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IN THE

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By A. RANDOLPH SHIELDS

For almost a hundred years, the Blue Ridge Mountains loomed as a barrier to the settlers of the coastal plains and Piedmont of Virginia. In the journals of some of these people, we find accounts of ventures to their crests, with speculations of a great ocean that could be observed beyond. In the late 1600's the mountains had been penetrated, but only more mountains blocked the way. By 1750, the head waters of the Tennessee had been explored and settlements established, enough to excite the Cherokees to attempt to run them out. They almost succeeded. This episode led to the first of many agreements between the adventuresome white settlers and the natives.

The waves of exploration from Virginia followed the valleys of the Holston and the French Broad south and westward. The penetration from the Carolinas was much slower. Two reasons accounted for this. First, the Cherokee nation's stronghold was in the southernmost part of this great mountain range. And second, there were almost no avenues of easy penetration of the Blue Ridge front in this area. The Carolina settlers tended to move northwestward, skirting the Cherokee stronghold and following the French Broad tributaries into upper East Tennessee. Both of these paths of ingress met in the vicinity of present-day Washington County, and the combined flood moved down the main rivers and spread up the tributaries of the Pigeon, Little, and Little Tennessee rivers.

The political leaders of the early settlements were, quite naturally, from North Carolina, as the territory was a part of that colony for many years. However, many of the early substantial settlers were of Virginia stock.

As this frontier moved, the Cherokees had to be appeased from time to time with treaties of boundary and hunting rights. There were always eager settlers to move beyond these lines; controversy was to be expected and was almost constant along the buffer zones. By 1780, most of the larger valleys of the streams flowing from the Great Smoky Mountains had a settlement of hardy pioneers, holding on against the harassment of the natives. It was

obvious that the previous boundary of the French Broad River was no longer adequate. In 1785, with the Treaty of Dumplin Creek, the Cherokees agreed to a boundary marked by the watershed separating Little River and Little Tennessee River and extending to the top of the Great Smokies. This line was not adequately surveyed until 1797 and, in the meantime, settlers had penetrated well beyond its boundaries. This led to a great deal of trouble with the Cherokees as well as with the Creeks to the southwest. The survey line, known as the Hawkins Line, skirted the base of the Chilhowee Mountains southward and extended northeastward along the crest of the Rich Mountain Range, thence by compass to Blanket Mountain and extending to a point on Mount Collins. The Tellico Treaty of 1798 confirmed this line and established it more firmly near the southern border, moving it closer to the mountains to benefit some white settlers who had moved into Cherokee territory.

In 1819, Calhoun's Treaty moved the Indians out of all lands on the Tennessee side of what is now the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This made possible the first settlements in Cades Cove without trespassing on Cherokee lands. However, the first interest shown in this valley was much earlier. In the 1790's, grants had been filed in the North Carolina land office for up to 5,000 acres in Cades Cove. There is no evidence that these grants were settled. When Tennessee became a state in 1796, some of these grants were renewed but were never taken up by the grantees. The first legal settlement of the valley was in 1821, by William ("Fighting Billy") Tipton, who by his "connections" was able to secure grants of more than 2,000 acres of the valley floor. By 1836, he had sold off most of his holdings to relatives and others. Some of his descendants were in the Cove when the land was purchased for park purposes. Many families moved in and out again as they became dissatisfied by the living conditions, and as new lands opened up in Georgia by the final evacuation of the Cherokees.

With Tipton holding most of the level land, other grantees secured the peripheral holdings. David Foute filed for several sections in the western portion. This gave him ownership of a strip of land extending from the Chilhowee Mountains to near the crest of the Smokies. His interest was primarily in minerals. He established the famous Montvale Springs Inn and vacationing spot which flourished during the latter half of the nineteenth century. He built the first access road into Cades Cove, now known as the Cooper Road, for the construction supervisor. Russell Gregory

established claim to a section which included one of the large grassy balds on the crest, known as Gregory Bald. A man by the name of Parsons held an adjoining section, including another grassy area, Parsons' Bald. Gregory established his homestead near the crest, within North Carolina, at an elevation of 4,200 feet. The Parsons' homestead was below Dalton Gap, on the Tennessee side, near the tollgate (the present U.S. 129, built in the early 1940's, follows the earlier toll road). Russell Gregory was killed during the Civil War by a raiding party of North Carolina rebels encamped in Cades Cove. The family moved off the mountain, but his descendants owned close to 600 acres of the valley land at the time of its purchase for the park.

