

The Great Outdoors: Camping in Vermont



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Camping

- Camping is unique in that it is an activity that includes setting up temporary shelter. This shelter is necessary for surviving comfortably in the Vermont climate, but it is not what defines camping
- Camping is defined by the time spent outside of this shelter and interacting with the natural environment

For Work and Fun

- **WORK:** Whether to be closer to the worksite or to enjoy the great outdoors, setting up camp in the woods has been part of what shaped Vermont
- **WORK:** Early loggers camped out in the woods working to establish pastures and harvest lumber to make potash and charcoal (allroutes.to)
- **FUN:** James P Taylor and the Green Mountain Club began work on the Long Trail in the early 1900's to “make the Vermont mountains play a larger part in the life of the people.” (greenmountainclub.org)

For Work and Fun Cont.

- FUN: Myron Avery's thoughts on the Appalachian trail sum up the significance of the camping experience, "Remote for detachment, narrow for chosen company, winding for leisure, lonely for contemplation, it beckons not merely north and south but upward to the body, mind and soul of man"(trailspace.com)
- This scrapbook will show the ways in which people experienced camping in the past

Camping as part of VT History

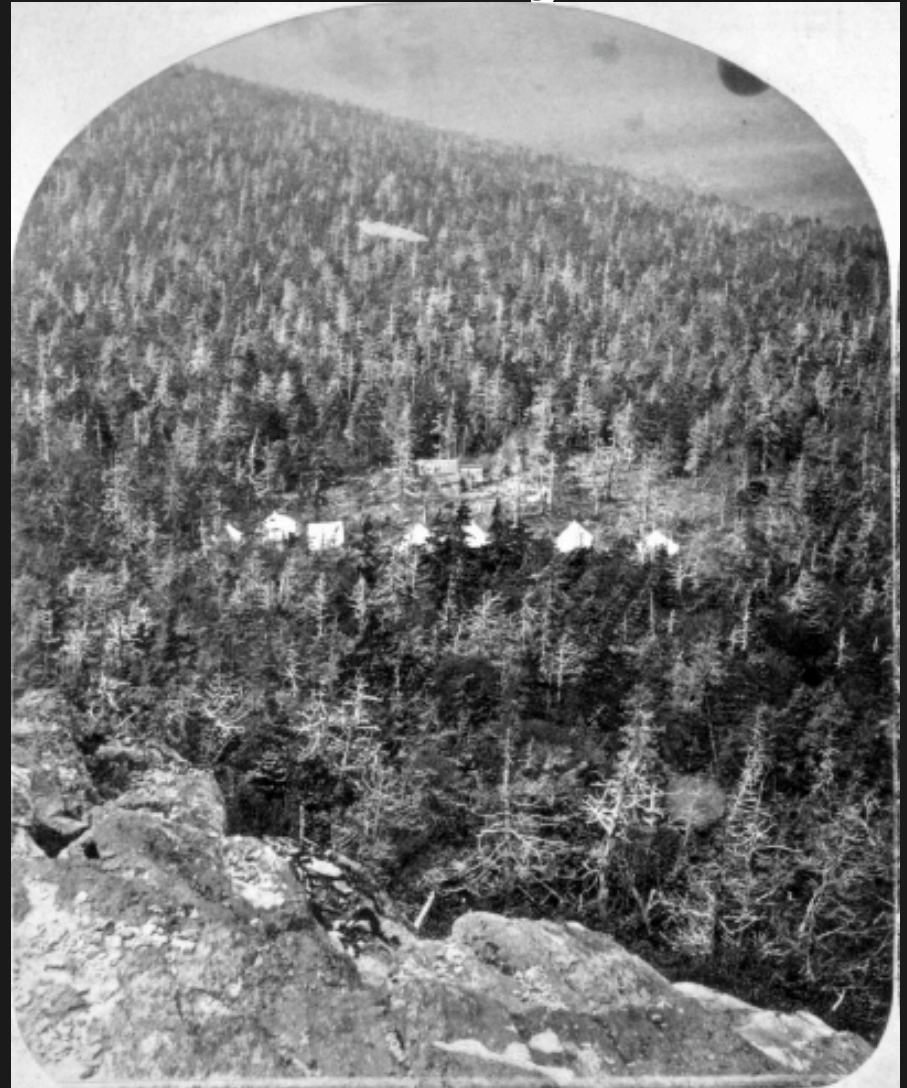
- Whether changing the physical appearance of the land or fueling Vermont's economy, logging is a large part of VT history
- The beautiful landscape that makes up Vermont is what draws tourists to this state. The great outdoors is a defining characteristic of Vermont as a place

Camping in VT History:

- Early explorers, settlers, and loggers camped in VT by necessity

A logging Camp
in Killington-
1880-1890

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Camping in VT History: Cont.

