

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED DEC 6 1979

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Hensley Settlement

AND/OR COMMON

Same

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Cubage, vicinity of

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

21

COUNTY

Bell

CODE

013

**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**☒ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☐ YES: RESTRICTED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☒ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☒ PARK☒ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 AGENCY**

Department of the Interior, National Park Service

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

Southeast Regional Office

STREET &amp; NUMBER

1895 Phoenix Boulevard

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia

code:13

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Office of the Clerk of Bell County

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Pineville

STATE

Kentucky

code:21

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

David and Neeley

DATE

1945

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park

CITY, TOWN

PO Box 840, Middlesboro

STATE

Kentucky

code:21

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

#### Hensley Settlement Historic District

Hensley Settlement was an isolated mountain community on a 500-acre tract on a ridge atop Brush Mountain. Populated between 1903 and 1951 it contained approximately 120 people during the 1930's. A total of 45 structures existed at one time. Most of these were built of chestnut logs with rived oak roofs. The settlement was named for Sherman Hensley, one of the first settlers and the last resident of the community.

The settlement is located on a relatively level portion of the mountain above the northwestern slope at an elevation of 3,260 feet. When Sherman Hensley arrived, an Oak-Chestnut forest existed. This was probably a second or third growth forest, the area having been logged and burned extensively during the Nineteenth Century. As the settlement expanded land was cleared for farming until about 500 acres were open by 1951. Fields were used primarily for pasture and planting of corn. Agricultural practices resulted in deterioration of the land in many cases. In the quarter-century since the settlement was abandoned, a Virginia Pine mixed hardwood forest has grown up. Today approximately 100 acres are still open.

Beginning in 1967-68 a partial restoration of the settlement was accomplished by the Cumberland Gap Job Corps. Approximately half of the structures were totally reconstructed using new materials while the others were partial reconstructions incorporating varying amounts of the original fabric. This work was based on personal interviews with inhabitants of the settlement and directed by a former resident, Jesse Gibbons, who was familiar with the construction techniques utilized in the original work. The settlement appears much as it did in 1930.

The restored area consists of three major farmsteads. Each farmstead contained a house, barn, granary, smokehouse, chicken house, hog pen and outhouse. Also included in the restored area is a school and blacksmith shop. Current plans are to convert the major part of the settlement into a Living Historical Farm using the restored structures for agricultural and interpretive purposes.

Although the park museum collection includes many items representative of Hensley Settlement life style, only a few catalogued items are identified as original objects used or manufactured on site during the period 1904-1950 and are primarily household equipment and parts of farm implements, such as pots, chairs, plows.

A description of the individual structures within the historic district follows.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED DEC 6 1979

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

1. Willie Gibbons House (H-1)

The Willie Gibbons house is a three-room (kitchen, sitting room, and bedroom) and porch, 21 X 45 foot hewn log structure, erected in 1924. The log walls are dovetailed at the corners and the mud-filled chinks are sealed on both sides by rived boards, covered on the interior with pasted layers of newspaper, which served as wallpaper and protection. The gabled ends of the walls are of horizontal rived boards nailed to hewn studs. The roof is of hand-rived oak boards nailed to rived shingles. Ceilings are whip-sawed chestnut. Puncheon floors are chestnut up to three inches thick. The board-enclosed fireplaces between the kitchen and living room are served by a chimney built of random sandstone laid in clay mortar. A covered porch extends along the entire east wall; its roof is supported by a single forty-foot hand hewn chestnut beam. Willie Gibbons and his family lived in this house until 1948. The Cumberland Gap Job Corps Center rebuilt the Willie Gibbons house in 1968 using 50% original materials.

2. Willie Gibbons Barn (H-2)

The Willie Gibbons barn is a two-story rived board structure; 40' x 29' x 25' high. Built originally in 1924, it contains five animal stalls, a livestock shed and a machine shed on the first floor. The entire second floor was used for hay and fodder storage. The foundations were stone posts, the floor was dirt, and it had a gabled roof. Wood was chestnut and oak. The Willie Gibbons barn is the largest structure at the Settlement. Reconstruction was completed by the Job Corps in 1968.

3. Willie Gibbons Granary (H-3)

This structure was built originally in 1925. A one-story structure measuring about 13' x 17' constructed of hewn chestnut logs and rived boards. Corn, still on the cob, would be stored here prior to being ground for human consumption, or used as fodder for livestock. Rebuilt by the Cumberland Gap Job Corps in 1967, only the large chestnut logs and some flooring remain of the original building material.

4. Willie Gibbons Smokehouse (H-4)

A one-story hewn log structure, with shake roof, measuring about 10' x 11' which was totally reconstructed of new materials by the Cumberland Gap Job Corps in 1968. This building has been misnamed as the meat kept here was salt cured rather than smoked. Pork was the only meat kept for any length of time. The structure was originally constructed in 1925.

5. Willie Gibbons Hen House (H-5)

Reconstructed by the Cumberland Gap Job Corps of 100% new material in 1967. This one-story log structure measures about 7' x 12'. The hen house was used as a roost only since nest boxes were not provided. The roof was gabled, and a dirt floor existed in the original structure, built in 1925.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED DEC 6 1979

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

6. Willie Gibbons Outhouse(H-6)

A one-story rived oak board structure with puncheon floor reconstructed of 100% new materials by the Cumberland Gap Job Corps in 1967. Measurements are about 5' x 6'. This structure was originally built in 1930; it has a stone foundation.

7. Willie Gibbons Spring House (H-7)

A one-story structure of stone and logs measuring about 8' x 9'. It was reconstructed of 100% new materials by the Cumberland Gap Job Corps in 1967. The Spring House was used all year to store perishable items, and as a fresh water source.

8. Brush Mountain School House (H-8)

Brush Mountain School House was originally built about 1928 and reconstructed in 1972 using 40% new materials. This was the second school building erected on this site, the first having been built in 1912. The structure was a one-story hewn log building covered with rived boards, a shake roof and oak puncheon floor. Measurements are 19' x 30'. This is the only structure with a brick chimney. In 1925, forty children were enrolled; in 1943, sixteen children attended classes. A total of eight grades were taught, usually by teachers who boarded at the Settlement. A pot-bellied stove was used to provide warmth in the winter. Regular desks and a slate blackboard were interior furnishings.

9. Liege Hensley House (H-9)

A one-story hewn log structure measuring approximately 30' x 23'. The house was constructed of chestnut logs with a white oak rived board roof. Sherman Hensley lived in this house during his last years at the Settlement.

10. Lige Gibbons House (H-10)

The Lige Gibbons House was built in 1922, of hewn logs with oak puncheon floors and a board roof. The outside dimensions are 24' x 23'. The house contained a bedroom, kitchen, dining room, pantry and living room, plus an outside porch. Restoration of the Lige Gibbons House in 1972 utilized 25% of the original materials. Lige Gibbons built the sandstone fireplace, daubing the interior and plastering the exterior stones. Newspapers were pasted on the walls, and two storage wells were located under the kitchen and south bedroom. Lige and his family lived in the house until 1947, when they abandoned it and moved off the mountain.

11. Lige Gibbons Barn (H-11)

Built about 1930, it was a two-story structure of rived boards and hand hewn poles, measuring about 15' x 18'. This building was reconstructed of 100% new materials in 1967 by the Cumberland Gap Job Corps. The barn is currently in use as

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED DEC 6 1979

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 3

a stable for the farm stock, consisting of two mules and a horse. The loft stored soy beans, timothy and hay. Lige kept up to three milk cows, wintering them in the barn.

12. Lige Gibbons Hen House (H-12)

A one-story rived board structure measuring about 6' x 8', it was reconstructed by the Cumberland Gap Job Corps of approximately 60% new materials.

13. Lige Gibbons Corn Crib (H-13)

A one-story hewn log structure measuring about 11' x 12', and was reconstructed of 100% new material by the Cumberland Gap Job Corps in 1967. The original building was erected in 1930. Corn would be gathered in the field and hauled in to the corn crib.

14. Lige Gibbons Outhouse (H-14)

A one-story structure of rived boards measuring approximately 5' x 7'. Exterior and interior walls were log and board, with a lean-to board roof. This building was constructed of 100% new materials by the Cumberland Gap Job Corps in 1967.

15. Sherman Hensley House (H-15)

Built prior to 1903, a one-story hewn log structure measuring approximately 33' x 26' and it has not been restored. Its structural condition and general state of repair must be described as poor. This house was standing when Sherman Hensley moved onto the mountain in 1903.