A progressive frontier settlement was established in Cades Cove, led by a few ambitious men who gained landed estates of some extent. Peter Cable from Carter County purchased land from his friend, William Tipton, and built a fine log house. His only child, a daughter, married Dan Lawson from nearby Tuckaleechee Valley. Lawson took over the Cable property and expanded it into one of the largest holdings of any resident of the Cove. His land extended from mountain top to mountain top, one-half mile wide, across the center of the valley. His place was, for a time, the center of commerce, with a general store, a post office, and a telephone station for contact with the outside. He organized a few of the residents, and they constructed a phone line across the mountains and reaching to their homes. As the right-of-way was not cleared properly, they found the maintenance was prohibitive and the line to Maryville was soon disrupted. However, within the Cove the lines continued to serve for many years. The Lawson children were several, and the property was divided among them, thus breaking up this fine estate.

According to family records, John Oliver entered Cades Cove in 1817 or 1818, crossing the Cherokee boundary, as many were prone to do, and thus claimed the honor of becoming the first permanent settler. There are no records of land grants to Oliver. Evidently, he later must have purchased from Tipton, for his homestead is on a section granted to Tipton in 1821. In the mid-1820's, to escape a typhoid epidemic, Robert Shields moved his family from the Little Tennessee Valley near Tallassee into the head of Forge Creek at the margin of the Foute grant. The clearing he established was known for a time as the Shields' Sugar Cove, but is

now better known as the Marian Place, for Marian Birchfield who later lived there. Shields later moved out into the valley, purchasing some land from Foute, and getting more from him on payment on a loan which helped finance some of the latter's adventures into mining. Two of Shield's sons, Henry and Frederick, married daughters of John Oliver and remained in Cades Cove. Thus, two of the earliest families were joined to establish a core of the settlement. Henry Shields bought land from Tipton and settled in the eastern end of the Cove. His son, Witt, remained on the family homestead, expanding the holding into a large cattle farm. He built the largest log structure ever seen in the mountains, a cattle barn. For several years he was a leader of the community, being postmaster and a justice of the peace. He read law and was the legal advisor for the area. He was also an improviser of harvesting machinery and operated a flour mill.

Frederick Shields [great-grandfather of the author] remained on the family homestead in the western end of the valley. He fathered sixteen children, thirteen of whom lived to adulthood. He built the first two-story log residence in the Cove. The dining room table was twenty-four feet long. He was known as a great hunter and one time killed a mountain lion with his knife. Another time a wounded bear charged him before he could reload beyond the powder charge. He stuck the rifle barrel into the animal's mouth and fired the cap. The explosion finished off the beast. To this day the imprint of the bear's teeth can be seen on the rifle, twenty inches from the muzzle end. There has been some doubt as to whether David Foute ever resided in Cades Cove. There was a log house on the Frederick Shields property known as the Foute house. One of the Shields boys was named David Daniel Foute. He must have built this house and surely lived in it. Later, it was used as a "weaner" by the Shields family. When one of the boys married, he occupied the house until he could get his own dwelling built; or was weaned from the family group, as it was called.

Other family names were added to the list of settlers; on the most part by young men from nearby settlements, coming in and marrying into the Tipton, Oliver, Shields, Gregory, and Lawson families. Some of these names are LeQuire, Sparks, Myers, Wilson, Feezell, Ledbetter, Roberts, Sands, and Abbott. During, and shortly after, the Civil War a few other families moved into the Cove. George Powell established a small community in Chestnut Flats on a part

of the Parsons grant. The Birchfields moved into the area, claiming descent from a Cherokee chief and land from an old treaty. These claims involved a great deal of litigation in title settlement for the land purchased before the park was established. The Wilcoxes arrived about this time. John P. Cable moved his entire family of married sons from Carter County onto land purchased in part from Frederick Shields. His daughter Rebecca ("Aunt Becky") lived with her brother Dan, taking over the rearing of his family after his incapacitation and the death of his wife. She purchased additional mountain land (500 acres), kept boarders, raised cattle, and was quite a successful woman. She died at ninety-six in 1944. Jim McCauley moved his family into the Cove in the early 1850's, but the Civil War caused him to take them back to his wife's folks near Walland. After his return from service in the Union cavalry, he went back to his mountainside homestead in Cades Cove and set up a woodworking and blacksmith shop. He was considered one of the finest artisans of the area. His sons married local girls, thus adding true Scottish genes to the pool of the Dutch, English, and Irish well established there.

