
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory
2001



Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station
Blue Ridge Parkway - Highlands District

Table of Contents

Inventory Unit Summary & Site Plan

Concurrence Status

Geographic Information and Location Map

Management Information

National Register Information

Chronology & Physical History

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Condition

Treatment

Bibliography & Supplemental Information

Inventory Unit Summary & Site Plan

Inventory Summary

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

CLI General Information:

Purpose and Goals of the CLI

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

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

Scope of the CLI

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

treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape.

Inventory Unit Description:

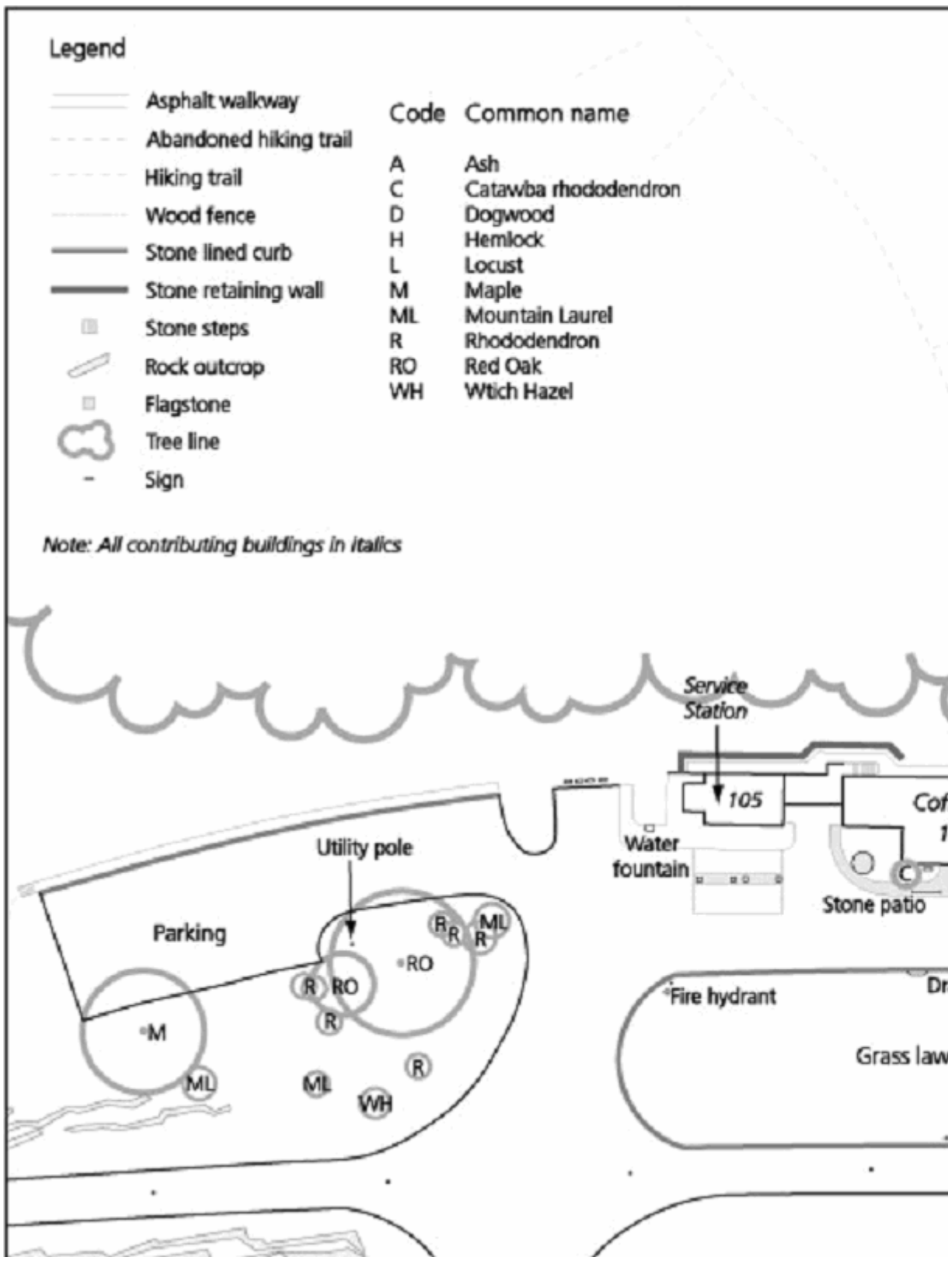
Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station is a 6-acre component landscape set within 6300-acre Doughton Park, a Blue Ridge Parkway developed area in North Carolina. The site is accessed directly from the parkway at Milepost 241.1. Major features of the site include the coffee shop, the gas station, parking areas, and an abandoned picnic area.

