on Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island; the Harbeck Chapel, Woodlawn Cemetery, New York City; and the buildings for the Rosemary School, Greenwich, Connecticut. Blake worked closely with Mrs. Post and local builder Ben Muncil in developing Topridge. The use of carefully selected naturally formed twisted, curved, and otherwise artistically shaped cedar limbs in the elaborate structural supports and decoration is attributed to Blake. Additions to the complex during the late 1920s and early 1930s include several sleeping cabins on the ridge to the south of the lodge and new structures in the staff-servants complex to the north of the lodge.

Marjorie Merriweather Post (1887-1973), one of the wealthiest women of her time with a personal fortune estimated at over \$200 million, began her business career by inheriting her father's Postum Cereal Company after his death in 1914. Through a series of corporate mergers she built the company into the giant General Foods Corporation, serving on the Board of Directors until 1958. Mrs. Post met Clarence Birdseye in the 1920s and was immediately impressed with his food freezing process. She purchased Birdseye's company and thereafter promoted the commercial development of the frozen food industry. She was married and divorced four times. Edward F. Hutton, a New York stockbroker; Joseph E. Davies, a New York lawyer and diplomat; and Herbert A. May, a Pittsburg industrialist were respectively Mrs. Post's second, third, and fourth husbands. Marjorie Post entertained Society lavishly at her Washington, D.C. and Florida homes. With her acquisition of Camp Topridge, she brought her lavish style of socializing to the Adirondacks during the summer season. Mrs. Post was considered one of the nation's best hostesses, including European royalty, high government officials, and leaders in the arts among her guests at the camp.

Mrs. Post died on September 12, 1973. Her last visit to Topridge was in August 1971. The State of New York acquired Topridge in July 1974 as a gift from the Marjorie Merriweather Post Foundation. With the exception of a new access road into the property from Keese Mills Road, the enclosure of an eating porch, and the demolition of the laundry drying yard screen, every effort has been made to maintain the architectural integrity of the complex. Camp Topridge was sold by the State of New York to a private owner in 1985.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 105 acres

Quadrangle name St. Regis Mountain

Quadrangle scale 1:25,000

### UTM References

A	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>7</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>1</u> <u>9</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>7</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>1</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>
E	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>2</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>1</u> <u>8</u> <u>7</u> <u>7</u> <u>0</u>
G	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>7</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>1</u> <u>9</u> <u>2</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u>

B	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>8</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>1</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>2</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>1</u> <u>8</u> <u>5</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>
F	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>1</u> <u>9</u> <u>2</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u>
H			

**Verbal boundary description and justification** The nominated property includes all that parcel lying within the boundary delineated on the enclosed map prepared by the New York State Office of General Services. The boundary corresponds to the current legal boundary of the camp property.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries NA

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Raymond W. Smith and Richard Youngken  
 organization New York State Office of Parks, Rec. & Historic Preservation date July, 1986  
 street & number Empire State Plaza Agency Building One telephone (518) 474-0479  
 city or town Albany state New York 12238

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation

date Sept 11, 1986

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

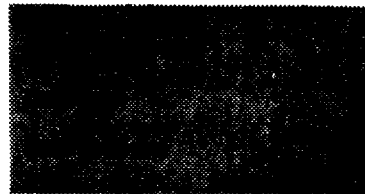
Camp Topridge, Keese Hill, Franklin Co.,

