

VISTA 20

Location

Vista 20 is located along the Jordan Pond/Eagle Lake Road (FHWA Route 12) and provides a view west towards Jordan Pond and Penobscot Mountain in the distance. The proposed vista centerline is located 1.8 miles from the start of the Day Mountain Road Extension, at MP 1.775 (Lat 44.33479, Lon -68.251309) between the Jordan Pond House and the Bubble Rock area, on the left side of the road.

Intended View and Previous Documentation

In the 1958 and 1961 vista plans, Vista 20 was described as 2,500 feet in length with a view of “the South Bubble, Penobscot Mountain, Jordan Pond and Jordan Cliff, all, roughly, from one end of Jordan Pond to the other end.” (GMP 1991:230). The centerline arrows in both vista plans were pointed to the left of the perpendicular to the road, suggesting the view may have favored southbound motorists.

Aerial photographs from the 1950s suggest a high density of trees between the motor road and shoreline (Fig. 20-aerial). Photographs from the 1920s indicate scattered trees around 5-10 feet high alongside this stretch of the motor road (see Fig. 22-historic). Northbound motorists historically encountered the vista on the ascent from the Jordan Pond area and likely had a framed/filtered view of the water and mountain, while southbound motorists on the descent from The Bubbles likely had a similar view.

Grey's 1995 inventory identified a portion of a 1,005-foot long view (#20) at this location. Olmsted Center's 2006 inventory identified a portion of a 897-foot long panoramic view (pan 1.624) at this location.

Vista Management Area

The 1958 and 1961 centerlines for Vista 20 were georeferenced and found to coincide within 300 feet of one another. To best achieve the intended view, a point near the 1958 line is recommended as the reconciled center-

line because it includes a partially thinned area associated with a guardwall (Dwg. 20). The Center Front is therefore located 253 feet north of the start of Guardwall 1.739 (Fig. 20-misc1). The Left Front and Right Front would be 1,250 feet on either side of this point, but would overtake Vista 21 to the south and Vista 19 to the north. Therefore, an Alternate Left Front (to south) is 128 feet after the start of the guardwall and Alternate Right Front (to north) is 378 feet after the start of the guardwall. The total length of the vista is approximately 130 feet, which is less than its historic length. The recommended back line of the management area is 60 feet, which makes the size of the management area approximately 0.2 acres.

Analysis of Vista Management Area

Vista 20 is limited in providing the intended view due to the presence of trees that block the view of Jordan Pond (Fig. 20LF-ALT, CF, RF-ALT; Fig. 20-misc2). The landform in the vista management area descends steeply to the west with slopes around 50 percent. Vegetation is described as an evenly dispersed beech-birch-maple forest with a closed continuous canopy, a density coverage of 60-100 percent, and tree heights of 40-65 feet. GIS data indicates no invasive vegetation, ponds, streams, wetlands, or archeological sites.

No parking is allowed along this portion of the two-way motor road, as the shoulders are too narrow. At the bottom of the hillside below the vista passes the Jordan Pond Loop Trail/Jordan Pond Path (Trail #39).

Treatment of Vista Management Area

Vista Treatment - Repair. Vista 20 is a historic vista and should be rehabilitated within the limits of the management area to restore views of Jordan Pond and preserve views of the surrounding mountains. It should be managed in conjunction with Vistas 21-22 that comprise a dynamic vista along the motor road. The density of vegetation within the management area should be reduced.

**DRAWN BY**

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ESRI ArcMap ver.10.1, Adobe Illustrator CS5 ver.15.1.0

NOTES

1. All features are shown in approximate scale and location.
2. Map is for illustrative purposes only.

SOURCES

1. Acadia National Park Geographic Information System
2. Aerial photographs, 2009
3. Field work, 2011-2012



National Park Service
Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation
www.nps.gov/oclp

