
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2007

Revised: 1/2026



Appalachian Trail - Central District
Shenandoah National Park

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Introduction

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the National Park System. Landscapes that are listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources and in which the National Park Service has, or plans to acquire, legal interest are included in the inventory. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, and condition. Cultural landscapes have approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS-CL) database. In addition, for landscapes not currently listed on the National Register and/or without adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, or the Keeper of the National Register.

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is compiled from primary and secondary sources and through on-site surveys of the landscape. The level of investigation is dependent upon scoping the need for information. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's integrity and an assessment of the landscape's condition. The CLI also includes historic maps, drawings, and images; photographs of existing conditions; and a site plan that indicates major features. The CLI documents the existing condition of park landscape resources and identifies impacts, threats, and measures to stabilize condition. This information can be used to develop strategies for improved stewardship. Unlike a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), the CLI does not provide management recommendations or treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape, but it may identify stabilization measures.

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) replaces three legacy inventory systems: ASMIS (archeology), CLI (cultural landscapes), and LCS (historic structures); and it reinstates the former ERI (ethnographic resources). This Cultural Landscape Inventory document reflects the information in a corresponding CRIS Cultural Landscape record.

Statutory and Regulatory Foundation

The legislative, regulatory, and policy directives for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are:

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)) Sec. 110
- Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3 (a and c)
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs
- Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Std. 2
- Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22; issued pursuant to Director's Order #28 (DO-28)

The NHPA requires the identification, evaluation, and nomination of historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places and the maintenance and expansion of an inventory of cultural resources. DO-28 requires a cyclic assessment of the current condition of cultural landscapes based on an assessment interval, with a default of six years.

Use

Beyond fulfilling legal and policy requirements, park staff can use the Cultural Landscape Inventory in the following ways:

- To learn about park cultural landscapes (all staff)
- To inform management decisions (park managers)
- To inform project planning and development (park managers, facility managers, project managers, compliance specialists)
- To monitor the condition of the cultural landscape and take measures to protect its significance and integrity (cultural resource managers, facility managers)
- To recognize the stabilization and treatment needs of landscape features and plan work within cultural landscapes to address the needs (facility managers, cultural resource managers)
- To understand the cultural value of natural systems in a cultural landscape (natural resource managers)
- To create programming and educational materials based on site history (interpretation and education specialists)
- To recognize impacts within cultural landscapes and enforce protection measures (visitor and resources protection staff)

General Information

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Appalachian Trail - Central District
Resource Classification:	Component Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	975388
Parent Landscape:	300129
Inventory Status:	Complete

Park Information

Park Name:	Shenandoah National Park
Alpha Code:	SHEN
Park Organization Code:	4840
Park District:	SHEN
Region:	Northeast
Restricted:	Yes

Landscape Description:

The Appalachian Trail–Central District in Shenandoah National Park (NP) is one of three component landscapes, together with the North District and South District, that comprise the 103-mile long Appalachian Trail (AT) landscape within the 196,000-acre Shenandoah NP. The portion of the AT in Shenandoah NP is part of the 2,175-mile trail that follows the Appalachian Mountains from Georgia to Maine as conceived in 1921 and developed and opened as a continuous trail in 1937. The Central District includes thirty-four miles of trail from Thornton Gap/Panorama, accessed from Skyline Drive at Milepost (MP) 31.5 at Route 211 (Lee Highway), to MP 65.5 at Route 33 (Spotswood Trail). From the northern end of the Central District, the AT continues for another twenty-four miles through the North District to the AT's entrance to the park at Possum's Rest. From the southern end of Central District, the AT continues for forty-five miles through the South District to MP 105.4 on Skyline Drive.

The study boundaries of the CLI for the Appalachian Trail (AT)–Central District include a twenty-foot wide corridor, ten-feet to either side of the trail's centerline. This distance was selected because it generally encompasses the constructed features associated with the trail such as retaining walls and signs. Features beyond this corridor were inventoried if they were associated with the construction of the AT, were easily viewed from the trail, or if they were part of the hiking experience (i.e. shelter or view). The trail corridor intersects Skyline Drive, numerous named side trails, and unnamed spur trails that lead to Skyline Drive overlooks, parking areas, rock outcrops, and views. Other trail junctions provide access to historic and non-historic cabins for day or overnight use.

History Overview – Central District:

This area of the Blue Ridge Mountains was known and used by Paleo-Indians for many centuries, with the first human presence beginning about 6,000-7,000 years ago, sometime after the last Ice Age. The first recorded European exploration of the area took place in 1669. After the arrival of European settlers, the local Native Americans were dying of introduced disease, and by 1800 they had disappeared completely or had moved away (Resource Management Plan, 1998:23). As the better farmlands were taken, the new settlers moved into the mountain hollows where they hunted, farmed, grazed livestock, and cleared the land of timber. Farming continued, including raising livestock, growing corn, and planting orchards but slowed during the droughts of 1929-1930. In 1926, Congress authorized Shenandoah NP in Virginia's Blue Ridge area to provide a large, western-type park accessible from the

population centers of the East Coast.

In 1921, the idea of the Appalachian Trail was born when Benton MacKaye published "An Appalachian Trail: A Project in Regional Planning." It was a synthesis of ideas of the recreational movement and growing interest in regional planning and ignited a volunteer effort to build the AT from Georgia to Maine. MacKaye organized and convened the Appalachian Trail Conference in 1925, which later became the Appalachian Trail Conservancy. In 1927, the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) was organized by Myron H. Avery, and in 1928 construction of the AT in Shenandoah began (Bates, 1987:7). By 1930, the last portion of the AT in Shenandoah NP was completed and its alignment generally followed the ridgeline in a north-south direction.

In 1931, the construction of Skyline Drive along the ridgeline in Shenandoah NP began, and between 1931 and 1938 the PATC worked to rebuild portions of the AT that were supplanted by the drive. In 1933, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) arrived in Shenandoah to work on the drive, the AT relocations, and other projects. The CCC improved old roads for the trail and constructed new trail using the National Park Service (NPS) Rustic style design guidelines, often employing stone retaining walls and trail edging to support the trail bed. The CCC also built stone and log cabins and shelters, and developed compatible yet more modern zinc-banded concrete trail markers. With the entry of the United States into World War II, the CCC was disbanded and park visitation slowed, although hiking continued. After the war, recreational interests increased nationwide and visits to the park rose along with hiking of the trail.

In 1956, NPS Director Conrad Wirth launched the "Mission 66" program, which anticipated high use of the parks, and planned improvements and expansion of facilities accordingly. In Shenandoah NP, a new highway overpass was constructed at Route 211 in 1960-61 and this area of the AT was relocated west. Visitation to Shenandoah NP and hiking the AT continued to increase in the 1970s, but the trail was showing signs of wear after so many years of heavy use. It had become more enclosed with vegetation, and erosion had changed the pitch on the trail bed requiring interventions such as log water bars.

Visitation was also on the rise on the entire AT. Recognizing the ever-increasing outdoor recreational needs of an expanding population and the promotion and preservation of outdoor areas and historic resources, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the National Trails System Act in 1968 designating the entire AT as the first National Scenic Trail on the East Coast. At this time, the PATC became a partner of the NPS. Developmental pressures also began to emerge along the trail. In 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed the Appalachian Trail legislative amendments (Foster, 1987:149). These laws provided new tools and funding for land acquisition and additional lands were acquired along the trail corridor. That same year, the Appalachian National Scenic Trail was designated as a unit of the National Park system.

In 1981, the NPS Appalachian Trail Comprehensive Plan was developed and outlined how the AT was to be managed and maintained in light of its growing use and various outside pressures. In 1983, the Appalachian Trail Conference and the PATC entered into a cooperative agreement with the NPS for the management of the AT in Shenandoah NP. The gypsy moth epidemic of the 1980s and the start of the hemlock wooly adelgid infestation of the 1990s changed the character of some portions of the trail as trees succumbed to the diseases, leaving behind open areas and changing the scenic views.

Significance Summary for the Appalachian Trail—North, Central, and South Districts:

The AT in Shenandoah NP is significant under Criteria A and C in the areas of landscape architecture, architecture, community planning and development, politics/government, and entertainment/recreation. Under Criterion A, it is significant for its association with the early regional planning effort to establish a linked pedestrian greenway corridor on the East Coast. It also derives significance for its role in the history of park development to develop national parks for public enjoyment and to preserve natural features and scenic areas, by creating a pedestrian spine which parallels, both conceptually and geographically, the vehicular spine of the Skyline Drive. Under Criterion C, the AT is significant as an example of trail design and methods of construction established by the NPS and implemented by the CCC. Now known as the NPS Rustic style, its principles and practices endeavored to harmonize development with the natural environment and enable the visitor to experience scenic features and views.

The period of significance for the AT in Shenandoah NP is from 1928 to 1942. In 1928, the PATC, made up of volunteer members, began construction of the trail in Shenandoah NP, which had been authorized as a national park in 1926 but would not be fully established until 1935. The period extends until 1942, encompassing the completion of the AT by the PATC in 1930; the relocation and reconstruction of portions of the trail caused by the building of the Skyline Drive, done by the CCC using NPS trail design and construction methods from 1933 to 1938; and the

completion of the trail refinements by the CCC as the program came to a close, they disbanded, and the United States entered World War II. Today, the AT in Shenandoah NP retains sufficient integrity to convey its fourteen-year period of significance.

Integrity Summary – Central District:

The AT –Central District in Shenandoah NP retains the seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The AT still travels a north-south alignment over the ridgeline although there have been some realignments since the historic period. The trail continues to display the harmonization of NPS Rustic style design elements with the natural character, and overall there are few modern intrusions along the trail corridor. Materials have been maintained, are evident in the constructed features, and are generally in good condition. Although the trail is more wooded today than it was historically and views are more limited, the feeling and setting of a wilderness trail are still intact, as originally envisioned by Benton MacKaye. Lastly, there remains a strong association of the PATC, CCC, and the NPS with the AT.

Landscape Hierarchy Description:

The trail sections corresponding to the North District, Central District, and South District of Shenandoah NP are component landscapes of the 103-mile Appalachian Trail landscape in Shenandoah NP. The park also includes the following landscapes and component landscapes:

- Rapidan Camp landscape
- Headquarters landscape
- Mt. Vernon Iron Furnace landscape
- Skyline Drive landscape with component landscapes: Big Meadows, Dickey Ridge, Elkwallow, Lewis Mountain, Piney River, Pinnacles, Skyland, Simmons Gap, South River Picnic Grounds

Landscape Type:

Historic Designed Landscape

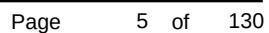
Other Names:

Other Name: Appalachian Trail **Other Name Type:** Both Current And Historic

Other Name: App. National Scenic Trail **Other Name Type:** Current

Site Plan

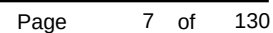
Cultural Landscapes Inventory



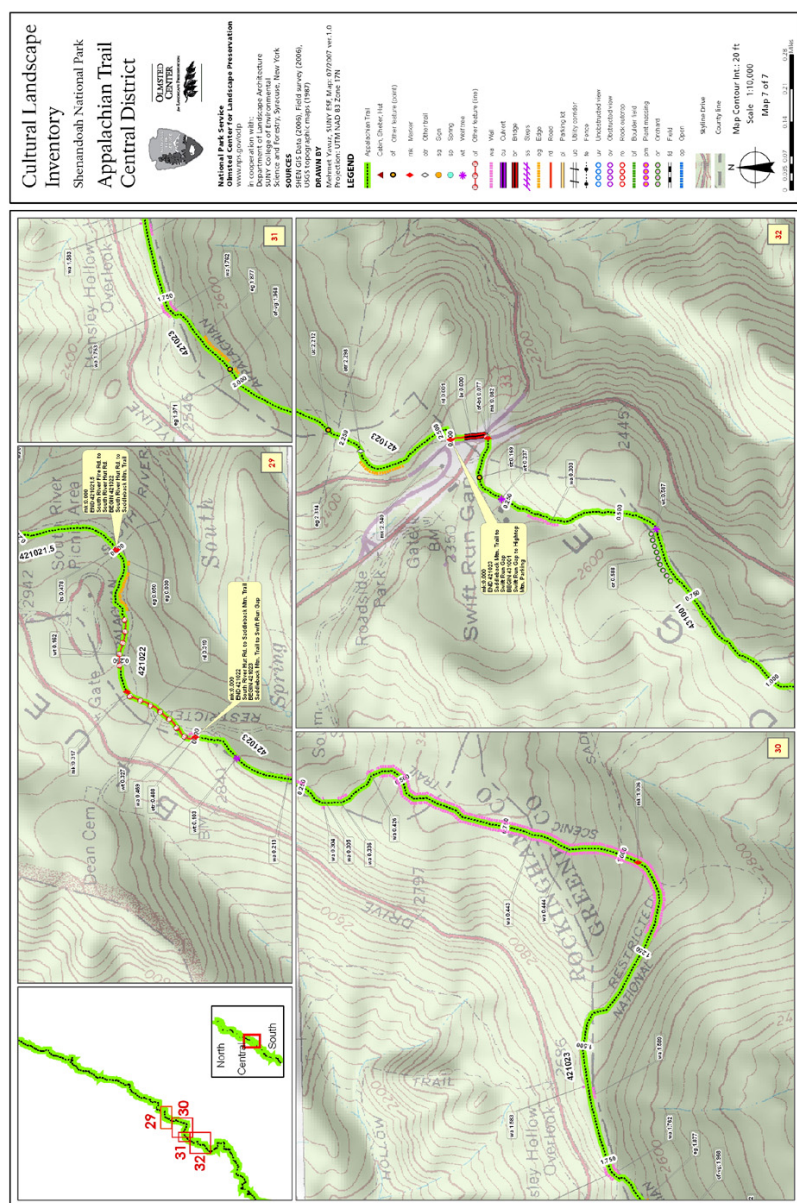
Cultural Landscapes Inventory



Cultural Landscapes Inventory

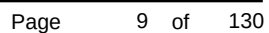


Appalachian Trail - Central District
Shenandoah National Park



Maps 1-7: Appalachian Trail—Central District in Shenandoah National Park, VA, also at the end of the document.

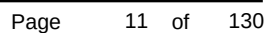
Cultural Landscapes Inventory



Cultural Landscapes Inventory



Cultural Landscapes Inventory



Concurrence Information

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	08/27/2007

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Northeast Region
United States Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

AUG 21 2007

H30 (NER-RS&S OCLP)

Dr. Ethel Eaton
Office of Review and Compliance
Department of Historic Resources
Commonwealth of Virginia
2801 Kensington Ave.
Richmond, VA 23221

Dear Dr. Eaton:

Enclosed you will find three Cultural Landscapes Inventories (CLIs) documenting the entire length of the Appalachian Trail (AT) landscape – North District, Central District, and South District –located within Shenandoah National Park (NP). Portions of the AT, namely the trail crossings at Skyline Drive, are listed as part of the Skyline Drive Historic District. We seek your concurrence that the entire AT is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The CLIs have been prepared by a team of historical landscape architects with the State University of New York – College of Environmental Science and Forestry, and the National Park Service (NPS) Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation. The CLI program and the enclosed report continue the NPS efforts to update our cultural resource inventories.

Through the CLI program, the NPS is currently in the midst of a nationwide effort to inventory its cultural landscapes. The CLI is conducted in accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended). It is an inventory of baseline information for all historically significant cultural landscapes within the national park system, and it examines multiple landscape features that contribute to the significance of historic properties. The CLI process includes gathering information from existing secondary sources and conducting on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the property's overall significance. For landscapes found potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, the evaluation describes their character-defining features and assesses the landscape's overall historical integrity. It also raises questions about the landscape that need further study.

It is important to note that the CLI reports are not intended as comprehensive inventory reports for any one property, although for some properties they provide fuller documentation than for others. For example, the reports do not include a full architectural description of structures, but

SHPO concurrence letter, September 19, 2007 (4 pages). List of Central District features is available on the CLI database.

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE INVENTORY
CONCURRENCE FORM

Appalachian Trail-Central District
Shenandoah National Park

The Appalachian Trail Park Office concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for the Appalachian Trail - Central District, Shenandoah National Park, including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

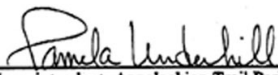
CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements, will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for the Appalachian Trail-Central District is hereby approved and accepted.


Superintendent, Appalachian Trail Park Office

8/28/07
Date

Concurrence form from Appalachian Trail Park Office, August 28, 2007.

08/27/2007 12:08 FAX 5409993693

NATL/CULT RES. —

03

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE INVENTORY
CONCURRENCE FORM

Appalachian Trail-Central District
Shenandoah National Park

Shenandoah National Park concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for the Appalachian Trail – Central District including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements, will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for the Appalachian Trail-Central District is hereby approved and accepted.

Chas Cartwright 8-27-2007
Superintendent, Shenandoah National Park Date

Concurrence form from Shenandoah National Park, August 27, 2007.

**Cultural Landscapes Inventory
Condition Reassessment
2013**

Shenandoah National Park
Appalachian Trail Landscape
Appalachian Trail-North District
Appalachian Trail-Central District
Appalachian Trail-South District
Skyland

Shenandoah National Park concurs with the condition reassessments for the Appalachian Trail Landscape, Appalachian Trail-North District, Appalachian Trail-Central District, Appalachian Trail-South District, and Skyland, including:

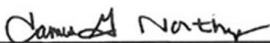
CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good – Appalachian Trail Landscape
 Good – Appalachian Trail – North District
 Good – Appalachian Trail – Central District
 Good – Appalachian Trail – South District
 Good – Skyland

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the landscape characteristics will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The condition reassessments for the Appalachian Trail Landscape, Appalachian Trail-North District, Appalachian Trail-Central District, Appalachian Trail-South District, and Skyland at Shenandoah National Park are hereby approved and accepted.



Superintendent, Shenandoah National Park



Date

Condition reassessment form, August 1, 2013.

document structures as elements of the overall landscape, and similarly documents other characteristics such as vegetation, spatial organization, and views and vistas. The CLI is one component of the NPS inventory effort that also includes cultural resource inventories for historic structures, archeological sites, ethnographic resources, and museum objects. For example, the NPS List of Classified Structures inventory includes structural features of cultural landscapes, but the CLI takes a more encompassing approach to the properties, inventorying all above-ground features in each park in which the NPS has a legal or mandated interest.

Portions of the AT within the North, Central, and South Districts of Shenandoah NP are listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Skyline Drive Historic District. Included in the original National Register listing are seventeen of the twenty-nine existing crossings where the AT and Skyline Drive intersect, counted as one contributing site, which span the 125-foot-wide district right-of-way to either side of the drive (250-foot-wide overall). Additional segments of the AT were included in subsequent boundary increases of the Skyline Drive Historic District made in 1997 and 2003 that incorporated park facilities adjoining the Skyline Drive corridor. In these areas, the AT passes through approximately 300-feet of the Simmons Gap ranger station and park maintenance facilities cluster, through approximately one mile at the Skyland resort, and provides the eastern boundary of the Loft Mountain campground and picnic area. Within these boundary expansions, the AT is not listed as a contributing resource. At Skyland, however, the AT follows approximately 2,500 feet of the Stony Man Nature Trail, which is listed as a contributing resource.

The Statement of Significance for the original Skyline Drive Historic District listing describes the significance of the AT in the area of regional planning. However, the AT is minimally addressed and treated primarily as a precursor to the development of Skyline Drive. As noted above, not all AT crossings with Skyline Drive are identified in National Register documentation. These crossings represent only a very small fraction of the many contributing resources that have now been identified in this CLI.

The AT in Shenandoah NP is significant under Criteria A and C in the areas of landscape architecture, architecture, community planning and development, politics/government, and entertainment/recreation. Under Criterion A, it is significant for its association with the early regional planning effort to establish a linked pedestrian greenway corridor on the East Coast. It also derives significance for its role in the history of park development by creating a pedestrian spine which parallels, both conceptually and geographically, the vehicular spine of the Skyline Drive. Under Criterion C, the AT is significant as an example of trail design and methods of construction established by the NPS and implemented by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Now known as the NPS Rustic style, its principles and practices endeavored to harmonize development with the natural environment and enable the visitor to experience scenic features and views.

The period of significance for the AT in Shenandoah NP is from 1928 to 1942. In 1928, the volunteer PATC began construction of the trail in Shenandoah NP, which had been authorized as a national park in 1926, but would not yet be fully established until 1935. The period extends

until 1942, which encompasses the completion of the AT by the PATC in 1930, the relocation and reconstruction of portions of the trail by the CCC using NPS trail design and construction methods necessitated by the building of the Skyline Drive from 1933 to 1938, and the ending of the trail refinements by the CCC as the program came to a close, they disbanded, and the United States entered World War II.

The CLI fully evaluates the cultural landscape, particularly the associated landscape characteristics and features, and finds that the three Appalachian Trail landscapes – North District, Central District, and South District – retain overall integrity in the areas community planning and development, conservation, entertainment/recreation, landscape architecture, politics/government, and social history. The landscape characteristics and features that date to the periods of significance should be preserved since they contribute to the historic character of the property.

On the enclosed lists there is one type of feature – the AT crossings at Skyline Drive – that has been previously evaluated in the National Register. In the documentation, fifteen crossings are discussed in the narrative, but seventeen crossings are identified in a list by UTM coordinates. The CLI has documented a total of twenty-nine crossings. It is unclear as to which National Register-listed crossings correspond to crossings identified in the CLI. Because the National Register collectively counts the crossings as one contributing site, all twenty-nine crossings are therefore listed in this report as “previously evaluated” as they are clearly the same type of feature.

We call your particular attention to the Landscape Description, National Register Information, Statement of Significance, and Analysis and Evaluation Summary in the enclosed CLI.

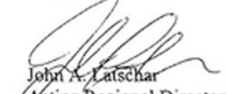
Based on the CLI, we seek your concurrence on the following:

- The Appalachian Trail landscapes are significant under Criteria A and C.
- The areas of significance are community planning and development, conservation, entertainment/recreation, landscape architecture, politics/government, and social history.
- The period of significance for the three Appalachian Trail landscapes is 1928-1942.
- The cultural landscape retains integrity to the period of significance.
- The property retains landscape characteristics and associated features that contribute to the sites' historic character (see attached lists).

