
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory
1998



Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead
Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area

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Inventory Summary

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

CLI General Information:

Purpose and Goals of the CLI

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

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

Scope of the CLI

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

treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape.

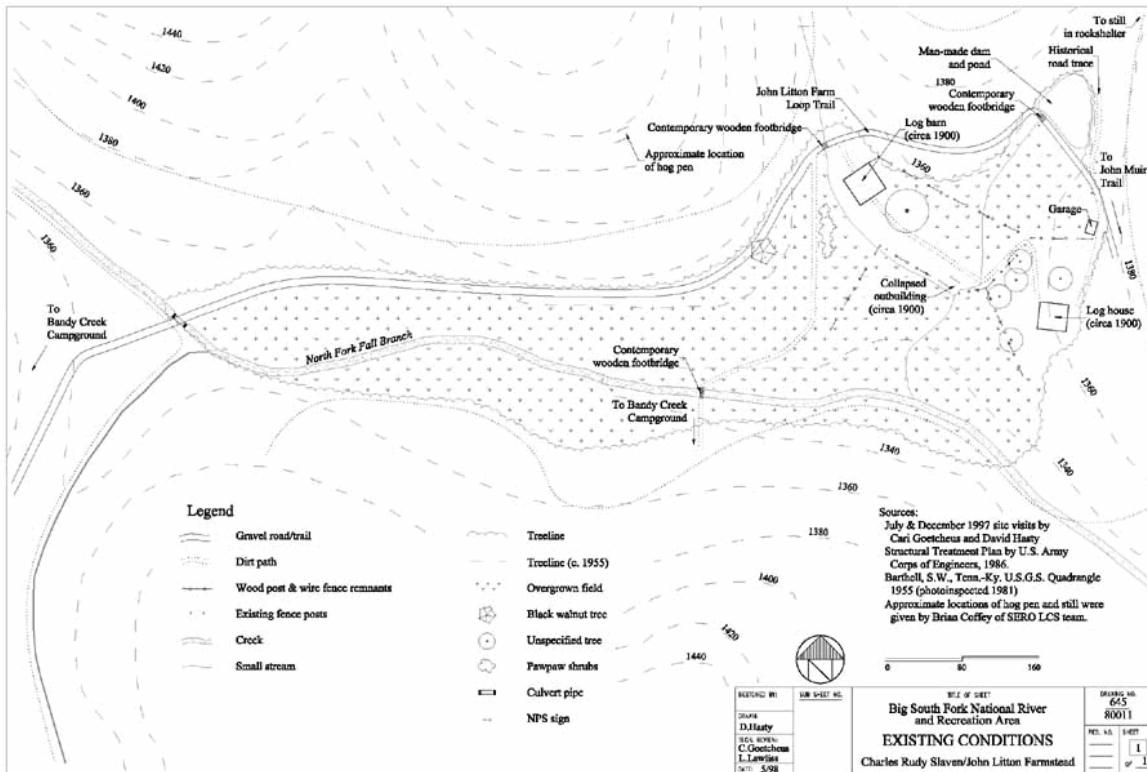
Inventory Unit Description:

The Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Homestead is a 184-acre Component Landscape located on the North Fork of the Fall Branch in Scott County, Tennessee. The nucleus of the transitional farmstead, including all the structures, is located within the designated gorge region of BISO. Much of the remainder of the property lies outside of the gorge boundary, on the plateau. The Farmstead contains many extant features typical of a Cumberland Farmstead in the Big South Fork region, including: remnant fields and fencelines; structures, including a log barn, log house, outbuilding, coal house/wood house, hog pen and still; a man-made dam and pond; black walnut trees and pawpaw shrubs; and a historic road trace.

The period of significance for the site begins with the construction of the log house, log barn and outbuilding circa 1900. The period of significance ends in 1974, with the establishment of BISO. Little detailed information is available for the site; further primary research is needed to determine whether the period of significance needs to be altered.

The farmstead is currently in fair condition. The log house, log barn and garage are stable, but the outbuilding is in ruins. The fences are in poor condition, with only remnants still marking the line. The fields are in danger of being overtaken by woody vegetation. There is noticeable forest encroachment between the 1955 conditions recorded on the U.S.G.S. Quadrangle and the present. It is possible that significant encroachment took place prior to 1955 as well. Without proactive measures, the features of this cultural landscape may be lost.

Site Plan



Existing Conditions - Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead (See attached full-size print of drawing.)