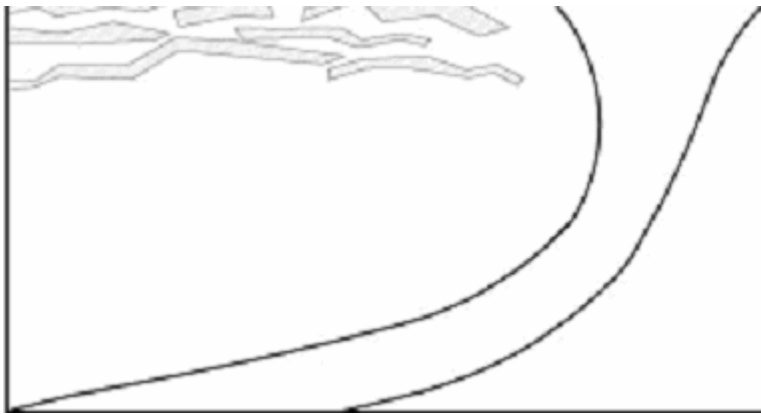
Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station is part of one of the first developed areas to be planned for BLRI. The picnic area, entry, and northern parking area were built in 1938-39, and a comfort station was added to the picnic area around 1941-2. After much delay, a gas station and coffee shop were built and opened to the public in 1949. Both buildings are rustic in style, but use materials – like concrete shingles – that show the transition to more economical construction methods in post-WWII development. The land slopes steeply away from the parkway and is heavily wooded in the rear picnic area, with a scattering of trees and understory along the parkway road.

The period of significance for Blue Ridge Parkway, as defined in Ian Firth's draft National Historic Landmark (NHL) nomination, is 1933 – 1987. Parkway road development between these dates possesses NHL significance, while associated development – such as visitor concession areas – possesses NHL significance only through 1955. (Later development may be historically significant to a lesser degree.) Construction at Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station began in 1937, and all major features at the property were in place by 1949. All these features contribute to the national significance of Blue Ridge Parkway as a NHL property.

Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station, currently listed in fair condition, retains all major features from the period of significance. The property possesses historic integrity in all seven criteria as defined by National Register standards.

Site Plan





Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station Site Map

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station
Property Level:	Component Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	550218
Parent Landscape:	550140

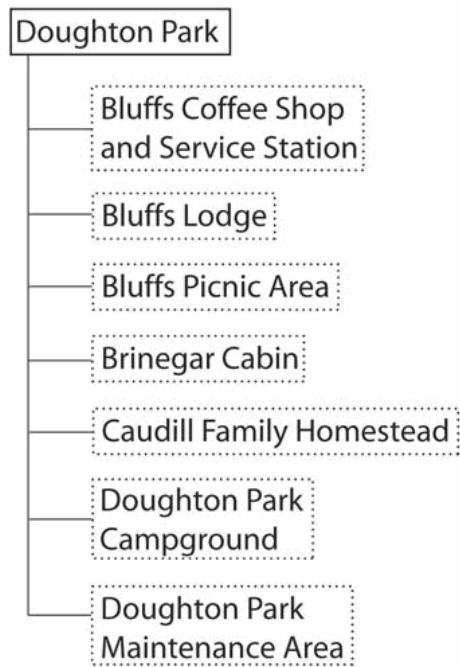
Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	Blue Ridge Parkway - Highlands District -BLRI
Park Organization Code:	5157
Subunit/District Name Alpha Code:	Blue Ridge Parkway - Highlands District - BLRI
Park Administrative Unit:	Blue Ridge Parkway

CLI Hierarchy Description

On the 1936 Blue Ridge Parkway Master Development Plan, Doughton Park (then known as The Bluffs) is shown as one of the proposed parkway developed areas. The 6300-acre site largely consists of forested land on steeply sloping land, with the built environment consisting of rustic trails, overlooks and a shelter. It is listed in the CLI in its entirety as Doughton Park. More intense development was planned for sites closer to the parkway in areas totaling 225 acres in size. Each of these seven sites has a separate developmental history and function and deserves individual listing in the CLI as a component landscape. They are, leading from parkway north to south: Brinegar Cabin, Doughton Park Campground, Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station, Bluffs Lodge, Caudill Family Homestead, Bluffs Picnic Area, and Doughton Park Maintenance Area.

BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY



Doughton Park CLI Hierarchy

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Field work was conducted for landscapes and component landscapes at Doughton Park during Summer 2001 by David Hasty, Lucy Lawliss and summer interns Patrick Beasley, Tom Gibney and Lindsey Heller. The park contacts are: Gary Johnson, Chief of Planning, and Bambi Teague, Resource Manager.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	08/01/2005
National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Date of Concurrence Determination:	09/08/2004

National Register Concurrence Narrative:

Through BLRI consultation with North Carolina SHPO, the entire parkway property within the state of North Carolina was deemed eligible for listing on the National Register. A National Historic Landmark nomination is also being written for the Parkway by Ian Firth.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station
Blue Ridge Parkway - Highlands District



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
Atlanta Federal Center
1924 Building
100 Alabama St., S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303



H22(SERO-CRD)

July 19, 2005

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Blue Ridge Parkway
From: Chief, Cultural Resource Division, Southeast Region
Subject: Cultural Landscape Inventory

We are pleased to transmit Cultural Landscape Inventories (CLI) for five component cultural landscapes at Doughton Park Developed Area: Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station, Bluffs Lodge, Bluffs Picnic Area, Doughton Park Campground, and Doughton Park Maintenance Area. The CLI is an evaluated list of landscape properties in the National Park System eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NR) or that contribute to an existing historic property. In order for the CLIs to be certified and counted under goals 1a7 and 1b2B in PMDS, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) or Keeper of the NR needs to concur on the eligibility of the property for listing. The North Carolina SHPO concurred on the National Register eligibility of all Blue Ridge Parkway land in North Carolina on September 8, 2004.

The Park Superintendent also needs to concur on the condition assessment and management category provided within the inventory. A signature page is enclosed for Park Superintendent approval. The assessment form needs to be signed and returned to the Regional Office for final certification and listing in PMDS goals 1a7 and 1b2B. If the condition assessment and management category are agreed upon, please sign the attached approval forms and return to our office to the attention of David Hasty.

Attachments



Letter to the Superintendent

Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station
Blue Ridge Parkway - Highlands District

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE INVENTORY
CONDITION ASSESSMENT CONCURRENCE SHEET - 6 June 2005

Park Information

Park: Blue Ridge Parkway
District: Highlands
State: North Carolina
Counties: Wilkes, Alleghany

Cultural Landscape Information

Inventory Name	CLI Id #	Condition	Management Category
Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station	550218	Fair	Must Be Preserved and Maintained
Bluffs Lodge	550214	Good	Must Be Preserved and Maintained
Bluffs Picnic Area	550215	Good	Must Be Preserved and Maintained
Doughton Park Campground	550216	Good	Must Be Preserved and Maintained
Doughton Park Maintenance Area	550219	Good	Must Be Preserved and Maintained

Park Superintendent Concurrence

Concur ☒

Do Not Concur ☐


Superintendent

8/1/05
Date

Superintendent Signature of Concurrence

Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station
Blue Ridge Parkway - Highlands District

**CULTURAL LANDSCAPE INVENTORY
CONDITION ASSESSMENT CONCURRENCE SHEET – 31 August 2011**

Park Information

Park: Blue Ridge Parkway
District: Highlands
State: North Carolina
Counties: Wilkes, Alleghany

Cultural Landscape Information

Inventory Name	CLI Id #	Condition	Previous Condition Date
Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station	550218	Fair	5/4/2005 (Fair)
Bluffs Lodge	550214	Good	5/4/2005 (Good)
Bluffs Picnic Area	550215	Good	5/4/2005 (Good)
Doughton Park Campground	550216	Good	5/4/2005 (Good)
Doughton Park Maintenance Area	550219	Good	5/4/2005 (Good)

Park Superintendent Concurrence

Concur ☒ Do Not Concur ☐



Superintendent Date 9/23/11

Superintendent condition recertification, 2011

Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station
Blue Ridge Parkway - Highlands District

10/12/2004 10:48 FAX

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United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Blue Ridge Parkway
199 Hemphill Knob Road
Asheville, North Carolina 28803

MMB
8/17/04

JUL 21 2004

Dr. Jeffrey J. Crow, State Historic Preservation Officer
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
Division of Archives and History
4610 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4610

Dear Dr. Crow:

As you know the National Register of Historic Places is the official list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering and culture. These contribute to an understanding of the historical and cultural foundations of the Nation. The National Register includes:

- * All prehistoric and historic units of the National Park System;
- * National Historic Landmarks, which are properties recognized by the Secretary of the Interior as possessing national significance; and
- * Properties significant in American, State, or local prehistory and history that have been nominated by State Historic Preservation Officers, Federal agencies, Tribal Preservation Officers, and others, and have been approved for listing by the National Park Service.

The Historic Sites Act of 1935 (Public Law 74-292) established the National Historic Landmark Survey. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665) authorized the National Register of Historic Places, expanding Federal recognition to historic properties of local and State significance. The National Park Service in the U. S. Department of the Interior administers both programs. Regulations for these programs are contained in 36 CFR Part 60, "National Register of Historic Places", and 36 CFR Part 65, "National Historic Landmarks Program".

