

**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 Prospect Point Camp (Component 9)

and or common Great Camps of the Adirondacks Thematic Resources

2. Location

street & number .5 Mile East of N.Y. Route 30

not for publication

city, town Saranac Inn 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 type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes; restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: recreation

4. Owner of Property

name Young Life Saranac Village

street & number P.O. Box QQ

city, town Tupper Lake vicinity of state New York 12986

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 Resources 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 & Historic Preservation

city, town Albany state New York 12238

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____ see building list

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Prospect Point Camp is an Adirondack Great Camp complex located on the west side of upper Saranac Lake in the town of Santa Clara, Franklin County. With its original access by water, the camp is sited on a high bluff point extending into upper Saranac Lake between Gilpin Bay to the north and Pelky Bay to the south. The terrain of Prospect Point is characterized by large boulders and rock outcropping interspersed with tall trees where the bluff rises from the lakeshore; the topography becomes that of a plateau beyond the bluff. The principal buildings of the camp are its four massive chalets, built on the bluff to take advantage of the sweeping, panoramic lake view to the south; service buildings are located on the plateau away from the lake. The nominated property includes approximately 38 acres of the current 106-acre parcel. The boundary is drawn to encompass all historic features associated with Prospect Point Camp and excludes woodlands west of Route 30 that contain no historical resources and were never developed as part of the camp property. The camp complex consists of 42 buildings and structures, of which 31 features (27 buildings, 4 structures) contribute to the historic significance of the property; ten additional buildings and 1 structure are non-contributing because they post-date the period of significance.

The historic point of entry to Prospect Point Camp was via the boathouse, a large two-story chalet with half-timber gable ends located at the water's edge. Two paths ascend the bluff to the main lodge complex above. Large chalets connected by enclosed covered boardwalks are formally sited along the crest of the bluff. In their scale and decoration, these chalets are among the most notable examples of Adirondack Great Camp architecture from the early twentieth century. They are elaborate compositions incorporating simulated log construction, bark sheathing, rustic trim and covered walkways interpreted with reference to vernacular hunting lodges of Bavaria. The German-inspired elements reflect a distinct Adirondack influence. The half-timbering effect of the principal gables is created by white birch bark sheathing and applied grids of split spruce poles. Roof brackets, porch and balcony railings are rustic. Varying types of log construction are simulated and frequently the exterior wall treatment of the buildings varies from story to story.

The interiors of the chalet-lodges, while treated more conventionally than the exteriors, have an ambiance of luxurious surroundings in a rustic atmosphere. The proportions of the rooms are spacious. There are massive stone chimneys and numerous stone and brick fireplaces, each a unique design with overmantels in twig patterns and pebbled hearths. Some rooms have exposed ceiling beams, either log or chamfered. Most rooms have wood wainscoting and doors of tongue and groove paneling in diagonal patterns. One room, the dining room, located in its own chalet with a great recreation space on the upper floor, retains an original chandelier and birch bark ceilings. Originally the lodges were decorated with custom-designed Arts and Crafts furniture, stuffed birds and animals, and naturally textured and colored wall coverings and upholstery fabrics. Some of the

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original furniture and decorative arts remain, although many items were removed when the camp was sold to the present owner in 1969.

The service buildings of Prospect Point Camp are generally modest, utilitarian frame structures without particular architectural distinction. Dining and kitchen facilities were integrated into the principal chalet complex overlooking the lake. The remainder of the service buildings are located away from the main lodge complex, and most are characterized by board siding, simple porches, and shingle or metal roofs. Several buildings such as the Dressing Room (1905), Tennis Shed (ca.1910) and Power House (1903) are covered with applied rustic materials to give a harmonious, compatible appearance. Prospect Point Camp did not have an agricultural support complex, hence its service buildings reflect only the repair and maintenance functions associated with camp life in the early twentieth century.

Most of the buildings at Prospect Point Camp have been partially altered since the 1940's to meet building, fire and safety codes as a commercial resort and youth camp. The buildings and additions constructed after the period of historic significance for summer camp activities generally are compatible in scale and design with the original Prospect Point buildings, with the exception of a large gymnasium and a prefabricated modern residential building. These intrusive features are located away from the historic principal camp complex and do not compromise the camp's dramatic lakeside setting. Historic early twentieth century photographs of Prospect Point depict a series of rustic boardwalks, benches and pavilions that gave a terraced effect to the bluff above the boathouse. These features were removed at an undetermined date in favor of a more natural landscaping approach.

The following is an annotated list of the buildings and structures which compose the camp:

NYS033-17-0059-D04 West lodge (1903-4) map key #1, Contributing

This large two-and-one-half story, gable-roofed, wood frame building is one of four major chalet styled lodges of the Prospect Point Camp which are connected to each other by one-story enclosed passageways. The lake facade, facing south, of each of the four chalets is dominated by a huge gable, each lodge having a unique gable end design. Here the gable roof projects over a two-story porch with a large rustic-work screen of bark-clad log poles and bent limbs in the peak. Other features are rustic brackets supporting the overhanging roof and the half timbering in smaller gables of the building. Several of the smaller gables have rustic-work bargeboards. A high rustic foundation screen sets off the lake facade of the building. Interior features include stone and brick fireplaces of varying rustic designs, narrow vertical board paneling,

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and the use of finished, exposed, ceiling beams in the living room on the first floor. This room was illustrated in a Town and Country article of 1904.

