
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory
2010



Erbie Area
Buffalo National River

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Inventory Summary

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

CLI General Information:

Purpose and Goals of the CLI

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI), a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the national park system, is one of the most ambitious initiatives of the National Park Service (NPS) Park Cultural Landscapes Program. The CLI is an evaluated inventory of all landscapes having historical significance that are listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources through a public planning process and in which the NPS has or plans to acquire any legal interest. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into a national database. In addition, for landscapes that are not currently listed on the National Register and/or do not have adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Keeper of the National Register.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures, assists the NPS in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2006), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that respond to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two GPRA goals are associated with the CLI: bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (Goal 1a7) and increasing the number of CLI records that have complete, accurate, and reliable information (Goal 1b2B).

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries and archives and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the site's overall significance. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features, and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's overall integrity and an assessment of the landscape's overall condition. The CLI also provides an illustrative site plan that indicates major features within the inventory unit. Unlike cultural landscape reports, the CLI does not provide management recommendations or

treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape.

Inventory Unit Description:

“The Erbie Rural Historic District is located in Newton County, Arkansas along the upper portion of the Buffalo River. The district revolves around the community of Erbie, which developed as an agricultural community in the nineteenth century with the historic town site being located approximately one-half mile north of the river. The community extends from the Jones cemetery in the west to the McFadin house site on the eastern boundary of the district near the present Pruitt Ranger Station along Highway 65. Erbie is located in a broad valley surrounded by sloping hills and steep bluffs. The district includes land both north and south of the river which contains agricultural fields and forests. Cecil and Cove Creeks meet approximately one mile north of the Buffalo River to form a tributary watershed. What was once the village of Erbie is situated at a crossroads north of the river and south of Cecil Creek. Originally settled in the 1830s, Erbie progressed into a thriving small community with a church, store, and various dwellings, and was the center of social interaction among those who lived on the scattering of farms in the surrounding valley” (DOE 2005, 2).

The following is adapted from the Determination of Eligibility 2005, 42-45:

The period of significance for the Erbie Historic District ranges from 1830 to 1978. This period begins with the earliest known settlement in the Buffalo at what is now known as the Parker-Hickman Farmstead. The period extends through the peak of settlement and agricultural development in the Erbie community and ends in 1978 with the passing of Graden Hickman, the last family member who occupied the Parker-Hickman farm and the last individual who lived full time in the district. Parker-Hickman farm remained vacant after 1978 though it was cared for by Robert Hickman until the National Park Service assumed ownership in 1982.

The farm community of the Erbie Historic District nestled itself into the hollows created by the tributaries of the Buffalo River. The community became known as the town of Erbie in 1915 and reached a population of 100 people in 1930. The historical center formed at a crossing of two roads north of the Buffalo River and had become the town which comprised nearly a dozen buildings including the church, a store, and a post office.

The first settlers came to the Erbie area in the 1830s, making it one of the oldest settlements on the Buffalo (Catton 2008, 172). The rural landscape is dotted with farmsteads in the bottomlands along either side of the Buffalo River. The first post office was petitioned for in 1895, and the foundation for the church was laid in 1896. The current standing church dates to ca. 1900; it was constructed on the original foundation.

The church is the only remaining building in what was the village of Erbie, however the surrounding area includes three intact farmsteads, various home and building sites, agricultural fields, transportation networks, and cemeteries. Collectively these properties retain a sufficient degree of integrity and effectively communicate the rural agricultural heritage of the Erbie area.

Erbie's history and development is reflected in its landscape through the existing farmsteads, field patterns, and transportation networks. The remaining foundations in the village and house sites, as well

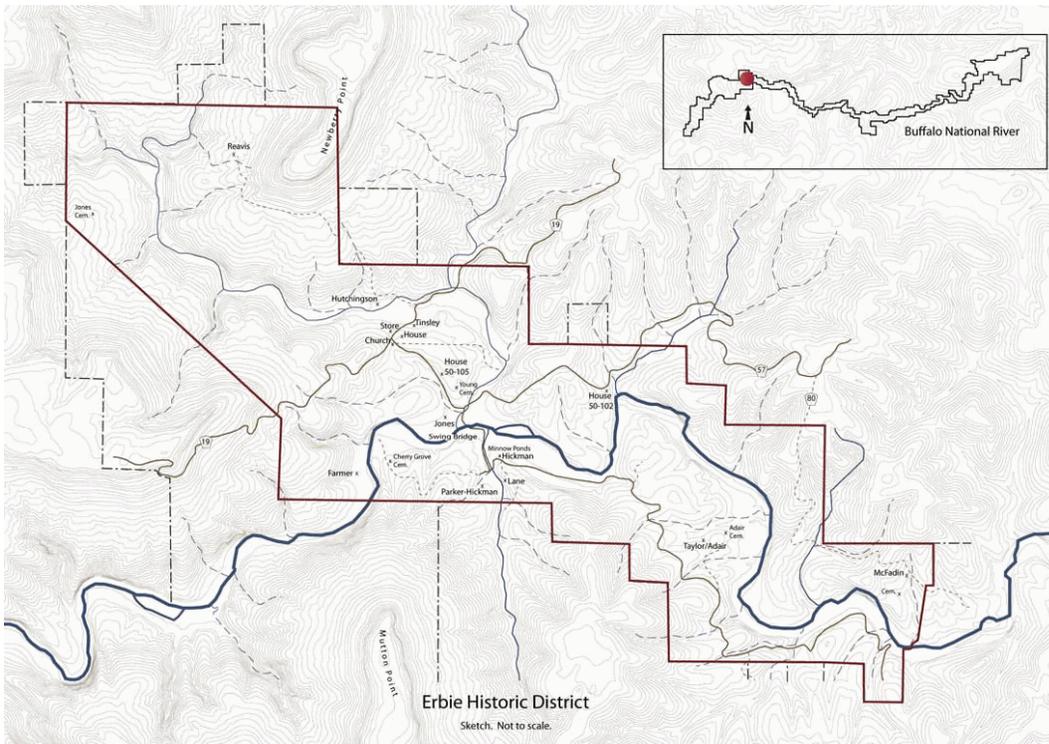
as several smaller features of the landscape such as fence rows and stock ponds represent the relationship between the inhabitants and the land over time. Extant buildings reflect traditional building patterns and materials, and area farmsteads retain arrangements and spatial organization representative of the Arkansas Ozarks.

The number of house and building sites in the Erbie Historic District consist of a variety of foundation remains that illustrate the residential pattern of the Erbie community. Many of these sites are largely overgrown, but most retain a sufficient amount of physical evidence to relate their organization and arrangement. Features such as the spring on the Huchingson property, domestic plantings, and fence lines also contribute to the overall setting of these properties.

Cemeteries in the district range from small family plots with a few graves to large community graveyards. The majority of the cemeteries are well maintained and retain a strong degree of setting. They are typically situated on a hill adjacent to a field near or in a grove of trees. The smaller family plots are commonly located within a quarter mile of the associated dwelling or house site. Tucked away at the edge of a wood or an overgrown field, these small plots are easily overlooked in the larger surrounding landscape, yet they are key features of the home sites.

Non-contributing properties within the proposed boundaries are few and largely consist of NPS primitive campgrounds. Two small campground areas located near the Erbie village site and consist of a small clearing with a vault toilet and one or two picnic tables. One is a small clearing just south of the Erbie crossroads that serves as a horse camp. Caver's Camp is located adjacent to the north Erbie Road and is a small clearing with one or two picnic tables and a vault toilet. This area is largely obscured from the main road by trees. A small gravel parking area and a restroom facility (vault toilet) is also located at the intersection of the two roads through the village site. The larger Erbie Campground is located in the eastern portion of the district. This campground is located northeast of the southern road leading into Erbie and is largely concealed by trees. It is primitive in design and blends in well with the surrounding landscape. These facilities are minimally intrusive and do not significantly detract from the district's setting and association.

Site Plan



Map of the Erbie Historic District with approximate locations of contributing sites (NPS, 2010).

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Erbie Area
Property Level:	Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	500851
Parent Landscape:	500851

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	Buffalo National River -BUFF
Park Organization Code:	7150
Park Administrative Unit:	Buffalo National River

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Initial research conducted by seasonals Kathleen Fitzgerald and Richard Radford. This data was reviewed by Cultural Landscapes Program Leader Sherda Williams and Historical Landscape Architect Marla McEnaney and was part of the FY99 upload to the National Center. Historical Landscape Architect Gail Gladstone conducted a site visit in 2009. Data entry will continue for the inventory unit as scheduled by the CLI Program.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	02/17/2010
National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Date of Concurrence Determination:	07/05/2005

National Register Concurrence Narrative:

The Arkansas State Historic Preservation Office has determined the proposed Erbie Rural Historic District is eligible for the National Register under criterion A for its significance in the community and agricultural history of the Buffalo River region.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Determination of Eligibility
Buffalo National River

Name of Property: Erbie Rural Historic District
Additional Names: N/A

Tract Numbers: 11-100, 11-102, 46-100, 46-101, 48-100, 48-1-3, 48-104, 49-110, 49-115,
50-100, 50-102, 50-105, 50-106, 50-110, 50-112, 50-114, 51-110.

Location: The Erbie Rural Historic District is centered around the site of the village of Erbie along the upper Buffalo River in Newton County, Arkansas. The district extends west-east along an approximately seven mile length of the Buffalo and includes sites both north and south of the river between Jones Cemetery and the McFadin House Site.

County: Newton

This DOE Evaluates:	Yes	No	N/A
Structure(s)	X		
Landscape(s)	X		
Archaeology		X	

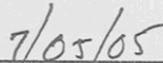
Eligibility Determination: Eligible

State/Federal Agency Certification:

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR 60. In my opinion the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally.



State Historic Preservation Officer



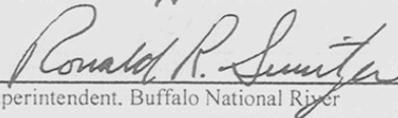
Date

AHPP

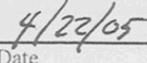
State Agency

National Park Service Certification:

In my opinion, the property, including all contributing structures and contributing tangible and intangible landscape features, meets does not meet the National Register criteria.



Superintendent, Buffalo National River



Date

SHPO/Superintendent DOE concurrence 7/5/05.



IN REPLY REFER TO:
H2217 (BUFF)

February 17, 2010

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Buffalo National River
402 N. Walnut, Suite 136
Harrison, AR 72601

Memorandum

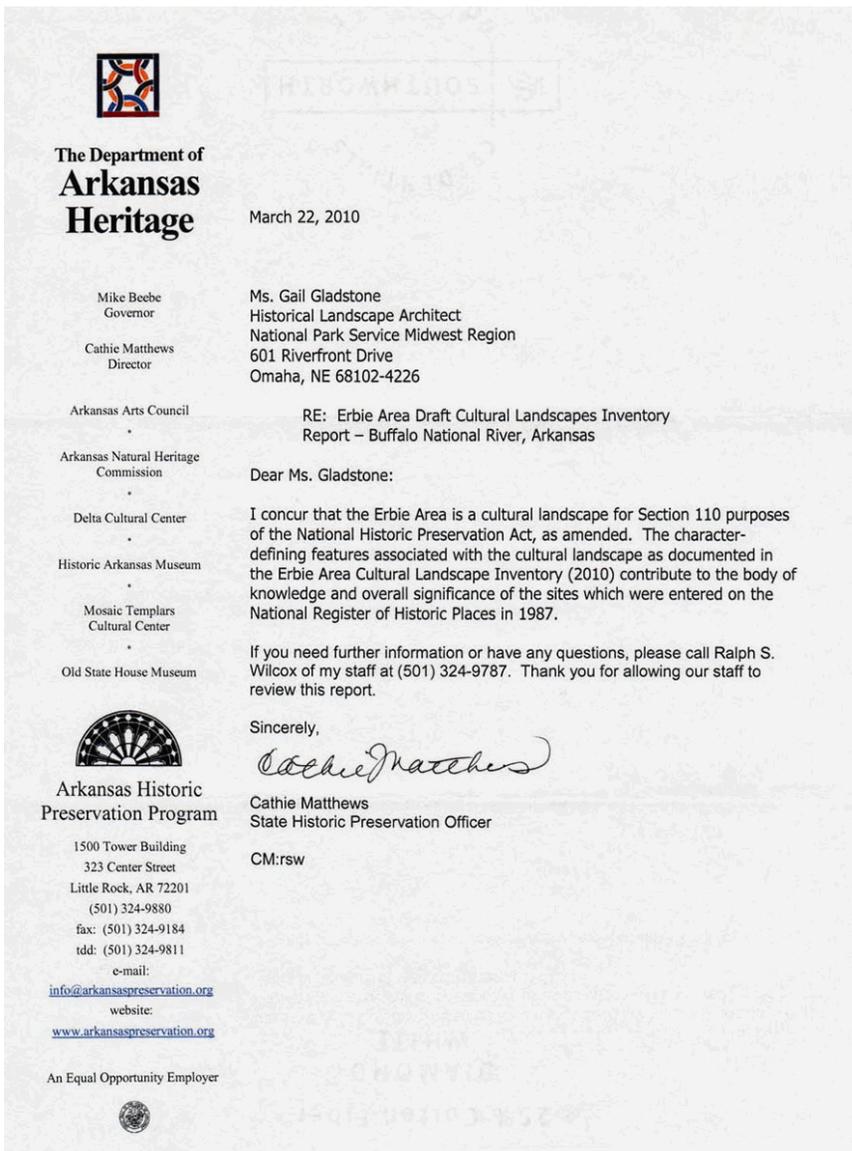
To: Regional Director, Midwest Region

From: Superintendent, Buffalo National River *Kevin H. Cheri*

Subject: Cultural Landscape Inventory for Erbie Area Historic District

Thank you for the opportunity to review the draft Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for the cultural landscape at Erbie Area Historic District. Archeologist Caven Clark reviewed the document and noted comments directly for Historical Landscape Architect Gail Gladstone. We concur with the landscape condition as "Fair" and the management category of "Should be Preserved and Maintained." Thank you for your continued efforts to inventory and document the cultural resources of the Buffalo National River.