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name: Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead
Property Level: Component Landscape
CLI Identification Number: 550008
Parent Landscape: 550004

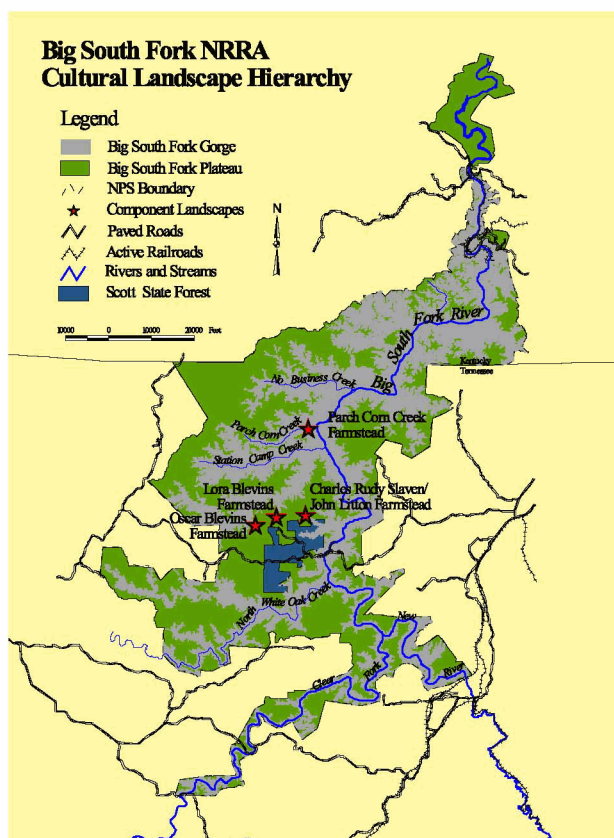
Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code: Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area
 -BISO
Park Organization Code: 5130
Park Administrative Unit: Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area

CLI Hierarchy Description

Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area

The Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead lies within the Big South Fork Cultural Landscape which encompasses all 125,000 acres of Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area (BISO). Six sites have been identified as component landscapes within BISO: Oscar Blevins Farmstead, Lora Blevins Farmstead, Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead, Parch Corn Creek Farmstead, Ransie Boyatt Farmstead, and Beatty Saltworks #1. The Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead is sited partially in the gorge region, but is easily accessible from the plateau. The attached map shows the relationship between the BISO Landscape and the component landscapes.



Big South Fork NRRRA - Cultural Landscape Hierarchy (See attached full-size print of map.)

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

The Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead was visited in July 1997 and December 1997 by Cari Goetcheus and David Hasty. A review of all park maps and photographs was undertaken and key features of the site were photographed. The recorders were responsible for synthesizing the field work material, resources at SESO and at the park into the CLAIMS form.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 08/05/2010

National Register Concurrence: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

Date of Concurrence Determination: 10/25/2004

National Register Concurrence Narrative:

Completed CLIs and the draft Big South Fork Rural Historic District Nomination were sent to Claudette Stager at the Tennessee Historical Commission in August 2004. The Commission returned a signed letter concurring with the eligibility of the properties.

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

The component landscape boundary encompasses 184.05 acres, which is the entire tract # 1310 NPS purchased from Charles Rudy Slaven. Much of this land has been released to succession. Only the fields and landscape around the nucleus of the site, approximately six acres, have been documented.

State and County:

State: TN

County: Scott County

Size (Acres): 184.05

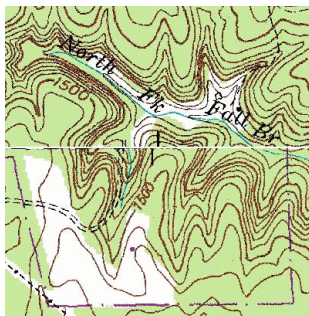
Boundary UTMS:

Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	16
UTM Easting:	404,914
UTM Northing:	4,041,711
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	16
UTM Easting:	707,824
UTM Northing:	4,041,713
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	16
UTM Easting:	707,040
UTM Northing:	4,042,055
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	16
UTM Easting:	707,816
UTM Northing:	4,042,102
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000

Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead
Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area

Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	16
UTM Easting:	707,160
UTM Northing:	4,041,195
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	16
UTM Easting:	707,942
UTM Northing:	4,041,218
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 27
UTM Zone:	16
UTM Easting:	707,044
UTM Northing:	4,041,673

Location Map:



Barthell SW, Tenn. - Ky. & Honey Creek, Tn. (Closeup of Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead - see attached prints of full quadrangles.)