If you concur with the items above and our categorization of the Appalachian Trail landscape features associated with the trail at Shenandoah NP, as contributing, non-contributing, and undetermined, and as enumerated on the enclosed lists for each trail district, we ask that you please sign on the space provided and return this letter to Jeff Killion, CLI Coordinator (Address: Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, 15 State Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02109) **within thirty days.**

Thank you for your attention to these reports. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Killion at 617-223-5053.

Sincerely,


John A. Latschar
Acting Regional Director
Northeast Region

cc:
Superintendent, Shenandoah National Park

I concur that the Appalachian Trail is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and with the categorization of the Appalachian Trail landscape features at Shenandoah National Park, as contributing, non-contributing, and undetermined.


Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer

9-19-07
Date

**Cultural Landscapes Inventory
CLI Updates Certification Form
2026**

Shenandoah National Park
Appalachian Trail Landscape
Appalachian Trail – North District
Appalachian Trail – Central District
Appalachian Trail – South District

Shenandoah National Park certifies the CLI updates for the Appalachian Trail Landscape, Appalachian Trail-North District, Appalachian Trail-Central District, and Appalachian Trail-South District, including:

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good – Appalachian Trail Landscape
 Good – Appalachian Trail–North District
 Good – Appalachian Trail–Central District
 Good – Appalachian Trail–South District

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements, will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The CLI updates for the sites listed above at Shenandoah National Park are hereby approved and accepted.

JAMES STAKELY  Digitally signed by JAMES STAKELY
Date: 2026.01.22 11:15:57 -05'00'

Superintendent, Shenandoah National Park

Date

Park concurrence form, January 22, 2026.

Revision:

Revised By	Type of Revision	Revision Date	Revision Narrative
Jeff Killion	Change in Condition	08/01/2013	Condition reassessment completed as scheduled.
Jeff Killion	CLI Update	01/22/2026	Three levels of effort have been developed for CLI Updates: A, B, and C. Level C is limited to a condition reassessment of the landscape; Level B includes C and is a targeted update of select data fields; Level A includes C and is a comprehensive update of all data fields. This 2026 update to the Appalachian Trail-Central District CLI has been conducted at a Level C effort. See Landscape Documents in CRIS-CL for correspondences with park.

Geographic Information

State and County:

State	County
Virginia	Greene County
Virginia	Madison County
Virginia	Page County
Virginia	Rappahannock County
Virginia	Rockingham County

Size (Acres): 82

Land Tract Number(s)

Boundary Description:

The inventory boundary of the Appalachian Trail–Central District in Shenandoah National Park (NP) is defined by a twenty-foot wide corridor, ten-feet to either side of the trail's centerline. This arbitrary distance was selected because it generally encompasses a majority of the constructed features associated with the Appalachian Trail (AT) such as retaining walls and signs. The boundary occasionally expands outward from the twenty-foot wide corridor to include features that were associated with the construction of the AT, were easily viewed from the trail, or were part of the hiking experience, such as a shelter or view.

The Central District includes thirty-four miles of trail from Thornton Gap/Panorama accessed from Skyline Drive at Milepost (MP) 31.5 at Route 211 (Lee Highway) to MP 65.5 at Route 33 (Spotswood Trail).

Boundary Coordinates

Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
USGS Map 1:24,000	Line	-78.3233037221845	38.6602392391202	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Line	-78.5451932564247	38.3602842836322	

Location Map:



Figure 1: Central District, Shenandoah National Park (NP) with Appalachian Trail (AT) (dashed green line) and Skyline Drive (red line). (Shenandoah NP, 2006 and State University of New York [SUNY], 2006)

Regional Landscape Contexts:

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

The Appalachian Trail–Central District in Shenandoah NP is located along the ridgeline of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Virginia. The highest elevation on the AT–Central District is at Stony Man Mountain at 3,837 feet and the lowest elevation is at Thornton Gap at its junction with Route 211 at 2,200 feet. The trail still follows much the same route as it did when first constructed between 1928 and 1938. It climbs peaks Mary’s Rock, The Pinnacle, Little Stony Man, Stony Man Mountain, Hawksbill Mountain, Black Rock, Hazeltop, and Bearfence, Baldface, and Saddleback Mountains and descends into the gaps of Thornton, Hughes River, Hawksbill, Fishers, Milam, Bootens, and Swift Run. Stone retaining walls constructed by the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC), Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), and the National Park Service (NPS) allow portions of the AT to negotiate steep slopes.

Beginning in 1931, the construction of Skyline Drive, also along the ridgeline, necessitated relocating portions of the AT, and much of this work was undertaken by the CCC. The AT connects with Skyline Drive at one location in the Central District. The AT also intersects with networks of side trails built by the PATC and CCC that are still used by hikers to reach other high peaks and to follow descents into hollows along streams and waterfalls.

Type of Context: Political

Description:

The Appalachian Trail–Central District is located in Greene, Madison, Page, Rappahannock, and Rockingham counties in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Shenandoah NP is managed by the NPS and the AT–Central District is cooperatively managed and maintained by the NPS and PATC.

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

The Appalachian Trail–Central District is part of Shenandoah NP, where recreation is the primary cultural use. Part of the park includes many thousands of acres of federally-designated wilderness. In the surrounding region, tourism is a significant industry. Agriculture, particularly poultry production, is the main industry to the west, with convenient north-south access via Interstate 81 and Route 340. Suburban development in the Washington D.C.-Baltimore metropolitan area dominates the east, with north-south access via Route 29 and east-west access via Routes 211 and 33. The northern end of the AT–Central District can be accessed from Thornton Gap and the junction of Skyline Drive and Route 211, between Luray and Sperryville. The southern end of the AT–Central District can be accessed from Swift Run Gap and the junction of Skyline Drive and Route 33, between Elkton and Stanardsville.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 08/27/2007

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The Appalachian Trail (AT) in Shenandoah National Park (NP) is nationally significant under Criterion A in the areas of regional planning and recreation, and under Criterion C for its design and construction and its association with National Park Service (NPS) Rustic style. According to the management category definitions, the AT–Central District meets several criteria listed for “Must Be Preserved and Maintained”: the inventory unit is related to the park’s legislated significance and the inventory unit serves as the setting for a nationally significant structure or object.

Management Agreements:

Type of Agreement: Memorandum of Understanding

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Appalachian Trail Park Office (ATPO-NPS), Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC), Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC), and Shenandoah National Park "4-way" (#MU-2490-99-008).

Type of Agreement: Other

Management Agreement Expiration Date: 02/01/2012

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

"General Agreement Between Shenandoah National Park and Potomac Appalachian Trail Club for Maintaining Certain Trails, Huts, and Maintenance Buildings" (#G4840070001).

Type of Agreement: Other

Management Agreement Expiration Date: 08/01/2012

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

"General Agreement Between Shenandoah National Park and Potomac Appalachian Trail Club for Trail Patrol and Ridgerunner Programs" (#G4840070002).

Type of Agreement: Cooperative Agreement

Management Agreement Expiration Date: 03/01/2011

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

"Cooperative Agreement Between Shenandoah National Park and Potomac Appalachian Trail Club: Interpretive Demonstration Way Station, Primitive Cabins at Shenandoah NP" (#4840060004).

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative:

Located in managed wilderness?: Unknown

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Narrative:

Adjacent lands contribute to the significance of the AT in Shenandoah NP as they are a key part of the viewsheds from the trail. Along the AT–Central District, vegetation limits many views. There are broad views along the trail to Mary’s Rock and from its summit as well as from other points along the trail. Over time, hikers have created short spur trails that lead to openings in the canopy or to rock outcrops.

National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Documentation Status: Undocumented

Documentation Narrative Description:

Portions of the Appalachian Trail (AT) within the North, Central, and South Districts of Shenandoah National Park (NP) are listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Skyline Drive Historic District. Included in the original National Register listing are seventeen of the twenty-nine crossings where the AT and Skyline Drive intersect, counted as one contributing site, which span the 125-foot-wide district right-of-way to either side of the drive (250-feet-wide overall). Additional segments of the AT were included in subsequent boundary increases of the Skyline Drive Historic District made in 1997 and 2003 that incorporated park facilities adjoining the Skyline Drive corridor. In these areas, the AT passes through approximately 300-feet of the Simmons Gap ranger station and park maintenance facilities cluster, through approximately one mile at the Skyland resort, and provides the eastern boundary of the Loft Mountain campground and picnic area. Within these boundary expansions, the AT is not listed as a contributing resource. At Skyland, however, the AT follows approximately 2,500 feet of the Stony Man Nature Trail, which is listed as a contributing resource.

The Statement of Significance for the original Skyline Drive Historic District listing describes the significance of the AT in the area of regional planning. However, the AT is minimally addressed and treated primarily as a precursor to the development of Skyline Drive. As noted above, only a portion of the AT crossings with Skyline Drive are identified in National Register documentation. Since these crossings represent only a very small fraction of the many contributing resources that have now been identified, this cultural landscape inventory has recorded the current National Register documentation as “undocumented.”

Eligibility: Eligible - SHPO/THPO Consensus Determination

Concurrence Eligibility Date: 09/19/2007

Concurrence Narrative:

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Office of Review and Compliance, concurred that the Appalachian Trail is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and with the categorization of the Appalachian Trail landscape features at Shenandoah National Park, as contributing, non-contributing, and undetermined.

Significance Level: National

Contributing: Contributing

Classification: District

Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:

Within all three districts of Shenandoah NP, the AT is significant under Criteria A and C in the areas of landscape architecture, architecture, community planning and development, politics/government, and

entertainment/recreation. It is significant under Criterion A for its association with the early regional planning effort to establish a connected pedestrian greenway and recreational corridor on the East Coast. The AT also derives significance under Criterion A for its association with the twentieth century movement to develop national parks for public enjoyment, to conserve natural features and scenic areas as public parks, and develop natural areas, including sub-marginal lands for public recreational use. The planning and building of the AT was significant in the history of the park's development, creating a pedestrian spine that paralleled, both conceptually and geographically, the vehicular spine of the Skyline Drive. The AT is also significant under Criterion C as an example of trail design and method of construction intended to harmonize with the natural environment and enable the visitor to experience scenic features and views. The initial AT established by the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) was built by club volunteers who used their own tools. They followed the trail line scouted and set by Myron H. Avery, the club's president, and cut away brush and tree limbs and marked the trail with painted blazes on trees to create a narrow footpath through the wilderness. In the portions of the AT that were relocated and reconstructed by the National Park Service (NPS), the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) implemented authorized trail construction guidelines that were developed in the west coast national parks and adapted to the specifics of the east coast landscape. They included a four-foot-wide trail bed and followed principles and practices of NPS design, now characterized as NPS Rustic style.

The period of significance for the AT in Shenandoah NP is 1928-1942. It begins in 1928 with the PATC's initial development of the trail that extended through 1930, as is still evident in sections along the high ridges. The period continues when almost immediately upon initial completion, the PATC began relocating and reconstructing portions of the AT because of the construction of Skyline Drive. While it is not known for certain how much of the trail remains intact from the 1928-1930 period, the overall location of the trail and its connection to the larger AT remains from this time. In 1933, the PATC's work on the trail was assisted by the CCC who arrived to work on the AT, Skyline Drive, side trails, cabins, and shelters, and to plant vegetation. By 1938, the majority of the relocations and reconstructions of portions of the AT were finished. The period of significance extends to 1942 when the last of the CCC trail refinements, including side trails, cabins and shelters, and plantings, were completed and the CCC at Shenandoah NP was disbanded because of World War II. By this time, the AT within the park was well-established and connected north and south to the rest of the AT as a regional and recreational trail that stretched 2,175 miles from Georgia to Maine, which was hiked by thousands. Today, the AT in Shenandoah NP retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance during the fourteen-year period of significance.

Sections of the AT in Shenandoah NP, primarily its crossings along Skyline Drive, are listed in the National Register as a contributing resource in association with Skyline Drive, but the trail itself is not separately listed. The entire Appalachian Trail in Shenandoah NP is eligible for the National Register and may be considered as a separate historic district, as part of the Skyline Drive Historic District, or as a district under the multiple listing, "Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks (1993)." Other areas contemporary to the AT in Shenandoah NP have been listed in the National Register such as Skyland, Big Meadows, Park Headquarters, Piney River, Simmons Gap, and Lewis Mountain.

The 2,175-mile Appalachian Trail, in its entirety, has not been formally evaluated for its eligibility to be listed in the National Register. However, outside of Shenandoah NP, several other sections of the AT have been determined to be eligible or are listed in the National Register. The entire AT corridor in New Jersey, including sections in Passaic, Sussex, and Warren Counties, was determined eligible for the National Register in 1978. A section of the AT in Massachusetts was listed as part of the Mount Greylock National Historic District in 1998, which recognizes and preserves the work of the CCC. A section of the original trail in Vermont that crosses the Pico/Killington range was determined eligible for the National Register by the Vermont State Historic Preservation Officer. Similarly, the section of trail through the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area in Pennsylvania was determined eligible for the National Register by the NPS.

National Register Criterion A:

The AT in Shenandoah NP is significant under Criterion A for its association with early regional planning to establish a connected greenway corridor on the East Coast. In October 1921, the Journal of the American Institute of Architects published Benton MacKaye's article "An Appalachian Trail: A Project in Regional Planning." MacKaye called for the creation of a continuous wilderness footpath along the Appalachian Range from Maine to Georgia to provide respite from encroaching civilization. MacKaye envisioned the

trail as the backbone of an entire wilderness system of wild reservations and parks, which linked together by side trails, would be a reservoir for maintaining the primeval and rural environment of the Appalachians.

In 1928, MacKaye, who had become a highly respected member of the American Regional Planning Association of America founded in 1923, published *The New Exploration: A Philosophy of Regional Planning*. The text expanded his theory of controlling the growth of metropolitan areas in the eastern United States and drew attention to the critical importance of preserving the Appalachians as an “indigenous” environment (Maddux, 1997).

MacKaye inspired the growing number of hiking and outdoor recreational enthusiasts throughout the eastern United States. They seized upon his idea of the connected trail and started to develop the trail through previously-established and new trail clubs. The trail’s supporters instantly recognized the scenic and recreational value of Virginia’s Blue Ridge Mountains, and thus the area became an early focus of trail planning. In March 1925, the first Appalachian Trail Conference was held in Washington, D.C., and a committee formed that represented the numerous geographical regions crossed by the proposed trail. William A. Welch, manager of the Palisades Interstate Park in New York and New Jersey and a member of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission, was appointed chairman of the committee (Maddux, 1997:96).

In November of 1927, the PATC was organized in Washington, D.C. by Myron H. Avery, who was elected PATC president and held the position until 1940 when the former naval officer, an expert of maritime and admiralty law, was called again to war. It was during his tenure that work on the AT in Shenandoah NP began in 1928. Avery was also chairman of the Appalachian Trail Conference from 1931 to 1952. The hard-driving Avery was devoted completely to the development of the AT in Shenandoah NP and rallied AT hikers and volunteer trail-builders to work on establishing the trail and its side trails starting in 1928. Using their own axes and pruning tools, the PATC began to clear the trail and build numerous side trails which provided access to other peaks and hollows. The alignment of the AT, generally along the ridgeline in a north-south direction, was completed in Shenandoah NP in 1930. The PATC’s early construction of the AT founded a tradition of volunteer management and maintenance of the entire AT that continues today.

In 1931, when construction of the Skyline Drive along the park’s ridgeline began, Avery chose to work with the NPS to align and improve portions of the trail where the trail and Drive conflicted. Others, such as George Pollock Jr., founder and manager of Skyland and a founder of the PATC, hosted meetings at the resort to participate in laying out the new road and revised portions of the trail and also to promote the interests of the resort. MacKaye, however, never could reconcile his vision of a “footpath through the wilderness” with the proximity of the Skyline Drive motorway and developed areas in Shenandoah NP, and he had a permanent falling out with Avery because of it (Schaeffer, 1999). MacKaye left the ATC and went on to found the Wilderness Society.

The AT in Shenandoah NP is also significant under Criterion A for its association with the development of Shenandoah NP, one of the first and largest national parks established in the eastern United States. By the 1920s, most of the national parks had been established in the West, but were largely inaccessible to the large population centers of the East. In annual reports of 1919 and 1923, NPS Director Stephen P. Mather pointed out the need for eastern national parks. A growing concern among private citizens, planners, politicians, and conservationists raised interest in developing a national park in the Southern Appalachians close to the nearby metropolitan areas. In February 1925, Congress authorized the Secretary of the Interior to determine park boundaries in the Blue Ridge Mountains, Great Smoky Mountains, and Mammoth Cave region of Kentucky, and to accept offers of land donations to create such parks. By April 1926, the volunteer Shenandoah Appalachian National Park Committee had reported pledges of more than one million dollars to purchase lands for the proposed park (Engle, 2006:17). In May 1926, Congress and President Calvin Coolidge authorized the establishment of Shenandoah NP, although no funds were allocated for land purchases. Private citizens and the Commonwealth of Virginia were charged with acquiring the land (Maddux, 1997). In December 1935, Congress formally established the park when Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes accepted 176,430 acres from the state (Schaeffer, 1999). On July 3, 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated Shenandoah NP in a ceremony held in Big Meadows.

From its beginning as a collection of privately-owned and state lands within the proposed national park

boundaries, a key feature of Shenandoah NP was the AT, which formed the pedestrian spine of the park. The AT took advantage of the park's spectacular natural setting, following the crest line of the Blue Ridge and providing panoramic views of the Piedmont Plain to the east and the Shenandoah Valley to the west. Almost as soon as it was done, the trail and the PATC had to contend with the growth of the new park, and in particular with the development of what would become the park's vehicular spine, Skyline Drive. The first section of Skyline Drive was originally envisioned to connect President Herbert Hoover's Rapidan Camp to Skyland but later evolved to extend over 100-miles from Waynesboro to Front Royal. Like the AT, the route of Skyline Drive followed the ridgeline. The PATC had to negotiate to keep the trail where it was already established, but in the places where the trail and drive overlapped, the PATC was required to shift the AT away from the road (Schaeffer, 1999).

By 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal programs brought an unprecedented infusion of professionals and laborers to generate improvements in state and national parks. Federal programs provided economic relief in the form of employment for both skilled and unskilled laborers. The AT within Shenandoah NP was just one focus of the New Deal labor that improved the park's circulation systems, which gestured to the characteristics of nineteenth-century urban parks as developed by Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. The motorway, Skyline Drive, was developed along the ridgeline and served as the park's main "spine." The AT also traced the linear ridgeline in the park and was multi-use, forming the primary pedestrian and equestrian-way. A far-reaching network of side trails were blazed to link with the AT and Skyline Drive and became secondary pedestrian routes for hiking to waterfalls, springs, ridge-tops, and rock formations. Some of the pre-existing roads were upgraded into a system of "truck trails" and used for fire and service roads, also connected to the AT and Skyline Drive (McClelland, 1998:181). The development of roads and trails benefited from the teams of NPS landscape architects, architects, and engineers, as well as the craftsmanship of the CCC, all of which contributed to the construction of Skyline Drive and the relocation and reconstruction of considerable portions of the AT.

National Register Criterion C:

The AT in Shenandoah NP is significant under Criterion C for illustrating American park design and in particular for reflecting the NPS Rustic style (1916-1942) that had been developed and refined in national parks in the West and implemented by the CCC. The historical underpinnings of the NPS Rustic style have their origins in the American landscape design profession's principles and practices, which derived from the nineteenth-century ideas about landscape preservation and harmonization of built features. The origin of these tenets reach back to Andrew Jackson Downing's writings in the *Horticulturist* magazine and his seminal *Treatise on the Theory and Practice of Landscape Gardening* (1841), which were influential in establishing the concept of the pleasure ground and urban park. According to Downing, a visitor, while moving along a walk, path, or trail, experienced a carefully designed sequence. The pathway or trail was not merely a conduit, but integral to the created structure of the landscape. Scenic views, topographic changes, and natural features such as vegetation, streams, and rock outcroppings were revealed, modified, or enhanced to inspire an awe and reverence for nature and a rejuvenation of the visitor's spirit. This philosophy carried through to the design details for using native construction materials, naturalistic plantings, and incorporating vernacular forms of construction derived from traditions of pioneer settlers. On an immense scale, the national parks were very large pleasure grounds created for the American public to experience wilderness and restore their connection to nature. Downing's concept was codified in the March 1, 1872, law that established Yellowstone NP, the nation's first "public park or pleasuring-ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people" (McClelland, 1998:34).

One of Downing's most avid twentieth century followers, Frank A. Waugh, landscape architect with the U.S. Forest Service and author of *The Natural Style in Landscape Gardening* (1917), also was important to the NPS's design of parks, particularly with the use of native vegetation, and road and trail development (McClelland, 1998:184). Waugh appreciated Downing's verve for native plants and encouraged the American public to celebrate indigenous plants, not only for the beauty of their flowers and foliage, but also for their character-enhancing abilities when applied to a rustic style landscape. Waugh used Downing's plant theory as a base for his own and expanded it to the larger context. Waugh saw trails (and roads) as providing the framework for the entire design of the recreational area within national parks. By 1915, trail-building methods had been established in western national parks such as Yosemite. However, with site conditions varying greatly between different national parks, additional techniques were developed in order to implement the latest design ideas across the country. In the next fifteen years, improvements were made and in 1934 the NPS published the first standards in trail construction, which were employed in

constructing the AT in Shenandoah NP. NPS landscape architects located trails, revealed scenic features and views, and preserved significant vegetation, rockwork, and other natural features (McClelland, 1998:242). They were concerned with camouflaging the trail's structure and erasing signs of construction for an overall harmonious effect. Engineers worked to maintain a grade not exceeding eight percent and used switchbacks only when necessary. Their standard was a refined four-foot-wide trail bed built on a gravel base, with tree stumps, rocks, and roots removed (USDI, 1937).