Superintendent concurrence letter for the Erbie Historic District dated 2/17/2010.



SHPO concurrence for the Erbie Historic District dated 3/22/2010.

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

The recommended boundaries for the proposed Erbie Rural Historic District encompass approximately 4,585 acres and includes the following Tracts on the NPS Land Acquisition maps for the Buffalo National River: 11-100, 11-102, 11-103, 46-100, 46-101, 48-100, 48-103, 48-104, 49-110, 49-115, 50-100, 50-102, 50-105, 50-106, 50-110, 50-112, 50-114, and 51-110. These boundaries include all the extant buildings and structures historically associated with the Erbie community.

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State and County:

State: AR

County: Newton County

Size (Acres): 4,585.00

Boundary UTMS:

Boundary Source Narrative: UTM's are based on points on GIS map.
Type of Point: Point
Datum: NAD 83
UTM Zone: 15
UTM Easting: 475,659
UTM Northing: 3,995,704
Boundary Datum Other: A

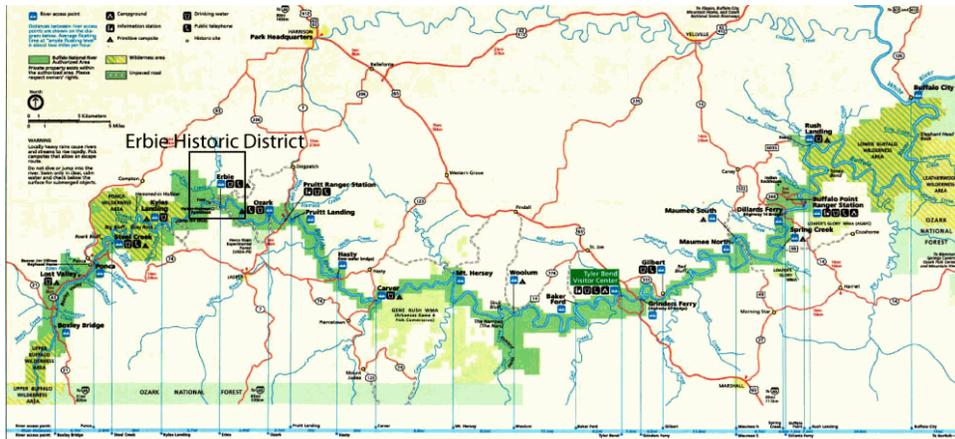
Boundary Source Narrative: UTM's are based on points on GIS map.
Type of Point: Point
Datum: NAD 83
UTM Zone: 15
UTM Easting: 477,822
UTM Northing: 3,991,579
Boundary Datum Other: B

Boundary Source Narrative: UTM's are based on points on GIS map.
Type of Point: Point
Datum: NAD 83
UTM Zone: 15
UTM Easting: 481,061
UTM Northing: 3,991,090
Boundary Datum Other: C

Boundary Source Narrative: UTM's are based on points on GIS map.
Type of Point: Point
Datum: NAD 83
UTM Zone: 15
UTM Easting: 484,228
UTM Northing: 3,989,416

Boundary Datum Other:	D
Boundary Source Narrative:	UTMs are based on points on GIS map.
Type of Point:	Point
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	15
UTM Easting:	484,550
UTM Northing:	3,991,045
Boundary Datum Other:	E
Boundary Source Narrative:	UTMs are based on points on GIS map.
Type of Point:	Point
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	15
UTM Easting:	480,437
UTM Northing:	3,993,154
Boundary Datum Other:	F
Boundary Source Narrative:	UTMs are based on points on GIS map.
Type of Point:	Point
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	15
UTM Easting:	479,478
UTM Northing:	3,995,629
Boundary Datum Other:	G

Location Map:



Erbie Historic District located on the park map (NPS, 2009).



Regional context for the Buffalo River (NPS, 2009).

Regional Context:

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

The first settlers to the Buffalo River chose land situated on fertile bottom along the river. Small fields were cultivated to provide the basic necessities for family and stock. Usually a nearby water source was a prerequisite to settlement. The majority of settlers who came to the Buffalo River valley were from neighboring states, particularly Missouri and Tennessee. Approximately fifty percent of those who arrived in Searcy, Marion, and Newton Counties prior to 1850 originated from Tennessee. Through the mid-nineteenth century, Missouri became the most prominent state of origin of settlers. Additional states represented throughout the settlement period included Kentucky, Illinois, Virginia, and North Carolina.

Those who traveled to the Boston Mountain area were largely of a hardy Scotch-Irish heritage familiar with the struggles and harshness of frontier life. Agriculture served as the primary occupation of early settlers in the Buffalo River valley. Most operated small farms and lived a self-sufficient lifestyle, making or growing most of what they needed and consumed. Farms averaged around thirty productive acres and produce a variety of crops including corn, wheat, oats, and potatoes. Some farmers also raised small amounts of tobacco and most families had a vegetable garden. Domestic livestock included cattle, sheep, and swine, which were raised in an open range system and allowed to forage through the surrounding forest for food. Wild game was plentiful and supplemented the family diet (Thomason 2005, 13).

Many early settlers did not purchase their farms when land became available at public sale. Most of the land purchases in the Ozarks date from the later homestead period. Much of the history of the people who first settled along the Buffalo is known only from oral history (Rogers 1987, 23).

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

The Buffalo River is located in northwestern Arkansas in the Ozarks region of the United States. The landscape of the Ozarks is characterized by steep slopes and narrow valleys, thick forests, and meandering streams and rivers. The Buffalo River flows through the Boston Mountains region, which contain some of the Ozarks' steepest slopes. The mountainous area ascends sharply on its northern boundary and gradually tapers off on its southern border. Newton and Searcy Counties, through which the Buffalo River travels, contain the highest elevations in the Boston Mountain region. The highest elevation is located in western Newton County and reaches 2,578 feet.

The Buffalo River is primarily a low water stream and supports only shallow watercraft. Several streams and creeks enter and leave the narrow valleys nestled between the high ridge tops. These waterways produce a number of natural springs through the rocky hills. The ridge tops are primarily made up of cedar, pine, and oak. The climate throughout the region is variable. Winters are generally mild with average temperatures around 37 degrees Fahrenheit

and average summer temperatures around 75 degrees. Heavy spring rains can quickly cause the Buffalo and area streams to rise and create flash floods. During the dry warm summer months the upper portion of the river can become quite shallow (Thomason 2005, 5).

Type of Context: Political

Description:

In 1972 when Congress established the Buffalo National River, the valleys on either side the river were dotted with buildings, many of which were being lived in. Subsequent years of land acquisition have lessened the population along the river. Bid and Removal procedures began on vacated structures which had been identified as having no significant historical value. From 1972 to 1982 many structures were lost due to a combination of removal, vandalism, and the impact of the elements. (Rogers 1987, 7)

By 1836, Arkansas became a state and the Buffalo River valley was divided into three counties, Newton, Searcy and Marion. Between 1842 and 1847, the section lines over the counties of the Buffalo River had been surveyed showing development spread throughout the bottomland and tributaries of the river (Catton 2008, 61). In 1842, Newton County was established and named after early settler Thomas Willoughby Newton, who later served as a United States congressman. The town of Jasper was platted south of the Buffalo River as the Newton County seat.

The four counties associated with the Buffalo River are rural and sparsely settled. These are Newton, Searcy, Baxter, and Marion counties.

The population of the Buffalo River valley continued to rise during the 1840s and 1850s as the number of settlers increased. Between 1850 and 1860 the population of Marion County increased over 168 percent, Searcy County population rose 166 percent, and the number of residents in Newton County increased 93 percent. Percentages aside, the area remained sparsely settled. In 1860, Newton County contained 3,393 residents, Searcy County had 5,271 residents, and Marion had 6,192. The population density for the region averaged between six and seven persons per square mile. (Thomason 2005, 14)

Population increases continued throughout the late nineteenth century. By 1900 the population in both Newton and Searcy Counties had surpassed Marion County in their number of residents. Between 1870 and 1900, the number of residents in Marion County increased from 3,979 to 11,377. During this same period, Searcy County went from 5,614 residents to 11,988, and Newton County's population rose from 4,374 to 12,538 (Thomason 2005, 17).

Management Unit: Upper District

Tract Numbers: 11-100, 11-102, 11-103, 46-100, 46-101, 48-100, 48-103, 48-104, 49-110, 49-115, 50-100, 50-102, 50-105, 50-106, 50-110, 50-112, 50-114, and 51-110

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Should be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 07/01/2009

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The Erbie Historic District was determined eligible for the National Register on 7/5/2005 under criterion A for its significance in the community and agricultural history of the Buffalo River valley during settlement in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The district is compatible with the park's legislated significance and it has a continuing presence or purpose that is appropriate to its traditional use or function.

Agreements, Legal Interest, and Access

Management Agreement:

Type of Agreement:

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access:

Type of Access: Unrestricted

Explanatory Narrative:

Public access is unrestricted to pedestrian access. There are gates across some of the secondary access roads which restrict vehicle access to these sites.

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? No

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

SHPO Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

The Erbie Historic District was determined eligible by the Arkansas State Historic Preservation Office. The landscape was adequately documented in this DOE.

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Contributing/Individual:	Individual
National Register Classification:	District
Significance Level:	Local
Significance Criteria:	A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

Period of Significance:

Time Period:	AD 1830 - 1978
Historic Context Theme:	Developing the American Economy
Subtheme:	Agriculture
Facet:	Subsistence Agriculture
Time Period:	AD 1830 - 1978
Historic Context Theme:	Peopling Places
Subtheme:	Other Peopling Places
Facet:	Other Peopling Places

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Agriculture

Statement of Significance:

The following is adapted from the Determination of Eligibility 2005, 47-49:

The Erbie Rural Historic District is eligible for the National Register under criterion A for its significance in the community and agricultural history of the Buffalo River valley during settlement in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The period of significance for the Erbie Historic District ranges from 1830 to 1978. This period begins with the earliest known settlement in the Buffalo at the Parker-Hickman Farmstead. The period extends through the peak of settlement and agricultural development in the Erbie community and ends in 1978 with the passing of Graden Hickman, the last family member who occupied the Parker-Hickman farm and the last individual who lived full time in the district. While the district contains representative examples of dwellings, outbuildings, and other structures, the architectural significance of these buildings is not strong enough to qualify the district for listing under criterion C. Current research has not revealed any significant information that would qualify the district to be eligible under criterion B.

The property histories of the Erbie community parallel those of Ozark history and specifically highlight the history of early settlement in the Buffalo River valley. Erbie's cultural landscape is one of a rural agricultural community that evolved as settlers farmed, lived, and worked in the area. Reflecting early settlement patterns, the valley's fertile bottomland attracted early settlers who carved a home and life out of the isolated wilderness. They cleared fields from the woodlands and initiated crops. The surrounding forests supplied materials for the dwellings and structures they built, provided shelter and food for their livestock, and offered wild game and other foods to supplement their diet. In Erbie as the number of settlers increased their social interaction, a network of trails and roads developed and a village emerged as a church, school, and store were established. Their initial subsistence lifestyle gradually developed into a modest commercial agricultural economy. As families prospered around the turn-of-the-century, farms grew, crops became more diversified, and improved dwellings and outbuildings began to appear. By the mid-twentieth century, modern conveniences, such as electricity, had brought some changes to life in Erbie; the landscape changed little as most farms retained their early twentieth century character.

The Parker-Hickman Farm is one of the most intact farmsteads along the Buffalo National River. Agricultural development of the property dates to the 1830s and was initiated by early settlers Alvin and Greenberry Parker. The farm changed hands several times over the course of its history with acreage occasionally expanding. The last occupant and longest owner of the farm was the Hickman family, who owned the property from 1912 to the 1980s when it was purchased by the NPS. The dwelling on the Parker-Hickman Farm dates to the ownership of the original settlers, the Parkers, in the mid-nineteenth century, while most of the outbuildings date to the ownership of the Hickman family.

The Parker-Hickman Farmstead was actively involved in agricultural production for over 145 years. The buildings and structures on the property remain unaltered and in good to fair condition. The surrounding landscape includes agricultural fields, ponds, fence lines, creeks, and roadbeds, and continues to reflect this agricultural history. The Parker-Hickman Farm retains a strong degree of its historic character and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1987.

