



The Finger Lakes Story

Sparkling lakes, breathtaking waterfalls and rolling pastoral land dominate the landscape of the Finger Lakes Region. Over thousands of years, gigantic glaciers and coursing streams carved this landscape shared by generations of people. Located in the valley south of Owasco Lake, Fillmore Glen State Park is one of 26 facilities of the Finger Lakes State Parks Region where you can enjoy these treasured landscapes and discover the lives of people of the past.

This park features an oasis of cool, dense woods crowding into a long narrow gorge - a refreshing respite from the summer's heat. The gorge trail crosses Dry Creek on nine bridges. New stonework on some of these bridges complements the extensive work of the Civilian Conservation Corps stonemasons of the 1930's. You can experience the park's rich scenery along hiking trails in and around the gorge, in the natural swimming pool and at scenic picnic areas.

The Nature of Fillmore Glen

Water in many forms has shaped the natural landscape of the park. During the past million years, water in the form of giant mounds of ice, or glaciers, covered New York State several times, dramatically transforming the land in its path. In this region, the most recent glacier moved through shallow river valleys leaving in its place deep, steep-sided troughs. When the glacier retreated north about 10,000 years ago, water filled these new troughs, creating the 11 Finger

Lakes, which include Owasco Lake. Since then, water in the form of Dry Creek has poured down the glacially-steepened hillside, cutting away its soft sedimentary rock. This on-going process has formed the park's gorge with water-sculpted rock and spectacular waterfalls.

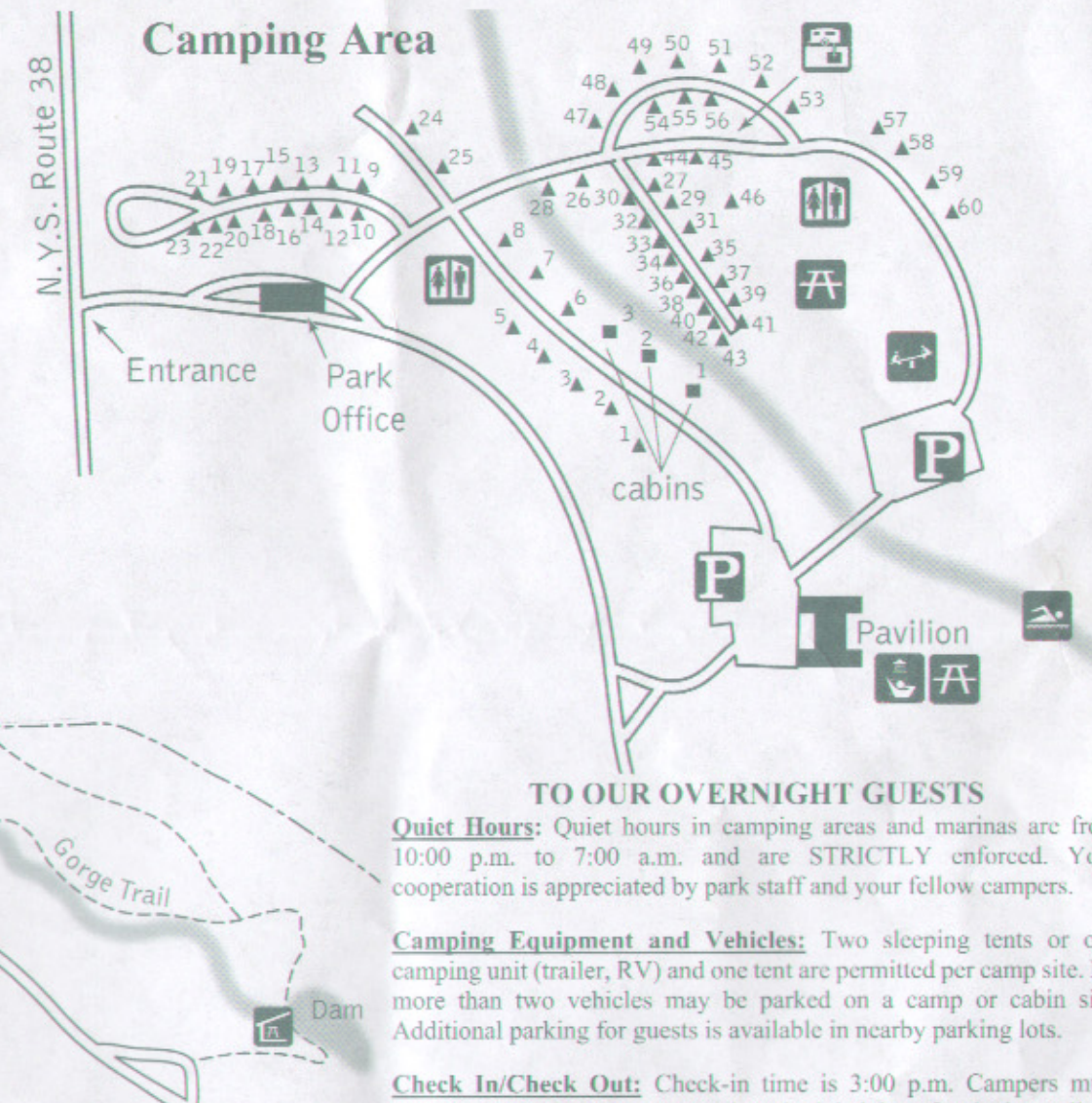
The "Cowsheds" is a huge recess in the cliff next to Lower Falls near the beginning of the glen. This waterfall is featured in the photo on the front of this brochure. There, weak shale has weathered away under a ledge of limestone. It is said that cattle would come up here to escape the summer heat in the days before the State Park.