16. Sherman Hensley Corn Crib (H-16)

This was a one-story hewn log structure measuring about 10' x 8'. This building was been well documented with drawings, photographs, and on oral history tapes.

17. Sherman Hensley Hen House (H-17)

A one-story hewn log structure measuring approximately 6' x 9', this building has been well documented and can easily be rebuilt to exact specifications should the need arise.

18. Wallace Hensley House (H-18)

The only remains of this structure are a few logs and stones from the foundation.

19. Willie Gibbons Apple Hole (H-22)

This is not a building as such, but an underground vegetable keeper. It is a square hole 3' x 3' and about 3' deep. The hole was lined with rived boards and covered with a board lid. Although called an apple hole, a wide variety of fruits

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	DEC 6 1979
DATE ENTERED	

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 4

and vegetables were kept here at various times. It was constructed of 100% new material in 1968 by the Cumberland Gap Job Corps.

20. Willie Gibbons Hog House (H-23)

This one-story structure consists of all new materials and measures about 15' x 6'. Hogs were kept up only while being fattened prior to butchering. Little room was allowed for the hogs to move around.

21. Lige Gibbons Hog Pen (H-24)

A one-story rived board structure with puncheon floor. It was reconstructed in 1967 of 100% new material by the Cumberland Gap Job Corps. Measurements are 10" x 12'. Two feed doors are used.

22. Willie Gibbons Woodshed (H-25)

A one-story rived board structure measuring about 12' x 10', it was reconstructed of 100% new material by the Cumberland Gap Job Corps in 1968. Although called a woodshed, this building held coal more often than wood. A rectangular slot in the front permitted easy unloading of a wagon, while coal was removed from the shed through a door on the side nearest the cabin.

23. Willie Gibbons Blacksmith Shop (H-26)

Built originally in 1918, the blacksmith shop burned sometime before 1955. A one-story hewn log structure measuring approximately 27' x 12', it was reconstructed of 50% new material by the Job Corps in 1968. Although called a blacksmith shop, the majority of this building was used as a carpentry shop. There are two rooms, two windows and a dirt floor. Much of the furniture and other household items were made by Willie Gibbons in the blacksmith shop.

24. Finley Hensley House (H-28)

A one-story log structure measuring about 24' x 30'. Current plans are for this structure to be stabilized.

25. Willie Gibbons Sheep Barn (H-33)

A two-story rived board structure measuring approximately 14' x 26', it was reconstructed of 100% new materials in 1973. The upper floor was used as a hay loft while the sheep were kept in the dirt-floored lower room of the building. Sheep were allowed to run free until time for shearing or slaughter. Willie Gibbons kept up to forty sheep.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED DEC 6 1979

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 5

26. Brush Mountain School Outhouse #1 (H-34)

A one-story rived board, puncheon floored, shake roofed structure measuring about 6' x 5' reconstructed of 100% new materials in 1972.

27. Brush Mountain School Outhouse #2 (H-35)

A one-story, rived board, puncheon floored, shake roofed structure measuring about 6' x 5' reconstructed in 1972 with 100% new materials.

28. Hensley Graveyard (H-36)

The cemetery was first used for burials in the 1920's and continued in use by inhabitants of the Settlement until 1944. Thirty-five grave sites exist today in the cemetery, all marked with head stones, a few with foot stones. Eight of Sherman Hensley's children, and his wife, are interred in the cemetery. A minister would normally "come up" from the valley to conduct funeral services when needed. The cemetery is located opposite the school house and is surrounded by a picket fence with one gate. All the head and foot stones are whitewashed and the Hensley descendants return to the Settlement periodically to place flowers on the graves and pay their respects to the deceased family members.

29. Gillis Lee House (H-37)

The only remains of the structure are the chimney stones now fallen into a pile. The house was built by Gillis Lee prior to 1903, and later lived in by Oscar Hensley.

30. Oscar Hensley House (H-38)

A one-story log structure measuring about 22' x 43', that has not been restored. Its structural condition and state of repair are poor.

31. Sherman Hensley Stock Pen (H-39)

A rail fence enclosure measuring 22' x 25', probably used for a stock pen. All that remains of this structure are four sections of fence, two or three rails high.

32. Sherman Hensley Smoke House (H-40)

This was a one-story hewn log structure measuring about 8' x 10'.

33. Wallace Hensley Barn (H-41)

This structure was destroyed by fire in 1950, and all that remains are a few pieces of hardware and some charred logs, now underground.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 6

34. Grant Hensley Cabin (H-42)

All that remains of this structure are chimney rocks, now on the ground. Present plans are to demonstrate cabin building at this site.

35. Bert Hensley House (H-19)

One-story log cabin, gable roof, 34 x 31 feet. Rebuilt by Job Corps in 1969, the structure is modernized inside for use as park housing.

36. Finley Hensley Barn (H-20)

One and a half story, 16 x 17 feet, gable roof, log and rived board structure.

37. Finley Hensley Springhouse (H-21)

Only site of structure remains.

38. Park Hensley House (H-27)

One story log structure measuring 28 x 30 feet. Under 106 approval is being modernized inside for use as park housing.

39. Finley Hensley Granary (H-29)

One story hewn log structure, 14 x 23 feet. It is badly deteriorated.

40. Bert Hensley Smokehouse (H-30)

One story hewn log structure measuring 10 x 11 feet with gable roof. Reconstructed by Job Corps in 1969 of 100% new material.

41. Bert Hensley Barn (H-32)

No structural remains; only site.

42. Bert Hensley Chickenhouse (H-31)

One story log structure, 8 x 10 feet, gable roof. Reconstructed in 1969.

43. Bert Hensley Hoghouse (H-43)

One story log, measuring 8 x 10 feet, reconstructed in 1969.

The following structures located in the maintenance area within the cleared area of the historic district are non-conforming intrusions constructed as a Job Corps Spike Camp in 1968 and currently used by the National Park Service for maintenance of Hensley Settlement and as a base station for backcountry patrols.

A. Maintenance Building

A one story 58' x 28' tin structure on a pole frame with dirt floor.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED DEC 6 1979

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 7

Structure contains 18' X 15' workshop, 18' X 11' wood storage room, and 32' X 18' vehicle/tools storage bay.

B. Storage Building

This one-story 8' X 8' plywood structure with 2 X 4 framework, plywood floor, and tarpaper roof is adjacent to the Maintenance Building. It is used to store fencing supplies.

C. Flammable Liquid Storage

A one-room 7' X 10' metal structure with metal gable roof and plywood floor, this structure covers an underground gasoline tank and contains gasoline outlet pump, gasoline cans for portable power equipment.

D. Pump House

This one-story plywood structure with tarpaper roof, 14' X 15', is divided into two rooms to provide storage for mobile fire pumper and emergency first aid equipment and shelter for well pump and water treatment equipment.

E. Wash House

A one-story 40' X 12' building originally used by Job Corps as shower/lavatory facility. Now used as lavatory-bunk facility for NPS employees assigned to back-country temporary duty.

F. Cook Shed

A plywood structure 14' X 8' with plywood floor and tarpaper roof was used by Job Corps as cooking facility for spike camp. Now used for storage.

There are a total of forty-eight buildings within the historic district. Of these, forty contribute to the qualities that make the property eligible for nomination while the remainder do not. Future plans are to remove nonconforming intrusions from the historic district when a modern maintenance/administration area is developed outside and concealed from the district.

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1903-1951

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hensley Settlement preserves a disappearing culture in American History and reflects the operation of a complete and nearly self-sufficient isolated Southern Appalachian community as it existed in the decades before and after 1900. It is unique not for this reason only, but also as a complex that survived until after World War II and whose elements, though deteriorated, remained present until the late 1960's when restoration began. A number of these elements combine to make it a significant part of Southern Appalachian culture: 1. The architecture, design and construction of the buildings; 2. Its extreme isolation from other communities and services; and 3. The communal nature of the settlement.

The Hensleys and Gibbons were the two family names connected with the settlement, the Gibbons marrying into the Hensley family and going to the mountain to join the Hensleys. The families at the settlement lived what would be considered today a "simple" life, concerned with managing their farms and families with little time for social amenities. They did walk off the mountain when necessary to buy supplies and equipment, and were not totally isolated from the outside world. A great deal of cooperation was necessary to maintain life at the settlement.