John Adair was another early settler in the region and became one of the largest and most prosperous

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landowners in the Erbie area. Initial land purchases were made in the 1840s and by 1860, Adair owned multiple tracts of land along this section of the Buffalo River, and the rich bottomlands have remained in agricultural production. His grave, along with that of his wife and other family members is located in the Adair Cemetery in the eastern end of the district. In the early twentieth century, the Taylor family occupied the land and primarily raised cattle. The foundations of the ca. 1925 Taylor family house and outbuildings remain on the property. The property reflects its early twentieth century character and reveals the evolution and continued agricultural use of the land from the nineteenth to the twentieth century. The Taylor House Site and the Adair Cemetery help to define the agricultural landscape and history of this part of the Erbie district.

The Farmer Farmstead is one of the earliest farms developed along the Buffalo River and is the home site of early settler Solomon Cecil. The Farmer family acquired the property around the turn of the century and the property reflects the development of agriculture in the Buffalo River valley during this period. It includes two dwellings, a smokehouse, feed house, barn, springhouse ruins, and a privy, which were constructed between 1895 and 1913. Landscape features include fence rows, fields, and roadbeds that help to define the farmstead and contribute to the rural setting.

The Jones Farm is another early farm in the Erbie area. Currently, the farm primarily reflects its early twentieth century development and consists of a ca. 1913 barn, smokehouse, and springhouse, and stock pen. Around 1922 the current frame dwelling was constructed to replace an earlier dwelling on the property. The Jones Farmstead possesses a strong degree of integrity of feeling and association as well as setting, location, design, materials, and workmanship.

The Reavis family came to the Erbie area around 1900 and settled a 160-acre tract along Cecil Creek. After living in an existing log cabin on the property, the Reavis' built a one and one-half story, double pen log dwelling in which they raised ten children. They established a sizeable farm and although situated about a mile and a half from the village of Erbie, considered themselves to be very much a part of the Erbie community. The Reavis House remains extant and retains much of its original form and design. The surrounding landscape includes associated fields that remain in pasture. The Reavis House demonstrates the history and development of the Erbie community during the early twentieth century.

The Erbie Church was erected ca. 1900 near the crossroads of the small rural hamlet just north of the Buffalo River. Often called Villines Chapel after its first minister Nathaniel Villines, Erbie Church served as non-denominational religious facility for the surrounding community and was a central part of life in the rural village. Religious services continued take place in the Erbie Church after the formation of Buffalo River National Park in the 1970s and on into 2000, long after the surrounding community had diminished. Located near the village's main crossroads, the church was a definitive structure in the Erbie community, and it remains one of the few standing buildings in the area to convey Erbie's history.

The Erbie Church has not been significantly altered from its original design. Its materials and workmanship also maintain high degrees of integrity. The church is located on a slight hillside near the intersection of the two dirt roads that pass through the Erbie area. Woods surround much of the church

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and consist largely of cedar and oak trees. The setting has changed little from the time of the church's construction, and the site retains a high degree of its historic character.

Residents in the Erbie area constructed Cherry Grove School in the late nineteenth century to serve the community. This initial log structure located near Cherry Grove Cemetery was replaced around the turn of the century with a frame building. The logs from the school building are believed to have been reused in the construction of the log barn on the Farmer Farm. Classes later took place in the Erbie church.

The following is adapted from Theodore Catton, "Life, Leisure, and Hardship Along the Buffalo" 2008, 172:

A post office was first established in the community in 1915. Simon Lawson served as the first postmaster. The village is believed to have been named after Erbie Green, the daughter of Newton County sheriff Bill Green, although the post office application notes in a postscript that "As to the name of the office we are not particular, it is the office we want." The village flourished during the 1920s and 1930s. The first post office was located approximately one mile west of the Jones Farm in what is now referred to as the "Jasper-in-June" area, which is now a large open field. A sawmill, grain mill, and possibly a store were also located in this area at one time. By the 1930s, this area was abandoned and the village center had been established north near Erbie Church. Near the crossroads Jess Hickman built a frame building that served as the village store. The post office was located in a separate room in the store and the building was the center of activity in the community as people came to gather their mail, purchase a few items, and meet neighbors. Nearly a dozen buildings stood within a half mile of the central village area and between 75 and 100 people in the surrounding area called Erbie home at this time.

Although the village of Erbie was concentrated around the store, church and other buildings at the crossroads north of the river, what was perceived as the Erbie community extended up Cecil Cove to the northwest as far as Compton, as well as three or four miles to the southeast. People who lived in these regions considered themselves very much a part of Erbie and attended school, church, and social events there. Families in the area included Hickman, Jones, Farmer, Tinsley, Villines, Baker, Henderson, Taylor, Briscoe, Dillon, Massengale, Martin, Harp, Keeton, Reavis, Woodell, Webb, Young, and Barnes.

Erbie remained an active agricultural community into the late twentieth century when the NPS purchased the property. Services continued in the Erbie Church until 2000. Area farmers continue to lease agricultural fields in the district and primarily use them for hay production. The Erbie landscape continues to reflect that of its late nineteenth and early twentieth century development and is representative of a rural agricultural community of the Buffalo River valley.

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Vernacular

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function: Agricultural Field

Primary Current Use: Vacant/Maintained (Mothballed)

Other Use/Function

Agricultural Field

Other Type of Use or Function

Both Current And Historic

Ethnographic Study Conducted: No Survey Conducted

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
AD 1830	Built	The Parker home is constructed ca. 1830.
	Settled	The Parker family begins to clear land for agricultural use on property near the Buffalo River.
AD 1840	Platted	A federal survey establishes the township lines for Newton County.
AD 1854	Settled	“John Farmer” is listed on the tax rolls for Newton County.
AD 1857	Established	Cherry Grove Cemetery
AD 1880	Established	McFadin Cemetery
AD 1896	Built	Foundation for the original Erbie Church is constructed.
AD 1899	Established	Young Cemetery
AD 1905	Built	Farmer house constructed.

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Buffalo National River

AD 1906	Established	Jones Cemetery
AD 1912 - 1982	Farmed/Harvested	Hickman family occupies and farms the Parker-Hickman property.
AD 1913	Built	Jones Farm constructed
AD 1918	Built	Reavis Cabin constructed
AD 1920	Built	Erbie Store
AD 1922	Built	Lane House site
AD 1930	Built	Tinsley Farm site
AD 1935	Built	Hickman house site
AD 1938	Built	Swinging bridge over the Buffalo provides foot access into the Erbie area.
AD 1945	Built	Minnow Ponds
AD 1953	Built	Angle house. The large field adjacent to the house site is maintained as open pastureland. This field was part of early settler John Adair's property as early as 1849.
AD 1972	Established	Public Law 92-237 establishes the Buffalo National River.
AD 1982	Land Transfer	Parker-Hickman property is purchased by the National Park Service.

Physical History:

Pre-History

The following is excerpted from the Parker-Hickman HSR by Suzanne Rogers 1987, 19-20:

Indications of Indian presence dating back to the Archaic period have been located along Buffalo River, but only limited indicators of permanent occupation have yet been excavated. European intrusions into this area began after 1541 with Hernando De Soto's expedition from Florida in search of rumored golden cities. De Soto crossed the Mississippi into what is now Arkansas and led his expedition on a route which probably did not reach as far north as the Ozark highlands.

Much of present Missouri and Arkansas was home to the Osage. As Anglo settlement west of the Mississippi increased, so did intrusions into territory the Osage considered their own. Trading concession treaties were made by the Osage during the French and Spanish administrations of the area, including one made in 1794 by August Chouteau of St. Louis. In 1803, the United States acquired the Osage lands as part of the Louisiana Purchase. These lands west of the Mississippi were seen as a place in which to move Eastern Indians such as the Cherokee. As early as the 1790s, Cherokee groups had begun to leave Tennessee, Georgia and North Carolina for the Arkansas River area. The Cherokee, as well as Euro-American hunters and traders who had also entered the area, began to clash with the Osage over the territory. Treaties between the Osage and the United States relocated the boundaries of the Osage in 1818, until the Osage were eliminated from the Arkansas Ozarks altogether. The Cherokee, demanding that there be set boundaries that were off limits to Euro-Americans as well as other Indian groups, were given lands which included the entire Buffalo River watershed and extended south to the Arkansas River and east to the White River. This land concession lasted until 1825, when it was decided that the Cherokee should be moved out of Arkansas. The treaty of 1828 ceded the Arkansas lands of the Cherokee back to the United States and moved the Cherokee to lands in Indian Territory.

Euro-American settlement along the Buffalo was very limited before 1828. Although some whites did live in the area, some through marriage with the Cherokee or other Indian groups, the primary use of the area seems to have been for hunting. Henry R. Schoolcraft's journal of his 1819 trek along the White River indicated that the Buffalo was used for hunting by settlers along the White River. Arkansas Territory had been created out of the Missouri Territory in 1819. With the removal of the Cherokee, in 1828, permanent Euro-American settlement began in the Ozarks and along the Buffalo River.

The earliest settlers arrived in the late 1820s. Two early areas of settlement were along the Buffalo, and along the Crooked Creek Valley in what is now Boone County. A number of these settlers were noted on the early federal township surveys which date to 1829.

1830s to 1850s- Early Settlement

The following is excerpted from the Parker-Hickman HSR by Suzanne Rogers 1987, 20-23:

During the 1830s, settlement rapidly increased as settlers followed streams and old trails to lands that remained uninhabited by other settlers. The difference between the number of names on the 1830 and the 1840 census is considerable, indicating a substantial increase of settlers in the trans-Buffalo area. In 1836, Arkansas had become a state, a factor which also encouraged settlement. The townships had been surveyed and were being subdivided thus increasing the area's attractiveness for settlement. The majority of these new settlers came from Tennessee or the Carolinas, in many instances from the same county areas. Although male family members may have scouted out the area before bringing their families, the names on the 1840 census are those of family groups rather than lone settlers. Almost all were farmers, 'farming' being an all inclusive name/occupation for those who chose to maintain their independence, especially in areas like the Buffalo where subsistence farming was necessary for survival. Most of these settlers had undoubtedly come from similar situations in Tennessee, and before that North Carolina, as the pattern of migration spread to the Ozarks during the early settlement period. On later censuses, birthplaces like Alabama, Texas and Missouri appeared in greater numbers. Overall, however, the Tennessee background continued to be most prevalent, although never as strongly as in the 1835 to 1850s period of settlement.

In 1842, Newton County was formed and the county seat at Jasper was platted. As the township subdivisions were concluded, the land was offered for public sale. Purchases could be made for a minimum of forty acre pieces at \$1.25 an acre. The Crooked Creek area was offered for sale beginning in 1840; the Jasper and Buffalo River area, near the Parker Hickman farmstead, was offered about 1844, while adjoining townships were not offered until 1860. Most of the entries did not come until the 1870s after the introduction of the Homestead Act of 1862; some of the entries date to the 1900s, and a few were as late as 1956. The terrain of the Ozarks in Newton County made settlement something for the hardy, and even for the hardy, land was no good if one could not find access to the land itself, as well as a continuous supply of water and good soil.

The 1850s brought a continued migration in and out of the area. Interestingly, in the 1850s some of the early Newton County settlers began to migrate north to the Crooked Creek area. The flatter land there was certainly easier to till than in the Newton County hills. The sons of early settlers also began to relocate their own homesteads, not necessarily staying near the original family farm. Another migration pattern was that of Ozark families moving westward to California. The ill fated wagons of the Mountain Meadows massacre left from Carroll County in 1857.

By 1860, the population of Newton County had increased to nearly 3,400, almost double from 1850. New communities formed in the area. The Mill Creek area (near present Dogpatch) had a water mill since 1837. The 1860 census for Mill Creek listed two millers, a blacksmith, a sawyer, teamster, wagon maker, mechanic, two schoolteachers, a chair-maker, and minister. The agricultural census schedule for 1860 also reflected the increasing population as well as developing farms. Corn, oats, wheat, and some tobacco were planted. Livestock predominantly included cattle, some sheep, and swine. More farm acres were improved and older settlers purchased additional tracts for their farms.

The Civil War

The following is excerpted from the Parker-Hickman HSR by Suzanne Rogers 1987, 23-24:

The period of the Civil War had a definite effect on the area even though Arkansas was a secondary battle area and no major battles were fought in the Buffalo River Ozarks. The people of the area would have preferred to avoid the conflict altogether. Many felt sympathetic toward the North but had relatives in Tennessee or the Carolinas and blood ties to the South. Some joined the Confederate forces, with others enlisting in the Union forces, often resulting in the splitting of families between the two sides.

Others later deserted from the Confederate forces and rejoined the Union forces in Missouri, or became part of independent and irregular troops at home. For those who remained at home, the external trials of wartime were brought to them in the form of marauding groups called Bushwhackers or Jayhawkers, who raided homesteads by force demanding food and goods.