NYS033-17-0060-D04 Dining lodge (1903-4) map key #2, Contributing

One of four major chalets style buildings of the camp, this two-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed lodge is characterized by an overhanging attic story in the principal south gable end which pays tribute to the regional Adirondack rustic style with its decorative birch bark sheathing and split pole framing, and to its original owner's German background with its half-timbered effect. The chalet's second story has a large porch (part of which has been enclosed). The original log braces under the center of this porch have been replaced by sawn wood posts which rise from the ground to relieve the original cantilevered effect. Particularly interesting, and reminiscent of other Coulter designs, is the way the dining room projects into the first floor porch. The curving shape of its projection is repeated in the plan of the stone, patio in front of it. The dining room's windows push down into the floor allowing the space to become a screened pavilion. Access to the patio is via a large central door. Noteworthy exterior features include simulated log construction, peeled bark sheathing and split poles in the front gable suggesting half-timbering, antlers on the front gable, rustic second-floor porch railings, and a stone rubble foundation. While the kitchen and service area of the building have been altered, the rest of the interior is well preserved. The dining room itself is a particularly significant space. It has bark-sheathed ceilings above horizontal planked wainscoting. Peeled logs serve as exposed floor joists and also divide the interior walls into bays. During Camp Navarac days several of these vertical posts were made into totem poles. The room also retains its central copper chandelier. Above the dining room, on the second floor, is a large room vertically exposed to the room one-and-one-half stories above which originally served as a game or recreation room. It originally housed several billard tables; today it has numerous dormitory beds. Access to the roofed second floor porches is via a large central doorway. The roof support system of queen-post trusses is a dominant decorative feature in the room. The exterior of the dining lodge was illustrated in a Town and Country article in 1904.

NYS033-17-0061-D04 Dining room passageway (1903-4) map key #3, Contributing

Although this enclosed passageway was greatly enlarged (1952, 1977-78), the original walls exist, but in different locations. The upper walls are composed of multiple-paned windows grouped and separated by vertical half logs. The lower walls are covered with half logs laid horizontally. Despite the enlargement of its width, the passageway, which connects the Dining lodge with the Main lodge, still appears as a passageway in its

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original format when viewed from the lake. The interior facing wall, however, has been completely altered.

NYS033-17-0062-D04 Enclosed passageway between West lodge and the Dining lodge (1903-4) map key #4, Contributing

This enclosed passageway is angled to conform to the terrain of the site between the West lodge and the Dining lodge. The building is raised above ground in places on piers as in a bridge and has latticework screens hiding these supports. An opening in the latticework allows a roadway to pass under the structure. The lower walls of the passageway are covered with half logs laid horizontally. The upper walls have multiple-paned windows separated into bays by vertical log supports. The building is about ten feet wide and has a gable roof.

NYS033-17-0063-D04 Main lodge, also known as Village Inn (1903-4) map key #5, Contributing

This large, two-and-one-half story, wood frame building is one of four major chalet style lodges of the camp which are connected by enclosed passageways. The building's principal south gable end faces the lake. Its large size, height, and raised location makes it a highly visible part of the camp compound. The passageway to the west connecting the Main lodge with Dining lodge has been greatly widened in recent years. The principal facade of each of the four great chalet lodges is dominated by a huge gable, each lodge having a unique design. Here, the gabled pavilion projects out from the main mass of the building. This pavilion has a balcony on the attic story and a two-story porch. The first story of the porch extends across the entire south facade of the building. In addition to the balcony, the attic story of the gable is embellished by birch bark sheathing and with geometric patterns created by framing of applied split poles. Above the balcony are antlers. In contrast to the geometric massing of the south facade, the north facade of the chalet is rambling, asymmetrical and has several extending additions. The building is sheathed to simulate log construction. The first floor has split spruce log siding; the second floor is covered in squared spruce logs. Other notable features of the exterior are the rustic brackets of the boldly overhanging roofs, some rustic bracing in small gables with rustic half-timbering, log posts supporting the south first-floor porch and projecting second-floor wings at the rear, and the rustic railings of the balcony and second floor of the porch. Unfortunately the horizontal tongue and groove wood siding which has replaced the first floor porch railing is too massive and is unsympathetic to the architecture of the building. The Main lodge contains many interesting interior features including many pieces of its original Arts and Crafts furniture. The living room has a finished wood staircase with balcony over the north entrance. Fortunately the recent fire walls added to this staircase are not too intrusive. More negative to the

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aesthetic effect of the interior is the removal of the wall between the living room and an adjacent gun-trophy room. The spatial qualities of both rooms have been destroyed. Many rooms in this building have polished wood wainscoting, some of which is North Carolina pine. On the second floor is a wall section with original linen wallpaper. The building contains many fireplaces with varying designs in both brick and stone. The Main lodge was the camp owner's residence, containing sleeping rooms and private sitting rooms for Lewisohn and his immediate family.

