Smith Cabin
Elkmont Historic District
Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Historic Structure Report

September 2014

for
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Southeast Region, National Park Service

by
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The historic structure report presented here exists in two formats. A traditional, printed version is available for study at the park, the Southeastern Regional Office of the NPS (SERO), and at a variety of other repositories. For more widespread access, the historic structure report also exists in a web-based format through ParkNet, the website of the National Park Service. Please visit www.nps.gov for more information.
Foreword

We are pleased to make available this Historic Structure Report, part of our ongoing effort to provide comprehensive documentation for the historic structures and landscapes of National Park Service units in the Southeast Region. A number of individuals contributed to the successful completion of this work, but we would particularly like to thank the Project Team who authored the report.

The authors would like to thank the staff at the Great Smoky Mountains National Park who assisted with the project, especially Dianne Flaugh, cultural resource manager, who provided copies of relevant documents from park files, logistical assistance and general editorial review. Tommy H. Jones, cultural resource specialist, and Danita Brown, AIA, architect, both of the National Park Service’s Southeast Regional Office, provided helpful comments as part of their technical review and project oversight. We hope that this study will prove valuable to park management in ongoing efforts to preserve the building and to everyone in understanding and interpreting these unique resources.

Dan Scheidt, Chief
Cultural Resources Division
Southeast Regional Office
2014
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Executive Summary

Purpose and Scope
The purpose of this report is to document the development, use, and current condition of the Smith Cabin in the Elkmont Historic District of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The National Park Service will use this report to inform and guide the stewardship of this historic structure.

The scope of work prescribed by SERO for this HSR specifies “limited” historical research as defined by Director’s Order #28: Cultural Resources Management Guidelines. However, because of the limited amount of historical documentation available, a more wide-ranging search for historic document was executed and oral history interviews were conducted. All information learned about the physical evolution of the Smith Cabin is based on building archaeology.

The report, which focuses on the Smith Cabin, also includes context and background information about nineteenth-century settlement in the region, the advent of the railroad, the growth of the timber industry, the development of Elkmont from a lumber camp to a resort community, and the transfer to the National Park Service.

The report is divided into two major segments, Part I: Developmental History and Part II: Treatment & Use. Part I is organized into three sections that address in sequence the historical background and context of the locale, a chronology of development and use of the Smith Cabin specifically, and a physical description of the exterior and interior on a room-by-room basis. This last section also includes an assessment of condition and a listing of character-defining features. Part II evaluates treatment options and concludes with an “ultimate recommended treatment.” A bibliography precedes the Appendix, which contains scaled drawings including an as-found floor plan and selected architectural details.

Historical Overview
Although Native Americans settled along the Little River for centuries, the first permanent Euro-American occupation began with a 1785 treaty under which the Cherokees ceded their lands to the United States. White settlers began to farm the mountain valleys and coves, though the rugged mountain terrain inhibited extensive settlement and travel. In the late nineteenth century, small companies began to haul timber out of the mountains, followed by larger companies attracted to the Great Smokies when northern and Midwestern timberlands were depleted.

In 1900, the Little River Lumber Company began buying land in Sevier County, setting up headquarters and building a large band mill in Tuckaleechee Cove, which they named Townsend. To reach the upper elevations, the company created the Little River Railroad Company in 1901. The railroad connected to the Knoxville & Augusta Railroad and later was extended to Townsend. By 1908, tracks were built to the Little River Valley where a lumber camp was established. A community of workers and their families soon took root there and called it Elkmont.

The linking of the railroad to isolated mountainous regions unexpectedly created a tourist destination. Although constructed for timbering, the railroad allowed Knoxville sportsmen to reach hunting and fishing locations in the backcountry, which benefited the company. Before long, an observation car was taking travelers from Knoxville to Elkmont every Sunday, then several days a week, and by 1909, daily.

The Lumber Company began to promote the area for development and in 1910, deeded 50 acres to the Appalachian Club while retaining timber and mineral rights. The sportsmen’s club, composed primarily of Knoxville businessmen, became more social over time and a clubhouse was built south of Elkmont. As individual cabins were built nearby,
the area quickly developed into its own community. Club and cabin architecture reflected traditional folk design and the rustic and Craftsman styles popular at the time, with bark-peeled posts and railings on some cabins.

In 1911, the Little River Lumber Company sold additional acreage just north of the Elkmont where the Wonderland Park Hotel was built in 1912. The Wonderland Club was similar to the Appalachian Club with members’ cabins clustered near the hotel.

Meanwhile, the little lumber company community of Elkmont became a sizable town as the Little River Lumber Company increased its operations. Inhabited mostly by workers and their families, the town had a character distinct from its neighbors at the Appalachian and Wonderland clubs. At its peak, Elkmont could boast of several dozen dwellings, a few utilitarian commercial buildings, a school, and two churches. The workers’ town declined when the Little River Company moved its lumber operations in 1923 and discontinued the railroad in 1925. The loss of its primary employer and subsequent designation as part of a national park signaled Elkmont’s end. By 1942, most buildings were gone, many dismantled for their lumber.

Fortunately for club members, the loss of the rail line coincided with the rise of the automobile. The rail tracks were replaced by a gravel road, and new roads were built as part of the nationwide trend. More people came to the Elkmont clubs. Visitors stayed in rustic, yet comfortable cabins, enjoyed meals and dances at the clubs, and focused on outdoor activities. The clubs met the new demand with boardwalks, swimming holes, and new amenities. Construction included new cabins and numerous outbuildings such as guest cottages, servants’ quarters, woodsheds, garages and privies. Construction continued at both clubs through the 1920s.

The establishment of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park brought the demise of the club communities. Unlike previous parks, with land donated or already in Federal domain, property was purchased by the states of North Carolina and Tennessee for transfer to the Federal government. Property holders were reluctant to sell. An agreement was reached with Elkmont’s summer residents in 1932 whereby landowners would receive lifetime leases in return for sale of their property at half the appraised value.

In 1952, club members gave up their lifetime leases for a fixed 20-year lease in exchange for commercial power service. The leases were extended for another twenty years in 1972 with the majority expiring in 1992. The last of the leases finally expired in 2001; all properties are now owned by the National Park Service.

Statement of Significance
In 1994, the properties associated with the Appalachian Club and Wonderland Club were listed in the National Register of Historic Places as the Elkmont Historic District. The importance of the district rests not only in its architectural integrity, but also in its association with the development of summer resort communities during the early twentieth century. These communities were the products of a renewed interest in nature and outdoor recreation, and their rustic architecture, landscaping, and planning reflect this admiration for a “back-to-nature” lifestyle.

Cultural Resources and Natural Resources
The park’s 1982 General Management Plan (GMP) states in part, “…leases for approximately 50 structures …will expire in 1992, and four remaining leases will expire in 2001. None of these leases will be extended, and the structures are proposed for removal on termination of the leases. Building sites will be returned to a natural state.”

Subsequent to the preparation of the GMP, the Elkmont Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the proscribed GMP actions for this district were determined by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to constitute an adverse effect. A draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) revised the demolition proposal, and in 2008 a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was prepared by representatives of the Advisory Council, the National Park Service, the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office and other parties. The EIS was made part of the MOA. The Agreement includes stipulations for documentation and treatment and states in
part, “…eighteen contributing and one non-
contributing building will be retained…A total of
30 contributing buildings will be removed…. The
exterior of the sixteen buildings in Daisy Town will
be restored and their interiors rehabilitated.” In
2009, NPS amended the park’s GMP and prepared
the Final Environmental Impact Statement
(FEIS) for the Elkmont Historic District. The
FEIS outlines the strategy to restore the exteriors
of 19 buildings “to a point within the period
of significance” (1913–1941 as per the current
National Register Nomination) …“when adequate
documentation is available” and to preserve the
interiors.

Methodology
The objectives of this Historic Structure Report
(HSR), which complies with the guidelines at NPS-
28, are to research and prepare a comprehensive
and scholarly assessment of the building’s history
and fabric and its existing physical conditions,
and to recommend treatment for preservation.
The findings and recommendations made in this
report rely on the combined research of primary
and secondary resources, early photographs, oral
histories, and the investigation of extant building
fabric.

The NPS Scope of Work for this HSR places
the level of background research for this report
as “limited investigation,” as defined in NPS-
28. However, because of the scarcity of written
documentation, additional research was deemed
necessary for an adequate understanding of the
context and history of this particular cabin.

The physical investigations of the building to
determine its evolutionary history were a large
component of the research. This involved a close
look at features in the building and at details
such as the framing materials and methods, the
relationship of finish treatments, at the variety of
siding, ghostmarks, and nail types. Each research
effort, both documentary and physical, was
designed to create a dual, coordinated approach
to determining how the building was used and
adapted over the progression of Elkmont’s history.

The firm of Joseph K. Oppermann – Architect,
P.A., prepared this HSR. The team for this cabin
included Joseph K. Oppermann, FAIA, historical
architect and principal-in-charge, Rebecca L.
McCormick, AIA, assisting architect, and Langdon
E. Oppermann, architectural historian. The team
researched, investigated and documented the cabin
and authored this HSR. This interdisciplinary
approach improves understanding of history
and conditions, which aids the development of
appropriate treatment recommendations.

An initial multi-day visit to the site was made
in November of 2011. During these first days,
measurements were compiled using manual
measuring tape, carpenter ruler, digital camera, and
digital recorder, a Leica Disto laser distance meter.
Overall photography was completed for both
exterior and interiors. Detailed field drawings
were made. Upon return to the office, these field
drawings were used to create digitized AutoCAD
drawings of floor plan and selected architectural
elements. The digitized floor plan became the
base document on which final recordations
and assessed conditions were made during the
subsequent return trip.

This second multi-day inspection was made
in January of 2012 to focus on details of each
building feature and the specific components
of each interior space. A standard assessment
methodology was used for the condition survey
of each exterior feature and each interior
room, itemizing features and elements. Detail
photography was conducted. Visual observation of
surface conditions supplemented with a 20-power
magnification loop and Protimeter BLD 2000
moisture meter were the method and instruments
of assessing the physical condition of building
materials. In accordance with the NPS scope
of work, no building system components were
tested. No invasive methods of investigation were
employed. Tape measure and digital cameras were
used to record the size, design and location of
components and conditions.

A final site visit was conducted in March 2014 to
confirm findings.

Findings
The original one-story cabin remains mostly intact
with a few small additions and modifications.
Porches were expanded and enclosed at the rear
of the cabin to form interior rooms, a north porch
was added, and a few interior walls were added to
subdivide the rooms.
The addition of a kitchen appears to have occurred after initial construction, as is typical with other cabins of Elkmont. The families of the community typically took their meals with their friends at the Appalachian Club and therefore had little need for a kitchen. The kitchen addition at Smith Cabin was expanded in recent years.

The vernacular nature of the cabin’s construction together with the frequency of changes, the use of similar building materials in different construction campaigns, and the tendency to use salvaged building elements, make the dating of the changes especially challenging. In addition, much of the wood for construction probably came from nearby mill operations; the actual sizes of the lumber vary significantly. Nonetheless, the lumber used for each change tends to have common characteristics (saw marks, dimensions, coloration, and other visual qualities) that set that change apart from other construction phases.

As with all the buildings, the exterior envelope is critical to their well-being. Towards the goal of ensuring a sound exterior, park crews have recently completed repairs to original wood window sash.

The most serious threat to Smith Cabin is the failed roofing and rainwater collection/dispersal system. Numerous active roof leaks allow moisture to gain access to the vulnerable interior. At grade, the lack of gutters creates splash onto low wood house elements. Pooling of rainwater due to improper site drainage is causing the ground to stay wet and wood elements such as piers and foundation lattice to deteriorate more rapidly than normal.

Associated with the roof leaks are leaks at the chimney. Problems are evident at the flashing at the base of the chimney and in the repointing that holds the bricks of the chimney together. The flashing has failed and the chimney mortar is in need of repointing. Significant water damage is evident on the ceiling around the chimney, particularly in the northeast living room. The weathering of the protective exterior paint coating is likewise well advanced, leaving the wood architectural elements susceptible to moisture in all its forms.

And, sadly, as often happens when buildings become rundown and appear uncared for, vandalism increases. Door rim locks and other small hardware items seem to be favorites in Daisy Town. Because it is usually the lock and not the keep that is taken, the thefts may be the work of souvenir seekers as opposed to someone hoping to sell or reuse a lock set. Recently, larger architectural elements seem threatened as well: a decorative glass window was stolen from a nearby cabin.

**Recommended Treatment**

The Smith Cabin is a good example of the small vernacular summer residence once typical of Elkmont that evolved beyond its functional and social dependence on the nearby club. That evolution is clearly visible in the physical changes to the cabin as the club’s prominence waned and eventually ended with the closing of the club: a kitchen was added as were porches and smaller rooms, like bathrooms.

Because of this clearly visible record of building evolution coupled with the urgency to stave off serious threats of water intrusion, preservation of both the exterior and interior of the building as currently exist, are the recommended treatments. Once this and the other retained buildings of Elkmont are stabilized, made weather tight, and protected, consideration may be directed to the possibility of removing or reversing late additions and modifications. The decisions of what to remove and what to retain at each building should be made keeping in mind the bigger story of the collective group of buildings that made up this community of summer residences.

