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NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name __Elkmont Historic District, Great Smoky Mountains N.P.__

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number _____ not for publication ___

city or town __Gatlinburg_____ vicinity _x_
state __Tennessee _____ code TN__ county __Sevier_____ code _155
zip code _37738____

3. 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.)

Edson C Beavers
Signature of certifying official
Chief Historian, NPS

Date 2/9/94

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

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4. National Park Service Certification

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

_X_ entered in the National Register — 2/22/94
___ 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): _____

_____ for Signature of Keeper _____ Date of Action

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5. Classification

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Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

___ private
___ public-local
___ public-State
_X_ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

___ building(s)
_X_ district
___ site
___ structure
___ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_41_	_26_	buildings
_3_	_2_	sites
_12_	_0_	structures
_0_	_0_	objects
_56_	_28_	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register _N/A

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) ___N/A_____

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6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Sub:
__DOMESTIC_____	__Camp_____
__DOMESTIC_____	__Hotel_____
__SOCIAL_____	__Clubhouse_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Sub:
__DOMESTIC_____	__Camp_____
__VACANT/NOT IN USE_____	__Leases on all but a few properties terminated 12/31/92. In NPS owership.

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

_LATE 19TH/EARLY 20TH CENTURY--Vacation Cabins

_EARLY 20TH CENTURY--Hotel (venacular)___

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation __STONE/CONCRETE/WOOD_____

roof __METAL/ASPHALT_SHINGLE_____

walls _WOOD/WEATHERBOARD_____

_WOOD/LOG_____

other STONE and CONCRETE_____

BRICK_____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

_X__ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

____ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

_X__ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

____ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
____ B removed from its original location.
____ C a birthplace or a grave.
____ D a cemetery.
____ E a reconstructed building, object,or structure.
____ F a commemorative property.
____ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
--Architecture
__Entertainment/Recreation

Period of Significance __1908 to 1940

Significant Dates

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder _____
_____

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)
___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
___ previously listed in the National Register
___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
___ designated a National Historic Landmark
___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data
___ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
_X_ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other
Name of repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property _516 approx.

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

_X__ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Phillip Thomason/Dr. Michael Ann Williams. Revised by L. Brown, SE. Regional Off.

organization Thomason and Assoc. National Park Sv. date April and July 1993

street & number PO Box 121225 75 Spring St. SW telephone

city or town Nashville, Atlanta, TN. state GA. zip code 37212 30303

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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SUMMARY

The Elkmont Historic District is located in southwest Sevier County, Tennessee within the boundary of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The Elkmont Historic District contains two hotel buildings, a social clubhouse, and more than sixty dwellings and outbuildings. With the exception of two 19th century cabins, the majority of the contributing properties were built during the early 20th century. The dwellings are of log and frame construction and are located in two major areas: the Appalachian Club and the Wonderland Club. At the Appalachian Club are forty-seven cabins and various outbuildings constructed primarily between 1910 and 1930. The twelve buildings remaining at the Wonderland Club were all built between 1913 and 1928. Located between these two areas is the Elkmont Campground which contains nineteen buildings and three structures built after 1950.

Elkmont is located in the valley of the Little River and elevations range from 2,100 to 2,400 feet above sea level. Surrounding Elkmont are heavily forested mountains rising to more than 3,000 feet. Buildings are located primarily along or near the Little River and its tributary, Jakes Creek. Elkmont is reached by a paved road off Scenic Route 73.

Of the sixty-seven buildings located at the Appalachian Club and Wonderland Club, forty-one are considered contributing to the character of the district. Also at these two locations are twelve contributing structures and three contributing and two non-contributing sites.

ARCHITECTURAL OVERVIEW

Permanent Anglo-American occupation of Sevier County occurred during the late 18th century. The Treaty of Dumplin Creek in 1785 resulted in the ceding of land within Sevier County by the Cherokee, and settlement began to take place in mountain valleys and coves. By the mid-19th century, a series of farms were located along the Little River and its tributaries. In the Jakes Creek area much of the land was owned by the Owenby and Trentham families who farmed its fertile bottomlands. These and other families built single and double-pen log dwellings at various locations which were the center of subsistence farms.

The creation of Great Smoky Mountains National Park resulted in the demolition of almost all of these 19th century farm dwellings. Two, however, were incorporated into the Appalachian Club development: the Avent Cabin built ca.1845 and the Levi Trentaham Cabin built ca. 1830. The Avent Cabin was built by the Owenby family and was originally part of a small farmstead along Jakes Creek. The property was purchased in 1918 by Frank Avent, and he remodeled the cabin into its present form in 1926. Several barns and other outbuildings originally stood at this location, but only the cabin itself survives. The Trentham Cabin originally stood in the upper area of Jakes Creek, but was dismantled and moved to the Appalachian Club about 1932. The cabin was moved behind Cabin 7 and has been used for the past sixty years as a guest cottage. The cabin is a single-pen log dwelling which was extensively remodeled following its move.

With the exception of the Avent and Levi Trentham Cabins, the properties at Elkmont were built after 1910. The Appalachian Club was created in 1910 and many of the cabins along Jakes Creek were built over the next decade. The first section of the Wonderland Hotel was built in 1912 and most of the adjacent cabins were built during the teens and twenties. The last major area of construction was the acreage along the Little River owned by Mrs. Alice Townsend. Those cabins were built following the removal of the railroad in 1926 and are considered part of the Appalachian Club.

The lumber camp and community of Elkmont was located on the east side of Little River between the Appalachian Club and the Wonderland Club properties. The camp was built by the Little River Lumber Company in 1908 and by the 1920s consisted of several dozen dwellings, a few commercial buildings, a school and two churches. After the Great Smoky Mountains National Park was established all these buildings were either razed or moved. No above ground resources associated with the lumber camp or community of Elkmont were identified in this study. The area is presently encompassed by the Elkmont Campground created in the 1950s.

The builders of the Elkmont Cabins included carpenters employed by the Little River Lumber Company and area residents such as "Uncle" Levi Trentham. At least two cabins (numbers 5 and 7) are believed to have originally been built as section or "set" houses for workers on the railroad. These houses were built in three sections, transported on railroad flatcars, and "set" down adjacent to the railroad to provide housing for the workers. These two cabins are believed to have been purchased by the original owners and placed on their lots.

At least two cabins have been attributed to local builder, "Uncle" Levi Trentham. Levi Trentham owned a farm in the upper reaches of Jakes Creek and was a neighbor to the club property for many years. Following his death his cabin was purchased and moved to the Appalachian Club about 1932. Trentham is the presumed builder of Cabin 31 and Cabin 25, the Matthews and Franklin Cabins, and may be responsible for the construction of other buildings at Elkmont.[1] Several accounts describe property owners employing "local carpenters," and Trentham may be one of the individuals so identified. Accounts also suggest that some cabins were built by carpenters brought in from Knoxville by the property owners.

The building forms and plans at Elkmont are representative of vernacular designs typical of the early 20th century. Represented at Elkmont are Pyramid Square, Gabled Ell, Single-pen, and Double-pen. The larger buildings of the Wonderland Hotel and Annex, and Appalachian Clubhouse are typical of vernacular hotel and social buildings of the early 20th century.

The majority of buildings in the Wonderland and Appalachian Club complexes were built between 1910 and 1930. Most dwellings are of balloon frame construction with exteriors of board and batten, weatherboard, and drop siding. The majority were built with the exterior siding applied directly to the studs and framing system. In recent decades a number of these dwellings have had the interior walls finished with drywall or sheet rock panels

Common features include exterior wall chimneys of concrete and river stone; foundations of fieldstone, wood posts on poured concrete or fieldstone, or concrete block; and gable or hipped roofs. Most roofs appear to have been metal and a few of the cabins still retain their original roofs. However, most of the cabins have replacement metal roofs or roofs of asphalt shingles.

The cabins display a wide variety of exterior wall finishes. At the Appalachian Club the most common exterior siding is board and batten. Of the fifty-six buildings in this area, twenty-seven have this exterior siding material. Twelve cabins have weatherboard siding, and six are of log construction or have log cores. The remaining eight cabins have a combination of these three exteriors. Four others were rebuilt in 1974 after burning down. Of the twelve buildings

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[1]. Interview by Phil Thomason with C.L. Matthews and Larry Franklin,, Elkmont, October 19, 1992.

in the Wonderland Club area, two have board and batten siding, one has cedar shingles, and four have weatherboard siding. The remaining five have post-1940 wood siding materials. The early 20th century log cabins at Elkmont have unhewn logs with concrete chinking. Logs are joined by some form of notching and were left in an unpainted and natural condition. The construction of Cabin 19 in the Appalachian Club area is typical of the log buildings.

The primary use of stone, brick, and concrete at Elkmont can be found in chimneys, foundations, and retaining walls. More than fifty of the cabins have chimneys constructed of concrete and cobblestones, also referred to as rubble, fieldstone, and river stone. These were widely used due to their availability from the nearby Little River and its tributaries. The varying sizes of these stones allowed for a variety of construction uses such as walls and chimneys. Most stones in the buildings are rounded with edges smoothed from water erosion. A common form of construction was to layer stones with a layer of concrete to create irregular horizontal bands.

Porches are integral elements to the majority of the Elkmont cabins. The outdoor recreational nature of the area resulted in the construction of large one-story porches on many of the cabins for socialization and relaxation. The wraparound porch at the Wonderland Hotel is the most obvious example of this recreational emphasis, and many cabins have porches on both the main and secondary facades.

Porches can be found on nearly all the Elkmont cabins. On primary facades, porches are generally partial width or full width with square columns and wood railings. The use of unhewn logs is evident at a number of cabins such as Cabins 1 and 18. A few dwellings display cobblestone and concrete construction in the porch piers and porch railings. A good example is the Moore Cabin in the Wonderland complex. It has a low railing of stacked river stones and concrete.

At many of the cabins, exposure to the area's high rainfall has resulted in the deterioration of porch components such as roofs, railings, columns and floors. This has necessitated porch rebuilding including replacement of these components. In many cases replacement has been sympathetic to the character of the cabins through the use of square wood columns, railings of square balusters, and wood floors that are compatible with the original design. In several cases, however, replacement has included expansion or partial infill of the original porch. Much of this replacement and extension of porches appears to have occurred in the early seventies when cabin leases were renewed.

The majority of the Elkmont properties retain their original entrance doors. Most of these are stock wood paneled doors of four-, five-, or six-panel design. An example of a four-panel door is at Cabin 5 which has four raised panels. Other popular door types found at Elkmont are cross-panel doors and single light glass and wood doors. Only a few cabins have had the original primary entrance doors removed and replaced with modern glass and/or wood solid core doors. The majority of doors on secondary and rear entrances are also original paneled wood design.

A wide variety of window designs are present at Elkmont including casement, sliding, and double-hung. The most common are casement window variations which can be found on the majority of the cabins. Sliding track windows are usually arranged in pairs or larger groups and move horizontally in grooves or between runners. Double hung sash were also widely used, especially for the larger cabins and on primary facades. The Wonderland Hotel is primarily composed of original one over one double-hung sash windows. In several cabins window replacement has required retrofitting of window surrounds to accommodate the new window size. The Faust Cabin is an example of this.

The majority of the interiors of the cabins retain their original design, plan, and detailing. Most of these share similar characteristics in their arrangement and use of materials. The largest rooms are those used for communal living space such as living rooms and dining rooms. These are rooms which generally feature fireplace openings and surrounds. Bedrooms are generally small with room only for a bed, dresser or bureau, and a few chairs or a table. Kitchen areas are usually in rear wings or ells off the back of the dwelling and are also often small in comparison with the living or dining rooms.

The "rustic" nature of the cabins was accented through the use of exposed wood ceilings, wood walls, and floors. The focal point for most cabins was the large stone surrounds at the fireplace openings. This feature is common to the majority of the Elkmont cabins, the Wonderland Hotel Annex, and the Appalachian Club. In recent decades some cabins have had the interiors remodeled with modern materials such as plywood, wood paneling, carpeting, and acoustical tile ceilings. About twenty of the cabins appear to have been remodeled in this fashion.

The construction of the Wonderland Hotel and Annex between 1912 and 1928 followed vernacular hotel designs of the period. By the early 1900s at least ten major hotels operated in the mountains areas of Blount and Sevier counties.