The early settlers planted extensive apple orchards which supplied one of the Cove's chief industries until Tennessee outlawed it—distilling. Julius Gregg operated a large distillery and processed apples and corn. The first road connecting Cades Cove with the Little Tennessee River valley was built via Chestnut Flats and Tabcat Creek, for farmers to haul their corn to Gregg's distillery. George Powell had one of the largest apple and peach orchards and operated his distillery exclusively for brandy production. The operation was under government bond and inspectors controlled the quality and the disposition of the products.

David Foute and William Tipton constructed and operated a bloomery forge for a few years. Many of the extensive land grants were obtained with a promise to develop the mineral resources of the area. Bloomery forges sprang up all over East Tennessee in the 1830's and 1840's. The low grade ore and expense of burning charcoal for the forges soon closed them, however. Orebank Hill, Coalin' Ridge, and Forge Creek are memos of this era in Cades Cove.

Grist mills served the populace, turning corn and wheat into bread materials. The first were "tub" (turbine) mills. These were replaced by overshot wheel structures in the 1840's. Frederick Shields built

the first of these on Mill Creek. This was a large structure housing equipment for milling and bolting wheat flour, and with one of the largest native stone rocks in the Smoky Mountains for grinding corn, as well as a sash saw for lumber production. Several over-shot wheels were built and put in use in the Cove. However, most of them used steel burrs for grinding. The present Cable mill was built by John P. Cable when he moved his family from Carter County shortly after the Civil War.

General stores marketed staples, and barter was the common practice. The storekeeper took in chickens, eggs, furs, and other items of trade in exchange for tobacco, nails, horseshoes, and dry goods. The merchants usually made weekly wagon trips to Maryville or Knoxville, where they, in turn, traded the items taken in for goods with which they stocked their stores.

Being a civil district (the 16th) of Blount County, the people elected two "squires" (magistrates, or justices of the peace) and a constable. Minor disputes between neighbors, and disorders caused by slightly "lit" young men were handled locally. In truth, the community was somewhat isolated, but populated by a people that could handle their affairs and settle their differences among themselves.

The social activities centered about the schools and were, to a degree, cultural. Generally speaking, such activities as dancing were frowned upon. However, during harvest times, at berry stemmings, corn huskings, and the like, after the work was done, the fiddle and the banjo were brought out, and a "Skip to My Lou" and a "Sourwood Mountain" brought on a period of lively stepping for the younger folk. At the schools there were "speakin's," spelling bees, and debates, participated in by pupils and parents alike. It must be remembered that this was a rural community making a sustenance living from the land, and time for socializing was at a premium.

Churches were organized early. The Primitive Baptist sect, being the dominant one of the mountains, was the first to organize, in 1826. The Olivers and Gregorys were very prominent in this church from the beginning. The Missionary Baptist and the Methodist congregations were organized later. A second Methodist church was established by Dan Lawson after the Civil War, but never developed beyond a family affair. For a few years a Sunday Church School was conducted at the Methodist Church, but this group finally went together with the Missionary Baptist Church School, which persisted until the late 1950's. The Primitive Baptist



Cades Cove in the Great Smokies

Photo Courtesy Tennessee Conservation Department



Peter Cable Homestead

Photo by A. Randolph Shields



Cable Mills, Cades Cove

Photo Courtesy Tennessee Conservation Department



Primitive Baptist Church, Cades Cove

Photo by A. Randolph Shields

tenets do not hold for church schools. At one time William Shields taught an adult Bible class at both the Methodist and the Baptist Sunday Schools.

In the early 1920's, the population of Cades Cove was already dwindling from its maximum of about ninety families in 1918. The lack of tillable land and the development of the Aluminum Company of America in the vicinity combined to cause younger men to move out. Thus, the advent of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park found a trend toward land ownership going back to larger holdings. Morton Butler Lumber Company had been slowly buying the fringe holdings over a period of several decades, until it had more than 25,000 acres of mostly wooded property, including all the virgin forest of the area.

The earliest attraction to Cades Cove was, no doubt, the large expanse of level land and the grassy balds along the Great Smoky crest, which offered extensive summer grazing. However, even to the early settlers, the Cove had its esthetic qualities. Today the pastoral beauty of the area is unsurpassed in the southern Appalachian region. The broad vistas of the grassy meadows with the backdrop of blue, hazy mountains is the main attraction to visitors.