Continuation sheet

Item number

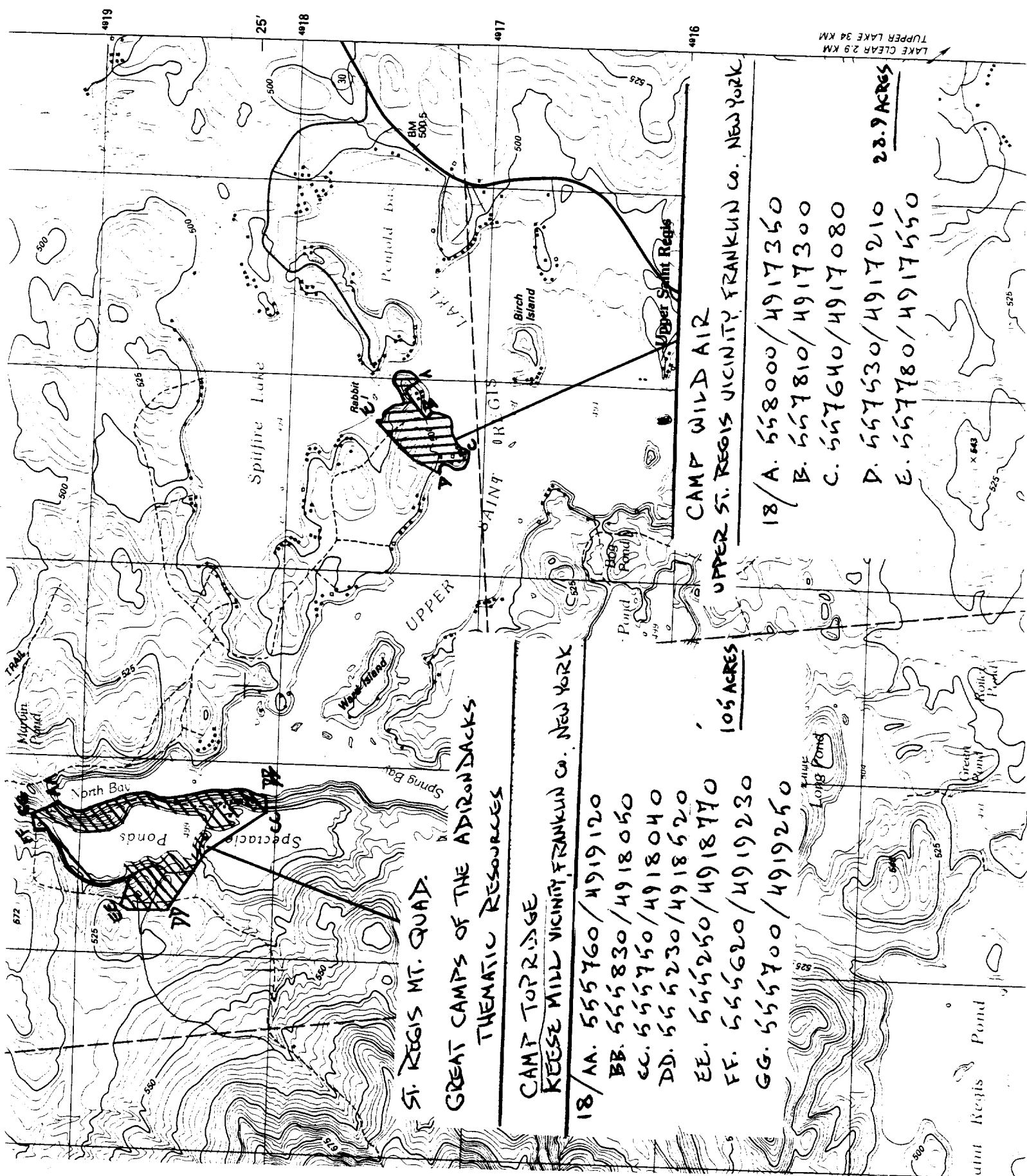
9

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ST. REGIS MT. QUAD.

GREAT CAMPS OF THE ADIRONDACKS  
THEMATIC RESOURCES

CAMP TOP RIDGE  
KEESE MILL VICINITY FRANKLIN CO. NEW YORK

- 18/AA. 555760/4919120
- BB. 555830/4918050
- CC. 555750/4918040
- DD. 555230/4918520
- EE. 555250/4918770
- FF. 555620/4919230
- GG. 555700/4919250