**Additional Recommendations**

As more buildings of Elkmont are researched and investigated, patterns of shared construction features and typical color palettes are becoming apparent. Paint and finish analyses of the exteriors and interiors of Elkmont’s cabins would help document those characteristics that made Elkmont distinctive. Such analyses, coupled with selective demolition to expose unseen building features, also could be invaluable in determining when building changes occurred.

The residents of Elkmont had a special appreciation for the outdoors. Their cabins and yards reflect this interest, with generous porches and richly developed yards. The close social
relationships are expressed in the proximity of cabins. A Cultural Landscape Report for the community will be especially important for stewardship.

As stated above, the level of research and investigations of the HSRs prepared thus far have been “limited” in scope. The research has been limited to park records, a few well known publications, and occasionally oral histories. The building investigations have been limited to visual observations of physical conditions. A good deal has been learned about the sequence of changes to the buildings and current condition.

But information about the people associated with the individual cabins, the people who built them and remodeled them, and the families who lived there, remains sparse. Visual representations at different epochs of the buildings, such as photographs, drawings, plans and other contemporary images, are likewise scarce. The people who knew the community first hand, or who remember stories from those who did, are becoming elderly. The opportunities to tap into these sources of information are diminishing. An oral history project to record these stories before they are lost should be a high priority. The stories could greatly elucidate life in Elkmont when it was an active resort. These contacts could also be springboards to locating the documentary records of Elkmont, especially photographs, that are so lacking.

Visual documentation will be critically important to the decision-making process of determining the feasibility of removing additions and rebuilding missing features; traditional below-grade archaeology and building archaeology with selective demolition may also be necessary.

The MOA also stipulates a reconsideration of the National Register Nomination once the buildings to be retained are stabilized and the others are removed. This is an important endeavor that likely will result in revision of the boundaries of the current nomination as well as expansion in the period of significance.

An important consideration is the process for developing a cohesive plan for interpretation and stewardship of the retained buildings and sites of Elkmont. The best opportunity will be after they are documented with individual HSRs and paint-&-finish studies, as well as with an overall CLR and a revised National Register nomination. In other words, the most effective timing for developing a community-wide plan will be after Elkmont is better understood and documented as a community.

In the meantime, it is desirable to stay the course to make the buildings watertight, to stabilize and maintain the buildings and site, and to avoid the temptation to remove or disrupt features of building and site until the bigger context of community is more comprehensively studied.

Additional protection is desirable. Some possible actions are securing the doors and windows of the building to prevent entry to the interiors where much of the vandalism is occurring, and installing discretely placed cameras to monitor activities. During our site visits we have frequently found visitors to have the false impression that all the buildings are being removed. Interpretive panels scheduled for installation in the area may help correct this misunderstanding. Other existing means of communication such as the park’s website and visitor newspaper may be augmented to inform visitors and enlist their help in preventing vandalism and protecting these buildings. Another possible action is to recruit and train volunteers to spend time in Elkmont answering questions and providing an official presence.
Administrative Data

Locational Data

Building Name: Smith Cabin
Location: Elkmont Historic District
            Great Smoky Mountains National Park
County: Sevier County
State: Tennessee

Related NPS Studies


Smith Cabin HSR


Cultural Resources of the Elkmont Historic District, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Sevier County, Tennessee, 2004.

Real Property Information

Acquisition Date: June 14, 1933

Numbering Information

LCS ID: 262831

Size Information

Smith Cabin

Total Floor Area: 1,445 square feet ±

Roof Area: 2,400 square feet ±

Number of Stories: 1

Number of Rooms: 9

Number of Bathrooms: 2

Cultural Resource Data

National Register Status: Listed March 22, 1994; Contributing Structure
Reference # 94000166
Name: Elkmont Historic District, Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Proposed Treatment: Preservation of the exterior and interior spaces in their current appearances but in good repair.
I.A Historical Background and Context

The town of Elkmont was developed in the early twentieth century as a summer community, deep in the woods of the Great Smoky Mountains in Sevier County, Tennessee. Elkmont was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1994 as the Elkmont Historic District. The district consists mainly of early twentieth-century rustic summer cabins, a social clubhouse, and several outbuildings constructed primarily between 1910 and 1930 and organized around two clubs, the Appalachian Club and the Wonderland Club. While the district’s contributing structures maintain much of their historic integrity, most have been vacant since 1992 and are in various states of disrepair.

Elkmont is important not only for its architecture, but also for its association with the development of summer resort communities in the early twentieth century. These communities were the products of a renewed interest in nature and outdoor recreation, and their architecture, landscaping and planning sought earnestly to express this “back-to-nature” approach.

This summation of Elkmont’s historical background and context is based primarily on the following sources unless otherwise noted:
1. Thomason and Associates’ 1993 report for the National Park Service (NPS), *The History and Architecture of the Elkmont Community*;
2. Thomason and Associates’ 1994 National Register Nomination for “Elkmont Historic District, Great Smoky Mountains National Park”;
3. TRC Garrow Associates, Inc.’s 2004 report, *Cultural Resources of the Elkmont Historic District*;
5. NPS’s 2006 *Elkmont Historic District - Draft Environmental Impact Statement and General Management Plan Amendment*. Because numerous studies, reports and books document Elkmont’s history, and at the request of the National Park Service, this Historic Structure Report focuses on physical investigation of the building rather than additional archival research on the community.

Environment

Nestled in the Little River valley of the Tennessee portion of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the Elkmont community is ideally situated for a mountain getaway. The valley sits about 2,000 feet above sea level and is enclosed by steeply sloped forested mountains, a biologically rich environment with a wide diversity of plants, animals and invertebrates. Temperate weather and high levels of rainfall have promoted both human settlement and plant growth. The Little River and its tributary, Jakes Creek, form the main spines through the valley, fed by tributaries flowing from the upper elevations of the surrounding mountains. The valley is narrow. Its level areas along the waterways have been the areas of settlement through several centuries and changing cultures.
Figure 2-1: Existing Condition
Elkmont Historic District
Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Figure 2. Map of Elkmont Historic District showing its communities bordering Jakes Creek and the Little River. (National Park Service)
Early Euro-American Settlement

Although Native Americans settled in the Little River valley centuries earlier, the first permanent Euro-American occupation occurred after the 1785 Treaty of Dumplin Creek, when the Cherokees ceded their lands to the United States. The new settlers began to farm the mountain valleys and coves. Two families, Ownby and Trentham, came to own much of the land along Jakes Creek where they constructed single- and double-pen log dwellings, farm buildings and mills.

The heavily forested and rugged mountain terrain initially inhibited extensive settlement and travel through the area. However, by the latter part of the nineteenth century, family-owned companies, especially the J.L. English Company and Swaggert & Eubanks, began to cut and laboriously haul timber out of the mountains. Larger timber companies soon saw opportunity in the Great Smokies, especially as timberlands in the Northeast and Great Lakes area became depleted. These companies had a substantial impact on the surrounding environment in only a short time. With their greater capital came more efficient methods of extracting timber and the corresponding destruction of mountain habitat.

Little River Lumber Company

A group of Pennsylvania investors, Col. Wilson B. Townsend, J. W. Wrigley, and F. H. McCormick, selected this area of the Smokies after investigating its lumber potential. In 1900, they bought 86,000 acres of virgin forest along the Little River, and the following year chartered the Little River Lumber Company. The company set up its headquarters and built a large band mill in Tuckaleechee Cove.

The community of workers that grew around the sawmill was named Townsend in honor of the company’s founder and general manager.

Later in 1901, the Little River Railroad Company was created to bring in the valuable hardwoods from upper elevations. The railroad connected to the Knoxville & Augusta Railroad and later would be extended to link the company headquarters at Townsend to additional mountainous areas, reaching Elkmont in 1908.

During construction of the Little River Railroad, simple temporary structures known as “set-off” houses were built for railroad employees and their families. These structures were assembled at company headquarters and moved by train as railroad construction progressed. Often, several set-off houses were placed in a row to create what was known as a stringtown.
That rail line was built from 1906 to 1908. At its terminus, a lumber camp was established as a base of operations, and a community of workers and their families soon took root. This was Elkmont. Company headquarters remained in Townsend, and as the businesses prospered, Col. Townsend and his investors hired the much younger Joseph P. Murphy as superintendent.

Although the purpose of the rail line was timbering, access to the isolated mountains changed the region. Knoxville sportsmen were soon asking to use the railroad to reach hunting and fishing locations in the backcountry. A long-time Elkmont summer resident recalled the role the train played in transforming Elkmont from a logging camp to a vacation community. “At first, these Knoxvillians rode the ‘dog car’ or caboose, got off at Elkmont and the train continued up to Jakes Creek to the logging camps. This weekend trip became so popular that the wives became curious. So in 1907 the wives and husbands hunted and fished together in Elkmont.”

The lumber company recognized the potential of a passengers business and encouraged the sportsmen and their families. Before long, an observation car was added to take travelers from Knoxville to Elkmont each Sunday. As these excursions quickly grew in popularity, they came to be offered several days a week and, by 1909, tourists traveled daily from Knoxville’s Southern Station to Elkmont.

Certain engines began to be used predominantly to pull the passenger cars. In 1911, superintendent Murphy bought a new, modern locomotive, designed to navigate the line’s steep grades and tight curves. This engine was assigned not to the logging operation, but to the ever growing passenger schedules, handling the daily trains and special weekend excursions.

Appalachian Club

As land was cleared, the lumber company presented an area for development and in 1910, deeded 50 acres to the Appalachian Club while retaining timber and mineral rights. A clubhouse for members was built south of the railroad workers’ town of Elkmont. The club was a Knoxville-based sportsmen’s club composed primarily of businessmen who sought the hunting and fishing opportunities of the mountains. The Appalachian Club was said to be the most exclusive in East Tennessee. Its new clubhouse spurred construction of rustic cabins for families, and a community of summer residents developed. In 1910, Colonel Townsend built his own cabin south of the clubhouse. The area became known as Daisy Town.

The Appalachian Clubhouse served as both clubhouse and hotel. Ten rooms were initially constructed, but an annex was soon added to provide accommodations for the growing membership.

Part I.A - Historical Background and Context

Early photographs show the original clubhouse designed in the rustic style prevalent throughout the district. The dominant feature of the simple two-story wood frame structure was a wide porch stretching the length of the building. Two masonry chimneys can be seen in an early photograph rising at the front elevation. The fireplaces for these two chimneys likely served a spacious room used for dining, dancing, and other social events. To protect the club members from dirt and mud as they traveled to and from the clubhouse, a boardwalk was built connecting the clubhouse to the cottages.

Members brought with them many of their social standards and formality, as well as domestic servants who lived in small buildings behind the cabins. Meals were served by waiters in the clubhouse, nurses watched over the children, and members arrived well-attired to performances and formal costume parties. Societal manners and customs were enjoyed, but daily activities were geared to enjoyment of the rustic and rugged environment of the mountains.

Figure 8. Little River Railroad Company observation car on wood trestle, undated photograph. (Little River Railroad and Lumber Company Museum)


Figure 10. Socializing on the original Appalachian Clubhouse porch, undated photograph. (Cotham, *Images of America*)

The Appalachian Club was promoted in brochures distributed by the Little River Railroad and the Knoxville & Augusta Railroad. The natural surroundings, cozy cottages, and modern amenities were advertised to entice newcomers. A 1914 brochure, “The Appalachian Club,” was distributed to a select audience and announced that the Club “has made extensive improvement on its club house and annex since last year, and is now in position to serve its members better than ever before.”4 Some of the changes touted in the brochure included a complete water and sewerage system and electric lighting. A water tank was constructed near the Hommel Orchard. Prior to this time, water was provided from a spring near the bank of Jakes Creek.

The electric system for the clubhouse and cabins was provided by a water-powered generator. This system provided electricity for two hours a day. The system failed several years later when members began adding electric stoves, refrigerators, and heaters to their cabins. Later, diesel-powered generators were installed at the northern end of the Elkmont community where a dam on the Little River was created. With this system, lights were turned off promptly at 10:00 PM each night. It was not until 1952 that commercial electric service was brought to the Elkmont community by the Sevier County Electric Company.5

### Wonderland Park Company (Club)

In 1911, the Little River Lumber Company made another deed of land, selling acreage just north of the Elkmont community to Charles B. Carter. Carter and his brother founded the Wonderland Park Company and constructed the Wonderland Park Hotel on their new acreage in 1912. Like the Appalachian Club, the Wonderland Hotel catered to those seeking relaxation and recreation in a mountain landscape, and was conveniently reached by the daily passenger train from Knoxville, the Elkmont Special. The Wonderland Hotel was also advertised by the two rail lines in brochures promising an array of outdoor activities, such as fishing, horseback riding and mountain climbing, as well as social events and formal dances.

Only a year later, the Carter brothers’ activities were drawing less pleasant attention. The brothers were selling land aggressively and suspected of deceitful sales tactics. A legal dispute in 1913 disrupted any plans they may have had for the property, and the land was sold instead to a group of Knoxville residents who established the Wonderland Club. The Wonderland Club community was similar to the Appalachian Club with its members’ cabins clustered near the hotel.

### The Town of Elkmont

The little community that began as a lumber camp in 1908 soon became a sizable town as the Little River Lumber Company increased its operations in the valley. Elkmont was situated in a relatively flat area where Jakes Creek joined the Little River. The workers’ town had a character distinct from its later neighbors at the Appalachian and Wonderland clubs. At its peak, Elkmont town could boast several dozen dwellings, a few commercial buildings, a school and two churches. The buildings were generally stark and utilitarian, reflecting the town’s impermanence and working population. The decline of this early lumber town coincided with the relocation of the Little River Company’s operations from Elkmont in 1923, and the discontinuation of the rail company in 1925. The loss of the primary employer and the area’s designation as a national park signaled Elkmont’s end as a year-round community. Between 1934 and 1942, the majority of the town was removed with many frame buildings dismantled for their lumber.

