



National Park Service News Release

Release Date: November 19, 2020

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National Park Service Announces Pinehurst National Historic Landmark District Study

ATLANTA – The National Park Service (NPS) today announced the launch of a comprehensive study to aid in the long-term preservation of one of North Carolina’s national treasures.

The Pinehurst National Historic Landmark (NHL) District Integrity and Condition Study will document the district’s current integrity and condition and examine projects and trends that may impact ongoing preservation efforts. A cornerstone of the NHL Program is monitoring the condition of NHLs to identify those that exhibit damage or face threats to the integrity of their resources. The data generated from the Pinehurst NHL study will enable the NPS, stewards, policy makers, civic planners and the public to better understand the district and take appropriate action, where necessary.

“The District’s sweeping design, complete with its golf courses, Village Green, vegetation, curvy roads and residential areas, help to distinguish Pinehurst as nationally significant in the history of the sport of golf and resort community planning,” said Ellen Rankin, acting regional national historic landmark program manager. “The NPS study will offer a kind of pulse check to determine the district’s accomplishments, challenges and opportunities for ongoing preservation. As stewards of the NHL, the local community is central to the process and we are pleased to partner with the Village of Pinehurst to ensure the success of this project for the benefit of present and future generations.”

The NPS has commissioned Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc. to conduct the study, documenting, in narrative and graphic formats, major changes that occurred within and adjacent to the district since its designation in 1996. The effort — expected to run through 2021 — involves research, a field survey, photographic documentation, Geographic Information Systems analysis, and public engagement. The initial round of public meetings is planned for February and a draft study is expected to be made available for review in the spring.

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Designated by the Secretary of the Interior in 1996, the Pinehurst NHL District is significant for its extraordinary role in the development of the sport of golf and resort communities and for its association with golfer and golf course designer Donald Ross. Designed by the prominent landscape architecture firm of Olmsted, Olmsted, and Eliot, the district encompasses “a designed network of curvilinear roads embracing the village green in a lush evergreen landscape. . .on which late-Victorian, Colonial Revival, and Bungalow-style hotels, cottages, stores and churches were built, golf courses were laid out,” as well as a multitude of other recreational venues (*[Pinehurst Historic District National Historic Landmark Nomination](#)*, 1996).

For more information about the Pinehurst NHL District Integrity and Condition Study, visit the planning website at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/pinehurst>.

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The *[National Historic Landmarks Program](#)* works with preservation officials, private property owners and other partners to provide states and local communities with technical assistance, recognition and funding to help preserve our nation's shared history and create close-to-home recreation opportunities.

Photo Credit:

1895 Olmstead Firm Plan for the Village of Pinehurst. Given Memorial Library and Tufts Archives.