Regional Context:

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

The early settlers of Big South Fork came mostly from the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern States and were of Western European/Anglo-Saxon heritage. Today, the population has a similar cultural background, although some residents claim Native American heritage and others are descendents of later German, English and other ethnic origins associated with the industrialization of the area. The independent, self-sufficient character required for survival in the early days is still evident in today's population. Distrust of the federal government, dating to the 1930s, has been kept alive by the presence of the Tennessee Valley Authority, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and National Park Service, all of whom have had some part in the displacement of Big South Fork residents from their ancestral homes. Big South Fork has never been an area known for material wealth. Early subsistence farmers only grew and built what they needed. Later on, the profits from logging and mining often went to the parent companies located outside the Big South Fork region. Once these natural resources were depleted, poverty became more widespread in the region.

Type of Context: Physiographic

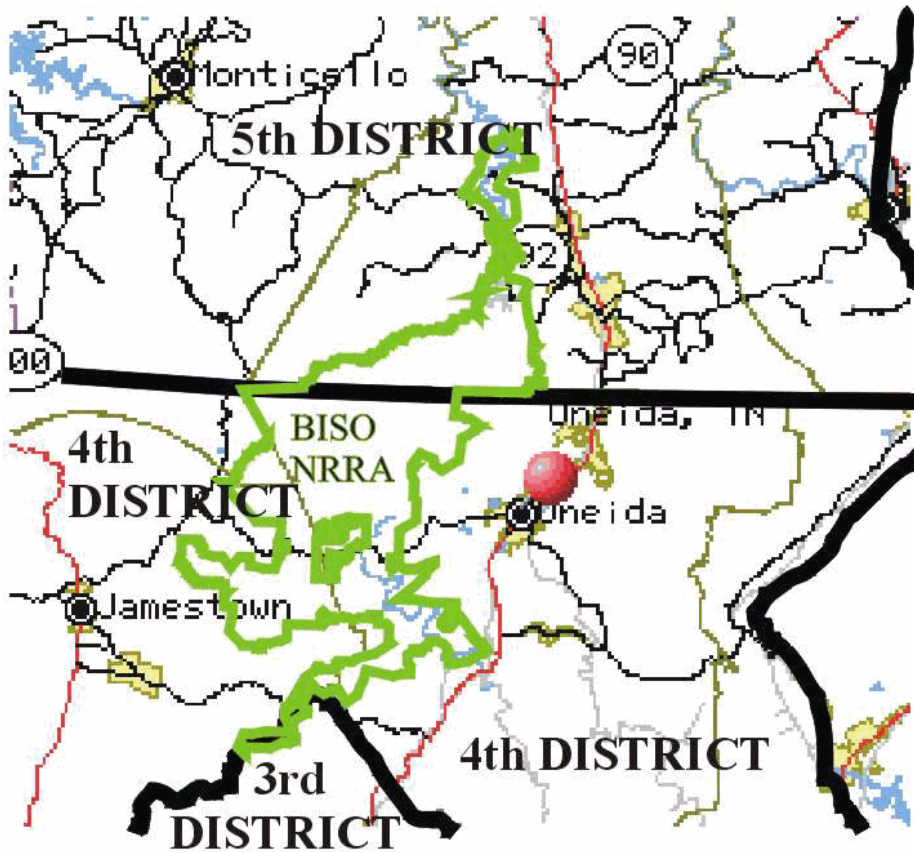
Description:

Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area lies within the Upper Cumberland Plateau Region, which is defined by roughly horizontal sedimentary rock strata, cut by deep, steep-sided valleys of tributaries of the Kentucky, Cumberland and Tennessee Rivers. Gently rolling hills lead abruptly to a steep, sandstone gorge through which the Big South Fork of the Cumberland river flows. The Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Homestead lies along the upper reaches of the North Fork Fall Branch, a tributary of the Big South Fork River. The portion of the landscape not released to succession, and encompassing the structures, lies just within the designated gorge region; the remaining land is mostly on the plateau.



Type of Context: Political

Description:

The Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead lies within the 4th U.S. Congressional District of Tennessee.