PATC and NPS trail construction exhibited distinct techniques. In the late 1920s, the PATC worked to cut and mark the trail, and created a footpath by clearing brush and branches to allow for easy passage (PATC, 1929:1-2). The two-foot-wide tread way was not graded or surfaced. The NPS development of the AT within Shenandoah through the 1930s reflects the NPS principles and practices of park landscape design implemented in state and national parks through federal work-relief programs of the 1930s, primarily the CCC. Designed through the NPS Branch of Plans and Design, the development of the trail according to the NPS Rustic style offered the hiker and recreational enthusiast an experience of nature that was both romantic and wild. The CCC protected and preserved the natural scenery and features by routing the AT around large rock outcrops and ancient trees, and by prohibiting use of exotic plants. Along the trail, the CCC revealed scenic vistas at key intervals and developed overlooks. They avoided right angles and straight lines in the trail and created a sinuous line that provided a sense of mystery and surprise. The CCC used native plant materials, such as oak, mountain laurel, witch hazel, and Virginia creeper. The CCC also transplanted existing and planted new native trees, shrubs, and groundcovers to erase the scars of construction and earlier land uses such as grazing and farming. Buildings and structures, such as retaining walls and trailside shelters and huts, were constructed of local materials such as chestnut and stone, and were designed in a romantic evocation of pioneering building techniques through the use of dry-laid masonry and log construction. At the same time, trail markers were created in a modern, stylized design using concrete and stamped metal that was readily recognizable within the natural setting (McClelland, 1998:242).

The NPS Rustic style is still evident in the AT's landscape features, including twelve cabins and shelters that date from the historic period. Skilled stonework can be seen in the more than 15,000 linear feet of retaining walls that still support the trail and integrate it into the rocky landscape. So too is the graceful alignment of the trail that sweeps around the shoulders of mountains and highlights such natural features as looming rock outcrops or the sound of nearby splashing stream.

National Register Significance Criteria:

Significance Criterion A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

Significance Criterion C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

National Register Criteria Consideration:

National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes):

Time Period: CE 1928 - CE 1942

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Creating Social Institutions and Movements	Recreation	General Recreation	
Expressing Cultural Values	Landscape Architecture	Regional Planning	
Expressing Cultural Values	Landscape Architecture	The 1930's: Era Of Public Works	
Shaping the Political Landscape	Political and Military Affairs 1865-1939	The Great Depression And The New Deal, 1929-1941	
Transforming the Environment	Conservation of Natural Resources	Origin And Development Of The National Park Service	
Transforming the Environment	Conservation of Natural Resources	Range And Forest Protection	
Transforming the Environment	Conservation of Natural Resources	Scenic Preservation	
Transforming the Environment	Conservation of Natural Resources	The Conservation Movement Matures 1908-1941	
Transforming the Environment	Conservation of Natural Resources	The Great Depression And Conservation	
Transforming the Environment	Conservation of Natural Resources	Wilderness System	
Transforming the Environment	Historic Preservation	The Federal Government Enters The Movement	

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Community Planning and Development

Area of Significance Subcategory: None

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Conservation

Area of Significance Subcategory: None

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Entertainment - Recreation

Area of Significance Subcategory: None

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Landscape Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory: None

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Politics - Government

Area of Significance Subcategory: None

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Social History

Area of Significance Subcategory: None

Explanatory Narrative:

NRIS Information:

NRIS ID:	97000375
Primary Certification Date:	04/28/1997
NRIS ID:	97001112
Primary Certification Date:	09/19/1997
NRIS ID:	03001251
Primary Certification Date:	12/05/2003

State Register Documentation:

Identification Number:	DHE 069-00234-0019
Name:	Skyline Drive Historic District
Listed Date:	07/03/1997

National Historic Landmarks:

National Historic Landmark? No

Theme:

Contributing:

NHL ID:

NHL URL:

Date:

Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:

World Heritage Site:

World Heritage Site? No

Category:

WHS ID:

WHS URL:

Date:

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape: No

Chronology and Physical History

Chronology:

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
BCE 7000 - 1600	Settled	First humans in the Blue Ridge Mountains occupy seasonal encampments.
CE 1000	Farmed/Harvested	Farming develops in the valleys.
CE 1669	Explored	Dr. John Lederer, first European to record exploration in this area of the Blue Ridge Mountains, describes a forest full of game and a large open area believed to be Big Meadows.
CE 1700 - 1799	Settled	Immigrants from Tidewater area come to Piedmont region and from Pennsylvania to Shenandoah Valley, leading to disappearance or departure of Native Americans from area.
CE 1750 - 1830	Settled	Settlers move from lower elevations into the Blue Ridge Mountain hollows, where they pursue farming, grazing, timbering, and hunting game.
CE 1830 - 1888	Built	Recreational use of the Blue Ridge Mountains begins about 1830 with the opening of Black Rock Springs Hotel, south of current Route 33. The first recreational summer outing at Skyland is led by George F. Pollock, Jr. in 1888.
CE 1921	Established	Benton MacKaye publishes "An Appalachian Trail: A Project of Regional Planning," establishing the vision for the Appalachian Trail.
CE 1925	Established	Benton MacKaye establishes Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC).
CE 1926	Established	May 22: Congress authorizes Shenandoah National Park (NP), but without funds for land purchases.
CE 1927 - 1928	Established	Myron H. Avery organizes Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC).
CE 1928	Built	PATC begins building the Appalachian Trail (AT) from Thornton Gap to Skyland resort.
CE 1929 - 1930	Built	PATC continues the AT south from Skyland to Swift Run Gap.
CE 1929 - 1939	Built	PATC builds side trails that connect the AT to the tops of other peaks and down into hollows.
CE 1930	Built	PATC builds Meadow Spring Shelter and Sexton Shelter.
CE 1930	Built	PATC completes the building of the AT in Shenandoah NP.
CE 1931	Moved	Contractors hired by the Bureau of Public Roads begin construction of Skyline Drive. It causes the PATC to begin relocating portions of the AT from Thornton Gap to Skyland.
CE 1933 - 1942	Built	Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) arrives in May and helps with Skyline Drive construction as well as relocation and reconstruction of portions of the AT which includes building stone retaining walls, culverts, edging, and spring heads.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1933 - 1942	Planted	CCC plants native species such as mountain laurel, witch hazel, and oak along the AT.
CE 1935	Reconstructed	CCC completes reconstruction of the AT in the Central District from Thornton to Swift Run Gap.
CE 1935	Established	December 26: Secretary of the Interior accepts deeds for park lands from the Commonwealth of Virginia.
CE 1936	Established	July 3: President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicates Shenandoah NP.
CE 1936	Built	CCC builds Rock Spring Cabin and Lewis Spring Shelter.
CE 1937	Built	CCC builds Pocosin Cabin and rebuilds Sexton Shelter.
CE 1937	Built	Last mile of the entire AT completed at Mt. Sugarloaf, Maine.
CE 1938	Built	Most trail relocations and reconstruction through Shenandoah NP completed by this time. At this time, trail management is under the direction of the National Park Service (NPS).
CE 1938	Established	Appalachian Trailway agreements signed with NPS, U.S. Forest Service, and ATC
CE 1939	Reconstructed	CCC rebuilds Meadow Spring Shelter.
CE 1939 - 1940	Built	CCC builds Hawksbill Gap Shelter.
CE 1940	Built	CCC builds Shaver Hollow, Bear Fence, and South River Shelters.
CE 1942	Abandoned	CCC camps close and the program is ended because of World War II.
CE 1945	Established	Myron Avery notes that graded trails have matured with vegetation and mosses.
CE 1946	Destroyed	Meadow Spring Shelter burns and is not rebuilt.
CE 1948	Established	Earl Shaffer completes first thru-hike of the AT.
CE 1950	Naturalized	Old farm fields along the AT return to forest from earlier years of clear-cutting and farming.
CE 1955	Established	Emma Gatewood is the first woman to complete an AT thru-hike.
CE 1960 - 1961	Moved	AT is relocated west of the Panorama facility with the construction of the Lee Highway/Route 211 overpass.
CE 1960 - 1970	Built	NPS builds Byrd's Nest 2 and 3.
CE 1968	Established	AT becomes the first National Scenic Trail on the east coast with the signing of the National Trails System Act, Public Law 90-543. Appalachian National Scenic Trail Advisory Council (ANSTAC) charged with right-of-way selection, marking and maintenance, and general administration of the AT. PATC becomes a partner of the NPS.
CE 1970	Established	Master National Park Service/Appalachian Trail Conference cooperative agreements signed. Relocations within twenty feet of the centerline do not require pre-approval.
CE 1970 - 1980	Removed	Shelters removed from the AT because of overuse: Hawksbill Gap, Lewis Spring, and Shaver Hollow.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1970 - 1980	Built	NPS builds Rock Spring Hut from remains of Shaver Hollow and Hawksbill Shelter.
CE 1976	Conserved	Congress sets aside 80,000 acres in Shenandoah NP as wilderness, or approximately 2/5 of the total parklands. The AT does not travel through the wilderness area in the Central District.
CE 1978	Established	President Jimmy Carter signs into law AT legislative amendments including a \$90 million commitment in funds to protect the AT. The law allows for the purchase of lands adjacent to the South District of Shenandoah NP to preserve a wider trail corridor. Appalachian National Scenic Trail designated as a unit of the National Park system.
CE 1980 - 1990	Altered	Gypsy moth epidemic destroys foliage in Shenandoah NP and begins to change the vegetative character of the AT.
CE 1981	Established	Appalachian Trail Comprehensive Plan passes as Public Law 95-625 and outlines how the AT is to be managed and maintained.
CE 1983	Established	Appalachian Trail Conference enters into a cooperative agreement with NPS for management of the AT. Shenandoah NP and PATC continue their partnership in managing and maintaining the trail.
CE 1988	Moved	NPS relocates AT from western hillside below Skyland dining hall to the eastern water tower location between Skyline Drive and Skyline Access Road.
CE 1995 - 2000	Altered	Hemlock wooly adelgid begins to devastate the hemlock populations in Shenandoah NP. The AT's character impacted by loss of hemlocks.

Physical History:

8,000-9,000 YEARS AGO to 17th CENTURY: NATIVE AMERICAN USE

This area of the Blue Ridge Mountains was known and used by Paleo-Indians for many centuries, with the first human presence beginning about 8,000-9,000 years ago, sometime after the last Ice Age. The Paleo-Indians were hunters and gatherers who used the mountains for seasonal camps. With the development of farming in the valleys by 1000AD, Native American use of the mountains focused on game hunting (Resource Management Plan-hereafter called RMP, 1998:23). The Manocan and Manahoac tribes used this area, and a buffalo path is said to have passed through Rockfish Gap at what is now the southern most end of Shenandoah National Park (NP) (Writers Program of the WPA, 1940).

1669 to 1926: EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT, SUBSISTENCE FARMING, MINING, AND RECREATION

The first recorded European exploration of this area of the Blue Ridge Mountains took place in 1669. Dr. John Lederer, who led the party, described the woods as wild and full of game. In 1716, Alexander Spotswood, Governor of Virginia, led an expedition across the Blue Ridge to encourage settlement in the area, likely crossing at Swift Run Gap or Big Meadows (Lambert, 1989:32-33). English, Scots-Irish, and Germans then immigrated to the area from the Tidewater to the Piedmont, and from Pennsylvania to the Shenandoah Valley (Maddux et al., 1992:7-2). Throughout this time, the local Native Americans were dying of introduced disease, and by 1800 they had disappeared completely or had moved away (Lambert, 1989:21-22; RMP, 1998:23).

As the better farmlands were taken, new settlers moved into the mountain hollows where they relied on hunting, farming, grazing, and timbering that led to clearing of the land (RMP, 1998:23). The openings in the forest were later advanced by the arrival of the chestnut blight in the early part of the 1900s, which killed the chestnut trees and left “ghost forests” of their sculptural remains. The blight also robbed the local people of nut crops and rot-resistant wood that was suitable for construction (Engle, 1999:67).

At some sites, industrial uses also developed in the 1800s. In the Stony Man Mountain Tract, from 1845 to 1850, copper was mined and charcoal was produced for smelting. Copper mining continued in the mountains into the 1920s. Iron and manganese also was mined in the Blue Ridge (Lambert, 1989:77-85). Recreational use of the mountains began around 1830 with the opening of Black Rock Springs Hotel, south of current Route 33. The first recreational summer outing was held in 1888 on the Stony Man Tract Skyland, led by George Pollock, Jr., who recognized the area’s recreational potential. This outing eventually led to the establishment of a permanent mountain resort that would later be known as Skyland. In other areas, farming continued including raising livestock, growing corn, and planting orchards but slowed during the droughts of 1929-1930.

In 1921, Benton MacKaye published “An Appalachian Trail: A Project in Regional Planning.” The document was a synthesis of ideas from the recreational movement and from the growing interest in grappling with the modern day urban, suburban, and rural issues of regional planning. MacKaye, in his 1922 follow-up article, “Progress Toward the Appalachian Trail,” in *Appalachia*, said he hoped “To open the great eastern playground. Our ultimate aim is more than just a trail – it is a whole system of them, a cobweb planned to cover the mountains of the eastern country” (MacKaye, 1922: 244).

1926 to 1931: INITIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE PARK AND APPALACHIAN TRAIL

In 1926, Congress authorized Shenandoah National Park (NP) in Virginia's Blue Ridge area to provide a large, western-type park accessible from the population centers of the East Coast. However, the act did not provide federal funding to acquire land. Until it was officially established in 1935, park acreage was donated in its entirety by the Commonwealth of Virginia, which had purchased most of the land through condemnation (RMP, 1998:23). These transactions resulted in the removal of homesteads, farms, and previous uses from those lands (McClelland, 1998:290).

In 1927, the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) was organized by Myron H. Avery, and in 1928 construction of the Appalachian Trail (AT) in Shenandoah NP began (Lambert, 1979:159). Club members brought their own axes and pruning tools and began to clear the trail and by later that year had built the trail from Thornton Gap to the Skyland resort (PATC Bulletin #5, 1928; Engle, 2006: 159). Work continued into 1929 and a section south from Skyland to Fishers Gap was completed in the spring and by the fall the trail extended to Swift Run Gap. At the same time, another PATC crew was building the AT in the northern part of the Blue Ridge, from Chester Gap to Thornton Gap (PATC Bulletin #21, 1930). In addition to work on the AT, the crews also built Meadow Spring (1930) and Sexton (1930) Shelters in the Central District as well as numerous side trails that provided access to the tops of other peaks and down into hollows. By 1930, the PATC completed the southern portion of the AT from Swift Run Gap to Rockfish Gap, often using old roads. This marked the completion of the AT in Shenandoah NP.

1931 to 1942: SKYLINE DRIVE CONSTRUCTION, APPALACHIAN TRAIL RELOCATION AND RECONSTRUCTION, CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS, AND TRAIL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

President Franklin Roosevelt officially dedicated Shenandoah NP on July 3, 1936, but many park developments had already been underway. By this time, portions of the AT's initial route had been relocated and reconstructed to accommodate what was envisioned as the park's most important asset. As described in the Report of the Southern Appalachian National Park Committee from June 30, 1931: "the greatest single feature, however, is a possible skyline drive along the mountaintop, following a continuous ridge and looking down westerly on the Shenandoah Valley...and commanding a view [to the east] of the Piedmont Plain...Few scenic drives in the world could surpass it (Engle, 1999:15).

In 1931, the National Park Service (NPS) announced intentions to build Skyline Drive along the ridgeline. Construction was accomplished by private contractors, and the first road section was to be from President Herbert Hoover's Rapidan Camp to the Skyland Resort, some twenty miles, but evolved into a thirty-four mile segment from Swift Run Gap to Thornton Gap. This section, called the Central District, was completed by 1934. The thirty-two mile North District section, from Thornton Gap to Front Royal, opened to the public in October 1936 and the thirty-two mile South District section, from Swift Run Gap to Rockfish Gap, opened to the public in August 1939 (Maddux, 1995:8-9,10,11).

Skyline Drive was also routed along the ridgeline in Shenandoah NP, and from 1931-1938 the PATC worked to relocate and reconstruct portions of the AT that were supplanted by the drive. In 1933, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) arrived in Shenandoah to work on the drive, the AT move, and other projects. The CCC program was created during the Depression as an economic stimulus aimed at improving and supporting national parks and forests. CCC projects in Shenandoah NP included the construction of fire roads, trails, shelters, and comfort stations, removal of dead chestnut trees, and cultivation of native vegetation for replanting (Figs. 4-5). Work also included installation of utilities, eradication of white pine blister rust, and improvements to streams (Engle, 2001).

The CCC worked under the direction of NPS landscape architects and engineers who had established general design guidelines in the 1918 NPS park design and planning policy. According to the policy, roads, trails, buildings, and other improvements were required to harmonize with the landscape (McClelland, 1998:135). By the late 1920s, the NPS focused on designing and building trails that could "serve both the horseback rider and the hiker" (McClelland, 1998:87).

By 1934, the CCC was at work on the AT in all three sections (North, Central, and South Districts). With work in the Central District nearing completion, Skyland's George Pollock Jr. went so far as to publicize "a through bridle path built along the crest of the ridge, superseding the old Appalachian Trail" (Lambert, 1979:163). In October 1934, the NPS Engineering Division published its first set of standards for foot and bridle trails, which guided the CCC's work on the AT: "...Specifications for trail building called for a four-foot standard width, which could be developed by cutting into the slope or by benching the supporting ground with a dry-laid wall of large stones when the slope was very steep. Dry random rubble walls could be built down hill to retain soil and rocks on steep slopes or uphill to retain material above the trail and prevent slides" (McClelland, 1998:242).

By 1935, the CCC had progressed with the work on the AT, with some portions relocated and reconstructed and others reconstructed in place in the Central District from Thornton Gap to Swift Run Gap and a portion in the South District from Brown's Gap to Black Rock Gap. In 1936, work on the North District section of the AT was finished (CCC Progress Chart 4/1/35; Shenandoah NP Master Plan text, 1936). By 1937, the CCC had built three hiker accommodations in the Central District: Rock Spring Cabin, Lewis Spring Shelter, and Pocosin Cabin. They also rebuilt the Sexton Shelter in 1937. A milestone was reached for the entire AT in 1937 when the last mile of the AT from Georgia to Maine was opened at Mount Sugarloaf, Maine.

In 1937, CCC trail design and construction was articulated in project-training manuals developed by

the U.S. Department of the Interior, such as Emergency Conservation Work, Project Training – Brick and Stone Work and Emergency Conservation Work, Project Training – Construction of Trails. These standards, though, were already used in practice and were used in developing the AT–Central District in Shenandoah NP. These particular manuals included straightforward text and simple line drawings showing how-to and how-not-to examples of construction (Fig. 6). Drawings showed how to cut a trail out of a steep slope, on a gentle slope, and across flat ground. On slopes, the recommended cross-pitch was $\frac{1}{2}$ " per foot or 2" in the typical trail width of four feet (Figs. 7-8). The Construction of Trails manual detailed the level of work required in trail construction and advocated a team approach:

"using the best trail builders to lead the line...starting construction from a flagged location and approval from all Branches interested in its construction...the landscape architect who is charged with utilizing the scenic features and blending the trail with the landscape; the engineer who is concerned with problems of construction; the forester whose duties involve the protection and propagation of natural cover; the geologist who will assist in locating the trail so as to take advantage of geographic and geologic features and protect them from destruction; and the wildlife technician in whose care the zoological and botanical values are entrusted" (USDI, Construction of Trails, 1937:2).

Natural features were acknowledged and carefully considered in trail construction. As seen with the AT–Central District, trails were often located to pass rock outcrops that were very large, displayed local geologic history, or had curious formations. According to the Construction of Trails manual: "If the trail passes a rock face or has been of necessity cut into a rock exposure, the only work required is the removal of loose rock which might endanger users of the trail...exposures of the bare rock often contain important stories which enhance the value of the trail. This is also true of some cut banks of unconsolidated material" (USDI, Construction of Trails, 1937:6,8).

Trails were built to preserve as much of the existing plantings as possible, which followed the developing program of landscape naturalization. By 1930, the NPS had established policies which excluded all exotic seeds, plants, and animals from the national parks (McClelland, 1998:97). Each area to be developed was first carefully studied to understand the local plant ecology and then planted accordingly.

"Some planting may be done by the foreman (during his construction) with the material he takes out of the right-of-way when he is clearing. Good plants should be carefully taken up when clearing and planted naturally in places that are bare or they may be used to conceal construction. In all the planting policy should be to create a condition that is as natural as possible" (Fig. 9) (USDI, Construction of Trails, 1937:25).

Trees also were considered an asset and preserved wherever possible:

"Where trails pass close to large trees and the location is kept below the tree, the type of construction shown in Sketch No. 16 should be adopted. This will make it possible to build the trail to the proper grade and location without injury to the tree roots" (USDI, Construction of Trails, 1937:11) (Fig. 10).

CCC work also improved the infrastructure of the portions of the trail that were relocated and reconstructed through the use of naturalistic local stone retaining walls, culverts, edging, and springheads. In the Brick and Stone Work manual:

"Rubble masonry may be laid coursed or uncoursed....Most of the low retaining walls, slope walls, and miscellaneous structures in park projects are laid up in rubble masonry. It fits into the surroundings better than more formal kinds of masonry, and is usually built of stones found nearby. For these projects, it is the most attractive masonry when well built, and satisfies all of the requirements of such field structures. More than that, rubble masonry is a thing of beauty when well done, and its composition and pattern call for good judgment and imagination...Rubble masonry is one of the best things that an enrollee (CCC) can learn to handle, for experts in this trade are in demand, and architects and landscape architects always have need of men who can lay up this type of masonry in an artistic manner. The thing we find most beautiful is that which satisfies our sense of proportion and of suitability of materials, and our feeling of good taste in design. It will be simple and appropriate, in a pattern pleasing in its variety and balance, and having unity with its surroundings." (USDI, Brick and Stone Work ,1937:9,11) (Fig. 11).

In 1938, the CCC concluded its work on relocating and reconstructing portions of the AT within

Shenandoah NP (Lambert, 1979:181). Around this time, the number of CCC enrollees decreased as more jobs became available elsewhere (Lambert, 2001:263). However, they continued to work with the PATC on the park's trail system where it connected the AT to many side trails. The CCC built shelters along the AT–Central District including rebuilding the original PATC Meadow Spring (1939, burned in 1946), Hawksbill Gap (1939-1940), and Shaver Hollow, Bear Fence, and South River (1940) (PATC Guide, 1959:32-51). In 1942, with the United States' attention on World War II, the CCC was disbanded.



