
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory
1998



Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery
Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict

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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:

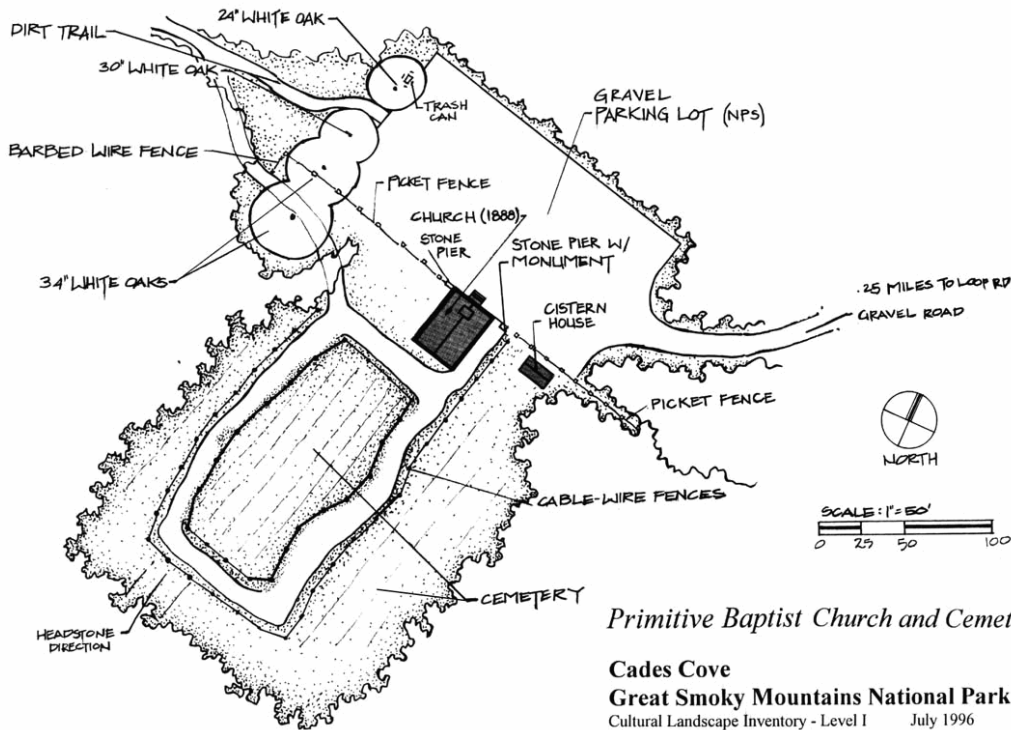
The Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery is a 1.4-acre component landscape located south of the Cades Cove Loop Road in Blount County, Tennessee. Access to the church and cemetery, sited on the crest of a hill, is by the historic approach located south of the loop road. The site features a church and cemetery bounded on the north by a picket fence. The cemetery is enclosed by cable-wire fencing. A pea gravel and dirt path provides pedestrian circulation around the cemetery and connects with a trail that accesses the site from the west. The original log church stood just to the rear of the present church and is marked by a rise of ground (Wilburn, Grossman, and Stupka 1938, 19).

The period of significance for the site begins in 1832, when a log meeting house was built. The title to the property was deeded to John Oliver and Peter Cable as agents for the Baptist Church in 1836 by William Tipton. The period of significance extends to 1942, to include the Park Development Era improvements.

The NPS decided to make Cades Cove an "Outdoor Museum of Mountain Culture," and the Primitive Baptist Church did appear on early (1942) Park Development Era maps of the sites to be "restored." Church members, however, obtained a Special Use Permit that allowed them to maintain the building and grounds until 1971. It is unknown what changes to the historic landscape were made during this time. Subsequently, the park assumed maintenance and preservation responsibilities for the site. The circulation system around the cemetery was rehabilitated in 1991 and does not reflect any historic configuration. It is not known if the paling fence is an accurate representation of what was there during the historic period. The historic approach has remained intact.

The area surrounding the church and cemetery consists of hemlock, white pine, and tulip poplar, with a relatively open understory of occasional holly trees.

Site Plan



Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery
Cades Cove
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
 Cultural Landscape Inventory - Level I July 1996
 Drawn by: Chauncer McLaughlin

Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery Site Plan (1996; updated 2006)

