Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery
Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict
Table of Contents

Inventory Unit Summary & Site Plan
Concurrence Status
Geographic Information and Location Map
Management Information
National Register Information
Chronology & Physical History
Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity
Condition
Treatment
Bibliography & Supplemental Information
Inventory Unit Summary & Site Plan

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 Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery is a .6-acre component landscape located south of the intersection of the Cades Cove Loop Road and Rich Mountain Road in Blount County, Tennessee. Access to the site is by a pea gravel and asphalt path adjacent to the visitor pull-off parking. The site features a church and cemetery, the latter of which is bounded by cable-wire fencing. The footpath that provides access to the site connects with the circulation system around the cemetery.

The period of significance for the site begins in 1915, when the church was moved from its original location on Hyatt Hill. The period of significance extends to 1942, to include the Park Development Era improvements.

The NPS decided to make Cades Cove an "Outdoor Museum of Mountain Culture," focusing on the "pioneer" stage of development. Since the churches located in the cove were of frame construction, they were scheduled for removal, but the congregations agreed to maintain them at their own expense. A Special Use Permit for the Missionary Baptist Church was in effect until 1988, at which time the park assumed maintenance and preservation responsibilities. The circulation system around the cemetery was rehabilitated in 1991 to correct erosion problems and to keep visitors off the graves and does not reflect any historic configuration (Trout 1991, 1-4).

The area surrounding the church and cemetery is a cleared open space planted in grass. The forest surrounding the church and cemetery consists predominantly of hemlock, white pine, and white oak.
Site Plan

Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery

Cades Cove
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Cultural Landscape Inventory - Level I July 1996
Drawn by Chauncey McLaughlin

Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery Site Plan (1996; updated 2006)

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name: Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery
Property Level: Component Landscape
CLI Identification Number: 550122
Parent Landscape: 550078

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code: Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict - GRSM
Park Organization Code: 5470
Subunit/District Name Alpha Code: Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict - GRSM
Park Administrative Unit: Great Smoky Mountains National Park
The Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery lies within the Cades Cove Cultural Landscape, which encompasses 6,800 acres in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GRSM) of eastern Tennessee. Twelve sites have been identified as component landscapes within GRSM: Cades Cove Valley Floor, John and Lucretia Oliver Homestead, Methodist Church and Cemetery, Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery, Missionary Baptist and Cemetery, Elijah Oliver Homestead, Cable Mill, Cable Cemetery, Henry Whitehead Homestead, Peter Cable and Dan Lawson Homestead, Tipton-Oliver Homestead, and the Carter Shields Homestead. The Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery is located south of the Cades Cove Loop Road.
Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Cades Cove Landscape (550078)
- Cable Cemetery (550205)
- Cable Mill (550190)
- Cades Cove Valley Floor (550108)
- Carter Shields Homestead (550127)
- Elijah Oliver Homestead (550123)
- Henry Whitehead Homestead (550124)
- John and Lucretia Oliver Homestead (550119)
- Methodist Church and Cemetery (550120)
- Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery (550122)
- Peter Cable and Dan Lawson Homestead (550125)
- Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery (550121)
- Tipton Oliver Homestead (550126)
Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery
Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict

Cades Cove Cultural Landscape

LEGEND
- Residences at the time of the Cades Cove Story
- Schools
- Churches
Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery
Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Lucy Lawliss, Cari Goetcheus and several interns conducted CLI fieldwork at Cades Cove during the summer of 1996. In 2000, the information was submitted to the park. In 2006, David Hasty, Beth Wheeler and Sara Fogelquist visited Cades Cove, updated the CLI data and submitted the inventories to the park and TN SHPO. With park and SHPO approval, the data will become certified in the on-line CLI database, and in PMDS under goals 1a7 and 1b2B.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 09/22/2006
National Register Concurrence: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Date of Concurrence Determination: 08/25/2006

National Register Concurrence Narrative:

Claudette Stager, of TN-SHPO, concurred on the potential eligibility of features addressed in the Cades Cove CLIs, with a couple of comments regarding post-1942 features and Mission 66. For the full text please see the Cades Cove Landscape CLI.

