ALFRED REAGAN HOUSE
AND TUB MILL
HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT
GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK
TENNESSEE-NORTH CAROLINA

OCTOBER 12, 1969
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Historic Structures Report, Alfred Reagan House & Tub Mill

Part I

III. Administrative Data Section:

A. Name and Number of Structure:

1. Alfred Reagan House, Building Number 134.


B. Proposed Use of Structure:

As parts of an open air museum along the Cherokee Orchard-Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail.

C. Justification for such Use:

The master plan recommends the development of open air museums to exhibit various elements of the culture of the mountain people.

D. Provisions for Operating the Structure:

Both structures are located on the Cherokee Orchard-Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail, a paved, one-way loop road which is closed during winter.

1. The house will be open as long as the road is open, but will not be attended or furnished.

2. The mill will be open as long as the road is open, but will not be attended or furnished and operated.
H. Photographs:
See Part II, Section 4b.

I. PCP:
See Appendix I.

IV. Historical Data:

A. Statement of Local Tradition and Hearsay:
Family sources claim that Alfred Reagan constructed all parts of the house and mill, including the mill stones and the bolting machine. Family sources also indicate that the original paint used on the exterior of the house included all three colors offered by Sears Roebuck at that time. This, of course, is not true, since there are more than fifty different colors listed in the reprint of the 1908 Sears Roebuck Catalogue.

B. Résumé of Knowledge of Structure:
Documentary evidence relative to the complex is restricted to the documents of acquisition prepared when the land was purchased for the park in the early 1930s. Much of the information was obtained from taped interviews made within the past few months. These interviews were with older family members and neighbors. Reliable information on structural changes was not contained in any available document or interview. The structure was originally a one-story hewn log cabin. The two attic rooms, the exterior and interior siding, and probably the kitchen addition were all added at a later date.
C. Name of Architect or Designer:
Not known.

D. Name of Builder:

E. Name of Owner in Historic Period:
Alfred Reagan.

V. ARCHITECTURAL DATA SECTION

A. Brief Description of Structural and Architectural Design Including Comparison with Other Known Similar Structures

1. HOUSE

Originally a one-story hewn log structure on stone piers. At an undetermined date the walls were raised to provide two attic rooms. This extension as well as the gables are of stud construction. The lower exterior walls are covered with vertical boards and battens and the gables are covered with lap siding. The central chimney is fieldstone with mud mortar. Two first-floor rooms are connected by a passage at the rear of the house which also gave access to a former kitchen ell. Access to the attic is by an enclosed stair from the front porch in the space created by the chimney. The first-floor rooms are panelled with vertical boards. The building
is a good example of a "Saddlebag" house.

2. **TUB MILL**

Simple stud frame building covered with lap siding. The foundation is stone and log post. The roof, originally wood shingle on shingle laths and rafters, has been replaced with modern construction covered with roll roofing. The building and the mill machinery are similar in design and size to other small mills throughout the Smoky Mountains.

B. **NUMBER OF STORIES**

1. **House** - Originally one story but altered to story and a half.

2. **Tub Mill** - One story, constructed on a sloping creek bank.

C. **PRINCIPAL CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS**

1. **House** - Hewn logs, circular sawed boards and fieldstone pier foundation.

2. **Tub Mill** - Circular sawn dimension timbers, boards and siding. The foundation is fieldstone and log post.

D. **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SPECIAL FEATURES**

1. **House**

As it stands today, presents the evolution of a crude
log cabin into a comfortable, attractive home in
keeping with the ambitions and prosperity of an
industrious man.

2. Tub Mill

All portions of the building and gristmill machinery
appear to be typical of the area and the period.

E. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING CONDITION OF BASIC STRUCTURE
AND OF EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR FINISH

1. House

The building as a whole is in fair condition. There is
some rot in the lower end of the exterior siding. Lacking
a ladder, the upper exterior could not be inspected, but
it appears that there is some rot in the lap siding on the
gables and in the fascia. The porch ceiling has been
partly destroyed and the porch roof framing and trim is
in bad condition. The two front doors need repair and
the back door is missing.

All sash are missing and the window frames are rotted.
Most of the attic flooring has been removed. The stone
chimney needs repointing. Both fireplaces need repair
and repointing. One mantel must be replaced. The first-
floor flooring has been patched and there is some rot.
Some of the interior paneling is missing. The modern
roof sheathing and roll roofing is in good condition.
2. **Tub Mill**

The existing foundation needs rebuilding. The framing of the building will require extensive replacement. The entire modern roof framing and covering will have to be replaced. The door and window requires repair and replacing. Flooring and siding require considerable replacement.

F. **Estimate of extent and cost of Additional Work Required to Complete Architectural Research and Investigation Under Part II**

1. **House**

   No additional work necessary.

2. **Tub Mill**

   Investigation in regard to the gristmill machinery will have to be made to determine the number and condition of existing parts. The dam site and flume will require research. The estimated cost of this work is $500.00.
Historic Structures Report

Part II

History Data Section:

There are two things that are inescapable when you stand on the front porch of the Alfred Reagan house: the towering, wooded ridges that surround the small house, and the sound of the Roaring Fork rushing down the narrow valley. There is a third element, one of solitude--empty, depressing loneliness.