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4. Ibid., p. 11.
Part I.A - Historical Background and Context

In the late 1930s, the Civilian Conservation Corps chose the site of the former town of Elkmont for their camp which, in 1952, was redeveloped by the National Park Service into a campground.

Retreat of the Lumber Company and Rise in Tourism

The relocation of the Little River Lumber Company and the abandoned railroad damaged the original Elkmont community, but the loss of transportation also initiated changes for the wealthy club members. Fortunately, the departure of the rail line coincided with the rising popularity of the automobile. The Little River Railroad tracks were replaced by a gravel road for automobile traffic. New and improved roads were soon built elsewhere in the region as part of the nationwide trend of rebuilding, which became a profitable enterprise during the 1920s and reflected the demand for efficiency and enjoyment of auto travel. Road improvements were spurred on by businessmen and organizations that sought to increase automobile travel to bring potential business to their communities.

The new roads and new automobiles brought more people to the Elkmont clubs. Visitors spent their time in the rustic, comfortable cabins and enjoyed their club meals and dances. Outdoor activities continued to be popular, including swimming, hiking, picnicking, and games such as badminton. The increased membership necessitated an increase in infrastructure. Additional cabins were built, boardwalks added, swimming holes created, and amenities extended. Construction continued at both clubs throughout the 1920s, but as the region transformed during the early- to mid-1930s into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, new development was halted.

The “Back-to-Nature” Movement and Craftsman Architecture

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the exploitation of natural resources was destroying the American rural landscape and indirectly leading to unsightly urban sprawl. In response, Americans took a renewed interest in nature. Cities were increasingly seen as crowded, polluted, immoral places that had lost touch with the simplicity and purity of the country. In contrast, suburban or country living was viewed as wholesome; outdoor activities such as camping, hiking, and canoeing became steadily more popular. This renewed interest in the outdoors led to the formation of national conservation and awareness organizations, including the Sierra Club (1892), National Audubon Society (1905), Boy Scouts (1910), and the Campfire Girls (1912). These nature-oriented movements sparked enthusiasm for the national park system and the numerous outdoor lodges and summer resorts that sprung up around the country.

Popular at this time was the Craftsman style of architecture, which caught on in cities as an offspring of the American Arts and Crafts Movement. The Craftsman style sought a return to architectural simplicity, truthfulness in construction, use of natural materials, and
harmony with the natural surroundings. It shared many of the values of the back-to-nature movement and, beginning about 1905, was particularly popular for small suburban or country houses.

Due to the propensity of bungalow house designs, the Craftsman style is often referred to as the Bungalow style. The style appealed to the public and was spread in numerous trade and architectural journals and magazines. Mail-order catalogs featured countless variations of Craftsman-style houses. With its use of natural materials and harmonious design with nature, the style became an especially fitting choice for summer houses and mountain retreats.

The architectural precepts of the Craftsman style include a reliance on locally available natural materials, low-pitched roofs, and large porches. River stone was an important element in Craftsman buildings found in chimneys and foundations, as well as retaining walls and other landscape features.

**Architecture in the Elkmont Development**

As membership in the two Elkmont club communities grew, so did construction activity. The majority of the buildings, mostly summer cabins, were built between 1910 and 1930. Also built during this period were hotels, other clubhouses, and numerous outbuildings such as guest cottages, servants’ quarters, woodsheds, privies, and garages.

Most of Elkmont’s buildings from this period have a simple rustic appearance often described as “folk” or “vernacular.” How vernacular they are is hard to tell, especially due to the popularity of the Craftsman style. Architects may have evoked local architecture rather than simply followed local tradition.

Whether based on traditional folk designs, the Craftsman style, or a commingling of the two, common features are found in the architecture of Elkmont. The original Appalachian Clubhouse burned in the early 1930s and was replaced by a new clubhouse in 1934. Both presented the rustic style.

Most buildings in the club are balloon frame construction covered with board-and-batten, weatherboard, or drop siding, and originally had galvanized steel roofs, many later replaced with asphalt shingles. Some had bark-peeled porch posts and railings. Stone, bricks, and concrete were the typical materials for chimneys, foundations, and retaining walls, while outdoor living spaces were created with the large porches found on most Elkmont buildings. Wood paneled doors and variations on the casement window are other common features found in the buildings of both club communities. The rustic elements of the exterior are continued on the interior and are evident in the predominance of exposed wood ceilings, walls, and floors.

**Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park**

The establishment of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park was approximately seventeen years in the making, from 1923 to 1940, and brought
about the demise of the club communities. The idea to create a national park in the Great Smoky Mountains was initially proposed by Willis and Anne Davis, who were inspired by the national parks in the west and wondered whether the same could be created here. The Davis family, wealthy and influential Knoxville residents, were able to generate interest in the idea among politicians, businessmen, and naturalists.

As the park idea gained momentum, a group of Knoxville businessmen, many of whom were members of the Appalachian Club, created the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association in 1923 to promote the creation of a national park. One of its members was Colonel David C. Chapman, a successful Knoxville wholesale druggist, who quickly became a driving force behind the movement. Successful lobbying campaigns, first from citizen groups and then the states of Tennessee and North Carolina, eventually convinced the U.S. government to authorize in 1926 purchase of the land for the park.

Although the movement faced many obstacles, primarily from those who feared the park would interfere with their business or property interests, it continued to gain adherents. Perhaps the most powerful was John D. Rockefeller, Jr., who made a $5 million donation with the stipulation that it would be matched. With contributions in hand, organizers began the arduous task of convincing landowners to sell.

Unlike previous national parks, with land donated or already in Federal domain, property had to be purchased by the states of North Carolina and Tennessee for transfer to the Federal Government. Property holders were reluctant to sell. An agreement was eventually reached with Elkmont residents in 1932 whereby landowners would receive lifetime leases in return for sale of their property at half the appraised value. Appraisals began in 1932.

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park was officially established in 1934, but it was not until 1940 that the park was formally dedicated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The establishment of the park effectively ended both new development and the sale of lots in the Elkmont communities. Although the restrictions were detrimental to expansion of both clubs, they nevertheless contributed to the overall preservation of the community plan, landscape features, and most of the buildings.

Available records do not address changes in the two clubs during the 1930s and 40s. However, in 1952, the lease terms were reconstituted as members of both clubs gave up their lifetime leases for a fixed 20-year lease in exchange for commercial electric service. The non-profit Elkmont Preservation Committee obtained an additional twenty-year extension in 1972 with the majority expiring in 1992. Three families refused to accept the terms and procured extensions to December 31, 2001. In 1994, the properties associated with the two clubs were listed on the National Register of Historic Places as the Elkmont Historic District, and in 2001, the last of the leases finally expired. All properties are now under National Park Service ownership.

I.B Chronology of Development and Use

The Smith Cabin is an unassuming one-story frame dwelling in the Appalachian Club complex. At the northern end of the community known as Daisy Town, it is one of the cabins closest to the Club building. The name Smith Cabin reflects the family name of the last lease holder rather than earlier owners. It is also referred to as Appalachian Club Cabin No. 2 in previous reports.

Historical documents associated with the cabin are limited. It was built about 1910 while under ownership of the Appalachian Club, the sportsman’s club that acquired 50 acres that year. It is thought to have been built by the Little River Logging Company, perhaps by carpenters employed by the company, or by early residents of the area who helped build several cabins.8

Evidence found in the building fabric itself indicates the cabin was built as a square block with a pyramidal roof, wrap-around front porch, and large back porch. A portion of the back porch was later enclosed for use as a kitchen; the kitchen was subsequently extended for more space. The conversion to a kitchen and its later expansion were probably associated with the waning use of the clubhouse for meals. The center portion of the back porch was enclosed to create a small bathroom, and the north end was screened and partially sided. Inside, a bedroom was partitioned to create a second bathroom.

The earliest residents are not known. Ivah Cochran Murphy bought the cabin in 1919 when the Club sold many lots and cabins to private owners, though it is unclear whether the lumber company built the cabin or the Murphys built it before the deeded purchase.9

Joseph and Ivah Murphy

Joseph P. Murphy (1878–1962) came to Townsend and Elkmont from Overton, Pennsylvania at the request of Colonel Townsend. In a 1965 interview, his wife Ivah Cochran Murphy (1888–1967) recalled, “Colonel Townsend knew Joseph Patrick Murphy, who was to become my husband, but then of Pennsylvania, and talked him into joining the enterprise, realizing that most officials were advancing in age. There followed the Little River Railroad, with Murphy as superintendent, and the Little River Lumber Company.”10

Joe Murphy met Ivah Cochran in Elkmont, where her family had a cottage in the Society Hill section. He came calling on weekends in a railcar, a Model T Ford with flanged rail wheels that he used, as

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10. Yarbrough, “Early Days Recalled.” Ivah stated in the interview that she was named for a Russian princess.
company shortly after his arrival in 1901 and quickly became a part of Knoxville society, building his Elkmont/Society Hill cottage in 1908. In 1912 or 1913 he founded the Polar Ice Company, and in 1915 sold the brewing company. Cochran was among the prominent businessmen who took part in planning three important regional and national expositions in Knoxville, and in 1914 was recognized by Gifford Pinchot as one of the “Builders” of the three expositions.

Cochran was an early member of the Appalachian Club when it was reconstituted in 1919 as the “New Appalachian Club” with headquarters in Knoxville, and was among several who were members of both the Appalachian Club and New Appalachian Club, together with Joe Murphy. The Murphys owned the cabin for only a year. It seems likely that they moved into another cabin; Ivah had spent her summers in Elkmont and Joe was not only superintendent, but part of Elkmont society and a member of both clubs. No information has been found on where they stayed until the 1930s, when they bought the Schuerman Cabin on Millionaire’s Row.

superintendent of the company, to transport visitors and businessmen to Elkmont. Ivah and Joe would later leave Elkmont on the railcar to begin their honeymoon.

Ivah was the daughter of Albert Curtis Cochran (ca. 1861-1952), a prominent Knoxville businessman, owner of the East Tennessee Brewing Company and president of the East Tennessee Race Horse Association. Like his son-in-law Joe Murphy, Cochran came to Tennessee from Pennsylvania. He organized the brewing company shortly after his arrival in 1901 and quickly became a part of Knoxville society, building his Elkmont/Society Hill cottage in 1908. In 1912 or 1913 he founded the Polar Ice Company, and in 1915 sold the brewing company. Cochran was among the prominent businessmen who took part in planning three important regional and national expositions in Knoxville, and in 1914 was recognized by Gifford Pinchot as one of the “Builders” of the three expositions.

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Ernest and Louise Keller

Similarly, little is known of the subsequent owners of Cabin No. 2. In 1920 the Murphys sold the cabin to Ernest Russell Keller (1874-1946). Keller owned the cabin until 1933 when he and his wife Louise Stacy Keller (1886-1977) sold it to the State as part of the transfer to national park.\(^{17}\)

Although the Kellers lived in Knoxville and owned the Elkmont cabin for thirteen years, little information about the couple has surfaced. They owned a large ca. 1910 brick house in Knoxville, once located at 1628 Cumberland Avenue near the University of Tennessee, and were living there when 1920 census data was recorded. The house served as the university’s Art Annex until dismantled and demolished in 2006 to make way for the Howard H. Baker Center for Public Policy. Architectural elements from the house were sold at auction in August 2013.\(^{18}\)

Ernest Keller was a businessman and served on the city council from 1923 to 1927. The Kellers were living in Pulaski, Tennessee, in 1946 at the time of Ernest’s death. Louise later married John Porter Stone; she died in Pulaski in 1977. Although the Kellers are said to be the namesake of West Knoxville’s Keller Bend area and relatives of the famed Helen Keller, who stayed in their house when visiting Knoxville, the several people

\(^{17}\) Deed book 48/502 and 48/505. Both Ivah Murphy and Joseph P. Murphy’s names are on the 1920 deed, though only Ivah’s is on the 1919 purchase deed. Deed book 59/413. Both Ernest Keller and Louise S. Keller’s names are on the 1933 deed, though only Ernest’s was on the 1920 purchase deed. 1920 census. Tennessee Death and Burial Index. Ernest Keller’s father Thomas W. Keller was in the insurance industry in Knoxville in 1916, according to The Insurance Press, Vols. 42-43.

interviewed for this report were not familiar with that Keller family. Members of a current Keller family, also prominent in Knoxville, are familiar with their own Keller forebears, who arrived in Knoxville in 1928. However, the current Kellers do not know the names Ernest and Louise Keller and are apparently unrelated.19

Figure 24. Front entrance of the Keller House. (Architectural salvage photographs, www.moretoknoxville.com/events/daily/2013/08/31/category:13)

Government Purchase and Lease

In 1933 the Kellers sold the cabin to the State of Tennessee when the process of transfer to the National Park Service began.20 Though many cabin owners at Elkmont continued using their cabins under the park’s leasing program and even transferred their leases to their children to extend the length, it is unclear whether the Kellers leased the cabin.