LEGEND

Vista Management Plan Historic Motor Road System Acadia National Park

Vista 20 Jordan Pond/Eagle Lake Road



Drawing 20

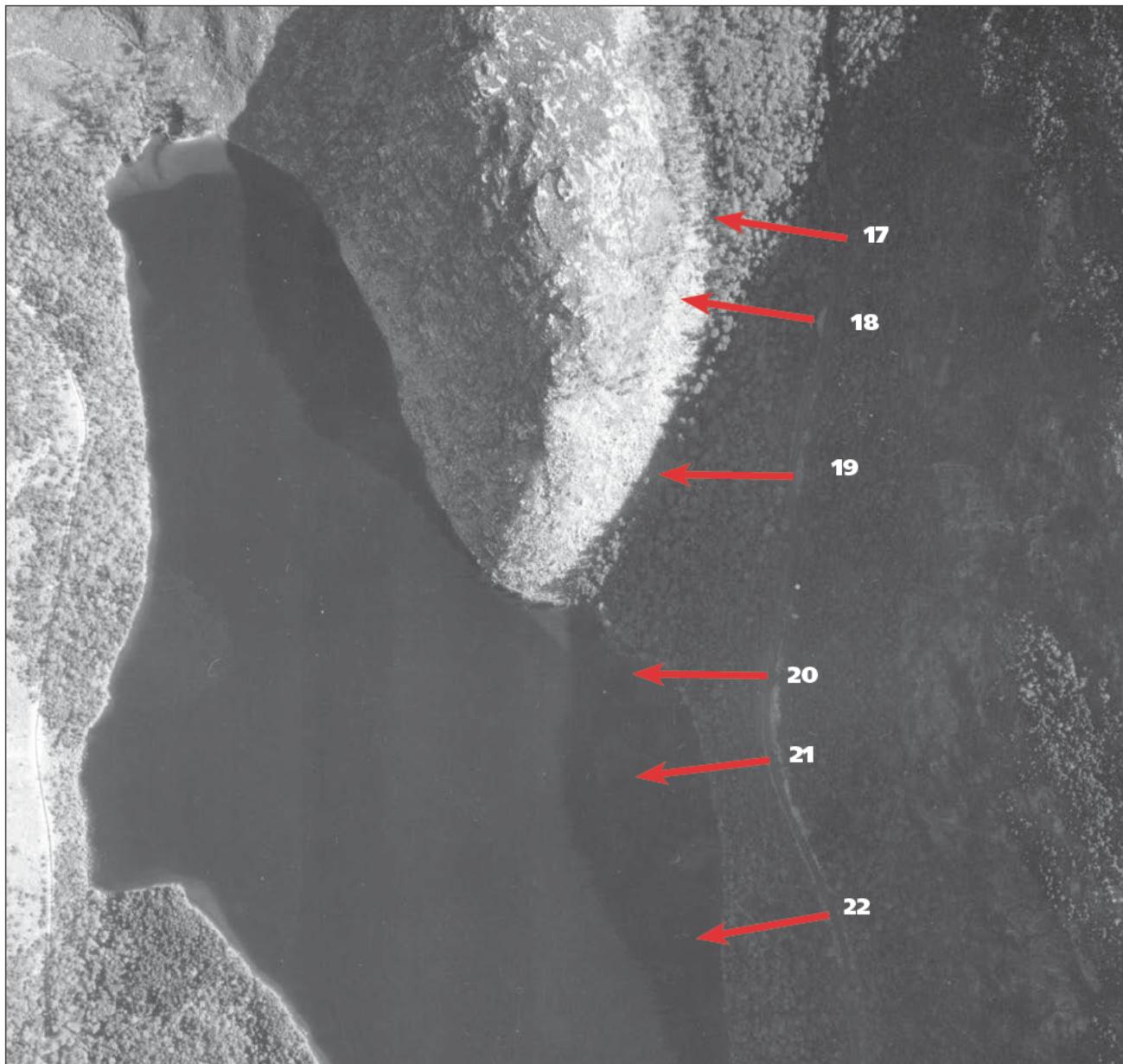


Figure 20-aerial. Aerial photograph of Jordan Pond/Eagle Lake Road in May 1953. The red arrow indicates the approximate historic center of Vista 20 (Acadia NP GIS, #53150009).



Figure 20-misc1. View looking north at the start of the guardwall associated with the Vista 20 centerline (OCLP, Acad0012_1.739, 2005).

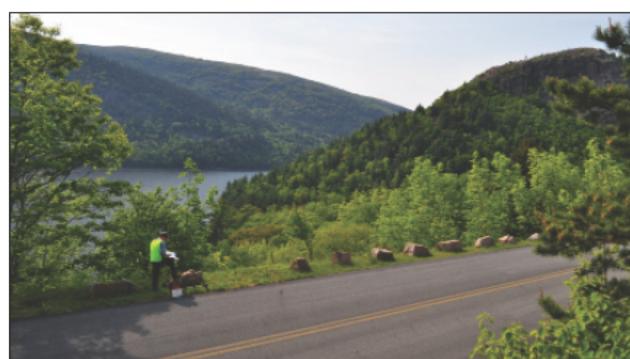


Figure 20-misc2. View looking northwest from an elevated position opposite Left Front (OCLP, ACADvista_20LFpan, 2011).



Figure 20LF-ALT. Views of Alternate Left Front in May and June, 2011 (OCLP, ACADvista_20LFy).



Figure 20CF. View looking west from Center Front in June 2011 (OCLP, ACADvista_20CFabc).



Figure 20RF-ALT. Views of Alternate Right Front in May and June, 2011 (OCLP, ACADvista_20RFy).