A mountain culture, which developed on the Southern Appalachian frontier, survived in the hidden valleys of the Great Smokies right up to park days in the early 1930's. This culture was probably best represented in the isolated areas like Cades Cove, Cataloochee, Green Briar, and Oconaluftee. Of these, Cades Cove was the largest populated area and, perhaps, the most progressive. Most cultures disappear as they evolve with time. The culture of the Southern Appalachians was unique in that it developed on a rugged frontier among a hardy, intelligent people who loved the land and independence. These people came into the valleys to settle, not just to use the virgin soil and move on. This is shown by the perseverance of the families over a hundred years or more. A way of life cannot be kept constant from generation to generation. To preserve elements of a culture we have to select those items that are kept as mementos, having been discarded as new and better things developed, to remind us of the way of life that preceeded us. Finding typical items to preserve becomes a task. Frontier settlements can be restored; artifacts of a culture can be exhibited. However, the proper interpretation of these to generations that have no concept of frontier life becomes difficult.

What was life in these Cove settlements like? A search of the literature does not yield satisfactory results. Most writers of life in the Southern Appalachians have selected a segment of the population to paint an image of the people that has been rather distasteful to the natives who read, or to most observers who understand. Some have idealized the populace out of all bounds of reason. These people had to be of above average intelligence and abilities to succeed against the extreme odds. They built small but progressive communities where church and school came first, after a shelter for the family. The Cades Cove settlers were no exception to this. It is this part of the culture of these people that needs to be preserved in some manner as our heritage from this hardy race.

There is a question as to how much of the material one can successfully preserve and as to what manner it can best be displayed. Superimposed upon these questions is the paramount one: Does such a display have a place in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park?

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park was established primarily to preserve the natural wilderness of the largest remaining virgin forests of eastern America. This history has been ably presented by Carlos Campbell.¹ The significance of the natural history of the area has been well illustrated by many publications in ecological, botanical, zoological journals, as well as recent publications authored by Arthur Stupka, for twenty-five years chief naturalist of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.² The development of the concept of mountain culture preservation and display was suggested in the very early days of the park's establishment.

The physical development within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park was given a big boost by the establishment of the Civilian Conservation Corps. One of the largest encampments was in Cades Cove. The Cades Cove roads were completely gravelled and the major streams bridged. Hiking and horse trails were re-routed and new ones constructed. The Cooper Road was rebuilt and made passable to motor vehicles, as was the Parsons Branch Road to U.S. 129 via Chestnut Flats, and the Rabbitt Creek Road to Happy Valley.

¹ Carlos Campbell, *Birth of a National Park in the Great Smoky Mountains* (Knoxville, 1960), 155.

² Arthur Stupka, *Notes on the Birds of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park* (Knoxville, 1963), 242, and *Trees, Shrubs, and Woody Vines of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park* (Knoxville, 1964), 186.

Landowners in Cades Cove were given a choice of remaining on their original holdings as permittees under rather strict policies set by the Park Service. Many of them did not choose this, but moved to farms outside the mountains. As soon as the farmstead was vacated, most evidence of occupation was removed, and the land quickly reverted to forest. Under this policy many fine buildings were destroyed, especially some of the larger and superbly built log structures. The idea was to return the valley to "natural" conditions.

As early as 1935, there was a plea by several interested people to preserve as much of the mountain culture as possible and to make this a functional part of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The report on a General Museum Development Plan of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park of July 31, 1935, by Alden B. Stevens, Museum Curator, recommended trailside and roadside exhibit structures for Cades Cove. These would relate to the geology and origin of the Cove and explain limestone caverns of the area. The preservation of the Cable mill as an exhibit of cultural interest was also recommended, since it was the only overshot wheel powered grist mill still operating within the park. The development of nature trails in Cades Cove was also proposed in the 1935 report.

C. S. Grossman, architect assigned to the Civilian Conservation Corps, and H. C. Wilburn, of Waynesville, North Carolina, were early advocates of mountain culture museums in the Great Smokies. Mr. Grossman seemed to be the most influential in collecting artifacts of the culture. In 1938, Arthur Stupka, Park Naturalist, Wilburn, and Grossman reported to the superintendent a plan for preserving the mountain culture. Wilburn's ideas as set out in a detailed memo to the superintendent in April, 1940, were especially grandiose. He suggested a community group of artisans living as pioneers, turning out handicrafts for the visitors. Willis King, Assistant Wildlife Technician, replied to this memo expressing a serious doubt that the farmers would subject themselves to such an exhibit.