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 authorizes State Historic Preservation Officers to nominate properties to the National Register of Historic Places and to carry out other preservation activities. Federal Preservation Officers have been designated in Federal agencies to nominate Federal properties and to fulfill other responsibilities of the Act. The Blue Ridge Parkway leadership, acting in concert with the leadership of the National Park Service Southeast Regional Office, are working energetically and enthusiastically to nominate the Blue Ridge Parkway for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a National Historic Landmark. We would highly value your support and concurrence on the signature line below. We look

Memo to NC SHPO

Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station
Blue Ridge Parkway - Highlands District

10/12/2004 10:49 PAA

forward to working closely with your office as we strive to protect the resources and enhance the integrity of the fabulous Blue Ridge Parkway. Please sign on the line below on both copies of this document and return one copy to Parkway Headquarters.

Thanks so much for your assistance and willing cooperation.

Sincerely,



Daniel W. Brown
Superintendent

The Blue Ridge Parkway clearly meets the eligibility requirements for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a National Historic Landmark. The Office of the State Historic Preservation Officer, State of North Carolina, supports and endorses the National Park Service efforts with regards to this listing of the Blue Ridge Parkway in the National Register of Historic Places.

I Concur: Jeffrey Brown, SHPO Date 9 Aug 04

	DIVISION CHIEF, RP & PS	
	LAND RESOURCES SPEC.	
	LAND RESOURCES SPEC.	
X	CULTURAL RESOURCES SPEC.	
	ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE SPEC.	
	COMMUNITY PLANNER	
	RESIDENT LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT	
	CURATOR	
	GEOGRAPHIC INFO. SPEC.	
	ENGINEERING DRAFTSMAN	
	ADMIN. ASSISTANT	
X	FILE: <u>BLUETTE - FILED</u>	
	<u>COMPLIANCE FILE</u>	

GW 8/20

NC SHPO Signature

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

The Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station encompasses the land on parkway right at Milepost 241.1 that includes both buildings, the parking areas, and the presently unused picnic area #1 behind the northern parking lot.

State and County:

State: NC

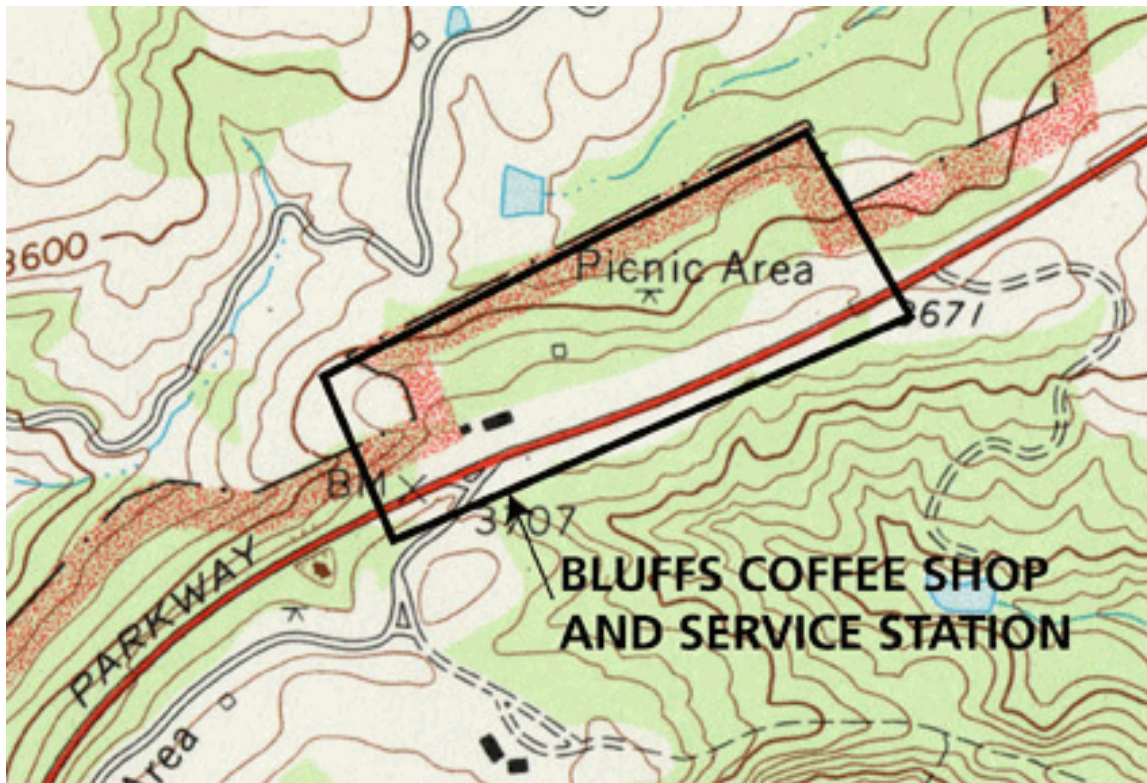
County: Alleghany County

Size (Acres): 6.00

Boundary UTMS:

Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	17
UTM Easting:	483,871
UTM Northing:	4,031,957
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	17
UTM Easting:	484,386
UTM Northing:	4,031,935
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	17
UTM Easting:	484,270
UTM Northing:	4,032,125
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	17
UTM Easting:	484,019
UTM Northing:	4,031,776

Location Map:



Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station Location Map (Whitehead, NC, USGS Quadrangle - 1968)

Tract Numbers: 34-101, 35-101

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 05/04/2005

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The major features of Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station were planned in the 1930s and early 1940s. Trails in the picnic area were built in 1938, and, by 1948, the gas station and coffee shop were completed. These features were completed during the first three periods of BLRIs history (1933-1942, 1942-1945, and 1946-1955) as defined by Ian Firth, and thus contribute to the national significance of Blue Ridge Parkway as a potential National Historic Landmark.

Maintenance Location Code: 4532
63535
4455
4456
48217
4531

Agreements, Legal Interest, and Access

Management Agreement:

Expiration Date: 1/1/9999

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access:

Type of Access: Unrestricted

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Description:

Adjacent lands contribute to the significance of Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station in terms of views on 'parkway right' extending out into the surrounding community southeast of the town of Whitehead, NC.

National Register Information

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Contributing/Individual:	Contributing
National Register Classification:	District
Significance Level:	National
Significance Criteria:	C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values
Significance Criteria:	A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history
Criteria Considerations:	G -- A property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance

Period of Significance:

Time Period:	AD 1933 - 1987
Historic Context Theme:	Creating Social Institutions and Movements
Subtheme:	Recreation
Facet:	General Recreation
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	AD 1933 - 1987
Historic Context Theme:	Developing the American Economy
Subtheme:	Transportation by Land and Air
Facet:	Carriage Roads, Touring Roads and Parkways
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	AD 1933 - 1987
Historic Context Theme:	Expressing Cultural Values
Subtheme:	Architecture
Facet:	Rustic Architecture
Other Facet:	None

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category:	Transportation
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Landscape Architecture
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Architecture
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Conservation
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None

Statement of Significance:

Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station is part of one of the first developed areas to be designed and built along the Blue Ridge Parkway. Three buildings exist at the property: the comfort station (Building # 101) completed in 1942, the gas station (Building # 105), and the coffee shop – both completed in 1949. The picnic area, parkway entry and northern parking area were completed by 1939. A second parking area was built to the south of the gas station in 1949. No major development has occurred at the property since that time. The vegetation has remained consistent through the years as well. The land closest to the parkway is mostly open with a scattering of trees and understory, and the steep slope behind the parking lots, gas station and coffee shop is heavily wooded.

As one of the first service areas to be designed and built, the property contributes to the historical significance of the parkway. All major development took place during the first three periods of BLRI history (1936 – 1955) and contributes to the national significance of BLRI as an NHL. These features include the entrance road, parking areas, picnic area (including the trails, drinking fountains, picnic tables, and fireplaces), existing vegetation patterns, the comfort station, gas station, and coffee shop.

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Vernacular
Designed

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function: Campground/Picnic Area

Other Use/Function

Restaurant (Bar, Lounge)

Other Type of Use or Function

Both Current And Historic

Current and Historic Names:

Name

Woods Picnic Area

Bluffs Coffee Shop and Gas Station

Motor Service Station

Picnic Area # 1 - Bluff Park

Bluffs Service Center

Type of Name

Historic

Both Current And Historic

Historic

Historic

Historic

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
AD 1937 - 1938	Built	Picnic Area # 1, is designed and built on a wooded slope at mile marker 241.1. An existing road through the site is to be obliterated. Trails connect 35 picnic sites that contain a picnic table and fireplace. This site was designated for African-Americans
AD 1938 - 1939	Built	An entry road and parking area are built. The north end is next to Picnic Area # 1. To correct the steep existing slope, a stone retaining wall is built, and stone steps lead down to the picnic area trails. Concrete curbs and sidewalks are also built.
	Built	The picnic area is given a water supply. A pipe is laid from the Wildcat Rocks water tank, crossing the parkway and connecting to five proposed drinking fountains and future comfort station.
AD 1941	Built	A sewage system is planned and installed for the proposed comfort station at Picnic Area # 1.

Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station
Blue Ridge Parkway - Highlands District

AD 1941 - 1942	Built	Comfort Station (Building # 101) is built in Picnic Area # 1.
AD 1943	Altered	Picnic Area # 1 is now called the Woods Picnic Area.
AD 1941 - 1948	Built	A number of designs appear for the Gas Station and Coffee Shop. After much delay, construction began, and the gas station (building # 105) and coffee shop (building # 106) were opened to the public in 1949.
Grossman		
AD 1949	Built	Additional parking is built in a lot to the south of the gas station.
AD 1950	Altered	The Bluffs is renamed Doughton Park in honor of NC Congressman Robert L. Doughton, a staunch supporter of the parkway.
AD 1950 - 1960	Planned	Plans for expanding the parking lot to the south and adding a visitor center and new gas station appear throughout the 1950s, but they are never built.

Physical History:

g



cover

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station is part of one of the first developed areas to be designed and built along Blue Ridge Parkway. Located at parkway road Milepost 241.1, the site consists of the coffee shop, gas station, parking areas and abandoned picnic area. It is easily visible from the parkway, but no major views lead out from the property.

The site was planned for and partially designed in the late 1930s, with the picnic area -- including trails, rustic stone picnic tables and fireplaces -- and first parking lot built in 1938-39. The comfort station (Building # 101) was completed in 1942. Grossman drew plans for the coffee shop (Building # 106) and gas station (Building # 105) in the early 1940s, but the plans were not finalized for many years, and the buildings opened in 1949. A second parking area was added to the south during the same time. The vegetation at the site has remained consistent over the years, with the steeply sloping back area covered in forest and the area bordering the parkway road mostly open with a scattering of trees and understory. No major development has occurred at the site since the late 1940s.

As one of the first concession areas to be designed and constructed, the property contributes to the national significance of the parkway. All major construction took place during the first three periods of BLRI development (1936 – 1955). The parking lot and picnic area are built with the rustic stone detailing and workmanship typical of early park development. The coffee shop and gas station use rooflines, pitch, and massing from local architecture, but incorporate materials, like the concrete shingles, that express the parkway's 1940s move to more streamlined and economical development.

Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station retains integrity in all seven aspects of the National Register criteria: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The location of all primary features – the entry, parking areas and walkways, picnic area, comfort station (building # 101), gas station (building # 105), coffee shop (building # 106), existing vegetation is the same today as during the historic period. The design, materials and workmanship of these features largely remains rustic and utilitarian in nature. The feeling is the same as originally intended – a high-use concession area for visitors, close to and visible from the parkway road. The roadside setting remains in place. Finally, the original association of this property – namely a place for parkway visitors to eat and refuel – continues today, although the picnic area has been abandoned.

Landscape Characteristic:

Buildings And Structures

Completed in 1942, the comfort station at Picnic Area # 1 is the first building to be constructed at Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station. Designs for the gas station and coffee shop appear around the same time. Abbott, and Grossman - the architect for the project, wanted to continue on in the rustic style of the pre-war development along the parkway. Given the post-war budget, and reassessment of materials and maintenance costs, the buildings took on a "plainer, more economical style," similar to the Bluffs Lodge. The massing, rooflines, and pitch of the

building mimic the native architecture, but the materials were updated, including concrete shingles substituted for hand-split shakes. The coffee shop and service station are significant for depicting this change in style. All three buildings were constructed during the first three periods of parkway development, as defined by Ian Firth in the draft National Historic Landmark nomination, and contribute to the historic significance of the parkway.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Comfort Shelter (Building # 101 - c. 1942)

Feature Identification Number: 98499

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bluffs Coffee Shop (Building # 106 - c. 1949)

Feature Identification Number: 98497

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bluffs Gas Station (Building # 105 - c. 1949)

Feature Identification Number: 98498

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Woods Picnic Area Comfort Station (nd)



Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station area circa 1949



Bluffs Coffee Shop and Gas Station (2002)



Bluffs Coffee Shop (2002)

Circulation

The picnic area and adjacent parking lot were built at about the same time in 1938 and 1939. Trails were staked out in the field and provided access to the 35 picnic sites. The parking lot was used first for the picnic area and then the coffee shop and gas station when they were built in 1949. Three stone stairways lead down from the parking lot into the picnic area and they are significant features of this site using the rustic materials and workmanship of early parkway development. Parking was expanded to the south in 1949 after the construction of the gas station and coffee shop. Additional parking expansion was planned for in the 1950s and 60s, but never implemented. These parking areas, roadways, and walkways were all built during the first three periods of parkway development and contribute to the historic significance of the parkway.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Woods Picnic Area Pathways (1938)

Feature Identification Number: 98502

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station North Parking Lot and Entry Loop

Feature Identification Number: 98500

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station South Parking Lot (1949)

Feature Identification Number: 98501

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station
Blue Ridge Parkway - Highlands District



Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station parking (1956)



Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station parking (2002)



Stone steps leading from north parking lot to currently unused Picnic Area # 1 (2002)

Small Scale Features

Stone drinking fountains, picnic tables and fireplaces were built at Picnic Area # 1 in 1938-39. These features use the rustic materials and workmanship of early parkway development and contribute to its historical significance. The picnic area has been abandoned for many years, though, and these small-scale features are suffering from neglect.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Woods Picnic Area Drinking Fountains

Feature Identification Number: 98503

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Woods Picnic Area Picnic Tables

Feature Identification Number: 98504

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Vegetation

The vegetation at Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station is fairly open on the level area

adjacent to the parkway. A few trees are scattered about, with light understory. The steep slope behind this area is heavily wooded. Planting plans from the early 1940s show the vegetation was very similar in character at that time, with no plans to change it. The current vegetation patterns are consistent with what existed historically and they contribute to the historical significance of the parkway.

Topography

The land at Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station is fairly level in the areas close to the parkway, and then quickly drops off in a steep slope. This change in elevation figured prominently in early construction plans. A retaining wall was needed for the north parking lot, and the result was the rustic-style wall we still see today. The steep slope also factors into the plans for the coffee shop, and allows there to be a lower level accessed from the rear. Topography contributes to the historical significance of the site in terms of feeling and setting.

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Fair
Assessment Date: 05/04/2005

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Picnic Area #1 is unused at the moment and suffers from neglect.

Condition Assessment: Fair
Assessment Date: 09/23/2011

Impacts

Type of Impact:	Deferred Maintenance
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Picnic Area #1 is unused and not maintained, but it is the first picnic area built at Doughton Park and contributes BLRIs national significance.
Type of Impact:	Neglect
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Picnic Area #1 is unused and not maintained.

Stabilization Costs

Landscape Stabilization Cost: 0.00
Landscape Stabilization Cost Explanatory Description:

No LCS or landscape stabilization costs exist. With the completion of the pending CLR, cost data will be available.

Treatment

Treatment

Approved Treatment: Undetermined

Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative:

A CLR is pending for Doughton Park, and a GMP is underway for the Parkway. With the completion of these efforts, approved treatment should become available.

Approved Treatment Costs

Landscape Treatment Cost: 0.00

Landscape Approved Treatment Cost Explanatory Description:

No approved cost data exist for the Bluffs Coffee Shop and Service Station. With the completion of the pending CLR, cost data will be available.

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography

Citation Title:	2008 "Picnic Area No. 1 – Bluff Park" Drawn by RGH; 16 Sept 1937; approved 29 December 1937; job completed 13 May 1938
Year of Publication:	1938
Source Name:	DSC/TIC
Citation Title:	2004 "Road and Parking Area – Motor Service Station – Bluff Park" Drawn by RGH; 17 August 1937; approved 31 Jan 1938; job completed 20 June 1939
Year of Publication:	1939
Source Name:	DSC/TIC
Citation Title:	5351 "Water Supply System – Pipeline – Bluff Park" Job completed 17 Dec 1938; approved 22 Sept 1938
Year of Publication:	1938
Source Name:	DSC/TIC
Citation Title:	5371 "Water Distribution Picnic Area No. 1 – Bluff Park" Approved 24 Sept 1939. Designed by Arnold? and Browning?
Year of Publication:	1939
Source Name:	DSC/TIC
Citation Title:	5376 "Drainage – Entrance Road Lodge – Stable Site and Maintenance Area – Bluff Park" Recommended 4 Dec 1939, Concurred by Abbott 20 Aug 1939, designed by Armfield and drawn by Browning 1 Aug 1939
Year of Publication:	1939
Source Name:	DSC/TIC
Citation Title:	5311 "Sewage Disposal – Picnic Area No. 1 – Bluff Park" Approved by Demaray 2 April 1941; designed by O'Neill and drawn by Wegman 25 February 1941
Year of Publication:	1941
Source Name:	DSC/TIC
Citation Title:	2C-2052A "Section 2C Sta 190 to ?" Sheet 7 of 19 8 Oct 1942 AHH
Year of Publication:	1942
Source Name:	DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 5392 "Utility Layout Lodge, Sandwich Shop & Picnic Areas – Bluff Park – Part of the Master Plan – Blue Ridge Parkway"
1 Jan 1943, drawn by Batten

Year of Publication: 1943

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2050 "Coffee Shop, Lodge & Picnic Areas – Bluff Park – Part of the Master Plan for Blue Ridge Parkway"
1 Jan 1943, drawn by Huddleston

Year of Publication: 1943

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2052 A "Parkway Land Use Maps – Section 2-C
1 Jan 1944, Delineated by Huntoon, designed by AHH 27 Sept 1942, recommended by Abbott 16 April 1947

Year of Publication: 1947

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2066 "Service Center Site – Bluff Section 2C"
18 April 1946; designed by Hall; recommended 1946 (Supt. Weems?)

