

## THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

The Civilian Conservation Corps, otherwise known as the CCC, was a voluntary work relief program that ran from 1933 to 1942 for unemployed, unmarried men ages 18-25 (eventually that was expanded to ages 17-28). It was one of a number of programs started by the federal government during the depths of the Depression to put people to work.



But did you know there was a CCC Camp in Deansboro? In 1939, according to the Clinton Courier's November 20, 1939 issue, 200 young men moved into the camp, many from a CCC camp located in Sheds, New York, in Madison County. The Deansboro camp was located on a curve about ½ mile south of the hamlet on Route 12b.

The camp had several buildings, complete with barracks, lavatories and showers, mess hall, hospital, recreation and instructional quarters, officers' quarters, garage, and automobile repair shops. Movies and classes, and religious life with Army chaplains, were provided to the men. They were supervised by the US Army and the Soil Conservation Commission.



ILLINOIS SELECTING AGENCY

Some of the projects undertaken by the Corps were to help farmers with soil erosion by building check dams to reduce water flow, terracing crops, and introducing vegetation. They dug ditches, planted trees and shrubs, and helped reduce flooding by riprapping, channel work, and irrigation. CCC members worked hard, but they gained an appreciation of outdoor life, and earning money helped raise their morale and their employability. CCC men received \$30 a month in pay, but were required to send \$25 of that to their families. But the young men received food, shelter, clothing, and medical care while they were in the camp.

The CCC operated separate programs for veterans and Native Americans in other parts of the country. This helped the Native Americans weather the Great Depression. The CCC Camps were a great success, but with the threat of World War II and the winding down of the Great Depression resulting with more job opportunities, the program ended in 1942. In Deansboro, The CCC Camp was used to house immigrants sent to this area to harvest crops.

– with thanks to Dick Williams



The Chenango Trail News was the newsletter of the CCC Camp which was in the Town of Marshall. This document is Volume 1, No. 1 and was published in September 1940. The last pages include a list of the names of people and their addresses. Read the [Chenango Trail News](#)