Dr. Hans Huth, a European authority on museums, was brought in as advisor. Many of his recommendations were incorporated in the master plan for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park of 1941. In the months of September-December, 1941, there was a flurry of conferences and committee meetings on the Cades Cove problem. Memos from the superintendent to regional headquarters in September supplemented the master plan with recommendations

of a special committee set up to study the Cades Cove program. H. T. Thompson of that committee pointed up the necessity of a center of culture attractions to augment the scenic beauty of the Cove, and recommended the Cable mill assembly of buildings very much as they are today.

Early in December of 1941, Roy Edgar Appleman, regional supervisor of historic sites, suggested that Cades Cove be set aside to exhibit mountain culture and that a living exhibit, similar to that recommended by Mr. Wilburn, might be a possibility. Stupka's reply to these questions is pertinent here. He agreed that the charm of Cades Cove is due primarily to the effects of mountain culture and that these effects (open fields) should be maintained and that the mill exhibit at the western end of the valley would be a logical asset to attract visitors to make the trip around the Cove.

The basic plans for development and management of Cades Cove were fairly well established by 1942, even to the completion of the grading of the Laurel Creek access road, which was started by the Civilian Conservation Corps and W.P.A. labor as early as 1938. World War II intervened here and it was not until 1946 that activity towards further development in the park was renewed.

From a conference on the Museum Prospectus for the Great Smokies, in February, 1946, comes the following recommendation: "That a second field exhibit (one had already been established at Oconaluftee) of the Cove type of mountain culture be preserved in Cades Cove. This will consist of the open aspect of the Cove supplemented by ten units scattered along the loop road . . . They will not be furnished nor open but maintained as architectural exhibits. One unit, including the Cable mill, will be developed more fully by bringing in or reproducing a house, pig pen, sash sawmill, and bloomery forge. This unit will be furnished.

"That Cades Cove have about 70% of its area open fields, maintained by modern agricultural methods, but that the modern structures be kept out of the main vistas"

Following the adoption of these recommendations, definite plans for vista clearings were drawn, and the residents were instructed as to the acreage each was to clear. The "old field" pines had taken over several hundred abandoned acres. The trees were sold for pulp wood to help bear the cost of clearing, and the land was put in grass to become a part of the lessee's holdings to pasture and to maintain. The last of this clearing program was not completed until 1963.

The 1946 Prospectus also called for a resident interpretative employee to be stationed in Cades Cove, as well as a special publication to aid in the interpretation of the Cades Cove story. A program was outlined to include auto caravan tours, guided hikes for campers, as well as campfire programs. The opening of Gregory's Cave was listed as a possibility.

After World War II, unused space in the Oconaluftee Ranger Station was made into a temporary museum of pioneer history. Because of the excellent collection of pioneer artifacts that could be used in exhibits without any new construction being required, the Park's first museum featured human history instead of its principal resource, natural history. The Sugarlands Visitor Center exhibits featuring the natural history of the Park were opened to the public in 1961.

The development of Cades Cove followed the general plans of the 1946 Prospectus. During the 1950's, the pioneer buildings were further restored, the assembly of buildings at the Cable mill was moved in, including the frame house formerly occupied by Becky Cable, which was moved downstream about a half mile. In 1951, the Laurel Creek road was completed and opened to the public. In 1954, after the opening of the C section of the modernized campground, a campfire circle was built in the picnic area and the interpretative division started a weekly campfire talk during the summer months. Prior to this, the program for Cades Cove consisted of occasional naturalist-led hikes to the Big Poplar, Abrams Falls, and Gregory Bald.

In 1955, the Loop Road was improved, re-routed in some places, and blacktopped. It was permanently established as a one-way road, directing the traffic in a counter-clockwise direction around the valley. With the impetus given by the Mission 66 program, a great many improvements were made in the Cades Cove area. In 1956, the Ranger Station was moved adjacent to the campground and a quarters for the resident ranger provided. The first seasonal campground ranger was assigned in 1956. In 1957, the first ranger-naturalist was stationed at Cades Cove, and a daily program of interpretation was established for the months of June, July, and August. Campfire programs were held three nights a week in the picnic area, and walks were extended along the Big Poplar Trail and to Abrams Falls. Sorghum manufacture began in the autumn of 1957, to become a yearly demonstration.