NYS033-17-0064-D04 Enclosed passageway between Main lodge and East lodge (1904) map key #6, Contributing

This single-story enclosed passageway connects two of the principal chalet style lodges of the camp complex. The simulated log construction relates to the building material of the buildings it connects. The structure is angled to conform to the terrain of the site and the relative orientation of each lodge. Raised above the ground in places on piers, the foundation is screened with latticework. The lower walls are covered with half logs laid horizontally. The upper walls have multiple-paned windows separated by vertical log posts which support the gable roof. The passageway is about ten feet wide and the board walkway traverses the terrain at different levels with steps up or down between. The walls and roof change their level to correspond to the changes in the walkway.

NYS033-17-0065-D04 East lodge, also known as "Shorecrest" (1904) map key #7, Contributing

This large two-story wood-framed, chalet style building is one of four principal lodges at the camp which are connected to one another by enclosed passageways. Like the other lodges, the lakeside facade of this chalet is decorated by a unique gable end design. Here the gable extends over the entire south-facing facade. This facade has a two-story porch under an overhanging attic story. A progression of square logs acts as a set of corbels supporting the overhang and the boldly overhanging roof. The corners of the building are embellished to simulate construction of square logs. The gables have applied split poles which create very simple decorative patterns. The undistinguished porch railings are replacements. The interior of the building is in a good state of preservation. The walls of the living room are covered with split spruce logs which were apparently turned on a lathe to be of uniform size. These logs are laid horizontally and simulate whole log construction. A pattern of burned poles in crossed diagonals with vertical divisions mounted on white plaster forms a frieze. Exposed turned timbers are also employed as ceiling beams. The staircase, despite glass firewalls, is a notable feature, the frieze pattern

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continuing in the banister railing. The building has many brick and stone fireplaces, and panelled doors.

NYS033-17-0066-D04 Sewer pump house (1970) map key #8, Non-contributing

NYS033-17-0067-D04 Lean-to (early twentieth century) map key #9, Contributing

This is a typical Adirondack style lean-to used for overnight camping out-of-doors. Built of true log construction, the building has a board floor raised off the ground and it is covered with a lean-to shed roof.

NYS033-17-0068-D04 Camp office (former) (early twentieth century) map key #10, Contributing

This building is typical of the service buildings at the camp with horizontal wood siding, metal gable roof, and gable-ended principal facade. Its original use is not clear; however, its size, and location near the Dining lodge would indicate use as a storage building.

NYS033-17-0069-D04 Boathouse (1903-4) map key #11, Contributing

The boathouse is a highly visible part of the camp due to its location at the lake's edge immediately below the principal lodges of the camp. It served originally as the principal entryway to the camp complex. The building, like the four lodges on the ridge above, is executed in the chalet form with a wide dock at one side. It is linked to the lodges and a recreational area to the west by boardwalks which are replacements of the originals. With its overhanging gable roof punctuated by shed dormers, the boathouse is a picturesque building of simulated log construction. Like the lodges of the camp, it evidences the influence of German half-timbered vernacular architecture. Its gables have birch bark applied with split poles in geometric patterns. Unlike the lodges, the gable ends of the boathouse are at the sides of the building. The principal, lakeside, facade is characterized by the broad overhanging roof and the bay openings for interior water slips. The rectangular mass of the building is effectively broken by the balcony surrounding the second floor and the recessed porch of the second story. Between the posts that support the attic gable walls is rusticwork in diagonals and verticals forming a narrow screen. Unfortunately the rustic railings of the second floor porch have been replaced with sawn members. The interior of the building has been greatly modified except for the attic loft, which was not intended for use. The original chimney, a brick stack framed in spruce logs, was altered in 1924 and eventually removed for structural reasons in the 1970s. The building was illustrated in an article in Town and Country in 1904.

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NYS033-17-0070-D04 Garbage building (c1970) map key #12, Non-contributing

The building has no notable features. Its design is compatible with the original service buildings of the camp which are in close proximity. It has a gable roof with overhang and horizontal tongue and groove wood siding. The upper part of the exterior walls is of wire screening supported by the wood frame.

NYS033-17-0071-D04 Fire alarm building (1977) map key #13, Non-contributing

This is a new building which has been designed to be compatible with the camp's original service buildings.

NYS033-17-0072-D04 Water tank (early twentieth century) map key #14, Contributing

This structure is a large steel tank which is an integral part of the water system at the camp.