Guy L. Smith

At an unknown date, the cabin was leased to Guy L. Smith (1898-1968).21 A native of Johnson City, Tennessee, Smith was publisher of newspapers there and in Bristol before moving to Knoxville in 1937 to become editor of the Knoxville Journal. A staunch Republican and forceful newspaperman, he used the journal to champion state and national Republican causes and to influence Knoxville politics. He was Republican State Chairman for a decade and a three-time delegate to Republican National Conventions. He was active in national affairs, and was a litigant in the famous reapportionment lawsuit that resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court’s famous “one man one vote” ruling. At his death in 1968, President-elect Richard M. Nixon called Smith a “great citizen and outstanding editor.”22


The cabin’s current name reflects the Smith tenancy. Smith was the last lessee before the leasing program ended, though it is not known how long the family continued to spend time in Elkmont. Children’s heights measured on the kitchen wall date from 1961 to 1992. The several surnames may reflect Smith family cousins, or may be those of previous lessees.

National Park Service

The leases on all cabins within the Appalachian Club complex, with the exception of an unidentified three, expired in 1992; all leases expired by 2001.23 The date of the Smith Cabin’s lease expiration is not known.

The park’s General Management Plan (GMP) prescribed in 1982 that all structures within Elkmont be torn down at the termination of their leases and their sites returned to a natural state. This contributed to the general lack of maintenance of the cabins.

Subsequent to the preparation of the GMP, the Elkmont Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the GMP provisions were determined to constitute an adverse effect. Efforts towards preservation of the cabins were successful. A 2006 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) reversed the demolition proposal, and in 2008 a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was prepared by representatives of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the National Park Service, the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office and other parties. The EIS was made part of the MOA. The Agreement states in part, “…eighteen contributing and one non-contributing building will be retained….A total of 30 contributing buildings will be removed…. The exterior of the sixteen buildings in Daisy Town will be restored and their interiors rehabilitated.” The MOA includes stipulations for documentation and treatment.

In 2009 the National Park Service amended the General Management Plan and prepared the Elkmont Historic District Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), which outlines the current strategy to retain nineteen buildings in the Elkmont National Register Historic District. Of that number, eighteen are contributing features of the National Register district; “where adequate documentation is available,” their exteriors are to be restored “to a point within the period of significance” (1913-1941 as per current National Register nomination) and their interiors preserved. One of the nineteen is a non-contributing building; its exterior is to be returned to its historic configuration and its interior preserved. The Smith Cabin is one of the eighteen contributing structures of the district.

As required in the MOA, an HSR shall be prepared for each historic building retained, a Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) shall be prepared, and the National Register nomination shall be revised to evaluate “whether there remains a new historic district resulting from implementation of the undertaking.” The revised National Register nomination likely will result in an expanded period of significance for the historic properties. As also stipulated in the MOA, “Implementation... shall be subject to availability of appropriated funds.”
I.C Physical Description

Unless otherwise indicated, photographs were taken by the author in 2011-2014.

General Description

The Smith Cabin is a one-story wood-frame vernacular summer residence. Its roughly rectangular footprint measures approximately 33 feet wide by 45 feet deep and faces due east, in a row of cabins fronting the narrow Daisy Town Road.

A low-pitched pyramidal roof covers the cabin and wraparound front and north side porch. A shed roof covers the small additions at the rear of the cabin. The cabin is predominantly clad in vertical board-and-batten siding, with beaded board and modern paneling at some locations at the added rear wings. The original main block of the structure sits on unmilled posts. There is a single brick chimney centered in the front (east) slope of the roof.

Site Features

The Smith Cabin is located at the north end of the Appalachian Club Complex of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Sevier County, Tennessee. The complex is situated on a wooded ridge above Bearwallow Branch and Jakes Creek. Jakes Creek Road, which becomes Daisy Town Road, is the main thoroughfare running north-south with cabins aligned on both sides. Cabin sites are dotted with large evergreen and deciduous trees and natural rock outcroppings, evoking the feeling of a mountain retreat. Low walls, narrow walkways and broad patios of unfinished stone criss-cross the complex, linking the buildings to the landscape and delineating individual plots of land while defining the community as a whole.

Main Entrance and Walkways

Retaining walls built of mortared stacks of local river stone run north-south along both sides of Jakes Creek Road through much of the northern
The exterior of the main cabin block is clad in board-and-batten siding. Most of the enclosed porch at the north end of the west elevation is clad in board-and-batten siding matching that of the original main block. However, the east wall, which extends approximately seven-and-a-half feet north of the main block, is clad in 5¼"-wide beaded board laid horizontally.

Most of the enclosed porch at the north end of the west elevation is clad in board-and-batten siding matching that of the original main block. However, the east wall, which extends approximately seven-and-a-half feet north of the main block, is clad in 5¼"-wide beaded board laid horizontally.

The wraparound porch on the east and part of the north elevation is original to the cabin. The portions of this porch along the north elevation of the cabin and north half of the east elevation have remnants of added screened panels. The open porch on the west end of the north elevation is not original.
Unlike many of the cabins at the Appalachian Club Complex, Smith Cabin has two entry doors at the front elevation. The south doorway has a four-panel wood door and a three-panel screen door. The north doorway has a five-panel wood door. The south doorway is flanked by two original six-over-six-light double-hung wood sash windows. An original six-over-six light double-hung wood sash window is on the north side of the north doorway. The windows have been recently repaired.

The other exterior doors are a mix of various designs: a typical four-panel door matching the south front entry door provides access to the rear (west) enclosed porch; another typical four-panel door is roughly centered on the north elevation and opens into the living room in the northeast corner; a five-panel wood door matching the north front entry door is roughly centered on the south elevation with access to the middle bedroom; and a four-panel door opens into the kitchen addition.

Double-hung six-light sash windows are typical throughout most of the cabin. The exceptions are the two two-light sash set side-by-side at the west end of the north elevation and another two-light sash fixed in the west elevation. The two sash in the north elevation were designed as double-hung windows, but have been installed to slide horizontally.

A brick chimney is centered in the east slope of the roof near the front of the original main block.

**Interior Organization**

The original main block was made up of five rooms, and today, after additions and subdivisions, the cabin consists of nine rooms. A thickened nine-inch wall runs east-west for the length of the main block, dividing the cabin into public and private spaces; the public spaces are in the north half and the private bedrooms are in the south half. The original living room in the northeast corner and its exterior door on the east wall is the public entry for the cabin. A secondary entry on the south half of the east elevation provides access to the primary bedroom and the other private rooms beyond.

There are no hallways for circulation; the back rooms are accessed directly from the front bedroom and living room. The living room connects to another public gathering space in the northwest corner of the cabin. The primary bedroom connects to a middle bedroom on the south side, and a third bedroom is in the southwest corner of the main block. This original third bedroom has been divided into two spaces to accommodate a bathroom.

The modifications and additions to the west porch include the installation of a kitchen in the southwest corner and later expansion to the west, a conversion to a bathroom in the middle section, and a partial enclosure of the northwest porch for utility space. The expanded kitchen has an added exterior door on the south wall, but on the interior can only be accessed from the back bedroom.
Construction Characteristics

Structural Systems

Foundations/Flooring Systems
The post-and-beam foundation of the main block is constructed of unmilled posts roughly 9” in diameter. The corner posts, which are slightly larger, measure approximately 12” in diameter. The posts rest on stones. The Enclosed Porch (Room 104) addition in the northwest corner rests on 6” by 6” square wood posts which appear to be relatively new. The east portion of the Kitchen (Room 106) addition and the southwest porch are supported by 6” by 6” square wood posts; the expanded west portion is supported on five modern CMU (concrete masonry unit) piers at the west wall. In various locations beneath the cabin 2” by 6” wood members have been added for additional support of the framing. A diamond-patterned lattice grid, made up of ½” by 2” wood strips at 4” on center, conceals the short foundation posts along most of the north, east, and south elevations of the cabin. The increasingly taller supports of the southwest rooms are exposed as the grade slopes steeply to Jakes Creek to the southwest, and are easily accessed.

Figure 35. Unmilled posts of the main cabin block.

Sills that measure 6” wide by 8” tall run around the perimeter of the main block, and a girder of the same size runs east-west below the thickened wall at the center of the cabin. The floor joists, which measure 1¾” by 8”, span north-south between the sill and the girder at approximately 2’-0” on center. Likely constructed at the same time, the floor framing of the eastern portion of the kitchen addition matches that of the southwest porch. The girders measure 1½” by 6” and run east-west. The 1½” by 6” floor joists span the girders running north-south at 1’-11” on center. The painted deck boards, which run north-south at the south elevation and east-west at the west side, are a mixture of ¾”-thick tongue-and-groove boards measuring 2¼” and 3¼” in width.

Figure 36. Square posts and CMU piers of the additions.

The expanded west portion of the kitchen and south porch have 1¾” by 6” joists running north-south at approximately 1’-7” on center. A seam runs along the floor boards at the location of the expansion. The added boards are ¾”-thick tongue-and-groove boards running east-west and measure 2¼” and 3¼” in width.

The bathroom conversion has been reframed in order to raise the floor above the earlier northwest porch and to make it level. The 1½” by 7” joists run east-west at 1’-6” on center.
The wraparound front porch is supported by square posts that measure 6” by 6”. In several locations new treated posts have been added; they measure 5½” by 5½”. The floor framing has 1½” by 6” joists spaced approximately 2’-0” on center. The painted deck boards, which run east-west at the east elevation and north-south at the north elevation, are tongue-and-groove boards measuring ¾” by 3¼”.

The north porch (along the west section of the north elevation) is modern and is framed with 1½” by 5½” joists spaced 1’-4” on center. The deck boards run north-south and measure 1½” by 5½”.

Wall Framing
The walls of the main block measure 6” thick and are stick framed. The studs measure 2” by 3¾” and are irregularly spaced. The walls are sheathed on the exterior side with board-and-batten siding. These boards vary in width from 10” to 11” and the battens measure ⅛” by 2¼”. The north and west walls of the kitchen addition are also stick framed, though the studs are inaccessible. The walls are sheathed on the exterior with modern 4 feet by 8 feet paneling that is ½” thick. The wall studs of the Enclosed Porch (Room 104) are exposed; they measure 1¾” by 3¾”. The studs are sheathed on the north and west sides with board-and-batten siding that matches that of the main block. The east wall is sheathed with 5¼”-wide beaded board that is laid horizontally.

Roof Framing
The roof rafters of the cabin’s main block measure 1¾” by 3¾” and are set approximately 3’-0” on center. The wraparound front porch roof rafters match those of the main block roof and are integrated into the cabin’s roof framing. The porch roof decking appears to be new. The boards are ¾” thick and 11¼” wide.

The roof rafters of the Enclosed Porch (Room 104) are exposed on the inside. They measure 1¾” by 3¼” and are spaced approximately 2’-8” on center. At the south end of the room the rafters span east-west. A diagonal framing member that forms the northwest hip of the pyramidal roof runs from the northwest corner of the original main block out to the northwest corner of the porch; the rafters at the north end of the room are framed off of the diagonal member and run north-south. The deck boards, which are spaced a ½” apart, are ¾” thick and vary in width from 11” to 11½”.

The south porch supports the southwest corner hip of the main cabin’s pyramidal roof; the porch was extended to the west at an unknown date and a shed roof covers this portion. The rafters framing the pyramidal roof measure 1¼” by 3¾” and are spaced 2’-8” on center. The deck boards at this location measure ¾” by 11½”. The ceiling height below the decking ranges from 8’-6” above finished floor at the north wall to 6’-10” above finished floor at the south end. The rafters of the shed extension...
measure 1¾” by 3½” and are spaced 2'-6” on center. The deck boards are ¾” thick and measure between 11” and 11½” in width. The ceiling height below decking at the west end of the shed roof measures 5'-10” above finished floor. The modern north porch was added at an unknown date. The tail ends of the main block roof rafters extend beyond the north wall and are exposed below the porch roof. The modern porch rafters are sistered onto the main roof rafters; they measure 1¾” by 4” and are spaced 2'-8” on center. The deck boards, which are also modern, measure approximately 11” in width.

Utility Systems

Heating & Cooling Systems
The heating and cooling of Smith Cabin is mainly through passive systems. Because the cabin is located in a wooded mountain region, the space remains relatively cool. Even during summer months, operable windows and a covered porch allow for fresh air and breezes.

Limited heating would have been provided in the primary bedroom and living space by the wood burning fireplaces at the front of the cabin.

Electrical Systems
As mentioned in Section I.A, electrical power prior to the 1950s was supplied to the Appalachian Club from a water-powered generator and reportedly was unreliable. After 1952, more reliable electrical power was provided by the Sevier County Electrical Service.

Later commercial electrical service was brought to the cabin from an overhead drop from the road.

The earliest electrical distribution system for the Smith Cabin appears to have been knob-and-tube wiring. Developed in the 1880s and remaining in use until the 1940s, knob-and-tube wiring was made up of ceramic knobs mounted on wood surfaces, along with ceramic tubes drilled through framing and walls. The system separated the hot and neutral wires by 4” to 6”, and insulates the wires away from the wood structural members. Remnants of these porcelain tubes or sleeves can be seen in several places on the walls where wiring was routed through the original main block.

The present electrical distribution system is a mix of vintage mid-twentieth century non-grounded, cloth-wrapped insulated cable together with late-twentieth-century vinyl-wrapped cable.

Figure 40. Fireplace provided limited heating to the primary bedroom and living spaces.

Figure 41. Holes near ceiling for early knob-and-tube wiring.

