

# The Civilian Conservation Corps at Ouabache State Park



The 1929 stock market crash was the catalyst for the Great Depression. Almost 18 million people were unemployed and 2 million Americans were homeless. Newly elected President Franklin D. Roosevelt implemented emergency measures. Among them was the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The CCC provided jobs to unemployed, single young men. Projects focused on reclaiming land, enhancing natural areas, and building parks.

## Ouabache's CCC Projects

Firetower

The Lodge

Service Building

Bird Pens

Egg Hatchery

Trails End Shelter

Rustic Oak Shelter

Campview Shelter

Kunkel Lake

Tree Planting

Roads

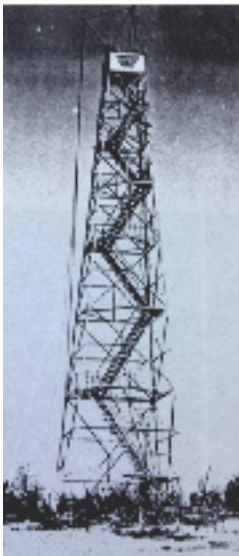
Almost 64,000 Hoosiers were stationed at camps throughout the state.

Ouabache State Park began as the Wells County Game Farm. Wildlife was raised and released for hunting. From 1935 - 1940, the CCC Company 1592 was stationed at the game farm. They built bird pens and egg hatcheries. They also constructed recreational structures such as a lodge, service building, ice house and firetower.

In 1962, the Wells County Game Farm became Ouabache State Park.



Camp



Firetower



Service Area



Building the Lodge

# The Civilian Conservation Corps at Pokagon State Park



The 1929 stock market crash was the catalyst for the Great Depression. Almost 18 million people were unemployed and 2 million Americans were homeless. Newly elected President Franklin D. Roosevelt implemented emergency measures. Among them was the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The CCC provided jobs to unemployed, single young men. Projects focused on reclaiming land, enhancing natural areas, and building parks.

## Pokagon's CCC Projects

County Road Bridge

Beach

Saddle Barn

Spring Shelter

Toboggan Slide

Gatehouse

CCC Shelter

Beach Bath House

Group Camp

Park Office

Campgrounds

Parking Lots

Park Roads

Retaining Walls

Tree Planting

Erosion controls

Trails

Water Lines

Almost 64,000 Hoosiers were stationed at camps throughout the state. Company 556 was stationed at Pokagon State Park from 1934 to 1942. Before work could begin, a camp of temporary buildings was constructed to house and feed the CCC boys. The camp contained 12 buildings: several barracks to sleep in, an office building, officer's living quarters, a recreation hall, the kitchen and dining hall, shower house and bathrooms.

The camp housed about 180 men at any one time. When the Pokagon projects were all completed, the camp was taken apart and removed. Some of the barracks became married student housing for Angola's Tri-State University (now Trine University). They have long since been removed and no longer exist.



Mess Hall



Stone masons building the Spring Shelter



Gatehouse under construction

# The Civilian Conservation Corps at Pokagon State Park



The 1929 stock market crash was the catalyst for the Great Depression. Almost 18 million people were unemployed and 2 million Americans were homeless. Newly elected President Franklin D. Roosevelt implemented emergency measures. Among them was the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The CCC provided jobs to unemployed, single young men. Projects focused on reclaiming land, enhancing natural areas, and building parks.

## Shakamak's CCC Projects

Tree planting

Sealing mine openings

Road building

Beach House

Saddle Barn

Picnic Shelters

Almost 64,000 Hoosiers were stationed at camps throughout the state.

The CCC arrived at Shakamak State Park in 1933 and were housed in an existing 4-H Group Camp at the park.

When Shakamak was created in 1929, most of the land had already been cleared of trees. Many open mines and mine scars were evident. The CCC planted trees and closed mine openings, allowing the land to recover.

The CCC also constructed park facilities such as the beach house, saddle barn and picnic shelters. Attractive brickwork in the buildings used locally made bricks.



Group Camp used to house the CCC