Concurrence Graphic Information:
25 June 2004

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GRSM)

From: Chief, Cultural Resource Division, Southeast Region

Subject: Cultural Landscape Inventory
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Voorhees Estate
Reply Due: 30 July 2004

We are pleased to transmit to GRSM the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for the Voorhees Estate property. All prior park comments and suggestions have been included in this final document. The CLI is an evaluated list of landscape properties in the National Park System that are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NR) or contribute to an existing historic property. In order for the CLI to be certified and counted under goals 1.27 and 1b28 in PMDS, the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office (TN-SHPO) needs to concur on the eligibility of the property for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and the Park Superintendent needs to concur on the condition assessment and management category provided within the inventory. Through prior communication, there is consensus with TN-SHPO on the eligibility of the Voorhees Estate for listing on the NR. For Park Superintendent approval, a signature page has been sent along with the CLI. It needs to be signed by the Superintendent and returned to the Regional Office for the final certification. If the condition assessment and management category are agreed upon, please sign the attached approval form and return to our office to the attention of David Hasty.

Enclosures

Letter to the Superintendent
### Cultural Landscape Condition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inventory Name</th>
<th>CLId #</th>
<th>Condition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cades Cove Landscape</td>
<td>550070</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cades Cove Valley Floor</td>
<td>550118</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John and Lucretia Oliver Homestead</td>
<td>550119</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery</td>
<td>550121</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodist Church and Cemetery</td>
<td>550123</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery</td>
<td>550124</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elijah Oliver Homestead</td>
<td>550125</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable Mill</td>
<td>550126</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Whitehead Homestead</td>
<td>550127</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable Cemetery</td>
<td>550128</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Cabe and Dan Lawson Homestead</td>
<td>550129</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tipton Oliver Homestead</td>
<td>550130</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Shields Homestead</td>
<td>550131</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Cultural Landscape Management Category

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Should Be Preserved and Maintained</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 August 2006</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Superintendent Signature of Concurrence**
We have reviewed the submitted documentation that identifies cultural landscape features at the Cades Cove Historic District in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. We concur with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory, with the exception of the comments below, and understand that these features have the potential to contribute to the existing National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Cades Cove Historic District.

Comments: We have some technical concerns that have more to do with National Register than the CLI. The CLI uses a period of significance up to 1942 in order to include the changes that occurred to Cades Cove when the park was established. This is an excellent idea and acknowledges the fact not only that the NPS had a major impact on Cades Cove, but that these changes now represent important early twentieth century ideas of historic preservation. The concerns are that there are instances when road patterns or buildings that were built after the 1942 period of significance are considered contributing to the landscape. Either the district period of significance should be extended to include these resources, criterion considerations should be noted, or the resources should be considered non-contributing. In addition, while Mission 66 is mentioned, there does not appear to be any assessment of that program's impact on the cultural landscape. I am assuming it is just not being addressed at this time.

Signature from SHPO

Tennessee Historical Commission Representative

Date
CULTURAL LANDSCAPE INVENTORY
CONDITION ASSESSMENT CONCURRENCE – 8 August 2006 (updated 27 August 2012)

**Park Information**
- **Park:** Great Smoky Mountains National Park
- **District:** Cades Cove Subdistrict
- **State:** Tennessee
- **Counties:** Blount

**Cultural Landscape Condition**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inventory Name</th>
<th>CLI Id #</th>
<th>Condition ('06)</th>
<th>Condition ('12)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cades Cove Landscape</td>
<td>550078</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cades Cove Valley Floor</td>
<td>550118</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John and Lucretia Oliver Homestead</td>
<td>550119</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery</td>
<td>550121</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodist Church and Cemetery</td>
<td>550120</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery</td>
<td>550122</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elijah Oliver Homestead</td>
<td>550123</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable Mill</td>
<td>550190</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Whitehead Homestead</td>
<td>550124</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable Cemetery</td>
<td>550205</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Cable and Dan Lawson Homestead</td>
<td>550125</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tipton Oliver Homestead</td>
<td>550126</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter Shields Homestead</td>
<td>550127</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cultural Landscape Management Category**
- Should Be Preserved and Maintained: 27 August 2012

**Park Superintendent Concurrence**
Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict

Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery

Condition reassessment signature from superintendent.