Figure 42. Typical ceramic lamp base mounted on ceiling.
Elsewhere is a mix of mid- and late-twentieth century in-wall and surface-mounted receptacles and switches. Ceiling-mounted ceramic lamp bases are used in many rooms of the cabin.

**Plumbing Systems**

According to interviews with owners of the cabins at the Appalachian Club Complex, water was provided by a natural spring. Today, the visible fresh water supply and waste lines are a mixture of copper, galvanized, and PVC piping.

An inoperable gas-powered hot water heater remains in the Kitchen (Room 106) inside a metal cabinet. The 30 gallon 240 volt water heater was manufactured by W. L. Jackson Manufacturing, Inc. There is a 3” diameter flue in the wall above the cabinet. The Kitchen (Room 106) also has a 2’-0” deep by 4’-6” wide glazed cast-iron sink that is integral to the countertop (Fig. 43).

There are two full bathrooms in the cabin, though the tub is missing from the West Bathroom (Room 105). Existing plumbing fixtures in that bathroom include a ceramic toilet with a missing tank top and a ceramic sink. The sink measures 1’-6” wide by 1’-4” deep and has two chrome-plated cross-handled faucets (Fig. 44). The ⅜” water supply lines are PVC and the 1¼” drain pipe is chrome plated.

The South Bathroom (Room 107b) has a toilet, claw-foot tub, and a sink. The ceramic toilet is dated March 29, 1982. The tub measures 2’-6” wide by 5’-6” long and has chrome-plated fixtures. The ½” cold water supply line is PVC and the ½” hot water supply is a galvanized pipe. The sink and its faucets match that of the West Bathroom (Room 105). Its ¼” supply lines and drain line are PVC.
There is an additional sink in the Enclosed Porch (Room 104) (Fig. 46). The galvanized iron basin measures 1'-6" by 2'-6" and is 5½” deep. There are two 1” galvanized supply pipes, a galvanized drain pipe, and one brass faucet and handle. The sink is supported on two wood brackets measuring 1” by 2”.

**Exterior Features**

**Front Wraparound Porch**
The porch of the main block is L-shaped and wraps the cabin on the east and part of the north elevations. It is approximately 8 feet deep and in the north–south direction measures 40'-5" and in the east–west direction measures 25'-3". The north side of the porch has remnants of screened panels; the screening extends across the east elevation approximately mid way and turns west dividing the porch in half. The remains of the east-west dividing wall indicate that there was once a screen door measuring 2'-8" wide by 6'-10” tall. The porch framing and flooring is described above in the Structural Systems section.

The wood porch posts measure 4” by 4” and the vertical posts for the screened panels measure 2” by 4”. The top of the wood railing wrapping the porch is approximately 2’-5” above the porch deck. The bottom board of the railing measures 1¼” by 3¾” and is set vertically 3” above the porch deck. The top board, also 1¼” by 3¾”, is set horizontally. Horizontal wood boards are attached to the exterior side of the top and bottom rail. The railing is infilled with 5¼”-wide beaded board set vertically between the top and bottom rails. The south elevation of the railing differs, it is infilled with vertical plank boards rather than beaded board; they measure 11¾” in width. A small section of the north elevation also has the plank boards.

The porch has two 4½” ceiling-mounted ceramic lamp bases; one is roughly centered in the unscreened south portion of the porch and the other is at the north end.

**South Porch**
The east section of the south porch is likely original to the cabin, but it has been modified and added onto at unknown dates. The porch posts measure 1¾” by 3¼” and support what remains of the porch screen. A bottom rail measuring ¾” by 9½” wraps the porch. There is a rail at mid height; the rail at the south elevation measures ¼” by 2½” and at the east elevation the rail measures 1¼” by 4”. A plywood panel covers the bottom half of the west side of the porch. A screen door at the east end of the porch provides access from the south side yard. It is a three-panel screen door that measures 2’-8” wide by 6’-9” tall by ¾” thick. The hardware includes two spring-loaded hinges with scalloped edges that measure 3” tall by 2½”, a 2½” tall metal...
handle, and a 2½” wire hook and eye (Fig. 50). The porch framing and flooring are described above in the Structural Systems section.

A wood cabinet is mounted on the north wall east of the doorway (Fig. 53). It measures 1’-8½” wide by 2’-6½” tall by 8¾” deep. The bottom of the cabinet can be lifted to form a shelf. A 3” galvanized vent pipe is located in the north wall; it was installed to vent the gas water heater in the kitchen. A wall-mounted 4½” ceramic lamp base is on the north wall.

**North Porch**

The north porch is modern, though the date of construction is unknown. The porch can be accessed from three locations: the north side yard has three mortared river stone steps for access from grade, the front wraparound porch has a screened door at the west end, and the Enclosed Porch (Room 104) has an exterior door with direct access. The screened door from the wraparound porch has three panels, one at the top and two at the bottom; it measures 2’-8” wide by 6’-5” tall by ¾” thick. The door hardware includes two five-
knuckle hinges that measure 2½” tall by 1¾” wide, a 2” wire hook and eye, a wire handle that is 3” tall, and a spring closer (Fig. 55). The porch posts are paired 2” by 4” wood studs, another 2” by 4” wood studs runs horizontally forming the porch railing. The porch framing and flooring is described above in the *Structural Systems* section.

**Roof and Rainwater Collection/Dispersal**

The main block of the cabin is covered in a pyramidal roof which extends over the porches. A shed roof was added at the back of the cabin when the kitchen was extended west. The roofing material is galvanized 5-V metal panels that are unpainted and not back-primed. Rolled roofing material is visible beneath the metal roof.

The only indication of roof gutters is at the east porch over the front steps to the cabin and at the modern north porch. No gutters are currently in place, but in both of these locations supports, presumably for gutters, are intact. The support at the front porch only extends the width of the steps, approximately 12 feet, and does not continue to length of the roof line.

**Chimney**

The brick chimney is centered near the east side of the main block and is set in the east slope of the pyramidal roof (Fig. 58). The brick mortar has eroded severely and the chimney is in need of repointing.

**Exterior Doors**

Three doorways provide access to the front of the cabin from the wraparound porch. At the south end of the east elevation is a typical four-raised-panel door used in several locations throughout the cabin. It measures 2’-8” wide by 6’-8” tall by...
1¾" thick, and is attached with two 3" by 3" steel five-knuckle hinges. There is a Yale deadbolt that measures 3" wide by 2" tall and a 5" barrel bolt. The rimlock is missing. Outside the door is a three-panel screen door that measures 2'-9" tall by 6'-8½" wide by 1¼" thick. The panels have chamfered corners, and the middle panel has three turned dowels. There are two scalloped-edge three-knuckle hinges that measure 3" by 3"; they each have a ball pin at the top. The door has a 3½" steel handle, a 2½" hook and eye, and a door closer.

The front door at the north end of the east elevation is a five-raised-panel door that measures 2'-7½" wide by 6'-8" tall by 1⅜" thick. It has two steel 3" by 3" five-knuckle hinges, a Yale deadbolt that measures 3" wide by 2" tall, and an embossed doorknob plate that is 1¾" wide by 5½" tall. It is missing its 3½" tall by 4" wide rimlock.

Another typical four-raised-panel door that measures 2'-8" wide by 6'-8" tall by 1⅜" thick is at the north side of the wraparound porch. Its hardware includes two 3" by 3" steel five-knuckle hinges, a rimlock measuring 3½" tall by 4" wide, a 5" barrel that is missing its bolt, and a modern 3" zinc barrel bolt.

The exterior door casing for the three porch doors is made of wood plank boards measuring ⅞" by 5¾". The header is lintel cut with 1" ears that project beyond the edge of the jamb casing.
They have an ovolo detail rather than an ogee edge. The door measures 2'-6" wide by 6'-1" tall by ⅞" thick. There are two 3" by 3" steel three-knuckle hinges, a rimlock measuring 3¾" by 3¾", a 5" barrel bolt, and a scalloped-edge key escutcheon that measures ¾" by 1½". There is no casing on the exterior side of this door.

Another typical four-raised-panel door that measures 2'-8" wide by 6'-8" tall by 1⅜" thick provides access to the Enclosed Porch (Room 104) in the northwest corner of the cabin. Its hardware includes two 2½" by 2½" steel three-knuckle hinges, a rimlock measuring 3½" tall by 4" wide, and a 4" barrel bolt. The exterior door casing is made of scrap pieces of plank boards. The header is missing.

**Windows**

There are three recently-repaired six-over-six-light double-hung sash windows on the east elevation, each measuring 2'-10" wide by 4'-6" tall. The south window is original and has the typical muntin type found throughout the cabin (see Appendix A drawings). The middle window, perhaps an addition, has a different muntin type, and the north window has the typical muntin type on the upper sash and a different type on the lower sash. All three windows have wood plank board casing measuring ¾" by 5¾". The headers are lintel cut with 1” ears. Windows have been recently repaired. A diamond-patterned wire mesh, also used on the Enclosed Porch (Room 104), is tacked to the exterior of all four south elevation windows.

There are four six-over-six-light double-hung sash windows on the south elevation, each measuring 2'-10" wide by 4'-6" tall. All have the typical muntin type except for the window west of the middle door. The wood plank board casings measure ¾" by 5¾” and the headers are lintel cut with 1” ears. Windows have been recently repaired. A diamond-patterned wire mesh, also used on the Enclosed Porch (Room 104), is tacked to the exterior of all four south elevation windows.

There are three six-over-six-light double-hung sash windows on the north elevation, each measuring 2'-10" wide by 4'-6" tall. All have typical muntins and wood plank board casings that measure ¾" by 5¾". The headers are lintel cut with 1” ears. At the west end of the north porch is a sliding window made up of two-light sash. Each sash measures 2'-4" wide by 1'-11" tall; the window was designed to be double hung, but the sash have been installed side-by-side and slide horizontally. There is a two-light sash at the west end of the north elevation that is set in tracks to slide horizontally. The window measures 2'-4" wide by 2'-0" tall. There is no casing on the exterior side of either of the two-light sash windows.

There are two windows on the west elevation. The south window is in the Kitchen (Room 106), a recently repaired, typical six-over-six-light double-hung sash window measuring 2'-10" wide by 4'-6" tall. The casing around the exterior side of the window is made of salvaged battens measuring ¾” by 2¼”. The north window on the west elevation is in the West Bathroom (Room 105). It is a two-light fixed sash measuring 2'-4" wide by 2'-0" tall. There is no casing on the exterior side of the window.
Early Design Elements

Some of the significant early design elements found at the Smith Cabin include:

Unmilled Foundation Posts
The original post-and-beam foundation is constructed of unmilled posts; they are roughly 9” in diameter.

Board-and-Batten Siding
Original vertical board-and-batten siding wraps the exterior of the main block. The boards vary in width from 10” to 11” and the battens measure ¾” by 2 ¼”.

Four-Raised-Panel Wood Doors
The typical original door type found throughout Smith Cabin is a four-raised-panel wood door. There are nine of these doors, used both on the interior and exterior of the cabin.

Door Hardware
Much of the door hardware is early, if not original, including deadbolts, rimlocks, key escutcheons, wire handles, and hinges. Unfortunately, several of the rimlocks and almost all of the door knobs are missing.

Double-hung Sash Windows
The typical original window type found throughout most of Smith Cabin is a six-over-six-light double-hung wood sash window.

Exterior Door and Window Casing
Throughout most of the cabin the exterior casing of doors and windows is consistent. The wood plank boards measure ¾” by 5¾” and the headers are lintel cut with 1” ears.

Interior Beaded Board
Many of the interior walls and ceilings are finish with beaded board. Two sizes are typically used, a 5¼” board and a 9¼” board.

Description by Room

Room 101 – Southeast Primary Bedroom
This space is part of the original main block of the cabin. Larger than the other bedrooms, it was likely the primary bedroom of the cabin. A doorway in the east wall provides direct access from the front porch. A fireplace centered on the north wall further distinguishes this room from the other bedrooms. Rectilinear in plan, it measures about 15’-4” by 11’-7”.

Flooring
The tongue-and-groove wood floor boards measure 2¼” in width and are laid east-west; this flooring is typical throughout most of the cabin.

Figure 63. Typical door rimlock.

Figure 64. Northwest oblique of Southeast Primary Bedroom (Room 101).

Figure 65. Southeast oblique of Southeast Primary Bedroom (Room 101).
The flooring is continuous between this room and the Middle Bedroom (Room 108) to the west.

**Baseboards**
There are no baseboards in this room.

**Walls**
All walls in this room are finished in tongue-and-groove beaded board laid horizontally. On the north and west walls the boards measure 5¼" in width with a ¼" bead. The boards on the south and east walls measure 9¼" in width and have a ¼" bead.

**Doorways**
There is an exterior doorway on the east wall; the door is described in the above section *Exterior Features*. The casing on the interior side of the doorway is made up of ⅞" by 3¾" plank boards that are lintel cut. There are no ears on this header.

A second doorway on the west wall connects to the Middle Bedroom (Room 108) and has a typical four-raised-panel wood door that measures 2'-6" wide by 6'-6" tall by 1½" thick. The door has two 3" by 3" steel five-knuckle hinges, and a keeper for the rimlock, but the rimlock and doorknobs are missing. The casing on Room 101 side of the doorway is made up of ¾" by 3½" plank boards that are lintel cut with ¾" ears. There is no threshold at this doorway.