- I. Because the settlement at Hensley developed in a period of twenty years to its full size, the architecture of the buildings was very similar. This similarity was reinforced by the isolation factor. Today the district retains much of its 1930's appearance; however, intrusions such as the Maintenance Building and seven other maintenance structures tend to break the spell of having stepped back in time.

The district boundaries are based on the portion of the area still clear of tree growth and other areas containing evidence of past human activity. Though some 200 acres of the 500 acres owned by the Hensleys and Gibbonses were under cultivation at Hensley Settlement during its peak years, many of the open fields have reverted to the second or third growth forest and brush. An arbitrary boundary for the district was thus established to include all known sites of historic structures and a buffer zone around known sites.

- II. Objects in the collection are important because of their association with the historic period represented by the nominated property. Having a direct



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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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RECEIVED DEC 6 1979

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

relationship to life at the Settlement, they are necessary to understand the historic residents, their work, and social life. They also are important specimens in the study collection--as examples of the type items to be acquired to improve interpretation of Hensley Settlement.

Though Hensley Settlement is a 20th century community, life there was reminiscent of a way of life common in the late 19th century. The settlement was a group of people who chose to live in an isolated community without attempting radical social or religious change. This was a true community, working, raising families, farming, dying--a microcosm of pioneer life of an earlier era.

Hensley Settlement social, architectural, and agricultural significance would be diminished if compared to 18th and 19th century practices; however, its significance is the fact that due to its isolation it preserved into the mid 20th century a early 19th century culture as a unified community rather than a few isolated homesteads. The restored settlement provides a unique opportunity for study of Appalachian Mountain culture. Although other areas portray segments of Appalachian lifestyle, only Hensley Settlement preserves an entire nearly self-sufficient community with much of the original fabric on the original site.

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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CONTINUATION SHEET Hensley Settlement TEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

All structures stabilized, restored, and reconstructed at Hensley Settlement are on their original sites. Four sources of documentation were used in determining original sites and accuracy of structure appearance.

1. Hensley Flats Archaeological Base Map -  
This map was drawn from an aerial photograph (BUG-16-100) made March 22, 1939, at the time Hensley Settlement was at its peak of development. Although the map could not describe structure style, it very accurately locates structures in relation to streams, fields, and fences.
2. Existing foundations and walks -  
At the time of Settlement restoration the foundations, and in most cases, the walks, of all large structures were still standing to positively locate site and to aid in accurately rebuilding the structures. The only structures requiring complete reconstruction were small farm buildings such as pit toilets, chicken houses, etc.
3. Jesse Gibbons - Settlement Resident  
Mr. Gibbons was born at Hensley Settlement in 1913 and lived there until his marriage at age 26 in 1939. After leaving the Settlement he lived nearby and frequently visited the mountain top until the Settlement closed. Mr. Gibbons was hired as construction supervisor by the Job Corps and by the National Park Service from 1967 until 1974. Using his knowledge of both historic construction techniques and the structures at the Settlement he personally directed all stabilization, restoration, and reconstruction activities.
4. Oral History Tapes - Former Settlement Residents  
Between 1971 and 1978 Park Historians recorded 87 oral history tapes that include construction information. Although recorded after most reconstructions were completed these tapes confirm the accuracy of rebuilt structures.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Oral history tapes on file at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 139  
UTM REFERENCES

A 1,7 2,7,4 8,0,0 4,0,6,0,9,2,0  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
C 1,7 2,7,3 2,8,0 4,0,6,1,0,5,0

B 1,7 2,7,4 1,6,0 4,0,6,0,2,2,0  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
D 1,7 2,7,3 9,1,5 4,0,6,1,7,4,0

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of nominated property is shown as the red line on the accompanying 7.5 topographical map. Boundaries were established to encompass 60 acres presently cleared and 79 acres forest including all known structures either restored, reconstructed, ~~or~~ planned for preservation, or known sites

### LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Keithel C. Morgan

ORGANIZATION

Cumberland Gap National Park

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

PO Box 840

TELEPHONE

606 248 2817

CITY OR TOWN

Middlesboro

STATE

Kentucky 40965

## 12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES ☒

NO ☐

NONE ☐

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

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

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

Asst. Dir., Cultural Resources

DATE

12-5-79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 1/8/80

ATTEST

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 1/2/80

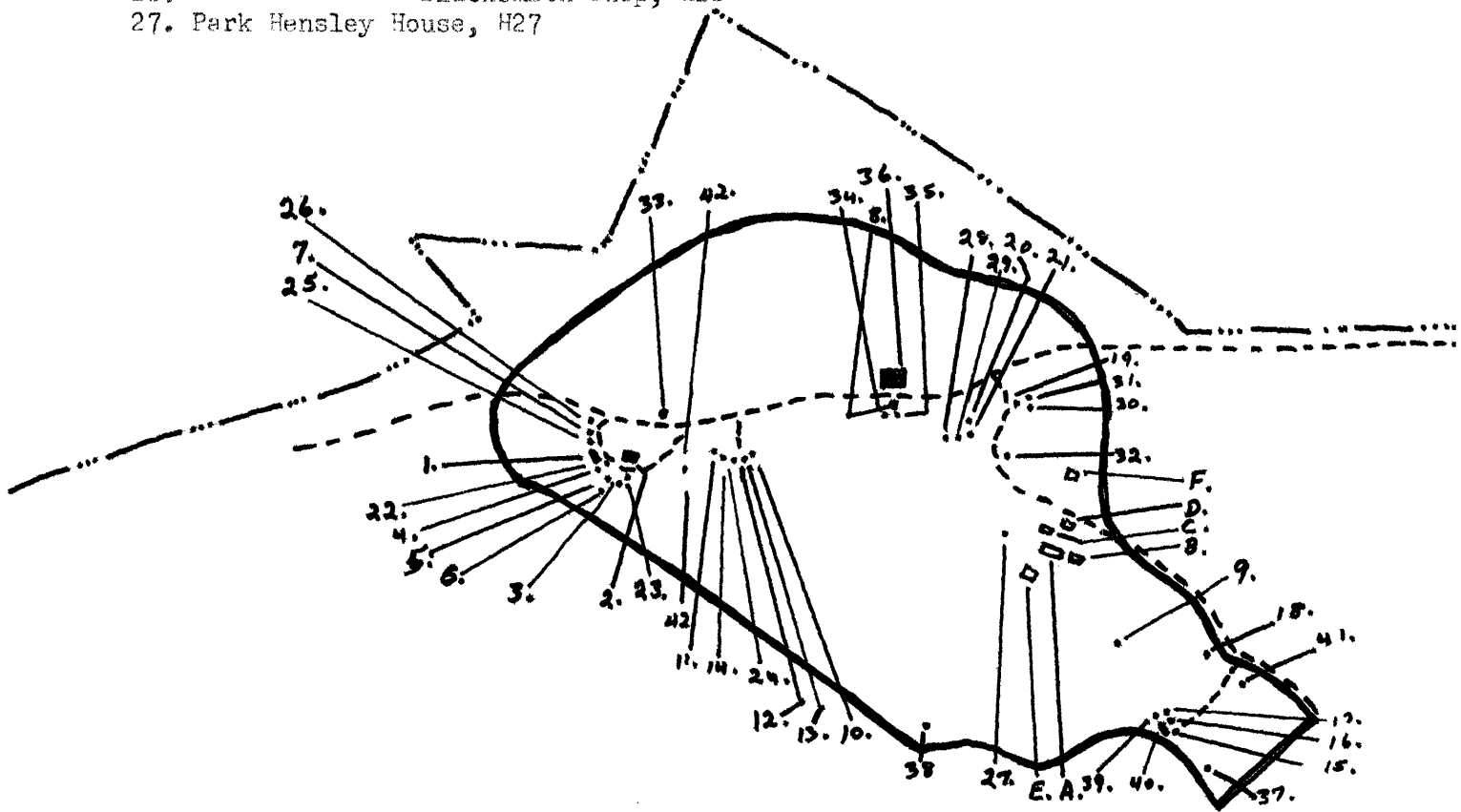
Hensley Settlement Historic District-Kentucky  
Cumberland Gap National Historical Park