105 ACRES

CAMP WILD AIR  
UPPER ST. REGIS VICINITY FRANKLIN CO. NEW YORK

- 18/A. 558000/4917350
- B. 557810/4917300
- C. 557640/4917080
- D. 557530/4917210
- E. 557780/4917550

28.9 ACRES

LAKE CLEAR 2.9 KM  
TUPPER LAKE 34 KM

GRANT CAMPS OF THE ADIRONDACKS

# CAMP TOPRIDGE

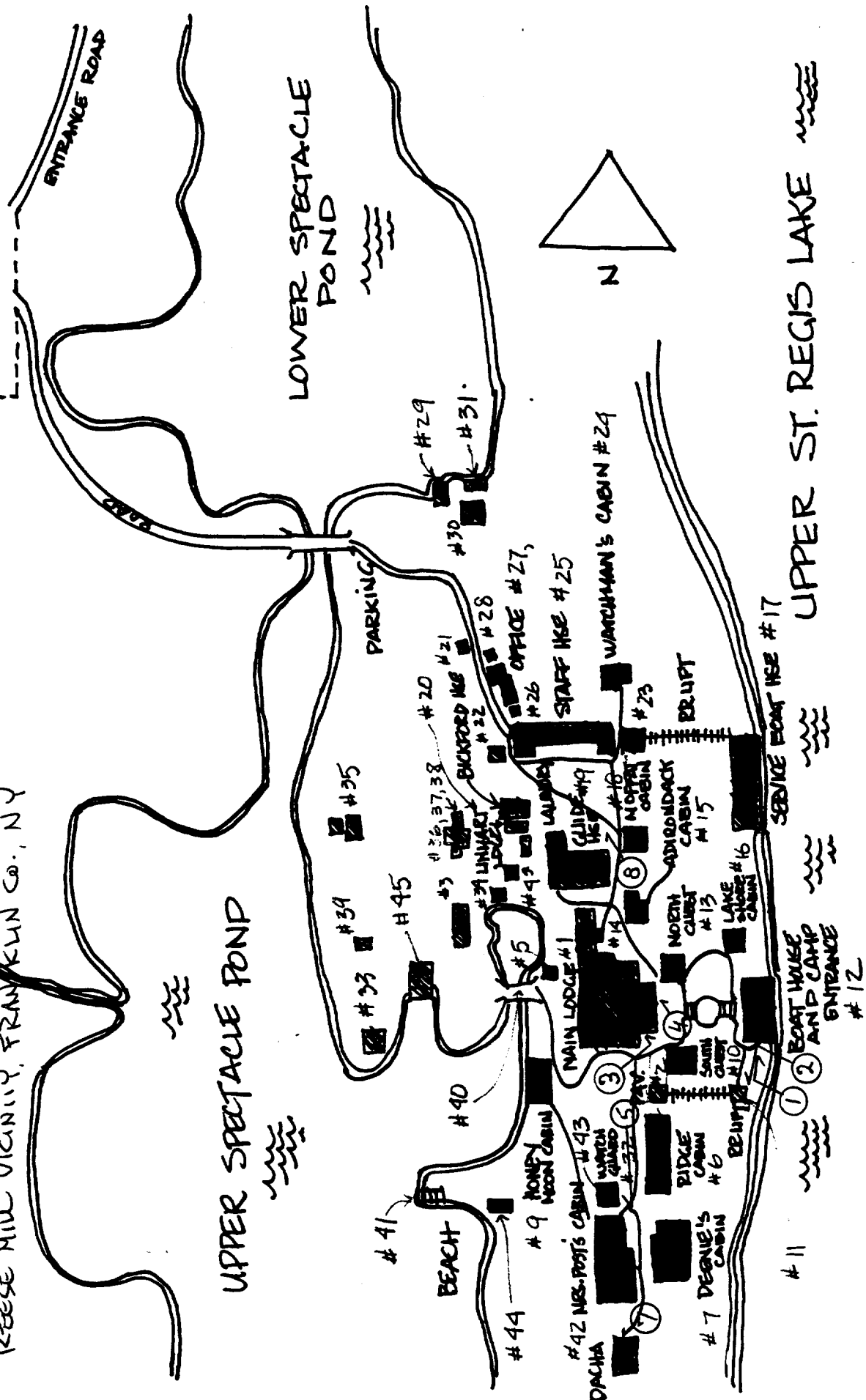
KEESE MIL VINCITY, FRANKLIN CO., NY

rev 10/83

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACE  
INVENTORY-NOMINATION FORM