**Windows**
There are three six-over-six-light double-hung sash windows in this room, all recently repaired. Two are on the east elevation and one is on the south elevation. The interior casing on the north window of the east elevation is made up of ⅞" by 4½" boards with a ⅛" edge bead that wraps the window on all four sides. The header is lintel cut with a ½" ear on the south side.

The interior casing on the south window of the east elevation is made up of different pieces of salvaged wood. The north jamb has a ¾" by 3½" board with a ⅛" edge bead, the south jamb has a ¾" by 3½" board with a ¼" bead, the header is a lintel cut board measuring ¾" by 3¾", and the bottom apron is a ¾" by 3½" board with a ⅛" edge bead.

The interior casing on the south elevation window is made up of ⅞" by 4½" boards with a ⅛" edge bead that wraps the window on all four sides. The header is lintel cut.

**Crown Molding**
There is no crown molding in this room.

**Ceiling**
The ceiling is approximately 8'-8" above finished floor. It has the same 5¼"-wide beaded board as the north and west walls. The boards run east-west.

**Finishes**
The walls, ceiling, doors, trim, and chimney brick are painted an off-white color. The floorboards are painted a brown color. The face of the brick mantel is painted black.

**Electrical Systems**
There is no light fixture in this room. There are two pairs of holes in the east wall south of the doorway and a pair of holes in the south wall for early knob and tube wiring. The wiring likely connected to a sconce mounted on the exterior porch wall and to a ceiling-mounted light. A light switch is surface-mounted on the east wall south of the doorway; it has fabric-wrapped wire and a brown plastic Bakelite plate. Another two pairs of holes for early knob and tube wiring are in the west wall over the doorway. There is a duplex outlet surface mounted on the south wall below the window. It has ¾" metal conduit and a brown plastic Bakelite plate. On the north wall, west of the fireplace, is a blank electrical box with a brown
Other Features

A fireplace and its exposed chimney are centered on the north wall (Fig. 68). The firebox, which measures 3'-0" wide by 1'-4" deep by 2'-5" tall, is made of yellow firebrick and the mantel is smooth painted brick. The mantel measures 5'-4" wide by 10½" deep and the top of the shelf is 4'-11" above the floor. The brick of the mantel corbels out towards the top of the shelf with a ½" corbel for each of the three courses of brick and an additional ½" for the top two courses. The exposed chimney is covered in stucco and painted; it measures 3'-4" wide and 8" deep and has a patch for a flue. The poured concrete hearth is 5'-1" wide by 1'-11½" deep and has wood edge strips that measure 1½" by ¼".

Room 102 – Northeast Living Room

The living room is part of the original main block and provides access through the primary entrance to the cabin on the east wall. Rectilinear in plan, it measures about 15'-4" by 16'-8".

Flooring

The tongue-and-groove wood floor boards measure 2¼" in width and are laid east-west. The flooring is continuous between this room and the Northwest or Back Room (Room 103) to the west.

Baseboards

The baseboards are wood tongue-and-groove boards measuring ¾" by 3¼" and are set with the tongues facing up.

Walls

The walls are finished in ¼"-thick fiberboard panels that measure 4 feet by 8 feet. The vertical seams are covered with ¼" by 2" wood strips.
There is a patch in the finish material on the east wall north of the doorway. The patch measures 6” wide by 8½” tall and likely covers holes for early knob-and-tube wiring.

**Doors**
The north and east elevation each has an exterior doorway. The doors and their hardware are described in the above section *Exterior Features.* There is no casing on the interior side of either of these doorways. A doorway in the west wall provides access to the Northwest or Back Room (Room 103). The four-raised-panel door measures 2’-5¼” wide by 6’-6” tall by 1¾” thick and is missing its knobs and rimlock. The two original steel four-knuckle hinges measure 2½” by 2½”. The casing on Room 102 side of the door is made up of ¾” by 3¾” plank boards that are lintel cut with ¼” ears.

**Windows**
There are two six-over-six-light double-hung windows, one on the north wall and one on the east wall, both recently repaired. There is no casing on the interior side of either window in this room.

**Crown Molding**
Wood strips measuring ¼” by 2” cover the seams where the walls intersect the ceiling.

**Ceiling**
The ceiling is approximately 8’-7” above finished floor and has the same ⅛”-thick fiberboard panels as the walls. The seams, running both north-south and east-west, are covered with ¼” by 2” wood strips. The ceiling is severely deteriorated at the south end of the room, particularly around the chimney (*Fig. 71*).

![Figure 71. Severe deterioration of ceiling at chimney.](image)

**Electrical Systems**
There are no light fixtures in this room. There are two holes in the north wall at the east end for early knob and tube wiring and another two holes in the west wall above the doorway for knob and tube wiring. A double light switch with an ivory plastic Bakelite plate surface-mounted on the north side of the east wall connects to the exterior porch light with Romex wire. It is also connected with vinyl-wrapped wire to a duplex outlet surface-mounted near the floor below it. The duplex outlet has a brown plastic Bakelite plate and ⅜” metal conduit. The north and south walls have the same duplex outlet surface-mounted near the floor; both have brown plastic Bakelite plates and ⅜” metal conduit. On the east wall, south of the doorway, an additional older outlet set horizontally on the baseboard. It is wired with Romex conduit and missing its cover plate.

**Other Features**
The fireplace and its exposed chimney on the south wall mirror the fireplace of the Southeast Primary
Bedroom (Room 101) (Fig. 72). The firebox, made of yellow firebrick, measures 3’-0” wide by 1’-4” deep by 2’-5” tall and has a 2” by ¼” steel bar across the top. The mantel is smooth painted brick measuring 5’-6” wide by 11½” deep and the top of the shelf is 4’-8” above the floor. The brick of the mantel corbels out towards the top of the shelf with a ½” corbel for each of the three courses of brick and an additional ½” for the top two courses. The exposed chimney is covered in stucco and painted; it measures 3’-3” wide and 6” deep. The poured concrete hearth is 5’-1½” wide by 2’-1” deep and has wood edge strips that measure 1½” by ⅝”.

Room 103 – Northwest or Back Room
This room is part of the original main block of the cabin. It likely functioned as a space for family to gather. Less formal than the Northeast Living Room (Room 102), it provides direct access to the bedrooms at the south end of the cabin. Rectilinear in plan, this room measures about 15’-4” by 14’-6”.

Flooring
The tongue-and-groove wood floor boards measure 2¼” in width and are laid east-west; they are continuous from the Northeast Living Room (Room 102).

Baseboards
The baseboards are wood plank boards measuring ¾” by 9¾”. The boards are sash sawn.

Walls
Like the walls of the Northeast Living Room (Room 102), the walls in this room are finished in ¼”-thick fiberboard panels that measure 4 feet by 8 feet. The vertical seams are covered with ¼” by 2” wood strips.

Doorways
The four-raised-panel door on the east elevation is described in the Northeast Living Room (Room 102) section above. Another typical four-raised-panel door is on the west elevation providing access to the Enclosed Porch (Room 104). The door measures 2’-6¼” wide by 6’-6” tall by 1⅛” thick and has two steel 3” by 3” five-knuckle hinges. It is missing its rimlock and knobs. The threshold is 7” wide and 1” high with a 1” bevel. The south doorway has another typical four-raised-panel door that provides access to the Middle Bedroom (Room 108). The door measures 2’-6” wide by 6’-6” tall by 1½” thick and has two steel 3” by 3” five-knuckle hinges. It is missing its rimlock and knobs. There is no threshold at this doorway. All three doorways in this room have casing on Room 103 side that matches the wood strips used on the walls to cover the seams in the fiberboard panels. The strips measure ¼” by 2”.

Figure 73. Northwest oblique of Northwest or Back Room (Room 103).

Figure 74. Southeast oblique of Northwest or Back Room (Room 103).

Figure 75. Six-light fixed-sash window on the west elevation.
**Windows**
There are two six-over-six-light double-hung windows at the east end of the north wall and two two-light horizontal sliding-sash windows at the west end of the north wall, all recently repaired. The window surrounds are made up of ¼” by 2” wood strips, the same used to cover the seams in the fiberboard wall panels. There is a six-light fixed-sash window on the west wall, north of the doorway. The sash measures 2’-10” wide by 2’-4” tall and has the same ¼” by 2” wood surround.

**Crown Molding**
Wood strips measuring ¼” by 2” cover the seams where the walls intersect the ceiling.

**Ceiling**
The ceiling is approximately 8’-8½” above finished floor and has the same ⅛”-thick fiberboard panels as the walls. The seams, running both north-south and east-west, are covered with ¼” by 2” wood strips. Most of the panel in the southwest corner of the room has fallen down, exposing unpainted 5”-wide beaded board above it. The beaded boards are ¾” in thickness with a ¼” bead.

**Finishes**
The walls, ceiling, doors, and trim are painted a yellow color. The floorboards are painted a grey color, matching that of the Northeast Living Room (Room 102). The door threshold at the west elevation is painted dark brown.

**Electrical Systems**
There are no light fixtures in this room. A pair of holes in the east wall for early knob and tube wiring is continuous from the Northeast Living Room (Room 102). There is another pair of holes for knob and tube wiring in the west wall. Three duplex outlets are surface-mounted above the floor in this room; the north and south wall outlets have metal cover plates and the east wall outlet is missing its plate. A 220 volt outlet is surface-mounted on the south end of the east wall above floor level; it is missing its cover plate. All outlets are wired with ¼” metal conduit.

**Room 104 – Enclosed Porch**
Located in the northwest corner of the cabin, this space likely began as part of an open porch on the original main block of the cabin that was continuous across the length of the west elevation. The porch was enclosed at an unknown date. The south wall was added to form the West Bathroom (Room 105), again at an unknown date. Rectilinear in plan, the Enclosed Porch measures about 17’-4” by 7’-3”.

**Flooring**
The tongue-and-groove wood floor boards measure 3¼” in width and are laid east-west. The floor has a shallow slope toward the west.

![Figure 76. Damaged finish material in southwest corner of ceiling.](image1)

![Figure 77. Northwest oblique of Enclosed Porch (Room 104).](image2)

![Figure 78. Enclosed Porch (Room 104) looking south.](image3)
**Baseboards**
The only baseboards in this room are at the north wall and the northern part of the east wall. The wood plank boards measure ¾” by 3½”.

**Walls**
All four walls are finished differently, likely due to the changes made to the porch over time. The south end of the east wall is part of the original main block. It is finished in vertical board-and-batten siding. The boards are ¾” thick and vary in width from 4½”, 9½”, 10”, and 10½”. The battens measure ¾” by 2¼”. The north end of the east wall is finished in ⅛”-thick fiberboard installed over top of the beaded board sheathing the exterior. The north wall is covered in ⅛”-thick fiberboard installed over top of the beaded board sheathing the exterior. There are no wooden strips covering the seams.

The added south wall is finished in ¾”-thick beaded board set horizontally. The boards are 5” wide with a ¼” bead.

The lower half of the west wall is vertical plank board siding attached to the outside of studs. The studs are irregular in size, but measure approximately 1¾” by 3¾”. The plank boards vary in width from 9½” to 12”. Salvaged wire mesh and aluminum screening are installed above the half-height west wall. The panels of wire mesh measure 3’-0” by 4’-6” and have a diamond pattern measuring 1½” by 2½”. The exposed corner post in the northwest corner measures 3¾” by 3¾”.

**Doorways**
There are two doorways on the east elevation. The four-raised-panel door at the north end provides access from the north porch and is described in the above section *Exterior Features*. There is no casing on Room 104 side of the door. The four-raised-panel door at the south end doorway connects to the Northwest or Back Room (Room 103) and is described in that section above. The casing on Room 104 side of the door matches the casing on the exterior doors; it is made up of plank boards measuring ¾” by 5¾”. The header is lintel cut with a 1” ear on the north side.

The doorway in the south wall accesses the West Bathroom (Room 105). The door is missing, but appears to be stored in the Northwest or Back Room (Room 103); it is a four-raised-panel door measuring 2’-6” wide by 6’-6” tall by 1¾” thick. The door is missing its rimlock and knobs. A portion of the two 2½” by 2½” steel three-knuckle hinges remain on the door and the other remain on the jamb of the doorway. The catch plate for a barrel bolt and the keeper for a rimlock remain on the jamb of the doorway. The casing on Room 104 side of the door is made up of ¾” by 2¼” plank boards nailed to the frame of the door.

**Windows**
There is a two-light sliding-sash window on the north elevation and a six-light fixed-sash window on the east elevation between the two doorways. There is no casing on the interior side of the windows.

**Crown Molding**
There is no crown molding in this room.

**Ceiling**
The roof rafters and some of the decking are exposed on the inside of this room. Fiberboard, measuring ¼”-thick, is nailed to the roof decking between the rafters, but is severely deteriorated and has fallen off in several locations. The roof rafters measure 1¾” by 3¾” and are spaced approximately 32” on center. The decking is made of ¾”-thick plank boards that range in width from

![Figure 79. Severe deterioration in northeast corner of the ceiling.](image-url)
11” to 11½”. They are spaced ½” apart. There are double top plates at the west and north walls supporting the ends of the rafters. The boards measure 1¾” by 3¾” and are stacked horizontally. The ceiling slopes from east to west; the height from the underside of the fiberboard to the finish floor at the east wall measures approximately 9'-0” and at the west wall approximately 7'-1”.

**Finishes**
The ceiling, rafters, walls, doors, and trim are painted an off-white color. The floorboards are painted a dark brown color.