Historic photographs show that most were of frame construction or two to three stories in height, and built with large porches on one or more facades.[2] These buildings lacked decorative detailing. Other mountain hotels exhibiting this type of construction were at Tremont, Line Springs, Henderson Springs, and Dupont Springs.

The Wonderland Hotel and Annex are of frame construction with hipped roofs and weatherboard siding. The Wonderland has a one-story porch which wraps around three facades of the building. The building has interior brick chimneys and a large fireplace in the social room. The Annex has similar construction with a large stone chimney on an exterior wall, and one-story porches adjacent to its social room.

The original Appalachian Clubhouse was also a frame vernacular design of the period with large porches. It burned in the early 1930s and was replaced with the present structure in 1934. The present clubhouse is of frame construction with a large porch on the east side. The interior has two large stone fireplaces in the social room along with exposed ceiling beams and paneled walls.

During the twenties and early thirties, cabins continued to be constructed. The cabins built after 1928 along the Little River Road are similar in style to earlier ones in design, detailing, and materials. The last cabin to be built at Elkmont during this period was the Cambier Cabin which was completed in 1940.

In addition to the cabins, a number of outbuildings were also constructed at Elkmont. These include guest cottages, servants' quarters, wood sheds and garages. A fine example of a servants' quarters is located at the rear of Cabin 7 in the Appalachian Club area. This one-story frame building housed servants who stayed with the family during the summer season.[3] Frame garages were built adjacent to Cabin 40, the Murphy Cabin, and the Faust Cabin.

The creation of Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the acquisition of the lands and buildings at Elkmont ended the sale of lots at the Wonderland and Appalachian Club complexes. Little new construction occurred at Elkmont over

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[2]. Sevier County Saga, Bicentennial Committee of Sevier County, 1976, n.p.

[3]. Interview by Phil Thomason with Dale Mayo, Elkmont, October 19, 1992.

the next several decades. A fire in 1974 resulted in the destruction of four cabins in the Appalachian Club area. New cabins (Numbers 12, 14, 16, and 17) were constructed on these lots in 1974 and 1975. These are the most recent buildings in either the Wonderland or Appalachian Club areas.

Many of the cabins in the Elkmont District are examples of Craftsman or Craftsman-influenced designs. The Craftsman movement in America is an outgrowth of the English Arts and Crafts movement. In the United States it flourished from the turn of the century until about 1930. It emphasized interiors that were functional with rooms directly connected to each other. Numerous windows and front or side porches created a continuity between the house and its surroundings. The buildings carried out this theme of harmony with nature through the use of natural readily available materials in construction. Fireplaces and dormers are other features of Craftsman design. Landscape features such as walks or paths, simple entry gates, or walls of stone were used to emphasize the link between the structure and its surroundings. Closely associated with bungalows in urban and suburban areas, these same design elements were found in summer or vacation cottages.

In the Appalachian Club portion of the Elkmont Historic District low rock walls line both sides of Jakes Creek Road and gravel paths lead from openings in the walls to the front porches of the cottages. In other locations stone walls delineate the boundaries between the small lots. Cabins along Little River have decks and patios adjacent to the river with simple gates of wood and stone along the road. Stone steps lead up from the road to the Wonderland Hotel. The cabins or cottages in Elkmont have large fireplaces and chimneys built of cobblestone or river rock in the largest or central room with other rooms leading off from it.

In recent decades, alterations and additions to the majority of the Elkmont properties have consisted primarily of enclosing or extending porches and adding rooms or wings to the side and rear facades. More than half of the properties retain most of their overall historic design and detailing. Of the sixty-seven buildings at Elkmont, twenty-six are considered to no longer retain integity.

Individual Property Descriptions

The following description and assessment of individual structures within the Elkmont Community is based on an architectural and historical survey by Thomason and Associates, Preservation Planners of Nashville, Tennessee, a separate but similar survey by preservation professionals of the National Park Service, and a structural analysis of each building by architects and engineers from Tennessee Valley Authority. See attached maps for locations of buildings.

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APPALACHIAN CLUB TOWN

Cabin # 1, Sneed Cabin. One and a half story log dwelling with front porch and gabled roof located on quarter-acre lot. The fireplace and chimney are built of cobblestone and concrete. Built in a gabled ell plan ca. 1910 the building appears to be relatively original. At the roofline is a gable dormer with paired four light casement windows and wood shingle siding. On the north side is a one story log kitchen wing added about 1948. The foundation of wood posts on stacked fieldstone, the log walls chinked with grout, and porches are in good condition needing replacement of 20 percent or less of existing materials. The roof will need replacement in the next several years. **The building has retained its integrity and is a contributing element.** The most notable landscape feature is a stone retaining wall along the road in front of the property.

Cabin # 2, Smith Cabin. Original core of this cabin was a square block with pyramid roof constructed ca 1910. Present roof is metal standing seam. Siding is board and batten. There is an interior brick chimney. On the main or east facade there is a shed roof porch that was rebuilt in 1970. The north part of the porch has screen panels while the remaining portion is open. The shed roof screened porch on the rear of the building is on concrete block piers. It appears the building may have housed two families based on two front entry doors and interior arrangement of rooms. A gravel walk leads up from the stone wall across the front of the lot to the porch. There is some settlement of the building mostly at the rear. The floor on the rear porch is rotten and will need to be replaced. Some of the front porch has been replaced and about half will need replacement. **The building has retained sufficient integrity and is considered to be a contributing element.**

Cabin # 3, Higdon Cabin. A one story frame dwelling with a gable roof of standing seam on a third of an acre. The exterior is board and batten. Built about 1910 the building has retained much of its original appearance. The foundation is stone and concrete. There is an interior brick chimney. There is a full width porch across the front that was rebuilt about 1980. On the rear is a large ell with gable roof and board and batten siding. There is obvious settlement leading to uneven interior floors, exterior walls that lean out at the top. The roof sags along the ridge line. **The building is considered a contributing element of the district.** A stone retaining wall is along the road in front of the building.

Cabin # 4, Swan Cabin. One story frame dwelling with gable roof and horizontal lap siding on a half-acre lot. There is a cobblestone and concrete chimney. The cabin has a wrap around porch that is a recent addition (ca. 1970). A side addition that dominates the main facade has changed the appearance of the

building. It appears that additions have been added to additions. There are a number of concrete block piers placed beneath the building, however the foundation is out of plumb resulting in obvious sagging and settlement of the floor. Rafters are rotten and broken in the roof requiring an estimated 50 of 60 percent replacement. **The Swan cabin is a non-contributing element because of loss of original appearance.** A stone retaining wall runs parallel to the road.

Cabin # 5, Addicks. Building rests on a stone foundation. It is a one-story frame rectangular dwelling with drop siding and a gable roof. There is an interior concrete block chimney. On the front is a shed roof porch that has been altered by the addition of beadboard to the beltline. On the rear is a shed roof wing built in the 1930s with board and batten siding. The walls and floor show signs of settlement and the roof sags with a poor connection with the rear porch. Building was moved from town of Elkmont and is an example of the set houses moved from one location to another by railroad.

Ten feet north of the cabin is a one-story playhouse built of unhewn logs with saddle notching and concrete chinking. The building has a gable roof and a stone and concrete exterior chimney. At the southeast corner is a shed roof addition with board and batten siding. Named "Adamless Eden" the playhouse was built in 1921. **Both buildings are considered contributing elements to the historic district.** A stone retaining wall runs parallel to the road in front of the main cabin.

Cabin # 6, Creekmore. The building originally rested on timber posts which have been reinforced by concrete blocks. It is a one story frame structure with board and batten siding and a gable roof on a half acre-lot. A gravel walk leads up from the stone wall along the road. The interior chimney is built of cobblestone and concrete. On the front, east side, is a full width porch that was added or rebuilt in 1975. At the north end of the porch is a recent addition (ca 1970). On the south is a shed roof wing built about 1980 and on the west or back is a wood deck constructed at the same time. The additions are finished with a mixture of board and batten, T1-11 (exterior plywood), and horizontal lap siding. Structurally the building is in poor condition--some foundation piers may be moved by hand, older exterior walls have rot, there is evidence that the roof leaks, and some of the original plank roofing appears to be rotten. **Despite the modern additions and its strurctural condition the cabin is considered a contributing element to the district.**

Cabin # 7, Mayo Cabin. In addition to the main cabin there is a log cabin and a frame cabin on the property. The main cabin rests on a concrete block foundation. It is a one story frame structure with gable roof, board and batten siding and an interior cobblestone and concrete chimney. There is a full width porch on the west or front of the building and 1930 shed roofed wing on the rear. Like Cabin 5 it was moved to this location from the town of Elkmont.

The single pen log cabin was built on Jakes Creek about 1830 and was moved to its present location in 1932. It sits on a stone foundation and the logs have half-dovetail notching and concrete chinking. The gable roof is metal standing seam. The exterior chimney is cobblestone and concrete.

The third structure is a frame servants quarters built about 1920. The single story structure rests on a stone foundation has a board and batten exterior and gable roof of metal. A shed roof porch was added about 1970 on the front or west side. **All three structures retain enough of their original appearance and contribute to the historic district.** Like other cabins in the vicinity a significant landscape feature is a stone retaining wall along the road.

Cabin # 8, Cain Cabin. This one story frame dwelling rests on a combination of wood posts and concrete blocks on a half-acre lot. Built about 1915 the cabin has board and batten siding. The gable roof is of metal, and there is an interior brick chimney. On the front or east side is a shed roof porch that wraps around the side of the building. It appears that the original porch was expanded in 1970. There also have been recent additions to the rear of the dwelling. Structurally there has been some settlement or sagging of floors and walls with some deflection in walls and roofs. **Because of recent additions and general lack of craftsmanship the cabin is considered non-contributing.** A stone retaining wall and gravel walk are in front of the cabin.

Cabin # 9, Galyon. The stone foundation of the dwelling has been infilled. This one-story frame dwelling has a board and batten exterior, a metal gable roof, and an interior chimney of cobblestone and concrete. Initially the cabin was two rooms and a back porch. In 1919 the bedrooms and kitchen were added.

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On the west (front) and north sides of the building is a shed roof porch that was rebuilt and expanded about 1970. Several additions pile off the rear of the cabin. On the rear is a modern deck with a catwalk leading to a one-room cabin. This gable roof cabin rests on a wood post foundation with board and batten and drop siding and has a small screen porch on the front. **Because of multiple additions and change in the "footprint" of the building the cabin is considered non-contributing.** A stone retaining wall runs parallel to Jakes Creek Road in front of the cabin.

Cabin # 10, Baumann. Resting on a concrete block foundation this single story frame dwelling has board and batten siding, an exterior wall concrete and cobblestone chimney, and a hipped roof of metal. It is on a third of an acre lot with a gravel walk and stone wall in front. At the roofline is a raised hipped roof with six light clerestory windows. There is a shed roof porch with unhewn log posts and lattice panels on the front. The cabin was built in 1910 with the clerestory added in the twenties. A rear ell, added in 1936, has a brick chimney. A screened shed roof porch is on the south side. **Because the overall feeling has been maintained and the appearance of the building on the main facades has not changed since 1931, the building is considered a contributing element to the Elkmont historic district.**

Cabin # 11, Scruggs-Brisco. The foundation of the cabin is stone and concrete block. The single story frame dwelling has a gable roof and board and batten siding. The interior chimney is constructed of cobblestone and concrete. This building along with cabins 9, 13, and 15 has had the original porch expanded about 1970 to wrap around two sides of the cabin. The many additions made to the side and rear have overwhelmed the original massing and altered the exterior appearance. **For these reasons the cabin is considered non-contributing.** A stone retaining wall runs parallel with the road in front of the cabin.

Cabins 12, 14, 16, and 17 were reconstructed in 1974 after burning down. **All four are considered as not contributing to the Elkmont historic district.**

Cabin # 13, Cook. Located on a third of an acre lot this one story frame dwelling (ca. 1912) rests on a foundation of wood posts and concrete blocks. It has board and batten siding and a metal gable roof. The shed roof porch on the north and west side of the cabin was built or expanded about 1970. Two rear

additions built sometime between 1930 and 1950 doubled the size of the original cabin. These additions have altered the exterior appearance. **The historic integrity of the building has been compromised. It is a non-contributing element.** There is evidence of settlement in the main structure and water damage is visible on the porch roof. A stone retaining wall is at the road.