NYS033-17-0072a-D04 Utility shed (1977) map key #15, Non-contributing

NYS033-17-0073-D04 Carpenter's shop and "the Whale" (Carpenter's shop, early twentieth century) map key #16, Contributing

The carpenter's shop at one end of this large structure was a picturesque service building, one story, with a ventilator crowning its metal gable roof. The walls of this building are covered in tongue and groove siding, the typical building material of this camp's service building. "The Whale," a new structure built to house the camp theatre and auditorium, is actually a pole barn with gable roof and gable end decorated in a half-timbered look in reference to the salient motif of the principal buildings of the camp. The interior of "the Whale" is a large striped tent supported by the roof and visible from the exterior through the posts that support the structure. "The Whale" was added to the carpenter's shop in 1960 and does not contribute to the significance of the property.

NYS033-17-0074-D04 Ice house (c1905) map key #17, Contributing

This single-story, gable-roofed, wood-framed building is part of the original camp service building complex. Its shingled walls are typical of vernacular late nineteenth century outbuildings. It has a ventilating cupola astride the roof.

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NYS033-17-0075-D04 Stable-carriage house (early twentieth century)
map key #18, Contributing

This is a typical stable-carriage storage building with an upper attic opening and projecting beam for loading hay. The building has a wood frame sheathed with horizontal tongue and groove siding and a metal gable roof.

NYS033-17-0076-D04 Garage and chauffeur's quarters (c.1910) map key #19,
Contributing

This building is a one-and-one-half-story concrete block, gable-roofed service building which contains a two-bay garage on the first level and staff housing in the attic. The concrete block walls are atypical for buildings at Prospect Point but appropriate for garage use, perhaps in an attempt to provide a fire-proof building. The building material was popular at the time of construction.

NYS033-17-0077-D04 Laundry (early twentieth century) map key #20,
Contributing

This building is located northeast of the garage and it is within the service complex of the camp. It is a single-story, wood frame, gable-roofed, clapboard-sheathed structure.

NYS033-17-0078-D04 Fire hose buildings #1-5 (early twentieth century)
map key #21, Contributing

These small structures house fire hoses and are frequently moved from one location to the other. Not only are they picturesque buildings, with hipped roofs and board and batten siding, but they are further evidence of the self-sufficiency of the camp. These buildings are integral components of the camp's fire fighting system, which includes water storage facilities and a hydrant system.

NYS033-17-0079-D04 Infirmary, also known as "Lifesaver" (c.1920) map
key #22, Contributing

This building was built on the site of the original guides' house. Its location conforms to the relatively informal compound plan of the camp. The varying roofline with a large center gable at the north suggests the great gables of the principal buildings of the camp. The use of vertical siding for the gable end and horizontal siding on the lower walls is evidence that some care was taken with the building's design.

NYS033-17-0080-D04 Residential prefabricated building (c1975) map key #23,
Non-contributing

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NYS033-17-0081-D04 Power house (1903) map key #24, Contributing

This building was erected in three stages in 1903, 1904, and c.1910. It is a good example of simulated log construction with simple rustic porch details on its lake front. The building was erected in three stages and today has a U-shaped plan. It is a single-story, wood-framed, gable-roofed building. The building housed the camp's water pump and electrical generator. It is the only service building extant at the camp where the architect is documented for the original structure; William Coulter and 1910 and for the subsequent additions the firm of Coulter and Westhoff.

NYS033-17-0082-D04 Shed (early twentieth century) map key #25, Contributing

A small, single-story, wood-framed utility shed with a gable roof, this building has been moved around. It is currently located at the edge of an open space near the infirmary.

NYS033-17-0083-D04 Sewer pump house (early twentieth century) map key #26, Contributing

This is a functional building hidden in the woods. It is a single-story, wood-framed structure with clapboard siding compatible with the other service buildings of the complex. A concrete block addition dates from about 1970. This building recalls the self-sufficient nature of the camp, which had its own utility systems.

NYS033-17-0084-D04 "Eagles Airie" (1976) map key #27, Non-contributing

This new building is located east of the original lodges of the camp. Due to sloping terrain and trees it does not occupy a visually prominent site. The building was intentionally designed by architect Ray Jenkins to be compatible with the historic buildings of the camp. Half-timbered gable ends mimic those of the great lodges. The building has no historic importance.

NYS033-17-0085-D04 Starboard (1970) map key #28, Non-contributing

A small, unpretentious dormitory building, this single-story, wood-framed gable-roofed structure was probably erected during use of the camp as Camp Navarac (1950-69).

NYS033-17-0086-D04 Port (1970) map key #29, Non-contributing

Similar to **starboard**, this building was used as a service building housing camp staff and it is compatible in materials to the principal buildings of the camp complex (1950-69).

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NYS033-17-0087-D04 West chalets (early twentieth century) map key #30,
Contributing

This U-shaped, single-story, wood-framed cabin is in line with the principal lodges of the camp complex and is sited just west of the West lodge. The exterior of the building is not pretentious; perhaps it was more picturesque before the rustic porch was removed. Its current character is that of a service building. The interior is embellished with a massive stone fireplace of boulders. The ceilings are sheathed with narrow board siding.

NYS033-17-0088-D04 S.V.A.A. gym (1966) map key #31, Non-contributing

This is a very large, intrusive, pre-fab metal building of utilitarian design.