In 1958, temporary government quarters were established for the seasonal ranger-naturalist as well as for the seasonal campground ranger. In this year the Pine Oak Nature Trail was opened, and the Wilderness Interpretative Hike to Mill Creek Falls was added to the program. A horse concession was moved into the Cove, and riding trails established in 1958. The campground was enlarged to its present size, and the interpretative and campground store building was completed in 1959. In this same year the Cades Cove Vista Nature Trail was laid out; it opened in 1960. Since 1960, a seven-day-week interpretative program has been carried out during the summer months, with nightly programs at the shelter. In 1963, a second ranger-naturalist was assigned, and the program of interpretation extended to auto caravans, additional hikes, and evening programs. A second seasonal ranger was added in 1962.

The Cades Cove campground has 230 campsites, and they are occupied to full capacity during the summer months. From an average of 30 at campfire talks in 1957, the evening program attendance increased to 400 in 1964. The facilities at the shelter include projection booths for slides and movies and a public address system. It is now inadequate for the demands.

The present occupants of Cades Cove are cattle farmers, using modern methods, and are maintaining the scenic, open meadow nature of the valley.³ At this writing, only two of the lessees are descendents of the early settlers. These are Hugh Myers and Kermit Caughron, both grandsons of Margaret Shields Myers, daughter of Frederick Shields. George Caughron and his son, Jay, farm the original holdings as the only permittee left. The school and church needs of these people are now met outside the valley. With modern transportation they are to Sunday School and church at Townsend in much less time than it once took them to walk or drive the family wagon across the Cove to these activities.

From the 1961 Master Plan: "The Great Smoky Mountains National Park: Its mission is to provide opportunity for *inspirational*, *educational*, and *recreational* (author's italics) enjoyment of the scenic mountains and forests, the clear mountain streams and the pioneer culture associated with the lands of the park." This statement clearly states the proper balance between the natural history and the human history in the over-all management of the park. For the past ten years, these policies have been transformed to manage-

³ William O. Douglas, "The People of Cades Cove, Tennessee," in *The National Geographic Magazine* CXXII (1962), 60-95.

ment and display in Cades Cove. This is, in reality, exactly what the visitor is presented with here.

Inspiration. The serenity of this open valley, surrounded by gently sloping mountains, is an inspiring experience. The visitor in a hurry, with just a fast run around the Cove, cannot help but be affected by the serenity, the stillness, and the timelessness of the area. The visitor who tarries several days (as many of them do) is determined to return on each opportunity to feast upon this bountiful supply of everything most people long for in our rush, rush life of the metropolis. Many do return year after year, never tiring of this place.

Education. From June through Labor Day, seven nights a week, an educational program is presented at the campground interpretative shelter. The biota, geology, history, and mountain lore are all covered with lectures, slides, and movies, with an opportunity to ask questions. Every day of the week there are naturalist's walks on the several trails. The two nature trails with self-guiding booklets give a brief analysis of the vegetation of the forest types of the area. The pioneer exhibits acquaint the visitor with the architectural features of some of the earlier homes and farm buildings.

Recreation is almost unlimited within the margins of park management. Hiking, horseback riding, and fishing lead the possibilities. Relaxation beside the crystal-clear streams is certainly a type of recreation to be found here. The camping facilities are semi-primitive, with over-night shelters along the Appalachian Trail, which skirts the Cove along the Great Smoky crest.

Future management of Cades Cove will, no doubt, follow the well set pattern of the present, with extension of campground and picnic facilities. The Interpretative Prospectus Supplement of 1964 restated the possibility of some sort of display at the site of the David Foute bloomery forge. "If the Cades Cove bloomery forge of David Foute is restored, . . . this phase of the pioneer culture [could] be best treated by means of a wayside exhibit on site, using drawings and diagrams to portray the story." The site of the forge is but a short distance upstream from the Cable mill area. A combination of self-guiding nature trail and site location exhibits has been projected. The existing rights of access and the use of the churches will continue to be recognized.

At present the churches are used irregularly for funerals, annual reunions, and memorial services. During the vacation months a

Sabbath inter-denominational worship service has been conducted at the Methodist Church for campers by nearby Methodist ministers. Burial of previous church members is to be continued in the cemeteries until the lots are filled. Extension of these burial plots is not contemplated at the present time.

Cades Cove has become a major attraction in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This is witnessed by the 1.3 million visitors to the Cove, nearly one-fourth of the total, in 1964. With the further development of the Foothills Parkway and the western entrances to the park, it will attract even larger numbers. This beautiful valley is, and will remain, the same soul-satisfying attraction it was to the pioneers of over a century ago, but to a completely different type of people living a completely different type of life. However, the fact that it does attract visitors from all over the world seems to indicate that innately we like to get the same pioneer satisfaction of mountain quietness.