Property Level and CLI Numbers

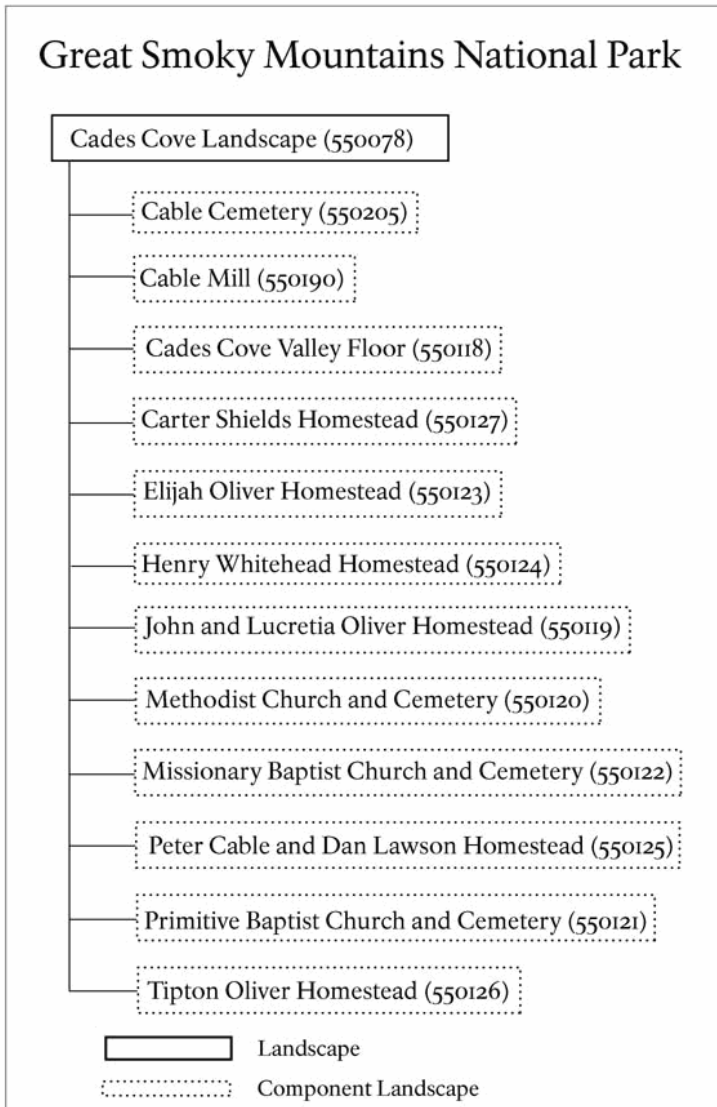
Inventory Unit Name:	Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery
Property Level:	Component Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	550121
Parent Landscape:	550078

Park Information

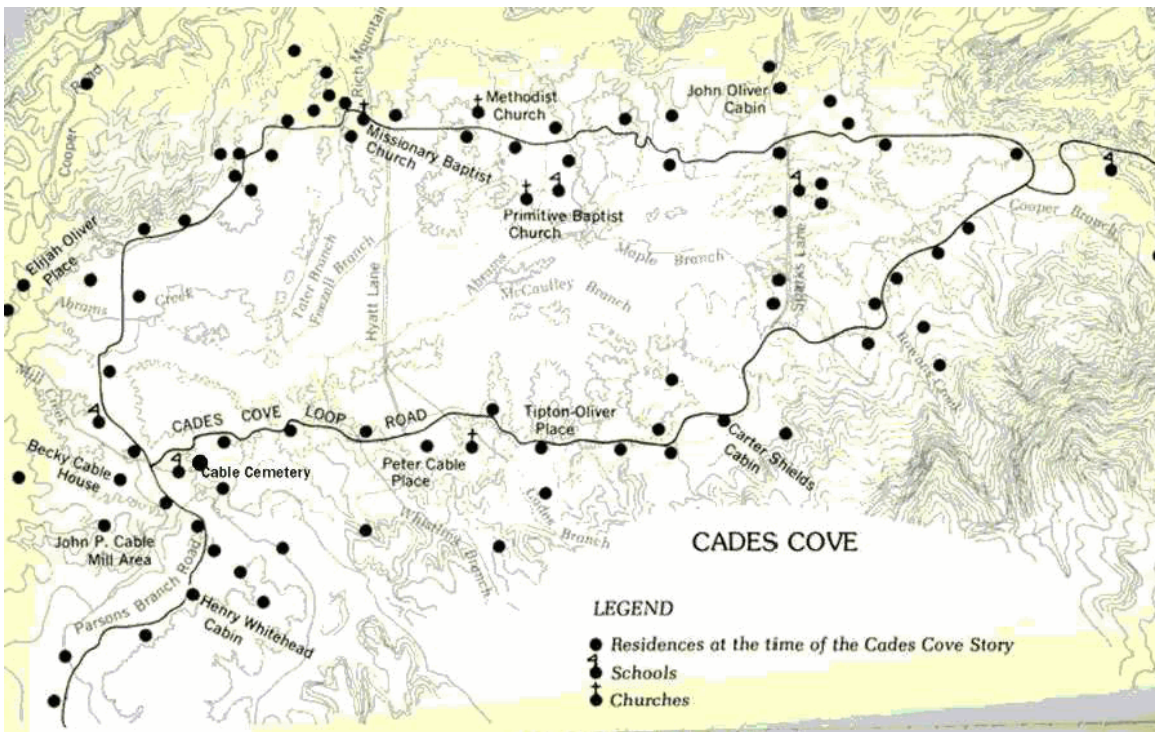
Park Name and Alpha Code:	Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict -GRSM
Park Organization Code:	5470
Subunit/District Name Alpha Code:	Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict - GRSM
Park Administrative Unit:	Great Smoky Mountains National Park

CLI Hierarchy Description

The Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery lies within the Cades Cove Cultural Landscape, which encompasses 6,800 acres in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GRSM) of eastern Tennessee. Twelve sites have been identified as component landscapes within the Cades Cove Cultural Landscape of GRSM: Cades Cove Valley Floor, John and Lucretia Oliver Homestead, Methodist Church and Cemetery, Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery, Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery, Elijah Oliver Homestead, Cable Mill, Cable Cemetery, Henry Whitehead Homestead, Peter Cable and Dan Lawson Homestead, Tipton-Oliver Homestead, and the Carter Shields Homestead. The Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery is located .25 miles south of the Cades Cove Loop Road.



Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery
Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict



Cades Cove Cultural Landscape

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Lucy Lawliss, Cari Goetcheus and several interns conducted CLI fieldwork at Cades Cove during the summer of 1996. In 2000, the information was submitted to the park. In 2006, David Hasty, Beth Wheeler and Sara Fogelquist visited Cades Cove, updated the CLI data and submitted the inventories to the park and TN SHPO. With park and SHPO approval, the data will become certified in the on-line CLI database, and in PMDS under goals 1a7 and 1b2B.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	09/22/2006
National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Date of Concurrence Determination:	08/25/2006

National Register Concurrence Narrative:

Claudette Stager, of TN-SHPO, concurred on the potential eligibility of features addressed in the Cades Cove CLIs, with a couple of comments regarding post-1942 features and Mission 66. For the full text please see the Cades Cove Landscape CLI.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery
Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict



United States Department of the Interior

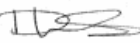
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
Atlanta Federal Center
1924 Building
100 Alabama St., S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303



H22(SERO-CRD)

25 June 2004

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GRSM)
From: Chief, Cultural Resource Division, Southeast Region 
Subject: Cultural Landscape Inventory
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Voorheis Estate
Reply Due: 30 July 2004

We are pleased to transmit to GRSM the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for the Voorheis Estate property. All prior park comments and suggestions have been included in this final document. The CLI is an evaluated list of landscape properties in the National Park System that are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NR) or contribute to an existing historic property. In order for the CLI to be certified and counted under goals 1a7 and 1b2B in PMDS, the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office (TN-SHPO) needs to concur on the eligibility of the property for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and the Park Superintendent needs to concur on the condition assessment and management category provided within the inventory. Through prior communication, there is consensus with TN-SHPO on the eligibility of the Voorheis Estate for listing on the NR. For Park Superintendent approval, a signature page has been sent along with this CLI. It needs to be signed by the Superintendent and returned to the Regional Office for the final certification. If the condition assessment and management category are agreed upon, please sign the attached approval form and return to our office to the attention of David Hasty.

Enclosures



Letter to Superintendent

Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery
 Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict

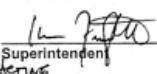
CULTURAL LANDSCAPE INVENTORY
 CONDITION ASSESSMENT CONCURRENCE SHEET - 8 August 2006

Park Information
Park: Great Smoky Mountains National Park
District: Cades Cove Subdistrict
State: Tennessee
Counties: Blount

Cultural Landscape Condition

Inventory Name	CLI Id #	Condition
Cades Cove Landscape	550078	Good
Cades Cove Valley Floor	550118	Fair
John and Lucretia Oliver Homestead	550119	Fair
Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery	550121	Fair
Methodist Church and Cemetery	550120	Fair
Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery	550122	Fair
Elijah Oliver Homestead	550123	Good
Cable Mill	550190	Good
Henry Whitehead Homestead	550124	Fair
Cable Cemetery	550205	Good
Peter Cable and Dan Lawson Homestead	550125	Fair
Tipton Oliver Homestead	550126	Good
Carter Shields Homestead	550127	Good

Cultural Landscape Management Category
 Should Be Preserved and Maintained 1 August 2006

Park Superintendent Concurrence
 Concur Do Not Concur
 9/2/06
 Superintendent Date

Superintendent Signature of Concurrence

We have reviewed the submitted documentation that identifies cultural landscape features at the Cades Cove Historic District in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. We concur with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory, *with the exception of the comments below*, and understand that these features have the potential to contribute to the existing National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Cades Cove Historic District.

Comments: We have some technical concerns that have more to do with National Register than the CLI. The CLI uses a period of significance up to 1942 in order to include the changes that occurred to Cades Cove when the park was established. This is an excellent idea and acknowledges the fact not only that the NPS had a major impact on Cades Cove, but that these changes now represent important early twentieth century ideas of historic preservation. The concerns are that there are instances when road patterns or buildings that were built after the 1942 period of significance are considered contributing to the landscape. Either the district period of significance should be extended to include these resources, criterion considerations should be noted, or the resources should be considered non-contributing. In addition, while Mission 66 is mentioned, there does not appear to be any assessment of that program's impact on the cultural landscape. I am assuming it is just not being addressed at this time.



Tennessee Historical Commission Representative

8/25/06

Date

Signature from SHPO

**CULTURAL LANDSCAPE INVENTORY
 CONDITION ASSESSMENT CONCURRENCE – 8 August 2006 (updated 27 August 2012)**

Park Information

Park: Great Smoky Mountains National Park
District: Cades Cove Subdistrict
State: Tennessee
Counties: Blount


Cultural Landscape Condition

Inventory Name	CLI Id #	Condition ('06)	Condition ('12)
Cades Cove Landscape	550078	Good	Good
Cades Cove Valley Floor	550118	Fair	Fair
John and Lucretia Oliver Homestead	550119	Fair	Fair
Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery	550121	Fair	Fair
Methodist Church and Cemetery	550120	Fair	Fair
Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery	550122	Fair	Fair
Elijah Oliver Homestead	550123	Good	Good
Cable Mill	550190	Good	Good
Henry Whitehead Homestead	550124	Fair	Fair
Cable Cemetery	550205	Good	Good
Peter Cable and Dan Lawson Homestead	550125	Fair	Fair
Tipton Oliver Homestead	550126	Good	Good
Carter Shields Homestead	550127	Good	Good

Cultural Landscape Management Category

Should Be Preserved and Maintained 27 August 2012

Park Superintendent Concurrence

Concur <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do Not Concur <input type="checkbox"/>
	9/18/12
Superintendent	Date

Condition reassessment signature from superintendent.