NYS033-17-0089-D04 Slide (1976) map key #32, Non-contributing

NYS033-17-0090-D04 Dressing room (c1905) map key #33, Contributing

Currently located near the lake and by the tennis courts, this single story, wood-framed building is one of the original buildings of the camp. It has probably been moved, but very likely it is located close to its original location. It is a picturesque small building with birch bark sheathing the walls between two interior dressing rooms. Windows have diamond-shaped sash, a feature typical of Coulter's camps.

NYS033-17-0091-D04 "B.A. Sport & Co." building (ca.1920) map key #34,
Contributing

Although this is an architecturally undistinguished building, it is compatible in form and material to other service buildings of the complex. It is a single story, wood-framed, gable-roofed building sheathed in horizontal tongue and groove siding. It may have been moved from another location to its present site.

NYS033-17-0092-D04 Small cabin, also known as "Sand Flea" (ca.1920)
map key #35, Contributing

This small cabin has simulated log construction with small half logs attached horizontally and vertical log corner boards. Very likely the existing porch in the principal gable end facade is a replacement or an addition, as it is not rustic. The interior walls are sheathed in stretched bark as well as the front door.

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NYS033-17-0093-D04 Tennis court and Tennis shed (early twentieth century)
Contributing, and water foundation (c. 1950) Non contributing, map key # 36.

It is likely that the camp had a tennis court in this location by the lake originally. The courts are located on a level area at the edge of Pelky Bay near a bathing beach. The simple, shingled, single-story shed is typical of the service buildings of the camp. The water fountain may have been constructed in the 1950s for Camp Navarac. The tennis court and the tennis shed have historical and architectural importance as part of the original recreational facilities of Prospect Point Camp. Several modern tennis court have been laid out adjacent to the original court and do not contribute to the historic significance of the camp. The water fountain is housed in a small building in an attempt to make it compatible with its historic setting but it does not contribute to the property's significance.

NYS033-17-0094-D04 Gardener's shed, also known as La Vida (early twentieth century) map key #37, Contributing

This single-story shed is located at the edge of a large open field which was the camp's garden during the Lewisohn's ownership. The field is now an athletic field. The building, with gabled facade and horizontal tongue and groove siding, is characteristic of the service buildings of the camp.

NYS033-17-0095-D04 Caretaker's house (1976) map key #38, Non-contributing

The building is a two-story, wood-framed, gable-roofed residence which has no historical or architectural significance.

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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1902-c.1930 **Builder/Architect** William L. Coulter

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Prospect Point Camp is historically and architecturally significant as an outstanding example of an Adirondack Great Camp in the Upper Saranac Lake region, one of three distinct regions in which Great Camps were clustered. Prospect Point Camp was built between 1902-1905 to a design by noted regional architect William L. Coulter, who moved to Saranac Lake c.1895 and became well known for his many camp commissions in the Adirondack rustic style. This is the largest and most sophisticated of three camps designed by Coulter included in the thematic group and is similar to his other work in terms of form, siting and decoration - especially chalet forms, simulated log construction, decorative rustic gable screens, enclosed rustic walkways, multiple porches and balconies and siting to take advantage of the natural setting. However, this camp is especially distinguished by elaborate individual design features, such as the four great chalet style lodges that command a dramatic site on a bluff overlooking the lake and the various decorative references to German vernacular architecture. Although Coulter's use of the chalet form shows the influence of the early camp prototype developed by Durant at Pine Knot (1877), the grand scale and opulence of Prospect Point, together with its dramatic siting on a prominent natural feature, is evocative of the last, early twentieth century phase of Great Camp development, epitomized here as well as at Camp Topridge (1923). William L. Coulter's contribution to the Adirondack rustic style was significant and widespread. Other commissions include furniture, details, modifications or complexes for Moss Ledge (1898), Eagle Island Camp (1902), Sagamore Lodge additions (National Register, 1976), the D. Henry Smith Camp, Loon Lake Camp, Victor Herbert's Camp at Lake Placid and the great chalets of Knollwood Club on Lower Saranac Lake. In all of these commissions, Coulter generated a distinctive interpretation of the Great Camp style. The lavishness displayed at Prospect Point reflects the wealth and social status of its owner, financier Adolph Lewisohn, a prominent member of New York City's Jewish community, who maintained Prospect Point and entertained there on a grand scale until his death in 1938. The period of significance extends to c.1930 to cover all significant features added to the camp during Lewisohn's tenure.