About a mile up the trail in the glen, the gorge opens up into a rugged area, where stones have been eroded in rectangular chunks. You can look up and see the Pinnacle, where a section of the cliff is beginning to separate.

Fillmore Glen is especially rich in plant life. This varied and abundant flora inspired Dr. Charles Atwood, a local physician and avid amateur botanist, to work hard for the establishment of the public park in the 1920's.

The trails were opened at a ceremony in 1921. In 1925, the 39-acre site was transferred to the State to become Fillmore Glen State Park. The park has grown to 941 acres.

Nearby attractions offer additional recreational opportunities. Visit the golf course adjacent to the park, or go fishing in the Owasco Inlet.



TO OUR OVERNIGHT GUESTS

Quiet Hours: Quiet hours in camping areas and marinas are from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. and are STRICTLY enforced. Your cooperation is appreciated by park staff and your fellow campers.

Camping Equipment and Vehicles: Two sleeping tents or one camping unit (trailer, RV) and one tent are permitted per camp site. No more than two vehicles may be parked on a camp or cabin site. Additional parking for guests is available in nearby parking lots.

Check In/Check Out: Check-in time is 3:00 p.m. Campers must occupy the site by 9:00 p.m. on the scheduled day of arrival or call the park office. Check-out time is 11:00 a.m. All equipment must be off the site at that time.

TO ALL OUR GUESTS

Trails: The park provides a variety of trail opportunities. Please stay on the designated trails. Proper footwear for hiking in a variety of conditions will make your trail visit safer. Bicycles are not allowed on the trails. Due to varying weather conditions, park trails can close at any time throughout the year. Do not go on trails designated as CLOSED.

Blading, Boarding and Bicycling Safety: Safety helmets are required by New York State Law. Check at the park office for times and locations where these activities are allowed.

Swimming Areas: Our lifeguards practice drills daily to ensure patron safety. Please follow their instructions. Alcoholic beverages and glass containers of any kind are not permitted in the swimming area.

Pets: Family pets must be leashed and attended at all times. Proof of rabies vaccination must be by Veterinarian's certificate-the collar tag will not be accepted as proof.

Respecting Wildlife: Please do not feed or harass any wildlife while visiting the park. If you see any wildlife that appears ill, contact park personnel immediately. If you come in physical contact with an animal, report it to a park employee right away.

Millard Fillmore 13th President of the United States

Fillmore Glen was named for President Millard Fillmore, who was born on January 7, 1800, in a log cabin about five miles from the park. In 1965, the Millard Fillmore Memorial Association dedicated a replica of this cabin, located near the pavilion, constructed of materials from a similar cabin in Moravia which dated from the early 1800's.

Fillmore was elected to the New York State legislature in 1828, and then to Congress in 1832. He ran successfully for Governor in 1844, and became the first chancellor of the University of Buffalo in 1846. He became Vice President as Zachary Taylor's running mate in 1848. President Taylor died in 1850 and Fillmore succeeded him to the nation's highest office.

President Fillmore is best remembered for signing the Compromise of 1850, which attempted to forge a compromise between pro-slavery and antislavery interests. Because the measure established a stricter slave law, Fillmore lost crucial northern support and was not nominated for President in 1852. He died on March 8, 1874 and was buried in Buffalo, N.Y.