STRUCTURES

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Willie Gibbons House, H1        | 28. Finley Hensley House, H28           |
| 2. " " Barn, H2                    | 29. Finley Hensley Granary, H29         |
| 3. " " Granary, H3                 | 30. Bert Hensley Smokehouse, H30        |
| 4. " " Smokehouse, H4              | 31. " " Chicken House, H31              |
| 5. " " Hen House, H5               | 32. " " Barn Site, H32                  |
| 6. " " Outhouse, H6                | 33. Willie Gibbons Sheep Barn, H33      |
| 7. " " Spring House, H7            | 34. Brush Mountain School Outhouse, H34 |
| 8. Brush Mountain School House, H8 | 35. " " " " " " , H35                   |
| 9. Liege Hensley House, H9         | 36. Hensley Graveyard, H36              |
| 10. Liege Gibbons House, H10       | 37. Gillis Lee House, H37               |
| 11. " " Barn, H11                  | 38. Oscar Hensley House, H38            |
| 12. " " Hen House, H12             | 39. Sherman Hensley Stockpen, H39       |
| 13. " " Corn Crib, H13             | 40. " " Smoke House, H40                |
| 14. " " Outhouse, H14              | 41. Wallace Hensley Barn, H41           |
| 15. Sherman Hensley House, H15     | 42. Grabt Hensley Cabin, H42            |
| 16. " " Corn Crib, H16             |   |
| 17. " " Hen House, H17             |   |
| 18. Wallace Hensley House, H18     |   |
| 19. Bert Hensley House, H19        |   |
| 20. Finley Hensley Barn, H20       |   |
| 21. " " Spring House, H21          |   |
| 22. Willie Gibbons Apple Hole, H22 |   |
| 23. " " Hog House, H23             |   |
| 24. Liege Gibbons Hog House, H24   |   |
| 25. Willie Gibbons Woodshed, H25   |   |
| 26. " " Blacksmith Shop, H26       |   |
| 27. Park Hensley House, H27        |   |

Non-conforming Elements

- A. Maintenance Building
- B. Storage Building
- C. Flammable Liquids Storage
- D. Pump House
- E. Wash House
- F. Cook Shed



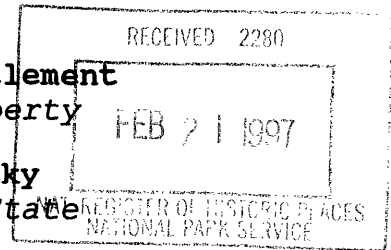
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

National Register Amendment Page 1

**Hensley Settlement**  
name of property

**Bell, Kentucky**  
**county and State**



## Hensley Settlement

Vicinity of Cabbage, Bell County, Kentucky

The Hensley Settlement was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on January 8, 1980. Documentation for the district included forty-three contributing and six non-contributing properties. This amendment seeks to reclassify three buildings previously identified as contributing to non-contributing status. The Park Hensley and Bert Hensley houses are both inaccurate reconstructions lacking sufficient integrity for listing in the National Register, and the Finley Hensley Barn has lost approximately ninety percent of its original materials, resulting in a loss of integrity of materials. A fourth building, the Finley Hensley Granary, needs to be removed from the register because it has been razed. *This amendment includes only information needed to identify and evaluate these resources and clarify their status in regard to National Register criteria.*

### State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ✓ nomination        request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property     meets     does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant     nationally     statewide     locally. (     See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Ronald M. Greenberg  
Signature of certifying official

2/21/97  
Date

National Park Service

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Hensley Settlement  
name of property

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Bell, Kentucky  
county and State

National Register Amendment Page 2

National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

_____ entered in the National Register	_____	_____
_____ See continuation sheet.		
_____ determined eligible for the	_____	_____
_____ National Register		
_____ See continuation sheet.		
_____ determined not eligible for the	_____	_____
_____ National Register		
_____ removed from the National Register	_____	_____
_____ other (explain): _____		

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

Number of Resources within the Historic District

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	<u>3</u>	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National  
Register 43

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Hensley Settlement  
name of property

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Bell, Kentucky  
county and State

National Register Amendment Page 3

### Description of Noncontributing Properties

#### *Bert Hensley House (building)*

The 34-foot-long by 32-foot-wide by 15-foot-high, one-story, side-gable roof house has a front (southwest) ell extension. The house is constructed of hewn logs with wood shingle in-fill on a continuous fieldstone foundation. A shed-roof front porch sits inside the right angle of the ell. Windows are 6/6 double-hung, wood sash type. Roof, gables, and south wall are covered with wood shakes. Ell extension has small front gable addition on front with door providing access to basement.

#### *Park Hensley House (building)*

One-and-a-half story, hewn log building with side gable, wood shake roof measures 31 feet long by 30 feet wide with a height of 16.5 feet. Log construction house has rived siding over chinks. Building has continuous fieldstone foundation with full basement; chimney on south corner is also made of fieldstone. Front facade has a full-width porch and two wood batten doors. At rear, basement is at grade; a wood stair leads upward to stoop at main floor. All siding is horizontal, except on the southeast facade, where it is vertical. The walls are joined with dovetail notches. Windows are 6/6, double-hung wood sash.

#### *Finley Hensley Barn (building)*

Single pen building measuring 17 feet long by 17 feet wide by 14.5 feet high has a wood shake gable roof, fieldstone foundation, and hewn log exterior with rived wood siding over chinks. The building was reconstructed in the 1970s and restored by the National Park Service in 1996. As a result of repair and restoration efforts, approximately ninety percent of the original materials have been destroyed.

#### *Finley Hensley Granary*

The National Park Service razed the Finley Hensley Granary between 1980 and 1995. No physical remains of the structure exist.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Hensley Settlement  
name of property

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Bell, Kentucky  
county and State

National Register Amendment Page 4

**Registration Requirements/Integrity**

The original statement of significance for the Hensley Settlement described the architecture, design, and construction of the houses and outbuildings in the community as contributing to the importance of the district. The statement of significance also indicated that the isolation of the community, the rustic lifestyle of its residents, and its survival into the mid-twentieth century all contributed to the significance of the Hensley Settlement.

The Finley Hensley Granary was in badly deteriorated condition in 1980 when the nomination for Hensley Settlement was approved. Since that time, the building has been razed and the wood used for repairs elsewhere in the community. Since the structure is no longer extant, it should be removed from the National Register.

The Finley Hensley Barn has lost approximately ninety percent of its original materials over the past fifteen years. Although the design may reflect the historic appearance of the structure, the almost complete loss of original materials represents a significant loss of integrity. As a result, the barn is a noncontributing property within the Hensley Settlement district.

The Job Corps restored or reconstructed twenty-two buildings in the Hensley Settlement between 1967 and 1974. Jesse Gibbons, a former settlement resident, supervised the work. The Park Hensley and Bert Hensley houses were reconstructed by the Job Corps during this time; however, both of these buildings later were modernized for use as park housing. As a result, the two houses do not represent the type of architecture, design, and construction considered significant in the original district nomination. Both houses lack integrity of design, feeling, and association.

The design of the Park Hensley and Bert Hensley houses deviates from that found throughout the rest of the Hensley Settlement. Both houses have solid fieldstone foundations, unlike the pier foundations found elsewhere in the district. The Park Hensley and Bert Hensley houses are also the only two buildings with basements in the district. The interiors of these two buildings are also dramatically altered by the addition of modern flooring, wall treatments, and kitchen equipment. As a result of these and other design differences, the Park Hensley and Bert Hensley houses lack integrity of design and do not contribute to the significance of the district.