Cabin # 15, Hale. The present foundation is concrete block piers. This single story frame building has a hip roof of metal and the exterior is board and batten. The interior chimney is cobblestone and concrete. The floor sags and there is some rot and splitting of the walls. It is on a quarter-acre lot with a stone wall across the front. The original structure has been engulfed by additions and the wrap around porch (circa 1970) has changed the appearance of the building. **However after consultation with staff of the State Historic Preservation Office this November the building is considered contributing.**

Cabin # 18, Gilliand. Also known as Walnut Lodge this story and a half log and frame building rests on stone and wood post piers. Originally it may have been a single pen log cabin with a board and batten half story added later. The logs are saddle notched with concrete chinking. The chimney is stone and stucco, and the gable roof is metal standing seam. On the main or east facade is a one story porch recessed beneath the half story. The porch has original unhewn wood columns and a railing of birch branches. There is some settlement and rot in the floor and walls. **The cabin retains its exterior feeling and is considered a contributing element.**

Cabin # 19, Heinson. A one story log dwelling resting on wooden posts. The exterior is log and board and batten and the gable roof is metal. A cobblestone and concrete chimney is on the exterior wall. Additions include a back porch using horizontal lap siding and an extension off the back porch of board and batten with board and batten enclosing the area below. There is an exterior wood staircase on the rear wing. **Because the additions do not intrude on the main block the building is considered a contributing element to the historic district.** Structurally the front porch, roof, and floor are sagging and there is rot in the wooden piers.

Cabin # 20, F. Andrews (also known as Hemlock Cabin). The building rests on brick piers and is a one and a half story frame and log dwelling. The original building (ca 1910) was a single pen log cabin. It is possible that the half story board and batten addition was added to the log cabin at an early date. The logs on the original section are unhewn and saddle notched. In 1956 a frame wing on the south side was added. Other additions have been added to the sides and on the rear a one story shed roof wing with horizontal board siding has been added. The cabin has a gable roof of metal and an interior chimney of cobblestone and concrete. **Because the 1956 addition and other changes have compromised the original appearance, the building is considered to be non-contributing.**

Cabin # 21, Andrews-Sherling. Built about 1912 the cabin located on a quarter-acre lot was originally a long rectangle with a porch on the south side. The foundation is wooden posts resting on fieldstone and the exterior is weatherboard siding. There is a gable roof of metal standing seam with an exterior cobblestone chimney. A rear addition has board and batten and horizontal lap siding. The porch on the front or east side is screened. **Although additions and changes have occurred the cabin retains sufficient integrity to be considered contributing to the historic district.** The cabin will need replacement of twenty-five to fifty percent of the exterior fabric.

Cabin # 22, Congleton-Brownlow. This cabin, built about 1915, is a wide rectangle with a front porch on the east side, gable roof of asphalt shingles, and board and batten siding. While the porch rests on concrete and cobblestone piers the main structure is on a stone foundation. A rear deck of pressure treated lumber rests on fifteen foot concrete block piers. A shed roof addition on the north side has a large picture window. **Although modified, the appearance of the cabin from the road is relatively unchanged and thus is considered a contributing element of the historic district.**

Cabin 23, McDonald. Cabin (ca 1910) is a single story frame building with board and batten siding resting on a concrete block foundation. The roof is hipped and the interior chimney is cobblestone and concrete. A second story addition with an outside wood staircase is located on the west side. These additions date to the historic period. A screened porch of modern materials is on the rear, however, it is not visible from the front of the building. **The property is considered a contributing element.**

Cabin # 24, W. Arnett. Constructed in 1910 as a single rectangle cabin with hipped roof and board and batten siding. A cobblestone and concrete chimney is on an exterior wall. A projecting gabled wing was constructed on the east or front facade about 1970. The addition has wood shingles on the exterior. On the rear is a wood deck constructed about 1970 which rests on metal columns. **Due to the large addition on the main facade, Cabin 24 has lost integrity of design and is considered a non-contributing element.** Structurally the floor is buckled and the interior walls are bowed and leaning

Cabin # 25, Franklin. Built on a gabled ell plan the foundation is a combination of wood posts on fieldstone and concrete block. The exterior is board and batten. On the front or east side is a partial width porch and on the rear is a modern deck built 1970 and a shed addition with board and batten siding. The cabin is considered one of the worst in regard to structural condition. There is extremely bad settlement of the floors, the walls bow, the roof sags and is rotten, and all the siding would need to be replaced. **Because of loss of structural integrity the building is considered non-contributing.**

Cabin # 26, Hutchins or Laurel Lodge. Built about 1912 the cabin was originally a square block with pyramid roof and board and batten siding. Presently it has a hipped roof of roll roofing, retains the board and batten siding, and has a cobblestone and concrete chimney on an exterior wall. It rests on a stone foundation. A partial width porch is on the front or east side, however, a gabled roof has been grafted onto the pyramid. On the rear is a 1960 addition with a combination of board and batten and T1-11 siding. **Because of the degree of modification of the original appearance the building is considered non-contributing to the historic district.**

Cabin # 27, Gaines. Built in 1910 it has been occupied by the Gaines family for the last sixty years. The cabin rests on a combination of fieldstone piers and wooden posts on fieldstone. The exterior is board and batten siding and the hipped roof is metal. On the exterior wall is a cobblestone and concrete chimney. A porch was added on the east or front of the building in 1970 and a room on the porch was enclosed with board and batten. A two story porch has been constructed on the rear and the foundation enclosed to create a partial basement. **Because of modifications to the original structure this building is considered not to contribute to the historic district.** Structurally there is severe settlement and uneven interior floors. The deterioration of the mortar on the foundation piers has contributed to this condition. Located on a third of an acre lot.

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Cabin # 28, Spengler--Schmid. This began as a single rectangle with horizontal lap siding and a gabled roof. The exterior is weatherboard and a brick chimney is on an exterior wall. The foundation is a combination of wood posts on field stone and concrete block. There is a wraparound porch on the east and south side and a screen porch on the rear or west side. There is a second story addition that is a loft for storage. A shed roof wing, added to the south side about 1960, has T1-11 siding. **Because the side addition and other modifications dominate the building, it is considered as not contributing to the historic district.** There is a gravel walk leading to a stone retaining wall at Jakes Creek Road.

Cabin # 29, F. Arnett. This one and a half story double pen log dwelling rests on posts and timber on fieldstone. The exterior is unhewn saddle notched logs. The usual cobblestone and concrete chimney is on the exterior wall. On the rear is a shed roof addition of frame and logs. The breezeway or dog trot is screened. Along Jakes Creek Road in front of the cabin is a stone retaining wall. **This building with its limited changes is contributing element to the historic district.** Its structural condition is very good.

Cabin # 30, Wright. Constructed in 1921 this one and a half story frame dwelling has a gable roof, board and batten siding, and a foundation of wood posts and rock. A cobblestone and concrete chimney is on an exterior wall. On the front or east is a full width porch recessed beneath the half story. On the rear is an enclosed screen porch. A variety of materials in addition to board and batten have been used on the exterior including drop siding, tongue and groove flooring and tar paper. The structural condition is very poor. Some piers are not plumb. There is settlement (some of it severe) on both floors, there is some rot of the siding and the roof sags badly on both the house and porch. **Despite the deteriorated quality of the building and loss of structural integrity it was determined after consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office that the building contributes to the historic district.**

Cabin # 31, Matthews Cabin and Little Cottage. The gable roof cabin (ca.1910), also known as Wilderness Lodge, is a double pen one and a half story log building resting on wood posts on fieldstone. The metal roof dates to about 1940. The logs are hewn and square notched with concrete chinking. There is a cobblestone and concrete chimney on the exterior wall. The full width porch on the front was added in 1940. On the rear is a frame wing and a rear single pen log wing. The former may date to 1940, while the log wing was either part of the original cabin or added about 1920. A stone retaining wall runs along Jakes Creek Road.

The Little Cottage adjacent to the cabin is a one story frame dwelling built about 1925. It is a single pen design with a roof of metal standing seam, an exterior of board and batten siding, and rests on concrete block foundation. A shed roof screen porch is on the back. **Both structures are contributing elements in the historic district.** Their structural condition is very good.

Cabin # 32, Allen. A one-story frame dwelling resting on fieldstone and concrete block piers. The exterior is board and batten and there are both an exterior and interior chimney of cobblestone and concrete. The cabin has a gable roof of metal standing seam. On the front or east side is a full width porch of cobblestone and concrete with unhewn log posts and a shed roof. The cabin has been added to about four times including a large back porch and a deck built of modern materials on the rear. Structurally the roof has shifted off the interior walls and the floors are uneven. **The additions are not visible from the road and the structural problems are not sufficient to make it non-contributing, thus it is considered a contributing element of the district.**

Cabin # 33, Jeffords. A single rectangle frame dwelling built about 1920 with a gable roof of roll roofing, weather board siding, and interior chimney of cobblestone and concrete. The foundation of the main house is wood posts on fieldstone while the porch rests on mortared fieldstone. This partial width porch was added about 1970. On the right or north side of the dwelling is an addition that extends from front to rear with non-matching horizontal siding. The shed porch on the rear has board and batten siding. There is obvious deflection of the floors and the roof sags. This structure is severely compromised and has lost its integrity. **It is not a contributing element to the historic district.**

Cabin # 34, McAmis. Built about 1920, this one story frame dwelling rests on a mixture of poles on fieldstone and old and new concrete block. Located on a quarter-acre lot the cabin has a hipped roof of metal, board and batten exterior, and an interior concrete and cobblestone chimney. There is a shed roof entry porch on the front or east facade. On the rear is an attached storage shed and screen porch with a sleeping room underneath. **This is a contributing element to the district.** A stone retaining wall is in front of the cabin along Jakes Creek Road.

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Cabin # 35, Culver. This one-story frame dwelling was built in 1922. The cabin has a gable roof, exterior of weatherboard siding, an interior cobblestone and concrete chimney and a concrete block foundation. A partial width porch is on the front or east side and on the rear is a lateral wing. Structural condition is fair to good. **Although altered the structure has maintained its original massing and is a contributing element to the historic district.**

Cabin # 36, Knaffl. The one story frame cabin has a gable roof. The exterior siding is a mixture of board and batten and shingles. The foundation is a mixture of post on stone, stone piers, and concrete block. The interior chimney is concrete and cobblestone. The original small front porch has been modified to a full width screen porch. A large, six by six foot picture window has been added on the south wall. The kitchen, laundry room, side rooms and a back porch have been added. **Because of the extent of the alterations, this building is considered non-contributing to the character of the historic district.**

Cabin # 37, Johnston. Like Cabin 36 this frame dwelling has been extensively altered. The exterior is board and batten siding and the gable roof is metal. Fieldstone, wood posts on fieldstone, and concrete block make up the foundation. A modern wraparound porch is on the front and side. Other changes include an exterior concrete block chimney, a large picture window (ca. 1950), as well as smaller windows of the same period. There is a stone retaining wall along Jakes Creek Road. **Because of the alterations this cabin is a non-contributing element of the Elkmont Historic District.**

Cabin # 38, Byers Cabin. This one and a half story frame dwelling was owned by Col. David Chapman, one of the "fathers" of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The cabin rests on posts and concrete block piers, has a board and batten exterior, and a gable roof of metal. There is a one story entry porch on the front or east side. A half story sleeping porch was added later over the porch. At the roofline, two shed roof dormers were added. It appears that the entire left or south side was another addition. A one story shed roof porch is on the back. Because of additions and modifications the appearance of the original structure is lost. **This is not a contributing element to the historic district.**

Cabin # 39, Dudley. Built in 1923 this frame cabin has a gable roof, weatherboard siding, the usual concrete and cobblestone chimney on an exterior wall, and concrete block foundation. There is a full length porch on the east

or front that connects on the north with the original screen porch. On the west or rear is a redwood deck with a concrete block basement with recreation room and kitchen underneath. **It is considered a contributing element to the district.**

Cabin # 40, Kuhlman. Resting on a combination of mortared fieldstone and fieldstone piers this wood frame dwelling has a gable roof of asphalt shingles, an exterior of horizontal lap siding, and an exterior cobblestone and concrete chimney. On the front or west is a gable roof porch. This and other porches on the side and rear are the major alterations. All porches are finished with horizontal lap siding. The consistency of design and materials give this cabin a sense of unity. The original wood entry gate is in front of the cabin along Jakes Creek Road. At the rear is an original one story single bay garage with gable roof, weatherboard siding, and double doors of vertical board design. Adjacent to the garage is a shed roof woodshed with horizontal siding and a stone and concrete foundation. **All the elements in the complex contribute to the historic district.**

Cabin # 41, McNabb. This one story frame dwelling has a gable roof, interior concrete block chimney, and a stone foundation. About 1970 the exterior was covered with wood shingles and at the same time a shed roof porch was added on the north side and a storage shed at the northeast corner. The storage shed has vertical board siding, Plastic skylights have been installed in the ceiling of the main room. A small shed roof privy of vertical board construction built about 1960 is located to the rear. **The cabin has lost integrity of design, materials and craftsmanship and is considered non-contributing.**

Appalachian Clubhouse. Located at the northern end of the complex between Jakes Creek and Jakes Creek Road. Constructed in 1934 the clubhouse replaced an earlier structure that burned two years earlier. It was designed by Knoxville architect, Albert Baumann, Jr. The building has a large social room, a kitchen, various meeting and storage rooms. The exterior is weatherboard siding, there are exterior chimneys of cobblestone and concrete on the north and south ends of the building. The structure is on a wood post foundation and has a metal gable roof. On the main or east side is a full width porch, sections of which have been enclosed with screen panels. The social room has a king post truss system of unhewn logs supporting the roof and at the north and south end are large cobblestone and concrete chimneys. There have been only minor modifications to the original design. **The building is definitely a contributing element to the Historic District.** There is some evidence of termites, rot in the foundation posts, and about ten percent of the siding needs to be replaced.