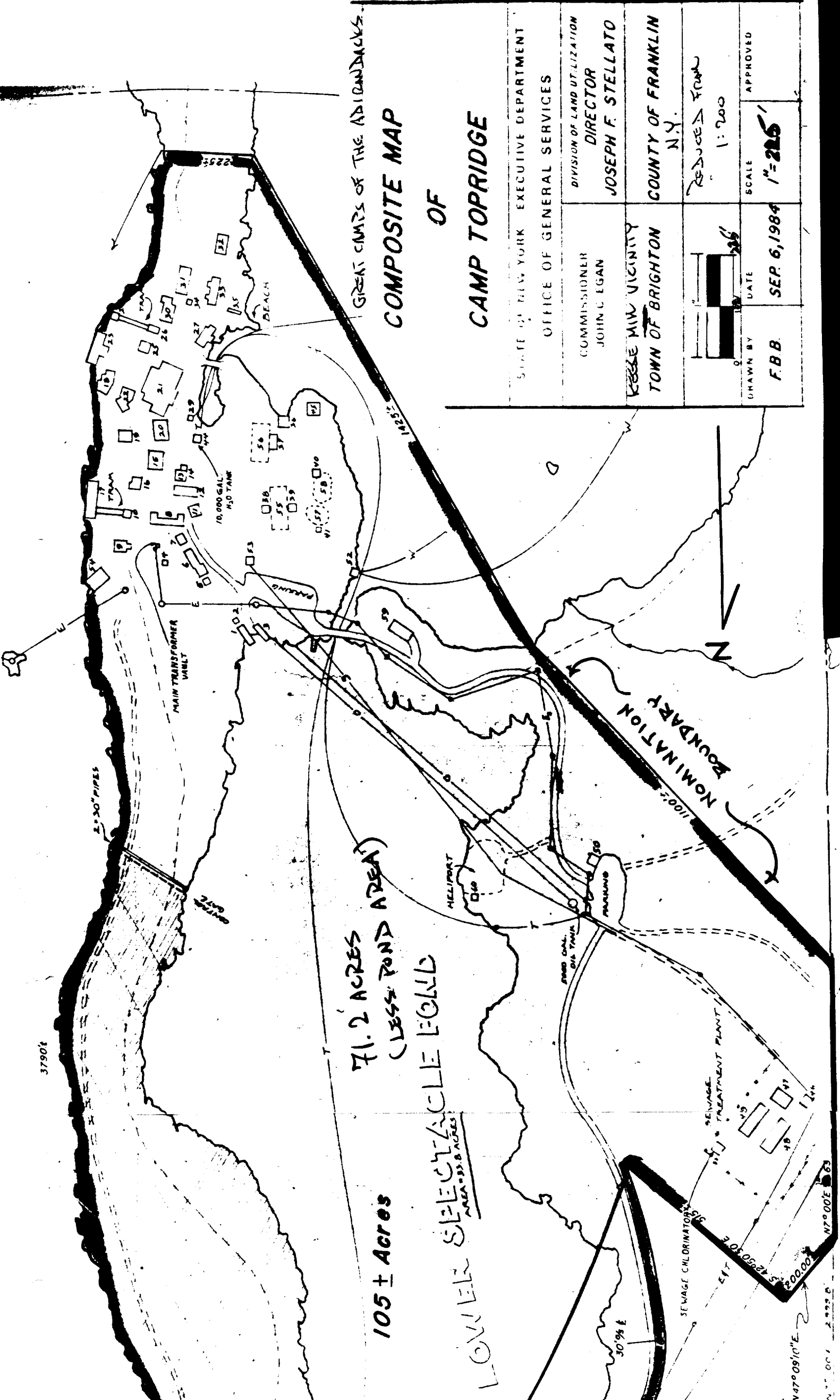
Camp Topridge: Site map: NOT TO SCALE

PARKING ○ PHOTO KEY



UPPER ST. REGIS LAKE





GREAT CAMPS OF THE ADIRONDACKS

# COMPOSITE MAP OF CAMP TOPRIDGE

STATE OF NEW YORK EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF GENERAL SERVICES		DIVISION OF LAND UTILIZATION DIRECTOR JOSEPH F. STELLATO	
COMMISSIONER JOHN C. EGAN		COUNTY OF FRANKLIN N.Y.	
KEESE MINN VICINITY TOWN OF BRIGHTON		REDUCED FROM 1:200	SCALE 1"=225'
DRAWN BY F.B.B.	DATE SEP 6, 1984	APPROVED	

71.2 ACRES  
(LESS POND AREA)  
LOWER SELECTACLE FOLD

105 ± ACRES

SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT  
AREA = 35.8 ACRES

NOMINATION  
BOUNDARY

N47°09'10"E

N7°00'E

3790'

2" 30" PIPES

MAIN TRANSFORMER  
VAULT

10,000 GALL.  
H2O TANK

HELLPORT

POOD ON  
DIE TRAIL

PARKING

SEWAGE  
TREATMENT PLANT

SEWAGE CHLORINATOR

48

49

50

51

52

53

2,995'