DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES
(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME
COMMON:
Cole, Alex--Cabin

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Cole, Alex--Cabin

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER:
306 S. of Gatlinburg US 441
Great Smoky Mountains National Park

CITY OR TOWN:
Gatlinburg

STATE:
Tennessee

3. CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY (Check One)
- District
- Site
- Object
- Building
- Structure

OWNERSHIP
- Public
- Private
- Both

PUBLIC ACQUISITION
- In Process
- Being Considered

PUBLIC ACQUISITION
- Occupied
- Unoccupied

STATUS
- Yes
- No

ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
- Yes
- No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Educational
- Entertainment
- Government
- Industrial
- Military
- Museum
- Private Residence
- Religious
- Scientific

4. AGENCY
National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior
REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)
Southeast Regional Office
CITY OR TOWN:
Atlanta

STATE:
Georgia

CODE:
13

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Sevier County Courthouse
STREET AND NUMBER:
N/A
CITY OR TOWN:
Sevierville

STATE:
Tennessee

CODE:
47

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY:
None
DATE OF SURVEY:

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN:
STATE:
CODE:
### Cole, Alex—Cabin—Building #131

**Recommended level of Treatment:** Preservation  
**Cost Estimate:** N/A

This is a rectangular, one story building with loft. The walls are hand hewn, dovetail notched logs. The walls have been chinked with mud in the past, but most chinking is now missing.

The foundation is fieldstone piers, and loose rock.

The roof is gabled and was originally covered with hand-split, wooden shingles. The cabin is presently covered with asphalt roofing over the shingles. The roof shingles should be replaced.

**Windows:** There is one window. It is in the east wall of the cabin and was a four light stationary window. At present all sash and lights are missing and the window is boarded over as a security measure.

**Floors:** The floor is hewn puncheon. The floor shows years of wear, but some broad ax marks are still visible. Surviving puncheon floors are unique, since most cabins having them have disappeared.

**Doors:** There is one door. It is in the west wall of the cabin. It is built of sawn boards and has manufactured metal hinges. The cabin has been subject to vandalism so the door is boarded up for security.

**Basic Interior Appearance:** The interior is one room with loft. There is no stairway; a ladder was used to reach the upper portion.

The fireplace is on the north end of the room. It is built of masonry rubble, as is the chimney. Interior walls are board and batten. The ceiling of the main room is sawn board over hewn joists. The loft is unceiled.

**General Location:** The cabin is located about one mile east of Highway 441 and about five miles south of Gatlinburg, Tennessee. The structure is on the Old Indian Gap Road, about 100 yards west of the West Prong, Little Pigeon River.
### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Cole, Alex--Cabin  
Order of Significance: 3rd

There were about 400 to 500 people living in what was called the Sugarlands in 1930. When the area was included in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the people were moved from the area. There were houses, cabins, schools, and churches up and down the hollows and narrow valleys of the steep and rocky sides of the mountains. Small fields were cleared wherever the land was level enough for corn to grow, and moonshine whiskey was distilled in the most secluded spots. Livestock was raised on the mountain pastures, and life went on at a leisurely pace.

The life of the people reflected ways and lifestyles that had disappeared from all of America except the Appalachian mountains. Most work was still done by hand labor and the roads were primitive or non-existent.

But time literally was running out for the mountain way of life in much of the Appalachians. The coming of logging to the mountains meant the end of a way of life.

Today the Alex Cole Cabin is the only surviving dwelling of the Sugarlands community. It alone stands as a reminder of a way of life in its particular vicinity. Other cabins remain in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, but this cabin is alone in the Sugarlands.

There have been no alterations to the cabin. There is a temporary asphalt roof, but a shingle roof could easily be added. Examples of workmanship are obvious and the integrity of architecture (except for the roof) and location are still present.
### 7. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Hall, Joseph S.  

- Kephart, Horace  

### 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

#### LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>35° 40' 0&quot;</td>
<td>83° 31' 17&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY

- Less than one

### 11. FORM PREPARED BY

- **NAME AND TITLE:** Paul Gordon, Historian  
  **DATE:** 4/17/74

- **BUSINESS ADDRESS:** Great Smoky Mountains National Park

### 12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

- **State Liaison Officer recommendation:**
  - [ ] Yes  
  - [ ] No  
  - [ ] None

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is: [ ] National [ ] State

- **National Register Verification:**
  - **Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation:**
    - **Date:** 11/26
  - **ATTEST:**
    - **Keeper of The National Register:**
      - **Date:** 12/30/76
PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS Number  1/1/76
Title: Cole, Pulp, Cabin
Loc: Barn

Quart Smoky Mountains National Park
Barn, Deenulittle Ranger Station, NC
Sevier County, TN
PL: Jack E. Boucher
1. NAME
   COMMON: Cole, Alex-Cabin
   AND/OR HISTORIC: Same
   NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS): JAN 1, 1976

2. LOCATION
   STATE: Tennessee
   COUNTY: Sevier
   TOWN: 5 miles south of Gatlinburg
   STREET AND NUMBER: Great Smoky Mountains National Park

3. PHOTO REFERENCE
   PHOTO CREDIT: National Park Service
   DATE: July, 1973
   NEGATIVE FILED AT: Great Smoky Mountains N. P.

4. IDENTIFICATION
   DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
   Front and north end of cabin from west.