

THE CCC PARKS IN TEXAS: A LASTING LEGACY

CELEBRATING THE HISTORICAL RECORD OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

ARCHIVES MONTH IS AN ANNUAL, MONTH-LONG CELEBRATION OF THE ARCHIVAL AND HISTORICAL RECORDS OF OUR NATION, STATE, COMMUNITIES AND PEOPLE, AS WELL AS THE AGENCIES RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING AND MAKING THEM AVAILABLE. VISIT YOUR LOCAL ARCHIVES AND DISCOVER THE HISTORIC LEGACIES AWAITING YOU THERE.

ABOUT THE CCC:

THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS WAS CREATED ON APRIL 5, 1933, FOUR WEEKS AFTER PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT TOOK OFFICE. THE MILITARY-STYLED CCC EMPLOYED 2.5 MILLION MEN, AMONG WHOM WERE NEARLY 50,000 TEXANS, MOST BETWEEN AGES 18 AND 25 WITH FAMILIES IN NEED. THERE WERE ALSO PROGRAMS FOR MILITARY VETERANS, WHO COULD BE OLDER, AND REQUIREMENTS TO HIRE LOCAL ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, AND SKILLED CRAFTSMEN TO WORK ON THE PROJECTS.

THROUGHOUT THE 1930s, THE CCC DEVELOPED 41 STATE PARKS FOR TEXAS. OF THESE, 32 WERE MANAGED BY THE STATE PARKS BOARD, AND THE OTHER NINE WERE HISTORIC PARKS MANAGED BY THE BOARD OF CONTROL. TWENTY-NINE OF THESE PARKS ARE STILL IN EXISTENCE. SOME \$20 MILLION IN FEDERAL MONEY WAS SPENT IN TEXAS ON STATE, LOCAL, AND ROADSIDE PARKS. WORLD WAR II BROUGHT AN END TO MOST NEW DEAL PROGRAMS, INCLUDING THE CCC. IT WAS DISBANDED IN 1942.

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