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:
The component landscape boundary encompasses approximately .6 acres. The present landscape boundaries reflect what was mapped during the CLI site visit in July 1996 and may not reflect historic boundaries. Further investigation is needed to determine if the component landscape boundary needs to be changed.

State and County:
State: TN
County: Blount County
Size (Acres): 0.60

Boundary UTMS:

UTM Zone: 17
UTM Easting: 243,919
UTM Northing: 3,943,886
Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery

Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict

Location Map:

Missionary Baptist church and cemetery
Regional Context:

**Type of Context:** Cultural

**Description:**

The great Baptist division known as the Anti-mission Split occurred in East Tennessee between the years 1825-1845, reaching a climax in 1837-38. Thirteen members of the Cades Cove Baptist Church, including the pastor, were dismissed. In May 1839, these thirteen formed the Missionary Baptist Church.

**Type of Context:** Physiographic

**Description:**

The site lies in the Smoky Mountains of eastern Tennessee within the Blue Ridge physiographic province. The present physiography of the Smokies is a result of several periods of faulting and uplift more than 200 million years ago, followed by weathering and erosion. The Smokies today are characterized by steep, forested ridges, rounded peaks, and deep valleys. Broader valleys are located in isolated pockets, known locally as coves. In the case of Cades Cove, older, overthrust Precambrian rocks have eroded to expose a “window” of limestone, creating an expanse of reasonably level ground surrounded by ridges.
Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery
Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict

View across the open valley floor

**Type of Context:** Political

**Description:**
The site lies within the 2nd Congressional district of Tennessee.

**Tract Numbers:** 08-102
Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Should be Preserved and Maintained
Management Category Date: 08/01/2006
NPS Legal Interest:
   Type of Interest: Fee Simple
Public Access:
   Type of Access: With Permission

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes
Adjacent Lands Description:
The adjacent lands above the 2,000' contour elevation (the surrounding mountains) enclose the cove, contributing to the isolated feeling of the rural agricultural valley. Additionally, Parsons Branch Road, Cooper Road, and Rich Mountain Road (all of which extend beyond the 2,000' contour elevation and the park boundaries) were transportation routes integral to the livelihood of Cades Cove.
Adjacent lands
National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:
Entered Inadequately Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:
The July 1977 National Register documentation focuses entirely on historic structures with no reference to the landscape. The Cades Cove Historic District boundary follows the 2,000' contour level. This boundary is ambiguous for it does not include the balds used by settlers for grazing animals, nor three major roads that provided access to the cove historically. The nomination was amended in November 1977, adding eleven prehistoric archaeological sites to the original documentation. The nomination should be amended to include the cultural landscape features addressed in this CLI.

Existing NRIS Information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name in National Register</th>
<th>Cades Cove Historic District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NRIS Number</td>
<td>77000111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Names</td>
<td>40Btv15;40Btv16;40Btv17;40Btv18;40Btv21;40Btv22;40Btv29;40Btv30;40Btv31;40Btv32;40Btv34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Certification</td>
<td>Listed In The National Register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Certification Date</td>
<td>07/13/1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Certifications and Date</td>
<td>Additional Documentation - 11/30/1977</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

National Register Eligibility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Register Concurrence</th>
<th>Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributing/Individual</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Register Classification</td>
<td>District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significance Level</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significance Criteria:</td>
<td>A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significance Criteria:</td>
<td>C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significance Criteria:</td>
<td>D - Has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criteria Considerations:</td>
<td>A -- A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery
Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict

Criteria Considerations:

B -- A building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event
D -- A cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events

Period of Significance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period:</th>
<th>AD 1818 - 1900</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Historic Context Theme:</td>
<td>Creating Social Institutions and Movements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtheme:</td>
<td>Ways of Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facet:</td>
<td>Farming Communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Facet:</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period:</th>
<th>AD 1900 - 1933</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Historic Context Theme:</td>
<td>Transforming the Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtheme:</td>
<td>Conservation of Natural Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facet:</td>
<td>The Conservation Movement Matures 1908-1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Facet:</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period:</th>
<th>AD 1933 - 1942</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Historic Context Theme:</td>
<td>Expressing Cultural Values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtheme:</td>
<td>Landscape Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facet:</td>
<td>The 1930's: Era Of Public Works</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Facet:</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Agriculture
Area of Significance Subcategory: None