The Upper Saranac Lake region became a haven of resort and camp life for wealthy urban Jewish families in the late nineteenth-early twentieth century. Initially drawn to the area by large Adirondack hotels such as the Wawbeek and Saranac Inn, many families subsequently purchased lakefront property and proceeded to develop camps to escape the pressures of urban life. Otto Kahn, Isaac Seligman and Adolph Lewisohn owned camps on Upper Saranac Lake. Members of New York's

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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
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Prospect Point Camp, Saranac Inn vic., Franklin Co.,

Continuation sheet

New York

Item number

8

Page 2

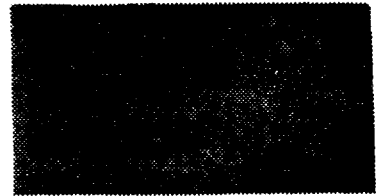
Jewish high society, described in Stephen Birmingham's Book Our Crowd, these families formed an enclave in the Adirondacks where they carried on their opulent, genteel lifestyle at private Great Camps.

Adolph Lewisohn, a member of a wealthy German family, immigrated to the United States in 1867 to assist his brothers in the American branch of the family business. Beginning as merchants dealing in a variety of commodities, by 1887 Adolph and his brother Leonard had concentrated their business on copper, a metal in increasing demand due to electricity. The Lewisohns owned numerous copper mines and acted as the agents for the sale of copper from other sources. The United Metals Selling Company, a firm organized in 1898 by the Lewisohn brothers, H.H. Rogers, and William Rockefeller, at one time sold 55% of all the copper mined in the United States. In 1901 the Lewisohns suffered a business setback when Meyer Guggenheim gained control of the large smelting conglomerate they had formed with Rogers. Adolph, in addition to the positions he held in various metal companies, was the senior member of Adolph Lewisohn and Sons, a brokerage and investment house. After his wife died in 1916, he turned his business affairs over to his son, Samuel, and devoted himself to philanthropy and retirement.

Lewisohn lived on a grand scale. In addition to Prospect Point, which he visited four weeks a year, he owned a house on Fifth Avenue in New York City and houses in Westchester County and Elberon, New Jersey, the "Jewish Newport." He was an eccentric individual who forced his guests to endure his vocalizing and who lived at a more lavish scale than many of his wealthier Jewish contemporaries. Even during the Depression, he did not reduce his high standard of living and continued to entertain lavishly. When he died at Prospect Point in August, 1938, Lewisohn had spent most of his fortune. However, he was able to leave an estate of nearly three million dollars.

The Lewisohn camp at Prospect Point represents the life style of the very rich members of New York City's Jewish society in the Adirondacks at the turn of the century. The camp had accommodations for numerous guests in addition to family members and servants. Despite architectural indications of the rustic life, the camp did not lack for modern conveniences. It had its own electrical, fire-fighting, water and sewerage systems. The camp had telephones as early as 1904. When Lewisohn visited the camp he was accompanied by a staff of about forty including a major-domo, barber, chess player, singing teacher, and two chauffeurs. He was host to a number of influential guests, among whom were President and Mrs. Calvin Coolidge.

The major buildings of Prospect Point camp, executed in the chalet form, are familiar building types employed by architect William Coulter, who specialized in the design of rustic and luxurious Adirondack

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retreats including Eagle Island and Moss Ledge camps on Upper Saranac Lake. The boathouse, West lodge, Dining lodge, and Main lodge at Prospect Point were erected in 1903-1904. The East lodge was erected the following year. Each of these large two-and-a-half-story buildings is a unique design, much like Coulter's work at Knollwood Club on Lower Saranac Lake. The broad gable ends carry the principal motif for each lodge. The architect, probably in reference to Adolph Lewisohn's birthplace, used decorative elements associated with German vernacular architecture, including the large gables with half-timbered panels and broad overhanging roofs which extend over multiple porches and balconies.

Prospect Point is one of the largest and most opulent of the Adirondack Great Camps built in the twentieth century. In its applied rustic embellishments and highly stylized resemblance to a Bavarian hunting lodge, Prospect Point camp epitomizes the combination of imposing and picturesque architectural qualities that characterized the architect-designed Great Camps of the early twentieth century.

Two years after Alfred Lewisohn's death in 1938, the camp was sold to W. Mladek Willy, a New York City chef, who operated a restaurant and hunting lodge there under the name of Sekon Lodge. From 1950 to 1969, the camp was owned by the Irving Blums, who operated Camp Naravac, a summer camp for Jewish girls. In 1969, the buildings and 105 acres of land were purchased by the current owner, Young Life Campaign, a Christian brotherhood organization. Young Life operates a number of non-denominational summer camps for teenagers at Prospect Point each season.

9. Major Bibliographical References

see continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 38 acres

Quadrangle name Upper Saranac

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	8	5	5	2	7	5	0	4	9	0	2	6	4	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

B

1	8	5	5	2	1	4	0	4	9	0	2	5	0	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

C

1	8	5	5	2	0	4	0	4	9	0	2	5	4	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

D

1	8	5	5	1	9	8	0	4	9	0	3	1	7	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

E

1	8	5	5	2	1	8	0	4	9	0	3	2	3	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

F

Zone	Easting			Northing										

G

Zone	Easting			Northing										

H

Zone	Easting			Northing										

Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property includes that portion of block 1, lot 1 lying east of New York Route 30 (approximately 38 acres) as delineated on the enclosed town of Santa Clara tax map.