Legend

- BISO Boundary 
- U.S. Congressional District Line 

Congressional Districts in Big South Fork NRRRA area

Management Unit: N/A
Tract Numbers: 1310

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Should Be Preserved And Maintained

Management Category Date: 09/28/2001

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

While most LCS-listed structures at BISO have had this management category since the mid-1990s, the Big South Fork Rural Historic District nomination proposes this category for the entire district.

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access:

Type of Access: Other Restrictions

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? No

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

Undocumented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area has not been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. However, during the winter of 1980-1981, Environment Consultants, Inc., under contract with the Nashville District of the U.S. C.O.E., conducted an architectural inventory report of the structures at BISO. Nineteen structures were proposed eligible for the National Register. A copy of the report was sent to the National Register and on 21 April 1981 all nineteen structures, including the Slavens 'English' style log barn, and Slavens log house, were considered eligible by the Keeper of the National Register. To date, no Big South Fork buildings, structures or sites have been listed on the National Register, however a nomination for Big South Fork Rural Historic District (including Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead) is being prepared by SERO Historian, Brian Coffey.

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Contributing/Individual:	Contributing
National Register Classification:	District
Significance Level:	State
Significance Criteria:	A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history
Significance Criteria:	C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values
Significance Criteria:	D - Has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history

Period of Significance:

Time Period:	AD 1816 - 1974
Historic Context Theme:	Creating Social Institutions and Movements
Subtheme:	Ways of Life
Facet:	Domesticity And Family Life
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	AD 1816 - 1974
Historic Context Theme:	Creating Social Institutions and Movements
Subtheme:	Ways of Life
Facet:	Farming Communities
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	AD 1816 - 1974
Historic Context Theme:	Developing the American Economy
Subtheme:	Extraction or Mining Industries
Facet:	Iron And Ferro Alloys
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	AD 1816 - 1974
Historic Context Theme:	Developing the American Economy
Subtheme:	Extraction or Mining Industries
Facet:	Timber And Lumber
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	AD 1816 - 1974
Historic Context Theme:	Expressing Cultural Values
Subtheme:	Architecture
Facet:	Vernacular Architecture
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	AD 1816 - 1974
Historic Context Theme:	Expressing Cultural Values
Subtheme:	Landscape Architecture
Facet:	Impacts Of Railroads On The American Landscape
Other Facet:	None

Time Period: AD 1816 - 1974
Historic Context Theme: Expressing Cultural Values
Subtheme: Landscape Architecture
Facet: Protection Of Natural And Cultural Resources
Other Facet: None
Time Period: AD 1816 - 1974
Historic Context Theme: Peopling Places
Subtheme: Development of the Colonies
Facet: Physical Development
Other Facet: None
Time Period: AD 1816 - 1974
Historic Context Theme: Peopling Places
Subtheme: The Earliest Inhabitants:
Facet: Archaic Adaptations Of The Southeast (Including The Cumberland Region)
Other Facet: None

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category:	Agriculture
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Social History
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Archeology
Area of Significance Subcategory:	Historic-Non-Aboriginal
Area of Significance Category:	Architecture
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Exploration - Settlement
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Industry
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None

Statement of Significance:

The Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead is typical of the settlement patterns found throughout the Big South Fork region in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. A number of historical landscape features still exist at the site, including fields, trees, pawpaw shrubs, road traces, fencelines, a man-made dam and pond, hog pen, still, and building ruin. Buildings at the site include a circa 1900 log barn, a circa 1900 log and wood frame house, and a wood frame garage. Two buildings at the site, the barn and house, were determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 1981.

The Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead is part of the proposed Big South Fork Rural Historic District. The Big South Fork Rural Historic (BSFRHD) is significant at the state level under National

Register criterion A for its association with the early settlement, agriculture and rural community life, and economy of the Upper Cumberland region in Tennessee; criterion C for its many examples of vernacular folk architecture once typical of the region; and criterion D for its potential to yield information important to understanding the historic human occupation of the area. The diverse resources of the BSFRHD are united historically and physically by their association with farming activity and rural life in the Upper Cumberland from 1821-1950. The BSFRHD's discontinuous pattern of historic rural landscapes separated by portions of undeveloped land vividly illustrates the intimate relationship that existed between the family farmers of the Upper Cumberland and the rugged terrain on which they lived.