The distinctive design differences between these two houses and the rest of the buildings in the district also contributes to the lack of integrity of feeling and association. The modernization of the houses contrasts sharply with the frontier settlement character reflected throughout the rest of the community. As a result of the lack of integrity of design, feeling, and association, the Park Hensley and Bert Hensley houses should be classified as non-contributing structures within the Hensley Settlement historic district.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Hensley Settlement  
name of property

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Bell, Kentucky  
county and State

National Register Amendment Page 5

### Contributing Resources

Willie Gibbons House (IDLCS 07042), barn (07043), granary (07044), smokehouse (07045), hen house (07046), outhouse (07047), spring house (07048), apple hole (07062), hog house (07063), woodshed (07065), blacksmith shop (07066), sheep barn (07072)  
Brush Mountain School House (IDLCS 07049), Outhouse #1 (07074), Outhouse #2 (07075)  
Liege Hensley House (IDLCS 07050)  
Liege Gibbons House (IDLCS 07050), barn (07052), hen house (07053), corn crib (07054), outhouse (07055), hog pen (07064)  
Sherman Hensley House ruin (IDLCS 07056), corn crib ruin (07057), hen house ruin (07058), smokehouse ruin (07069), stock pen ruin  
Wallace Hensley House Ruin (IDLCS 07059), barn ruin  
Finley Hensley House (IDLCS 07068), springhouse site, granary site  
Bert Hensley smokehouse (IDLCS 07071), chicken house (07076), hog house (07077), barn site  
Hensley Graveyard (IDLCS 07075)  
Gillis Lee House ruin  
Oscar Hensley House ruin  
Grant Hensley Cabin ruin

### Noncontributing Resources

Bert Hensley House  
Finley Hensley barn (IDLCS 07061)  
Park Hensley House  
Maintenance building  
Storage building  
Flammable liquid storage building  
Pump house  
Wash house  
Cook shed

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Hensley Settlement  
name of property

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Bell, Kentucky  
county and State

National Register Amendment Page 6

**Photographs**

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park  
Bell County, Kentucky  
Photos: Jennifer D. Brown and Jill K. Hanson  
Location of Negatives: NPS, SESO  
September 1995

1. Bert Hensley House, view from northwest
2. Park Hensley House, view from east
3. Liege Gibbons Farm, view from west
4. Finley Hensley House, view from northwest

**Property Owner**

name National Park Service  
street & number P.O. Box 37127 telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Washington state DC zip code 20013-7127

**Form Prepared By**

name/title Jennifer D. Brown, Historian  
organization National Park Service, Southeast Region  
date January 30, 1997 telephone (404) 562-3117  
street & number Atlanta Federal Center, 1924 Building, 100 Alabama St., SW  
city or town Atlanta state GA zip code 30303



Hensley Settlement, Willie  
Gibbons Farm, near Cubbage,  
Bell County, Ky.

National Park Service, May 1974  
Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 2 - View of Woodshed, House,  
and Smokehouse. Facing South.

JAN 8 1980

DEC 9 1976



# Willie G. Gibbons Barn

H-2

Hensley Settlement, Willie Gibbons Barn, near Cubbage, Bell County, Ky.

National Park Service, May 1974  
Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 3 - Looking west across main part of structure.

JAN 8 1980

DEC 9 1976





H-3

WILLIE GIBBONS GRANARY

Hensley Settlement, Willie  
Gibbons Granary, near Cabbage,  
Bell County, Ky.  
National Park Service, May 1974,  
Cumberland Gap, NHP

Photo 4 - Front view - looking  
generally north

JAN 8 1980

DEC 9 1976





H-4

WILLIE GIBBONS SMOKEHOUSE

Hensley Settlement, Willie  
Gibbons Smokehouse, Near Cabbage,  
Bell County, Ky.

National Park Service, January,  
1974

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 5 - Facing front of  
Smokehouse - view generally north.

DEC 9 1976



WILLIE GIBBONS

HENHOUSE

H 5

Hensley Settlement, Willie  
Gibbons Henhouse, near Cubbage,  
Bell County, Ky.

National Park Service, January,  
1974

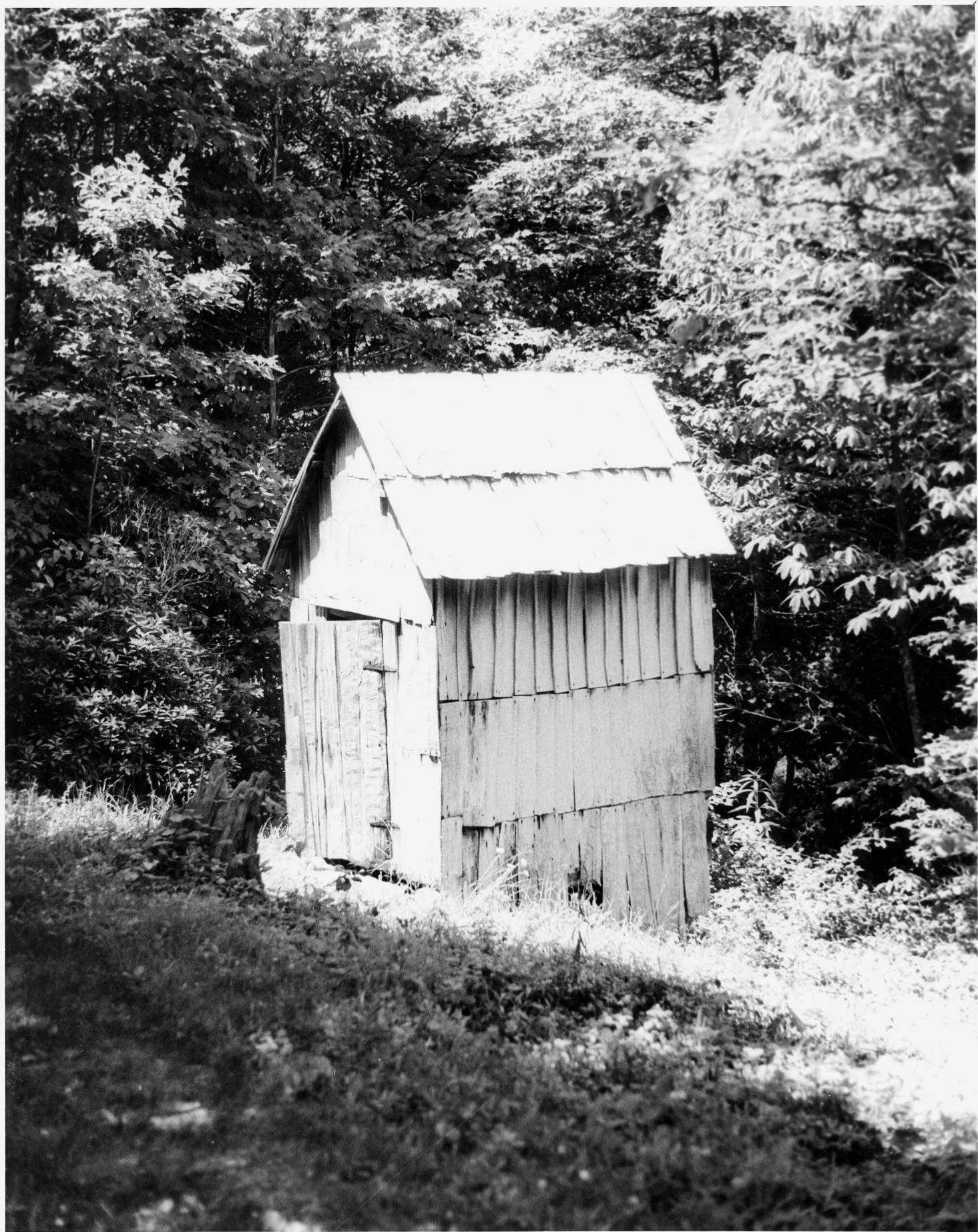
Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 6 - Looking generally west  
view of building and main door

JAN 8 1980

DEC 9 1976





Hensley Settlement, Willie  
Gibbons Outhouse, near Cubbage,  
Bell County, Ky.

National Park Service, January  
1974 JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 7 - Facing generally  
northwest, view of front of  
structure

12/9/76



# H-7 WILLIE GIBBONS SPRING-HOUSE

Hensley Settlement, Brush  
~~Mountain School House~~, near  
Cabbage, Bell County, Ky.  
National Park Service, May, 1974  
Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 8 - View of entrance,  
facing generally east.

JAN 8 1980

DEC 9 1976





Hensley Settlement, Brush  
Mountain School House, near  
Cubbage, Bell County, Ky.  
National Park Service, May 1974

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 9 - View of front and side,  
showing porch and front door,  
facing south.

DEC 9 1976



Hensley Settlement, Liege  
Hensley House, near Cubbage,  
Bell County, Ky.  
National Park Service, November,  
1974

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP  
Photo 10 - Front viewing facing  
generally north.