Figure 4: Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) photo shows men conducting preliminary work on the AT south of Crescent Rock. The trail bed was built out from the steep slope to support the trail circa 1935. (Shenandoah NP Archives)



Figure 5: Mid-construction of the AT south of Crescent Rock. The trail bed was cut out of the slope and built up from below with retaining walls. (Shenandoah NP Archives)

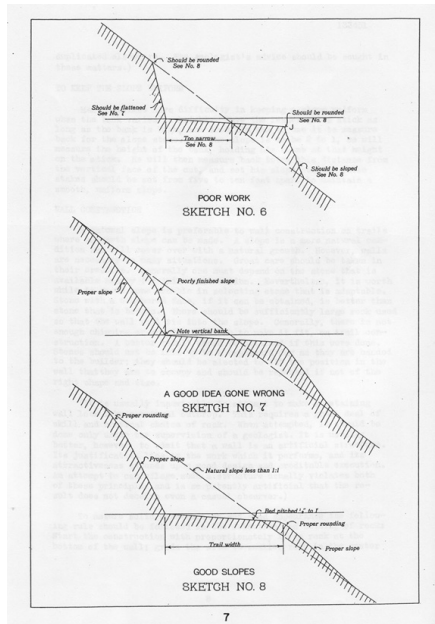


Figure 6: U.S. Department of the Interior 1937 manual, *Construction of Trails*, used by the CCC. Diagram illustrates the proper construction of bench cuts for side-hill trails. (Shenandoah NP Archives)



Figure 7: CCC photo showing completed AT to Mary's Rock circa 1935. The trail engages the topography and winds among the rock outcrops. The trail bed is supported by stone edging and low retaining walls. (Shenandoah NP Archives)



Figure 8: CCC photo showing completed AT to Mary's Rock, circa 1935. The trail has a width of 42-48 inches, is surfaced with gravel, and is supported by a stone retaining wall. (Shenandoah NP Archives)

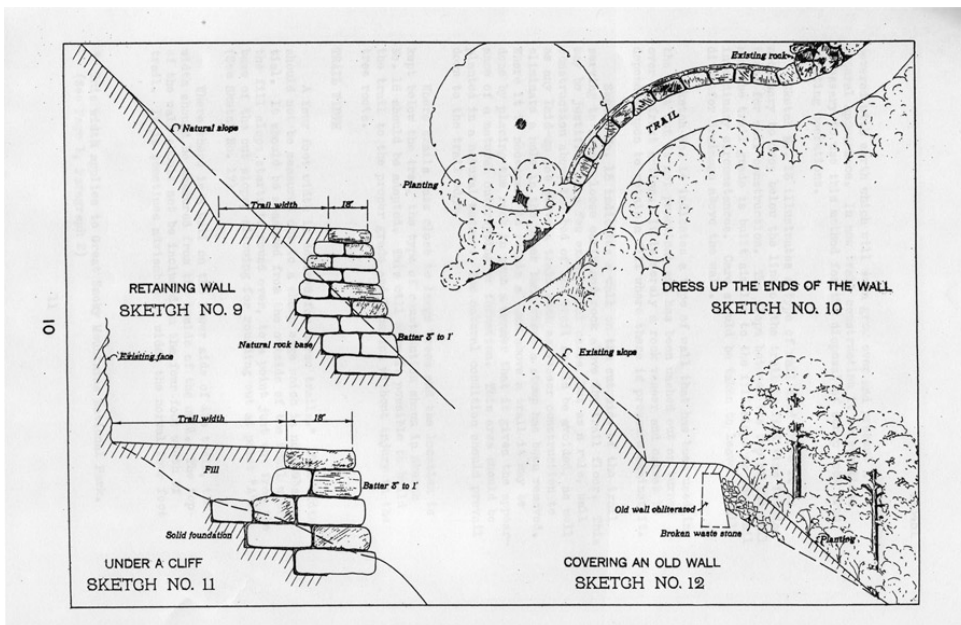


Figure 9: U.S. Department of the Interior 1937 manual, *Construction of Trails*, illustrates proper construction of retaining walls. The structure widens under the tread for durability and drainage. (Shenandoah NP Archives)

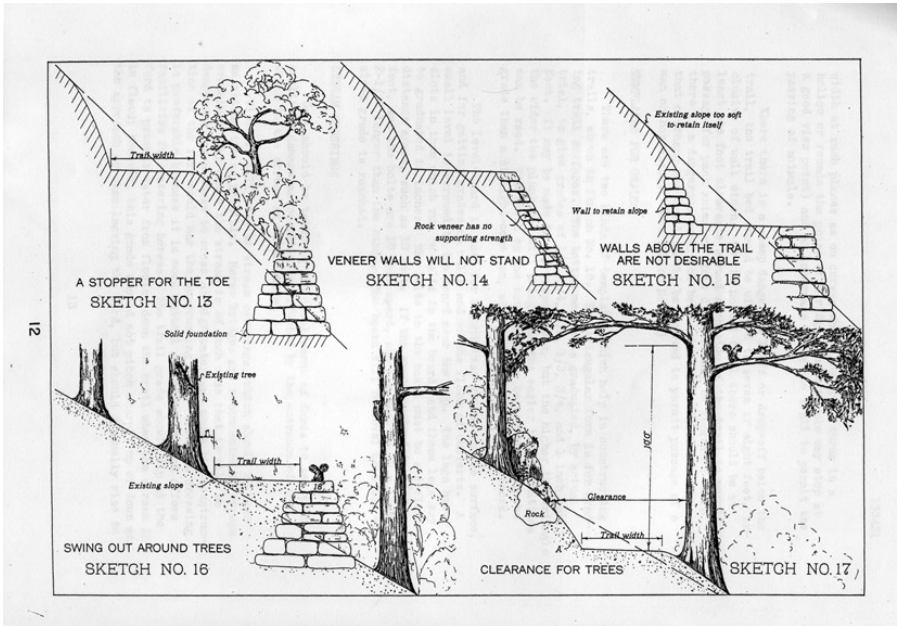


Figure 10: The 1937 manual, *Construction of Trails*, shows proper construction of retaining walls around trees, dissuades use of walls above the trail, and suggests a 10-foot clearance for horses. (Shenandoah NP Archives)



Figure 11: CCC photo showing the AT to Mary's Rock, circa 1935, and a large stone retaining that supports a trail bed built out from the steep slope. Both the trail and wall display a graceful sweeping curve. (Shenandoah NP Archives)

1942 to 1956: WORLD WAR II AND RENEWED RECREATIONAL INTEREST

With the departure of the CCC, the NPS assumed “the whole weight of the park work” (Lambert, 2001:263). The war brought rationing of gas and tires, and motoring through Shenandoah NP virtually stopped. Yet hiking continued, although somewhat less so, and skiing the trails became a new, albeit occasional, use. Although skiing focused on the Pinnacles area, one ranger reported, “there was also skiing on “many” open areas...with varying slopes and on graded trails with their standard four-foot width because of the variety of scenic beauty which they offer” (Quoted in Lambert, 1979:184). Park Superintendent Freeland, in a 1940s letter to Jean Stephenson, Appalachian Trail Conference newsletter editor, emphasized:

“...There are many groups making three to ten day trips, utilizing the lean-tos. Apparently, the curtailment of normal vacations and normal living has resulted in a greater urge to seek the mountains. After all, the conception of the Appalachian Trail was needed immediately after the last war, and to meet a greatly felt need; and we feel that if it can be done we should see it is maintained, not only for use now, but so it will be available when the war is over and the men returning” (Quoted in Lambert, 1979:185).

In 1945, Myron Avery returned to Shenandoah NP from Navy service in the war and saw that the years had weathered the trail, vegetation had filled in, and moss started covering the rocks. He remained concerned about the park’s combined use of horse and foot trails, and in time equestrian use of the AT was eventually banned:

“The war...has brought a real gain to the Park Service trail systems in the East...But the gains of this maturity may yet prove all too transient. It is a gain, which should be preserved at all costs. This factor presents, to my mind, one of the most serious problems of post-war planning...The Park Services does not recognize any distinction between trails for foot and horse travel. Presumably, its western experience has not indicated that combined use brings serious problems. It requires little observation, however, to make clear that all this maturity will be speedily and totally lost by any horseback travel. The moss and vegetation will be speedily chopped up. Drainage will wash off the soil, leaving only a small bed of rocks so unpleasant for foot travel. ...Superintendent Freeland declined to exclude horses from the graded trails” (Lambert, 1979:186).

After the war, visitation to the park eventually rebounded. By the 1950s the NPS was planning construction projects under a program called “Mission 66” that would help plan for an expected increase in visitation to national parks across the country.

1956 to Present: LEGISLATION, TRAIL ALIGNMENT, BUILT FEATURES, AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

NPS Director Conrad Wirth launched the ten-year Mission 66 program in 1956. For the AT–Central District this resulted in the construction of two shelters, Byrd’s Nest 2 and 3, building of a new highway overpass at Route 211 in 1960-1961, and creating a new Panorama facility south of Route 211.

The 1960s and 1970s continued to see an increase in visitation to Shenandoah NP and hiking of the AT. Use became increasingly multi-purpose throughout the park:

“Groups of day-hikers shepherded by leaders from different trail clubs had become common. Hikers also came as individuals, couples, and in family groups, and there was a surge in backcountry campers as well. Bicyclists and motorcyclists had definitely increased, and there were birders, wildflower enthusiasts, observers of ecology and the environments, fishermen, horseback riders, sunbathers, rock climbers, and seekers of old sites or cemeteries and legends of people who roamed or dwelt here...” (Lambert, 2001:273).

During this same period, a series of laws and agreements were introduced to help protect the AT and its environs. In 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the National Trails System Act which designated the AT as the first National Scenic Trail on the East Coast. The act stated that National Scenic Trails were for “recreation and for the conservation and enjoyment of the areas through which the trails would pass” (Foster, 1987:15, 16). The law charged the Appalachian National Scenic Trail Advisory Council (ANSTAC) with right-of-way selection, marking and maintenance, and the general administration of the AT (Foster, 1987:17). ANSTAC and the NPS signed cooperative agreements that permitted relocations of less than twenty feet from the centerline without going through an approval process. This allowed maintenance crews to shift the trail slightly when necessitated by erosion.

In 1976, 80,000 acres of Shenandoah NP were designated as wilderness area under the 1964 Wilderness Act in order to protect the overall wild character of the park. The AT–Central District benefited from this protection with the extensive naturalized forests from Panorama south to Big Meadows (Fig. 12). In 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed the Appalachian Trail legislative amendments (Foster, 1987:149). These laws provided new tools for land acquisition and funds to purchase additional lands near the trail corridor. In the AT–Central District, this primarily impacted viewsheds and protected further wilderness and side trails east of the AT from Stony to Fork Mountain and Cat Knob to Lewis Mountain. It allowed for the purchase of land in the Central District east from Thornton Gap and south to Stony Mountain. In 1981, a NPS Appalachian Trail Comprehensive Plan outlined how the AT was to be managed and maintained in light of its growing use and various outside pressures, and in 1983 the Appalachian Trail Conference entered into a cooperative agreement with the NPS for the management of the AT.

A significant relocation of the trail in the Central District occurred in 1988 when the portion of the AT passing through Skyland was relocated from the Passamaquoddy Trail west of the Skyland dining hall east of the resort to the Stony Man Nature Trail and past the water tank between Skyline Drive and the Skyland Access Road. Some shelters in the Central District were removed because of easy access and overuse such as the Shaver Hollow, Hawksbill Gap, and Lewis Spring shelters, or due to changes in use such as the South River shelter, which is now a PATC maintenance facility. New shelters also have been added to accommodate the needs of hikers, such as Byrd’s Nest 2 and 3, and Rock Spring Hut which was built from some of the salvaged materials from Shaver Hollow and Hawksbill Gap shelters (Green, 2006).

With the constant increase in use, much work has been accomplished to maintain the condition of the AT in Shenandoah NP. Over the years, some treadway surfaces have lost some of their layered material due to erosion and direct and recurring impacts on the surface. While the trail in the past was designated for both horse rider and hiker, horses are not currently allowed on the AT in the Central District. Wood waterbars that divert water off the trail have been replaced and new waterbars installed, and check dams that contain erodible soils have also been constructed. Corrugated metal

culvert pipes have been added when there was more water than a check dam or waterbar could handle. Stone edging and retaining walls have been repaired if needed, but some stone edging has become partially buried from the accumulation of leaf duff and soils dislodged by erosion. New signs have also been added to improve communication with hikers, and in the Central District include metal signs and signs with maps under plexi-glass.

The character of vegetation has also changed along the trail. Since the 1930s, Shenandoah NP has witnessed the gradual succession of open areas into secondary growth hardwood forests as well as the maturation of plant material installed by the CCC, and as intended by the NPS Rustic style. Mountain laurel proliferated and oaks, maples, and pines multiplied, vines crawled over rocks and up trees, and perennials spread into drifts. Bare mountainsides became covered in spring bloom and then fall color. As a full palette of native plant material has taken over, the AT has exchanged wide-open views for more selective ones.

In the 1980s, the gypsy moth epidemic devastated Shenandoah NP. The moths defoliated many of the deciduous trees, changing the character of the vegetation along the AT at the time. New plant growth replaced those that could not tolerate the successive defoliation. In the 1990s, another devastating infestation occurred with the arrival of the hemlock wooly adelgid. The loss of the hemlocks changed the character of some segments of the AT, whether walking along the trail or looking at a view in the distance. A hiker, while in the woods with hemlocks, would feel the density of the evergreen foliage and coolness from the shade. This darker and denser forest provides a significant contrast for the hiker when the AT would open up to a clearing. With the hemlocks mostly gone, the woodlands in some areas are lighter and hikers can see around and through the deciduous and understory trees. A rock outcrop may be revealed or a new view opened up. The hemlocks that survive are propagating and starting new stands, giving hope that resilient strains may yet develop. However, the wooly adelgid has destroyed some very old, large hemlocks.

Wilderness

In 1964, the United States Congress passed a law known as the Wilderness Act which created a National Wilderness Preservation System. The Act defined wilderness as “an area where earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.” Today over 100 million acres throughout the United States are protected as wilderness for present and future generations to explore and enjoy.

Shenandoah National Park contains nearly 80,000 acres of federally designated wilderness. Help protect this wilderness and other wild places by practicing the principles of *Leave No Trace*.

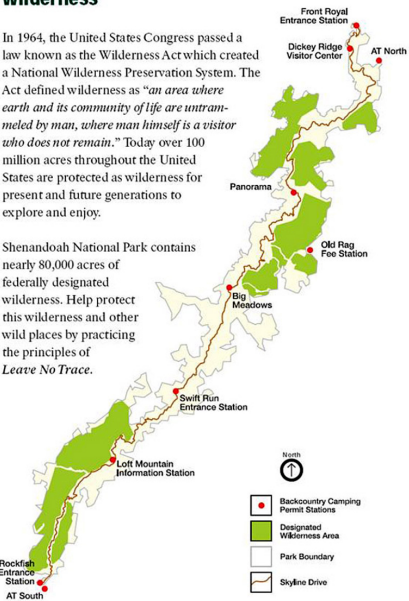


Figure 12: Shenandoah NP Wilderness Area map.

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	Outdoor Recreation-Other	No	Yes	Yes
Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	Outdoor Recreation-Other	Yes	No	Yes
Recreation/Culture	Recreation/Culture-Other	Recreation/Culture-Other	Yes	Yes	No

Public Access:

Public Access: Unrestricted

Public Access Narrative:

Public Access: Other Restrictions

Public Access Narrative:

Reservations are required at the cabins.

Associated Ethnographic Group

Ethnographic Study Status: No Survey Conducted

Ethnographic Narrative:

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The physical integrity of the Appalachian Trail (AT) landscape in Shenandoah National Park (NP) is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance (1928-1942) with current conditions. The Central District portion of the AT retains integrity in location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association to its development during the historic period. The features that convey this significance include the linear trail corridor as it rises and falls with the ridgeline, hugs side slopes on the built out trail bed and terraces, and engages natural features such as rock outcrops, streams, and aged trees; remnant and intended successional vegetation; and views to the valleys to the east and west. Additional features that convey significance include historic trail edging, retaining walls, cabins, shelters, huts, and trail markers. The reconstruction of portions of trail during the 1930s to move it away from Skyline Drive and build it to National Park Service (NPS) standards was undertaken through the collective efforts of the NPS, Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), and Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) within the period of significance. The overall historic character of the Appalachian Trail (AT)–Central District has not changed dramatically since the end of the period of significance.

Post-1942 changes and additions to the AT in Shenandoah NP do not reflect the significance of the trail as described under National Register Criteria A and C and are considered non-contributing. These changes include the building or removal of shelters, trail realignments, culvert and waterbar work, and wall reconstruction. Some shelters were added in the AT–Central District in the 1960s and 1970s such as Byrd's Nest 2 and 3, and some removed such as Shaver Hollow, Hawksbill Gap, and Lewis Spring Shelters. Major trail realignments, such as the 1988 relocation that removed the AT from its historic alignment along the Passamaquoddy Trail and east of the Skyland dining hall onto the Stony Man Nature Trail, and rerouting by the water tank between Skyline Drive and the Skyland Access Road, are non-contributing segments but are included as part of the linear trail resource. Sections of trail bed have worn away in some places from years of use and erosion, which has damaged some stone walls and edging. There have also been additions of unplanned small spur trails or "desire lines" from the AT to reach vantage points for views or makeshift campsites. Part of this is due to encroaching vegetation, which represents perhaps the most conspicuous change to the AT corridor landscape since the historic period. The trail's spatial character, which historically was generally open, has filled in with secondary forest growth and has created the so-called "green tunnel." This change, however, is a result of maturing CCC-planted vegetation and natural succession from old fields to forest and largely represents historic intent.

Historic trail segments that were either abandoned or removed from the AT after the historic period (1928-1942) and which retain integrity, such as the Passamaquoddy Trail near Skyland or the section west of Loft Mountain Campground, may be significant as part of the historic development of the AT. These sections, however, were not inventoried for this report.

Methodology:

Nine landscape characteristics have been evaluated for the AT–Central District: natural systems and features, spatial organization, land use, topography, vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, views and vistas, and small scale features. Of the nine landscape characteristics, the four most important today are natural systems and features, spatial organization, circulation, and buildings and structures. The four characteristics and their associated features shaped the design of the trail and are fundamental to the historic character of the trail landscape.

The study boundaries of the Cultural Landscape Inventory for the AT–Central District include a twenty-foot wide corridor, ten-feet to either side of the trail's centerline, that generally encompasses the most of the trail's constructed features such as retaining walls and signs. Features beyond this corridor were evaluated if they were associated with the construction of the AT, were easily viewed from the trail, or if they were part of the hiking experience (i.e. shelter or view). (Two cabins, Jones Mountain and Corbin, are not associated with the AT and were not inventoried.)

The discussion of each landscape characteristic's historic and existing conditions is followed by a table of landscape features recorded within the twenty-foot trail corridor. The feature name is followed in parentheses

with the PATC Route number and a feature number (e.g. "421003, 0.566"). PATC Routes in the Central District begin with 421 and are used by the park for management and maintenance activity. Feature numbers are based on the mileage point or points along the trail as they were inventoried in the field. Each feature is evaluated as to whether or not it contributes to the historic character as defined by the period of significance. Features are evaluated as undetermined if historical research and field survey work did not provide adequate information to make a determination.

Existing conditions maps for the AT–Central District are graphic representations of the trail. As such, symbols representing specific features are shown in proximity to the trail and are not to be interpreted literally. Loop trail connections with the AT were inventoried. However, loop trails themselves were not evaluated beyond the twenty-foot corridor and are not graphically highlighted on the maps.

ASPECTS OF INTEGRITY

Location:

Location refers to the place where the trail was built, and generally corresponds to the trail alignment. The AT as initially built by the PATC followed the north-south ridgeline in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia and connected to side trails. From 1931-1938, portions of the trail were relocated and reconstructed to accommodate the construction of Skyline Drive, and the trail was moved wherever the two converged. However, the trail maintained its general north-south alignment and traced ridgeline topography, connecting to side trails, and integrating the natural features into the trail corridor. Although there have been some changes since the period of significance such as the 1988 relocation from the Passamaquoddy Trail and east of the Skyland Dining Hall, the realignments represent only a fraction of the total mileage of the AT–Central District.

Design:

Design refers to combination of elements that characterize the built landscape of the AT, recognized today as the NPS Rustic style. This historic design is evident today through the trail's winding alignment, naturalistic materials, and vernacular building techniques, and reflects a philosophy of a romanticized natural environment that was executed through the 1930s in the improvement of the AT-Central District in Shenandoah NP. The design incorporated native materials in planting, rock work, and log work to harmonize the trail with the natural surroundings. An important element of the design was to assist and allow nature to take its course and let transplanted native material reseed or colonize to erase scars of construction and former land uses. Over time, plants matured into large masses, obscuring rock excavations or blending an orchard into the woods. Stone walls and edging comprised of native rock support and delineated the trail bed and display vernacular building techniques.

Shelters and cabins, usually built on spurs off the main trail, were also character-defining design features of the AT and were an integral part of the hiking experience. They were often place-specific with names that evoked the lore or specific feature of the site and were built with native stone and local timber such as chestnut. The South River Shelter became a PATC maintenance building and the Shaver Hollow, Hawksbill Gap, and Lewis Spring Shelters were removed in the 1970s, and new shelters Byrd's Nest 2 and 3 and Rock Spring Hut were added in the 1960s and 1970s. Cabins, shelters, and huts, however, are still distinguishing features along the AT–Central District. Historic structures that continue to display their original design within the Central District include Rock Spring Cabin, Bearfence Mountain Hut, and Pocosin Cabin.

In somewhat of a departure from the NPS Rustic style, stylized concrete-post trail markers, reminiscent of hitching posts, with stamped zinc bands were installed as a standardized identification system throughout the trail within Shenandoah NP. The different design (many parks at the time were using rustic logs for signs) was most likely intended to enhance visibility and increase durability. Since the end of the historic period in 1942, the trail has been managed to maintain its historic rustic design, and the concrete trail marker posts continue to be maintained as the standard trail marker. While some aspects of the trail's historic design have changed, such as the introduction of metal culverts or the addition of asphalt in limited high-use areas, the AT–Central District overall continues to exhibit integrity of design.