Area of Significance Category: Archeology
Area of Significance Subcategory: Prehistoric

Area of Significance Category: Entertainment - Recreation
Area of Significance Subcategory: None

Area of Significance Category: Exploration - Settlement
Area of Significance Subcategory: None

Statement of Significance:

Cades Cove is significant under Criterion A as a resource related to the early settlement and ongoing evolution of a southern Appalachian farming community, and as a resource related to early conservation efforts east of the Mississippi River. It is significant under Criterion C as an example of the vernacular architecture of farm buildings of the Upland South and for the NPS Park Development Era interpretation of the Cades Cove "pioneer" culture. It is significant under Criterion D as a site likely to yield information important to the knowledge of the prehistory or history of the community. The period of significance is 1818-1942.

Cades Cove epitomizes the delayed settlement pattern that occurred in more mountainous areas of the Appalachian chain and eastern seaboard. Two factors--geography and a large presence of native peoples--delayed white settlement of the Great Smoky Mountains until the second quarter of the nineteenth century. Prior to the coming of the Euro-American settler, the Cherokees were the dominant tribe in the central and southern Appalachians. Practicing subsistence agriculture and hunting, they maintained fields of corn, squash, and beans near their riverside villages in eastern Tennessee, north Georgia, and the western Carolinas. Three sites have been located in Cades Cove. Through successive treaties, beginning in 1761, the Cherokees lost more and more of their territory, until the Calhoun Treaty of 1819 reset the boundary of East Tennessee, opening the area to white settlement.

One of the earliest symbols of community in a typical cove settlement was the establishment of churches. In the Smokies, the Baptist and Methodist denominations predominated. Given the small
congregations and the emphasis on preaching and singing, simple one-room buildings were the norm. The main exterior embellishment was a belfry or steeple. The ringing of the church bell summoned the neighborhood to services and also tolled upon the death of a neighbor.

The Missionary Baptist Church was formed in May 1839 by thirteen members of the Cades Cove Baptist Church who were dismissed over issues including their support for missions. The Missionaries did not gain widespread support within the community, and the number of members remained fewer than twenty until the Civil War. There were long periods in which no regular services were held during the two decades before the war. The church closed from October 1862 until 1865 "on account of the awful horror of war." From 1880 until 1889 no services were held, but in 1893 a successful revival was held by Thomas Sexton, a well-known evangelist of the time. The church gained twenty new members, raising the total membership to forty-two. In 1894, the congregation was finally able to construct their own meeting house on Hyatt Hill. Up until this time, they used the Methodist or Primitive Baptist Church. This building was dismantled and moved to its present location in 1915, where it was reassembled in a slightly different configuration.

The impetus for a national park in the Eastern United States at a similar scale to the large western national parks began between 1910-1920 by local groups in both North Carolina and Tennessee. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park was authorized in 1926, and established for development in 1934, to protect the woodlands, headwaters, and various forms of natural resources in the southern Appalachians. In 1927, the Tennessee General Assembly appropriated $1.5 million for buying park lands and gave the newly created Park Commission the power to seize farms within the proposed park boundaries by right of eminent domain. The state of Tennessee acquired land for the park, including Cades Cove, from 1928-1936. At this time, a policy to preserve and interpret the mountain culture resources gradually developed, with the idea of establishing an outdoor folk museum in the cove.

The Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery was not included in early (1942) Park Development Era maps of the sites to be included in the cultural exhibits, as the church did not disband until 1944 as well as the fact that the church was a frame structure. Until the park took over management responsibilities in the 1970s, the church received continued maintenance through a grassroots effort by descendent communities. The Missionary Baptist Church is a front-gable frame church with a pyramidal bell tower. It was listed as a contributing building in the 1977 National Register nomination. A number of historical landscape features still exist at the site, including the cemetery, cemetery headstones, and biotic remnants.