DEC 9 1976

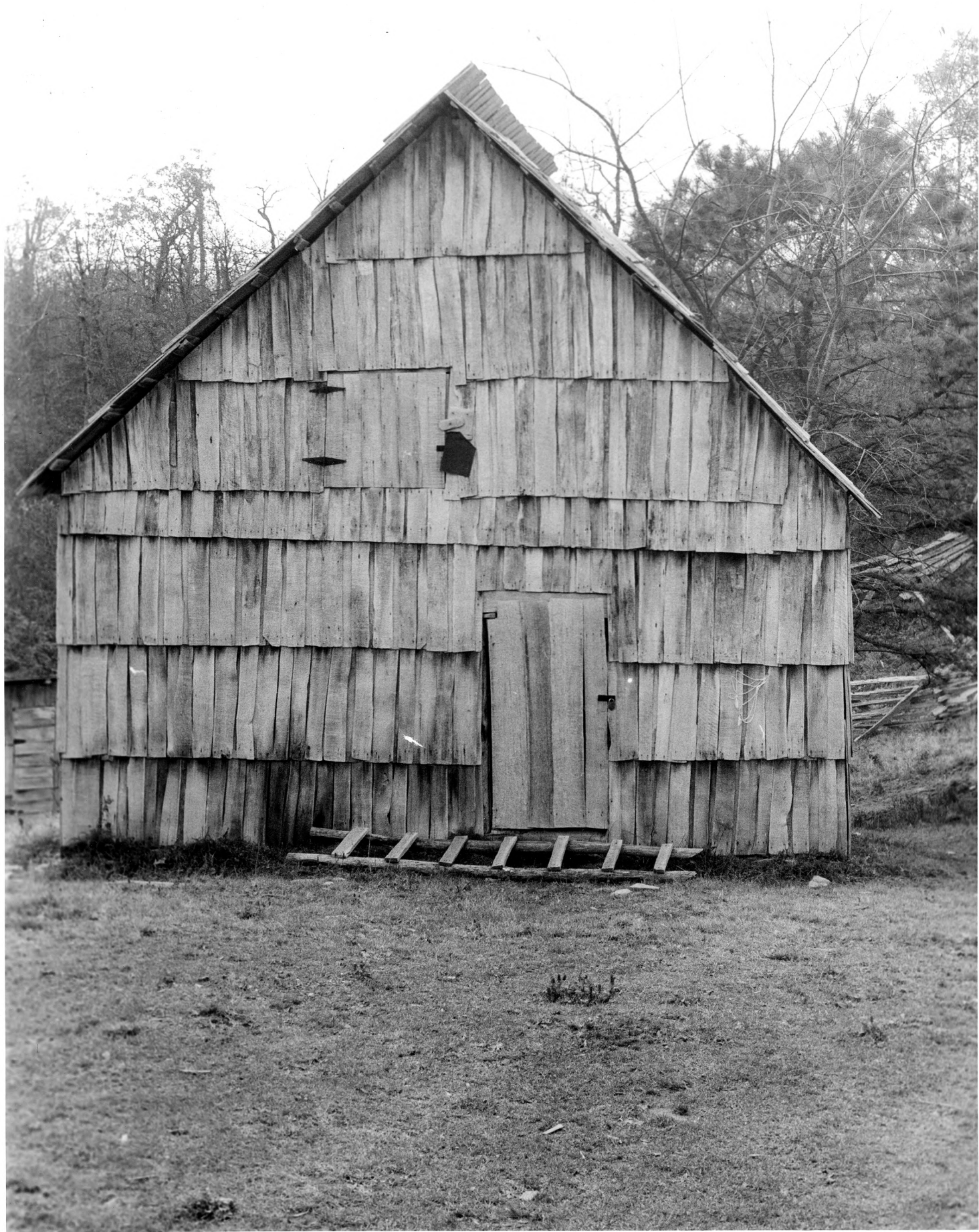




Hensley Settlement, Lige  
Gibbons Farm, near Cabbage,  
Bell County, Ky. JAN 8 1980  
National Park Service, May, 1974

Cumberland Gap NHP  
Photo 11 - View of farmstead,  
showing house, barn, and cornerib,  
facing southeast.

DEC 9 1976



Hensley Settlement, Lige Gibbons  
Barn, near Cubbage, Bell County,  
Ky.

National Park Service, May 1974  
Cumberland Gap NHP JAN 8 1980

Photo 12 - Front view, facing  
southwest

DEC 9 1976





Hensley Settlement, Lige Gibbons  
Hen House, near Cabbage, Bell  
County, Ky.

National Park Service, May, 1974

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 13 - Front view, facing  
generally south.

DEC 9 1976



Hensley Settlement, Lige Gibbons  
Corn Crib, near Cabbage, Bell  
County, Ky.

National Park Service, May 1974,

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 14 - Front view, facing  
southwest

JAN 8 1980 DEC 9 1976





Hensley Settlement, Lige Gibbons  
Outhouse, near Cubbage, Bell  
County, Ky.

National Park Service, May 1974,

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 15 - Front view, facing  
southwest

DEC 9 1976



Hensley Settlement, Sherman  
Hensley House #1, near Cubbage,  
Bell County, Ky.  
National Park Service, November,  
1974

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP  
Photo 16 - View of one corner,  
facing generally north

DEC 9 1976





Hensley Settlement, Sherman  
Hensley House #2, near Cubbage,  
Bell County, Ky.  
National Park Service, November,  
1974

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP  
Photo 17 - Front view, facing  
generally north

DEC 9 1976



Hensley Settlement, Sherman  
Hensley Corn Crib, near Cubbage,  
Bell County, Ky.  
National Park Service, November,  
1974

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP  
Photo 18 - View of broad side,  
facing generally east.

DEC 9 1976





Hensley Settlement, Sherman  
Hensley Hen House, near Cubbage,  
Bell County, Ky.

National Park Service, November,  
1974

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP  
Photo 19 - View of side and front  
end, facing generally east.

DEC 9 1976



Hensley Settlement, Wallace  
Hensley House (H18), near Cubbage,  
Bell County, Ky.

National Park Service, October,  
1975

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 20 - View of chimney and  
fallen logs, facing east

DEC 9 1976





Hensley Settlement, Willie  
Gibbons Apple Hole, near Cubbage,  
Bell County, Ky.

National Park Service, November,  
1974

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 21 - View of opening with  
cover raised, facing east

DEC 9 1976



Hensley Settlement, Willie Gibbons  
Hog House, near Cubbage, Bell  
County, Ky.

National Park Service, November,  
1974

JAN 8 1980

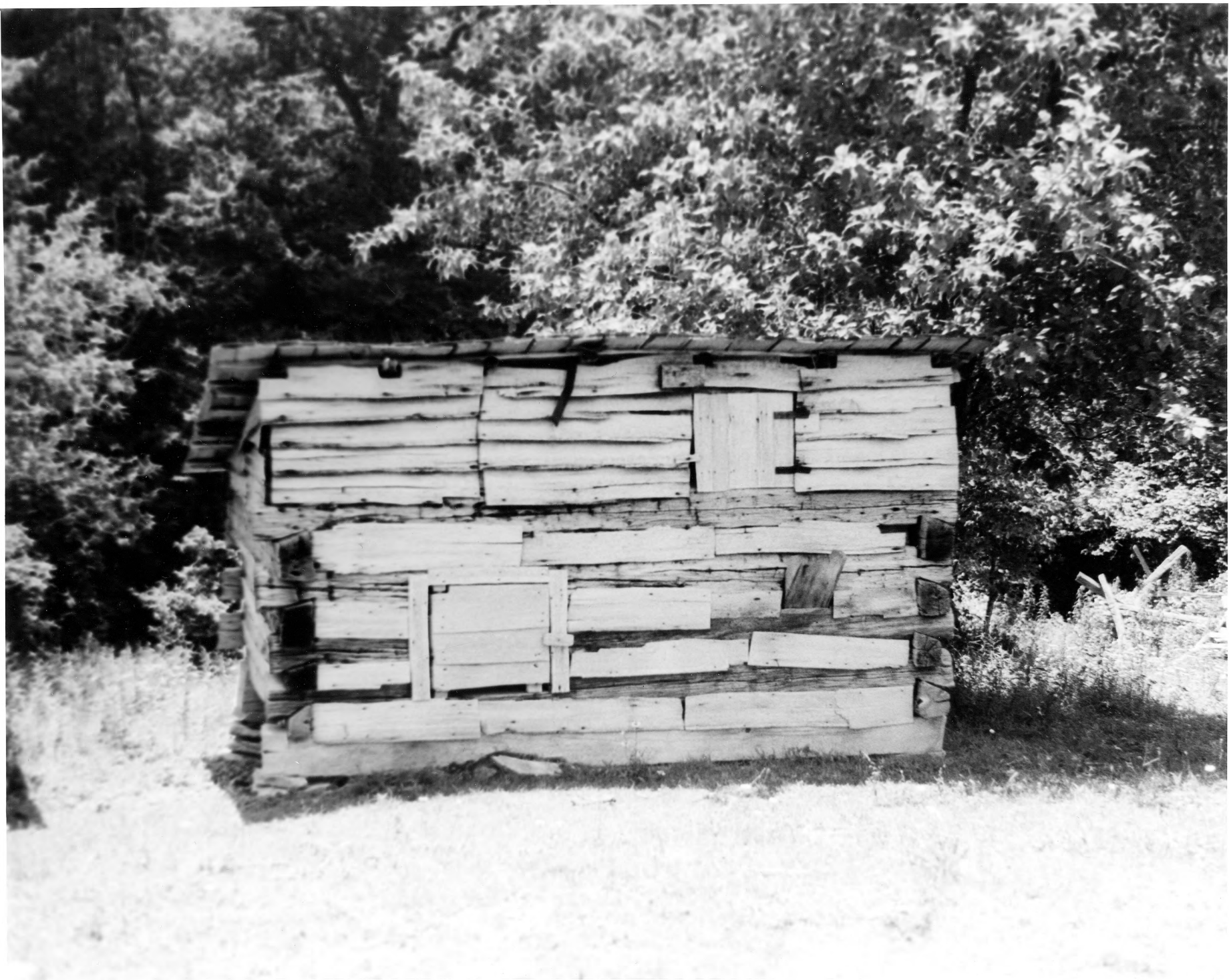
Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 22 - Front view, facing  
generally east