Setting:

Setting refers to the physical environment of the AT-Central District Shenandoah NP. As initially conceived by Benton MacKaye, the AT was to function as a pedestrian spine in the wilderness that connected to side trails and brought hikers to peaks with views and into glens with streams and waterfalls. The AT, as constructed by

the PATC, passed through forests, open farm fields, and orchards; skirted edges of woods; and traveled along old dirt farm roads. It also occasionally encountered cabins and shelters. Along some trail sections, however, the backcountry wilderness experience was momentarily suspended. With the construction of Skyline Drive, portions of the AT were relocated and reconstructed and in several locations crossed the road corridor that was comprised of mowed shoulders, parking lots and pullouts, and asphalt pavement. There were also structures and circulation features associated with the occasional developed rest or concession area.

Segments of the trail that historically passed by or through open fields and orchards have become more enclosed as vegetation has filled in, creating the so-called “green tunnel.” Yet traces of these open spaces remain as evidenced by massive trees, called wolf trees, and by changes in forest composition. While the setting of the trail has become more enclosed since the end of the historic period, this was an intended change to the setting. Overall, the AT-Central District retains its natural setting, with only limited exposure to non-trail features – namely Skyline Drive, trailhead parking areas, and other infrastructure elements – evident in its immediate setting (other modern development is visible in some distant views).

Materials:

Materials are the elements used to construct the trail, including stone, wood, plants, concrete, and zinc bands. Stone work from the 1930s CCC construction is still evident in the retaining walls, trail edging, steps, cabins, and shelters. Concrete and zinc trail markers designed and constructed in the period of significance are used at AT junctions and have been replaced in-kind when necessary. The CCC planted a large variety of native oak (*Quercus* spp.), pine (*Pinus* spp.), hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), hawthorn (*Crataegus* spp.), apple (*Malus* spp.), witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginia*), mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*). Ferns, vines, and perennials also remain and many have naturalized. Large wolf oaks, remnants from old agricultural fields, are indications of past land use. Secondary growth includes more oaks, hickory (*Carya* spp.), black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), cherry (*Prunus* spp.), and flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*), which have filled in the open spaces. Invasive plants such as tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), Japanese stilt grass (*Microstegium vimineum*), garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), and oriental lady's thumb (*Polygonum caespitosum*) have entered the landscape. For building materials, the introduction of non-historic materials to accommodate heavy use and reduce maintenance include the use of metal on roofs and metal signs at trail entrances. Because these are limited in extent, overall the AT–Central District retains integrity of materials.

Workmanship:

Workmanship refers to the physical evidence of the construction techniques on the AT. Although sometimes obscured by vegetation, the stone retaining walls continue to illustrate the dry-laid construction workmanship of the CCC. Stone trail edging also remains, yet is sometimes partially buried because of wear on the treadway from intensive visitor use. In some areas, erosion has reduced some treadway surfaces to the rocky base and has reduced the original four-foot width. Historic cabins and huts still exhibit the original stone work and some of the log work although there have been additions of metal roofs and changes to the interiors. The concrete trail markers with zinc banding are in good condition and are replaced in-kind as necessary. Overall the AT–Central District trail corridor retains integrity of workmanship.

Feeling:

Feeling refers to how the AT communicates a particular time period. The trail was designed and constructed to provide a feeling of romanticized and picturesque wilderness. Although the trail still traces the ridgeline and provides the same level of difficulty, many of the sweeping panoramic views have been lost due to the overgrowth of vegetation. Although the intention was for the trail's setting to naturalize, fewer open areas remain and the winding trail passes mostly through thick woods, which have created what is known as the “green tunnel.” The trail, however, still opens up at the crossings of Skyline Drive as it did in the period of significance. Despite the much more enclosed conditions of the trail, the AT–Central District continues to strongly evoke a wilderness feeling.

Association:

Association is the connection between the historic events and the distinct methods of design and construction of the AT. The AT–Central District continues to exhibit its historic associations with the PATC, CCC, and NPS. It still links to the side trails, fire roads, and the Skyline Drive. The trail also connects to the park's North District and beyond the park to the northern terminus of the AT in Maine, and to the park's South District and beyond the park to the southern terminus of the AT in Georgia. Historic retaining walls, stone edging, cabins, and huts

designed in the NPS Rustic style as implemented by the CCC through the New Deal programs accommodate AT hikers today. In the locations where the trail has been rerouted from the Passamaquoddy Trail and east of the Skyland dining hall, the original trail alignments remain but they have lost their historic association with the AT. Despite these changes, overall the AT–Central District retains integrity of association.

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

Historic Conditions:

By 1930, the PATC had completed the AT within the Central District, cobbling together a route comprised of old farm and logging roads and new construction. A mile south of Bearfence Mountain, the PATC 1931 Guidebook described the trail:

“Turn sharp right into newly-cleared trail (8.25m.). At 8.3 m. pass fork to left. The Trail improves and as it ascends soon becomes well-worn wood road, which closely follows fence on right” (PATC, 1931:67).

The AT also followed existing trails such as the Passamaquoddy Trail at Skyland, built by George Pollock Jr., As a PATC member, Pollock was influential in having the AT pass through his resort. He too transformed nearby logging and mining roads into hiking and horseback trails, and the AT connected to many of these, such as the Stony Man, Limberlost, Whiteoak Canyon, and Old Rag trails. The Passamaquoddy section of the AT placed the trail’s alignment along the western slope of Stony Man Mountain. The trail continued south into Skyland resort where it passed by the old dining hall and proceeded amongst the resort’s cabins before returning into the woods near the stables.

In 1933, when the CCC began working on Skyline Drive and relocating and reconstructing portions of the AT, they improved old roads for the trail and constructed new trail using the NPS Rustic style principles and design standards that were eventually articulated in the U.S. Department of the Interior’s 1937 manual, Emergency Conservation Work, Project Training – Construction of Trails. Specific standards were set for trail construction to accommodate both hiker and horse:

“...four-foot-wide tread with natural soil and gravel to a depth of three inches with stone edging as necessary, maximum fifteen percent grade and three-percent pitch, long-sweeping curves instead of long tangents or sections of a circle, switchbacks only when necessary and with long sections, and retaining walls only in rocky, steep terrain where necessary to maintain the required grade and reach certain elevations and objectives” (NPS Master Plan, 1936).

Switchbacks were constructed on the steep terrain on the north slopes of Mary’s Rock, The Pinnacle, Stony Man, Hawksbill, Blackrock, and Bearfence mountains. The trail bed, with courses of large gravel and finished with finer gravel, was supported by stone edging excavated on site or nearby. The AT relocations and reconstructions were completed by 1938 and the last segment of Skyline Drive was opened in 1939. The AT and Skyline Drive intersected once, at Milam Gap.

Existing Conditions:

The AT–Central District in Shenandoah NP retains much of its historic alignment, stone edging, and natural soil/gravel base (Fig. 19). Since 1942, however, some areas of the trail have narrowed and eroded, resulting in loss or concealment of stone edging and loss of soil base. In places, the trail has “migrated” and created a double path with the partially-buried stone edging appearing in the center. In 1991, the AT was moved from the Passamaquoddy Trail to the existing Stony Man Nature Trail, which exhibits the historic stone trail edging constructed by the CCC. The new alignment passes along the eastern slope of Stony Man Mountain and east of the Skyland resort’s developed area, traveling through the “island” between Skyline Drive and the Skyland Access Road, past the water tank, and across the Access Road again near the stables.

The AT continues to provide access to the side trails that were constructed in the historic period. However, short unplanned and unmarked spur trails have developed in places to reach viewpoints and rock outcrops because vegetation has grown in along the trail corridor and on the mountaintops. Unplanned spur trails that lead to springs and campsites have also evolved. The AT still crosses Skyline Drive at Milam Gap (Route 421013).

Landscape Features:

Appalachian Trail - Central District
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Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
AT—Central District treadway corridor (421001—41123, 0—34)	123999	Contributing					No
Route 211 crossing (421000.5, 0.004 —0.017)	124001	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Turnpike (421000.5, 0.048 — 0.054)	124003	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Parking lot (421000.5, 0.187— 0.200)	124005	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Trail, spur crossing (421000.5, 0.209—0)	124007	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Trail, spur crossing (421001, 0.132— 0)	124009	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Trail, spur crossing (421001, 0.188— 0) (to campsite)	124011	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Edging (421001, 0.299— 0.301)	124013	Contributing					No
Edging (421001, 0.343 — 0.377)	124015	Contributing					No
Edging (421001, 0.382 — 0.406)	124017	Contributing					No
Edging (421001, 0.416— 0.425)	124021	Contributing					No
Edging (421001, 0.444— 0.469)	124023	Contributing					No
Edging (421001, 0.474— 0.483)	124025	Contributing					No
Edging (421001, 0.499— 0.505)	124027	Contributing					No
Edging (421001, 0.549— 0.553)	124029	Contributing					No
Edging (421001, 0.563— 0.569)	124031	Contributing					No
Edging (421001, 0.594— 0.606)	124033	Contributing					No
Edging (421001, 0.633— 0.639)	124035	Contributing					No
Edging (421001, 0.663— 0.670)	124037	Contributing					No
Edging (421001, 0.695— 0.732)	124039	Contributing					No
Edging (421001, 0.741— 0.768)	124041	Contributing					No
Edging (421001, 0.802— 0.811)	124043	Contributing					No

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Edging (421001, 0.861—0.918)	124045	Contributing				No
Edging (421001, 0.930—0.965)	124047	Contributing				No
Edging (421001, 0.971—0.983)	124049	Contributing				No
Edging (421001, 1.056—1.072)	124051	Contributing				No
Edging (421001, 1.082—1.120)	124053	Contributing				No
Edging (421001, 1.135—1.188)	124055	Contributing				No
Edging (421001, 1.220—1.450)	124057	Contributing				No
Edging (421001, 1.540—1.550)	124059	Contributing				No
Edging (421001, 1.642—1.647)	124061	Contributing				No
Edging (421001, 1.677—1.702)	124063	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421002, 0.001— 0) (to Mary's Rock)	124065	Contributing				No
Edging (421002, 0.495—0.503)	124067	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421002, 0.640— 0) (to Meadow Spring Trail)	124069	Contributing				No
Edging (421002, 0.783—0.797)	124071	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421002, 0.972— 0)	124073	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Edging (421002, 1.093—1.104)	124075	Contributing				No
Edging (421002, 1.243—1.246)	124077	Contributing				No
Road crossing (421002, 1.282— 0) (to Byrd's Nest 3 Shelter)	124079	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Trail, spur crossing (421003, 0.009— 0) (to campsite)	124081	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Edging (421003, 0.026—0.034)	124083	Contributing				No
Edging (421003, 0.041—0.045)	124085	Contributing				No
Edging (421003, 0.046—0.049)	124087	Contributing				No
Edging (421003, 0.086—0.090)	124089	Contributing				No

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Edging (421003 , 0.095 — 0.097)	124091	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.113— 0.120)	124093	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.125— 0.127)	124095	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.144— 0.150)	124097	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.181— 0.190)	124099	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.194— 0.201)	124101	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.206— 0.211)	124103	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.216— 0.227)	124105	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.237— 0.241)	124107	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.246— 0.256)	124109	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.261— 0.271)	124111	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.274— 0.289)	124113	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.292— 0.323)	124115	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.327— 0.335)	124117	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.339— 0.353)	124119	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.357— 0.367)	124121	Contributing					No
Edging 421003, 0.418— 0.431)	124123	Contributing					No
Trail, spur crossing (421003, 0.504— 0)	124125	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Edging (421003, 0.588— 0.603)	124127	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.629— 0.641)	124129	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.649— 0.653)	124131	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.687— 0.692)	124133	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.706— 0.719)	124135	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.722— 0.725)	124137	Contributing					No

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Edging (421003, 0.779— 0.797)	124139	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.804— 0.812)	124141	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.818— 0.822)	124143	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.855— 0.862)	124145	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.927— 0.937)	124147	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.942— 0.959)	124149	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.963— 0.966)	124151	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.971— 0.982)	124153	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 0.986— 0.991)	124155	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 1.014— 1.029)	124157	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 1.042— 1.045)	124159	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 1.049— 1.053)	124161	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 1.155— 1.170)	124163	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 1.191— 1.200)	124165	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 1.202 — 1.217)	124167	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 1.223— 1.225)	124169	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 1.247— 1.256)	124171	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 1.260— 1.271)	124173	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 1.415— 1.418)	124175	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 1.739— 1.743)	124177	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 1.783— 1.808)	124179	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 1.839— 1.846)	124181	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 1.856— 1.859)	124183	Contributing					No
Edging (421003, 1.868— 1.871)	124185	Contributing					No

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Edging (421003, 1.875—1.883)	124187	Contributing				No
Edging (421003, 1.891—1.892)	124189	Contributing				No
Edging (421003, 1.892—1.897)	124191	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421004, 0.001—0) (to Jewell Hollow Overlook)	124193	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.006—0.014)	124195	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.02—0.023)	124197	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.029—0.038)	124199	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.046—0.062)	124201	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421004, 0.073—0) (to Jewell Hollow Overlook)	124203	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.116—0.123)	124205	Contributing				No
Parking lot (421004, 0.209-0.260)	124207	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Trail, spur crossing (421004, 0.230—0)	124209	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.272—0.277)	124211	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.284—0.288)	124213	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.293—0.295)	124215	Contributing				No
Surface, asphalt (421004, 0.346—0.402)	124217	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Parking lot (421004, 0.348-0.402)	124219	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Trail, spur crossing (421004, 0.352—0) (into Pinnacles Picnic Area)	124221	Undetermined				No
Trail, spur crossing (421004, 0.389—0) (to picnic table)	124223	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Trail, spur crossing (421004, 0.402—0) (into Pinnacles Picnic Area)	124225	Undetermined				No
Edging (421004, 0.491—0.516)	124227	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421004, 0.496—0) (to rock outcrop)	124229	Noncontributing – Compatible				No

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Trail, spur crossing (421004, 0.517— 0) (to rock outcrop)	124231	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Edging (421004, 0.523— 0.536)	124233	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.543— 0.548)	124235	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421004, 0.547— 0)	124237	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Edging (421004, 0.553— 0.556)	124239	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.561— 0.566)	124241	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.600— 0.610)	124243	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.745— 0.751)	124245	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.785— 0.797)	124247	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.858— 0.868)	124249	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.875— 0.888)	124251	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.895— 0.911)	124253	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.914— 0.926)	124255	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.932— 0.934)	124257	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.940— 0.944)	124259	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 0.973— 1.010)	124261	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 1.014— 1.025)	124263	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 1.030— 1.051)	124265	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 1.054— 1.067)	124267	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 1.070— 1.079)	124269	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 1.087— 1.093)	124271	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 1.098— 1.128)	124273	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 1.135— 1.143)	124275	Contributing				No
Edging (421004, 1.157— 1.164)	124277	Contributing				No

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Edging (421004, 1.177—1.185)	124279	Contributing				No
Trail, side crossing (421004.5, 0.629—0) (to Crusher Ridge Trail)	124281	Undetermined				No
Trail, spur crossing (421004.5, 0.765—0) (to Skyline Drive and Nicholson Hollow Trail)	124283	Undetermined				No
Edging (421004.5, 0.860—0.869)	124285	Contributing				No
Edging (421004.5, 0.884—0.890)	124287	Contributing				No
Edging (421004.5, 0.919—0.925)	124289	Contributing				No
Edging (421004.5, 0.950—0.960)	124291	Contributing				No
Edging (421004.5, 0.967—1.004)	124293	Contributing				No
Edging (421004.5, 1.015—1.033)	124295	Contributing				No
Edging (421004.5, 1.051—1.060)	124297	Contributing				No
Edging (421004.5, 1.073—1.098)	124299	Contributing				No
Edging (421004.5, 1.107—1.142)	124301	Contributing				No
Edging (421004.5, 1.147—1.152)	124303	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421005, 0.001—0) (to Stony Man Overlook)	124305	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.005—0.020)	124307	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.037—0.045)	124309	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.064—0.073)	124311	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.097—0.105)	124313	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.155—0.159)	124315	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.213—0.244)	124317	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.309—0.311)	124319	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.356—0.363)	124321	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.386—0.397)	124323	Contributing				No

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Edging (421005, 0.403—0.407)	124325	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.436—0.488)	124327	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.509—0.529)	124329	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.543—0.548)	124331	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.552—0.576)	124333	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.586—0.608)	124335	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.619—0.625)	124337	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.648—0.679)	124339	Contributing				No
Edging (421005, 0.687—0.705)	124341	Contributing				No
Trail, side crossing (421005, 0.710—0) (Passamaquoddy Trail)	124343	Contributing				No
Edging (421006, 0.024—0.026)	124345	Contributing				No
Edging (421006, 0.125—0.128)	124347	Contributing				No
Edging (421006, 0.132—0.139)	124349	Contributing				No
Edging (421006, 0.139—0.165)	124351	Contributing				No
Edging (421006, 0.174—0.191)	124353	Contributing				No
Edging (421006, 0.247—0.256)	124355	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421006, 0.252—0) (to revegetation zone)	124357	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Edging (421006, 0.268—0.280)	124359	Contributing				No
Edging (421006, 0.298—0.333)	124361	Contributing				No
Edging (421006, 0.346—0.350)	124363	Contributing				No
Edging (421006, 0.378—0.393)	124365	Contributing				No
Edging (421006, 0.440—0.523)	124367	Contributing				No
Edging (421006, 0.649—0.657)	124369	Contributing				No

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Edging (421006, 0.734—0.737)	124371	Contributing					No
Trail, spur crossing (421006, 0.841—0) (to Stony Man Summit)	124373	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Edging (421006, 1.187—1.192)	124375	Contributing					No
Surface, asphalt (421006 , 1.235—0)	124377	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Parking lot (421006, 1.247 —1.278)	124379	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Road crossing (421006, 1.281—0) (Skyland Access Road)	124381	Undetermined					No
Road crossing (421006 , 1.487 —1.490) (Skyland Access Road)	124383	Undetermined					No
Road (421006 , 2.071 —2.076) (Service/Stables Road)	124385	Undetermined					No
Trail, side crossing (421007, 0.013—0) (riding trail)	124387	Contributing					No
Trail, side crossing (421007, 0.021—0) (riding trail)	124389	Contributing					No
Trail, side crossing (421007, 0.025—0)	124391	Undetermined					No
Edging (421007, 0.256—0.586)	124393	Contributing					No
Edging (421007, 0.593 —0.603)	124395	Contributing					No
Edging (421007, 0.690—0.760)	124397	Contributing					No
Edging (421007, 0.760—0.768)	124399	Contributing					No
Edging, (421007, 0.768-0.778)	124401	Contributing					No
Trail, spur crossing (421007, 0.782—0) (to rock outcrop and view)	124403	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Edging (421007, 0.826—0.870)	124405	Contributing					No
Edging (421007, 0.885—0.891)	124407	Contributing					No
Edging (421007, 1.135—1.139)	124409	Contributing					No
Edging (421007, 1.150—1.161)	124411	Contributing					No

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Trail, spur crossing (421008 , 0.003 —0) (to Timber Hollow Overlook)	124413	Contributing					No
Edging (421008, 0.033— 0.045)	124415	Contributing					No
Edging (421008, 0.075— 0.119)	124417	Contributing					No
Edging (421008, 0.143— 0.148)	124419	Contributing					No
Edging (421008, 0.165— 0.210)	124421	Contributing					No
Edging (421008, 0.211— 0.237)	124423	Contributing					No
Edging (421008, 0.272— 0.280)	124425	Contributing					No
Edging (421008, 0.305— 0.327)	124427	Contributing					No
Edging (421008, 0.352 — 0.357)	124429	Contributing					No
Edging (421008, 0.533— 0.583)	124431	Contributing					No
Edging (421008, 0.615 — 0.638)	124433	Contributing					No
Edging (421008, 0.652— 0.689)	124435	Contributing					No
Edging (421008 , 0.806— 0.832)	124437	Contributing					No
Edging (421008, 1.083— 1.171)	124439	Contributing					No
Edging (421008 , 1.202— 1.229)	124441	Contributing					No
Edging (421008, 1.311— 1.325)	124443	Contributing					No
Trail, spur crossing (421008 , 1.361— 0) (to Hawksbill Gap parking)	124445	Contributing					No
Trail, spur crossing (421009 , 0.001— 0) (to Hawksbill Gap parking)	124447	Contributing					No
Edging (421009, 0.008— 0.100)	124449	Contributing					No
Edging (421009, 0.503— 0.510)	124451	Contributing					No
Edging (421009, 0.726— 0.733)	124453	Contributing					No
Edging (421009, 0.814— 0.833)	124455	Contributing					No
Edging (421009, 0.871— 0.884)	124457	Contributing					No

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Edging (421009, 0.960—0.970)	124459	Contributing					No
Trail, spur crossing (421009, 1.031—0) (to Salamander Trail, Hawksbill Summit)	124461	Contributing					No
Road (421009, 1.308—1.314) (to Rock Spring Hut and Cabin)	124463	Contributing					No
Trail, spur crossing (421009, 1.335—0) (to Rock Spring Hut and Cabin)	124465	Contributing					No
Edging (421009, 1.460—1.492)	124467	Contributing					No
Edging (421009, 1.595—1.603)	124469	Contributing					No
Edging (421009, 1.619—1.635)	124471	Contributing					No
Trail, spur crossing (421010, 0.001—0) (to Rock Spring Cabin parking)	124473	Contributing					No
Edging (421010, 0.159—0.191)	124475	Contributing					No
Edging (421010, 0.236—0.246)	124477	Contributing					No
Edging (421010, 0.293—0.352)	124479	Contributing					No
Edging (421010, 0.460—0.474)	124481	Contributing					No
Edging (421010, 0.488—0.499)	124483	Contributing					No
Edging (421010, 0.522—0.595)	124485	Contributing					No
Edging (421010, 0.645—0.670)	124487	Contributing					No
Edging (421010, 0.688—0.720)	124489	Contributing					No
Edging (421010, 0.729—0.741)	124491	Contributing					No
Edging (421010, 0.795—0.815)	124493	Contributing					No
Edging (421010, 0.872—0.898)	124495	Contributing					No
Edging (421010, 1.000—1.006)	124497	Contributing					No
Edging (421010, 1.041—1.062)	124499	Contributing					No
Edging (421010, 1.094—1.105)	124501	Contributing					No