The valley of the Roaring Fork is an extremely narrow, rock-strewn hollow that heads beneath Mount LeConte and ends near Gatlinburg. Rock is more common than soil. The pitifully small, overgrown fields, where corn was once planted, are poignant reminders of man's willingness to sacrifice for the right to live in a forlorn (beloved) land. The slope of some of the abandoned fields is so steep that it is difficult to believe they were ever farmed, but they were. As the old mountain adage goes, oft times a handful of soil was placed between the rocks so the corn could be planted.

The Land

When sold for inclusion in the park, Alfred Reagan's home place consisted of 134.5 acres on Roaring Fork in Sevier County, Tennessee.  

1. Abstract of Title to Alfred Reagan's Land, prepared by B.E. Rippy, July 19, 1930, copy in park library. (Referred to hereafter as Abstract.)
Reagan purchased the first 90 acres from N.E. King on December 15, 1892. Additional tracts of 25 and 20 acres were acquired respectively from J.W. Bales on March 20, 1907, and R.G. Ogle on February 15, 1908. All three tracts were adjoining, and were purchased for a total price of $300. Family tradition says Reagan once owned at least twice as much land, but gave about half of it to his son, Giles. Confirmation of this was not found in existing records. Approximately 35 acres were cleared and some was fenced for farming, while the remainder was in woodland and pasture. Reagan's holding represented a fair-sized farm for that time and place, but much of it was too steep and rocky for cultivation. As Herb Clabo said, "hit went straight up and down." The steep land that was suited to farming produced sufficient food for Reagan's table and for his stock, and in good years provided a surplus and a source for money.

With no exception, the main crop was corn. In many respects, Roaring Fork was a twentieth-century frontier, and corn retained its position

2. Abstract.
3. Abstract.
5. Interview with Wesley Reagan, Sept. 16, 1969. (Referred to hereafter as Wesley Reagan.)
7. Interview with Herb Clabo, Sept. 15, 1969. (Referred to hereafter as Herb Clabo.)
as

foremost of the frontier crops . . . from tender roasting ears to flinty, dry grain it was highly edible. As a tender, milky grain it could be roasted in the shuck, piled under live coals and ashes and then gnawed from the cob; more mature grains were grated from the cob on coarse pieces of perforated iron and pounded into journey cakes or 'gritted breas' . . . . One of the grain's greatest virtues was the fact it could be crushed into coarse meal . . . by water mills. 8

As did most mountain farmers, Reagan ranged cattle, hogs, and a few sheep on his land. At various times he used horses, oxen, and mules as work animals. 9 The land supported small numbers of apple, peach, pear, and plum trees, and grape vines. The most common apple was the 'Winter John,' and the grapes were 'Blue Conords.' 10 Reagan's wife and children cultivated a garden located just below and to the right as you face the front of the house where the common vegetables and herbs were grown. 11 His wife also labored to add beauty and color to the grounds. Many flower beds containing "zinnias, marigolds, touch-me-nots, lilacs, violets, just a regular run of flowers," 12 were located all around the house and in the immediate area.

10. Wesley Reagan.
Perhaps Reagan found the forest that grew on the land and the stream that flowed through it to be nearly as valuable as the land itself. He sold his timber to Andy Huff who cut and milled it in the 1920s. It was during this time that Alfred's son, Giles, lost his leg in an accident at the Huff mill. The leg is buried in a cemetery located nearby, and was interred only after the fitting funeral rites were held. The stream provided power for a small grist mill.

The Man

Alfred Reagan was a farmer, miller, storekeeper, blacksmith, gunsmith, carpenter, and one-time lay preacher; but he must be considered simply as a man with average ability for his time and place. He left no great mark on the land in any of the roles listed above; his deeds were common, and are not found among those many told tales that are the lore of the mountains. Except to his family and neighbors, Alfred Reagan was merely an old man who lived, worked hard, and died.

Alfred Reagan was born November 6, 1856. His father was probably David Reagan, who is listed as a 37-year-old farmer in the 1850 Census of Sevier County. Alfred's birth place is not known. His

13. Herb Clabo.
15. Wesley Reagan.
son, Wesley, said he thought his father lived for a while on Little Dudley Creek, which is about one mile east of Roaring Fork. He also claimed that Alfred's father, his grandfather, "was killed by a rebel when my daddy was just a small boy." Herb Clabo, one time resident of Roaring Fork, claimed Alfred's parents lived on Baskin's Creek, which is roughly one mile in the opposite direction.

At an unknown date, Alfred married Martha Bales, who was born December 1, 1864. They had seven children; Giles, Luther, Wesley, Mertie, Delilah, Mae and Louisa. It must be assumed that most of these children were born in the house on Roaring Fork.

There is nothing to suggest that Alfred Reagan's character was anything more or less than what was accepted as normal by mountain standards. He was, according to Herb Clabo, a respected but not outstanding member of the community. His children, especially the boys, remember him as a kindly man, who was always willing to take time to teach them the facts of mountain existence.

Reagan was apparently a master carpenter. He made most of the

18. Wesley Reagan.
20. Family Bible.
22. Herb Clabo.
23. Wesley Reagan.
furniture for his house, built a number of the buildings on his place and was the coffin maker for the neighborhood. His son remembers that when "anybody died, they'd bring him the dimensions of everything, and he'd go in the shop there and make a coffin. He'd line it with whatever they wanted it lined with . . . . He wouldn't never charge nobody a dime for work he did like that."  