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

state	code	county	code
			NA

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Raymond W. Smith & 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

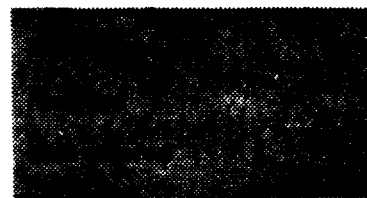
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Prospect Point Camp, Saranac Inn vic., Franklin Co.,
Continuation sheet New York Item number 9

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UPPER SARANAC QUAD.
GREAT CAMPS OF THE ADIRONDACKS

MOSS LEDGE
SARANAC INN VICINITY, FRANKLIN CO., NEW YORK

- 18/AAA. 563630/4903600
- BBB. 563040/4903120
- CCC. 562880/4903330
- DDD. 562860/4903630

31.08 ACRES

FROSTED POINT CAMP
SARANAC INN VICINITY, FRANKLIN CO., NEW YORK

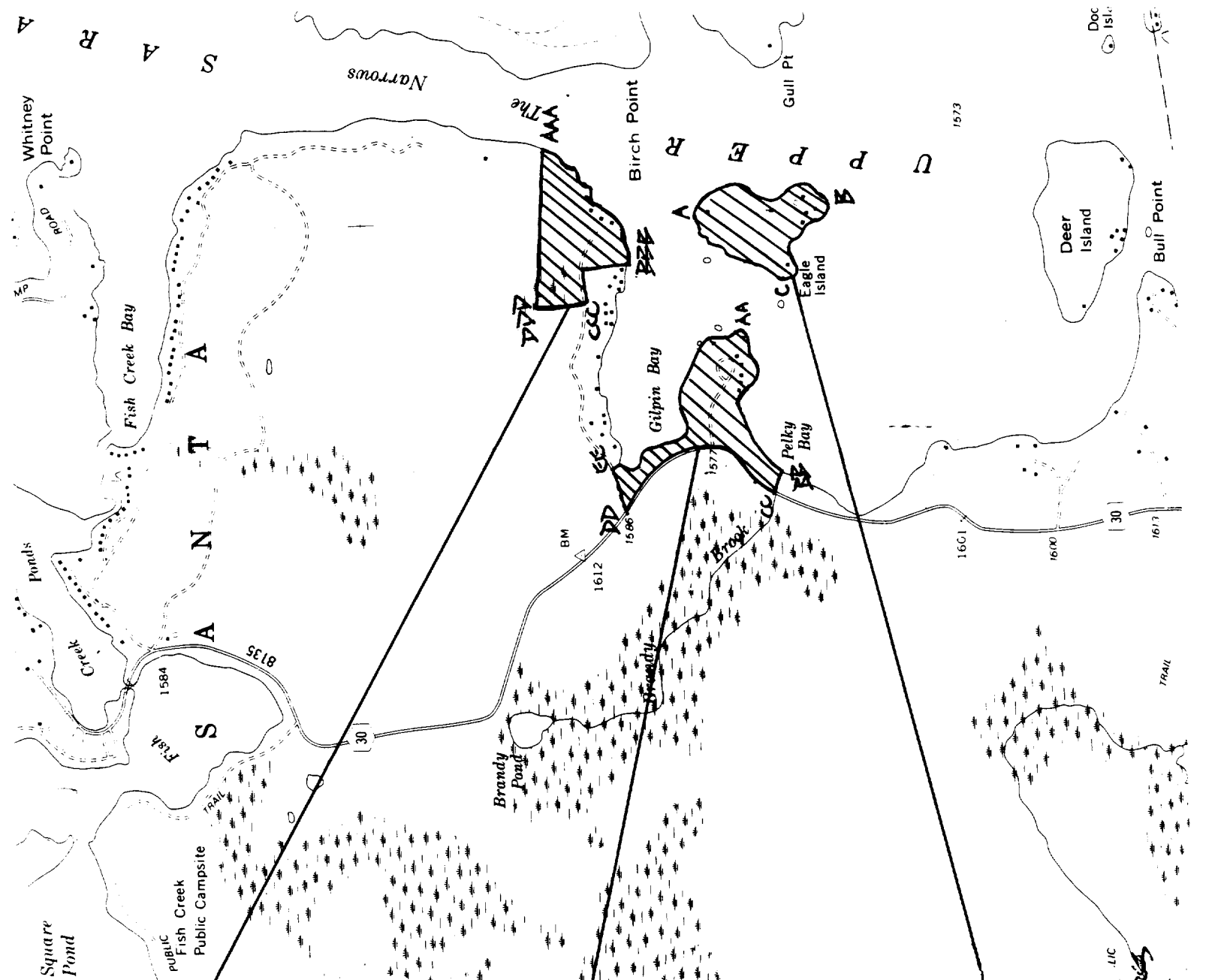
- 18/AA. 562760/4902640
- BB. 562140/4902600
- CC. 562040/4902640
- DD. 561980/4903170
- EE. 562180/4903230