- Today, Vermont is known for its beautiful landscape and visitors travel great distances to experience the outdoors of Vermont



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Campers at North Beach enjoy the outdoors-
circa 1970 LS12024_000

Modern Camping



The Modern VT Camper enjoys synthetic tents, a camp stove, disposable dinnerware, and the North Beach Campground- 1960-1970

LS12015_000

Circumstance

- Many early campers experienced the landscape of VT by necessity- they camped out to be closer to work. The camping experience was often long and rugged



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A man sits at the Woodbury Bark Camp in 1906 LS08689_000

Working Outdoors

It wasn't only laborers who camped out in the woods- This group of military men seem to be set up for an extended stay with a stove manned by a cook in the background

LS08149_000



A Good Time

- Recreational camping is not that recent of a phenomenon. People have enjoyed interacting with the outdoors for a long time- The birth of the Green Mountain National Forest in 1932 helped spark the growth of recreational camping (fs.fed.us)



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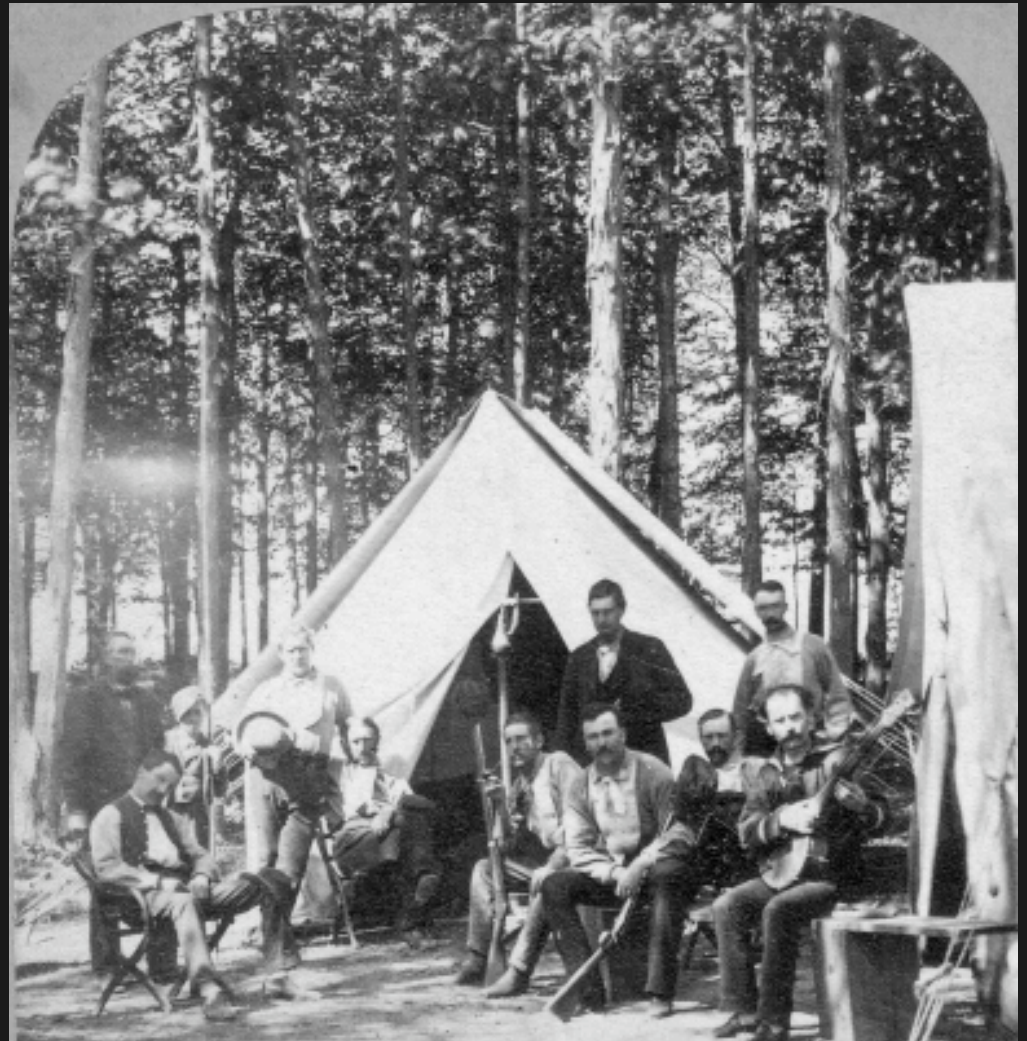
People in Montpelier gather at the start of a toboggan run LS06890_000

A Good Time Cont.