DEC 9 1976

JAN 8 1980





Hensley Settlement, Lige Gibbons  
Hog Pen, near Cubbage, Bell  
County, Ky.

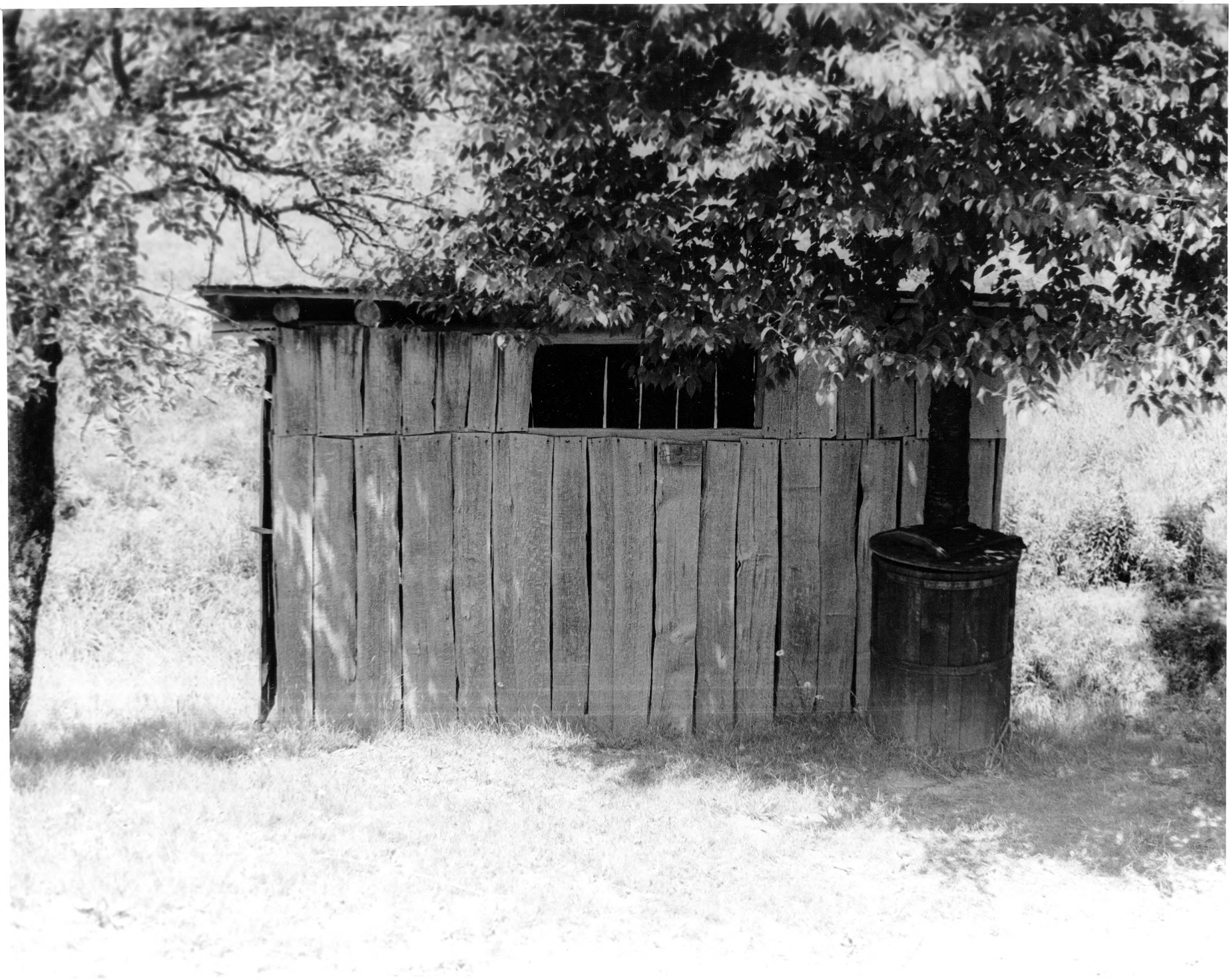
National Park Service, May 1974,

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 23 - Front view, facing  
generally south

DEC 9 1976



H-25

WILLIE GIBBONS

WOODSHED

Hensley Settlement, Willie  
Gibbons Woodshed, near Cabbage  
Bell County, Ky.

JAN 8 1980

National Park Service, May 1974

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 24 - Side view, facing  
generally west

DEC 9 1976





Hensley Settlement, Willie Gibbons  
Blacksmith Shop, near Cubbage,  
Bell County, Ky.  
National Park Service, May 1974

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 25 - Broadside view  
showing chimney, windows; facing  
generally west

DEC 9 1976



Hensley Settlement, Finley  
Hensley House, near Cabbage,  
Bell County, Ky.

National Park Service, May, 1974

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP DEC 9 1976

Photo 26 - View of broad side  
showing main entrance, facing  
northwest





Hensley Settlement, Hensley Settlement, near Cubbage, Bell County, Ky.

National Park Service, May, 1974

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 27 - View of west end of settlement, showing Willie Gibbons Sheep Barn, road and fields, facing southwest

DEC 9 1976





Hensley Settlement, Willie  
Gibbons Sheep Barn, near Cubbage,  
Bell County, Ky.