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

The component landscape boundary encompasses approximately 1.4 acres (tract 05-105). The present landscape boundaries reflect what was mapped during the CLI site visit in July 1996 and may not reflect historic boundaries. Further investigation is needed to determine if the component landscape boundary needs to be enlarged.

State and County:

State: TN

County: Blount County

Size (Acres): 1.40

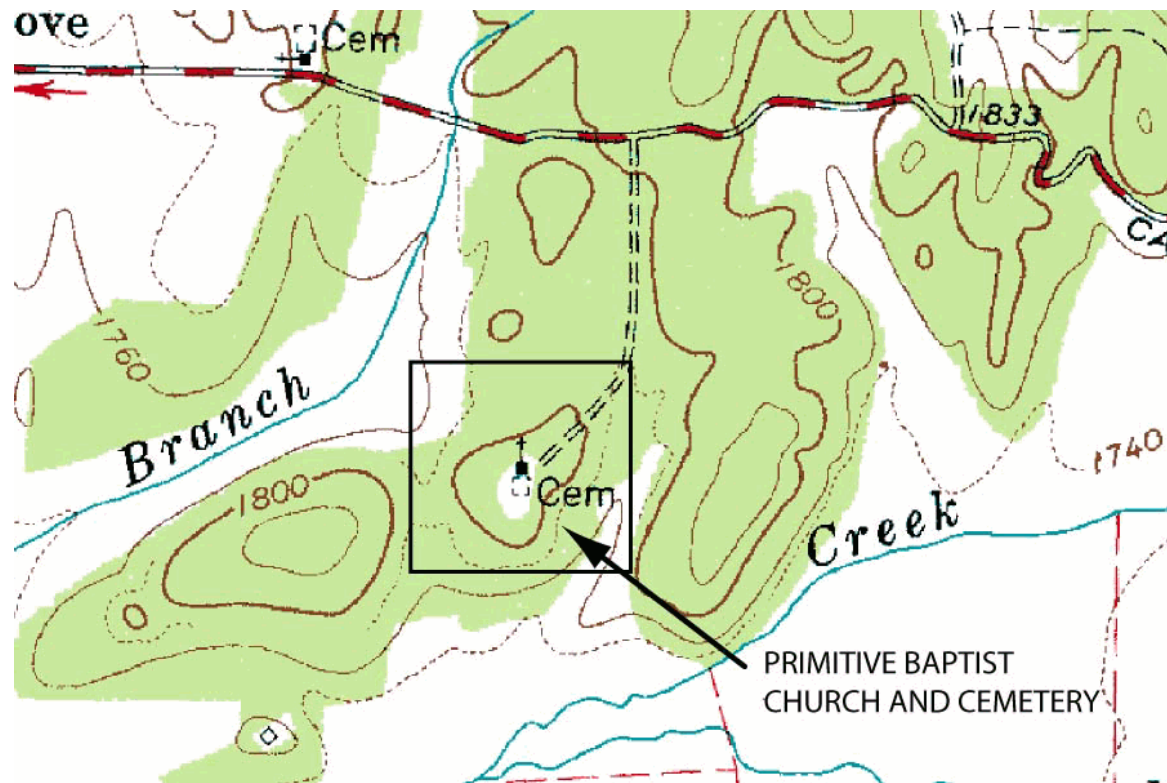
Boundary UTMS:

UTM Zone: 17

UTM Easting: 245,092

UTM Northing: 3,943,269

Location Map:



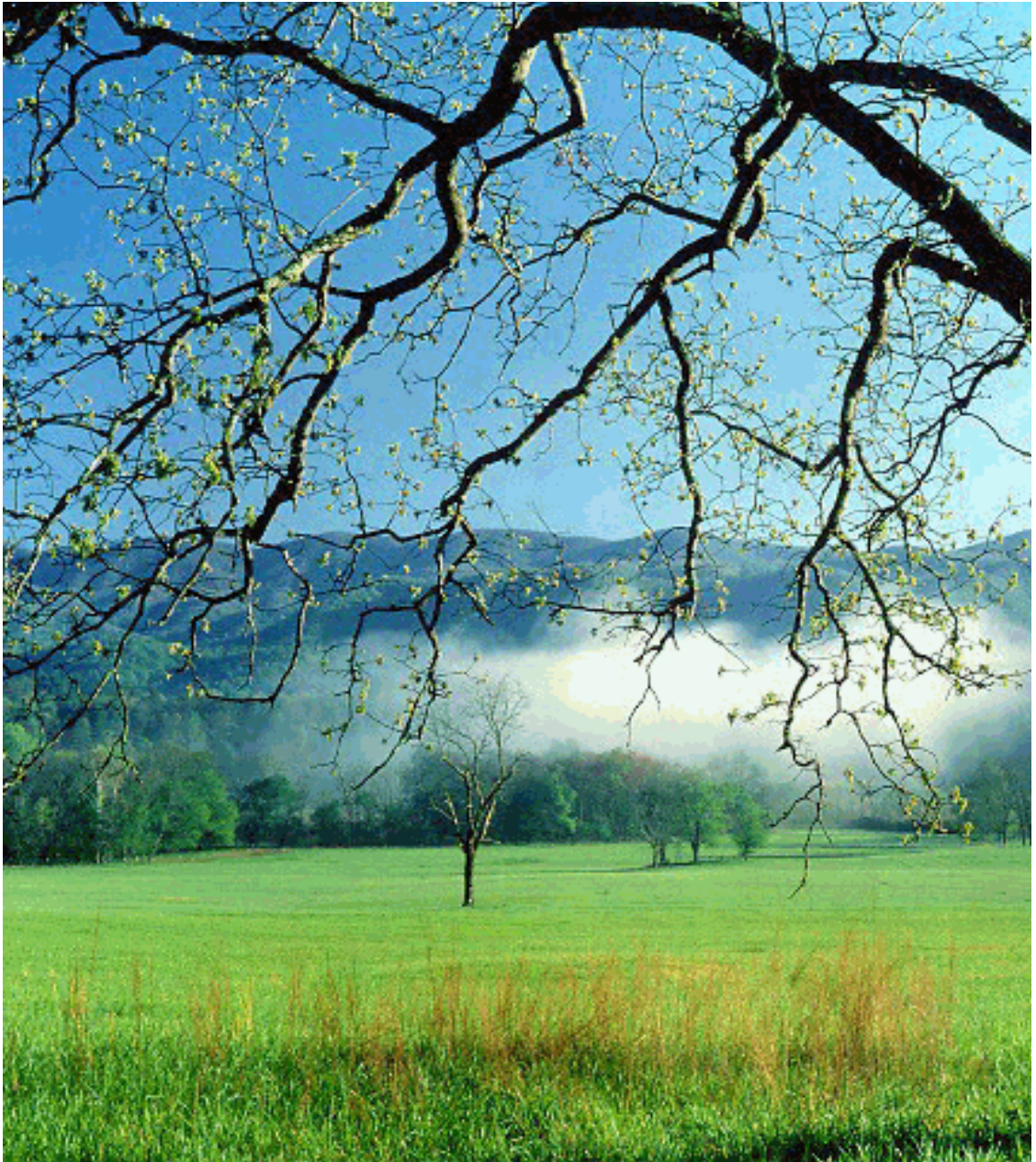
Primitive Baptist church and cemetery location map

Regional Context:

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

The Primitive Baptist was the first church organized in the cove in 1827, and a log building served their needs until 1887. The cemetery is the oldest church burial place in Cades Cove. The early settlers, such as the Olivers, Gregorys, Shields, Anthony's, and others, are buried here. The congregation continued to maintain the building and grounds until 1971.



View across the open valley floor

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

The site lies in the Smoky Mountains of eastern Tennessee within the Blue Ridge physiographic province. The present physiography of the Smokies is a result of several periods of faulting and uplift more than 200 million years ago, followed by weathering and erosion. The Smokies today

are characterized by steep, forested ridges, rounded peaks, and deep valleys. Broader valleys are located in isolated pockets, known locally as coves. In the case of Cades Cove, older, overthrust Precambrian rocks have eroded to expose a "window" of limestone, creating an expanse of reasonably level ground surrounded by ridges.

Type of Context: Political

Description:

The site lies within the 2nd Congressional district of Tennessee.

Management Unit: Cades Cove Subdistrict

Tract Numbers: 05-105

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Should be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 08/01/2006

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access:

Type of Access: With Permission

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Description:

The adjacent lands above the 2,000' contour elevation (the surrounding mountains) enclose the cove, contributing to the isolated feeling of the rural agricultural valley. Additionally, Parsons Branch Road, Cooper Road, and Rich Mountain Road (all of which extend beyond the 2,000' contour elevation and the park boundaries) were transportation routes integral to the livelihood of Cades Cove.



View of adjacent lands

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

Entered Inadequately Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

The July 1977 National Register documentation focuses entirely on historic structures with no reference to the landscape. The Cades Cove Historic District boundary follows the 2,000' contour level. This boundary is ambiguous for it does not include the balds used by settlers for grazing animals, nor three major roads that provided access to the cove historically. The nomination was amended in November 1977, adding eleven prehistoric archaeological sites to the original documentation. The nomination should be amended to include the cultural landscape features addressed in this CLI.

Existing NRIS Information:

Name in National Register:	Cades Cove Historic District
NRIS Number:	77000111
Other Names:	40Btv15;40Btv16;40Btv17;40Btv18;40Btv21;40Btv22;40Btv29;40Btv30;40Btv31;40Btv32;40Btv34
Primary Certification:	Listed In The National Register
Primary Certification Date:	07/13/1977
Other Certifications and Date:	Additional Documentation - 11/30/1977

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
Criteria Considerations:	A -- A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance

Criteria Considerations: D -- A cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events

Period of Significance:

Time Period:	AD 1818 - 1900
Historic Context Theme:	Creating Social Institutions and Movements
Subtheme:	Ways of Life
Facet:	Farming Communities
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	AD 1900 - 1933
Historic Context Theme:	Transforming the Environment
Subtheme:	Conservation of Natural Resources
Facet:	The Conservation Movement Matures 1908-1941
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	AD 1933 - 1942
Historic Context Theme:	Expressing Cultural Values
Subtheme:	Landscape Architecture
Facet:	The 1930's: Era Of Public Works
Other Facet:	None