This group of campers may be out hunting, but the banjo suggests that they are able to enjoy being out in the woods-

1870-1890

LS02856_000



A Good Place to Relax

- Camping can be a chance to escape- to leave society and experience nature

This looks like the birth of modern camping. Everyone including the baby is outside sitting and relaxing-

1860-1880 LS05418_000



People and the Outdoors

- People enjoy the outdoors. The landscapes around us are beautiful and are often considered to be natural

These three men camp out on Camels Hump- The view might look different had the trees in the background not been felled- 1860-1890

LS11019_000



“History, Curiosity, and Adventure”

- A group of 1934 college students were quoted saying that “history, curiosity, and adventure” were their reasons for camping (trailspace.com)

A woman sweeps in front of
her tent- 1920-1960

LS06858_000



Shaping the Land

- Even getting into the woods required cutting paths- In the early 1900's the Long trail began allowing people to venture into the woods (gmcsterling.org)

An old woman poses at a Long Trail Sign- 1940-1960

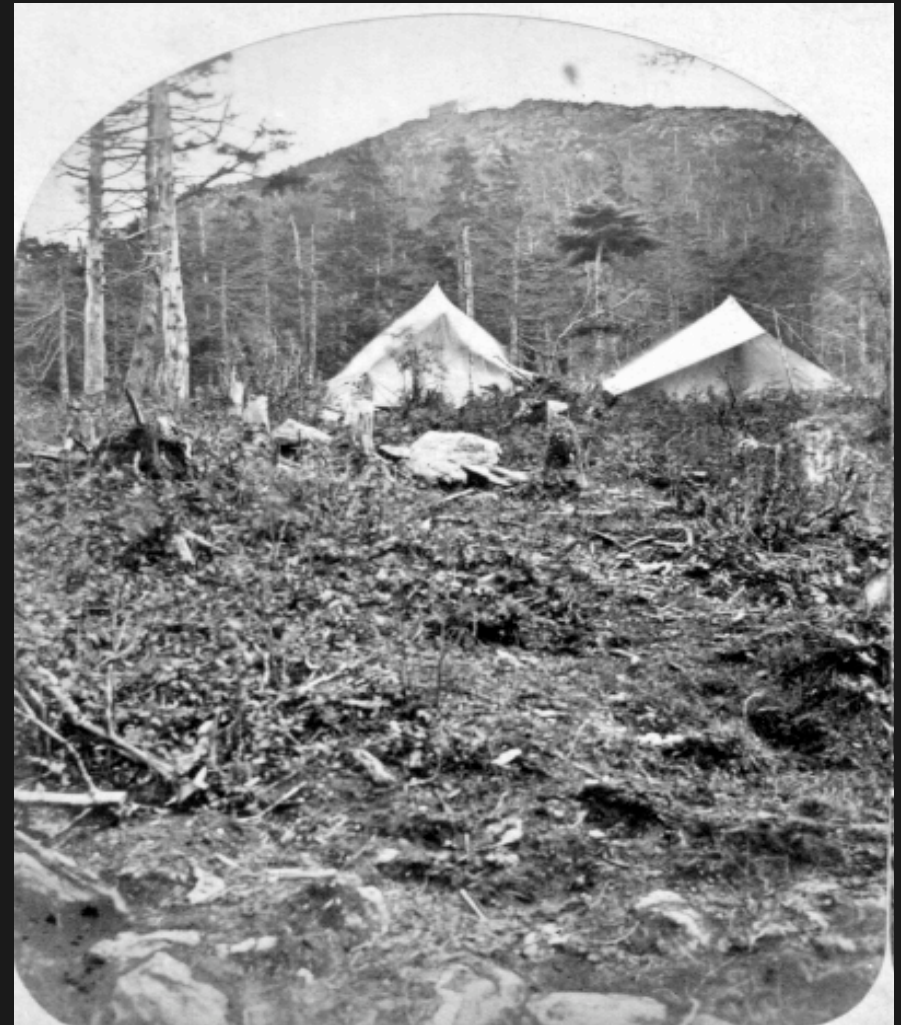
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Changing Face

- Logging (supported by logging camps) helped change the physical appearance of the VT landscape and fueled the VT economy (allroutes.to)

This photo shows tents set up in a cleared area near Killington-
1880-1890 LS04985_000



Camping Now

- Camping in Vermont is now all about enjoying the beauty of the landscape. It is easy to forget how big a part we have played in shaping it



This aerial view of North Beach shows a landscape shaped for camping-
1970-1980 LS11940_000

Works Cited

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