The northeast porch has settled significantly. A final structural note by TVA engineers is that the floor, "is probably not designed for assembly usage."

Avent Cabin. This one story log dwelling is the subject of a separate nomination. It was never considered part of the Appalachian Club complex. Built about 1850 it was purchased by Frank Avent in 1918 and remodeled into its present appearance in 1926. The building has a gable roof, an exterior cobblestone and concrete chimney and stone foundation. The logs are half dovetail notched with both mud and concrete chinking. Two of the entrance doors are vertical board design and date to about 1910. On the rear or east is a shed roof wing with vertical board siding that contains a kitchen and enclosed porch. It was rebuilt in 1974.

The following cabins are located in the eastern portion of the Appalachian Club complex toward the Little River. See map of Appalachian Town for location of specific cabins.

Spence Cabin or River Lodge - Building consists of three sections joined at two slight obtuse angles. The center section is built of unhewn logs with concrete chinking. On the south or front side is a large cobblestone and concrete chimney and a section of the chimney encloses the main entrance. The entrance opening is arched and there is a vertical board door with diagonal bracing. The west wing has both horizontal and board and batten siding. There is a gable roofed entry porch. The east wing, which appears to have been added later has weatherboard and board and batten siding. The log section has one large room while the two frame sections contain bedrooms, a kitchen and bathrooms. The building has a gable roof and rests on a foundation of stone and concrete blocks. At the rear is a stone and concrete deck and a separate deck of the same materials is located next to Little River. There are stone and concrete entry gates on Little River Road. **All elements of the property are considered as contributing to the historic district.** There is some rot of foundation posts and exterior siding on the north or rear of the structure.

Brandau Cabin - A one story frame dwelling built in 1928 with a gable roof of asphalt shingles, weatherboard siding, a stone foundation and an exterior cobblestone and concrete chimney. Additions include the right hand bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom, shed roof screen porch, and latticed storage room. All additions are well integrated and finished with drop siding to match the original. On the west side is a concrete and stone patio. **The cabin is a contributing element to the historic district.** It is described as being in reasonably good shape structurally.

Parrott Cabin - This single story frame building rests on a stone foundation, has weatherboard siding, the usual cobblestone and concrete chimney on an exterior wall, and a gable roof. All the siding and asphalt shingles on the roof are recent. A large rear addition with Ell and front porch which doubles the size of the original cabin have recently been added. There is a loft over half the building. The original rear wall of the cabin has been removed and the footprint of the building has been radically changed. The building has some deflection in the foundation and evidence of water leakage around the fireplace. **For the above reasons the Parrott Cabin is not considered a contributing element of the historic district.**

Murphy Cabin - Built about 1928 the entire cabin appears to be original. The one story frame building has a hipped roof of asphalt shingles, an exterior of board and batten, a interior foundation of cobblestone and concrete and an exterior of wood posts, and a cobblestone and concrete chimney. There is a shed roof entry porch on the front or south side. On the rear is a shed roof screen porch. A portion of the roof is raised to accommodate clerestory windows. Ten yards to the southeast of the main building is an original shed roof board and batten garage with two open bays and at the rear of the garage is a shed roof storage wing. About twenty yards to the southwest is a one story open gazebo with gable roof that was rebuilt about 1980 based on an original design at this location. **All elements of the Murphy property are considered as contributing to the historic district.** Overall the cabin is in fair condition.

Cambier Cabin - Built in 1940 the cabin is one and a half stories high and has a gable roof of metal. The exterior siding is board and batten and the entire structure was upgraded with a continuous concrete block foundation. The interior chimney is also concrete block. At the rear is a wood staircase leading to an entrance in the half story. The only apparent addition is the one side room that is also enclosed in board and batten siding. There is some water damage around the fireplace and some sagging of the roof, but structurally it is in good to fair condition. **The property is considered as contributing to the character of the Elkmont historic district.**

Young Cabin - This one-story frame dwelling has a gable roof, board and batten siding, both an exterior and interior chimney of concrete and cobblestone, and a stone and concrete block foundation. Some steel jack posts have been added under the house. On the north side is a single story screen porch. Windows on the north facade are original wood sash, however, the remaining windows are 1960 (c) metal louvered and sliding design. On the west side is a lateral one-story wing with board and batten siding and gable roof that was built in 1970.

Structurally there is some rot and cracking of the siding and evidence of sagging in roof. **Because of the changes in windows (1960) and the 1970 addition the structure is not considered a contributing element to the district.**

Faust Cabin - Located on a 1 to 2 acre tract this one story frame dwelling (circa 1928) has been altered several times. Walls have been removed to create interior spaces, external porches are now part of the interior, and windows have been modified to picture window dimensions. On the east a shed roof porch was added in 1980. The building has a gable roof, weatherboard siding and a stone foundation. Adjacent to the cabin is a 1930 period gable roof frame two bay garage. The dry stack river rock wall that encloses the yard is considerably higher (3 to 4 feet) than other walls in the complex. **Despite significant alterations the exterior appearance merits inclusion as a contributing element of the district.** The building has the usual structural problems of settlement of foundation and floors and some rotten siding.

Miller Cabin - Originally a cantilever frame structure built about 1928 and remodeled into a dwelling about 1950. It is two stories in height, has weatherboard and board and batten siding with a rock faced concrete block foundation. The main entrance is on the east on the second story and is reached by a staircase. At the roof line is a gable roof belfry with louvered vents that appear to vent the interior fireplace. Leading to the cabin from Little River Road is a dry stack rock wall with entrance gates. Overall the cabin is in good condition, but may need a new asphalt roof in a few years. **Both the building and the rock wall/entrance gates are considered to be contributing to the district.**

Structures other than cabins that are part of the Appalachian Club Town.

The Little River Stone Bridge crosses the river at the northern end of the Appalachian Club Town area. It is a four span stone bridge with each span having a keystone in the arch. It was constructed about 1940 by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). There was a CCC camp on the site of the present Elkmont Campground. The bridge is of rock faced limestone construction. **The stone bridge is a contributing element of the historic district.**

Site of the Little River Swimming Hole is one-tenth of a mile southeast of the stone bridge. Until recently a dam composed of rocks and logs trapped water. The swimming hole had been a traditional recreational area since the second decade of this century. **It contributed to the character of the district.**

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Bearwallow Creek Bridge is cobblestone and concrete bridge located between the Young and Faust Cabins. Built about 1930, it is a small single span pedestrian bridge with a deck of poured concrete. **It contributes to the district.**

The New Elkmont Cemetery is located west of Jakes Creek. It was dedicated in 1928 and contains the graves of many of the early Elkmont residents. **The cemetery is contributing site in the historic district.**

Sites of Lem Owenby Cabin and Lee Higdon Cabin are about a mile south of Cabin 41 all that are left are a few scattered stones at Owenby and the Chimney and foundation of Higdon cabin located west of Owenby. **Neither considered as contributing elements.**

WONDERLAND CLUB

In contrast to the Appalachian Club where most of the cabins are arranged along a street in close proximity to each other the cabins of the Wonderland Club are widely scattered and screened by vegetation.

Wonderland Hotel - This two story frame hotel was built in two stages. The front section that faced the Little River Railroad was constructed in 1912, while the two story rear wing was added about 1928 and contains the dining room and rooms on the second floor. The building has a hipped roof of roll roofing. The exterior is weatherboard siding. The foundation is stone and there are two interior brick chimneys. On the front or south side is a one story wraparound porch with original wood columns and diagonal bracing. To the south of the hotel is an original cobblestone and concrete retaining wall and steps that lead to the road below.

The first floor contains the lobby, social room and ballroom in the original section. The original wood check in counter is still present in the lobby. Drywall and acoustical tiles have been added to the social room and ballroom. The ballroom has post and lintel central support system with diagonal bracing. In the northeast corner is a raised wooden stage. The dining room, part of the later addition has its original flooring. An acoustical tile ceiling has been added.

Access to the second floor is by stairwell from the lobby. Originally an open stair it was enclosed in 1972 to meet fire code. There are 27 rooms arranged

on either side of a central corridor. While the wooden floor is original, hallway walls were covered by drywall in 1985. The rooms have wood paneling added in 1965 and drop ceilings installed about 1980.

A structural evaluation of the hotel states that the exterior siding, roof, interior partitions, and interior finishes are in poor to fair condition. On the first floor there is significant settlement at the interior posts and the center beam for the second floor is clearly sagging in the south wing. A similar situation exists in the newer north section dining room. The sagging in the west end of the second floor is both "seeable and feelable." With the exception of some settlement of the foundation, the front porch is in fair to good condition. **The Wonderland Hotel is a contributing element of the Elkmont Historic District.**

Hotel Annex - This two story frame building was built in 1920 to serve as additional guest accommodations. It is about ten yards west of the hotel. The first floor contains a social room and guest rooms while the upper floor is entirely guest rooms. The building has a hipped roof, weatherboard siding, a large exterior wall cobblestone and concrete chimney and a stone foundation. There are one story porches on the east and west sides.

The interior of the annex has original wood floors and unfinished board ceilings. The social room has tongue and groove beaded board walls and exposed ceiling beams. The original staircase leads to the second floor. There are 24 rooms in the annex. Some of the rooms have circa 1950 wood paneling. The hallways on both floors retain the original tongue and grove walls and doors leading to the rooms are also original. The building is in good condition with some, but not severe settlement. **The building is a contributing element of the district.**

Wonderland Hotel Servant's Quarters (aka Riordan Cabin) - This one story frame building with a gable roof of asphalt shingles, asphalt shingle siding, an exterior cobblestone and concrete chimney, and a foundation of wood posts was built about 1930. The only alterations to the exterior is replacement of round wood posts with square pressure treated posts and addition of some aluminum window units on all four sides of the building. The interior has been partially remodeled, but the original material remains behind the modern paneling. Some of the rooms have retained their original plank walls and doors. There has been severe settlement of the south wall. **Building is a contributing element of the district.**

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May or Moore Cabin - A two story rectangular structure with an enclosed backporch or sleeping porch. Roof is gable and the siding board and batten. The cabin rests on a stone foundation and has an exterior wall cobblestone and concrete chimney. Built in 1917 by Frank May, the cabin was extensively remodeled in 1921 with the addition of a low railing of concrete and cobblestones being added to the full width shed roof porch, and the construction of a chimney, interior walls and a staircase. It appears there have been no other alterations. **The building is a contributing element of the historic district.**

Preston Cabin - Constructed in 1922 on a gabled ell plan the building was remodeled about 1930. A single story frame dwelling it has an exterior of cedar shingles, the usual cobblestone and concrete chimney on an exterior wall, and a concrete and cobblestone foundation. There is a partial width screen porch on the front (east) side and a shed roof screen porch on the back. **The building presents a very unified appearance and contributes to historic district.** No major structural problems noted.