**Electrical Systems**
There is a 4½” ceramic lamp base with pull cord mounted to the ceiling. It has Romex wiring that runs into the West Bathroom (Room 105). The light switch mounted on the east wall has a brown plastic Bakelite plate. An electrical panel was mounted on the east wall, but has been removed. In its place is a 7” by 14” patch.

**Plumbing**
A galvanized iron sink basin is located in the northwest corner of the room; it measures 1’-6” by 2’-6” and is 5½” deep (Fig. 46). There are two 1” galvanized supply pipes, a galvanized drain pipe, and one brass faucet and handle. The sink is supported on two wooded brackets measuring 1” by 2”

**Other Features**
A 1’-6” wide metal towel rack is mounted on the north wall near the sink.

**Room 105 – West Bathroom**
The room that is now the West Bathroom was the middle section of an early, if not original, open porch across the west side of the main block. It is not clear when this section was enclosed to create a bathroom. The floor inside the West Bathroom has been raised above the porch flooring in order to create a level surface for the fixtures. The room currently contains a toilet and a sink; plumbing indicates that a tub once stood in the southeast corner, but it is missing. Rectangular in plan, the room measures about 6’-0” by 7’-3”.

**Flooring**
The floor in this room is raised approximately 2” above the flooring of the Enclosed Porch (Room 104) to the north in order to make it level. It is covered in sheet vinyl embossed with a golden-colored abstract floral pattern.

**Baseboards**
The baseboards are wood plank boards measuring ¾” by 3¾”.

**Walls**
The north, east, south, and top half of the west wall are finished in ¼”-thick fiberboard. The bottom 4 feet of west wall is finished in unpainted masonite.
Doorways
The doorway on the north elevation is missing its door, though it appears to be stored in the Northwest or Back Room. The door and its hardware are described in the Enclosed Porch (Room 104) section above. There is no casing on the Room 105 side of the doorway, the frame is exposed.

Windows
A two-light fixed-sash window is on the west elevation. There is no casing on the interior side of the window.

Crown Molding
Wood strips measuring ¼” by 2” cover the seams where the walls intersect the ceiling.

Ceiling
The ceiling has a shallow slope from east to west. At the east wall the ceiling is approximately 6’-9” above finished floor and at the west all approximately 6’-3” above finished floor. The ceiling is covered in ¼”-thick fiberboard.

Finishes
The ceiling, fiberboard walls, and door are painted a yellow color. The baseboards are unfinished.

Electrical Systems
A 1950s-era frosted glass sconce is mounted on the north wall over the sink. The switch is surface-mounted on the north wall and wired with Romex conduit. A duplex outlet lower on the north wall has ¾” metal conduit. Both the switch and the outlet have metal cover plates.

Plumbing
Holes in the floor for plumbing lines indicate that a tub sat in the southeast corner of the room, but is now missing. There is a ceramic toilet on the south wall missing its top. The ceramic sink on the north wall measures 1’-6” wide by 1’-4” deep and has two chrome-plated cross-handled faucets (Fig. 44). The ⅜” water supply lines are PVC and the 1¼” drain pipe is chrome plated.

Other Features
There is a chrome-plated toilet paper holder mounted on the west wall. A 2’-0” wide chrome-plated towel rack is mounted on the north wall and two 1’-6” wide chrome-plated towel racks are mounted on the east wall. Two shelves made from scrap wood are mounted on the west end of the north wall. The shelves measure approximately 1’-7” wide by 6” deep.

Room 106 – Kitchen
The eastern half of this room was apparently a portion of an early, if not original, open porch along the west side of the main block. It is not known when it was enclosed to create the first kitchen. In a later modification, approximately 5 feet of space was added onto the western side of the room. Rectangular in plan, today the room measures about 16’-0” by 12’-5”.

Figure 82. A 1950s-era light fixture mounted over the sink.

Figure 83. Wood shelves and chrome towel rack on the north wall.
Flooring
There is a mixture of two different size tongue-and-groove wood floor boards in this room. Some measure 3¾" in width and others measure 2¼" in width, and all are laid east-west. A seam runs north-south across the floor boards approximately 7’10” west of the east wall; the floor seam aligns with a seam in the north wall where the room was expanded.

Baseboards
The only baseboard in this room is at the south end of the west wall; it is a wood plank board measuring ¾” by 3¾”.

Walls
The east wall is finished in vertical board-and-battens, probably the original siding of the main block. The boards range in width from 10” to 11” and the battens measure ⅞” by 2¼”. The south end of the east wall is finished in horizontal beaded board that measures 9¼” wide. The same beaded boards extend along the east side of the south wall and again at the north end of the west wall. The west end of the south wall is finished in 5¼”-wide beaded board that is set vertically. This vertical beaded board continues below the countertop at the south half of the west wall. Above the countertop, the wall is open with exposed framing. The north wall is finished in 5¼”-wide beaded board set horizontally. A seam, which aligns with a seam in the floorboards, runs vertically down the wall approximately 7’-10” from the east wall.

Doorways
The four-raised-panel exterior door on the south elevation is not typical to the Smith Cabin; the door and its hardware are described in the above section.
Exterior Features. There is no casing on the interior side of this doorway. The doorway on the east elevation has a typical four-raised-panel door that measures 2’-6” wide by 6’-6” tall by 1⅛” thick. The door has two 3½” by 3½” steel five-knuckle hinges, a 5” barrel bolt, and the keeper for a rimlock, which is missing. The casing on Room 106 side of the door is made up of ⅞” by 5¾” plank boards at the jambs and a ⅞” by 4” plank board at the header, which is lintel cut without ears. Both door jambs are marked with the heights, names, and dates of various family members who have stayed at the cabin. The threshold is made up of two boards, both 1” tall. The west board is 6” wide and the east board is 5” wide.

Windows
A recently repaired, typical six-over-six-light double-hung sash window is on the west elevation. The casing on the interior side of the window is made of ⅞” by 4” plank boards that are lintel cut without ears. The south portion of the west wall is open with exposed 2” by 4” framing forming three openings. The south opening is approximately 1’-1” wide, the middle opening is approximately 4’-7” wide, and the north opening is approximately 4’-2” wide. The north and south openings have screens.

Crown Molding
There is no crown molding in this room.

Ceiling
The ceiling slopes from east to west with a break in the slope approximately 7’-10” from the east wall. At the east wall the ceiling height above finished floor is approximately 8’-3”, at the break in slope the ceiling height measures 6’-5”, and at the west wall it measures 5’-6”. The ceiling is mostly finished in ¼”-thick fiberboard, which is severely deteriorated. The north end of the ceiling has ⅛”-thick masonite, also in poor condition.

Finishes
The walls and doors are painted a yellow color over top of a pale green color. The fiberboard ceiling is painted off-white, but the masonite is unfinished. The floor and baseboard are painted a grey color and the east door threshold is painted a reddish-brown color.

Scraps of sheet vinyl are hung on the south end of the east wall and on the south wall above the sink.

Electrical Systems
There are two ceiling-mounted 4½” ceramic lamp bases, one is over the sink at the south end of the
room and the other is at the north end of the room.Both have fabric-wrapped wire. There are duplex outlets surface-mounted high on the walls, one on either side of the sink. The outlets have fabric-wrapped wire and brown plastic Bakelite plates. At the north end of the east wall a duplex outlet is surface-mounted near the floor. It has a brown plastic Bakelite plate and ¼” metal conduit. A 220 volt outlet is surface-mounted horizontally above the floor at the south end of the east wall. It has a brown plastic cover and flexible conduit. A duplex outlet surface-mounted on the north wall has a metal cover plate and ¼” metal conduit.

**Plumbing**
A gas-powered hot water heater inside a metal cabinet is in the southeast corner of the room. The 30 gallon 240 volt water heater was manufactured by W. L. Jackson Manufacturing, Inc. There is a 3” diameter flue in the wall above the cabinet. Next to the water heater is a 2'-0” deep by 4'-6” wide glazed cast-iron sink. The sink is integral to the countertop.

**Other Features**
Two wood shelves are mounted over the sink on the south wall, both have diagonal wood brackets. The bottom shelf is 2'-6” long by 6” deep and is ⅞” thick. The top shelf is 3’-4” long by 9½” deep by 1” thick. Open shelving runs perpendicular to the sink at the south end of the room. The six-shelf unit measures 3’-3½” wide by 9¾” deep and is 6’-6” tall (Fig. 89). The wood countertop along the south half of the west wall is 1’-4” deep by 10’-4½” long and sits 3’-0” above the floor. A three-armed metal towel rack is mounted to the shelving unit next to the sink.

**Room 107a – Southwest Bedroom**
Part of the main block of the cabin, originally this room and the South Bathroom (Room 107b) were one, room, probably a bedroom. The south wall was added at an unknown date to divide the space in two. Rectilinear in plan, this room now measures about 9’-1” by 9’-4”.

**Flooring**
The tongue-and-groove wood floor boards measure 2¼” in width and are laid east-west; they are continuous from the Middle Bedroom (Room 108).

**Baseboards**
There are no baseboards in this room.
Ceiling
The ceiling is approximately 8’-8” above finished floor and has 5¼”-wide beaded board running east-west.

Finishes
The walls and doors are painted a yellow color. The ceiling is painted a light grey color, and the floor is painted brown.

Electrical Systems
A 4½” ceramic lamp base with pull cord is mounted on the ceiling; it has Romex wiring. A switch is flush-mounted in the south wall west of the doorway. It has an ivory plastic Bakelite plate and Romex wiring. A duplex outlet is surface-mounted near the floor on the east wall. It has an ivory plastic Bakelite plate and ¾” metal conduit.

Other Features
There is a closet on the east wall that is constructed of leftover beaded boards. The closet measures approximately 6’-1” tall by 4’-2” wide and projects 1’-2” from the wall; it does not have any doors. Two brass hooks are mounted near the top of the closet on the east wall (Fig. 93).

Room 107b – South Bathroom
Part of the main block of the cabin, this room was originally the southern half of the Southwest Bedroom (Room 107a). The north wall was added to divide the room into two spaces, creating a bathroom. Rectilinear in plan, today it measures about 5’-11” by 9’-4”.

Flooring
The floor is covered in sheet vinyl. It has a reddish-brown faux tile pattern.

Baseboards
There are no baseboards in this room.

Walls
The added north wall has exposed studs on the inside of this room; they measure 1¾” by 3¾”. The back of the ½”-thick plywood is exposed on the far side of the studs. The east, west, and south walls are finished in 9¼”-wide beaded board.

Doorways
The three-horizontal-panel door on the north wall provides access from the Southwest Bedroom.

Windows
There are no windows in this room.

Crown Molding
There is no crown molding in this room.
(Room 107a). It is described in that section above. The north wall is unfinished with exposed studs and the doorway has no casing.

Windows
There are two six-over-six-light double-hung sash windows on the south elevation, recently repaired. The window casing on the interior side is made up of $\frac{3}{8}$” by $4\frac{1}{2}$” boards with a $\frac{3}{16}$” edge bead.

Crown Molding
There is no crown molding in this room.

Ceiling
The ceiling is approximately 8’-9” above finished floor and has 5¼”-wide beaded board running east-west.

Finishes
The walls, door, and ceiling, and trim are painted an off-white color.

Electrical Systems
A 1950s-era frosted glass chrome-based sconce is mounted on the west wall over the sink; it has cloth-wrapped wiring. On the north wall is a switch with an ivory plastic Bakelite plate. Below the switch, near the floor is a duplex outlet with a brown plastic Bakelite plate. Both switch and outlet have cloth-wrapped wiring.
Plumbing
The plumbing fixtures in this room include a toilet, claw-foot tub, and sink. The ceramic toilet has a top dated March 29, 1982. The tub measures 2'-6" wide by 5'-6" long and has chrome-plated fixtures. The ½" cold water supply line is PVC and the ½" hot water supply is a galvanized pipe. The sink, which is recessed into the wall, has two chrome-plated cross-handled faucets, ¼" PVC supply lines, and a PVC drain line.

Other Features
A towel bar is mounted on the north wall over the tub. The wood dowel is ¾" in diameter and 3'-10" wide. A wood shelf mounted over the toilet on the south wall measures 2'-0" wide by 5" deep by ¾" thick and has wood brackets. There are two wire hooks on the door. A chrome towel bar was mounted on the door, but is now missing. On the west wall a plastic toothbrush and cup holder is mounted above the sink. A wire toilet paper holder is on the south wall.

Room 108 – Middle Bedroom
This room is original to the main block of the cabin and was used as a bedroom. Rectilinear in plan, it measures about 15’-4" wide by 9’-9" long.

Flooring
The tongue-and-groove wood floor boards measure 2¼" in width and are laid east-west; they are continuous from the Southeast Primary Bedroom (Room 101) to the east and continue into the Southwest Bedroom (Room 107a) to the west.

Baseboards
There are no baseboards in this room.

Walls
The north and west wall are finished in 5¼”-wide beaded board and the east and west walls are finished in 9¼”-wide beaded board; all beaded boards run horizontally on the walls.