During most of his mature life Alfred was a very religious man. Some remember him as a lay preacher in a church he helped build on land he donated. Something happened during the last decade or two of his life and he abandoned the church. The forces that drove him from the church are not known.

Reagan was a hunter, and the one tale told about him in the interviews had to do with a bear hunt. Herb Clabo recalled, "Alfred was quite a hunter. Best I remember, he killed the first bear on Roaring Fork. He was a tellin' me one night that I stayed all night with him. He was a great talker. He was a tellin' me about shootin' this bear, and he didn't kill it dead at the time, but he follered it on until it went on and he found it in a sink hole, where it had made it to the sink hole. It had got wounded so bad that it couldn't go on, but he said it'd just chewed laurels off, you know rhododendrons

24. Wesley Reagan.
25. Wesley Reagan.
27. Herb Clabo.
stalks off and just sort of piled them in there. He was a usin' what they called an old hog rifle, and you only shot them once till you took time to reload which was a matter of, I'll say, five minutes, owin' to, I'll say, how bad you needed to reload. He follered it on and found it in that sink hole and shot it second time, which killed it. Fur as I know or remember, that's the only bear killed up in there." Wesley told much the same story about his father.

Reagan is remembered as an excellent blacksmith. He was the smithy for most of the people on Roaring Fork, but there 'wasn't enough 'custom work' to make a livin' smithin'.' Wesley recalled that his father made a rifle for him by welding together two sections from older gun barrels.

Alfred provided other services for his neighbors. He built and operated a tiny "tub" or grist mill across the road from his house, and ran a small general store. The store building was apparently located between the grist mill and the house.

Obviously Reagan kept busy; he was a man of many talents. However, his life is probably best summed up by Herb Clabo's remark that

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29. Herb Clabo.
30. Wesley Reagan.
"he never did do anything much greater than anybody else." 32

He was just a man who once lived, and died.

The Buildings

Originally, the Alfred Reagan house was an unpainted split, hand-hewn log cabin of the type so characteristic of the mountain area. Definite knowledge about the date of construction or the builder is not available. However, R.G. Ogle, one of the previous owners, stated in a 1932 affidavit that "the house was probably built by T.R. Myers." 33 If so, then the date of construction is between 1886 and 1894, the period of Myers' ownership. 34 At any rate, it is almost certain that the log structure predates Alfred Reagan's ownership.

At an undetermined date Reagan covered the exterior and interior walls with sawn boards. Information is not available as to when the front porch and kitchen ell were built. Wesley Reagan stated that the roof was raised and two attic rooms were added at the same time the log walls were covered with sawn boards. 35 The house has two first floor rooms, two attic rooms, and had a kitchen on the back of the house. The kitchen has been removed. The only source of heat

32. Herb Clabo.
33. Abstract.
34. Abstract.
35. Wesley Reagan.
was a double fireplace located in the center of the house. There was a wood-burning cook stove in the kitchen. When standing on the front porch facing the house, the room on your left was the living room; the room on your right a bed room; and both attic rooms were bed rooms.  

Other known buildings on the Reagan place included a 4-pen barn, blacksmith shop, grist mill, corn crib, woodshed, and store building. Little is known about the dates of construction of any of these buildings, but the grist mill was probably built around 1900. We must assume the builder was Alfred Reagan.

Today the house appears rather forlorn, but in its day, "it was the very finest of house. They told me if the wind come hard enough, why the house would roll, by it bein' a log house boxed."

The grist mill was a turbine or "tub" mill, the most common type found in the mountains. Water was channeled to strike a primitive horizontal wooden turbine wheel, which turned and provided direct drive power to the mill stones. The only unusual feature known about

36. Wesley Reagan.
37. Wesley Reagan.
38. Herb Clabo.
40. Herb Clabo.
the mill is that it had a hand-powered, homemade bolting machine. Apparently some wheat was ground there, and the bolting machine was needed to remove the chaff and separate the ground wheat into different grades. Herb Clabo recalls that Reagan's mill toll was one gallon to the bushel of corn. This was not the only mill on Roaring Fork, but according to Wesley Reagan, it was so well constructed that it would operate when other mills were shut down due to lack of water. Wesley credited this to a special type of small vaned turbine wheel constructed by his father. One of the other mills on Roaring Fork was owned by Alfred's brother, Aaron, and was located a short distance downstream. Aside from grinding his own corn, Alfred was able to "pick up a few extra gallons of meal a week as toll." Only the house and mill remain, objects of curiosity now to old people who remember how it once was, or to young people who wonder how or why anyone would live there.

**Photographs:**

41. Wesley Reagan.
42. Herb Clabo.
43. Wesley Reagan.
44. Herb Clabo.
45. Herb Clabo.
ILLUSTRATIONS

History Data

Illustrations 1 - 6 are of the Alfred Reagan House and Tub Mill, Cherokee Orchard Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Historical Structures #406.
1. Alfred Reagan House  
Cherokee Orchard Roaring Fort Motor Nature Trail  
Great Smoky Mountains NP  
Historical Structures #406

Note: The date of illustrations Nos. 1-5 in this section is not recorded, but they are believed to date from the late 1930s.
2. Alfred Reagan House  
Cherokee Orchard Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail  
Great Smoky Mountains NP  
Historical Structure #406
3. Alfred Reagan House
    Cherokee Orchard Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail
    Great Smoky Mountains NP
    Historical Structure $406
4. Alfred Reagan House  
Cherokee Orchard Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail  
Great Smoky Mountains NP  
Historical Structures #406
5. Alfred Reagan Tub Mill
   Cherokee Orchard Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail
   Great Smoky Mountains NP
   Historical Structure #406
6. Alfred Reagan Tub Mill
Cherokee Orchard Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail
Great Smoky Mountains NP
Historical Structure #406

Photographer: J. A. Stites
Date: 1961
V. ARCHITECTURAL DATA SECTION

A. Record Drawings of Existing Conditions
   See Appendix

B. Photographs of Existing Conditions
   See Appendix

C. Description of Fabric and Existing Conditions

1. House

   Foundation - Stone piers laid dry. No extensive settlement evident.