Paine Cabin - Located two-tenths of a mile northeast of the hotel this is a one story frame dwelling built in 1928. It has a gable roof of metal standing seam, the exterior is board and batten siding, and it rests on a stone foundation. There is an interior chimney of cobblestone and concrete. The original building was a single block with a back porch. Another block of similar shape and size was later added and is offset slightly. The whole structure has a unified appearance. **This property contributes to the character of the historic district.** There is some settlement of the foundation and evidence of rot where the siding comes in contact with the ground.

Bowman Cabin or Brown Cabin - Constructed in 1913 the cabin was purchased by the E.L. Bowman family in 1920. At that time it consisted of a single large room and a bedroom. Forty years later it was purchased by the Fred Brown family who extensively remodeled it in 1974 adding plywood and batten and wood shingle siding, a large screen porch on the south side and a basement. Because of these additions, the cabin no longer retains integrity of design, craftsmanship. **It is not a contributing element of the district.**

The Hicks Cabin - This one story frame dwelling was built on the gabled ell plan with a porch built on the west side of the projecting gabled bay. The cabin has a gable roof of asphalt shingles and the exterior is enclosed in a combination of vertical beadboard and tongue and groove flooring, both of which are interior

materials. There is an exterior cobblestone and concrete chimney and the foundation is combination of brick piers, timber posts and timber poles, the latter two resting on either concrete block or fieldstone. Although the mixture of siding and foundation supports destroys some continuity the overall appearance is not severely affected. It is in good structural condition. **The cabin is a contributing element to the historic district.**

McMillian/Keith Cabin - Built about 1922 this one story frame dwelling has a gable roof, an exterior of wood panels and a concrete block foundation. The wood panel siding was added in 1972. On the front or north side is a full width shed porch and on the rear a full width screen porch resting on concrete blocks and metal posts. The interior of the cabin was extensively remodeled in the early 1970s. **Because of the exterior siding replacement, addition of two porches and interior alterations this building does not contribute to the historic district.** The foundation is described as "bad" with posts and concrete block out of plumb. Some posts not in contact with the floor beams.

Vandergriff Cabin - A one story frame dwelling with a gable roof of asphalt shingles resting on a cast concrete foundation. The original exterior of board and batten siding was replaced about 1972 with the present plywood and batten strip panels. At the same time a shed porch was added on the north side. Although the interior has retained most of its original fabric, the exterior has lost its integrity of materials and craftsmanship. **For this reason the building is not considered a contributing element.**

Tate, Beaman, and Tucker Cabin - This cabin is a long rectangle with a porch. The exterior is drop wood siding. There is a concrete and cobblestone chimney on a exterior wall and the foundation is concrete and fieldstone on the perimeter and posts on concrete or fieldstone beneath the cabin. The building has a full basement. The building appears to have retained much of its original appearance. Its structural condition is also very good. **The property contributes to the character of the historic district.**

Richards or Brandau Cabin - The building has a gable roof of metal standing seam, an exterior of weatherboard siding, the usual cobblestone and concrete chimney on an exterior wall, and a foundation of cast concrete on the perimeter and fieldstone or posts on fieldstone beneath the building. There is a shed roof porch on the north. Described as the worst of the Wonderland Cabins in the structural assessment the building has very obvious settlement, has lost most or all of its structural stability, the roof is distorted and the porch is

rotten. Essentially the cabin would need to be totally replaced. **Because of this degree of deterioration the cabin is not considered a contributing element in the Elkmont Historic District.**

One site in addition to the cabins exists within the Wonderland Club area.

The Old Elkmont Cemetery is located northwest of the Wonderland Hotel. There are approximately fifty graves dating from 1910 to the present. The cemetery served both the community of Elkmont and the surrounding area. **It is considered a contributing site in the historic district.**

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SUMMARY

The Elkmont Historic District meets National Register eligibility under Criteria A and C for its architectural and historical significance. The district is significant under Criterion A as the only remaining collection of early 20th century resort cabins retaining integrity in the Appalachian Mountains of Tennessee. The district is significant under Criterion C as representative of the rustic or vernacular architecture of the early 20th century. The districts period of significance extends from 1910 when the Appalachian Club was formed to 1940, when the last cabin was constructed.

Criterion A - Entertainment and Recreation

Elkmont is significant under Criterion A in the area of entertainment/recreation. Elkmont was formed during the outdoor recreation movement of the early 20th century. This movement stressed a return to nature and resulted in the construction of hotels and mountain camps throughout America. The universal enthusiasm of Americans for the "back to nature movement" could be seen in the vast expansion of the national park and forest system under presidents Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft, the popularity of outdoor adventure stories, creation of the Boy Scouts in 1910 and the Campfire Girls in 1912, and the vogue of birdwatching and sportsman's clubs.[1] In the Southern Appalachians this renewed interest in outdoor life led to the construction of numerous hotels and mountain cottages.

The Little River Lumber Company of Sevier County, Tennessee, realized the possibilities of such mountain camps for its property, and in 1910 and 1911 it deeded land for two private development, the Appalachian Club and Wonderland Park. Summer cabins were soon built at both locations primarily for Knoxville businessmen and their families. The formerly inaccessible location deep in the mountains was a major attraction for the well-to-do eastern Tennesseans who built summer homes at Elkmont. Although earlier resorts in Sevier County such as Glen Alpine and Henderson Springs attracted prominent Knoxville families, Elkmont is probably unique in its permanent long-time association with individuals prominent in the business, professional, social, and civic life of East Tennessee.

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[1]. Clifford E. Clark, Jr. The American Family Home, 1800-1960. (Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press, 1986), 180.

Elkmont has both local and state significance. Not only is this resource unique in Sevier County, but no similar collection of early 20th century cabins and mountain hotels is known to exist in the Appalachian Mountains of East Tennessee.[2] Other summer resort complexes in the vicinity such as Line Springs and Dupont Springs have been razed, while the resort cabins at Kinzel Springs in Blount County have been modified and no longer retain integrity.[3] The creation of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in the 1930s largely halted construction at Elkmont resulting in few changes to its pre-1940 appearance.

The buildings and structures at Elkmont are especially notable for their survival to the present day. Tourist facilities are particularly vulnerable to the pressures of remodeling and rebuilding. With the creation of the National Park, tourist visitation to the area increased by many fold, especially on the Tennessee side of the mountains. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is the most visited national park in the country. This has brought considerable pressure for new development, particularly in the Gatlinburg area. Immediately outside the boundaries of the Park on the Tennessee side, no similar hotels or summer colonies survive intact from the early twentieth century.

The buildings at Elkmont are also unique in terms of the extant structures now within the boundaries of the National Park. At the time of the creation of the National Park the architecture of the Great Smoky Mountains included early twentieth century timber camps and structures associated with timber related industries (much of it vertical-plank, "boxed" construction), nineteenth and early twentieth century agricultural complexes and communities (log, frame, and "boxed" construction), and early twentieth century structures associated with tourism and recreational use of the mountains (mostly of frame construction). On the Tennessee side of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, most of the latter type of structures were located in the area of Elkmont, though elsewhere in the park some families with larger homes did take in borders who were visiting the area.

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[2]. Interview by Phil Thomason with Steve Rogers and Claudette Stager, Tennessee Historical Commission, December 18, 1992.

[3]. "The Historical and Architectural Resources of Blount County, Tennessee." National Register nomination on file at the Tennessee Historical Commission, 1989.

With their emphasis on the preservation of the natural environment in parks such as Great Smokies, the National Park Service in the past tended to treat the cultural landscape as an intrusion and few buildings were preserved. Great Smoky Mountains National Park was somewhat unique in its early official policy of preserving mountain culture and the buildings and structures. During the 1930s and early 1940s, structures within the park were documented and photographed and plans were made to preserve certain structures. Many structures, however, were demolished or burned. Preservation was quite selective, favoring 19th century dwellings and agricultural structures (especially those built of log).

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, the Great Smoky Mountains were transformed by logging and tourism. Architectural evidence of this transformation has all but disappeared except for a few early twentieth century frame dwellings which may have been used as boarding houses, such as the Caldwell House in Cataloochee, North Carolina. The structures at Elkmont were preserved not because of the recognition of their significance, but because lifetime leases were granted to the cabin holders. The Voorheis complex, built by a well-to-do Ohio businessman near Gatlinburg, is the only other summer home surviving on the Tennessee side of the Park.

Criterion C - Architecture

The building forms and plans of the cabins at Elkmont are typical of rural building traditions in the Tennessee mountains. House forms include Gabled Ell, Pyramid Square, Single or Double Pen, and Rectangular. The larger buildings, Wonderland Hotel and Annex and the Appalachian Clubhouse are typical of vernacular hotel or social halls of the period. However, there is evidence of craftsman or craftsman influenced designs in some of the cabins. The builders of the cabins at Wonderland and Appalachian Club used materials which were most available such as river or cobble stone and locally milled weatherboard, board and batten or drop siding. Most of the buildings are balloon frame construction representing the availability of sawn lumber. The few log buildings were either moved to the area or represent original locations. Some of the log cabins have frame additions. The mixture of stock window and door elements is also common for building construction of the period.

All the buildings from the smallest cabin to the hotel reflect a simplicity of form and function. In addition they conveyed an impression of shelter, safety, and comfort. The front porches tied the building directly to the surrounding environment. Natural materials including fieldstone piers and cobblestone in chimneys and fireplaces as well as wood exterior walls tended to blend with the site and in most cases required little maintenance.

The use of natural materials readily found in the immediate area was also expressed in the landscape elements at Elkmont. Cobblestone was used not only for fireplaces and chimneys, but also for walls dividing property from the road or to mark property lines, as retaining walls and gates, and in decks or patios.

The focal point of the Wonderland Club development was the hotel built in two stages in 1912 and 1928. The Wonderland Hotel is typical of the type of hotels built in the southern Appalachian Mountains during the late 19th and early 20th centuries when railroads such as the Little River Railroad made the mountains accessible to tourists or individuals building and possessing cabins in close proximity to the hotel. The Wonderland Hotel and the adjacent annex built in 1920 were constructed in this vernacular tradition. They are of frame construction with hipped roof and weatherboard siding. The hotel has a porch that wraps around three sides of the building while the annex has two small porches adjacent to the social room. Both have chimneys and fireplaces. The hotel chimney is of brick rather than stone.

The Wonderland Hotel was unique. Unlike other resort hotels on commercial rail lines or roads it was located deep within the mountains in an area accessible only by a logging train that was also used as an excursion train for tourists. As a result it became a popular tourist destination. No similar hotel was located within the boundaries of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. As a result, Elkmont was the center of tourist activity on the Tennessee side of the park.

Similar in style to the Wonderland Hotel and Annex, the original Appalachian Clubhouse served more as a social center for the residents of the cabins that lined Jakes Creek Road than as a destination for tourists. The original clubhouse burned and was replaced in 1934. The present building has a large porch on the front and cobblestone chimneys and fireplaces at each end of the large social room.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The scenic beauty and moderate climate of the southern Appalachian mountains have long attracted visitors who came for short or extended stays, particularly in the summer months. However the difficulty of transportation through the mountains in the 19th century limited the type of visitors and the areas developed for summer visitation. Soon after the construction of the Buncombe Turnpike, which connected Greeneville, Tennessee, to Greenville, South Carolina, in the 1820s, summer colonies of wealthy South Carolinians developed in the

North Carolina mountains south of the Great Smokies. The purported healthy climate of the mountains was a particular lure for visitors during the mid- and late-nineteenth century.

Various types of health resorts, many located on springs, developed in both western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee. One of the earliest in Sevier County was Henderson Springs, known as a health retreat as early as the 1830s. Later in the century a two story frame hotel and twenty-two cabins were built at Henderson Springs, attracting the patronage of prominent Knoxville families.[4]

The construction of railroads vastly enhanced the potential of the Great Smokies region for recreational purposes, particularly for those with more moderate incomes. The railroad did not reach Asheville until 1880, but as it extended into western North Carolina, summer resorts began to flourish. Knoxville, Tennessee, was accessible by rail prior to the Civil War, but rail lines did not extend into Sevier County until after the turn of the century.[5] While resorts did develop prior to the building of the railroad in these counties, they grew along the more accessible roads or water routes. An advertisement in an 1897 Knoxville Journal for Dupont Springs, located 12 miles west of Sevierville, touted not only its three kinds of water, but also its "cool and invigorating" air and "unequaled" scenery. Visitors were advised to take a boat or hack for Sevierville.[6] The more remote reaches of the Smokies, however, remained out of reach of most summer visitors until after 1900.

