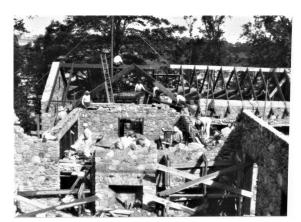
HISTORY CORNER

The Civilian Conservation Corps



On our hikes as Tramps we often walk through parks and forested lands that were created or restored by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression. The CCC, as it was often called, was organized in 1933 by the Franklin Roosevelt Administration. Its purpose was not only to give employment to people out of work, but also to promote natural resource conservation projects. CCC camps were established all over the U.S. where the enrollees were trained by local craftsmen in building dams, erecting fire towers, creating roads and restoring streams and forests. The CCC also built many state and national parks throughout our country, some of which are in upstate NY—Gilbert Lake SP, Green Lakes SP, Letchworth SP, Buttermilk Falls SP, Selkirk Shores SP, and Fillmore Glen SP—and several more in downstate and western NY. These parks are usually distinctive for the handsome stonework of the pavilions and the rustic log cabins and lean-tos for guests. The CCC

lasted for 9 years and employed 3,500,000 workers in that time, with the advent of World War II, manpower was needed elsewhere, and the program was discontinued in 1942. But we still enjoy their legacy today. (*Photo is at Green Lakes State Park*)

Submitted by George Fogg