The Confederates retained initial control of the northern Arkansas area until 1862, when the Union dominated after the battle of Pea Ridge. The last years of the war were ones of extreme trial with regular Confederate forces gone and the Union forces stationed as scouting parties. This created a vacuum that served to encourage the guerrilla groups. Death and home burnings became commonplace. Accounts state that by the end of the war only a few buildings were left standing in Carrollton, Jasper, along the Crooked Creek Valley, or in Yellville. In 1864, one of many frequent skirmishes took place along the Buffalo River Valley. Rebel bands conflicted with Union scouts, and retaliatory raids by irregular troops became common. The Crooked Creek area was predominantly Confederate in sympathy, while the Boston Mountain area of the Buffalo was the stronghold of the "Mountain Feds," sympathizers for the Union. Families caught in the middle began to flee the area. Union families went to Missouri, while Confederate families fled to the south. The isolated mountain valleys remained safe except from those who knew the accesses and byways.

Another effect of the Civil War period was the suspension of county government functions such as the collection of taxes or recording of deeds. This, added to the destruction of numerous Arkansas courthouses during or shortly after the war period, created a gap in the county record keeping of the pioneer period before the 1860s, and thus a gap in the historical records.

The Homestead Act of 1862

The late 1860s and 1870s were a period of rebuilding and new arrivals. The 1862 Homestead Act provided free land for settlers who could "prove up" in five years. The war period had kept settlers away. The Homestead Act encouraged settlement as those from other war torn areas moved west, or northerners moved south. The majority of transactions in the state land tract books for this area are from the period of the 1870s and 1880s. Many of these claims were made with the Homestead Act, although not all entries received the final patent. Many were cancelled, some of the settlers moved on, and others chose different pieces of land to enter.

To the north, the town of Harrison, named for a Union officer who was surveying the area for the railroad, was laid out in the newly created Boone County (1869). The land office functions of Fayetteville to the west were soon transferred to the growing county seat. Some of the early settlers of the Crooked Creek Valley donated land for the city square.

The names on the censuses began to reflect fewer and fewer of the settlers of the pre war period. As communities grew, post offices were established in tiny hamlets, school districts were formed and roads were maintained with county residents as overseers.

By 1900, the population of Newton County was 12,538. During the early 1900s another wave of migrating settlers were entering the area. Local residents would meet the new arrivals and show them the available land, and in some cases even help them build a log cabin.

This was also a period of discovery, with settlers realizing the potential of the vast virgin timber in the Ozarks. Many settlers and homestead entrants sold timber warrants to lumber companies or their representatives. Buyers selected trees for the purpose at hand, be it barrel staves or pencils. Sawmills were no longer uncommon. The overlooked wooded bluff lands of the Buffalo had been penetrated.

The twentieth century came slowly to the Ozarks. For many Ozark residents electricity did not come until the mid 1900s. The railroad reached Harrison in 1901, thus making markets and goods more accessible, whereas prior to the railroad, the river was used to transport cash crops to market. Area farmers began to sell their produce in Jasper and Harrison in order to trade for goods they could not produce. The 1930s Depression had a mixed effect on this area. One Newton County resident thought that the 1892 depression was worse because there had been no aid of any kind during that period. Other subsistence farming families said that they had balanced diets and enough to eat from the production of their own farm. After the 1930s and 1940s, population declined in the Ozarks and has never really recovered. The numerous homesteads that once dotted the valleys of the Buffalo at the turn of the century are now overgrown with new cedar and grasses (Rogers 1987, 24-26).

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The landscape of the Erbie Historical District exhibits the characteristics of early settlement and farming as practiced during the period of significance from 1830 to 1978. The physical condition of the cultural landscape is Fair and overall, the landscape remains much as it did during the period of significance. Though the majority of the structures are no longer extant, the vernacular landscape continues to demonstrate aspects of the subsistence farming lifestyle practiced by many settlers through the persistence of the majority of landscape characteristics. Although farming as a historic land use no longer takes place, the natural systems and features, spatial organization, cluster arrangement, buildings and structures, circulation, and small scale features retain integrity and contribute to the significance of the district.

Landscape Characteristics:

The natural systems and features of the Erbie Historic District helped to form the appearance and configuration of the home sites along this part of the Buffalo River. The availability of water, the protection offered by the hollows or ‘coves’, and the relatively fertile bottomland along the river determined the location of the farmsteads as well as the location of the fields and pastures. The farmsteads developed nestled into the landscape protected by the hills, surrounded by fields, and nearby to the Buffalo River. Land use and cluster arrangement continue to convey the historic farming uses through the original location and arrangement of buildings and structures, vegetation, circulation, and small scale features. The buildings and structures convey the native material used and the workmanship employed to construct them. Roads, originally used during the period of significance between the farmsteads and other features of the district, are still in use for pedestrian and vehicular circulation. The remaining small scale features include fence lines, stone walls, wooden fence posts, wells, cisterns, and cemeteries all reflect some physical solutions to the demands of farming along the Buffalo River.

From the Determination of Eligibility:

Both the Parker-Hickman Farm and the Jones Farm are extremely good examples of nineteenth and early twentieth century settlement along the Buffalo River. The buildings associated with these properties retain a high degree of architectural integrity and remain in good condition. The associated fields are maintained and leased to area farmers for hay production, therefore maintaining the spatial organization of some of the historic fields. Upon visiting either of these farms, one easily gets a sense of their historic periods and the agricultural activity that took place on a daily basis in these locations. Views of expansive fields overlooking the Buffalo River with steep wooded hills in the background remain similar to those of the turn-of-the-century and thus create a high integrity of setting, feeling, and association on these properties.

The surrounding landscape of the Parker-Hickman Farm includes fence rows, creek beds, earthen ponds, feeding troughs, and farm roads, all of which contribute to the farm's historic character and

setting.

The setting of the Jones Farm is largely unchanged from the farm's period of significance. Fencerows, ponds, and farm roads help to convey the cultural landscape. The majority of fields associated with the farm remain in use and are leased to local farmers. Directly south of the Jones House is a dirt roadbed that extends westward off the main Erbie Road. The roadbed leads to the barn and fades into a field road. This road was initially an early community transportation route that extended to the river and led to an earlier Erbie town site location.

The Farmer Farm is not as well maintained as the other two farmsteads and its buildings suffer from deterioration. However, the integrity of setting is quite strong. The spatial organization of dwellings and outbuildings and the boundary demarcations of landscape features such as fence lines demonstrate traditional uses and senses of order on the farmstead.

The integrity of the setting at the Farmer Farm includes the primitive path or road that passed by the farm and the farm's position in the rugged landscape conveys the somewhat isolated nature of the property and illustrates the effort it must have taken to travel into the village or transport goods to market. Although the physical condition of the Farmer Farm is somewhat weathered, the property possesses a strong sense of time and place and it remains a good example of a turn-of-the-century farmstead (DOE 2005, 42-43).

Integrity:

The Erbie Historic District retains integrity as a rural historic landscape based on the landscape characteristics listed above. The district remains intact at its original location. Though the population in Erbie declined precipitously after 1930, services continued in the Erbie church until 2000. Area farmers continue to lease agricultural fields in the district. Several farmsteads from the period of significance are intact while most are in ruins with only foundations remaining. These features along with the extant fields, cemeteries, and road systems contribute to the overall setting of the rural community. The remaining historic fabric retains the feeling of early settlement during the period of significance. The Erbie Historic District cultural landscape represents a time of the early settlement along the Buffalo and continues to reflect its late nineteenth and early twentieth century development. It represents a good example of a rural agricultural community in the Buffalo River valley and conveys a high to moderate degree of integrity in location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling, and association. There is a diminished degree of integrity in the aspects of design and workmanship due to the loss of some of the individual historic sites.

Aspects of Integrity:

- Materials
- Feeling
- Association
- Location
- Setting

Landscape Characteristic:

Natural Systems and Features

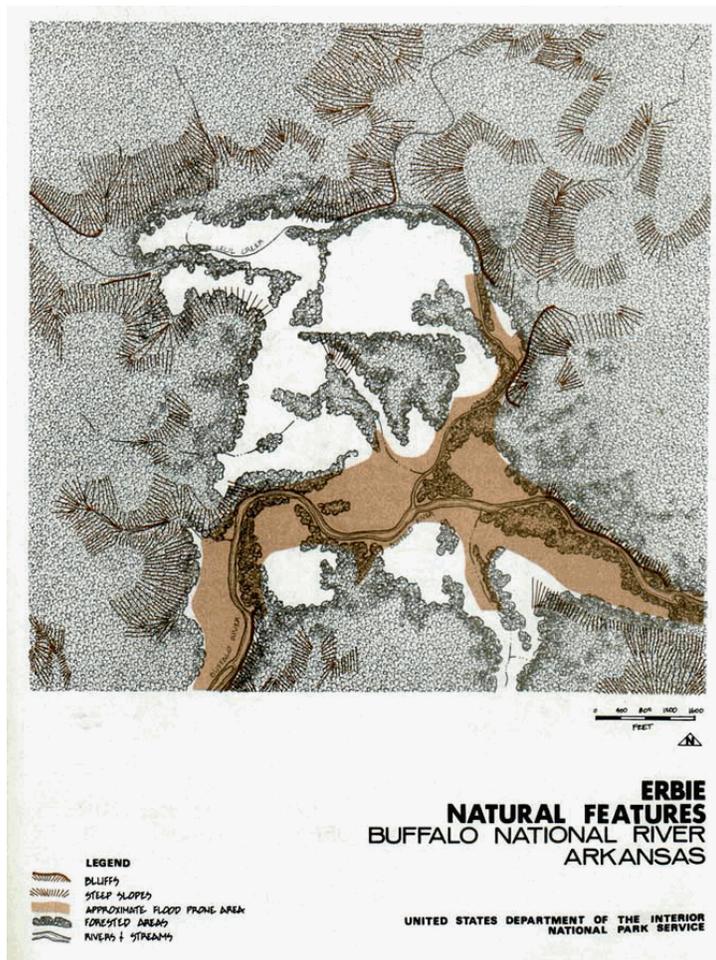
The Boston Mountains serve as the south western border to the Ozark Mountains. The area is isolated by rugged terrain and characterized by steep slopes and limestone bluffs. Karst features such as springs and caves are common and are produced by groundwater action on bedrock making high quality water resources available. Oak, hickory and pine forest provide habitat and served as an additional resource for the sustainable lifestyle pursued by the historic settlers of the area. The Buffalo River flows 150 miles east into the White River which joins the Arkansas River just above where it meets the Mississippi.

The Buffalo River cuts through the hills of the Boston Mountains creating valleys and narrow gorges. These valleys provided a most prosperous setting to early settlers who wished to succeed under a subsistence agricultural lifestyle. The river in flood proved a hazard to the inhabitants but also a boon to their way of life.

The Erbie cultural landscape consists of fertile bottomlands and gently sloping hills (elevation 830 feet to 1,040 feet). It was these unique features that made the site so attractive for early settlement, especially in a landscape that was predominantly difficult to settle. The area is surrounded by steep bluffs and tree-covered mountains rising to over 2,000 feet elevation. Newberry Point to the north and Mutton Point to the south are the peaks that frame the entrance to the landscape from the west. Multiple creeks carve through the hills on their way to the Buffalo River. The cultural landscape has evolved through the settler's adaptation to the natural setting. The long occupation of the area has altered but not fundamentally changed the land.

Erbie is located in the Upper River section of the park and contains some of the most dramatic bluffs along the river. In the spring, when the river is high, this section is also the swiftest and shallowest portion of the river. 6 feet of depth is considered flood stage at Ponca which lies 16.3 miles upstream from Erbie while over 12.5 feet depth is considered flood stage in the Tyler Bend section of the river located 49.2 miles downstream from Erbie.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Map illustrating the natural features of the district. From the 1986 Erbie Cultural Landscape Report (NPS, 1986).

Spatial Organization

The Erbie Historic District's spatial character is primarily defined by the topography and the river. Open fields were carved out in the fertile bottomland along the river; homesteads were established in cleared woods above the fields. Farmsteads are arranged along the base of the hills where there was access to fresh spring water and other river resources. The Reavis cabin is the only exception, being situated in more isolated terrain at the base of Newberry Point at an elevation of 1500 feet, 600 feet above the level of the Buffalo River.

The farmsteads are dotted along the base of the hills and become more spatially distinct as they radiate out from the town site. Structures in the town site were more closely arranged affording access to the church and store. The town site is centrally located to the district and developed at a crossroads well out of the bottom land on the north side of the river. The historic circulation network is maintained as gravel roads and concrete fords. The network follows a utilitarian route with two roads on the north side of the river coming through the hills into the district and one on the south side of the river. The roads converge at a low water

crossing on the Buffalo. This network continues to be used for primary circulation within the historic district.

Land Use

From the 1840s to 1978 agriculture was the predominant land use in the Erbie area. Due to the isolation and difficulty of transport, subsistence farming was the primary endeavor of the farmers of the valley. The Buffalo bottom land could easily support a family while it was much more difficult to focus on a single cash crop which would not have succeeded under the physical and economic conditions of the area (Pitcaithley 1976, 126). As a result, farmers grew a diversity of crops such as wheat, corn, cotton, potatoes, tobacco, and rice. A diversity of livestock was also kept and remnant fencing makes former pasture land evident to this day. Agriculture has ceased in the area with the exception of the leased fields which continue to be used primarily for hay production. This continued use maintains the spatial conditions of several of the historic fields, thus contributing to the integrity of the site.

Several features in the district do not contribute to the integrity. The Erbie campground, the Caver's Camp, the parking lot at the crossroads of the town and the Horse Camp are features constructed by the National Park Service and used for recreational purposes. These features are all noncontributing though they do not detract from the integrity of the site.