38.0 ACRES

EAGLE ISLAND CAMP
SARANAC INN VICINITY, FRANKLIN CO., NEW YORK

- 18/A. 563240/4902870
- B. 563240/4902270
- C. 562940/4902470

31.6 ACRES



GREAT CIPS OF THE ADIRONDACKS
THEMATIC RESOURCES

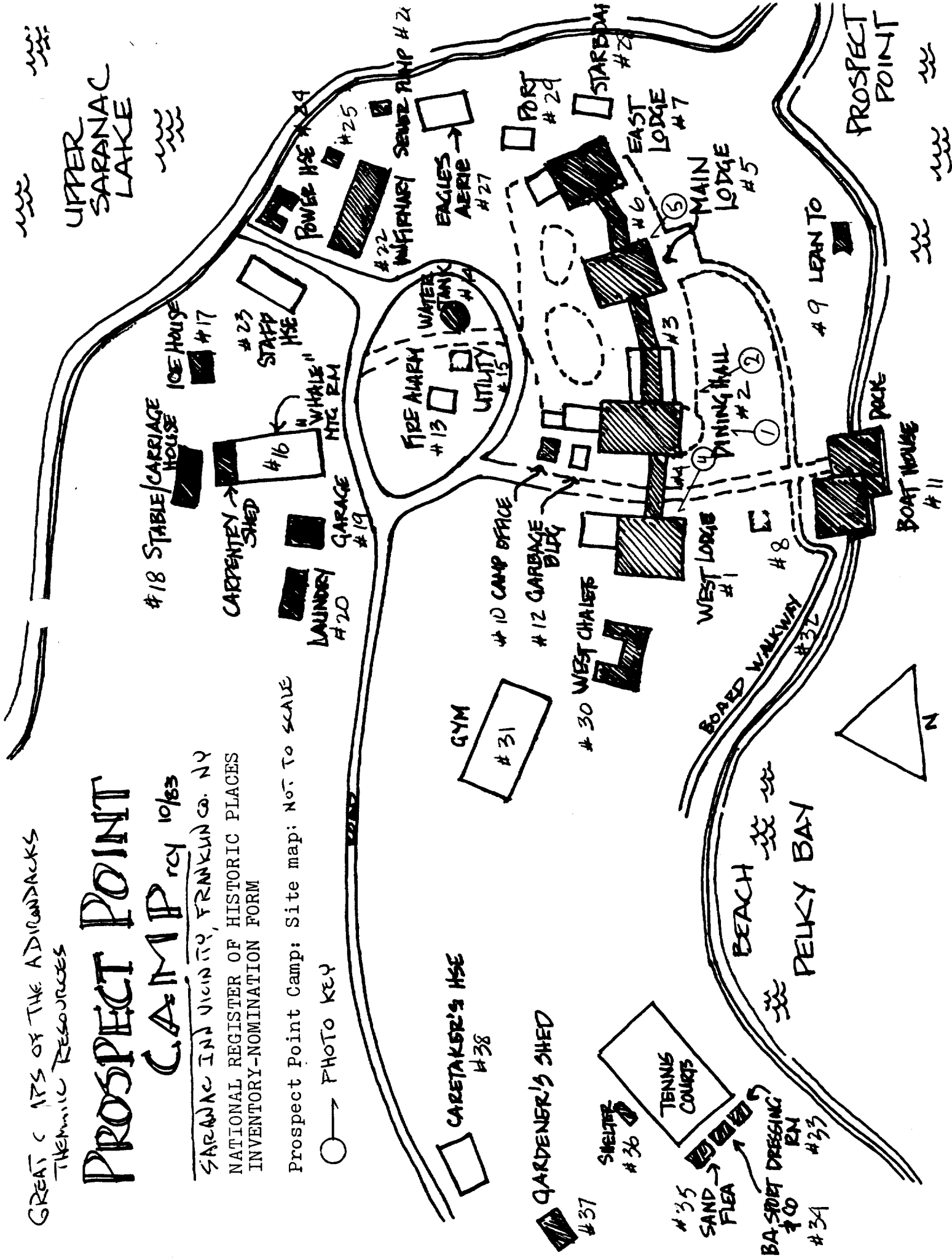
PROSPECT POINT

CAMP re: 10/83

SARANAC INN VICINITY, FRANKLIN CO. NY
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY-NOMINATION FORM

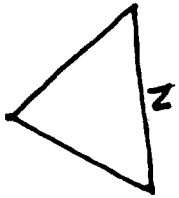
Prospect Point Camp: Site map: NOT TO SCALE

○ → PHOTO KEY



UPPER
SARANAC
LAKE

PROSPECT
POINT



TAX MAP
TOWN OF SANTA CLARA
FRANKLIN COUNTY, NY
SECTION #473 8/25/75
1" = 400'

GREAT CAMPS OF THE ADIRONDACKS

PROSPECT POINT CAMP

SARANAC INN VICINITY, FRANKLIN CO., NY

BLK 1, LOT 1

UPPER
SARANAC
LAKE