The construction of railroads also allowed the timber resources of the southern Appalachians to be utilized for commercial purposes. After 1900, large northern timber companies faced with depletion of the timberlands in the northeast and Great Lakes area moved into the Great Smoky Mountains and began to develop the means to extract the timber.[7] Among the several large timber companies that

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[4]. Vertical files, "Hotels and Resorts," Sevier County Library.

[5]. The Gentle Winds of Change: A History of Sevier County, Tennessee, 1900-1930 (Smoky Mountain Historical Society, 1986), 64-68.

[6]. Vertical files, "Hotels and Resorts," Sevier County Library

[7]. For a history of timbering in Southern Appalachia, see Ronald D. Eller, Miners, Millhands and Mountaineers: Industrialization of the Appalachian South, 1880-1930 (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1982), 86-127.

worked within the Great Smokies was the Little River Lumber Company. Under the direction of the General Manager, Col. W.B. Townsend, the company began to purchase land in eastern Tennessee in 1901. The Little River Lumber Company was especially interested in cutting the hardwood and hemlock at the higher elevations. To enable them to extract this wood, they created the Little River Railroad Company. Chartered in 1901, it existed until 1940 when the company was dissolved.

A standard-gauge railroad, the Little River Railroad connected to the Knoxville and Augusta Railroad which the previous year had extended its line in Blount County from Maryville to Walland.[8] The Little River Lumber Company set up headquarters, established a large band mill in Tuckaleechee Cove, and established the town of Townsend, named after the General Manager. The railroad ran from Walland to Townsend and then ultimately into the heart of the mountains. By 1908 the railroad had extended through the narrow Little River Gorge and up the East Prong of the Little River in Sevier County. The Town of Elkmont was established as the base for operations along the East Prong.[9]

The Little River Company must have soon realized that its railway through the gorge provided more than an efficient means to extract timber from the mountains. An observation car was added to the lumber train for passengers who wished to view the scenery along the Little River, and by 1909 daily train service was available from Knoxville's Southern Station to Elkmont.[10] In that year a local paper reported an outing by a party of young people from Wears Valley who took the train up to Elkmont.

The lumber company not only encouraged, it also promoted the development of cut-over land. In 1910, the Little River Lumber Company deeded the Appalachian Club, 50 acres "more or less" along Jakes Creek just upstream from Elkmont. The

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[8]. Inez E. Burns, History of Blount County Tennessee (Nashville: Tennessee Historical Commission, 1957), 236.

[9]. Robert S. Lambert, "Logging on Little River, 1890-1940," East Tennessee Historical Society Publications, no. 33 (1961): Gentle Winds of Change, 103-128. Ed Trout, "Logging in Sevier County" and Elkmont files, Great Smoky Mountains National Park Archives. Hereafter cited as GRSM Archives.

[10]. Vic Weals, Last Train to Elkmont (Knoxville: Olden Press, 1991), 29.

lumber company retained timber and mineral rights, while the Appalachian Club was "to construct at its own expense, a Club House for the accommodation of members and guests, and the right or privilege, of constructing such cottages, or cabins, by itself, or by its members as may be desired."[11]

The Appalachian Club was a Knoxville-based social club. A 1915 brochure describes the Appalachian Club as "composed principally of Knoxville business men, for the purpose of providing a place for recreation and rest for themselves."[12] In 1919 the club was reconstituted and formally incorporated as the New Appalachian Club with its headquarters in Knoxville and its principle club house at Elkmont.[13] Membership in the Appalachian Club and the New Appalachian Club included banker J. Wylie Brownlee, university professor R.C. Matthews, several attorneys including Forrest Andrews and James B. Wright, as well as a couple members associated with the Little River Lumber Company or the Railroad (General Manager W.B. Townsend and Railroad Superintendent J.P. Murphy).[14]

While predominantly based in Knoxville, members of the Appalachian Club did come from other places in the South. Testimony by H.E. Wright in 1933 stated that, "we have located at Elkmont now 65 summer homes owned by the very best citizens of Knoxville, some from Memphis, some from Athens, some from Nashville, and some from Kentucky, and other places."[15] However most of the former cottage owners at the Wonderland and Appalachian clubs who became leaseholders were from Knoxville. Their Knoxville business affiliations included Richards Loan Company

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[11]. Deed Book 16, page 343, Sevier County, Tennessee.

[12]. Copies of Elkmont country brochures are located in the Elkmont file, GRSM Archives

[13]. Deed Book 40, page 228, Sevier County. The Club conveyed to the New Appalachian Club their tract of land at Elkmont with the exception of 49 cottages and lots. Charter of Incorporation for the New Appalachian Club, March 5, 1919, Book 288, page 216.

[14]. Wright, Townsend, Murphy, and Brownlee were all cabin owners by 1919.

[15]. Condemnation against James B. Wright, 1933, testimony of H.E. Wright; Tennessee condemnation files, GRSM Archives.

and Bowman Hat Company (Margaret Richards and E.L. Bowman of Wonderland) and Price-Baumann Tire, Swan Brothers Bakery, and Galyon Lumber (J. Fred Baumann, Charles Swan, and Eugene Galyon of the Appalachian Club)[16]

One year after the Appalachian Club established its clubhouse at Elkmont, the Little River Lumber Company deeded to C.B. Carter a tract of land immediately downstream from the town of Elkmont. Carter and his brothers founded the Wonderland Park Company and the next year purchased an adjacent tract of land from the lumber company. The Wonderland Hotel was begun in the spring of 1912 and was ready for business by June 15 of that year.

After construction of the Appalachian Club and Wonderland Hotel, a daily passenger train, the Elkmont Special ran from Knoxville up the Little River with its final three stops, just minutes apart, at the Wonderland Park Hotel, Elkmont, and the Appalachian Club. The trip took approximately two and a half hours from Knoxville. The Little River Railroad and the Knoxville and Augusta Railroad also promoted "Elkmont Country" through brochures. A 1914 brochure assured the reader that besides being noted for its beautiful scenery, Elkmont country, "is becoming more popular each year as a recreation place for people from all over the South, some of whom have built summer cottages so they and their families may spend the summers in one of the most delightful mountain climates in the entire country." In the same brochure the Appalachian Club was described in the following terms:

> The Appalachian Club . . . has made extensive improvement on its club house and annex since last year, and is now in position to serve its members better than ever before. A complete water and sewerage system has been installed, also a new and up-to-date electric light plan.
>
> Here, situated at an elevation of twenty-five hundred feet above sea level and commanding a magnificent view of the Smoky mountains, some forty or fifty cottages have been built by members of the club. The natural surroundings of the cottages are so beautiful that the possibilities for enhancing the natural beauties are manifold, and this is one of the charms of the place. On the west side of Townsend avenue flows a tumultuous little mountain stream which furnishes

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[16]. List of Sevier County leaseholders. Land Acquisition II-24, GRSM Archives.

running water in each summer home, and the cottages, rustic and simple, can boast of bath rooms, shower baths and sewer connections together with a natural swimming pool near the club house.

Wonderland Park is described in equally glowing terms in a 1915 brochure.

> One of the most beautiful recreation places in the Elkmont country. Elevation two thousand five hundred feet. Hotel new and modern, situated in the heart of the Great Smoky Mountains. Wonderland Park is noted for its picturesque scenery, with river and mountains in delightful vista. A number of rustic cottages have been built here, which add to the attractiveness of the place. Excellent mountain and rainbow trout fishing in Little River. Horseback riding, bathing and mountain climbing. Accommodations for two hundred guests.[17]

Wonderland Park and Appalachian Club were not the only resorts served by the Little River Railroad. Mount Nebo Springs near the Melrose station, the Chilhowee Inn near Walland, and Kinzel Springs at Sunshine all received visitors who used the railroad in Blount County. In Sevier County the Line Springs Hotel overlooked Wears Valley and was accessible from the Line Springs depot. As at Wonderland Park, additional cottages were built near the hotel, but families took their meals in the big dining room. The Line Springs Hotel was demolished in 1969.

While the Wonderland Park Hotel was fairly typical of the resorts of the day, the owners of the Wonderland Park Company, the Carter brothers from Knoxville, had grander schemes in mind. The original plat for Wonderland had more than 650 tracts, and the Wonderland Park Addition had thousands more. The land which had cost $5 per acre and less, was subdivided into 16 lots per acre.[18] Had it actually been built, Wonderland Park would have had the density of a major city for its time. However, even if the grid of streets had been laid, many of the tracts were tiny and on sites not suitable for building.

It seems probable that the Carter brothers were engaged in land speculation of the type that seized Florida and the western North Carolina towns of Asheville and Hendersonville and crashed in the 1920s. The President of the Wonderland Company himself sold land through agents in Orlando, Florida. Aside from the hotel and annex, less than twenty structures were built at Wonderland. Many of

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[17]. Copies of brochures in the Elkmont file in GRSM Archives.

[18]. Wonderland Files, GRSM Archives

the purchasers of land, in fact, never saw the tracts they had bought, and it was not until decades later, after creation of the National Park, that some of the business practices of the Carter brothers became known.

After the Carters conveyed this land to the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association, the deeds and title papers of all prior lot owners in this section were canceled as clouds upon the title, since the Carters had possession of the land and the location of the owners of the tracts were unknown. However, even those who had clear title seldom recouped their purchase price and taxes in the creation of the Park. Many were notified that their tracts were only 25x100 feet and were on the side of a hill or mountain. Generally they were offered from $2 to $25 for each tract, depending on location.[19]

Despite the legal nightmare it was to create, the activities of the Wonderland Park Company were short-lived. By 1913, legal disputes developed between the Carter brothers and the subsequent lawsuit dragged on for a number of years. during which time the defendant, T. M. Carter, died. In 1915, the Wonderland Park Hotel and immediately adjacent lands and buildings were sold to a group of Knoxville citizens who formed a private club, similar in nature to the Appalachian Club. Both clubs operated hotels which were available to members, but were apparently also rented to paying guests. The Appalachian Club Hotel burned in 1933 and was replaced by the Club House. In 1920 the Wonderland Club built the hotel annex which provided additional rooms for club members.

For almost a decade and a half, recreational and industrial use of the East Prong of the Little River existed side by side. The train from Knoxville made day trips to Elkmont possible. Some stayed at the hotels for short periods, while club members often made more extended visits. Passengers could debark at the imposing frame hotel on the hill. The next stop was the town of Elkmont. The final passenger stop was the Appalachian Club Station where visitors would cross the river on a footbridge to the Clubhouse.[20] The lumber town of Elkmont with its plain, vertical plank boxed structures must have contrasted starkly to the quaint rusticity of the Wonderland and Appalachian Clubs' cabins. The Hotel Elkmont, almost indistinguishable from the other boxed houses, served a different clientele than the Wonderland Club.

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[19]. Ibid.

[20]. Just beyond the Appalachian Club Station, Shays or geared engines replaced the piston driven locomotives and continued up the steep hills to where lumbering was occuring.

It should be noted that industrial and recreational users of the East Prong of the Little River were not mutually exclusive groups. Several members of the Appalachian Club were at some point connected to the Little River Lumber Company. Furthermore, in 1928, a 65-acre tract of land belonging to Little River Company, adjacent to the Appalachian Club holdings, was deeded to Alice U. Morier who had married the aging Col. Townsend. Townsend had been listed as a lot owner in 1919. These properties along "millionaires row," although not part of the original Appalachian Club deed, were later included in the negotiation of leases.

By 1923 much of the accessible timber above the East Prong was removed and the lumber company began to focus their efforts on its operations on the Middle Prong. The train to Elkmont was discontinued in 1925 and the tracks torn up. In 1926, a gravel road was built through the gorge from Townsend to Elkmont, providing an easier route than the steep mountain road from Gatlinburg through Fighting Creek Gap.

The development of roads into Elkmont in the middle years of the twenties is reflective of the fact that by then a sizeable number of Americans owned cars. Many of the cottage owners were driving as far as Townsend and taking the train from there to Elkmont.[21] In those same years auto-tourism eclipsed the importance of the railroad in development of the southern mountains for recreational purposes. It was later to be a major contributing factor in the creation of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The road from Townsend to Elkmont and on to Gatlinburg was part of the hundred mile scenic loop that began and ended in Knoxville. This road, passing through Maryville, Walland, Elkmont, Pigeon Forge, Sevierville, and along the route of present day I-40, exists today. The section from Towsend to Gatlinburg is within the national park.