Character-defining Features:

Feature:	Agricultural fields
Feature Identification Number:	140606
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	NPS campgrounds
Feature Identification Number:	140608
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Google Earth image showing the fields in the Erbie Historic District (Google Earth, 2010).

Circulation

The Erbie Rural Historic District includes a network system of roads and trails that reveal the movement and connectedness of the community. The main roads leading into the Erbie area and the Erbie town site are maintained gravel roads. Farm roads, often part of an earlier road system, also exist throughout the area and illustrate the importance of access to the village, river, and neighboring farms, were to Erbie residents. The crossroads within the site of Erbie village help to define the area as a center of activity for the community. The remains of a swinging bridge also illustrate how important access to the village was to area residents (DOE 2005, 44)

The circulation system of the Erbie Historic District has not been significantly altered since the period of significance. The overall pattern and alignment of the gravel roads has not changed. The network established communicated between farm sites and the river crossing with the crossroads becoming the establishment of the town of Erbie. Crossing the Buffalo is seasonally dependent on the low water crossing at both the Cove Creek ford as well as the ford across the Buffalo. When the river was high, crossing was available only by horseback. A swing bridge was historically located across the Buffalo for pedestrian crossing in high water times. This bridge is no longer extant. "Local residents constructed a swinging bridge across the Buffalo

River in the Erbie area during the late 1930s. The bridge eased access to the village and allowed people to get to the school, church, and store, and have greater contact with one another. The NPS dismantled what remained of the bridge in 1986. The bridge was located approximately one-quarter mile downstream from the Parker-Hickman Farmstead. What remains at the site today is an iron axle shaft that is driven into the bedrock ledge on a bluff south of the river. On the north side of the river is a decayed A-frame that supported the bridge's north end" (DOE 2005, 33).

The hierarchy of circulation in the district consists of the primary roads connecting the site to the surrounding landscape. These roads are maintained as gravel. The roads on the north side of the river, county roads 19 and 57, snake through the hills down to the river. County Road 19, also known as Erbie Road, forms the crossroad of the town site where it meets with County Road 57 at approximately a quarter mile northwest of the river. County Road 79 fords the river and is identified as the Erbie Campground Road on the south side of the river. This road follows the river for awhile after which it meets with State Road 7 south of the town of Pruitt.

The secondary roads are gravel roads that are not as well maintained but follow historic routes to home sites. These roads are in varying states of use, with some in fair gravel condition while others are barely visible as a trace through the woods. An example of this type of secondary road is found in the road that goes to the Cherry Grove Cemetery from the Parker-Hickman farm. Another leads to the Reavis cabin, which sits on a bench below Newberry Point overlooking the district, and is at the end of a steep and rutted gravel road. In addition, various road remnants and two-track traces still lead to several home sites throughout the district.

Tertiary circulation is identified as the foot and horse trails located throughout the district. These trails may follow historic alignment, though there is no documentation of the location of pedestrian or equestrian movement through the district. While these trails are considered noncontributing, they do not detract from the integrity of the site. Both the Buffalo River Trail (BRT) and the Old River Trail (ORT) pass through the Erbie Historic District.

Character-defining Features:

- Feature: County Roads through the District
- Feature Identification Number: 140610
- Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

- Feature: Fords across the Buffalo
- Feature Identification Number: 140612
- Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

- Feature: Gravel roads leading to home sites
- Feature Identification Number: 140614
- Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Ford across the Buffalo in summer (NPS, 2009).



Rulus Jones Farm House viewed from the road (NPS, 2009).



County Road through the Erbie Historic District (NPS, 2009).

Vegetation

Significant vegetation in the historic district is most often related to the patterns of land use. These uses have to do with the clearing of woods to establish home sites or fields. The woods surrounding the properties are dense. The thinning of these trees and the control of the understory spatially defines the homestead from the dense woods and slopes that surround the property. While each property had been maintained as a clearing, most are overgrown with pioneer vegetation. Overgrowth has the most significant impact at sites that are remnant foundations of former homes.

Many of the farmsteads would have had gardens and orchards located near the dwelling. Orchards were planted to supply the family with fruit and nuts. Remnant orchard space is most evident at the Parker-Hickman farm. Plum trees are growing near the house within old fence line posts. Though several plum species occur naturally in this region, these appear to have been planted, due to their clustering and proximity to the house and fields. A mature walnut tree is located near the house at the edge of the field. Domestic and ornamental vegetation is found at several home sites. Most common plant types are lilac, rose, iris, daffodil, and English ivy. The Parker-Hickman homestead is the most carefully maintained and therefore most accurately represents the spatial conditions of a domestically cultivated landscape.

Several domestic plantings are noted at the Jones farmstead. A lilac shrub and multi-trunked crepe myrtle are growing in front of the house between the house and the road. A rose is growing against a mature elm tree on the fence line west of the house. Along most of the entirety of the fence line surrounding the house are mature shade trees, including catalpas, elms, and walnut trees. The northern catalpa tree is native to this region and adaptable to a range of soil and moisture requirements. The wood was commonly used for fence posts and railroad ties.

The Farmer Farm is not as well maintained as the other two farmsteads and its buildings suffer from deterioration. However, the integrity of setting is quite strong. Although fields have become overgrown, the pattern and layout are easily discernible and reflect the agricultural heritage and historic character of the property. The area between the barn and the main house is largely overgrown with tall grass and small trees. A small tree line runs along the fence between the house and the barn and there are several large mature trees around the dwellings. Ornamental domestic plantings at the site include irises that are growing between the two houses, where there are also mature English ivy vines enveloping large trees. Irises and narcissus bulbs are also noted on the north fence line beside the main house. A lilac shrub is located just behind the main house. Several mature muscadine grapevines are growing along the southern edge of the fence at the property's southeastern border. Though some grapevine species are naturally occurring natives to the region, these large vines appear to have been trained along the south-facing fence line adjacent to what was once a cleared field. This would have allowed ample sunlight for the grapes to grow (DOE 2005, 43).

Character-defining Features:

- Feature: Orchards and domestic plantings
- Feature Identification Number: 140624
- Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

- Feature: Surrounding woods
- Feature Identification Number: 140626
- Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Cluster Arrangement

The town site of Erbie developed at the junction of two roads where they met just north of the Buffalo River. The town reached its greatest population of about 100 people in the 1930s. At this crossroads town, there was the cluster of church, store, post office, and several houses. The rest of the district extends from the central site with easy access to the town provided via the road network.

Topography

The placement of farmsteads was influenced by the physical topography along the Buffalo River. Settlements were isolated in the hills making casual access difficult. Fields were

located in the fertile bottom land along the river. Farmsteads responded to the constricted geography of the region; in addition to the Buffalo River, several tributaries contributed to the settler's response to the topography of the site. Cove Creek, Cecil Creek, and Webb Branch as well as multiple tertiary streams and springs all contribute to the location and viability of certain homesteads in the district.

Cultural Traditions

Progressive development came slowly to the Ozarks in the twentieth century. Many settlements did not receive electricity until the mid-1900s. Poor road conditions made contact with outside markets difficult. By 1900 it became evident that a diversified farm stock was necessary to survive in this isolated environment. Farmers of the Buffalo area embraced subsistence level farming, growing a variety of crops and ensuring that if one crop failed they would be able to support their family on whatever crop was able to thrive (Pitcaithley 1976, 16). During the Great Depression, the population in the region around the Buffalo grew slightly and data showed an increase in agricultural activity in the area. During these times of economic hardship, people may have returned to the mountains to pursue a life of self-sufficiency and economic independence (Pitcaithley 1976, 178-79). Crop diversification was encouraged by county agents stressing the importance of gardening as a means of providing food for the family. It was in this manner that farm families in the Buffalo River region were able to weather the economic hardships suffered across the country. To ensure success, it was suggested that the farmer have "...two milk cows, a good brood sow, thirty laying hens, and a year round garden, that life in the country would be without privation" (Pitcaithley 1976, 181). Gardens were universally cultivated as a source of vegetables. Corn, oats, apples, peaches and other garden produce were grown and canned to store for the harshest winter.

Federal aid programs instituted at this time also provided assistance to struggling farm families. In 1932 when the a drought gripped the region, a State Relief Commission established canning centers in central locations throughout the state with the intention of preserving surplus crops for later consumption. "By 1935, nearly every county in Arkansas had at least one such "canning kitchen", and Searcy County had three" (Pitcaithley, 1976, 180).

Squatting was a commonly practiced means of land development. This was most often a result of settlers moving into the area ahead of federal surveyors. Initial surveys in the Boston Mountains took place between 1829 and 1834 and these surveys only marked the eastern and southern boundary of each township with more precise measurement being conducted through 1850 (Pitcaithley 1976, 84-85). The Preemption Act of 1841 allowed settlers to buy the land they had been squatting on. The government set a price of \$1.25 per acre allowing the settlers to buy the land they had developed though often this total price exceeded \$100; this price exceeded what was an affordable amount for most settlers. A study conducted by Pitcaithley looked at fifty-four settlers living along the river in the 1830s and 1840s; these settlers names were checked with patent owners at the time and it was found that "only fourteen were ever legally owned by the individual occupant or by a member of the family" (Pitcaithley 1976, 86).

Buildings and Structures

The following is excerpted from the Determination of Eligibility 2005, 2-32:

Parker-Hickman Farm, Contributing, ca. 1830-ca. 1955

The Parker-Hickman House is one of the earliest known surviving structures within the boundaries of the Buffalo National River. The house is one-and-a-half stories in height and has a central single-pen log core of native red cedar that dates to ca. 1850. Late nineteenth century frame additions appear on the south and east elevations and have a vertical board or board and batten exteriors. The house has a gable metal roof and an exterior stone chimney. On the main (north) façade is a full-width shed roof porch with wood posts. Windows in the dwelling are 4/4 wood sash designs.

The Parker-Hickman Farm also includes a 1912 double-crib log barn with a central drive-through bay. The barn features saddle-notched logs and a gable metal roof. A 1926 frame addition is on the north elevation, and a 1926 shed roof addition is on the south elevation. The oldest outbuilding on the Parker-Hickman Farm is a small corn crib built ca. 1890. The corn crib is of squared log construction and rests on stone piers. Also on the farmstead are a 1926 frame barn, a ca. 1935 WPA-built privy, and a ca. 1925 frame smokehouse. A frame machine shed and a frame chicken house are also on the property and date to 1955.

Jones Farm, Contributing, ca. 1913

The Jones House is a one-and-a-half story, frame dwelling built in 1922. The house has a stone foundation, a gable roof of corrugated metal panels, a central interior brick chimney, and an exterior of weatherboard siding. On the main (south) elevation is a $\frac{3}{4}$ width shed roof porch with original turned wood posts. The porch is supported by tapered poured concrete piers. The porch has a wood floor. Leading to the porch are poured concrete steps framed with an uncut stone wall capped with concrete. The porch has an original tongue-and-groove ceiling. Entrances and windows in the dwelling are boarded up with wood panels to prevent vandalism. The house originally had two entrances on the main facade. One has been enclosed with weatherboard siding. Second story windows in the side gable are paired one-over-one wood sash designs. The dwelling has an original rear T-wing with a central interior brick chimney, stone foundation and an exterior of weatherboard siding. On both the east and west elevations of the wing are original shed roof porches with turned wood posts. The east porch has two entrances. A portion of the west porch has been enclosed. The east porch has a poured concrete floor and the west porch has a wood floor supported by concrete piers. A window in the gable field of the wing has a four-over-four wood sash window. Adjacent to the east porch is a stone well.

To the rear of the house is a frame smokehouse built ca. 1913. It has a corrugated metal gable roof, a board and batten exterior, and a stone pier foundation. The door to the building is missing. The interior has a wood floor and some wood shelving. A stone step is situated outside of the entrance.

West of the dwelling is a large frame barn built ca. 1913. A dirt road extends in front of the dwelling and leads to the barn and associated fields. The barn has a stone foundation, a vertical board exterior, and a gable corrugated metal roof. The barn has a central drive-thru bay shed roof wings on either side. The central bay is divided into stock pens and cribs. Interior steps lead to the loft area. There is some use of diagonal board on the interior of the barn. The pens have triangular cutout openings that access feed bins. A fence line runs behind the barn's west wall and large fields that are still in use are located to the south and west of the barn.

Approximately eight feet southeast of the barn is a stone springhouse built ca. 1913. The springhouse is constructed of uncut stone arranged in a loose course with a concrete mortar. It has a corrugated metal panel gable roof, exposed roof rafters, and a poured concrete foundation that is octagonal in shape.

Across the road and east of the house is a frame stock pen built ca. 1913. It is of wood post construction and has a corrugated metal shed roof and corrugated metal panel exterior siding. The interior is divided and has a dirt floor. The stock pen is situated in a field approximately 100 feet from the road. The field is no longer in use and has becoming overgrown. A metal and wood post and wire fence line runs up the hillside, and a stock pond is located on the hill northeast of the stock pen.