The BSFRHD is significant in the areas of agriculture, architecture, archaeology, community planning and development, exploration and settlement, and industry. Its qualities of location, setting, design, feeling, and association are enhanced by the District's situation within a federally protected area (Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area). Both its plateau and gorge landscapes are relatively free from intrusive elements and its percentage of noncontributing resources is minimal. The materials and workmanship of the District's historic buildings and structures contribute to the overall integrity of the District. Adaptive reuse, stabilization, reconstruction, and repair efforts over the years have altered some of the buildings and structures, but they nonetheless retain the bulk of their original materials and exhibit the historic vernacular designs of their local builders and inhabitants.

Of the 38 sites and structures in the BSFRHD, 13 were determined eligible to the National Register in 1981 solely on architectural merits. Since then, the NPS has identified and documented numerous structures, sites, and landscapes that revealed a significant linkage and continuity to the historic rural settlements of Station Camp and No Business, the community focus of this nomination.

Unlike other agricultural communities in the state, the Big South Fork Basin communities of Station Camp and No Business maintained much of their subsistence orientation and informal communal organization well into the mid-20th century. Due mostly to the Basin's naturally confining physiography, a historic lack of any developed road system, and the existence of only narrow parcels of arable floodplain, the rural landscapes that developed here, as elsewhere in the Upper Cumberland, were unique in how they displayed the intimate and relationship between land and people. For the settlers and farmers of the BSFRHD, the relative lack of fertile soil meant that agriculture was only one of many activities that helped to sustain their families and related kin. Other pursuits included hunting, fishing, lumbering, mining, ranching, bee keeping, moonshining and a host of folk practices and economies that have only recently disappeared from the area.

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Vernacular

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead
 Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area

Primary Historic Function:	Agriculture/Subsistence-Other
Primary Current Use:	Hiking Trail
Other Use/Function	Other Type of Use or Function
Farm (Plantation)	Historic
Road Culvert	Both Current And Historic
Road-Related-Other	Historic

Current and Historic Names:

Name	Type of Name
Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead	Current
General Slaven Place	Both Current And Historic
Old John Litton Place	Historic

Ethnographic Study Conducted: No Survey Conducted

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
AD 1900	Built	John Litton builds a log barn, a log house, and a log outbuilding at the site. He lives there with his wife, Polly, and their five children.
AD 1974	Abandoned	Big South Fork National Recreation Area is authorized by the Water Resources Development Act and the property is condemned.
AD 1990	Land Transfer	Ownership and management of BISO are fully transferred from U.S. Corps of Engineers to NPS.

Physical History:

(1900 - 1974) Euro-American Settlement

Note: Very little detailed information is available for the Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead. Further primary research is needed to more fully document the historical character of this component landscape.

Around the year 1900, John Litton, a local farmer, built a log house, log barn and log outbuilding on property located along the North Fork of the Fall Branch, a tributary of the Big South Fork River. John Litton lived at the site with his wife, Polly, and their five children.

The house was constructed out of hewn hemlock logs. The English style barn was constructed out of hewn poplar, hemlock and oak logs, with box frame vertical oak plank walls on the second floor. Three stalls open on either side of a driveway that passes through the barn perpendicular to the gable. It is possible that this barn was at least partially constructed out of lumber from an earlier building. The outbuilding was traditionally thought to be the kitchen, but is more likely a corn crib or other storage facility. It, too, was constructed out of hewn oak, poplar and hemlock logs, with doors at each gabled end.

Features of the farmstead landscape included clearings for pasture and crops, wood post and wire fences, nut trees - and possibly fruit trees, a hog pen (Figure 1 shows 1998 conditions), a still, and a man-made dam and pond. A wood frame garage was added to the site and the original log house was modified with a wood frame addition to the west and south sides and a porch to the north and east sides. The farmstead was typical of those found in the region during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, though it is the only site known to have a man-made dam and pond. With its location along the upper reaches of the gorge, this transitional Cumberland Farmstead takes on characteristics of both a gorge farm and a plateau farm. Like a gorge farm, water is readily accessible from springs and streams. In addition, the adjacent cultivated land is confined to level land near the stream, making it difficult for mechanized farming. The upper Slaven fields associated with this farmstead are on the plateau and supplemented the family income. Like a plateau farm, the site is easily accessible by road.



Figure 1 Hog pen built into cliffside west of barn

(1974 - present) Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area

Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area (BISO) was authorized by the Water Resources Development Act of 1974 for the purposes of conserving and interpreting an area containing unique cultural, historic, geologic, fish and wildlife, archaeological, scenic, and recreational values. The 184.05 acre Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead is located within the roughly 125,000 acre authorized BISO boundary. Charles Rudy Slaven was the owner of the property when it was condemned for inclusion into the park.