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Edging (421010, 1.139—1.151)	124503	Contributing				No
Edging (421010, 1.176—1.219)	124505	Contributing				No
Edging (421010, 1.234—1.252)	124507	Contributing				No
Edging (421010, 1.279—1.342)	124509	Contributing				No
Road crossing (421010, 1.356—1.366) (Red Gate Fire Road)	124511	Undetermined				No
Edging (421010, 1.39—1.398)	124513	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421011—0.713—0)	124515	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Trail, spur crossing (421011, 0.875—0) (to campsites)	124517	Undetermined				No
Trail, spur crossing (421011, 0.880—0) (to campground and spring)	124519	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421011, 0.898—0)	124521	Undetermined				No
Trail, spur crossing (421011, 0.922—0) (to campground)	124523	Undetermined				No
Trail, spur crossing (421011, 1.070—0) (to campground)	124525	Undetermined				No
Trail, spur crossing (421011, 1.083—0)	124527	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Edging (421011, 1.125—0)	124529	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421011, 1.167—0)	124531	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Trail, spur crossing (421011, 1.242—0) (to view)	124533	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Edging (421011, 1.261—1.267)	124535	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421011, 1.320—0)	124537	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Surface, asphalt (421011, 1.476—1.479)	124539	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Trail, side crossing (421012, 0.019—0) (to Lewis Falls Trail)	124541	Contributing				No
Edging (421012, 0.073—0.080)	124543	Contributing				No

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Edging (421012, 0.103 — 0.108)	124545	Contributing				No
Edging (421012 , 0.267— 0.269)	124547	Contributing				No
Edging (421012, 0.280— 0.283)	124549	Contributing				No
Edging (421012 , 0.286— 0.288)	124551	Contributing				No
Trail, side crossing (421012 , 0.293 —0) (to Blackrock)	124553	Contributing				No
Edging (421012, 0.298— 0.303)	124555	Contributing				No
Edging (421012 , 0.317— 0.324)	124557	Contributing				No
Edging (421012, 0.353— 0.359)	124559	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421012, 0.390— 0) (to view)	124561	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Trail, spur crossing (421012 , 0.397— 0) (to view)	124563	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Edging (421012, 0.408— 0.418)	124565	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421012, 0.415— 0) (to Big Meadows Lodge Trail)	124567	Contributing				No
Edging (421012, 0.451— 0.466)	124569	Contributing				No
Edging (421012 , 0.553— 0.559)	124571	Contributing				No
Edging (421012, 0.583 — 0.607)	124573	Contributing				No
Edging (421012, 0.617— 0.627)	124575	Contributing				No
Road crossing (421012, 0.814— 0)	124577	Undetermined				No
Edging (421012, 0.893— 0.898)	124579	Contributing				No
Edging (421012, 0.902— 0.911)	124581	Contributing				No
Edging (421012, 0.923— 0.941)	124583	Contributing				No
Edging (421012 , 0.958 — 0.967)	124585	Contributing				No
Road crossing (421012 , 0.977— 0) (Lewis Springs Road)	124587	Contributing				No

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Trail, spur crossing (421012 , 0.997— 0) (to spring)	124589	Contributing				No
Edging (421012, 1.112— 1.116)	124591	Contributing				No
Road crossing (421013, 0.02 0—0.026) (Tanners Ridge Administration Road)	124593	Contributing				No
Parking lot (421013 , 1.051— 1.063)	124595	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Road crossing (421013, 1.098— 1.103) (Skyline Drive)	124597	Contributing				No
Trail, side crossing (421013, 1.129— 0) (Mill Prong Trail)	124599	Contributing				No
Edging (421014, 0.331— 0.354)	124601	Contributing				No
Edging (421014, 0.378— 0.382)	124603	Contributing				No
Edging (421014, 0.381— 0.386)	124605	Contributing				No
Edging (421014 , 1.693 — 1.699)	124607	Contributing				No
Edging (421014, 1.729— 1.732)	124609	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421014, 1.819— 0) (to campsite)	124611	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Trail, spur crossing (421014 , 1.895— 0) (to rock outcrop)	124613	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Edging (421014, 2.285— 2.296)	124615	Contributing				No
Trail, spur crossing (421014 , 2.344 —0) (Laurel Prong Trail)	124617	Contributing				No
Edging (421015, 0.174— 0.180)	124619	Contributing				No
Parking lot (421015, 0.428— 0.435)	124621	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Road crossing (421016 , 0.002 —0.004) (Conway River Road)	124623	Contributing				No
Edging (421016, 0.292— 0.300)	124625	Contributing				No
Edging (421016, 0.389— 0.392)	124627	Contributing				No
Edging (421016, 0.413— 0.424)	124629	Contributing				No

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Edging (421016, 0.464—0.468)	124631	Contributing				No
Edging (421016, 0.514—0.536)	124633	Contributing				No
Edging (421016, 0.624—0.636)	124635	Contributing				No
Trail, side crossing (421016 , 1.353— 0) (Bearfence Rock Scramble Trail)	124637	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.122—0.154)	124639	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.173 —0.197)	124641	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.284—0.303)	124643	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.314—0.320)	124645	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.333—0.378)	124647	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.386—0.401)	124649	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.416 —0.426)	124651	Contributing				No
Edging (421017 , 0.437—0.452)	124653	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.492 —0.504)	124655	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.512—0.528)	124657	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.54 0—0.549)	124659	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.574 —0.585)	124661	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.598—0.613)	124663	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.625—0.641)	124665	Contributing				No
Edging (421017 , 0.699—0.704)	124667	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.730—0.734)	124669	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.775—0.780)	124671	Contributing				No
Edging (421017, 0.788—0.810)	124673	Contributing				No
Road crossing (421017 , 1.015 —1.018) (to Bearfence Hut)	124675	Contributing				No

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Edging (421018, 0.082—0.103)	124677	Contributing					No
Edging (421018 , 0.120—0.129)	124679	Contributing					No
Edging (421018 , 0.149—0.169)	124681	Contributing					No
Edging (421018, 0.254—0.258)	124683	Contributing					No
Trail, spur crossing (421018 , 0.489— 0) (to picnic area)	124685	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Edging (421019, 1.636—1.646)	124687	Contributing					No
Edging (421019, 1.685—1.712)	124689	Contributing					No
Edging (421019, 1.742—1.728)	124691	Contributing					No
Edging (421020, 0.291—0.294)	124693	Contributing					No
Edging (421020, 0.435—0.466)	124695	Contributing					No
Edging (421020, 0.993 — 1.003)	124697	Contributing					No
Edging (421020, 1.022—1.026)	124699	Contributing					No
Edging (421020, 1.117—1.135)	124701	Contributing					No
Edging (421020, 1.566—1.571)	124703	Contributing					No
Edging (421020, 1.583 — 1.597)	124705	Contributing					No
Trail, spur crossing (421020 , 1.597— 0) (to rock outcrop and view)	124707	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Edging (421020, 1.612—1.625)	124709	Contributing					No
Edging (421020, 1.664—1.683)	124711	Contributing					No
Edging (421020, 1.71 0—1.726)	124713	Contributing					No
Edging (421021, 0.307 — 0.326)	124715	Contributing					No
Edging (421021, 0.348—0.368)	124717	Contributing					No
Edging (421021, 0.375—0.381)	124719	Contributing					No
Edging (421021, 0.396—0.412)	124721	Contributing					No

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Edging (421021, 0.416—0.419)	124723	Contributing					No
Edging (421021, 0.425—0.441)	124725	Contributing					No
Edging (421021, 0.450—0.465)	124727	Contributing					No
Edging (421021, 0.470—0.478)	124729	Contributing					No
Edging (421021, 0.502—0.534)	124731	Contributing					No
Edging (421021, 0.559—0.563)	124733	Contributing					No
Edging (421021, 0.676—0.686)	124735	Contributing					No
Edging (421021, 0.714—0.751)	124737	Contributing					No
Edging (421021, 0.888—0.896)	124739	Contributing					No
Road crossing (421021, 0.919— 0) (South River Fire Road)	124741	Contributing					No
Edging (421021.5, 0.046—0.076)	124743	Contributing					No
Edging (421021.5 , 0.094—0.103)	124745	Contributing					No
Edging (421021.5 , 0.154—0.169)	124747	Contributing					No
Trail, spur crossing (421021.5, 0.478—0.670) (to South River Picnic Area)	124749	Undetermined					No
Edging (421022, 0.030—0.040)	124751	Contributing					No
Edging (421022, 0.050—0.142)	124753	Contributing					No
Road crossing (421022 , 0.319—0.490) (South River PATC Main. Bldg. Road)	124755	Contributing					No
Trail, side crossing (421022, 0.488— 0) (Saddleback Mountain Trail)	124757	Contributing					No
Edging (421023, 1.877—1.954)	124759	Contributing					No
Edging (421023, 1.971—1.987)	124761	Contributing					No
Trail, spur crossing (421023, 2.298— 0)	124763	Contributing					No

Edging (421023, 2.314— 2.404)	124765	Contributing					No
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Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 19: Stone edging still supports the treadway along the AT to Mary's Rock. The tread surface has lost its top-layered gravel courses. (SUNY, 2006)

Landscape Characteristic: Natural Systems and Features

Historic and Existing Conditions:

The natural systems and features of the AT–Central District include the mountains, valleys, rock outcrops, watersheds, and native vegetation. The trail corridor lies astride the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, a part of the Appalachian Range that stretches from Georgia to Maine. In his 1921 article, “An Appalachian Trail: A Project in Regional Planning,” Benton MacKaye envisioned “a long trail over the full length of the Appalachian skyline from the highest peak in the north to the highest peak in the south” (MacKaye, 1921:328). The Blue Ridge Mountains separate the Shenandoah Valley to the west and the rolling hills of the Piedmont Plain to the east. It was this natural setting that established the fundamental character of the trail as well as the larger park, preserved for the enjoyment of the public who mostly traveled from nearby metropolitan areas.

The trail corridor within the Central District traverses named peaks such as Mary's Rock, The Pinnacle, Little Stony Man, Stony Man Mountain, Hawksbill, Black Rock, Hazeltop, Bearfence, Baldface, and Saddleback Mountain and descends into the gaps of Thornton, Hughes River, Hawksbill, Fishers, Milam, Bootens, and Swift Run. In the Central District, Stony Man Mountain is the highest elevation at 3,837 feet, while the lowest elevation is at the junction of Thornton Gap and Route 211 at 2,200 feet. The AT travels along very old rock from granite at Thornton Gap to Stony

Man Mountain where the rock type transitions to metabasalt greenstone south to Skyland, and then changes to greenstone again until Crescent Rock Cliffs. The Cliffs and just north of Hawksbill is black columnar basalt before returning to greenstone and then granite just before the Franklin Cliffs where the AT traverses a path between the upper and lower cliffs that marks two separate ancient lava flows. Below Fishers Gap, the rock turns to granite at Bearfence Mountain and then to consolidated volcanic ash one mile before reaching Pocosin Cabin. From there, the AT travels along greenstone until the end of the Central District at Swift Run Gap (Chew, 1988:90,91).

In accordance with the U.S. Department of the Interior 1937 manual, Construction of Trails, the trail was routed to run along the side of rock outcrops to reveal the local geologic history and to provide view points. The trail was routed along particularly noteworthy rock outcrops: two on the west side of the trail when traveling south to Mary's Rock (Route 421001), one on the east side of the trail (Route 421004), and along a rocky shelf on the old AT Passamaquoddy section with Little Stony Man and Stony Man Cliffs above and sheer cliffs below (near Route 421006). The 1935 PATC Guidebook Supplement described this latter section as "The Trail along the Stony Man Cliffs is wild and rugged to a degree unexpected in this region." Other rock outcrops included a series along the east side of the trail from Skyland Stables to Timber Hollow Overlook (Route 421007), a columnar rock formation on the east side of the trail below Crescent Rock Cliffs (Route 421008), and Big Meadows Amphitheater to Tanners Ridge Road (Route 421012). A series of boulder fields and talus slopes were noteworthy along the east side of the trail just below Hawksbill Summit from Hawksbill Gap to Spittler Knoll Overlook (Route 421009). The 1935 PATC Guidebook Supplement noted the boulder slopes, "From sag, Trail ascends gradually, slanting northwest face of Hawksbill across boulder slopes and under cliffs in wild and rugged setting, forested with balsam fir" (PATC, 1935:12).

The AT-Central District lies within three major river systems of the mid-Atlantic region, the Shenandoah/Potomac, James, and Rappahannock. Each flows into the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Within park boundaries there are seventy watersheds, forty-two on the west side and twenty-eight on the east side of the ridge. Seventy springs occur near the park's ridge line (Shenandoah NP staff, 2006). Three springs were encountered within the AT corridor (Routes 421001, 421007, 421008). Although the AT runs mostly along the dry ridgeline, it was also designed to connect through side trails to lower valleys to reach streams and waterfalls. The trail encounters two small streams on the north slope of Blackrock (Route 421011) and on the west side of the trail (Route 421013).

Oak (*Quercus* spp.), hickory (*Carya* spp.), and American chestnut (*Castanea dentata*) once covered the mountains, but by the time the trail was being built in the late 1920s and 1930s, few living American chestnut trees remained because of the chestnut blight, a tiny fungus (*Endothia parasitica*) introduced probably from Asia (Connors, 1988:62). The AT traveled through areas of dead chestnuts which were often pointed out to the hiker as a feature and as a guidepost. Just south of Mary's Rock, the 1931 PATC Guidebook described the trail, "The Trail continues through dead chestnut trees, climbs somewhat through better forest growth and then descends into sag at 1.7 m." (PATC, 1931:59). In 1940, eighty-five percent of the park was forested and the rest was open, grasslands, and cultivated and old fields. Chestnut oak (*Quercus prinus*) and northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*) comprised seventy-two percent of the forest. There were no yellow poplars (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) and six percent cover hardwoods were included in the forest composition.

Since 1942, natural systems and features have remained largely unchanged, with the exception of natural succession and reforestation as intended by the work of the NPS and the CCC. Chestnut oak and northern red oak are common along the ridge line today although their numbers have declined. By 1990, fifty-nine percent had been affected by the gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar*) (Shenandoah NP staff, 2006). Many hemlocks (*Tsuga canadensis*) have been killed by the hemlock wooly adelgid (*Adelges tsugae*) which has reduced the evergreen canopy along portions of the trail. Secondary growth includes hickory, black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), pine (*Pinus* spp.), and black cherry (*Prunus serotina*) with an understory of striped maple (*Acer pensylvanicum*), sumac (*Rhus* spp.), mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*), witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), blueberry (*Vaccinium* spp.), ferns, and various perennials and vines. By 1990, the number of tulip poplars had increased to sixteen percent and cover hardwoods to fifteen percent (Shenandoah NP staff, 2006).

Masses of hay-scented fern (*Dennstaedtia punctilobula*) line portions of the trail adding interest and softening the woodland character.

Rock outcrops along the trail to Mary's Rock remain engaging (Route 421001) (Fig. 13). The AT passes through a stand of noteworthy straight-trunked tulip poplars near the end of Central District from Saddleback Mountain Trail to Swift Run Gap (Route 421023). The AT was relocated from the ledges of the Passamaquoddy Trail at Skyland in 1988 to the east and now travels the Stony Man Nature Trail on the east side of Stony Man Mountain.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Rock outcrop (421001, 0.625—0.638)	123809	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421001, 0.673—0.684)	123811	Contributing					No
Spring (421001, 0.836—0)	123813	Undetermined					No
Rock outcrop (421001, 1.020—1.030)	123815	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421002, 0.833—0.843)	123817	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421002, 0.016—0.026)	123819	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421003, 1.235—0)	123821	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421004, 0.956—0)	123823	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421005, 0.280—0.288)	123825	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421007, 0.245 —0.258)	123827	Contributing					No
Massing, plant (421006, 1.211—1.232)	123829	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Massing, plant (421006, 1.212—1.231)	123831	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Spring (421007, 0.288—0)	123833	Undetermined					No
Rock outcrop (421007, 0.296 — 0.306)	123835	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421007, 0.337— 0.388)	123837	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421007, 0.462 —0.486)	123839	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421008, 0.196—0.200)	123841	Contributing					No
Massing, plant (421008, 0.217— 0.319)	123843	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

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Rock outcrop (421008, 0.577—0.586)	123845	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421008, 0.664—0.700)	123847	Contributing					No
Spring (421008, 1.032—0)	123851	Undetermined					No
Massing, plant (421009, 0.167—0.282)	123853	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Massing, plant (421009, 0.168—0.289)	123855	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Boulder field (421009, 0.383—0.435)	123857	Contributing					No
Boulder field (421009, 0.419—0.435)	123859	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421009, 0.491—0.514)	123861	Contributing					No
Boulder field (421009, 0.528—0.558)	123863	Contributing					No
Boulder field (421009, 0.529—0.558)	123865	Contributing					No
Massing, plant (421009, 1.086—1.131)	123867	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Massing, plant (421009, 1.087—1.131)	123869	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Massing, plant (421010, 0.002—0.119)	123871	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Rock outcrop (421011, 0.092—0.096)	123873	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421011, 0.093—0.096)	123875	Contributing					No
Stream (421011, 0.544—0)	123877	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421012, 0.311—0)	123879	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421012, 0.439—0.451)	123881	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421012, 1.016—1.032)	123883	Contributing					No
Massing, plant (421013, 0.435—0.462)	123885	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Stream (421013, 0.536—0)	123887	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421019, 0.74 0—0)	123889	Contributing					No
Rock outcrop (421020, 1.507 —1.534)	123891	Contributing					No
Massing, plant (421023, 1.968—0)	123893	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 13: The Construction of Trails manual recommended selecting routes that passed rock outcrops to display local geological history. This section of the AT to Mary's Rock required a retaining wall to support the treadway. (SUNY, 2006)

Landscape Characteristic: Spatial Organization

Historic Conditions:

In 1930, when the PATC had completed the AT in the Central District, the spatial character of the trail was defined by a series of enclosed forested areas, open meadows, and rock outcrops. In its 1931 Guidebook, the PATC described this spatial character south of Hawksbill:

“Cross clearing about 50 yds. On its right side, in area of fallen chestnut trees, road becomes clear again; it leads downhill, keeping about 100 yds. To right edge of woods. Farther down this slope take right fork (11.5 m) bearing somewhat toward woods on right. Road becomes well worn in woods. Cross wire fence at 11.63 m. and rail fence at 12.05 m. , descending steeply. Road grows fainter, leading into open field. Follow cairns across field, passing between prominent ledges and left slope of low hill at right (PATC, 1931:62-3).

This description detailed the spatial sequence the hiker entered in and moved through, from crossing an open field, through an area of partial enclosure with dead chestnuts, to a road corridor with an edge or wall of woods, then into the enclosure of the woods to reemerge into an open field and passing ledges with the slopes falling away to the west. The AT experience was a variable one which included a rhythm and variety of enclosed and open areas.

Although the construction of Skyline Drive required the relocation and reconstruction of portions of the AT by the CCC, the spatial character of the trail remained largely unchanged. It still traced the ridgeline while taking advantage of open areas and views and then traveling through woodlands. The trail sometimes continued to follow old roads that provided for a wider and more open trail. The AT crossed Skyline Drive once at Milam Gap and connected to overlooks at Jewell Hollow, Stony Man, Timber Hollow, Crescent Rock, Spitler Knoll, Fishers Gap, The Point, and South River. The trail also connected to developed areas such as Skyland. The AT–Central District generally paralleled Skyline Drive except in places where the trail continued across ridges and Skyline Drive skirted around them, as at Mary’s Rock, The Pinnacle, Stony Man Mountain, Hawksbill, Blackrock, Hazeltop, Bearfence, Baldface, and Saddleback Mountain. The separation between the AT and Skyline Drive ranged from approximately 5,400 feet at its greatest distance along Route 421012, at Big Meadows Amphitheater to Tanners Ridge Road, to 100 feet where it traveled closest to the road at Route 421003, at Jewell Hollow Overlook.