Farmer Farm, Contributing, ca. 1905

The main Farmer House is a one-and-a-half story, frame dwelling built ca. 1905. It has a stone pier foundation, a gable corrugated metal panel roof, a central interior brick chimney, and a board and batten exterior. On the main (west) facade is a full-width shed roof porch with chamfered wood posts. The porch has a wood floor and a rock pier foundation. There are two entrances on the main facade. One is missing a door and the western most entrance has a paneled wood door that is in ruins. This entrance has a metal mesh screen over it. On the north side of the porch two large stones and one small stone serve as steps leading to the ground. The south side of the porch has a poured concrete ramp that is lined with brick. At the north end of the porch is an electrical outlet. There is weatherboard siding in the gable fields of the house. There is no extant siding on the north or east elevations. The house has an original rear T-wing with shed roof porches on both the north and south elevations. The porches have sawn wood posts and rock pier foundations. The ceiling of the north porch has caved in. Window openings in the dwelling are rectangular in shape and are covered with metal wire mesh screens. The rear T-wing has a continuous dry stack stone foundation and beneath it is a root cellar. An entrance to the cellar is at the rear (east) elevation. A vertical board wood door remains partially attached at the entrance. The cellar entrance is framed in and supported by stone and had an angled cellar door. Hinges remaining demonstrate this. The cellar has a dirt floor.

The interior of the dwelling is divided into three rooms with the rear T-wing being the kitchen. The cabinetry in this room is in ruins. There is some use of linoleum and "wood paneling"

wallpaper. Interior boxed steps lead to two rooms in the half story. A brick flue has openings to both front rooms. The interior has original wood floors. A wood post and wire fence runs north-south approximately ten feet in front of the house. Opposite the fence is an old roadbed that now serves as an NPS hiking trail.

The second dwelling on the Farmer Farmstead is situated approximately sixty feet southeast of the first dwelling. This is a one-and-a-half story frame cabin built ca. 1910. It has a gable roof of corrugated metal panels, a stone pier foundation, a board and batten exterior, and an interior metal flue. On the main (west) elevation is a full-width shed roof porch with square wood posts and a wood floor. The dwelling has a central entrance flanked by two windows, all of which have metal mesh screens. The rear (east) elevation has an original shed roof wing with a board and batten exterior and stone pier foundation. The rear (east) wall of this wing is gone except for support posts. The interior of the house has one main room plus the rear wing room. The interior has wood floors and remnants of wallpaper. Interior steps slant down from the attic/loft area. This dwelling is in very poor condition. It has lost some roof panels and the entire rear is exposed due to the missing wall.

Approximately twelve feet south of the dwelling is a ca. 1900 frame feed house with a gable roof of corrugated metal panels, a vertical board exterior, and a wood post and stone foundation. The feed house has an open bay on the east side and two open bays on the west side. The west side has a small pen area made with metal fencing around the wood support posts. A vertical board door encloses the pen. Another vertical board door leads to the east side of the structure.

Two or three feet south of the feed house is a ca. 1910 frame privy. The privy has a corrugated metal panel shed roof, a vertical board exterior, and a stone pier foundation. The privy is a two-holer and has a vertical board door, a portion of which is missing.

A large barn is located about 150 feet east of the main Farmer House. The barn dates to ca. 1900 and has two interior log cribs on stone pier foundations. The north crib has unhewn logs with V notching and the south crib has hewn logs with half dovetail notching. A portion of the south crib has collapsed. A central drive-through (east-west) extends between the log cribs. A frame structure was built around the log cribs and has vertical board siding, a gable corrugated metal panel roof, and a stone pier foundation. The barn has a loft area and most of the exterior walls of the frame portion of the barn are gone. A fence line extends around the barn and overgrown fields are to the southeast. To the rear (north) of the barn about twenty feet are the ruins of a feed pen or small chicken house. This structure had horizontal board siding and a standing metal seam roof. It has largely collapsed.

Approximately thirty-five feet west of the barn is a ca. 1900 frame smokehouse/tool shed. This building has a vertical board exterior, a corrugated metal panel gable roof, and a stone pier foundation. A large stone provides a step into the building. On the north elevation is a shed roof wing that is open on the east side. This appears as if it might have functioned as a garage

or storage area. The interior has a wood floor and one main room with two storage areas near the entrance. North of the house along a stream and adjacent to the path are the remains of a ca. 1900 log springhouse. This structure was built with unhewn logs with V notching and measures 5' 6" x 7'. The springhouse is situated over the creek and set on rock. The roof of the building has collapsed.

Reavis Cabin, Contributing, ca. 1918

This site is located at the top of a ridgeline west of the Erbie area at the end of Fitton Cave Road. On the site is a ca. 1918, one-and-a-half story, double-pen log dwelling with ca. 1955 frame additions. The dwelling has a gable roof of corrugated metal panels and a stone foundation. The exterior is of hewn logs with half dovetail notching and concrete chinking. Windows in the dwelling are four-over-four and one-over-one wood sash designs. In the gable fields the house has a wood shingle exterior. On the main (east) elevation is a full-width screened in porch that was added to the dwelling ca. 1955. The porch has a shed roof, a wood floor and ceiling, a stone veneer skirt wall, wood frame screens, and a poured concrete foundation. Three stone steps lead to the porch. Two entrances from the porch lead into the cabin- one has a vertical board door and the other has a flush ca. 1980 wood door.

The north elevation of the original log section of the house has a corrugated metal panel exterior. In the half story are paired four-light glass and wood attic windows. At the rear of the dwelling is a ca. 1955 frame shed roof wing with an exterior of wood shingles and a poured concrete foundation. The wing has three-over-one and one-over-one wood sash windows. The rear entrance has a vertical board door and exterior screen door. Concrete covered stone steps lead to the entrance. The interior of the dwelling has exposed ceiling rafters, linoleum flooring, and vertical board doors. One of the front rooms has a curved corner shelf. The rear shed roof wing is a kitchen area and has a plywood floor and walls, and shelving. The half story is divided into two rooms.

Southeast of the dwelling is a stone well that is rectangular in shape. The concrete cap has an extending rectangular trough or basin. A wood post and wire fence line encloses the yard around the cabin. A collapsed stone wall fence is south of the cabin. Remnants of outbuilding foundations appear opposite the fence line north of the cabin. The foundations are of stone and measure 7' x 12'. Also nearby are remnants of a frame or log outbuilding. Within a 5' x 4' area are rotted logs with nails, boards, and metal debris. Southwest of the house is a large concrete slab foundation measuring approximately 17' x 12' with an additional foundation line or edging extending another 10'. Northwest of the house is a frame feed pen with corrugated metal roof panels and a vertical board exterior. East of the house roughly 150 yards up the hill along a stream is a small poured concrete springhouse banked into the north side of the hill. The springhouse appears to be about four or five feet in height and four feet wide.

Erbie Church, Contributing, ca. 1900

Erbie Church is a one-story, gable-front, frame building constructed ca. 1900. The church has a stone foundation, a corrugated metal gable roof, an interior brick chimney, and an exterior of weatherboard siding. On the main (east) façade is the main entrance, which has paired ca. 1960 diamond light glass and wood doors. Concrete block steps lead to the entrance and have metal railings. Above the entrance is a wooden sign that reads "Erbie Church." Above the sign is a simple metal light fixture. On the south elevation is a small shed roof wing built ca. 1930. This wing has exposed roof rafters and at the basement level has a vertical board entrance. The church has original four-over-four wood sash windows that appear on the side elevations. There is no fenestration on the rear elevation.

A small gravel parking area is in front of the church and is lined with stone. South of the church approximately twenty feet is a short, small, dry stack stone retaining wall. Another fifteen to twenty feet south of the retaining wall is a wood post and wire fence. To the rear (west) of the church are piles of stones that appear to be the remains of a privy.

Shake Roof Cabin, Contributing, ca. 1935

According to local informants, this single-pen log structure was built in the 1930s from logs salvaged from a previous nearby dwelling. The building was used for storage. NPS personnel refer to the building as the "shake roof cabin" due to its roofing material. It is located south of the Lane House Site and east of the Parker-Hickman Farmstead. It is of log construction with the bottom four logs hewn and the upper four logs are unhewn. There is no chinking between the logs. The structure has a gable roof of wood shake shingles, which has largely collapsed. The roof has a large overhang above the entrance. The building has a stone foundation and horizontal boards in the gable field. A central entrance is beneath the gable end and is missing its door. Metal hinges remain intact. The interior has no flooring. The building is deteriorated and in poor condition. Some of the bottom logs are rotting and many roof shingles are gone. A wood post and wire fence runs along the south side of the building.

The building sits in a wooded area off of an NPS hiking trail. A small footpath leads to the building from the trail. An NPS boundary marker lies about twenty-five feet to the north of the building. Despite its poor condition, the Shake Roof Cabin adds to the overall setting of the Erbie Rural Historic District. Its construction of "recycled" logs reflects a common practice of reusing materials from older dwellings, and its shake roof is an example of local building traditions and craftsmanship.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Farmer Barn

Feature Identification Number: 140628

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature UTM

Source

Type of
Point

Datum

UTM
Zone

UTM
Easting

UTM
Northing

Erbie Area
Buffalo National River

GPS-Differentially Corrected Point NAD 83 15 478,597 3,991,833

IDLCS Number: 61557

LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Farmer Barn

LCS Structure Number: B4-64H

Feature: Farmer Cabin

Feature Identification Number: 140630

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature UTM Source	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
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GPS-Differentially Corrected Point NAD 27 15 478,582 3,991,794

IDLCS Number: 61556

LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Farmer Cabin

LCS Structure Number: B4-63H

Feature: Farmer Feedhouse

Feature Identification Number: 140632

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature UTM Source	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
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GPS-Differentially Corrected Point NAD 83 15 478,589 399,178

IDLCS Number: 61559

LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Farmer Feedhouse

LCS Structure Number: B4-66H

Feature: Farmer Smokehouse

Feature Identification Number: 140634

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature UTM Source	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
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GPS-Differentially Corrected Point NAD 83 15 478,578 3,991,846

Erbie Area
Buffalo National River

Corrected

IDLCS Number: 61558
LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Farmer Smokehouse
LCS Structure Number: B4-65H

Feature: Huchingson Spring
Feature Identification Number: 140644
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	478,964	3,993,713

IDLCS Number: 61552
LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Huchingson Spring
LCS Structure Number: HUCH-1

Feature: Hickman House site
Feature Identification Number: 140648
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,855	3,991,685

IDLCS Number: 498271

Feature: Erbie Church
Feature Identification Number: 140652
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,026	3,993,193

IDLCS Number: 61551
LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Erbie Church

Erbie Area
Buffalo National River

LCS Structure Number: B4-74H

Feature: Farmer Privy

Feature Identification Number: 140654

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	478,594	3,991,786

IDLCS Number: 498274

Feature: Farmer Springhouse Ruin

Feature Identification Number: 140656

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	478,544	3,991,837

IDLCS Number: 498273

Feature: J.W. Farmer House

Feature Identification Number: 140658

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	478,559	3,991,807

IDLCS Number: 61555

LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Farmer, J.W. House

LCS Structure Number: 62-HB22

Feature: John Reavis House

Feature Identification Number: 140660

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Erbie Area
 Buffalo National River

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	477,441	3,995,183

IDLCS Number: 61562
 LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Reavis, John House
 LCS Structure Number: B4-45H

Feature: Rulus Jones Barn
 Feature Identification Number: 140662
 Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,539	3,992,529

IDLCS Number: 23237
 LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Jones, Rulus Barn
 LCS Structure Number: B4-78H

Feature: Rulus Jones Cattle Shed
 Feature Identification Number: 140664
 Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,646	3,992,600

IDLCS Number: 503937

Feature: Rulus Jones House
 Feature Identification Number: 140666
 Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
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Erbie Area
Buffalo National River

GPS-Differentially Corrected Point NAD 83 15 479,584 3,992,595

IDLCS Number: 23208

LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Jones, Rulus House

LCS Structure Number: B4-77H

Feature: Rulus Jones Pumphouse

Feature Identification Number: 140668

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
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GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,555	3,992,538
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IDLCS Number: 23236

LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Jones, Rulus Pumphouse

LCS Structure Number: B4-80H

Feature: Rulus Jones Smokehouse

Feature Identification Number: 140672

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
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GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,564	3,992,604
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IDLCS Number: 23238

LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Jones, Rulus Smokehouse

LCS Structure Number: B4-29H

Feature: McFadin House Site Ruins

Feature Identification Number: 140674

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
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GPS-Differentially	Point	NAD 83	15	494,195	3,990,665
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Erbie Area
Buffalo National River

Corrected

IDLCS Number: 498289

Feature: Shake Roof Cabin

Feature Identification Number: 140676

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	480,225	3,991,463

IDLCS Number: 61550

LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Shake Roof Cabin

LCS Structure Number: HB-00

Feature: Tinsley Milkhouse Foundation

Feature Identification Number: 140680

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,388	3,993,617

IDLCS Number: 486416

Feature: Tinsley Spring Box

Feature Identification Number: 140682

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,430	3,993,595

IDLCS Number: 486418

Feature: Parker-Hickman Board Barn

Feature Identification Number: 140684

Erbie Area
Buffalo National River

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,967	3,991,957

IDLCS Number: 23209
LCS Structure Name: Parker-Hickman Board Barn
LCS Structure Number: B4-54H

Feature: Parker-Hickman Chicken House
Feature Identification Number: 140686

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,931	3,991,868

IDLCS Number: 23234
LCS Structure Name: Parker-Hickman Chicken House
LCS Structure Number: B4-51H