   Exterior Walls - All first-floor walls are constructed of hewn logs. The exterior of the front wall is covered with flush vertical boards (1" + x 3/4" - 7 1/4") without battens. The two end walls to the plate line and the rear wall are covered with vertical boards (1" + x 7" - 10") and battens (1" + x 2 1/2" +). The gables are constructed of sawn studs and lap siding, 4" +, to weather. There is considerable rot in the lower ends of the vertical siding and battens. The lap siding of the gables appears to be in better condition but needs renailing and some replacement.

   Porch - The floor is supported on a sawn ledger and two stringers. Five peeled log posts support the porch roof which is framed with sawn timbers. The
original roof has been replaced with modern sheathing and roll roofing. Weather conditions at the time of the inspection did not permit checking the porch floor framing but it should be assumed that there is some rot or termite infection in the stringers. The porch flooring, although reasonably sound will withstand heavy traffic. The log posts installed by the Park Service are in good condition. The porch roof beam, ceiling joist, rafters and fascia are in bad condition from rot. The modern sheathing and roll roofing installed by the Park Service is in good condition and is protecting the original remains. The porch ceiling is in bad condition due to vandals as much as to age.

Roof - The sawn 2 x 4 and 2 x 6 framing seems to be in good condition. The original wood shingle roof has been replaced with wood sheathing and roll roofing which is in good condition. The fascia is generally loose and portions are infected with rot.

Exterior doors - A five panel door opens from the porch into each first-floor room. The door frames have no trim. A framed opening from the rear passage formerly provided access to the kitchen wing.
This opening does not now, and perhaps never did, have a door. The doors are sound from the standpoint of rot, but all the mortis and tenon joints have opened and must be refastened.

**Windows** - First-floor windows are double-hung with a fixed top sash. All sash are missing and the frames and casings are badly deteriorated.

**Exterior Paint** - Faded evidence of white, yellow and blue paint remains. It is claimed that the paint used was purchased from Sears-Roebuck.

**Chimney and Fireplaces** - The fieldstone chimney is laid with mud mortar. Both fireplaces originally had mantels although the living room mantel is missing.

There is no serious cracking in the chimney to indicate foundation failure. The chimney, fireplaces and hearths need repointing and repair.

**First-Floor Framing and Flooring** - The sills and first-floor joist were not inspected. The random widths of flooring throughout the first floor is very worn and weak. There is some rot or termite infestation in the floor.

**First-Floor Interior Walls and Partitions** - The first-floor walls and partitions are finished with vertical board paneling, some of which is missing. A number of the boards are infected with rot. The wood baseboard is
in place except for the south wall of the living room.

**Stairs** - Access to the attic is by a stairway from the porch in the space created by the chimney between the two first-floor rooms. The stringers and risers are sound, but the treads are well worn.

**Attic** - The floor joists are in good condition. Much of the flooring is missing. The remaining boards are well preserved and not badly worn. The walls and ceiling are unfinished, exposing the framing members.

**Kitchen Wing** - This addition to the original building as shown by the HABS drawings, dated 1957, has since been razed.

2. **Tub Mill**

**Foundation** - The front sill rests on loose stones. The rear of the building is carried on peeled log posts or underpinnings, which are undoubtedly replacements of the original timbers. There is rot in the lower ends of the posts.

**Exterior Walls** - Random size studs irregularly spaced with 6 x 6 + corner post. The exterior is covered with lap siding varying in width from 4-3/8" to 6-1/2" laid 4-1/2" to 6" to weather. The corner boards, one of which is missing, measure approximately 1-1/4" x 3-1/4".
The sills and wall framing are in very bad condition. About 25% of the siding is missing and most of the remaining is not infected.

**Roof** - The present roof was installed by the Park Service when the original wood shingle deteriorated to a point that it no longer protected the structure.

**Door and Window** - A 2' - 4" + 5' - 6" + board and batten door is located in the west or front wall and the only window, 1' - 7 1/2" + x 1' - 9 1/2" +, is in the south or right side. Neither of these openings are trimmed. The door and frame are in fair condition. The window sill is missing and the jambs and head are very rotten. There is no evidence that a sash was ever installed in the opening.

**Interior** - The structural members supporting the floor are very weak. The flooring is very badly worn. There is no interior wall finish or ceiling in the building.

**Gristmill Machinery** - Very little of the mill machinery is in place. It is understood that parts of the machinery were removed and placed in storage pending restoration.
D. Architectural Description of Restoration (See Restoration Drawings, Appendix)

1. House

**Foundation** - Install concrete footing under piers and rebuild piers with cement mortar colored to match original mud mortar.