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category:	Agriculture
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Archeology
Area of Significance Subcategory:	Prehistoric
Area of Significance Category:	Entertainment - Recreation
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Exploration - Settlement
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None

Statement of Significance:

Cades Cove is significant under Criterion A as a resource related to the early settlement and ongoing evolution of a southern Appalachian farming community, and as a resource related to early conservation efforts east of the Mississippi River. It is significant under Criterion C as an example of the vernacular architecture of the Upland South and for the NPS Park Development Era interpretation of the Cades Cove "pioneer" culture. It is significant under Criterion D as a site likely to yield information important to the knowledge of the prehistory or history of the community. The period of significance is 1818-1942.

Cades Cove epitomizes the delayed settlement pattern that occurred in more mountainous areas of the Appalachian chain and eastern seaboard. Two factors--geography and a large presence of native peoples--delayed white settlement of the Great Smoky Mountains until the second quarter of the nineteenth century. Prior to the coming of the Euro-American settler, the Cherokees were the dominant tribe in the central and southern Appalachians. Practicing subsistence agriculture and hunting, they maintained fields of corn, squash, and beans near their riverside villages in eastern Tennessee, north Georgia, and the western Carolinas. Three sites have been located in Cades Cove. Through successive treaties, beginning in 1761, the Cherokees lost more and more of their territory, until the Calhoun Treaty of 1819 reset the boundary of East Tennessee, opening the area to white settlement.

One of the earliest symbols of community in a typical cove settlement was the establishment of churches. In the Smokies, the Baptist and Methodist denominations predominated. Given the small

Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict

congregations and the emphasis on preaching and singing, simple one-room buildings were the norm. The main exterior embellishment was a belfry or steeple. The ringing of the church bell summoned the neighborhood to services and also tolled upon the death of a neighbor.

On June 16, 1827, a small congregation established the "Cades Cove Arm of the Wear's Cove Church." Complete independence came on June 29, 1829, when the Cades Cove Baptist Church finally became a separate entity. The Baptists constructed a log meeting house in 1832. Up until this time, they met in the school house or in private homes, occasionally holding services at night. In 1836, William Tipton deeded to John Oliver and Peter Cable a tract of land including a half acre "where the Baptist meeting house now stands." The cemetery associated with the Primitive Baptist Church is the oldest of the church burial places in Cades Cove. The early settlers, such as the Olivers, Cables, Gregorys, and Shieldses, are buried here.

In the early 19th century, a division took place in American Baptist churches, over issues including the support of missionaries, the establishment of seminaries, and temperance societies. In East Tennessee, this happened between 1825-1845, reaching a climax in 1837-38. Thirteen members of the Cades Cove Baptist Church, including the pastor, broke away over their support for foreign missions. In 1839, these thirteen promptly formed the Missionary Baptist Church. The older church assumed the name "Primitive Baptist Church" on May 15, 1841. The total number of active members was never large in the Primitive Baptist Church, although membership greatly increased in proportion to the total population after the Civil War and was always far greater than that of any other denomination in the cove. A more modern frame building was constructed on the site in 1887 to replace the older log structure.

The impetus for a national park in the Eastern United States at a similar scale to the large western national parks began between 1910-1920 by local groups in both North Carolina and Tennessee. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park was authorized in 1926, and established for development in 1934, to protect the woodlands, headwaters, and various forms of natural resources in the southern Appalachians. In 1927, the Tennessee General Assembly appropriated \$1.5 million for buying park lands and gave the newly created Park Commission the power to seize farms within the proposed park boundaries by right of eminent domain. Land for the park, including Cades Cove, was acquired via condemnation proceedings between 1928-1936. At this time, a policy to preserve and interpret the mountain culture resources gradually developed, with the idea of establishing an outdoor folk museum in the cove.

The Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery was the only church included in early (1942) Park Development Era maps of the sites to be included in the cultural exhibits. The Primitive Baptist Church is a plain, front-gable frame church with an open-sided, pyramidal-roofed belfry and stone pier foundation. It was listed as a contributing building in the 1977 National Register nomination, along with the cistern house. A number of historical landscape features still exist at the site, including a cistern house, stone monument, cemetery and cemetery headstones, approach road, and biotic remnants.

As part of the Park Development Era, park planners manipulated the historic scene in order to showcase preserved "pioneer" agricultural landscapes and vernacular architecture. The Primitive

Baptist Church and Cemetery, the oldest documented established church in Cades Cove, reflects NPS design philosophy during the New Deal, when architects, landscape architects, historians, and engineers created a unified aesthetic conception (the master plan) of the site to preserve cultural as well as natural resources.

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Vernacular

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function:	Religious Structure (church)
Primary Current Use:	Recreation/Culture-Other
Other Use/Function	Other Type of Use or Function
Cemetery	Both Current And Historic
Religion-Other	Both Current And Historic

Current and Historic Names:

Name	Type of Name
Cades Cove Arm of the Wear's Cove Church	Historic
Cades Cove Baptist Church	Historic
Primitive Baptist Church	Both Current And Historic

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
AD 1832	Built	The Baptists constructed a log meeting house on the site in 1832 and received title to the land in 1836.
AD 1887	Built	In 1887, a frame building was erected to replace the older log church.
AD 1926 - 1936	Land Transfer	In 1926, legislation authorizing the Great Smoky Mountains National Park was passed by Congress. The land for the park, including Cades Cove, was acquired between 1928-1936.

Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery
Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict

AD 1937 - 1971	Maintained	The Primitive Baptists obtained a Special Use Permit to maintain the building and cemetery.
AD 1971 - 2006	Preserved	When the Special Use Permit ended in 1971, the park assumed maintenance and preservation responsibilities.
AD 1979 - 1988	Rehabilitated	From 1979-1988, repairs were made to the building.
AD 1991	Rehabilitated	In 1991, the cemetery paths were rehabilitated.

Physical History:

(1827-1926) Early Settlement and Later Development

On June 16, 1827, a small congregation established the "Cades Cove Arm of the Wear's Cove Church." In addition to John and Lucretia Oliver, the other members were James Oliver, James and Emily Johnson, Christopher Winters, Edward James, and John Lacy. Complete independence came on June 29, 1829, when the Cades Cove Baptist Church became a separate entity (Dunn 1988, 103).

The Baptists constructed a log meeting house in 1832. Up until this time, they met in the school house or in private homes, occasionally holding services at night. In 1836, William Tipton deeded to John Oliver and Peter Cable a tract of land including a half acre "where the Baptist meeting house now stands" (Dunn 1988, 112). The cemetery associated with the Primitive Baptist Church is the oldest of the church burial places in Cades Cove. The early settlers, such as the Olivers, Cables, Gregorys, and Shieldses, are buried here.

After an interim during which visiting preachers officiated, Johnson Adams became pastor in 1833. In the early 19th century, a division took place in American Baptist churches, over issues including the support of missionaries, the establishment of seminaries, and temperance societies. In East Tennessee, this happened between 1825-1845, reaching a climax in 1837-38. Thirteen members of the Cades Cove Baptist Church, including Johnson Adams, broke away over issues including their support of foreign missions. In May 1839, the ousted members promptly formed the Missionary Baptist Church. The older church assumed the name "Primitive Baptist Church" on May 15, 1841 (Dunn 1988, 113).

Various members of the church acted as moderator, or pastor, from 1845 until the Civil War, including John Chambers and John Oliver. Absalom Abbott was ordained minister May 17, 1856. After the Civil War, Jackson B. J. Brickey was chosen pastor on October 28, 1871, and continued in this capacity throughout the remainder of the century. William H. Oliver was ordained minister on August 27, 1882, and served in this capacity until his death in 1940 (Dunn 1988, 108).

During the Civil War, the Primitive Baptist Church did not hold services. They explained in the church book that "we was union people and the Rebels was too strong here in Cades Cove." They resumed services in June 1865. The total number of active members was never large in the Primitive Baptist Church, although membership greatly increased in proportion to the total population after the Civil War and was always far greater than that of any other denomination in the cove. A more modern frame building was constructed on the site in 1887 to replace the older log structure.

Although small in membership throughout the nineteenth century, this oldest established church in Cades Cove continued to dominate the social and cultural mores of the community. The larger community accepted this control because it came from a broadly-based group consensus within the church and was not dictated by one individual. The Baptists had the added advantage of appealing to religious values and associations already held by the larger

community, whether or not they were members of the church.

A late 1920s photograph of a funeral at the site shows a somewhat barren cemetery landscape without grass. Burials were an important community event in Cades Cove. In later years there was an annual program of grave decoration in May in which all the church congregations would go from church to church to hear preaching, sing hymns, decorate graves with flowers, and eat a large meal on the grounds of the Primitive Baptist Church (Shields 1977, 44).