Feature: Shake Roof Cabin
Feature Identification Number: 140688

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	480,225	3,991,463

IDLCS Number: 61550
LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Shake Roof Cabin
LCS Structure Number: HB-00

Feature: Tinsley Barn Foundation
Feature Identification Number: 140692

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Erbie Area
Buffalo National River

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,360	3,993,610

IDLCS Number: 486414

Feature: Tinsley Milkhouse Foundation

Feature Identification Number: 140694

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,388	3,993,617

IDLCS Number: 486416

Feature: Tinsley Spring Box

Feature Identification Number: 140696

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,430	3,993,595

IDLCS Number: 486418

Feature: Parker-Hickman Board Barn

Feature Identification Number: 140698

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,967	3,991,957

IDLCS Number: 23209

LCS Structure Name: Parker-Hickman Board Barn

LCS Structure Number: B4-54H

Erbie Area
Buffalo National River

Feature: Parker-Hickman Chicken House

Feature Identification Number: 140700

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,931	3,991,868

IDLCS Number: 23234

LCS Structure Name: Parker-Hickman Chicken House

LCS Structure Number: B4-51H

Feature: Parker-Hickman Corn Crib

Feature Identification Number: 140702

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,959	3,991,875

IDLCS Number: 60629

LCS Structure Name: Parker-Hickman Corn Crib

LCS Structure Number: ER-7

Feature: Parker -Hickman Feeding Structures

Feature Identification Number: 140716

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,931	3,991,868

IDLCS Number: 23233

LCS Structure Name: Parker-Hickman Feeding Structures

LCS Structure Number: ER-4

Erbie Area
Buffalo National River

Feature: Parker-Hickman House

Feature Identification Number: 140718

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,954	3,991,827

IDLCS Number: 60760

LCS Structure Name: Parker-Hickman House

LCS Structure Number: B4-56H

Feature: Parker-Hickman Log Barn

Feature Identification Number: 140720

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,968	3,991,876

IDLCS Number: 23211

LCS Structure Name: Parker-Hickman Log Barn

LCS Structure Number: B4-55H

Feature: Parker-Hickman Machine Shed

Feature Identification Number: 140722

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,941	3,991,864

IDLCS Number: 23210

LCS Structure Name: Parker-Hickman Machine Shed

LCS Structure Number: B4-52H

Feature: Parker-Hickman Smokehouse

Erbie Area
Buffalo National River

Feature Identification Number: 140726

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,951	3,991,826

IDLCS Number: 23212

LCS Structure Name: Parker-Hickman Smokehouse

LCS Structure Number: B4-57H

Feature: Parker-Hickman WPA Outhouse

Feature Identification Number: 140728

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,973	3,991,808

IDLCS Number: 23213

LCS Structure Name: Parker-Hickman WPA Outhouse

LCS Structure Number: B4-58H

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Rulus Jones Barn (NPS, 2009).



Erbie Church (NPS, 2009).



Farmer Springbox ruin (NPS, 2009).



Farmer Farm House (NPS, 2009).



Parker-Hickman House (NPS, 2004).



Parker-Hickman Log Barn (NPS, 2009)



Reavis House (NPS, 2009).



Reavis Spring Box (NPS, 2009).



Shake Roof Cabin (NPS, 2009).

Small Scale Features

Small scale features persist throughout the district. At each home site there is some remnant of the farming and settlement activities that went on there during the period of significance. These features are most often in the form of wire fencing, wooden posts, and stone walls. Containment of fields and protection of livestock were important factors in the settlement of the area. Since livestock was commonly free to forage in the hills, fencing was used to keep animals out of certain areas rather than for containing them. Walls were constructed to demarcate property boundaries and retain slopes. Several wells and cisterns remain at properties throughout the district. Good access to a steady water source was important for any attempt at settlement during the period of significance.

There are several cemeteries spread across the district. These are usually located within a ¼ mile of an old home site and bear the names of the families that contributed to the settlement of the area during the period of significance.

The following is excerpted from the Determination of Eligibility 2005, 16, 36-40:

Cherry Grove Cemetery, Contributing, ca. 1857

Cherry Grove Cemetery is a sizeable community cemetery located south of the Buffalo River near the Parker-Hickman farm. The cemetery is accessible via a dirt road that leads from the Parker-Hickman Farmstead or via a NPS hiking trail that follows the bluff along the Buffalo River. The cemetery contains approximately 168 graves, the majority of which have unmarked or illegible headstones. The cemetery is surrounded by a metal and wood post and wire fence and measures approximately 149' x 207'. There are seven or eight trees within the graveyard.

An open field lies east of the cemetery and the bluff and woods are to the west. A large number of fieldstones are located in the southern portion of the cemetery lot. This area is becoming overgrown with tall grass.

There are sixty-one legible headstones in Cherry Grove Cemetery. These date from 1857 to 1970. Stones are typical of the represented periods. The vast majority are tablet designs with segmental arched tops. Common motifs include lambs, flowers, doves, bibles, and a finger pointing toward heaven. Graves are largely arranged by family and there are significant numbers of the Hickman, Farmer, Villines, Buchanan, Barnes, Cecil, and Baker families. The Cherry Grove Cemetery is privately owned though maintenance efforts are assisted by the NPS.

Young Cemetery, Contributing, 1899

Young Cemetery is a small family cemetery located on a hillside adjacent to agricultural fields near the Jones Farm. Young Cemetery measures 22' x 14 X 6' and contains three graves. A metal post and barbed wire fence enclose the cemetery. A large tree in a corner of the cemetery has been cut almost through near the base and poses a danger to the headstones.

The graves in the cemetery are those of J.T. Young, W.J. Young, and Jemima Young and date between 1899 and 1910. The three stones are very similar in design and are commercial pedestal forms with an opened bible on top. Two have bases inscribed with the name "Young." Decorative elements on the stones include swags, the gates of heaven, and floral designs. Jemima Young's headstone also has beveled edges.

The Young Cemetery is a good example of the types of small family cemeteries that residents in the region created as many families established graveyards adjacent to their agricultural fields. The history of the Young family is not known, however the cemetery is located on the Jones Farm and perhaps has a connection to past owners or residents of this property.

McFadin Cemetery, Contributing, ca. 1880

McFadin Cemetery is a small family cemetery located near the McFadin House Site. The cemetery is located about one quarter mile south of the house site and is set inside the edge of the woods adjacent to an overgrown field. The cemetery is surrounded by a wooden fence and measures approximately 32' x 18'. The cemetery contains at least five graves, none of which are marked with legible headstones. Four of the graves have ledger stones, including one that appears to be the grave of a child. These are large flat fieldstones that are level with the ground and cover the length of the grave. The stones are covered by dirt and leaves and only one is readily visible. All graves have fieldstone markers and the child's grave also has a footstone. There are four tree stumps within the cemetery boundary and a number of cedar trees and some oak trees surround the fenced graveyard. The cemetery is not well maintained and is becoming overgrown with weeds, tall grass and saplings.

Jones Cemetery, Contributing, ca. 1906

The Jones Cemetery is a small cemetery that contains nineteen graves. The earliest burial date is 1906 and the latest is 1933. Families represented are the Jones, Sturgill, Lamb, and Reavis families. There are twelve legible headstones, three of which are hand carved. The majority of headstones are a pointed arch tablet design with common motifs and phrases. These include doves, bibles, and the gates of heaven. The stone of Bessie M. Sturgill, who lived only one day in March of 1918, reads "Budded on Earth to bloom in heaven," a common phrase found on infant graves. That of nine-year-old Earnest Reavis reads, "The rose may fade, the lily die, but the flowers immortal bloom on high." The rear of this stone continues, "Gone to a brighter home, Where grief cannot come." In contrast, the epitaph of Rutha L. Sturgill (1872–1914) is rather ominous: "Remember friends as you pass by the lonesome tomb where I doth lie, I was once as you are now, but now as you must be. Prepare for death and follow me." At the grave of James Sturgill (d. 1918) a new stone replaces the original, which is broken and lies flat over the grave. The graves of A.K., E. Lamb, and O.B. Lamb have hand carved fieldstones for markers. The cemetery is located northwest of the central Erbie town area along a NPS hiking trail. A wood post and wire fence encloses the cemetery, which measures approximately 40' x 53'. The surrounding area is heavily wooded with mature trees.

Additional contributing small scale features are the Minnow Ponds ca. 1945 which are located near the Shake Roof Cabin. These remnant features are evidence of the diversity of enterprise undertaken by individual settlers during the period of significance. The ponds are three large earthen depressions west of the access road. These were presumably where an area resident initiated developing commercial minnow ponds. Just north of this area is what appears to be a fragment of an old roadbed. The road is not readily recognizable and is loosely defined. It has a 2' to 3' embankments on the north side and up to 1' embankments on the south side.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Adair Family Grave Markers

Feature Identification Number: 140734

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature UTM Source	Type of Point	Datum	UTM Zone	UTM Easting	UTM Northing
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	482,440	3,991,224

IDLCS Number: 603024

Feature: Adair Cemetery Inscribed Markers

Feature Identification Number: 140736

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Erbie Area
Buffalo National River

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	482,432	3,991,224
IDLCS Number:	603035				

Feature: Adair Cemetery Stones

Feature Identification Number: 140738

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	482,446	3,991,234
IDLCS Number:	61516				
LCS Structure Name:	Erbie District: Adair Cemetery Stones				
LCS Structure Number:	CEM-23				

Feature: Cherry Grove Cemetery Stones

Feature Identification Number: 140740

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 61513

LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Cherry Grove Cemetery Stones

LCS Structure Number: CEM-20

Feature: Erbie Church Rockwork

Feature Identification Number: 140742

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,039	3,993,208
IDLCS Number:	486429				

Feature: Jones Cemetery Stones

Erbie Area
 Buffalo National River

Feature Identification Number: 140744

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	475,999	3,994,659

IDLCS Number: 61514

LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Jones Cemetery Stones

LCS Structure Number: CEM-21

Feature: Rulus Jones Cistern & Well

Feature Identification Number: 140746

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,576	3,992,616

IDLCS Number: 503935

Feature: Rulus Jones Stock Pond & Dam

Feature Identification Number: 140748

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	499,636	3,992,594

IDLCS Number: 504147

Feature: McFadin Cemetery Stones

Feature Identification Number: 140750

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
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Erbie Area
Buffalo National River

GPS-Differentially Corrected Point NAD 83 15 484,197 3,990,515

IDLCS Number: 498289

Feature: John Reavis Well & Cistern

Feature Identification Number: 140752

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
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GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	474,268	3,993,658
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IDLCS Number: 498221

Feature: Young Cemetery Stones

Feature Identification Number: 140754

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
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GPS-Differentially Corrected	Point	NAD 83	15	479,672	3,992,743
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IDLCS Number: 61515

LCS Structure Name: Erbie District: Young Cemetery Stones

LCS Structure Number: CEM-22

Feature: Parker-Hickman Historic Fences & Cattle Guard

Feature Identification Number: 140756

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 400181

Feature: Parker-Hickman Stock Pen & Loading Chute

Feature Identification Number: 140758

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 405968

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Remnant of fencing commonly seen throughout the Erbie Historic District (NPS, 2009).



Headstones in the Jones Cemetery (NPS, 2009).



Adair Cemetery (NPS, 2009).



John Adair Sr. headstone (NPS, 2007).



Jones Farm stock pond (NPS, 2006).



Jones well (NPS, 2009).



McFadin Cemetery (NPS, 2009).



W.J. Young Headstone (NPS, 2006).

Views and Vistas

Views in the Erbie Historic District are retained and reflect how former settlers may have experienced the landscape. Many of these views persist and contribute to the integrity of the cultural landscape. While the settlers to the area adapted the landscape to suit their purposes, they did not fundamentally change the land. Views from farms outward to the landscape included views to the river and towards nearby fields. Views of expansive fields overlooking the Buffalo River with steep wooded hills in the background remain similar to those of the turn-of-the-century. Important views also exist to the farm sites from various vantage points around the district. For example, the integrity of Farmer Farm is such that one can even get a feel for the farmstead at quite a distance as a view from a bluff just south of the river looking toward the Farmer Farm displays the farmstead nestled against the hills at the edge of a field.

Archeological Sites

This information on archeological sites has been conveyed to the Midwest Archeological Center.

Hickman House Site, Contributing, ca. 1935

This is the site of a ca. 1935 dwelling built by the Hickman family and razed in the early 1970s. The house site is tucked into a mature forest of White Oaks, Walnuts and Hickories, which was probably not cleared much at the time of construction. The site consists of eight stone pier foundations that are two to three feet in height and measure 24' x 32'. At the southwest corner is a pile of stone possibly where a couple of foundation piers have collapsed. The site is heavily overgrown. Approximately twenty-five feet west of the house site are the remains of a log smokehouse, which measures 14' 2" x 10' 2". The building is in ruins. Its roof caved in during the mid-1980s and only a few logs remain visible.