**Exterior Walls** - Replace all rot infected siding boards and battens. Renail loose boards and battens.

**Porch** - Inspect floor framing and replace all timbers infected with termites and rot. Replace flooring.

Remove log posts and install sawn posts. Replace porch roof beam, ceiling joist, rafters and fascia. Remove modern sheathing and roll roofing and replace with wood shingles and shingle laths.

**Roof** - Inspect roof framing for rot and replace all unsound timbers. Repair and renail fascia at eaves and rake. Replace modern roof sheathing and roll roofing with wood shingles and shingle laths. Install new flashing at chimney.

**Exterior Doors** - Repair existing doors. Repair existing hardware. Replace any missing hardware with items of the historic period and type.

**Windows** - Repair or replace frames. Install sash of the historic period. Install necessary hardware of the historic period.
Chimney and Fireplaces - Inspect foundation and reinforce as needed. Repoint with mud mortar where protected from the weather. Repoint with cement mortar where exposed to weathering. Cement mortar to be colored to match mud mortar. Rebuild fireplaces and hearths. Repair mantel in bedroom and replace mantel in living room.

First-Floor Framing and Flooring - Inspect floor framing and replace sills and joist infected with termites or rot. Remove existing flooring and install plywood subfloor. Reinstall all sound existing flooring. Replace flooring with material salvaged from local structures of the historic period.

First-Floor Interior Walls and Partitions - Replace any interior board paneling seriously affected with termites or rot. Renail loose boards. Replace missing base in living room.

Stairs - Inspect and replace unsafe stair stringers. Replace unsafe treads.

Attic - Position and fasten existing flooring. Provide and install additional flooring to complete the attic.

Kitchen Wing - Reconstruct the kitchen wing.

Painting - All portions of the building showing evidence of being painted originally shall be
prepared in a workmanlike manner and two coats of oil paint applied. Color selection shall be made from interpretation of existing examples.

Preservative Treatment - All exposed unpainted wood shall be given a preservative treatment in accordance with the manufacturers instructions for the product used.

Termite Treatment - The soil under and for two feet outside the perimeter of the structure shall be given termite treatment in accordance with the manufacturers instructions for the product used.

2. Tub Mill

Foundation - Install concrete footings under stone piers and log posts. Replace any rot or termite infected post and bracing.

Exterior Walls - Replace sills, corner posts, studs, plates and bracing. Reuse existing timbers where practical. Replace rotted siding. Salvage existing siding for reuse where practical. Replacement lumber shall match the existing members in size, material and tool marks. Replace rotted and missing corner boards.
Roof - Remove modern roof and framing. Rebuild using timbers matching the original in size, material and tool marks. Install wood shingles and shingle laths.

Door and Window - Repair door and frame. Reconstruct window frame.

Interior - Replace floor framing and flooring. Replacement timbers shall match the original in regard to size and tool marks. Replace machinery supporting structure.

Preservative Treatment - All existing and new wood shall be given a preservative treatment in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions for the product used.

Termite Treatment - The soil under and for two feet outside the perimeter of the structure shall be given termite treatment in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions for the product used.

Gristmill Machinery - Inspect the parts of the machinery now in storage. Reconstruct damaged and missing parts to make operational.

Dam and Flume - Reconstruct dam and flume.
E. Additional Work Required to Complete Architectural Research and Investigation

1. House

No additional research or investigation will be required for the Reagan House.

2. Tub Mill

Additional research and investigation will be required for the reconstruction of the dam and flume for the mill. Inspection and study of the parts of the mill machinery in the possession of the Park Service must be made before working drawings can be prepared for this phase of the restoration.
1. STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT'S REQUIREMENTS, PROPOSED WORK, AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FACETS OF THE PARK PROGRAM. (Provide detail data for "Management Information" on Form 10-411a, Supplemental Sheet and attach.)

MANAGEMENT'S REQUIREMENTS: To rehabilitate the Alfred Reagan House, which has been held in a stand-by condition for many years. The house is an important unit in interpreting the pioneer culture of the Smokies.

PROPOSED WORK: Remove all temporary materials used to hold house in stand-by condition. Replace all unsound material. Reconstruct foundation piers and supports. Treat all old and new wood materials with a wood preservative. Clean up area and dispose of debris.
Remove all temporary materials used to hold the house in stand-by condition  
Replace all unsound materials with new materials of similar kind and type.  
Reconstruct foundation piers and supports, and set on underground concrete footings  
Treat all old and new materials with a wood preservative.  
Clean up and dispose of all debris from work.

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**RESEARCH ESTIMATE APPROVED:**

(Asst. Director, Resource Studies)  
(Date)

**CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATE APPROVED:**

(Design Office Chief)  
(Date)

**INTERPRETIVE ESTIMATE APPROVED:**

(Asst. Regional Director, Operations)  
(Date)

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**ESTIMATE TOTALS**

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<td>SUB TOTAL (100%)</td>
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**GRAND TOTAL:** 12,000
This saddle-back log house which has been weather-boarded and ceiled on the inside with hand-dressed poplar boards. It illustrates that even though the people were quite isolated, advantages were taken when new materials came available to improve their living conditions. The lumber was sawed at a sawmill which stood at the mouth of Roaring Fork. This building is a unit of the Alfred Reagan Outdoor Museum.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. MANAGEMENT INFORMATION</th>
<th>2. TECHNICAL INFORMATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Replace all unsound materials, matching the original in kind, workmanship and design.</td>
<td>Reconstruct the foundations by installing concrete footings underground for all piers, supports, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treat all new wood materials and all old materials with a wood preservative. Research Study, PCP B-510, to provide the necessary detailed measured drawings, photographs, and other pertinent architectural data for the guidelines of the project.</td>
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PROJECT CONSTRUCTION PROPOSAL

1. STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT'S REQUIREMENTS, PROPOSED WORK, AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FACETS OF THE PARK PROGRAM. (Provide detail data for "Management Information" on Form 10-411a, Supplemental Sheet and attach.)