Doorways
The doorway in the west elevation has a four-raised-panel door that accesses the Southwest Bedroom (Room 107a). The door and its hardware are described in that section above. The casing on Room 108 side of the door is made up of ¾” by 2¼” plank boards that are lintel cut with ¾” ears. The north elevation doorway has a four-raised-panel door that accesses the Northwest or Back Room (Room 103). The door and its hardware are described in that section above. The casing on Room 108 side of the door is made up of ¾” by 4¾” plank boards that are lintel cut without ears. The four-raised-panel door in the east elevation provides access to the Southeast Primary Bedroom (Room 101). The door and its hardware are
Figure 100. Closet on east wall of Middle Bedroom (Room 108).

described in that section above. The exterior doorway on the south elevation has a five-panel door which is described in the Exterior Features section above. The casing on the Room 108 side of the east and south door are the same; the plank boards measure $\frac{7}{8}$” by $3\frac{3}{4}$” and are lintel cut without ears.

Windows
The six-over-six-light double-hung sash window on the south elevation has a muntin type different from the typical muntin of the cabin. The casing on the interior side of the window is made up of $\frac{7}{8}$” by $4\frac{1}{2}$” boards with a $\frac{1}{16}$” edge bead on the header, east jamb, and apron. The west jamb is salvaged; it is a cut piece of beaded board that measures $\frac{7}{8}$” by $3\frac{1}{2}$”. The window has been recently repaired.

Crown Molding
There is no crown molding in this room.

Ceiling
The ceiling is approximately 8’-8½” above finished floor and has 5¼”-wide beaded board running east-west.

Finishes
The walls, doors, ceiling, and trim are painted an off-white color and the floor is painted brown.

Electrical Systems
There are pairs of holes for knob and tube wiring in both the east and west walls. A duplex outlet surface-mounted on the west wall has a brown plastic Bakelite plate and $\frac{3}{4}$” metal conduit. Two duplex outlets are on the south wall, both have $\frac{3}{4}$” metal conduit. The east outlet is missing its cover plate and the west outlet has a metal plate. On the east wall is a 220 volt outlet with a brown plastic Bakelite plate and $\frac{3}{4}$” metal conduit.

Other Features
There is a closet on the east wall north of the doorway constructed of leftover beaded boards. The closet measures approximately 6’-0” tall by 3’-8” wide and projects 1’-2” from the wall; it does not have any doors. A remnant from a wooden hanging rod is mounted on the north side of the closet (Fig. 100).

Character Defining Features
Important character defining features include:

- The adjacency of the cabin to the other summer houses within the Appalachian Club Complex.
- The shared stone retaining walls on Daisy Town Road and the similar stone walkways and steps.
- The densely wooded site at the top of the ridge.
- The wraparound front porch.
- The metal-covered pyramidal roof over the main house structure with shed addition on the west side.
- The unmilled foundation posts.
- The original board-and-batten siding.
- The two brick fireplaces and brick chimney.
- The four-panel front door at the south end of the east elevation and the four-panel door at the north elevation.
- The five-panel front door at the north end of the east elevation.
- The four-panel typical interior doors used throughout most of the cabin.
- What remains of the early door hardware throughout the cabin.
- The six-over-six-light double-hung wood sash windows with typical muntin type.
- The 2½” wood flooring of the cabin.
- The ceramic lamp bases in many of the cabin rooms.
• The plumbing fixtures of the West Bathroom (Room 105) and the South Bathroom (Room 107b).

**Summary of Physical Conditions**

In general, the Smith Cabin is in fair physical condition. It appears to be basically sound. However, the roof remains a serious threat. The unpainted, galvanized 5-V metal roofing has leaks in various locations and has caused visible damage on the interior of the rooms. The roof flashing at the base of the chimney needs to be replaced.

A related concern is the rainwater collection and dispersal. Though there are indications that short gutters once existed over the front entry steps and the north porch, no gutters or downspouts are currently in place.

The chimney appears to be unstable above the roofline due to eroded mortar joints. It is in need of repointing.
II.A Ultimate Treatment & Use

Recommended Ultimate Treatment

In 2009 the National Park Service amended the 1982 General Management Plan (GMP) for the Elkmont Historic District based on the 2008 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the National Park Service, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office (refer to Section I.B for further discussion). The document, known as the Elkmont Historic District Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), calls for the preservation of eighteen contributing cabins in the Elkmont Historic District. Sixteen of which, including the Smith Cabin, are in the core Daisy Town portion of the district.

The MOA specifies the appropriate treatment for the Smith Cabin and the other fifteen designated Daisy Town properties. It states “the exterior of the sixteen buildings in Daisy Town will be restored and their interiors rehabilitated.” In addition, “contributing cultural landscape features will be preserved (i.e. stone walls and paths)....”

The period of significance is an important determinant in restoring the exterior of the cabins to a particular time, yet there is still a lot to be learned about the fifteen contributing cabins in Daisy Town. Keeping in mind the stipulations for treatment, while recognizing the importance of modifications over time that reflect the changing values of Americans at leisure, coupled with the general scarcity of collected iconographic images, documentary information, and oral traditions which can clarify the building’s evolution, it is recommended that the exterior and interior of the Smith Cabin be preserved as it currently exists. Thus, the accumulated building fabric is retained and is available for later reassessment of treatment options as missing gaps of information become known through additional research.

Once this and the other fifteen Daisy Town cabins are stabilized and protected, consideration may be directed to the possibility of removing or reversing late additions and modifications.

The MOA also stipulates a reconsideration of the National Register nomination once the buildings to be retained are stabilized and the others are removed. This important endeavor will likely result in revision to the period of significance, thus informing the direction of future work.

In addition to the preservation of the existing structure, stabilization of deteriorated building fabric is important for the safety of visitors. At Smith Cabin, the unstable brick chimney causes particular concern.

Accordingly, the Recommended Ultimate Treatment includes the preservation of the exterior and interior spaces in their current appearances but in good repair. It is also recommended that contributing cultural landscape features of stone retaining walls, garden walls, stairs, culvert, patio, walks and associated features be stabilized or repaired and preserved. NPS’s upcoming Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) will provide direction for the treatment of contributing landscape features. It is further recommended that the current mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems remain disconnected but retained in place for interpretive purposes. It is further recommended that interior use of the Smith Cabin by the public be limited to daytime visitation only, if at all.

This approach would have the following advantages:

• Enhances public benefit by retaining and preserving a contributing property of a National Register historic district.
• Enhances public education of an important epoch of park history by presenting the building itself as an important cultural resource.
• Broadens the public’s educational experience by retaining character-defining architectural features spanning the building’s history.
• Allows the flexibility of closing off from public access entire rooms, groups of rooms or the entire house interior in accordance with park administrative capabilities.
• Improves the safety of visitors by stabilizing or repairing site features.
• Improves the safety of visitors by removing unsafe construction and rebuilding with sound materials erected to safe building standards.
• Retains flexibility for future park decisions regarding treatment and interpretation to coincide with the results of additional research and investigation.
• Constitutes cost-effective treatments of the exterior and the interior.

This approach would have the following disadvantage:

• Restrictions to access interior spaces limit the capacity of the public to fully experience the cabin’s architectural character.

Other Recommendations

In an effort to stem vandalism, consideration should be given to securing the windows and doors to prevent entry to the interiors. Creation of a volunteer program to help interpret and monitor Daisy Town is recommended. Interpretive plaques to explain the importance of the buildings and installation of discreetly placed security cameras to monitor visitor activities are also recommended.
II.B Requirements for Treatment

As stated in Section II.A, in 2009 the National Park Service amended the 1982 General Management Plan (GMP) for the Elkmont Historic District based on the 2008 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the National Park Service, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office (refer to Section I.B for further discussion). The document, known as the Elkmont Historic District Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), calls for the preservation of eighteen contributing cabins in the Elkmont Historic District. Sixteen of which, including the Smith Cabin, are in the core Daisy Town portion of the district.

The MOA specifies the appropriate treatment for the Smith Cabin and the other fifteen designated Daisy Town properties. It states “the exterior of the sixteen buildings in Daisy Town will be restored and their interiors rehabilitated.”

Treatment of the building and site are to be guided by The Secretary of Interior’s Standards for Historic Preservation Projects, the Americans with Disability Act, and the International Building Code.

Threats to public life, safety and welfare are to be addressed; however, because this is an historic building, alternatives to full legislative and code compliance are recommended where compliance would needlessly compromise the integrity of the historic building.
II.C Alternatives for Treatment

In addition to the Recommended Ultimate Treatment discussed in Section I.A above, an alternative treatment is discussed below. The first alternative is actually a recommended interim step, which will inform the ultimate treatment.

**Alternative #1: Restore the exterior of the cabin to its roughly mid-twentieth-century appearance by removing the most recent additions, including the extension on Room 106, the south porch extension, and the north porch; restore the exterior accordingly and preserve the interior but in a state of good repair. It is further recommended that interior use of the Smith Cabin by the public be limited to daytime visitation only, if at all.**

This approach would have the following advantages:

- Enhances public benefit by retaining and preserving a contributing property of a National Register historic district.
- Enhances the public’s experience by presenting the building itself as an important cultural resource.
- Expands the public’s educational experience by focusing on a particular epoch in the district’s history.
- Allows the flexibility of closing off from public access entire rooms, groups of rooms or the entire house interior in accordance with park administrative capabilities.
- Improves the safety of visitors by stabilizing or repairing site features.
- Improves the safety of visitors by removing unsafe construction and rebuilding with sound materials erected to safe building standards.

This approach would have the following disadvantages:

- Restrictions to access interior spaces limit the capacity of the public to fully experience the cabin’s architectural character.
- In the absence of significant documentary evidence, and with the benefit of only minimal building archaeology, requires extensive investigation of the building fabric to determine the cabin’s evolutionary process.
- The apparently short time spans between remodelings and the similarity among building materials in each remodeling, makes investigation difficult and likely will require some speculation.
- Requires the removal of major components which are part of the recent past.
- Diminishes the public’s educational experience by limiting the character-defining architectural features to those of the mid-twentieth-century period of use as a family vacation cabin.
- Requires a significant outlay of funds to pursue the investigations according to professional standards.

**Other Recommendations**

In an effort to stem vandalism, consideration should be given to securing the windows and doors to prevent entry to the interiors. Creation of a volunteer program to help interpret and monitor Daisy Town is recommended. Interpretive plaques to explain the importance of the buildings and installation of discreetly placed security cameras to monitor visitor activities are also recommended.
II.D Recommendations

The Recommended Ultimate Treatment for the Smith Cabin includes the preservation of the exterior and interior spaces in their current appearances but in good repair.

This treatment was chosen because it retains the building fabric and changes that have occurred since original construction on this site, thus providing a broad picture of the evolution of the property. Given the possibility that the period of significance for the Elkmont Historic District may be expanded in the revised National Register nomination, the building fabric will remain intact for additional investigation and study.

For the purpose of providing maximum flexibility for future treatment and interpretation, it is further recommended that a very conservative approach be taken in retaining in place and preserving even the small and apparently minor character-defining features. This approach applies to not just the historic building, but also the rich cultural landscape of the site.

Actions to Achieve Recommended Ultimate Treatment

To achieve the Recommended Ultimate Treatment, the following actions should be taken:

The Site

- Perform archaeological clearance of areas whenever impacted by site activities.
- Record to Historic American Landscape Survey (HALS) standards whenever portions of the site are to be dismantled as part of the repair process.
- Establish positive drainage away from the Smith Cabin site in conjunction with site drainage for adjoining properties.
- Salvage displaced elements of the garden walks, garden edging, etc. and reuse in same site features whenever origin of element can be determined.
- Monitor site for hazard trees and remove those that threaten structures or visitor safety. NPS’s upcoming Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) should identify and provide direction for management and selective replanting of key vegetation.
- When site feature is not restored or reconstructed, stabilize in current state and make weathertight.

Smith Cabin

- Remove accumulated site debris around building perimeter. Investigate condition and stabilize/reconstruct any damaged portions of the foundation posts and piers. Provide positive drainage away from the building.
- Make the exterior siding weathertight. Tighten elements to remove gaps between individual elements, caulk and repaint to enhance durability.
- Make exterior door and window units weathertight. Make tight the trim, caulk seams, reglaze windows and repaint.
- Provide functional locking mechanism at exterior doorways in order to secure building as needed.
- Repair in-kind and repaint the front wraparound porch.
- If the interior is open to the public, provide for accessibility by the handicapped to the first floor rooms.
- Stabilize chimney and repoint brick.
- Replace in-kind the 5-V roofing giving special care for flashing at chimney. Install gutters and downspouts.
- Disconnect, label and retain in place, for safety and interpretive purposes, unused elements.
and remnants of the cabin’s previous electrical and plumbing systems. Place interpretive signage identifying remnants. Identify non-functioning fixtures.

**General**

- Coordinate with the other building analyses of exterior and interior paint and finishes for reference in developing park interpretive programs.
- Coordinate with the other sites the preparation of the CLR. Incorporate results into park maintenance and interpretive programs.
- Periodically review visitation and use policy in light of benefits to the public, risk to the resource and capacity of the park to administer.
- To minimize vandalism, install a discreet security camera in a nearby location to focus on points of entry.
- Recruit and train volunteers to spend time in Elkmont answering questions and providing an official presence.
Bibliography


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U.S. Census Records, county deed books, state birth & death indexes, and the like.


**Selected Websites**


NPS photo gallery, “Logging,” www.nps.gov/media/photo/gallery.htm?id=BF35F887-1DD8-B71C-0793D04A3C9075AF

“Purchasing of Property for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.” Sevier County History Center. Sevier County Public Library System, Sevierville, TN. www.sevierlibrary.org


Appendix A:
Documentation Drawings

Sheet A-1: As-Found Plan & Details