Lane House Site, Contributing, ca. 1922

This site contained a house and barn constructed ca. 1922. The site currently consists of remnants of a wood post and wire fence, a scattering of stone and some brick, but no discernible foundations. The site is situated on a hillside above the south Erbie Road. A dirt roadbed leads off the main Erbie Road and curves up the hill toward the site. The area is largely overgrown with brush and saplings east of the road. West of the road is a steep slope that is heavily overgrown. A number of mature walnut, white oak, and cedar trees are in the area. Features of the site include a rectangular cement privy base that is located behind a cedar tree east of the road bed about fifty feet. The privy base is similar to that of the WPA privy on the Parker-Hickman Farm. A scattering of trash debris is located along the slope on the west side of the road and includes a metal tub. The fields associated with the Lane House lie to the north/northeast. The majority of these fields continue to produce hay while the far eastern section has been developed into a primitive campground.

Tinsley Farm Site, Contributing, ca. 1930

At this site are the concrete foundations of an early twentieth century barn and milkhouse. The barn foundations are of concrete and measure 53' x 41'. Approximately 100 feet southwest of the barn foundation is the foundation of the milkhouse. This foundation is of concrete block with rock infill and is around three feet in height. The foundation is long and narrow and has concrete ramps on both the north and south sides, and pairs of concrete steps appear on the east end of the foundation. Remnants of a wooden fence line run behind (east) the milkhouse to the barn site. East of the barn site by approximately twenty feet is the poured concrete foundation of another outbuilding, possibly a smokehouse. Fence remnants border this foundation. There is a scattering of stone throughout the area. Remnants of a rock wall are south of the foundations along a narrow stream.

House Site Tract No. 50-105, Contributing, ca. 1931

This House Site is located approximately 0.75 miles east of the Erbie town site. Fields along the road leading to the property are no longer in use and are beginning to become overgrown with tall grass, brush, and some saplings. The house site is located twenty feet east of the road and retains the foundations of a ca. 1931 dwelling. The stone foundations measure approximately 18' x 26' and the stone ranges from 6" to 3' in height. The house site is surrounded by young trees and a number of saplings are within the foundation. A fairly old pear tree is growing near the northwest corner of the house foundations. A large grapevine just north of the foundation appears to be a natural occurrence rather than a domestic planting. Approximately ten feet north of the house foundations is an earthen depression that measures 5' x 2'. A lead pipe protrudes from the ground in this area and appears to connect to the house site.

Taylor House Site/Adair Farm, Contributing, ca. 1845, ca. 1930

The Taylor House. Site is located southwest of the southern Erbie Road and is reached via an access road that leads to the Adair Cemetery. The house site contains the stone and concrete foundations of a ca. 1930 frame dwelling. The foundation measures approximately 36' x 28'. In the center of the foundation is lots of metal debris, including the hood of a truck. Several old, large oak and cedar trees surround the house foundation, particularly on the northern side and between the house and the road. There are possible remnants of fruit trees located on the western side of the foundation, though it is difficult to tell if they would have been planted or occurred naturally. To the south of the house site is an area once cleared, possibly for a garden, which is now becoming colonized by pioneer trees.

Approximately 130 feet southeast of the house foundations is a standing root cellar banked into the ground. It is constructed of stone and poured concrete and has an arched roof and a vertical board door. The root cellar measures ten feet in width and is fifteen feet long. The interior has a dirt floor, concrete walls and ceiling, and remnants of broken jars are scattered across the floor.

Just north of the root cellar are possible remnants of a shed. This area has a few boards and a piece of tin roofing. Fence posts are nearby and possibly a road led between the house and the root cellar to nearby fields. To the rear and south of the root cellar is a small depression with concrete slabs. Adjacent to this is stone and brick scatter, metal debris, and concrete. The ground has been disturbed here and is uneven. A discernible path leads to an adjacent field. Along one side of the road near the field is a stack of stones measuring approximately 4' 6" x 15'. There are also pieces of metal roofing in this area. A few standing fence posts appear along the road at the end of the stone stack. A 2' x 10' "sidewalk" leads from the main trail toward where the ground is disturbed near the root cellar.

Approximately 200 feet south of the sidewalk on the opposite side of the trail is a stone foundation that measures 14' 6" x 11' 6" and is 1' 4" in height. Scattered stone is within the foundation. This was possibly a garage or other outbuilding. Some pieces of metal roofing and a piece of rubber tire are in the general area. A drive is adjacent to the foundation and leads to a small field behind the foundation and heads toward the bluff along the river. The drive curves around behind the field and to the right are scattered debris of a possible outbuilding. This area consists of several pieces of corrugated metal roofing, charred fence posts, four dry stack stone piers about one foot high and six feet apart.

Down the hillside on the opposite side of the drive is a stone springhouse that measures 10' 3" x 12' and is approximately 6' in height. The springhouse is of cut stone with concrete mortar. The entrance to the springhouse is about 3' high and is missing its door. The roof of the structure has caved in and there are pieces of corrugated metal and remnants of roof framing and asphalt shingles in the area. The spring leads to a large oval pond. Adjacent to the springhouse is a large thicket of river cane that is about 30 feet tall. Midway up the hill are the remnants of a stone retaining wall and a wood post and wire fence. Close to the top of the hill is a fenced area that measures 20' x 10'. Within the fencing is a collapsed animal pen. There

are boards and metal roofing fragments in the area.

The Taylor House Site is situated on what was the original tract of the early settler John Adair. It remains unknown exactly where the Adair dwelling was on the property, however the Adair Cemetery is located only a few yards from the Taylor House Site. The fields between the house site and the Buffalo River were among those originally farmed by the Adair family from ca. 1845 through the 1860s. The Taylor family raised cattle on the property in the twentieth century.

Erbie Store Site, Contributing, Ca. 1920

Near the crossroads of the Erbie village is the site of what was the hamlet's general store. Stone foundations remain approximately 100 feet north of the road and form a discernible line about two feet in height and nine feet in length. The line then breaks and another short foundation line about one foot in height and five feet in length appears. A metal pipe protrudes from the ground next to this shorter line. Stones are scattered throughout the area. Another two-foot stone foundation section that appears to be the corner of the building is located another eight feet away. A wood post and wire fence line runs east-west about twenty feet north of the last foundation stone. The area is largely overgrown with new cedar trees, saplings, and brush. English ivy is growing on the foundation walls and daylilies are growing along the fence line to the north. An NPS comfort station is a few hundred yards to the northwest.

Erbie House/Building Sites, Contributing, ca. 1920

South of Erbie Road near the crossroads of what once was the village of Erbie is the remains of a stone foundation. The foundation is not sharply defined, but an approximate 5' x 43' x 15' section is discernible. About two or three feet east of the northeast corner of the foundation is a concrete slab/platform that measures 1' 11" x 4' 10" and is 7.5" in height. The slab is lined with brick on the north side and has two metal pipes that protrude from the center. Approximately 100 feet east of the southeast corner of the foundations are the stone foundations of another structure. A square of about 10' is visible and there is a lot of stone scattered throughout the general area. To the south is a wood post and wire fence. This side of the road is heavily overgrown with new growth and cedar trees. English Ivy grows along the foundation.

Angle House Site, Contributing, ca. 1849, ca. 1953

At this site are the remnants of a house and outbuilding foundations. The site is located at the edge of a field adjacent to the road leading to the field. The outbuilding foundations are of poured concrete, are about 2' in height and area and banked into the hillside. The house foundations are from a ca. 1953 dwelling and measure 34' x 44', which includes the porch that is 8' wide and 22' 6" long. There are five poured concrete steps leading to the porch. A large

stone hearth and concrete chimney remain standing. The house foundations are divided into two large sections. At the rear northeast corner are concrete steps. Approximately twenty feet to the rear of the house foundations is an underground propane tank. Remnants of wood fence posts are nearby. There are small overgrown clearings on either side of the road east of a creek and large boulders are along the side of the road. A wood post and wire fence runs along the north side of the road past the creek. West of the creek there are large yucca plants on the north side of the road.

The large field adjacent to the house site is maintained as open pastureland. This field was part of early settler John Adair's property as early as 1849. Adair was a prominent landowner and in the area and had one of the most extensive farms along the Buffalo River. Prior to government acquisition of the property it was owned by the Angle family and came to be known as the Angle field.

McFadin House Site, Contributing, ca 1890

At this site are the foundations of a ca. 1890 dwelling that was moved to this location, and a late nineteenth century log barn. The foundations are stone and cement and measure up to 5' 6" in height in places. The walls have small square openings and there are flat concrete slabs in front of the walls. The dwelling's front porch is of poured concrete with four steps leading to it framed by concrete walls and remains intact. The porch measures 5' 6" in width and 32' 6" in length and has a stone veneer exterior. The dwelling appears to have had a rear L-wing and a small side and rear porch as well.

Adjacent to the house foundations approximately 4' to the west is a stone or rock reservoir with a rounded top. In front of the reservoir is a well area of poured concrete that measures 10' in length and 2' in width. To the rear of the house foundations by approximately 50' are the ruins of a log barn. The building was constructed of unhewn logs with saddle notching and measured approximately 10' x 20'. A wood post and wire fence is nearby. A rock-lined depression sits about 28' southeast of the log ruins and measures 3' x 4'. A discernible driveway leads to the area near the outbuilding ruins. Across the road are the remains of a barn foundation. A single foundation line of poured concrete extends for about 28' and there is some rock scatter throughout the site. The surrounding area is wooded.

House Site, Contributing, Tract 50-102, ca. 1945

This site consists of a poured concrete foundation situated approximately 100' south of the road. The foundation measures 9' 6" x 28'. A hollow concrete block and poured concrete foundation continues another 36' 10" to the west then 33' north down a slope. North of this are nine square poured concrete columns or piers. These are around 5' in height and three have fallen to the ground. The dwelling appears to have been built on a slope and had a half basement level and possibly a deck. A 4' high foundation wall remains with small square window openings.

Historically the house might have had a view of the river, but this area is now overgrown with a number of mature trees. South of the house site by about 15' is a poured concrete and hollow concrete block foundation that measures 5' x 4'. The remnants of a loose stone wall appear on the hill south of the house site. There is an opening in the wall about 12' parallel to the house site and is possibly where the driveway was located. Around 100' northwest of the house site and 50' from the road is a well opening. Along the roadside are nine or ten large boulders placed to block the entrance to the drive. A wood post and wire fence runs along the road.

Character-defining Features:

Feature:	Erbie Store Site
Feature Identification Number:	140798
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Taylor House Site/Adair Farm
Feature Identification Number:	140800
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Erbie House/Building Sites
Feature Identification Number:	140806
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Angle House Site
Feature Identification Number:	140812
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	McFadin House Site
Feature Identification Number:	140814
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	House Site Tract 50-102
Feature Identification Number:	140816
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Hickman House site
Feature Identification Number:	140794
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing

Erbie Area
Buffalo National River

Feature: Lane House Site
Feature Identification Number: 140796
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Tinsley Farm Site
Feature Identification Number: 140802
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: House Site Tract 50-105
Feature Identification Number: 140808
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Hickman House site (NPS, 2006).



McFadin main house site (NPS, 2009).



Tinsley Barn foundation (NPS, 2009).

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 07/01/2009

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

"Fair" indicates the landscape shows clear evidence of minor disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the landscape characteristics will cause the landscape to degrade to a poor condition.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Deferred Maintenance

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: Accumulated deferred maintenance can lead to deterioration of resources in the Erbie Historic District.

Type of Impact: Vandalism/Theft/Arson

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: Lack of use or long term vacancy of structures can lead to potential for vandalism.

Type of Impact: Structural Deterioration

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: Neglect, vacancies, deferred maintenance, etc. all can lead to potential for structural deterioration.

Type of Impact: Vegetation/Invasive Plants

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: Loss of traditional agricultural uses of open fields and subsistence gardens increases the potential for vegetative succession of woody plants and unwanted species.

Treatment

Treatment

Approved Treatment: Undetermined

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography

Citation Author: Catton, Theodore
Citation Title: Life, Leisure, and Hardship Along the Buffalo, Historic Resources Study.
Year of Publication: 2008
Citation Publisher: National Park Service
Source Name: Library of Congress/Dewey Decimal
Citation Type: Both Graphic and Narrative
Citation Location: MWRO, Omaha, NE

Citation Author: Pitcaithley, Dwight T
Citation Title: Buffalo River: An Ozark Region from Settlement to National River.
Year of Publication: 1976
Citation Publisher: Texas Tech University
Source Name: Library of Congress/Dewey Decimal
Citation Number: F417 B8 P5
Citation Type: Narrative
Citation Location: MWRO, Omaha, NE

Citation Author: Rogers, Suzanne
Citation Title: Parker-Hickman Farmstead Buffalo National River Arkansas, Historic Structure Report.
Year of Publication: 1987
Citation Publisher: National Park Service
Source Name: Library of Congress/Dewey Decimal
Citation Type: Narrative
Citation Location: MWRO, Omaha, NE

Citation Author: Thomason Associates Preservation Planners and Hawkins Partners Landscape Architects

Citation Title: Thomason and Associates Context Studies and Property Evaluations, Buffalo National River.

Year of Publication: 2005

Citation Publisher: National Park Service

Source Name: Library of Congress/Dewey Decimal

Citation Type: Both Graphic and Narrative

Citation Location: MWRO, Omaha, NE

Supplemental Information

Title: Determination of Eligibility

Description: Prepared by Thomason and Associates in 2005.