As part of the Park Development Era, park planners manipulated the historic scene in order to showcase preserved "pioneer" agricultural landscapes and vernacular architecture. The Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery reflects an evolution of NPS design philosophy started during the New Deal, when architects, landscape architects, historians, and engineers created a unified aesthetic conception (the master plan) of the site to preserve cultural as well as natural resources.

Chronology & Physical History
Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery  
Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Vernacular

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function: Religious Structure (church)

Primary Current Use: Recreation/Culture-Other

Other Use/Function Other Type of Use or Function
Cemetery Both Current And Historic
Religion-Other Both Current And Historic

Current and Historic Names:

Name Type of Name
Missionary Baptist Church Both Current And Historic

Chronology:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Annotation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AD 1894</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>The Missionary Baptist Church building was constructed on Hyatt Hill in 1894.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AD 1915</td>
<td>Moved</td>
<td>In 1915, the church was dismantled and moved to its present location.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AD 1926 - 1936</td>
<td>Land Transfer</td>
<td>In 1926, legislation authorizing the Great Smoky Mountains National Park was passed by Congress. In 1927, the state of Tennessee appropriated $1.5 million for land acquisition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AD 1937 - 1988</td>
<td>Maintained</td>
<td>Although the congregation disbanded in 1944, they continued to maintain the building and grounds under a Special Use Permit until 1988.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AD 1988</td>
<td>Rehabilitated</td>
<td>When the Special Use Permit lapsed in 1988, repairs were made to the building.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AD 1989 - 2006</td>
<td>Preserved</td>
<td>In 1989, the park assumed responsibility for maintenance and preservation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AD 1991</td>
<td>Rehabilitated</td>
<td>In 1991, the parking area and entrance walkway were paved and the cemetery rehabilitated.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Physical History:

(1839-1926) Early Settlement and Later Development

The Missionary Baptist Church was formed in May 1839 by thirteen members who broke away from Cades Cove Baptist Church. This was part of a national split amongst Baptists over the issue of missions, the establishment of seminaries, music, and church governance. The Missionaries did not gain widespread support within the community, and the number of members remained fewer than twenty until the Civil War. There were long periods in which no regular services were held during the two decades before the war. The church closed from October 1862 until 1865 "on account of the awful horror of war." From 1880 until 1889 no services were held, but in 1893 a successful revival was held by Thomas Sexton, a well-known evangelist of the time. The church gained twenty new members, raising the total membership to forty-two. In 1894, the congregation was finally able to construct their own meeting house on Hyatt Hill. Up until this time, they used the Methodist or Primitive Baptist Church. This building was dismantled and moved to its present location in 1915 (Trout 1991, 2).
The impetus for a national park in the Eastern United States at a similar scale to the large western national parks began between 1910-1920 by local groups in both North Carolina and Tennessee. Through numerous regenerations of federal legislation, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park was established in 1926 to protect the woodlands, headwaters, and various forms of natural resources in the southern Appalachians. In 1927, the Tennessee General Assembly appropriated $1.5 million for buying park lands and gave the newly created Park Commission the power to seize farms within the proposed park boundaries by right of eminent domain. Land for the park, including Cades Cove, was acquired via condemnation proceedings between
1928-1937. At this time, a policy to preserve and interpret the mountain culture resources gradually developed, with the idea of establishing an outdoor folk museum in the cove (Lix 1958, 82).

The Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery was not included in early (1942) Park Development Era maps of the sites to be included in the cultural exhibits. The church buildings in the cove were of frame construction and were scheduled for removal unless the congregations agreed to maintain them at their own expense. The Missionary Baptists agreed to do so under a Special Use Permit that was in effect until 1988, at which time NPS assumed maintenance and preservation responsibility for the site. There is no record of changes made to the site while being maintained by the congregation. When the Special Use Permit lapsed in 1988, the building was rehabilitated. In 1991, the parking area and entrance walkway were paved with asphalt and pea gravel and steps built to the walkway. The cemetery circulation system was rehabilitated to eliminate eroded paths and resodded (Trout 1991, 4). One major loop trail was established that would keep visitors off the graves (not based on any historic configuration). The cable-wire fencing was added at this time.