MANAGEMENT'S REQUIREMENTS: Rehabilitate the Alfred Reagan Tub Mill to an original and operating condition. Located on the Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail, between the road and the mountain stream, it will be a focal-point of the Outdoor Museum.

PROPOSED WORK: Rehabilitate the tub mill, and construct a new dam, flume, and turbine wheel. Treat all materials with a wood preservative.

2. ADVANCE REQUIREMENTS DATA

LAND STATUS
Government-owned. National Park Service

MASTER PLAN NO. NP-GSM-3341

APPROVAL DATE

PCP NUMBERS OF PREVIOUSLY COMPLETE PORTIONS None

INTERRELAT ED & DEPENDENT PROJECT PCP NUMBERS B-307-2, B-308-1, M-223-1

3. RECOMMENDED BY SUPERINTENDENT (Signature & Date)
(Sgd) George W. Fry FEB 20 1968

4. APPROVED BY REGIONAL DIRECTOR (Signature & Date)
(Sgd.) Jackson E. Price MAR 19 1968

5. LOCATION WITHIN AREA OR TERMINI
Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail

6. BLDG. OR RT.# AND SEC. Building No. 406

7. REGION Southeast
8. PARK Great Smoky Mountains National Park

9. PROJECT Rehabilitate Alfred Reagan Tub Mill

10. PCP INDEX NO. B-309-2
Remove all materials used to hold the structure in a stand-by condition.

Replace all unsound materials, and furnish missing portions to complete the structure.

Reconstruct foundations for piers, columns, etc., on underground concrete footings.

Construct a new dam, flume and turbine.

Cost figures on the estimate were prepared by the Division of Historic Architecture.

RESEARCH ESTIMATE APPROVED:

(Asst. Director, Resource Studies)  (Date)

CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATE APPROVED:

[Sgd] Donald E. Clauson  4/3/69
(Design Office Chief)  (Date)

INTERPRETIVE ESTIMATE APPROVED:

(Asst. Regional Director, Operations)  (Date)

ESTIMATE TOTALS

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**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FOR PROJECT CONSTRUCTION PROPOSAL**

**PARK** Great Smoky Mountains National Park

**Facility** Rehabilitate Alfred Reagan Tub Mill

**P.C.P. No.** B-309-2

1. **MANAGEMENT INFORMATION**

   This tub mill has been held in a stand-by condition for many years, but it has deteriorated to such an extent that the structure will require a complete rebuilding.

   The tub mill, well adapted for installation on mountain streams, is a small mill rarely serving more than one family. First brought to this country by the Swedes when they settled in Delaware, it found its way to the Smokies. At one time, the tub mills in the Smokies likely numbered several hundred, for in the area traversed by the Cherokee Orchard-Roaring Fork Roads there were 19 tub mills. Today in the Park, only two tub mills remain.

   The tub mill was one factor in permitting the survival of settlements in extreme isolation.

   The preservation of the Alfred Reagan Tub Mill is essential to the interpretation of the Mountain Culture of the Smokies.

2. **TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

   Replace all unsound materials and furnish all missing materials.

   Construct a new dam, flume, and turbine.

   Treat all wood materials with a wood preservative.
ILLUSTRATIONS

FOR ARCHITECTURAL DATA SECTION

PLATES VI - XXII
PLATE VI

General view of Alfred Reagan house. Note modern roof installed by the Park Service to protect the building.
PLATE VII

This photograph shows the deterioration of the vertical board and batten siding.
PLATE VIII

Weathering has caused the joints of the doors to open.
PLATE IX

All sash are missing. The frames and trim are infected with rot. Note splitting of the trim and missing battens.
PLATE X

The top sash in all the windows was fixed.
The sill is infected with rot.
PLATE XI

The porch beam and fascia is infected with rot.
Much of the interior paneling is missing. The fireplace and hearth must be repaired and repointed.
The mantel in the living room is missing.
The fireplace, hearth and chimney will require repair and repointing.
PLATE XIV

General view of Alfred Reagan Tub Mill. Much of the lap siding is missing and most of the remaining boards are infected with rot and termites. Modern roof was installed by the Park Service to protect the building.
PLATE XV

Log post supporting the rear of the mill are infected with rot.
Sills, corner post and studs are infected with rot and termites. Corner boards are missing. Note condition of siding.
PLATE XVII

The floor and pit framing is infected with rot.
PLATE XVIII

The window frame must be replaced. There is no evidence that the window was ever fitted with a sash.
PLATE XIX

The mill floor is very worn and should be replaced.
PLATE XX

View showing rot in floor framing and pit risers.
PLATE XXI

Modern roof installed by Park Service to protect the building.