BISO was initially owned and managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE). In 1976, an interim agreement was established between COE and the National Park Service (NPS). COE would continue to make improvements to the land and NPS would take over in management of various recreational sites. In 1990, ownership and management of BISO was fully transferred to NPS.

A few changes have taken place at the Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead since 1974 (see site plan). A blazed hiking trail, named the John Litton Farm Loop, was established, connecting the site to Bandy Creek Campground and to the John Muir Trail. It is not known if this trail follows a historic route. An interpretive sign is located along this trail, overlooking the core of the farmstead. The outbuilding, due in part to its streamside location, has deteriorated drastically since the time that it was documented by COE in 1981. The fences have deteriorated to the point where only remnants remain, and the fields have become overgrown

with woody vegetation.

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead retains much of its integrity as a contributing component of the proposed Big South Fork Rural Historic District, although the loss of outbuildings and the impact of forest succession in the historical fields creates a negative impact.

Landscape Characteristic:

Buildings And Structures

Three buildings remain standing at the Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead: the John Litton barn (Slavens 'English' style log barn)*, John Litton log & frame house (Slavens log house) and the wood frame garage. Additionally, a historical earthen dam, the only one to be found within the five Big South Fork component landscapes, is located north of the buildings.

The barn is constructed of hewn poplar, hemlock and oak logs on the first floor with a box frame second floor. This is an English style barn which is unusual among the extant Big South Fork structures. The original portion of the house is made of hewn hemlock logs, and is completely surrounded by box frame and porch additions. The garage is a more modern structure and is entirely of wood frame construction. Though the barn style is unusual locally, the types of buildings and structures found at the farmstead are typical of an early 1900s farm at Big South Fork.

The barn and house have been listed in the LCS; the garage is listed in the Shadow LCS as a shed.

*Note: the titles in parenthesis are from the US COE 1986 Structural Treatment Plan.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Litton/Slaven House and Cabin

Feature Identification Number: 95366

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 092183

LCS Structure Name: Litton/Slaven House and Cabin

Feature: Litton/Slaven Barn

Feature Identification Number: 95363

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 092182

Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead
Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area

LCS Structure Name: Litton/Slaven Barn

Feature: Litton/Slaven Garage

Feature Identification Number: 95365

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 092184

LCS Structure Name: Litton/Slaven Shed

Feature: Litton/Slaven earthen dam

Feature Identification Number: 95364

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



John Litton barn



John Litton log and frame house

Small Scale Features

Five small-scale features are found at the Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead. They are: fencelines, in poor condition and found close to and in-between the buildings; a patch of pawpaw shrubs, common to regional historical farms, to the west of the barn; the ruins of the John Litton log outbuilding (Slavens Log Outbuilding); a double hog pen, built into the cliffside west of the barn; and the remains of a still in a rockshelter north of the pond. These features all contribute to the cultural landscape and warrant further investigation.

Character-defining Features:

Feature:	Litton/Slaven fencelines
Feature Identification Number:	95369
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Paw Paw shrubs
Feature Identification Number:	95372
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing

Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead
Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area

Feature: Slavens Log Outbuilding ruins
Feature Identification Number: 95373
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Litton/Slaven Rockshelter Pen
Feature Identification Number: 95370
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 100679
LCS Structure Name: Litton/Slaven Rockshelter Pen

Feature: Litton/Slaven still
Feature Identification Number: 95371
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Remnant fence near the historic road trace



Contemporary wormrail fence



Hog pen built into a cliffside

Constructed Water Features

The man-made pond to the north of the house is the only constructed water feature to be found within the Big South Fork component landscapes. The pond is contained by an earthen dam which has a contemporary wooden footbridge crossing the outlet. It is unknown whether this pond was used to hold fish, provide irrigation, livestock or household drinking water or a combination thereof. Further research is needed on this potentially contributing resource.

Circulation

Along with contemporary trails, there is one primary historical road, one secondary historical road trace, and an internal foot path at the Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead. The primary historical road enters the site from the east and leads directly to the barn, garage and house; it is currently used as the main access to the site, connecting it with Bandy Creek Campground. Further research is needed to determine how closely the current configuration follows the historical route. The secondary historical road trace most likely lead to associated farm structures no longer standing, including a pig pen and feeding trough. The foot path provided a more direct route from the barn to the house.