Tourism grew and some of the structures within the town of Elkmont were purchased to be developed to meet the needs of tourist and visitor to the Wonderland and Appalachian clubs who arrived by bus and private car. In 1927 hotel rooms at the Wonderland Park rented for $2.50 per day. The weekly rate was lower. Cottages were also available for rent. At the Appalachian Club residents and visitors stayed in cabins and dined at the club house. Some residents brought their servants along for the summer. Recreation at both locations included hiking, picnicking, horseback riding, outdoor games including horseshoes and badminton, and dances both formal and informal. In an area of

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[21]. Weals, Last Train to Elkmont, 85-86.

the Little River dammed by the Appalachian Club was the Swimming Hole, a popular spot during the summer.[22]

Construction of cabins continued through the twenties. By 1931 nineteen cabins were located at Wonderland.[23] At the Appalachian Club a number of cabins were built during the decade. Some seventy-five cabins were located in the two areas just before the Depression. A few cabins were built in the 1930s, most notably those built by Mrs. Alice Townsend along the Little River. The Elkmont area in the early thirties consisted of the cabins, hotel, clubhouse, the small community of Elkmont, and a few mountain farmsteads. When the community of Elkmont was created about 1908 a cemetery was established. Located north of the Wonderland Hotel it was the only cemetery in the area. In 1928 a new Elkmont Cemetery was dedicated adjacent to the Appalachian Club. The cemetery was given by Levi Owenby in memory of his wife.[24]

The enthusiasm that led to the growth of the Appalachian and Wonderland clubs was one of the reasons for the movement to create either a national forest or park in the Great Smokies to manage or preserve the scenic and natural resources of the region. The movement started in Tennessee and later was embraced by supporters in North Carolina. Knoxville businessmen along with the Chamber of Commerce and the Knoxville Automobile Club launched the campaign. In 1923 the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association was formed. Initially its concern was more with building roads than creating a park or forest preserve. In 1926 Congress passed a law authorizing the creation of several national parks in the Appalachians--land would be acquired by the states involved. Eight years later Congress authorized the establishment of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and it was formally dedicated by President Roosevelt in 1940.

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[22]. The Lure of the Great Smokies (Boston & New York: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1927), 302. A film taken late in the 1920s shows life at the Appalachian Club. It is on file in the GRSM Archives.

[23]. Interview by Phil Thomason with Vernon and Helen Moore, Wonderland Hotel, November 3, 1992.

[24]. Interview by Phil Thomason with J.T. Higdon, Caretaker of the Appalachian Club, October 19, 1992.

Considering the role that Tennessee politicians and businessmen had in promoting and opposing the establishment of the park, it is not surprising that major players on both sides were associated with the Elkmont communities. Governor Austin Peay who spearheaded the purchase of the first large tract of land was a member of the Wonderland Club. Mr. and Mrs. Willis P. Davis and Col. David Chapman were some of the organizers of the Conservation Association along with J. Wylie Brownlee and attorneys Forrest Andrews and James B. Wright. Wright who supported the establishment of a national forest, but not a national park, resigned from the Conservation Association and became one of the park movement's strongest foes.

Despite the role several members played in the Great Smoky Mountain Conservation Association, many in the Appalachian Club eventually opposed condemnation of land for the park, possibly when they discovered that their properties would be among those condemned. They retained James Wright to represent their interests. Faced with political opposition particularly by members of the Appalachian Club, Congress in 1932 consented to a plan in which land-owners could be offered long term leases. As a result Appalachian and Wonderland Club properties were acquired from the members for half the appraised value, plus a life-time lease. Some cabin owners chose to sell their land for full value. At the Wonderland Club some nine or ten cottages were acquired and demolished during the 1930s.[25]

Leases were also offered to some long term full time residents of the park area. However, restrictions on use of the natural resources, particularly wildlife and timber, and the loss of the rural communities that made life in the mountains viable presented major obstacles for them. Despite these restrictions some mountain families remained in the Elkmont area until the 1950s.

With the creation of the national park, commercial development ended at Elkmont. Development of Gatlinburg at the northern entry began to grow. However, Elkmont retained some commercial activity. Park Superintendent J. Ross Eakin, in a letter to the Director of the National Park Service in 1934, noted that some of the lessees were subletting their cabins and the Wonderland and Appalachian Clubs are entertaining paying guests and were in effect hotels.[26]

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[25]. Interview with Vernon and Helen Moore, November 3, 1992.

[26]. Chapman Files, GRSM Archives.

The community of Elkmont was gradually removed during the thirties and forties. Many of the frame buildings were dismantled for their lumber. Others were moved. The Elkmont Baptist Church was moved to Wears Valley where it stands today as Valley View Church. A 1943 Geological Survey map shows only two buildings and the Elkmont School remaining on the site. The last class in the school was held that same year. A Civilian Conservation Corps camp was established on the site in the late thirties. The post office closed in 1950. In 1952 the National Park Service established a campground at Elkmont on the site of the community and the CCC camp which destroyed the last remaining evidence of the town and the camp. However, the road system which followed the same alignment of the Little River Railroad that historically tied the town and the Wonderland and Appalachian Clubs together remains in use today.

The creation of the National Park preserved, perhaps inadvertently, a fragment of the architecture that was typical of the recreational use of the mountains in the four decades prior to the park's dedication in 1940. Restrictions on further commercial development or transfer of property and new construction after 1932 has preserved much of the original character of the communities. Physical evidence of the railroad, except for the road system, the timber industry, and the town of Elkmont have disappeared. The buildings that made up the Appalachian Club and the Wonderland Club remain.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the Elkmont Historic District is marked on the enclosed USGS Gatlinburg Quadrangle (7.5 minute Series) and is described as follows:

The boundary begins on the south where Meigs Mountain Trail crosses Jakes Creek. It turns north following Jakes Creek and the 2400-foot contour line and continues east along that line to Bearwallow Branch. The boundary goes down the branch to the Little River and runs along the north side of Little River and then follows the west side of the nature trail. At the point where the nature trail turns east the boundary goes north to the 2400-foot contour line and follows that contour line across Cotton Branch to the point where the contour line touches UTM Coordinates 266 Easting and 3950 Northing. The boundary runs along 3950 Northing to Pine Knot Branch and follows it to and across Little River and up the dirt road to the 2200 foot contour line and follows that contour line to the point shown on the map at southern end of the campground loop then turns due west to the 2400 foot contour line and follows that contour line to a point shown on the map. It then runs on a straight line south and west to Meigs Mountain Trail and follows the trail to point of beginning on Jakes Creek.

The boundary of the Elkmont Historic District includes all existing properties associated with the Elkmont Historic District. This boundary is enclosed in a quadrilateral whose corners are marked by the following UTM reference points.

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A.	17	265060	3950000
B.	17	266320	3950000
C.	17	267200	3948180
D.	17	266060	3947080
E.	17	265560	3947080

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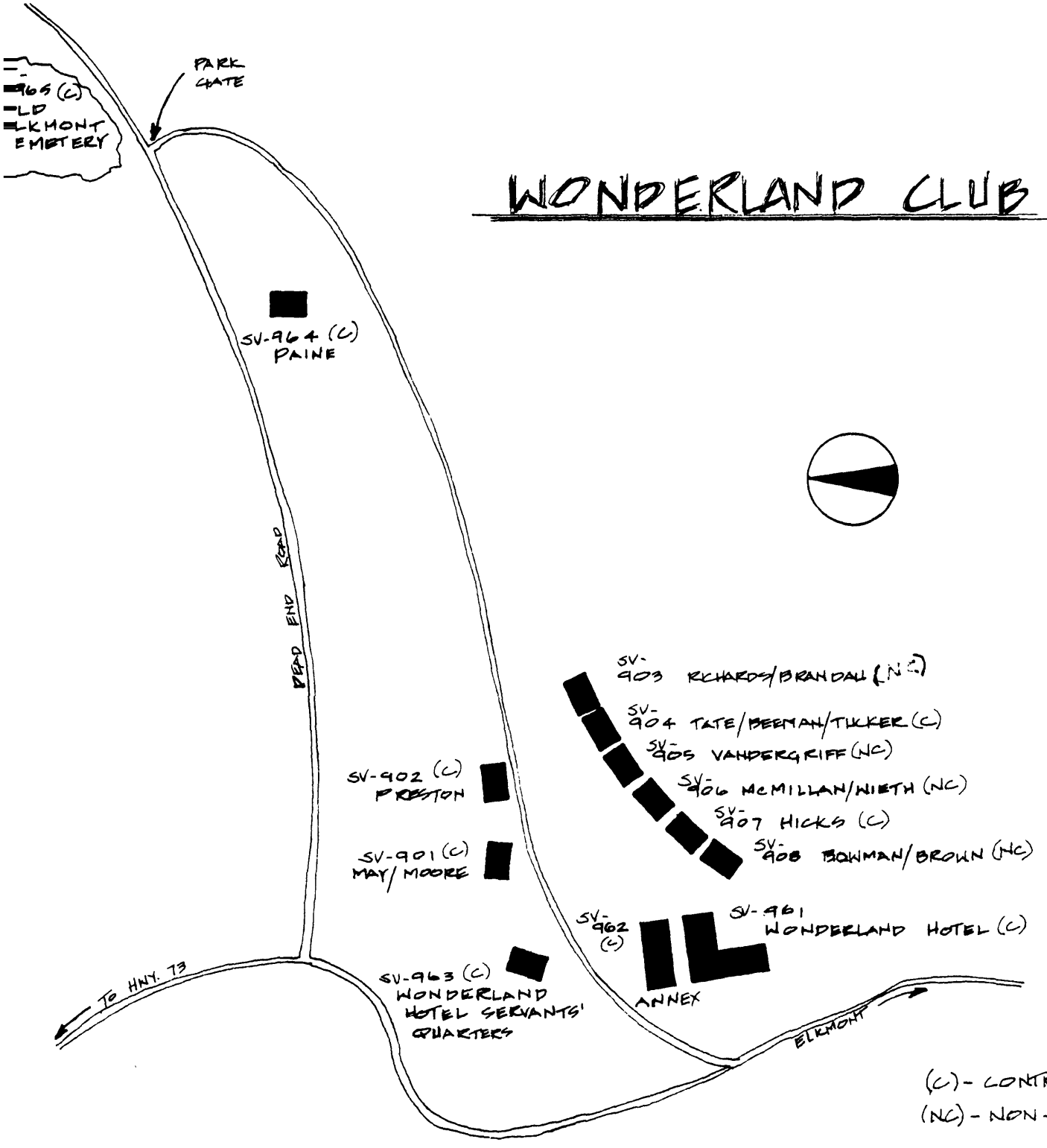
VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary encloses both the Appalachian Club and Wonderland Club that make up the Elkmont Historic District and the environment or setting in which the resources are located. The area between the two complexes which was the town of Elkmont is now a National Park Service campground. The boundary follows contour lines, streams, and features such as roads and trails.