Year of Publication: 1946

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2063 B "Coffee Shop – Bluff"
Designed by Grossman; recommended by Weems 1946 20 May 1946

Year of Publication: 1946

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2054 B "Gas Station – Bluff"
Designed by Grossman; recommended by Weems 22 May 1946

Year of Publication: 1946

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2066 A, C, D, E, F, G "Service Center Site – Bluff Section 2C"
Designed by SLH; Dates from July 1946 – Dec 1946

Year of Publication: 1946

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 8000 "Filling Station of the Bluff Park of the Blue Ridge Parkway"
4 October 1946; Horace W. Beaslee Architects; recommended by
Weems 17 Dec 1946

Year of Publication: 1946

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2047 "Gas and Sandwich Shop – Bluff"
Designed by Pierpont 21 Dec 1946; recommended by Weems 14
Jan 1947

Year of Publication: 1947

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2047 A "Gas Station and Coffee Shop – the Bluffs"
10 March 1947; Recommended 11 March 1947 (Supt. Weems?);
drawn by Grossman

Year of Publication: 1947

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2066 H "Gas & Sandwich Shop – The Bluffs"
10 March 1947; Drawn by Abbott/Huddleston; recommended by
Weems 11 March 1947

Year of Publication: 1947

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 8000 A "Gas Station – The Bluffs"
11 July 1947; recommended by J. Carlisle Crouch 18 July 1947

Year of Publication: 1947

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 5466 "Site Development – Gas Sta. & Coffee Shop – The Bluffs"
31 July 1947; designed by E. W. Batten; recommended by D? 1
August 1947

Year of Publication: 1947

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2174 B "Road System Plan – Part of the Master Plan"
18 March 1948; Designed by Kearney

Year of Publication: 1948

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2047 B “Coffee Shop Bldg. No. 106”
22 April 1948; designed by Grossman; recommended by Weems
12 August 1948

Year of Publication: 1948

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2078 “The Bluffs – General Development – part of the Master
Plan”
19 July 1948; Designed by Van Cleve and checked by Abbuehl;
recommended by Weems 13 August 1948

Year of Publication: 1948

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 5466 B “Service Center – Roads and Walks – The Bluff”
Designed by Vancleve – 7 Feb 1949; recommended by Weems 17
Feb 1949

Year of Publication: 1949

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 5480 “Water Supply – Lodge Unit A & Service Center”
2 March 1949; designed by Newcomb 4 March 1949;
recommended by Weems 4 Mar 1949

Year of Publication: 1949

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2080 “Parking Area Expansion – Bluff Service Center”
Designed by Vancleve 23 Feb 1949; recommended by Weems 7
Mar 1949

Year of Publication: 1949

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 5485 “Parking Area Expansion – Service Center – The Bluffs”
4 August 1949; Designed by Newcomb 4 Aug 1949;
recommended by Weems 4 August 1949

Year of Publication: 1949

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2386 B “Road System Plan – Part of the Master Plan”
April 1952; drawn by Lewis and checked by Abbuehl

Year of Publication: 1952

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2174 C "Road System Plan – Part of the Master Plan"
May 1952; Designed by PWK – WHG

Year of Publication: 1952

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2386 C "Road System Plan – Part of the Master Plan"
June 1952; drawn by Lewis and checked by Abbuehl

Year of Publication: 1952

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2174 D "Road System Plan – Part of the Master Plan"
May 1952 – revised Oct 1956; Designed by PWK – WHG

Year of Publication: 1956

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 5468 "Utilities – Coffee Shop & Service Sta."
1 Jan 1954; designed by McBatten; recommended by Weems 17
Dec 1953

Year of Publication: 1954

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 5468 A "(Overlay) Utilities – Coffee Shop and Service Sta."

Year of Publication: 1954

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2151 "Visitor Center #396 – Doughton Park"
16 Nov 1956

Year of Publication: 1956

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 3036 "Central Development Plan – Doughton Park – Part of the
Master Plan"
14 June 1960; recommended by Weems 23 June 1960

Year of Publication: 1960

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2174 E "General Development Plans – Part of the Master Plan"
Feb 1961; designed by PWK – WNG and checked by Abbuehl

Year of Publication: 1961

Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Title: 2078 G “Doughton Park, NC – Developed Areas & Utilities Plan
– Part of the Master Plan”
Dec 1962 (revised by RSB from May 1954 and Jan 1952
versions); designed by VC – WHG

Year of Publication: 1962

Source Name: DSC/TIC