Contemporary circulation, in addition to the historical routes still in use, includes two unpaved path spurs that lead south from the site to the John Muir Trail. These trails are unobtrusive and do not impact the cultural landscape in any significant manner.

These paths and roadways potentially contribute to the cultural landscape and warrant further

documentation.

Cluster Arrangement

The structures at the Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead are sited in close proximity to each other. The fields and fencelines then radiate out from this central core. Though in danger from neglect and forest succession, these patterns are still visible and contribute to the cultural landscape.

Land Use

The land uses at the Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead can roughly be organized into four categories: living quarters, including the house, kitchen site and garage; farm structures, including the barn and immediately surrounding land; fields, to the south and west of the structures and water features, specifically the man-made pond.

These land uses remain visible at the site but are threatened by the ongoing release of the fields to forest succession and the neglect of structures which has led to the demise of the kitchen. The land uses at the site are potentially contributing to the cultural landscape and warrant further documentation.

Character-defining Features:

Feature Identification Number:	95367
Type of Feature Contribution:	Undetermined

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



John Litton house with fields in the foreground



Trail leading away from farmstead nucleus, with overgrown field to the left

Natural Systems And Features

Big South Fork is characterized by two very distinct landscape types: the plateau and the gorge. The plateau has gently rolling hills while the gorge drops precipitously to the Big South Fork of the Cumberland River. While most of the land at the Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Homestead lies on the plateau, the nucleus of the site, including the remaining structures and landscape features is within the gorge. This configuration creates a unique feeling at the farmstead. Entering the site from the southeast, one leaves the plateau and drops quickly into the gorge with cliffs visible on either side of the road and the forest canopy above. As one crosses the North Fork Fall Branch, the landscape opens to a remnant field with the log house and barn becoming visible and the steep hillsides of the gorge creating a feeling of enclosure and framing one's view of the farmstead.

Character-defining Features:

Feature Identification Number:	95368
Type of Feature Contribution:	Undetermined

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 09/30/1999

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 09/10/2004

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Condition was initially assessed in 1999. This condition was reconfirmed in 2004 when the park superintendent approved the CLI, condition assessment, and management category.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/22/2006

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The historic fields have been cleared recently.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 08/05/2010

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Reassessed & approved by Supt. Stennis Young.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Release To Succession

External or Internal: Internal

Type of Impact: Structural Deterioration

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: The outbuilding, in particular, has been allowed to fall into a state of ruins.

Stabilization Costs

Landscape Stabilization Cost: 350,247.00

Cost Date: 09/19/2001

Level of Estimate: C - Similar Facilities

Cost Estimator: Regional Office

Landscape Stabilization Cost Explanatory Description:

Direct Costs (Clearing 10 acres of heavy successional forest from historical fields)

Treatment

Treatment

Approved Treatment: Undetermined

Approved Treatment Document: Other Document

Document Date: 12/06/1996

Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative:

Approved Treatment in an RMP was completed for the Litton/Slaven barn, but this plan did not address the landscape. No cost figures are available in the LCS for this treatment.

Approved Treatment Completed: Yes

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Date: 12/06/1996

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography

- Citation Author:** Will Updike
Citation Title: Big South Fork Cemetery Recording Project
Year of Publication: 1997
Source Name: Other
Citation Number: N/A
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative
Citation Location: SERO CLI Files
- Citation Author:** David Narris
Citation Title: Big South Fork Region Economy. (Appendix III in Birdwell's Coal Mining in the Big South Fork Area of Kentucky and Tennessee)
Year of Publication: 1990
Source Name: Other
Citation Number: N/A
Citation Type: Narrative
Citation Location: SERO CLI Files
- Citation Author:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Department of the Interior and U.S. Department of Agriculture
Citation Title: Big South Fork, Cumberland River, Kentucky and Tennessee: Interagency Report to Committee on Public Works United States Senate
Year of Publication: 1969
Source Name: Other
Citation Number: BISO Plan 1969
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative
Citation Location: SERO OCR Library

Citation Author: Michael E. Birdwell
Citation Title: Coal Mining in the Big South Fork Area of Kentucky and Tennessee
Year of Publication: 1990
Source Name: Other
Citation Number: N/A
Citation Type: Narrative
Citation Location: SERO CLI Files