Some of the studs have been replaced also.
PLATE XXII

All of the mill machinery that remains in place is the cradle, hood and stone seat.
SOURCES OF INFORMATION FOR PLOT PLAN

MAP AND SURVEY MADE BY G. E. MARTIN
AUGUST 1957

OBSERVATIONS AND MEASUREMENTS MADE AT SITE BY M. R. ROSS, C. R. LUNDY, AND S. E. NEWBY---AUGUST 1957

VICINITY MAP

SAMUEL E. NEWBY DEL. 1957

NAME OF STRUCTURE
ALFRED REAGAN PLACE

VEARLING FORK - GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK - SEVIER COUNTY, TENNESSEE

SURVEY NO. TWN 164
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET I OF II SHEETS

SAMUEL E. NEWBY DEL. 1957
KITCHEN WING LATER ADDITION
EXACT DATE OF CONSTRUCTION UNKNOWN

ALL WINDOW SASH MISSING

ALL LOGS USED IN CONSTRUCTION
WERE HAND HEWN WITH BROAD AXE

INDICATES CENTER LINE
OF CEILING JOISTS

PORCH IS NOW IN
EXTREMELY DILAPIDATED
CONDITION
ORIGINAL PORCH POSTS
MISSING. TEMPORARY
POSTS INSTALLED IN 1948

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

SAMUEL E. HENRY DEL 1957
NOTE:
LOFT WAS FORMERLY COMPLETELY FLOODED
BUT ONLY A FEW SCATTERED BOARD REMAIN
IN PLACE.

FLOORING WAS VERY ROUGH LUMBER AND
FROM THAT PART WHICH REMAINS IT SEEMS
TO RUN IN WIDTHS OF FROM 7 TO 12 INCHES.

---

SAUL E. HENRY, OFL. 1957

---

ALFRED REAGAN HOUSE
ROARING FORK • GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK • SEVIER COUNTY • TENNESSEE
NOTE:
PRESENT PORCH POSTS ARE ROUND
REPLACEMENTS OF 1948
ORIGINAL POSTS WERE ROUND

COLORS:
CORNICE WAS BLUE
DOORS BLUE WITH YELLOW PANELS
T&G BOARDS WHITE WITH BLUE MOLDING
FASCIA ON PORCH, BLUE & YELLOW MOLDING

GROUNDFLOOR ASSUMED LEVEL
ALL VERTICAL MEASUREMENTS FROM GROUNDFLOOR

EAST ELEVATION
SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"

SAMUEL E. HENRY - DES 1957

ALFRED REAGAN HOUSE
ROARING FORK - GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK - SEVIER COUNTY - TENNESSEE

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 4 OF 11 SHEETS
NOTE:
AT THE PRESENT TIME THE LATER ADDITION WHICH WAS MADE ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE HOUSE (THE KITCHEN) IS IN ALMOST COMPLETE RUIN; THEREFORE, THE DIMENSIONS GIVEN IN THESE DRAWINGS CAN ONLY BE ACCEPTED AS APPROXIMATE.

THERE IS EVIDENCE OF A CHIMNEY IN THE RUINS OF THE KITCHEN, ALTHOUGH THE EXACT LOCATION COULD NOT BE DETERMINED, BUT FROM THE RUINS OF THE CHIMNEY IT WAS DETERMINED THAT IT HAD BEEN LOCATED NEAREST THE SOUTH-WEST CORNER.
NOTE:
SECION BY-PASSES THE CHIMNEY IN ORDER TO SHOW THE FRAMING OF THE KITCHEN INTO THE MAIN BLOCK.
LOFT FLOOR JOIST ARE HAND HEWN AND PLANED APPROX. 3" x 5"

CEILING LATH, PINE STRIPS OF WOOD APPROX. 3" x 1" VARYING LENGTHS FROM 2' TO 10' AND SPACED APPROX. 6" APART

YELLOW POPULAR CLAPBOARDS

FIRST FLOOR JOISTS ARE IRREGULAR, CONSISTING OF ROUGH HEWN & HALF-ROUND LOGS.

FLOOR LEVEL

YELLOW POPULAR CLAPBOARDS

FIRST FLOOR CONSTRUCTED OF HAND HEWN LOGS COVERED WITH %6 VERT T&G ON THE INTERIOR & BOARD & BATTEN ON THE EXTERIOR.

SECTION AA
SCALE 1" = 1'-0"

SAMUEL F. HENRY DEL. 1959

ALFRED REAGAN HOUSE
ROARING FORK - GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK - SEVIER COUNTY - TENNESSEE

NOTE:
LOFT FRAMED IN CIRCULAR SAWN SCANTLING 2" x 4"'S & 2" x 6"'S.
TRACE OF ATTIC FLOOR CLEARLY DEFINED BUT MOST BOARDS ARE MISSING.
NOTE:

CHIMNEY BUILT OF VARIOUS SIZE FIELD STONE
JOINTS FILLED WITH MUD MORTAR.

FRAMING SHOWN ON FACE OF CHIMNEY IN SECTION DD
IS ASSUMED TO BE PART OF THE ROOF FRAMING OF THE
ORIGINAL STRUCTURE WHICH WAS LOG. DURING THE
TIME THE SIDING WAS ADDED THE ROOF WAS RAISED TO
ITS ORIGINAL HEIGHT. ALL CONSTRUCTION ABOVE THE
CEILING JOISTS IS OF CIRCULAR SAWN LUMBER, EXCEPT FOR
THE 3 PIECES ON CHIMNEY.