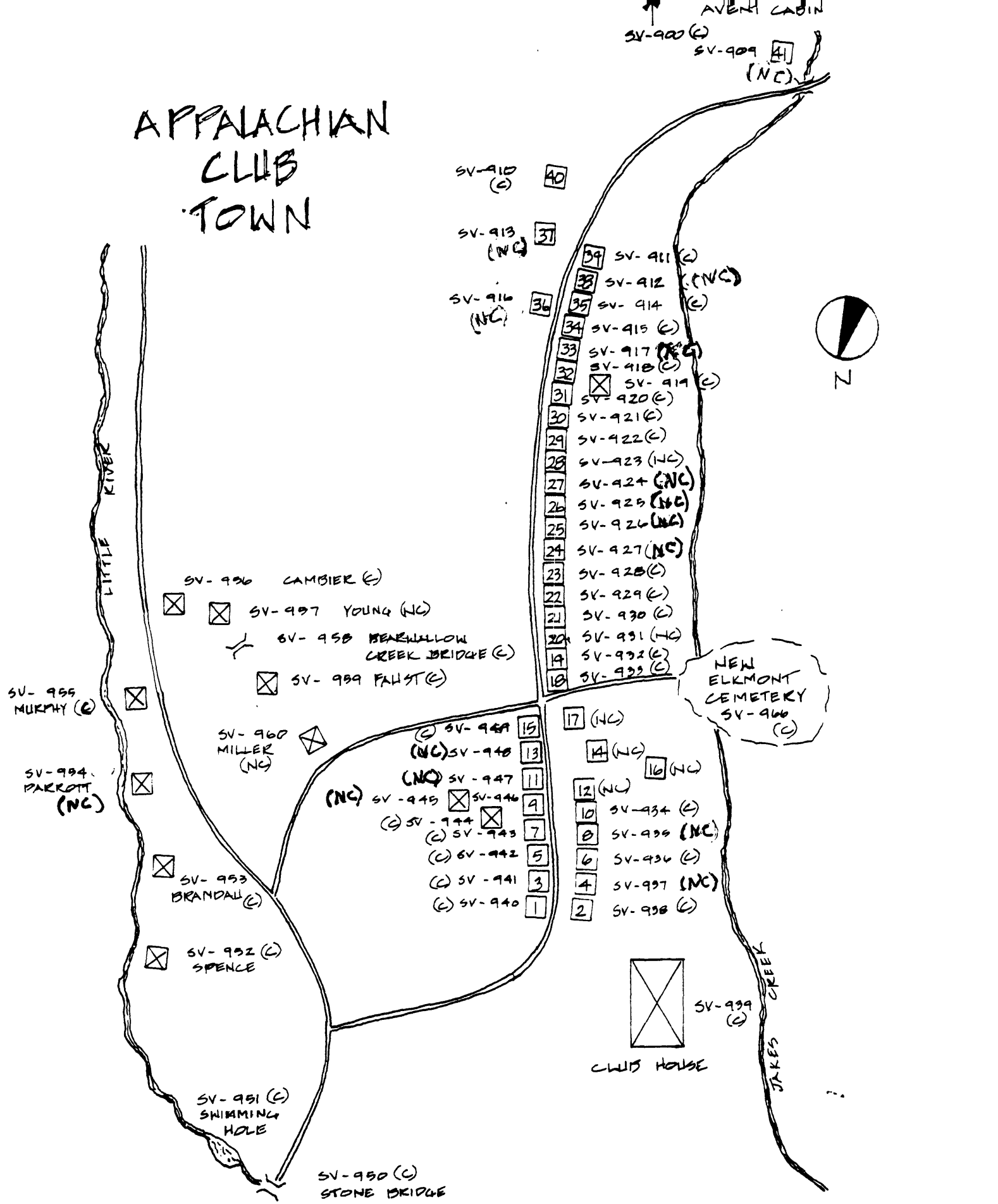
WONDERLAND CLUB



(C) - CONTRIBUTING
(NC) - NON-CONTRIBUTING

NOT TO SCALE

APPALACHIAN CLUB TOWN



NOT TO SCALE

(C) - CONTRIBUTING

(NC) - NON-CONTRIBUTING

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To MARILYN HARPER	From CLAUDETTE
Co. NPS	Co. THC
Dept.	Phone # 615-741-1588
Fax # 303/343-1836	Fax #

not to scale

N

AVENTS

OLIVETTY

U.S. GOVT. HORSE BARN

WATER WELL

WATER WELL McNABB

WATER TANKS

WATER TREATMENT BLDG.

DUPLEY
BYERS
CULVER
McAMIS
JEFFORDS
MULRANS
MATTHEWS
ROEHL
DEAVER
SPENGLER
GAINES
HUTCHINS
FRANKLIN
ARNETT
McDONALD
COUGLETON
W. ANDREWS
F. ANDREWS
THOMAS
GILLILAND

KUHLMANS 40
JOHNSTON 37
APPLE BARN
PODREBARAC

LITTLE RIVER TRAIL
JAKES CREEK TRAIL
JAKES CREEK

CAMBIER
YOUNG
TWIST
MURPHY
MILLER
PARROTT
BRANDAU
SPENCE
garage

U.S. GOVT. WATER TANK

JAKES CREEK CEMETARY 61

BURDETTE
BAGLEY
JAMERSON
SWEED'S
BAUMAN
CAIN
CREEKMORE
SWAN
SMITH

HALE
COOK
BRISCOE
GANN
MAYO
ADDICKS
HIGDON
SNODD

CAMPGROUNDS

52 APPALACHIAN CLUB HOUSE

63 ELKMONT SWIMMING POOL

MAIN ROAD

BARNETT

SEAR

DAM

STONE BRIDGE

MILE

LITTLE RIVER

JAKES CREEK

WONDERLAND HOTEL

ELKMONT CEMETARY 69

U.S. GOVT. TEMP. HOUSING

ELKMONT SITES

RANGER

U.S. GOVT. SHED

Elkmont Community
Historic District
Great Smoky Mts
National Park
Sevier Co TN
Map 1 of 2

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 94000166 **Date Listed:** 3/22/94

Elkmont Historic District
Great Smoky Mountains NP
Property Name

Sevier
County

TENNESSEE
State

_____
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Signature of the Keeper

3/28/94
Date of Action

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Amended Items in Nomination:

This nomination is amended to show the following buildings as contributing to the character of the historic district:

Cabin # 8, Cain Cabin--the changes to the rear are not conspicuous, the impact of the enclosure of a portion of the front porch is not great, and the very simple design and detailing of the cabin have been preserved.

Cabin # 9, Galyon Cabin--most of the alterations occurred during the historic period and the impact of the enclosure of the porch is not great. The two recent outbuildings in the rear of the main cabin should be added to the count as two separate non-contributing buildings.

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD (page 2)
Elkmont Historic District
Great Smoky Mountains NP
Sevier County, TN

Cabin # 11, Scruggs-Brisco--additions to the side and front are not intrusive. Changes to the open front porch, which may have been expanded, do not compromise the character of the cabin.

Cabin # 13, Cook Cabin--alterations to the rear are not conspicuous and the rebuilt porch probably replaces an earlier porch original to the cabin.

Cabin # 36, Knaffl Cabin--additions in rear are unobtrusive and porch may be historic. Picture window on the side may date to the period of significance for the district and is not intrusive enough in itself to compromise the character of the cabin.

Cabin # 38, Byers Cabin--sleeping porch over the entrance is obtrusive, but may be historic. Sleeping porches are features commonly found on cabins of this type.

The following cabins are non-contributing to the significance of the district:

Cabin # 20, F. Andrews Cabin--very large addition to the south, apparently added in 1956, has greatly altered the appearance of the original cabin

Cabin # 25, Franklin Cabin--gable roofed additiion on the front of the cabin has altered the appearance of the original cabin.

Cabin # 26, Hutchins Cabin--very large gable front porch has compromised the integrity of the original cabin

Parrott Cabin--replacement of siding, enclosure of portion of front porch, and addition of blinds has greatly changed the appearance of the original cabin.

Richards or Brandau Cabin (Wonderland Club area)--engineers report indicates that this building has lost its structural integrity.

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD (page 3)
Elkmont Historic District
Great Smoky Mountains NP
Sevier County, TN

The following non-contributing buildings should be added to the count (see map attached):

In the Appalachian Club area: 2 water tanks and a pump house (pre-NPS), a horse barn, pump house, and two water tanks (NPS)

In the Wonderland Club area: two houses (NPS).

These changes have been confirmed by phone with the Southeast Regional Office (3/17/94) and the Tennessee SHPO (3/18/94).

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Each of the 65 plus photographs that accompany this nomination have been labeled on the back with the name of the property and historic district, the county and state, and a photographic number. To simplify the listing the photographic number assigned for those cabins that are identified by number as well as name is the same as the number assigned to the cabin. Numbers for the other buildings are noted on the back of the photograph. All these photographs, unless noted otherwise, were taken by Phil Thomason and Associates of Nashville,Tennessee, in late summer or early fall of 1992. The negatives are stored in the library of Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

APPALACHIAN CLUB

Cabin 1, Sneed. View looking northeast. Photo # 1.
Cabin 2, Smith. View looking south. Photo # 2.
Cabin 3, Higdon. View looking southeast. Photo # 3.
Cabin 4, Swan. View looking southwest. Photo # 4.
Cabin 5, Addicks. View looking southeast. Photo # 5.
Adamless Eden. View looking east. Photo # 5a.

Cabin 6, Creekmore. View is to northwest.
Cabin 7, Mayo. View of main cabin is to northeast
Log Outbuilding. View is to southwest. Photo # 14.
Frame outbuilding. View is to southwest. " # 16.
Cabin 8, Cain. View is to northwest.
Cabin 9, Gaylon. View is to southeast.
One-room cabin. View is to northwest. Photo # 9a.
Cabin 10, Baumann. View is to southwest.

Cabin 11, Scruggs-Brisco. View is to northeast.
Appalachian Clubhouse. View is to southwest. Photo # 12.[1]
Cabin 13, Cook. View is to the east. Photo # 13.
Cabin 15, Hale. View is to the east. Photo # 15.
New Elkmont Cemetery. View looking north and west. Photo # 17.
Cabin 18, Gilliand. View looking northwest.
Cabin 19, Heinson. View looking northwest.

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[1]. Cabins 12, 14, 16, and 17 burned and were rebuilt in 1974. Photo numbers 12, 14, 16, and 17 are assigned to other buildings.

Cabin 20, F. Andrews. View looking northwest.
Cabin 21, Andrews/Sherling. View looking northwest.
Cabin 22, Congleton/Brownlow. View looking northwest
Cabin 23, McDonald. View looking northwest.
Cabin 24, W. Arnett. View looking west.
Cabin 25, Franklin. View looking northwest.

Cabin 26, Hutchins. View looking northwest.
Cabin 27, Gaines. View looking north.
Cabin 28, Spengler-Schmid. View looking northwest.
Cabin 29, F. Arnett. View looking north.
Cabin 30, Wright. View looking east.

Cabin 31, Matthews. View is to northwest.
Cabin 32, Allen. View is to northwest.
Cabin 33, Jeffords. View is northwest and 33a is to east.
Cabin 34, McAmis. View is to northwest.
Cabin 35, Culver. View is to northwest

Cabin 36, Knaffl. View is southwest.
Cabin 37, Johnston. View is to northeast
Cabin 38, Byers. View is looking west
Cabin 39, Dudley. View is looking north
Cabin 40, Kuhlman. View is to north
Cabin 41, McNabb. View is to southeast

The remaining cabins in the Appalachian Club area are identified by name only.

Avent Cabin--Photo # 42. View is to southeast.
Spence " " 43. Both photos are taken looking northwest.
Brandau Cabin--Photo # 44. View is to northeast.
Parrott " " 45. View is to southwest.

Murphy Cabin--Photo 46. The view is west.
" Garage-Photo 46a. View is to the south.
Cambier Cabin--Photo 47. View is looking east.
Young " " 48. View is looking east.
Faust " " 49. View is to the south.
Miller " " 50. View is looking north.
Miller Entry Gate--Photo 50a. View is looking northwest.

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Wonderland Club

Paine Cabin--Photo # 51. View is to northeast.
Clark-Kieth Cabin--Photo # 52. View is to the south.
Hicks Cabin--Photo # 53. View is looking south.
Brown " " 54. View is looking north.
Vandergriff Cabin--Photo 55. View is southeast.

Tucker-Beaman Cabin--Photo 56. View is to northeast.
Brandau Cabin--Photo 57. View is to southwest.
Wonderland Hotel--Photo 58. View is to southwest.
" " " " 59. Steps and entrance gates--view is north.
" " " " 59a. Front porch--view is looking west.

W'land Hotel Annex--Photo 60. View is looking south and west.
" " " " 60a. View is looking east.
" " " " 60b. Interior with fireplace.
Preston Cabin--Photo # 61. View is to southeast.
May/Moore Cabin " 62. View is looking northeast.
Old Elkmont Cemetery--Photo 63. View is looking north.

Streetscape in Appalachian Club Town--Photo 64. View is looking west and north past Cabins 10, 8, and 6 on the west side of Jakes Creek Road.

Streetscape in Appalachian Club Town--Photo 65. View is north and east past Cabin 9 toward Cabin 7 on east side of road.

The following three streetscapes in Appalachian Club Town were taken by Historian Ed Trout, Great Smoky Mountains National Park on August 23, 1993. Negatives on file at the National Park.

Photo. # 66 - Looking uphill (south) with Cabins 13, 11, and 9 on left and 10 on the right.

Photo. # 67 - Looking north with Cabins 8, 6, 4, and 2 visible.

Photo. # 68 - Looking north with Cabins 11, 9, and 7 (white siding) visible.