Existing Conditions:

Since 1942, woods have enclosed the majority of the trail corridor. Many of the once open fields are now filled with successional growth of trees and shrubs. The variety and rhythm of the open and enclosed areas has diminished and the AT is now often described as a “green tunnel” (Fig. 14). It appears, however, that this change in the spatial character was at least in part intentional, as many old fields were not maintained during the historic period, and so they subsequently grew into woods. Secondary growth trees and shrubs have obscured many broad and long views. In places, the “green tunnel” opens up where views remain because of rock outcrops or intentional vista clearing by park management, for example below Jewell Hollow, Stony Man, Timber Hollow, and Fishers Gap overlooks (Routes 421003, 421004.5, 421007, 421010 respectively) (Fig. 15). Where the hemlock wooly adelgid has destroyed a grove of hemlocks, the trail corridor has begun to open up (Route 421011). The AT passes a small clearing, which may date to the historic period, to the east with the historic Big Meadows Lodge in view (Route 421012). The AT still crosses Skyline Drive in one place. It is inventoried as a circulation feature.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Open (421003, 0.566—0)	123895	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Open (421003, 1.703—1.728)	123897	Contributing					No
Open (421003, 1.748—1.859)	123899	Contributing					No
Open (421004, 0.160—0.260)	123901	Contributing					No
Open (421004.5, 0.106—0.197)	123903	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Open (421004.5, 0.926—0.946)	123905	Contributing					No
Open (421004.5, 1.004—1.115)	123907	Contributing					No
Open (421005, 0.077—0.277)	123909	Contributing					No
Open (421007, 1.161—1.212)	123911	Contributing					No
Open (421010, 1.396—1.435)	123913	Contributing					No
Open (421011, 0.416—0.436)	123915	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Open (421012, 0.230—0.250)	123917	Undetermined					No
Open (421013, 0.209—0.219)	123919	Undetermined					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

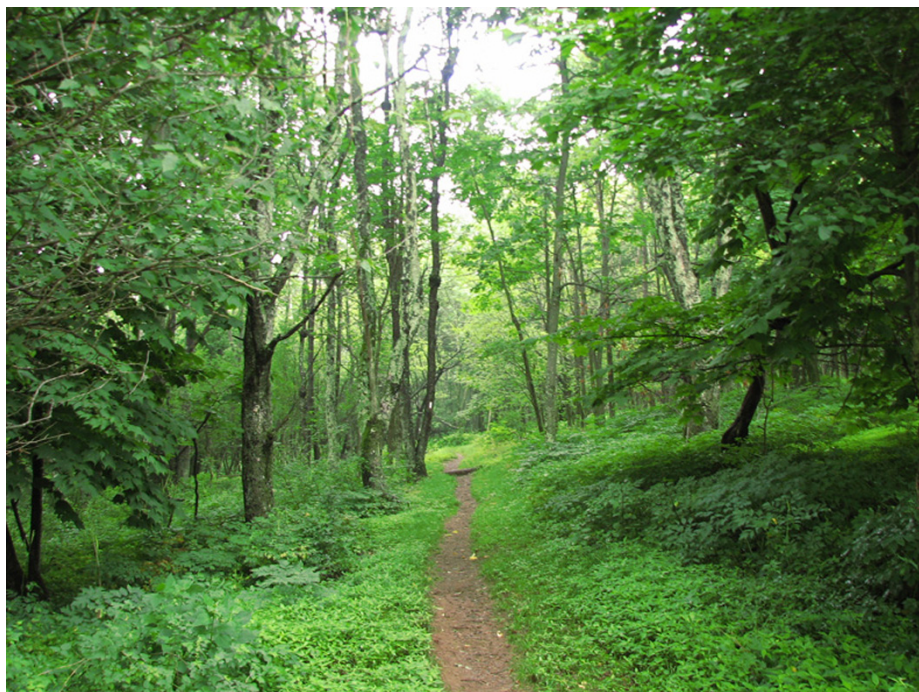


Figure 14: The typical “green tunnel” enclosed character of the AT in the Central District near Bootens Gaps. (SUNY, 2006)



Figure 15: The AT opens just below Jewel Hollow Overlook providing a distinct change in the trail’s character, from enclosed to open. (SUNY, 2006)

Landscape Characteristic: Land Use

Historic Conditions:

The AT–Central District in Shenandoah NP was primarily an area of farms. Some holdings had been abandoned long before the AT and park were developed, and others had been sold willingly or not, as described to hikers in the following two entries from the 1931 PATC Guidebook (PATC, 1931:62,68):

“at 13.79 m. goes through another gate; passes deserted cabin and barn on left at 13.86 m. (spring just below garden).”

“Skirt right side of clearing in sag at base of hawkskill. Deland Taylor’s house is in this clearing.”

Hikers passed farmyards that once had or still had chickens, pigs, and goats, and vegetable gardens, orchards mostly of apple, some of peach with fruit for eating or making moonshine, pastures for cattle and sheep, and woods for timbering and stripping chestnut and hemlock bark for tanning. Shenandoah NP land records and park establishment history indicates that the mountains were still actively being used until well after 1936, and the NPS and the Department of Agriculture’s Resettlement Administration had to relocate close to 500 families from the park (Shenandoah NP staff, 2007). After that time, land uses were primarily recreational. According to the U.S. Department of the Interior 1937 manual, Construction of Trails, the AT was constructed to carry both horses and hikers. This multi-use activity continued until well after World War II.

The AT also traveled through Skyland, just south of Stony Man Mountain, a private and later public recreational resort that developed beginning in the late 1880s. The resort provided food, lodging, entertainment, and hiking and horseback trails for summer residents, guests, and by no accident, hikers Skyland also offered communication services for the AT hiker, as indicated in the PATC Guide:

“Pass Furnace Spring. At crossroads at 7.08 m. take left (upper fork. Pass faint road on right at 7.11 m., roads on right at 7.15 m. and on left at 7.21 m. Continue between cottages and tennis courts. Stony Man trail with blue paint blazes comes in on left beside Field Cabin at 7.35m. Follow road between recreation hall and dining hall, turn left uphill and reach Skyland dining hall and office, with long distance telephone and summer post office, at 7.4 m. Turn right on road up slope past cottages. AT top of hill pass road to left (7.57 m.), then stables and Somers path to Ida” (PATC, 1931:61).

Existing Conditions:

Since 1942, the AT has continued to serve as a recreational trail for the hiker whether trekking on a through-hike from Georgia to Maine or hiking smaller segments of the trail and associated side trails. Traces of old farmsteads are disappearing, but are still revealed in extant wolf trees in old farm fields or in remnant orchards that the trail passes through (Fig. 16). The limits of old fields can also be discerned by the age of the woods. The AT–Central District is no longer a multi-purpose trail as horse riding is excluded as well as bicycles and other wheeled vehicles.

The AT no longer travels through the core of Skyland resort, which still provides the same amenities as it did during the historic period. In 1988, the trail was relocated to the east of the current dining facilities, although they can still be accessed via the resort’s interior roads and paths. The trail now passes by the water tank between Skyline Drive and the Skyland access roads and reconnects with the historic trail near the Skyland stables. There is still a crossing on Skyline Drive, at Milam Gap, and it is inventoried in this report as a circulation characteristic.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Picnic area (421004, 0.235—0)	123921	Undetermined					No
Other-Riding Stable (421007, 0.001—0.026)	123923	Contributing					No
Other-Horse Pasture (421007, 0.049—0.216)	123925	Contributing					No
Orchard (421009, 1.284—1.302)	123927	Contributing					No
Orchard (421009, 1.285—1.386)	123929	Contributing					No
Orchard (421009, 1.646—1.714)	123931	Contributing					No
Campground (421011, 0.948—1.100)	123933	Undetermined					No
Orchard (421012, 0.995—0)	123935	Contributing					No
Orchard (421012, 1.480—0)	123937	Contributing					No
Orchard (421012, 1.481—0)	123939	Contributing					No
Orchard (421013, 0.038—0.237)	123941	Contributing					No
Orchard (421013, 1.024—1.131)	123943	Contributing					No
Orchard (421014, 0.016—0)	123945	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 16: The AT passes through old orchards which tell of past agricultural land use such as this section near Tanner's Ridge Road. (SUNY, 2006)

Landscape Characteristic: Topography

Historic Conditions:

The AT–Central District in Shenandoah NP generally followed a north-south orientation as it traced the ridgeline terrain of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Topographical considerations influenced the design and construction of the AT. Along the Passamaquoddy section of the trail near Skyland, the AT climbed upward briefly before it followed the western contours of Stony Man Mountain and maintained an even grade while hugging the cliffs. As described in the PATC Guide:

“Ascend steeply, reaching rocky ledge directly beneath Little Stony Man cliffs at 6.18 m. The Trail continues along the shelf of Stony Man, affording magnificent outlook over Shenandoah Valley, Massanutten Mountains, and Alleghany Mountains with precipitous cliffs on the left” (PATC, 1931: 61).

In some cases, old roadbeds were graded to a maximum of fifteen percent and improved for trail use. Wherever possible, trails were designed with long sweeping curves. In rocky or steep sections, such as those on the north side of Mary’s Rock and The Pinnacle and on the south side of Bearfence Mountain, switchbacks were built to ease the hike. Retaining walls were constructed on sheer slopes to support the trail bed and maintain the grade, which was not to exceed fifteen percent (NPS Shenandoah NP Master Plan, 1936).

Existing Conditions:

Since 1942, there have been some changes to the built topography of the AT–Central District. In general, the graded trail has not retained the three-percent cross pitch due to erosion and some drainage ditches have been installed to divert water from the trail (Fig. 17). The relocation at Skyland, which removed the AT from the Passamaquoddy Trail to Stony Man Nature Trail and a section of new trail in 1988, increased the grade of the trail as it trekked perpendicular to the contours rather than traveling parallel to them. In other areas, the trail continues to negotiate the terrain through the use of switchbacks and on a trailbed often supported by retaining walls. The trail’s general north-south orientation is still consistent with the ridgeline terrain.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Drainage ditch (421020, 1.999—2.045)	122609	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 17: The CCC-graded trail has eroded and not retained the three-percent cross pitch. The trail has migrated and the stone edging that once supported the treadway now appears to bisect the trail. (SUNY, 2006)

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

Historic Conditions:

Vegetation refers to the indigenous and introduced plant materials along the trail corridor. The PATC's 1931 Guidebook of the AT–Central District described a trail corridor that passed through native woods, fields, and abandoned agricultural lands (PATC, 1931:53-57). The farm fields often had a few large trees to provide shade for livestock and farmer.

The CCC's post-construction work on Skyline Drive and the relocation and reconstruction of portions of the AT required the preservation of as much native plant material as possible. When plants had to be removed for construction, the CCC transplanted many native trees, shrubs, perennials, and vines as prescribed by the principles of the NPS Rustic style. Additionally, native plants were grown in nurseries at the CCC camps or brought from commercial nurseries or other national parks and then planted along the trail. Many pines were started from seed or grown from seedling stock in pine plantations. Some plantings were intended to naturalize with mixed plantings and others to reforest former agricultural fields (Engle, 1999, 85-87). The CCC planted species such as oaks (*Quercus* spp.), pines (*Pinus* spp.), mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*), sumac (*Rhus* spp.), witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), and Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) among others to harmonize the newly constructed trail with its surroundings and allow for naturalization.

Existing Conditions:

Since 1942, vegetation within Shenandoah NP's Central District, and along the AT, has matured and filled in. Many of the open fields, rocky mountain tops, and bare slopes that the trail once encountered have transitioned to secondary growth hardwood forest comprised of oak, hickory (*Carya* spp.), cherry (*Prunus* spp.), maple (*Acer* spp.), black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), and ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) along with sumac, witch hazel, mountain laurel, upland low blueberry (*Vaccinium pallidum*), fern (*Dennstaedtia* spp.), and Virginia creeper.

Both the park and the trail corridor display a large variety of perennials. Common species include rose azalea (*Rhododendron prinophyllum*), black cohosh (*Cimicifuga racemosa*), and fly-poison (*Amianthium muscivomicum*). More unique species include trailing arbutus (*Epigaea repens*), wild bleeding heart (*Dicentra eximia*), twinleaf (*Jeffersonia diphylla*), and cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*), which provide interest throughout the seasons. Invasive exotic plants have arrived such as tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), Japanese stilt grass (*Microstegium vimineum*), garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), and oriental lady's thumb (*Polygonum caespitosum*). The invasive exotics have proliferated and changed the character of the vegetation along the trail.

Wolf trees, which are field trees with low branches around which younger woods have grown up, are numerous and recall the farm fields that once existed. They're usually large in diameter and height and contrast with the younger woods that surround them (Fig. 18). These ancient trees stand out along the trail corridor and recall the rich history of the park and the trail. Just north of Mary's Rock, the AT passes through a large mass of mountain laurel which was likely planted by the CCC (Route 421001).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Thicket, laurel (421001, 0.067—0.128)	123947	Contributing					No
Thicket, laurel (421001, 0.068—0.128)	123949	Contributing					No

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Tree, wolf (421001, 1.11—0)	123951	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421007, 0.548—0)	123953	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421007, 0.592—0)	123955	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421008, 0.425—0)	123957	Contributing					No
Tree, row (421008, 0.430—0)	123959	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421009, 1.433—0)	123961	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421012, 1.243—0)	123963	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421012, 1.354—0)	123965	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421012, 1.366—0)	123967	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421012, 1.409—0)	123969	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421013, 0.131—0)	123971	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421013, 0.171—0)	123973	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421013, 0.495—0)	123975	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421013, 0.900—0)	123977	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421014, 0.017—0)	123979	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421014, 0.914—0)	123981	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421014, 1.129—0)	123983	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421016, 1.325—0)	123985	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421020, 0.727—0)	123989	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421020, 1.225—0)	123991	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421022, 0.162—0.27)	123993	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421022, 0.327—0.487)	123995	Contributing					No
Tree, wolf (421023, 0.103—0)	123997	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 18: A large wolf tree along the AT near Bearfence Rock Scramble indicates its early development in on open field. Now the tree is surrounded by younger forest. (SUNY, 2006)

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

Historic Conditions:

Numerous stone and log shelters and cabins were built along the AT–Central District during the historic period. Shelters were important for trail hikers for overnight stays and during inclement weather, and were often built near springs for access to drinking water. The structures made use of many of the abundant dead chestnut trees in log construction as well as in the porches and rafters.

Early shelters built by the PATC most likely adapted the NPS Rustic style principles that had been in practice in the Western parks since 1916 and that emphasized the use of native materials to harmonize with the landscape and provide a unified design. Meadow Spring Shelter, located east of the AT in the sag below the south slope of Mary’s Rock, was built of logs by the PATC in 1930 and accommodated six people. Sexton Shelter was a stone cabin built by the PATC in 1930. The design of the shelter was widely praised and it became the basic design for subsequent cabins (Shenandoah NP staff, 2007). The shelter could accommodate six people and was located east of the AT in a ravine south of The Pinnacle (PATC Guidebook, 1959:33-34).

The CCC arrived in 1933 and also built shelters. Like the PATC shelters, the CCC shelters also featured local stone and logs and incorporated the ideals of the NPS Rustic style which stated that: “...buildings be in harmony with the natural surroundings and secondary to the landscape...stone and logs used in construction should be in scale with each other and their surroundings and natural counterparts” (McClelland, 1998:335).

The CCC constructed many cabins and shelters in the Central District. In 1936, Rock Spring Cabin was built with dead chestnut logs in an open sag west of the AT and southwest of Hawksbill. Around 1937, Lewis Spring Shelter was constructed south of Big Meadows and the Lewis Springs Falls Trail, and Pocosin Cabin was built fifty-yards east of the AT and accessible from Skyline Drive at milepost (MP) 59.6 via the Pocosin Fire Road. Both were constructed with logs. In 1939-40, the CCC built the stone Hawksbill Gap Shelter on the east side of the trail and Skyline Drive at MP 45.6 and accessible via Cedar Run Trail and rebuilt Meadow Spring Shelter which was accessible from MP 33.7. In 1940, the CCC built the stone Bearfence Mountain Shelter with accommodations for six, east of the AT in a gap south of Bearfence Mountain and accessible from Skyline Drive at MP 56.7. They also built the stone South River Shelter in 1940 off an old road in a ravine, which could sleep six people (PATC Guidebook, 1959: 41-50).

Historic photographs show that the CCC was also responsible for many of the stone walls, steps, and culverts along the trail and surrounding the shelters. Like the cabins and shelters, the design of these structures also made use of local stone and timber as promoted by the NPS Rustic style principles that were eventually formalized in the U.S. Department of the Interior 1937 manual, *Construction of Trails*. According to the manual, stone retaining walls were to be built below the trail and would not be highly visible to the hiker. The retaining walls allowed the trail be built out from the mountain side and hug the sides of steep slopes. As seen along the stretches of trail at Mary's Rock, Crescent Rock, and Franklin Cliffs, the walls negotiated the changes in topography and allowed for an even grade and consistent trail width. Stone culverts were constructed to divert water under the trail to prevent erosion of the trail bed. These too would not have been readily visible to the AT hiker. Also evident were runs of slab-laid stone steps, particularly along steep parts of the trail and near developed areas such as overlooks.

Existing Conditions:

There have been some changes in buildings and structures since 1942. In the 1960s, new shelters providing additional accommodations for long- and short-distance AT hikers were built of stone and wood in a rustic style. Byrd's Nest 3 Shelter east of the AT and south of Meadow Spring Trail and Byrd's Nest 2 Shelter east of the AT on Hawksbill Summit supported the day-hiker. Rock Spring Hut, adjacent to Rock Spring Cabin, was built in the 1970s for overnight stays. It was constructed from the remains of Hawksbill Gap and Shaver Hollow Shelters, which along with Lewis Spring Shelter were removed because of overuse. The South River Shelter was reassigned as a PATC Maintenance Building in the 1980s. Bearfence Mountain Shelter, now called Bearfence Mountain Hut, is a three-sided facility that allows overnight stays on a first-come, first-served basis. Pocosin Cabin is still a locked cabin that requires reservations from the PATC (Fig. 20).

Numerous historic structures remain evident along the AT–Central District, including retaining walls, steps, and culverts (Fig. 21). CCC-built stone retaining walls exist along the downhill sides of the trail although some are covered by vegetation. Several other retaining walls appear to have been repaired in places, and the character of some of the stone steps suggests that the steps may post-date the historic period.

New types of trail construction have been added in several areas to address erosion and puddling, and employ Appalachian Trail Conservancy trail maintenance techniques. Ramp steps of logs most likely are waterbars that have silted in and now function as steps. More recently, fords have been constructed, which are built of stepping-stones placed to facilitate stream crossings, and turnpikes, which raise the trail up off wet areas (Route 421000.5). Utility corridors also periodically cross the trail, and utility boxes are occasionally visible from the trail.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Culvert (421000.5, 0.003—0)	124767	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Culvert (421000.5, 0.026—0)	124769	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Culvert (421000.5, 0.028—0)	124771	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Culvert (421000.5, 0.040—0)	124773	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Wall, retaining (421000.5, 0.064—0.066)	124775	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Wall, retaining (421000.5, 0.067—0.069)	124777	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Wall, retaining (421000.5, 0.162—0.163)	124779	Contributing					No
Panorama Lodge (421000.5, 0.167—0.187)	124781	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Culvert (421000.5, 0.179—0.180)	124783	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Culvert, (421000.5, 0.180—0.182)	124785	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Steps (421001, 0.014—0.021)	124787	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Steps (421001, 0.038—0.039)	124789	Undetermined					No
Steps (421001, 0.059—0.062)	124791	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 0.405—0.409)	124793	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 0.513—0.516)	124795	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 0.521—0.539)	124797	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 0.574—0.594)	124799	Contributing					No
Culvert (421001, 0.575—0)	124801	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 0.607—0.615)	124803	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 0.620—0.633)	124805	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 0.640—0.647)	124807	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 0.671—0.676)	124809	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 0.773—0.781)	124811	Contributing					No

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Wall, retaining (421001, 0.792—0.802)	124813	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 0.828—0.841)	124815	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 0.845—0.860)	124817	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 0.919—0.925)	124819	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 0.965—0.971)	124821	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 0.977—1.082)	124823	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 1.120—1.135)	124825	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 1.188—1.216)	124827	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 1.450—1.455)	124829	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421001, 1.550—1.577)	124831	Contributing					No
Steps (421002, 0.100—0.104)	124833	Contributing					No
Byrd's Nest 3 Shelter (421002, 1.329—1.334)	124835	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 0.034—0.036)	124837	Contributing					No
Other, utility box (421003, 0.044—0)	124839	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 0.045—0.046)	124841	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 0.077—0.081)	124843	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 0.201—0.206)	124845	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 0.227—0.237)	124847	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 0.271—0.274)	124849	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 0.288—0.291)	124851	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 0.335—0.339)	124853	Contributing					No
Steps, ramp (421003, 0.561—0.568)	124855	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 0.640—0.646)	124857	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 0.937—0.942)	124859	Contributing					No

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Wall, retaining (421003, 0.959—0.963)	124861	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 1.045—1.049)	124863	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 1.256—1.260)	124865	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 1.271—1.274)	124867	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 1.735—1.739)	124869	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 1.751—1.759)	124871	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 1.859—1.863)	124873	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 1.871—1.874)	124875	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 1.884—1.892)	124877	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 1.900—1.910)	124879	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421003, 1.913—1.916)	124881	Contributing					No
Steps, ramp (421004, 0.002—0.005)	124883	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Wall, retaining (421004, 0.038—0.044)	124885	Contributing					No
Bathroom (421004, 0.342—0)	124887	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Bathroom (421004, 0.383—0)	124889	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Wall, retaining (421004, 0.911—0.914)	124891	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421004, 0.926—0.932)	124893	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421004, 0.934—0.938)	124895	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421004, 0.944—0.973)	124897	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421004, 1.010—1.014)	124899	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421004, 1.025—1.030)	124901	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421004, 1.051—1.054)	124903	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421004, 1.147—1.157)	124905	Contributing					No
Steps, ramp (421004.5, 0.084—0.089)	124907	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

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Steps, ramp (421004.5, 0.186—0.189)	124909	Undetermined					No
Steps, ramp (421004.5, 0.437—0.441)	124911	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Steps, ramp (421004.5, 0.457—0.469)	124913	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Steps, ramp (421004.5, 0.510—0.513)	124915	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Steps, ramp (421004.5, 0.545—0.551)	124917	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Steps, ramp (421004.5, 0.602—0.605)	124919	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Steps, ramp (421004.5, 0.617—0.623)	124921	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Steps, ramp (421004.5, 0.631—0.634)	124923	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Culvert (421004.5, 0.729—0)	124925	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Wall, retaining (421004.5, 0.869—0.874)	124927	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421004.5, 0.890—0.919)	124929	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421004.5, 0.925—0.950)	124931	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421004.5, 0.960—0.967)	124933	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421004.5, 1.033—1.051)	124935	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421004.5, 1.060—1.065)	124937	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421004.5, 1.103—1.107)	124939	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421005, 0.073—0.086)	124941	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421005, 0.105—0.155)	124943	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421005, 0.173—0.209)	124945	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421005, 0.244—0.309)	124947	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421005, 0.380—0.386)	124949	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421005, 0.490—0.502)	124951	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421005, 0.529—0.543)	124953	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421005, 0.615—0.619)	124955	Contributing					No

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Wall, retaining (421005, 0.625—0.643)	124957	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421005, 0.679—0.687)	124959	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421005, 0.705—0.710)	124961	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421006, 0.034—0.050)	124963	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421006, 0.083—0.089)	124965	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421006, 0.099—0.104)	124967	Contributing					No
Water tank (421006, 1.506—1.526)	124969	Contributing					No
Steps, slab laid (421007, 0.229—0)	124971	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421007, 0.248—0.253)	124973	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421007, 0.293—0.307)	124975	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421007, 0.329—0.332)	124977	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421007, 0.338—0.344)	124979	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421007, 0.373—0.397)	124981	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421007, 0.449—0.468)	124983	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421007, 0.477—0.494)	124985	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421007, 0.537—0.548)	124987	Contributing					No
Steps, slab laid (421007, 0.748—0.759)	124989	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421007, 0.804—0.816)	124991	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421008, 0.022—0.026)	124993	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421008, 0.057—0.069)	124995	Contributing					No
Steps (421008, 0.062—0.066)	124997	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421008, 0.113—0.137)	124999	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421008, 0.153—0.163)	125001	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421008, 0.702—0.707)	125003	Contributing					No