Citation Author: Clay H. Smith
Citation Title: Dusty Bits of the Forgotten Past: A History of Scott County
Year of Publication: 1985
Source Name: Other
Citation Number: F 443 .S2 S65 1985
Citation Type: Narrative
Citation Location: SERO OCR Library

Citation Author: Kim A.McBride, W. Stephen McBride and Doni Spivey
Citation Title: Historic Context Study: Big South Fork, Kentucky and Tennessee.
(University of Kentucky Program for Cultural Resource Assessment Report No. 329 Draft #2)
Year of Publication: 1998
Source Name: Other
Citation Number: N/A
Citation Type: Narrative
Citation Location: SERO CLI Files

- Citation Author:** Kim A.McBride, W. Stephen McBride and Doni Spivey
- Citation Title:** Historic Context Study: Big South Fork, Kentucky and Tennessee.
(University of Kentucky Program for Cultural Resource
Assessment Report No. 329 Draft)
- Year of Publication:** 1994
- Source Name:** Other
- Citation Number:** N/A
- Citation Type:** Narrative
- Citation Location:** SERO CLI Files
-
- Citation Author:** Benita Howell
- Citation Title:** Life and Work Along the Big South Fork: Human Responses to a
Changing Economy
- Source Name:** Other
- Citation Number:** N/A
- Citation Type:** Both Graphic And Narrative
- Citation Location:** SERO CLI Files
-
- Citation Author:** Sarah P. Carleton (project director)
- Citation Title:** McCreary County: A pictorial history
- Year of Publication:** 1980
- Source Name:** Other
- Citation Number:** N/A
- Citation Type:** Both Graphic And Narrative
- Citation Location:** SERO CLI Files

Citation Author: Tom Des Jean
Citation Title: Nineteenth Century Burial Practices of the Upper Cumberland Plateau.
Source Name: Other
Citation Number: N/A
Citation Type: Narrative
Citation Location: SERO CLI Files

Citation Author: Anne Malanka
Citation Title: Some is Better Getters: The 1991 Big South Fork Oral History Project Part One
Year of Publication: 1991
Source Name: Other
Citation Number: N/A
Citation Type: Narrative
Citation Location: SERO CLI Files

Citation Author: Samuel D. Perry
Citation Title: South Fork Country
Year of Publication: 1983
Source Name: Other
Citation Number: K 970.00497 PERR
Citation Type: Narrative
Citation Location: SERO CLI Files

Citation Author: Russell Jones
Citation Title: Special Study: Proposed Big South Fork National Recreation Area, Kentucky
Year of Publication: 1975
Source Name: Other
Citation Number: BISO HRS 1975
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative
Citation Location: SERO OCR Library

Citation Author: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Nashville District
Citation Title: Structural Treatment Plan for National Register Eligible Architectural Structures of the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area
Year of Publication: 1986
Source Name: Other
Citation Number: N/A
Citation Type: Both Graphic And Narrative
Citation Location: SERO CLI Files

Citation Author: David C. Roller and Robert W. Twyman
Citation Title: The Encyclopedia of Southern History
Year of Publication: 1979
Source Name: Other
Citation Number: F 207 1979
Citation Type: Narrative
Citation Location: SERO OCR Library

Citation Author: Steve E. Humphrey
Citation Title: The History of the No Business and Station Camp Communities
Year of Publication: 1981
Source Name: Other
Citation Number: N/A
Citation Type: Narrative
Citation Location: SERO CLI Files

Citation Author: Gary E. Brewer
Citation Title: Upper Cumberland Railroads. (Appendix II in Birdwell's Coal Mining in the Big South Fork Area of Kentucky and Tennessee)
Year of Publication: 1990
Source Name: Other
Citation Number: N/A
Citation Type: Narrative
Citation Location: SERO CLI Files

Supplemental Information

Title: Big South Fork GIS Mapping

Description: Various Arcview themes from BISO GIS Specialist - Ron Cornelius. Includes: NPS boundary, State & County boundaries, gorge boundary, hydrological features, cemeteries, ASIMIS data, roads, railroads, etc.

Title: Hog pen at Charles Rudy Slaven/John Litton Farmstead

Description: Photograph, from LCS records, by Brian Coffey. 12/98

Title: Location sketches of Big South Fork Farmsteads

Description: BISO files - no date, no name. Rough sketches of all four component landscapes, plus Charit Creek, Stringfellow and others. Oscar Blevins sketch used for construction dates of buildings.