A Special Use Permit can be issued to hold religious services in the church, and burials are still allowed for holders of plots within the enclosed area of the cemetery. Grass is maintained around the church and within the cemetery. The forest surrounding the open space consists primarily of hemlock, white pine, and white oak.

Figure 2. Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery
Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:
The following is a list of landscape characteristics and features that contribute to the cultural
landscape. Further research is warranted.

Landscape Characteristic:

Buildings And Structures
The Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery features a rectangular, front-gable frame
building with a front-gable narthex and pyramidal bell tower. The building was dismantled and
moved to its present location in 1915, where it was re-erected in a slightly different
configuration. The building was rehabilitated in 1988. The cemetery, located east of the
church, features headstones from various periods of the church's history that are mostly
commercial marble and limestone. There is also a frame outhouse (modern) located east of the
cemetery.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Missionary Baptist Church
Feature Identification Number: 100704
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 13043
LCS Structure Name: Missionary Baptist Church
LCS Structure Number: MMS-221

Feature: Missionary Baptist Church Headstones
Feature Identification Number: 100705
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 10202
LCS Structure Name: Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery Headstones
LCS Structure Number: C009

Feature: Outhouse
Feature Identification Number: 100706
Type of Feature Contribution: Non-Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:
Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery
Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict

Missionary Baptist Church

Cemetery Headstones (2000)
Circulation

Presently, visitors are brought to the site by a pea gravel and asphalt walkway adjacent to the visitor pull-off parking area. This path connects with the cemetery circulation system (pea gravel and dirt). Another trail accesses the site from the south. In 1991, the circulation system was rehabilitated to correct erosion problems and to keep visitors off the graves. One major loop trail was established (not based on any historic configuration), the parking area was paved with asphalt, and the entrance walkway was paved with asphalt and pea gravel (Trout 4, 1991).

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:
Topography

The settlement patterns at this site were strongly influenced by the topography of the cove, featuring farmsteads and churches close to the surrounding hillsides, leaving the interior for cultivation. The siting of churches on hilltops is typical of the Cades Cove landscape.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:
Vegetation

It is unknown how specific vegetation patterns at the site compare with those of the historic period, as there are no historic photographs for comparison. The broader pattern of forested ascending slopes surrounding the open space of the church and cemetery has been retained and would be considered a contributing feature of the historic landscape. Numerous daffodils and a few specimen forsythias are located in the cemetery, but it is unknown if they are remnants from the historic period.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:
Vegetation patterns at the Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery
Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery
Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good
Assessment Date: 09/30/1999
Condition Assessment: Fair
Assessment Date: 08/01/2006
Condition Assessment: Fair
Assessment Date: 09/18/2012

Impacts

Type of Impact: Release To Succession
External or Internal: Internal
Impact Description: Release to succession has increased the amount of forest on the valley floor and hillsides, resulting in less extensive views across the cove.

Type of Impact: Visitation
External or Internal: Internal
Impact Description: In 1991, the circulation system was rehabilitated to keep visitors off the graves and reduce erosion at the site. The cable-wire fencing around the gravesites was added at this time. This helps reduce the impact of foot traffic on the cemetery, but also detracts from the overall setting of the property.

Type of Impact: Vandalism/Theft/Arson
External or Internal: Internal
Impact Description: Graffiti

Treatment
Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery
Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict

Treatment

Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative:
GRSM contracted with John Milner and Associates to complete a Cultural Landscape Report for Cades Cove. A 100% draft was submitted in 2004, and it is expected to be completed and approved in FY 2007. The suggested treatment alternative is rehabilitation.

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography

| Citation Title: | Draft "Historic Structure Report, Cades Cove Historic District (Churches)" |
| Source Name: | Library Of Congress/Dewey Decimal |
| Citation Number: | Draft report |
| Citation Location: | See Cades Cove Cultural Landscape Bibliography for a complete list of references |

Supplemental Information

| Title: | NA |
| Description: | See Cades Cove Cultural Landscape for a complete list of maps. |