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Wall, retaining (421008, 0.723—0.731)	125005	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421008, 0.758—0.795)	125007	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421008, 0.852—0.855)	125009	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421008, 0.860—0.910)	125011	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421008, 0.929—0.970)	125013	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421008, 0.944—1.068)	125015	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421008, 1.229—1.308)	125017	Contributing					No
Culvert (421008, 1.332—0)	125019	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Culvert (421009, 0.003—0)	125021	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Wall, retaining (421009, 0.806—0.812)	125023	Contributing					No
Shelter (421009, 1.031—0) (trail marker indicates Byrd's Nest 2)	125025	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Hut (421009, 1.335—0) (trail to Rock Spring Hut)	125027	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Cabin (421009, 1.335—0) (trail to Rock Spring Cabin)	125029	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421010, 0.053—0.057)	125031	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421010, 0.192—0.209)	125033	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421010, 0.223—0.235)	125035	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421010, 0.246—0.265)	125037	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421010, 0.352—0.387)	125039	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421010, 0.443—0.453)	125041	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421010, 0.500—0.509)	125043	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421010, 0.634—0.640)	125045	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421010, 0.721—0.727)	125047	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421010, 0.754—0.794)	125049	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421010, 0.817—0.831)	125051	Contributing					No

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Wall, retaining (421010, 0.836—0.854)	125053	Contributing				No
Wall, retaining (421010, 0.899—0.925)	125055	Contributing				No
Wall, retaining (421010, 1.081—1.092)	125057	Contributing				No
Wall, retaining (421010, 1.106—1.115)	125059	Contributing				No
Culvert (421011, 0.7 00—0)	125061	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Wall, retaining (421012, 0.088—0.102)	125063	Contributing				No
Wall, retaining (421012, 0.275—0.280)	125065	Contributing				No
Wall, retaining (421012, 0.303—0.317)	125067	Contributing				No
Wall, retaining (421012, 0.324—0.353)	125069	Contributing				No
Wall, retaining (421012, 0.359—0.367)	125071	Contributing				No
Wall, retaining (421012, 0.432—0.447)	125073	Contributing				No
Wall, retaining (421012, 0.559—0.578)	125075	Contributing				No
Utility (421012, 0.763—0)	125077	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Utility corridor (421012, 0.940—0.946)	125079	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Pump House (421012, 0.945—0)	125081	Contributing				No
Wall, retaining (421012, 0.998—1.034)	125083	Contributing				No
Wall, retaining (421012, 1.038—1.046)	125085	Contributing				No
Wall, retaining (421012, 1.116—1.119)	125109	Contributing				No
Culvert (421012, 1.117—0)	125111	Contributing				No
Culvert (421013, 0.021—0)	125103	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Culvert (421013, 0.216—0)	125105	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Steps, ramp (421013, 0.231—0.237)	125117	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Culvert (421013, 0.535—0)	125119	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Culvert (421013, 0.539—0)	125121	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Culvert (421013, 1.093—0)	125123	Undetermined				No

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Wall, retaining (421014, 0.354—0.361)	125125	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421014, 0.382—0.387)	125127	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421014, 0.485—0.491)	125129	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421014, 1.847—1.852)	125131	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421015, 0.366—0.371)	125133	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421016, 0.141—0.173)	125135	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421016, 0.366—0.380)	125137	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421016, 0.560—0.573)	125139	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421016, 0.581—0.606)	125141	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421016, 0.689—0.706)	125143	Contributing					No
Steps (421016, 1.351—0)	125145	Undetermined					No
Wall, retaining (421017, 0.160—0.173)	125147	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421017, 0.197—0.205)	125149	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421017, 0.214—0.276)	125151	Contributing					No
Culvert (421017, 0.265—0)	125153	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421017, 0.303—0.314)	125155	Contributing					No
Culvert (421017, 0.308—0)	125157	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421017, 0.316—0.329)	125159	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421017, 0.378—0.386)	125161	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421017, 0.554—0.574)	125163	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421017, 0.585—0.596)	125165	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421017, 0.613—0.621)	125167	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421017, 0.654—0.667)	125169	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421017, 0.678—0.699)	125171	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421017, 0.721—0.731)	125173	Contributing					No

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Wall, retaining (421017, 0.746—0.761)	125175	Contributing					No
Communications building (421018, 0.623—0)	125177	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Steps, ramp (421018, 0.863—0.871)	125179	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Culvert, open (421019, 1.638—0)	125181	Contributing					No
Wall, field stone (421020, 0.175—0.182)	125183	Contributing					No
Steps (421020, 0.443—0.465)	125185	Contributing					No
Steps (421020, 0.470—0.492)	125187	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421020, 0.481—0.484)	125189	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421020, 0.494—0.497)	125191	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421020, 1.250—1.254)	125193	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421020, 1.496—1.515)	125195	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421020, 1.542—1.563)	125197	Contributing					No
Culvert (421021, 0.321—0)	125199	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421021, 0.329—0.347)	125201	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421021, 0.387—0.396)	125203	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421021, 0.419—0.425)	125205	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421021, 0.670—0.676)	125207	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421021, 0.700—0.709)	125209	Contributing					No
Wall, retaining (421021.5, 0.007—0.017)	125211	Contributing					No
Wall, (421022, 0.469—0.486)	125213	Contributing					No
Wall (421023, 0.213—0.254)	125215	Contributing					No
Wall (421023, 0.304—0.312)	125217	Contributing					No
Wall (421023, 0.305—0.309)	125219	Contributing					No
Wall (421023, 0.336—0.362)	125221	Contributing					No
Wall (421023, 0.426—0.438)	125223	Contributing					No

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Wall (421023, 0.443—1.211)	125225	Contributing					No
Wall (421023, 0.444—1.213)	125227	Contributing					No
Wall (421023, 1.583—1.589)	125229	Contributing					No
Wall (421023, 1.589—1.615)	125241	Contributing					No
Wall (421023, 1.762—1.793)	125243	Contributing					No
Wall (421023, 1.763—1.793)	125245	Contributing					No
Utility corridor (421023, 2.212—0)	125247	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 20: Pocosin Cabin was constructed by the CCC in 1937. It shows the NPS Rustic style of using local material and building techniques. The cabin can accommodate twelve hikers. (SUNY, 2006)



Figure 21: A CCC-built stone retaining wall supports the AT treadway near Spitler Knoll. (SUNY, 2006)

Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas

Historic Conditions:

The AT–Central District initially featured many broad views. The trail often passed rocky cliffs or outcrops that allowed for views to peaks within the park, as described in the 1935 PATC Guidebook Supplement, “Ascend gradually along rocky northern slope of Mary’s Rock with fine views of Blue Ridge as far north as Mt. Marshall” (PATC, 1935:3). Other views were accessible from the AT via short side trails, also noted in the 1931 PATC Guidebook, “The Trail passes directly under prominent jagged crest of Bear Fence Mountain, short distance to left, summit of which affords one of the finest outlooks along this section” (PATC, 1931:66). Due to its general alignment along the park’s undulating ridgeline, the AT offered views to both the majestic peaks within the park and to the hollows and valleys below, which inspired feelings of walking in the shadows of mountains and discovering their highest peaks.

The NPS Rustic style also encouraged the establishment of specific viewpoints from the trail. “As in road design, the landscape architects helped to locate the trails, capturing scenic features and views...” (McClelland, 1998:233). On the AT–Central District, this meant preserving views from rocky outcrops and cliffs along the trail below Stony Man (by utilizing the Passamaquoddy Trail), along Crescent Rock and Franklin Cliffs, and on the summits of Mary’s Rock, The Pinnacle, Hawksbill, Blackrock, Hazeltop, Bush, Bearfence, Lewis Mountain, Baldface, and Saddleback.

Existing Conditions:

Since 1942, vegetation has naturalized throughout the AT–Central District and reforested the slopes below cliffs and rock outcrops. Due the density of the secondary growth forest, views from the trail are now limited, so much so that the trail is often described as a “green tunnel.” As a result, hikers have created over time short spur trails that lead to nearby rock outcrops or the edges of steep downward slopes where a view can be experienced. It is likely that the obstructed views from the trail were once open views. There still are, however, broad views along the trail to Mary’s Rock and from its summit as well as from other places along the trail (Fig. 22).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
View, obstructed (421001, 0.372—0.576)	125249	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421001, 0.613—0.625)	125251	Contributing					No
View (421001, 0.687—0.771)	125253	Contributing					No
View (421001, 0.795—0.842)	125255	Contributing					No
View (421001, 0.850—0.926)	125257	Contributing					No
View (421001, 0.931—1.080)	125259	Contributing					No
View (421001, 1.100—1.133)	125261	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421001, 1.160—1.197)	125263	Contributing					No

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View, obstructed (421001, 1.222—1.310)	125265	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421001, 1.513—1.541)	125267	Contributing					No
View (421001, 1.612—1.629)	125269	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421002, 0.186—0.210)	125271	Contributing					No
View (421002, 0.738—0.770)	125273	Contributing					No
View (421002, 0.962—0.973)	125275	Contributing					No
View (421002, 0.186—0.210)	125277	Contributing					No
View (421003, 0.035—0.036)	125279	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421003, 0.099—0.109)	125281	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421003, 0.139—0.150)	125283	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421003, 0.766—0.777)	125285	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421003, 0.871—0.822)	125287	Contributing					No
View (421003, 0.897—0.908)	125289	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421003, 1.702—1.728)	125291	Contributing					No
View (421003, 1.748—1.758)	125293	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421003, 1.835—1.925)	125295	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421004, 0.092—0.117)	125297	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421004, 0.265—0.295)	125299	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421004, 0.448—0)	125301	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421004, 0.980—1.060)	125303	Contributing					No
View (421004, 1.137—1.157)	125305	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421004.5, 0.927—1.120)	125307	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421005, 0.086—0.277)	125309	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421005, 0.338—0)	125311	Contributing					No

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View, obstructed (421005, 0.621—0)	125313	Contributing					No
View (421006, 0.196—0.243)	125315	Contributing					No
View (421007, 0.391—0.520)	125317	Contributing					No
View (421007, 0.736—0)	125319	Contributing					No
View (421007, 1.163—1.212)	125321	Contributing					No
View (421008, 0.004—0.008)	125323	Contributing					No
View (421008, 0.329—0.333)	125325	Contributing					No
View (421008, 0.695—0.703)	125327	Contributing					No
View (421008, 0.890—0.916)	125329	Contributing					No
View (421008, 1.045—1.080)	125331	Contributing					No
View (421009, 0.421—0.435)	125333	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421009, 0.531—0.575)	125335	Contributing					No
View (421009, 0.631—0.642)	125337	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421009, 0.795—0.805)	125339	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421010, 0.348—0.379)	125341	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421010, 0.954—1.075)	125343	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421010, 1.123—1.178)	125345	Contributing					No
View (421010, 1.403—1.441)	125347	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421011, 0.997—1.064)	125349	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421012, 0.356—0.401)	125351	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421016, 0.583—0.606)	125353	Undetermined					No
View, obstructed (421017, 0.484—0.490)	125355	Contributing					No
View, obstructed (421017, 0.624—0.649)	125357	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 22: A view looking west from the AT near Fishers Gap to the Massanutten Mountains and New Market Gap at center in the distance. (SUNY, 2006)

Landscape Characteristic: Small Scale Features

Historic Conditions:

The AT featured a number of small-scale features for wayfinding and other utilitarian purposes. When the PATC completed the AT–Central District in 1930, they had used stone cairns to mark the trail route through open fields and over rocky mountaintops as there often was not a constructed trail bed. When the CCC relocated and reconstructed portions of the AT in the 1930s, a standard trail marker was developed for use along the entire AT in Shenandoah NP. The markers were four-foot-tall, six-inch-wide concrete pillars with embossed zinc banding displaying the AT logo. They were reminiscent of hitching posts and marked the junctions of the AT and the side trails. The PATC also used metal AT markers and nailed them to trees, and developed a system of white-painted blazes on trees to mark the trail that was used throughout the entire AT from Maine to Georgia.

Other small-scale features within the trail corridor included wooden gates and stiles, and wood and wire fences associated with adjacent farms. Along a stretch just south of Panorama and the Lee Highway (US 211), the PATC 1931 Guidebook said, “Follow conspicuous line of cairns across grassy pasture to upper left hand corner, where line of cairns meets wire fence at edge of woods at .23 m. Follow this fence to .25 m., then cross stile” (PATC, 1931:59). Sometimes the AT passed through the gates and fencing and at other times the trail ran alongside farm fields and orchards delineated by fences.

Existing Conditions:

The most predominant small-scale feature on the AT–Central District today are the historic concrete and embossed-zinc trail markers (Fig. 23). They continue to serve as a key wayfinding feature for the AT and the side trails in the park. When the markers are in need of repair or replacement, they are replaced in-kind. Many of the old metal AT signs have rusted away or have been acquired by hikers as souvenirs, and have not been replaced. Occasionally, however, one can be discovered nailed to a tree.

White blazes still mark the entire AT from Georgia to Maine and are repainted by the PATC as needed. Other signs are made of wood or metal. At some trail junctions, maps are displayed vertically under plexiglass within a six-foot-tall, four-foot-wide brown metal signpost structures. Stone drinking fountains can be found at Byrd’s Nest 3 Shelter and Pinnacles Picnic Area.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Marker, trail (421000.5, 0—0) (concrete and zinc)	125359	Contributing					No
Sign (421000.5, 0.002—0)	125361	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Sign (421000.5, 0.018—0)	125363	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Sign (421000.5, 0.023—0)	125365	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Marker, trail (421000.5, 0.210—0) (concrete and zinc)	125367	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421001, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125369	Contributing					No

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Marker, trail (421002, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125371	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421002, 0.641—0) (concrete and zinc)	125373	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421002, 1.281—0) (concrete and zinc)	125375	Contributing					No
Fountain, drinking (421002, 1.334—0)	125377	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Fireplace (421002, 1.337—0)	125379	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Marker, trail (421002, 1.338—0) (concrete and zinc)	125381	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421003, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125383	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421003, 0.155—0) (concrete and zinc)	125385	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421003, 1.690—0) (concrete and zinc)	125387	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421004, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125389	Contributing					No
Sign (421004, 0.220-0)	125391	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Fountain, drinking (421004, 0.355—0)	125393	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Sign (421004, 0.377—0)	125395	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Sign (421004, 0.417—0)	125397	Contributing					No
Marker, utility (421004, 1.233—0)	125399	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421004, 1.241—0) (concrete and zinc)	125401	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421004.5, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125403	Contributing					No
Bench (421004.5, 0.263—0)	125405	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421004.5, 0.630—0) (concrete and zinc)	125407	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421004.5, 0.766—0) (concrete and zinc)	125409	Contributing					No

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Marker, trail (421004.5, 1.155—0) (concrete and zinc)	125411	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421005, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125413	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421005, 0.363—0) (concrete and zinc)	125415	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Marker, trail (421005, 0.711—0) (concrete and zinc)	125417	Contributing				No
Market, trail (421006, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125419	Contributing				No
Marker, USDI NPS (421006, 0.824—0)	125421	Contributing				No
Sign (421006, 0.838—0)	125423	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Marker, trail (421006, 0.840—0) (concrete and zinc)	125425	Contributing				No
Sign (421006, 0.903—0)	125427	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Sign (421006, 0.947—0)	125429	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Bench (421006, 0.961—0)	125431	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Sign (421006, 0.978—0)	125433	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Sign (421006, 1.062—0)	125435	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Sign (421006, 1.132—0)	125437	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Sign (421006, 1.150—0)	125439	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Sign (421006, 1.184—0)	125441	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Sign (421006, 1.245—0)	125443	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Monument, survey (421006, 1.254—0)	125445	Undetermined				No
Marker, trail (421006, 1.287—0) (concrete and zinc)	125447	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421006, 1.326—0) (concrete and zinc)	125449	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421006, 1.486—0) (concrete and zinc)	125451	Contributing				No

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Marker, trail (421006, 2.069—0) (concrete and zinc)	125453	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421007, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125455	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421007, 1.212—0) (concrete and zinc)	125457	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421008, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125459	Contributing					No
Utility Pipe (421008, 0.055—0)	125461	Undetermined					No
Marker, trail (421008, 0.920—0) (concrete and zinc)	125463	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421008, 1.360—0) (concrete and zinc)	125465	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421009, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125467	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421009, 1.030—0) (concrete and zinc)	125469	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421009, 1.334—0) (concrete and zinc)	125471	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421009, 1.851—0) (concrete and zinc)	125473	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421010, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125475	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421010, 1.353—0) (concrete and zinc)	125477	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421010, 1.448—0) (concrete and zinc)	125479	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421011, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125481	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421011, 0.881—0) (concrete and zinc)	125483	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421011, 1.129—0) (concrete and zinc)	125485	Contributing					No

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Marker, trail (421012, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125487	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421012, 0.018—0) (concrete and zinc)	125489	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421012, 0.416—0) (concrete and zinc)	125491	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421012, 0.972—0) (concrete and zinc)	125493	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421012, 1.063—0) (concrete and zinc)	125495	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421012, 1.428—0) (concrete and zinc)	125497	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421012, 1.553—0) (concrete and zinc)	125499	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421013, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125501	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421013, 0.034—0) (concrete and zinc)	125503	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421013, 0.417—0) (concrete and zinc)	125505	Contributing				No
Fence (421013, 1.046—0)	125507	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Marker, trail (421013, 1.063—0) (concrete and zinc)	125509	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421013, 1.075—0) (concrete and zinc)	125511	Contributing				No
Sign (421013, 1.130—0)	125513	Noncontributing – Compatible				No
Marker, trail (421014, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125515	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421015, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125517	Contributing				No
Marker, trail (421016, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125519	Contributing				No
Bench (421016, 0.575—0.576)	125521	Undetermined				No

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Marker, trail (421017, 0—0) (concrete and zinc)	125523	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421017, 0.283—0) (concrete and zinc)	125525	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421017, 0.436—0) (concrete and zinc)	125527	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421017, 1.014—0) (concrete and zinc)	125529	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421018, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125531	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421018, 0.750—0) (concrete and zinc)	125533	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421018, 0.881—0) (concrete and zinc)	125535	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421019, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125537	Contributing					No
Marker, USDI NPS (421019, 0.136—0)	125539	Undetermined					No
Marker, trail (421019, 0.248—0) (concrete and zinc)	125541	Contributing					No
Bench (421019, 1.188—0)	125543	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Marker, trail (421019, 1.802—0) (concrete and zinc)	125545	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421020, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125547	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421020, 0.133—0) (concrete and zinc)	125549	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421020, 2.045—0) (concrete and zinc)	125551	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421021, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125553	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421021, 0.691—0) (concrete and zinc)	125555	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421021.5, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125557	Contributing					No

Marker, trail (421022, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125559	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421022, 0.317—0) (concrete and zinc)	125561	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421023, 0.000—0) (concrete and zinc)	125563	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421023, 1.036—0) (concrete and zinc)	125565	Contributing					No
Marker, trail (421023, 2.540—0) (concrete and zinc)	125567	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 23: A historic concrete and zinc AT marker and a contemporary metal sign just beyond it at the beginning of the trail up to Mary's Rock. (SUNY, 2006)

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 6

Next Assessment Due Date: 01/22/2032

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 01/22/2026

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The overall landscape is well-maintained and in good condition.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/25/2023

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Provisional. The condition reassessment for this CLI has been delayed due to the effects of Covid-19 travel restrictions and staffing shortages. In the meantime, the most recent condition assessment will remain in place until it is reassessed. Planning and scheduling for this update will occur in FYs 2023-2024.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 08/01/2013

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

In consultation with Ann Kain, Cultural Resource Manager, and with concurrence from the Superintendent, the Appalachian Trail landscapes are currently in "good" condition. They show no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, their cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions, and no immediate corrective action is required to maintain their current condition.

According to project statements in PMIS for the AT, the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) has annually accomplished trail tread maintenance, construction and rehabilitation of waterbars, check-dams, and drainage ditches, re-grading trail surfaces, vegetation removal, and re-routing/construction of new trail (146690 et al.), and there are future PMIS statements to continue this important work. There is also a project statement for a Cultural Landscape Report for the portion of the AT in the park (147447).

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 08/27/2007

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition. Some trail sections are subject to erosion and improper drainage problems, but typically are diligently addressed by the NPS and PATC.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Adjacent Lands

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Impact Narrative: Incompatible development beyond the trail corridor and park boundaries may negatively affect views and vistas and the hiking experience.

Date Identified: 09/11/2007

Type of Impact: Erosion

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: Erosion of the treadway is potentially the biggest impact on the AT as it can damage the treadway and effect the integrity of stone edging and retaining walls.

Date Identified: 09/11/2007

Type of Impact: Improper Drainage

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: This impact can also affect the condition of the treadway and associated stone structures.

Date Identified: 09/11/2007

Type of Impact: Other

Other Impact: Development

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: Addition of incompatible features within the park can affect the character of the resource.

Date Identified: 09/11/2007

Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Treatment Documents

Treatment Type: Preservation

Treatment Completed: Yes

Document Type: General Management Plan

Document Date: 1983-01-23

Title:

IRMA Link:

Narrative:

Regarding the Appalachian Trail (AT) within Shenandoah National Park, the 1983 General Management Plan states that “efforts will be continued to protect and to minimize possible intrusions.” The AT is also categorized as a “permitted development” of the park’s “Natural Zone” management area (General Management Plan, 1983:77,101).

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

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Supplemental Information Title: Map – Trail Map of Shenandoah National Park (Central Section),
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Supplemental Information Narrative:

Landscape Documents:

File Name	Date	Attachment Type
SHEN_AT Landscape-AT North-AT Central-AT South_CLI Updates Notes_2026.pdf		

Source