National Park Service, May 1974  
Cumberland Gap NHP

JAN 8 1980

Photo 28 - End view showing  
door, facing northwest

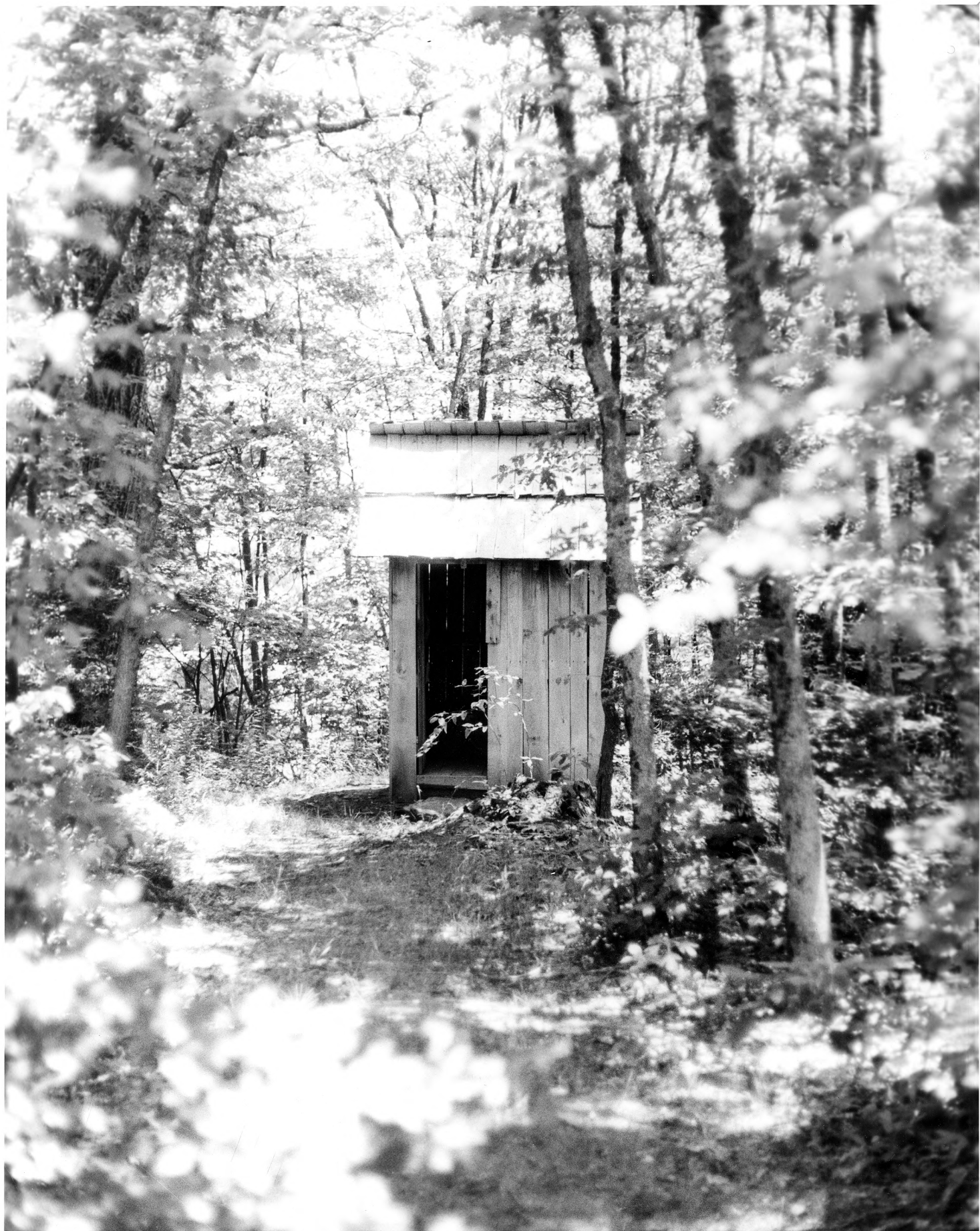
DEC 9 1976



Hensley Settlement, Brush  
Mountain School Outhouse #1,  
near Cubbage, Bell County, Ky.  
National Park Service  
Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 29 - Front view, facing  
generally south JAN 8 1980

DEC 9 1976



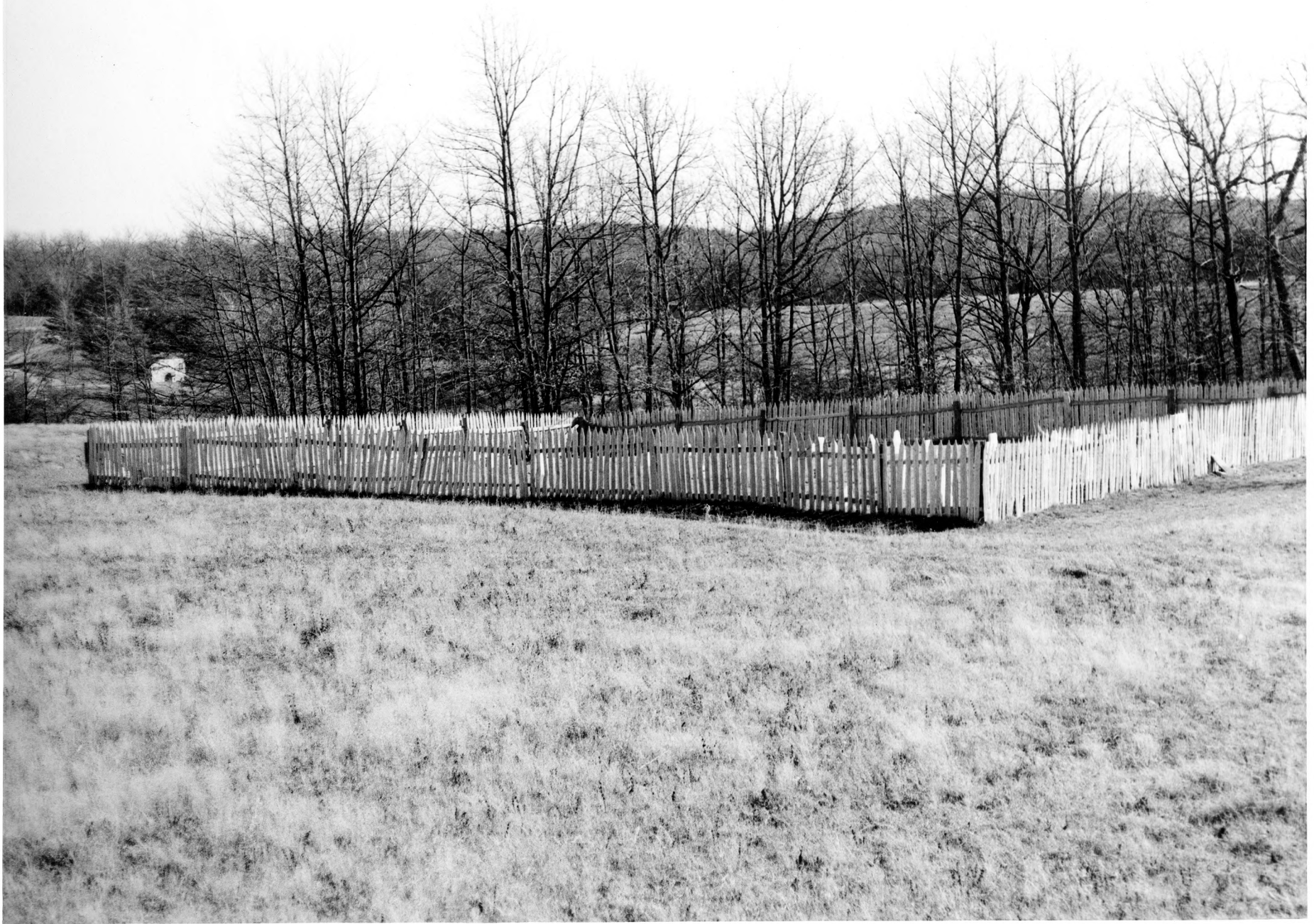
Hensley Settlement, Brush  
Mountain Outhouse #2, near  
Cabbage, Bell County, Ky.  
National Park Service, May, 1974

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP  
Photo 30 - Front view, facing  
generally south

DEC 9 1976







Hensley Settlement, Hensley  
Graveyard, near Cubbage, Bell  
County, Ky.

National Park Service, November,  
1974

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 31 - View of enclosure from  
outside, facing east

DEC 9 1976



Hensley Settlement, Gillis Lee  
House (H-37), near Cubbage,  
Bell County, Ky.

National Park Service, October,  
1975

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP  
Photo 32 - Chimney stones,  
facing southwest

DEC 9 1976



Hensley Settlement, Oscar Hensley  
House (H-38), near Cubbage, Bell  
County, Ky.

National Park Service, October,  
1975

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 33 - View of east end  
facing southwest

DEC 9 1976







Hensley Settlement, Sherman  
Hensley Stock Pen (H-39), near  
Cubbage, Bell County, Ky.  
National Park Service, October,  
1975

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP  
Photo 34 - One section of rails,  
facing generally east

DEC 9 1976



Hensley Settlement, Sherman  
Hensley Smokehouse, near Cubbage,  
Bell County, Ky.

National Park Service December  
1974 JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 35 - Front of building  
showing doorway, facing northwest

DEC 9 1976



Hensley Settlement, Wallace  
Hensley Barn (H-41), near  
Cubbage, Bell County, Ky.  
National Park Service, October,  
1975

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP  
Photo 36 - View of site facing  
southeast (no remains visible)

DEC 9 1976







Hensley Settlement, Grant Hensley  
Cabin (H-42), near Cubbage,  
Bell County, Ky.

National Park Service, October,  
1975

JAN 8 1980

Cumberland Gap NHP

Photo 37 - Chimney stones on  
ground, facing southeast

DEC 9 1976



Liege Gibbons Farm  
Cumberland Gap National Historical Park  
Bell Co., KY  
View from W  
Sept. 1995



Finley Hensley House

1DLCS 07068

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park

Bell Co., KY

View from NW

Sept. 1995





Park Hensley House

■ Cumberland Gap National Historical Park

Bell Co., KY

View from E

Sept. 1995



Bert Hensley House

IDLCS 07060

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park

Bell Co., KY

View from NW

Sept. 1995