ALSO EVIDENCE OF ADDING WEIGHT TO THE CHIMNEY CAN
BE DISTINGUISHED BY DIFFERENCE IN THE STONE.

LATER ADDITION TO ORIGINAL HOUSE
MADE COMPLETELY OF CIRCULAR SAWN
LUMBER, AND AFTERWARDS UTILIZED AS
THE KITCHEN (OUTLINED BY DOTTED LINES).

ASPHALT ROOF REPLACED BY N.P.S.

REPLACEMENT MADE BY N.P.S.

FLOOR LEVEL

SECTION DD

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

SAMUEL E. USHER / DPL 1957
ROOF LATH CIRCULAR SAWN OAK
2" TO 5" WIDE - RANDOMLY SPACED

NAIL HOLES ETC. INDICATE
THERE WAS A 3" SUPPORT IN
GABLE

SECTION "AA"

SEE DETAIL SHEETS FOR INFORMATION
CONCERNING MILL, STONES, HOPPER,
MILL STONE-HOP & CRADLE, AS WELL
AS FRAMING DETAILS.

NOTE:
RAFTERS (6" x 5" WHITE PINE) SIT DIRECTLY
ABOVE STUDS (2" x 4") WHICH HAVE NO
REGULAR SPACING, BUT ARE THE SAME ON
BOTH SIDES OF MILL

PLAN

SHEETS 1 OF 4 SHEETS

SAMUEL HENRY - REL. 1937

EASTERN OFFICE, DIVISION OF BIMINI & CONSTRUCTION
PHILADELPHIA, PA
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
ALFRED REAGAN TUB MILL
ROARING FORK - GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK - SEVIER COUNTY - TENNESSEE

SURVEY NO.
145

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 1 OF 4 SHEETS

INCHES
0 1 2 3 4 5
10 FEET
0 1 2 3 4 5
AFTERS
8 rows shingles on north side of mill & 9 rows on south side. 8' long & laid 9" to weather. (3/2")
Plane; yellow poplar, clapboards 1/2" by 6'6" to 7"
Wd eaves, only overhang of shingles, clapboards on sides meet shingles
go down behind on left — opens in.

The amount of water entering the tub-wheel
could be controlled from the window on the
south side of the mill by raising and lowering
the gate in the flume.

All parts of the mill except those on the inside are
missing with the exception of several fragments of
the flume.

SOUTH ELEVATION

NOTE:
DOTTED LINES ON ELEVATIONS INDICATE LOCATION OF FLUME, TOP, OR SHARP (ALL MISSING)

WEST ELEVATION

NORTH ELEVATION

EAST ELEVATION

SCALE: 1/6" = 1'-0"

SOUTHERN FORK - GREAT SADLY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK - SEVIER COUNTY - TENNESSEE

SURVEY NO. TEAM 165
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 2 OF 4 SHEETS
CONSTRUCTION OF THE MILL-STONE HOOP

The hoop which houses the mill stones is made from a single, white pine board approximately 1\" by 7\". The hoop is constructed by taking a board which has not been guided and sawing grooves about \( \frac{3}{4} \) of the way through the board at intervals of about 1 inch. Then bend the board until the ends almost meet if any be necessary to go back and saw several more grooves in order to make the circle close them. The rod (marked by "A" in isometric drawing) is nailed in place to hold the hoop.

MILL-STONE HOOP DETAIL

ISOMETRIC OF ASSEMBLED PARTS

DETAILS - REMAINING PARTS OF GRISTMILL

SCALE 1" = 1'-0"
All work shall be performed by artisans employing methods and techniques used in the original construction. The restored structure shall retain all the primitive character of the original building.

2. CONCRETE: Concrete for pier footings shall be 1-4-5 mix.

3. STONE MASONRY: Additional stones required for the restoration shall be obtained as near the job site as possible and shall match the original stones in character and size.

Stonework exposed to the weather shall be laid in a mortar composed of 1 part white cement, 1 part hydrated lime, and 6 parts sand, colored to match the original mud mortar.

Stonework not exposed to the weather shall be laid in mud mortar obtained at the job site.

Base stones of piers shall be laid before the concrete footing has completely set, to assure full support.

4. CARPENTRY: When practical, all replacement lumber shall be the same species as originally used. In all cases of replacement the original item shall be used as a model. Timbers shall be brought to size by the use of hand tools so that tool marks of the original may be apparent. Nails, bolts, and screws shall match those used in the original work.

5. FINISH WORK: Replacement hardware shall match the original. Where no original items of hardware exist as a model, reproductions of like items of the correct historic period shall be used.

6. ROOF: Hand split shingles of native oak, 5" long shall be laid 8" to the weather.

7. PAINTING: All originally painted portions of the building shall be repainted in the original colors. Old surfaces shall be wire brushed to remove all loose paint, lightly sanded, and two coats of oil base paint applied. All new wood to be painted shall receive two coats. If necessary paint may be thinned with turpentine at the rate of not more than 1 pint of thinner per gallon of paint.

8. PRESERVATIVE TREATMENT: All unpalined wood surfaces exposed to the weather shall be given a preservative treatment applied in accordance with the manufacturers instructions.

9. TERMITE TREATMENT: The soil under and for two feet outside the perimeter of the building shall be given termite treatment in accordance with the manufacturers instructions for the chemical used.