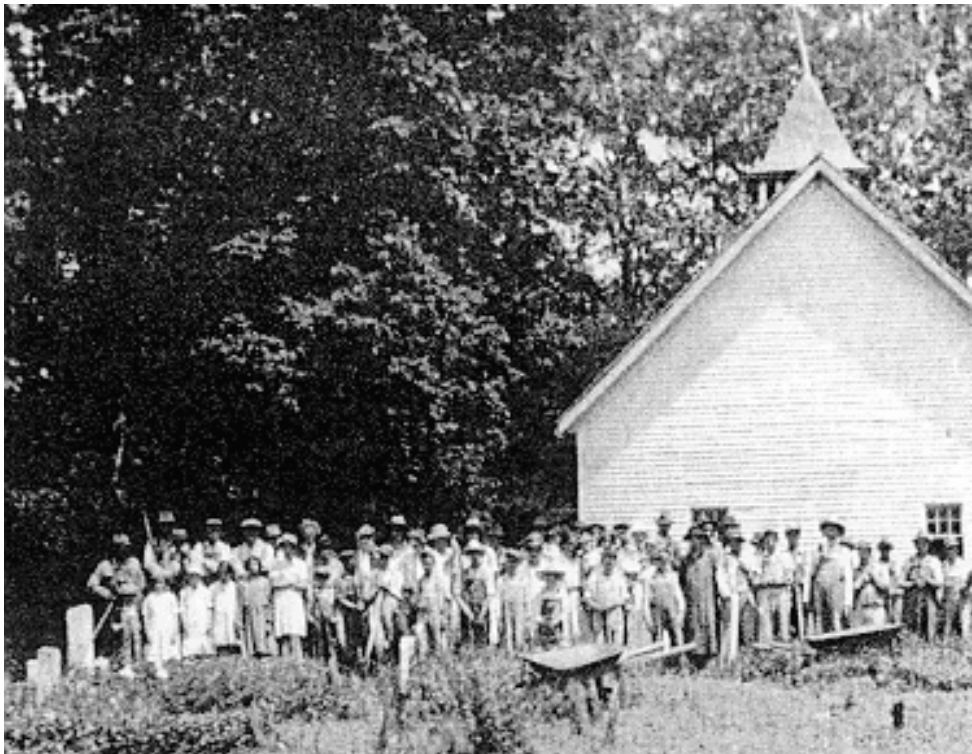


Figure 1. Late 1920s view of a funeral at the Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery

(1927-present) Great Smoky Mountains National Park

The impetus for a national park in the Eastern United States at a similar scale to the large western national parks began between 1910-1920 by local groups in both North Carolina and Tennessee. Through numerous regenerations of federal legislation, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park was established in 1926 to protect the woodlands, headwaters, and various forms of natural resources in the southern Appalachians. In 1927, the Tennessee General Assembly appropriated \$1.5 million for buying park lands and gave the newly created Park Commission the power to seize farms within the proposed park boundaries by right of eminent domain. Land for the park, including Cades Cove, was acquired via condemnation proceedings between 1928-1936. At this time, a policy to preserve and interpret the mountain culture resources gradually developed, with the idea of establishing an outdoor folk museum in the cove (Lix 1958, 82). The Primitive Baptist Church was included in early (1942 and 1946) Park Development Era maps of the sites to be included in the cultural exhibits. The Primitive

Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery
Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove Subdistrict

Baptists were unwilling to disband, however, and maintained their membership into the 1960s. The congregation secured the right to maintain the church building and cemetery, which they did by Special Use Permit until 1971.

Little information is available about changes that took place to the landscape during the period when the building and grounds were maintained by the congregation, but the cemetery was fenced in 1939 (Trout 1991, 3). The Special Use Permit was cancelled in 1971, at which time maintenance and preservation became park functions. It is not known if the current paling fence (installation date unknown) is an accurate representation of what was there during the historic period. Photographs of the site taken in 1937 show a post-and-wire fence with a picket gate on the northwest side of the church; no fence can be discerned from the front view (Figures 6-7). Additionally, the cemetery does not appear to have supported grass during the historic period (Figure 5). In 1991, the circulation system around the cemetery was rehabilitated in an effort to keep visitors off the graves and also as the best means of preventing erosion at the site. This rehabilitation is not based on any historic configuration. The historic approach has not been altered.

A Special Use Permit can be issued to hold religious services in the building, and burials are still allowed for holders of plots within the enclosed area of the cemetery.

The area surrounding the open space of the church and cemetery is a forest of hemlock, white pine, and tulip poplar. The understory is relatively open with occasional holly trees. It appears from historic photographs that a tree canopy existed around the church prior to NPS acquisition.



Figure 2. 1937 view from the southwest of Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery



Figure 3. 1937 view from the north of Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery



Figure 4. Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery in 2000.

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The following is a list of landscape characteristics and features that contribute to the cultural landscape. Further research is warranted.

Landscape Characteristic:

Buildings And Structures

The Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery features a rectangular, front-gable frame church and a front-gable frame cistern house. The cemetery, located south of the church, contains the gravesites of many early Cades Cove settlers. The cemetery headstones are aligned in an east-west direction and are mostly commercial markers. The church was rehabilitated from 1979-1988. The cemetery was rehabilitated in 1991.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Primitive Baptist Church

Feature Identification Number: 100701

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 13040

LCS Structure Name: Primitive Baptist Church

LCS Structure Number: MMS-219

Feature: Primitive Baptist Church Cistern House

Feature Identification Number: 100702

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 90241

LCS Structure Name: Primitive Baptist Church Cistern House

LCS Structure Number: MMS90241

Feature: Primitive Baptist Church Headstones

Feature Identification Number: 100703

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 10200

LCS Structure Name: Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery Headstones

LCS Structure Number: C007

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Primitive Baptist Church



Primitive Baptist Church Cistern House



Primitive Baptist Church Headstones

Circulation

Presently, visitors are brought to the site by a historic approach road south of the loop road. A pea gravel path inside the paling fence directs visitors along the east façade of the church and continues around the cemetery, connecting with a trail that accesses the site from the west. In 1991, the circulation system was rehabilitated to keep visitors off the graves and reduce erosion at the site and bears no resemblance to any historic configuration. The cable-wire fencing was added at this time.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Primitive Baptist Church approach road



Circulation system within the cemetery

Small Scale Features

A monument with a stone pier is located east of the church, adjacent to the path leading to the cemetery from the visitor parking lot.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Primitive Baptist Church Monument

Topography

The settlement patterns at this site were strongly influenced by the topography of the cove, featuring farmsteads and churches close to the surrounding hillsides, leaving the interior for cultivation. The siting of churches on hilltops is typical of the Cades Cove landscape.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Topography of the Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery

Vegetation

The vegetation pattern of forested ascending slopes surrounding the open space of the church and cemetery has been retained. It appears from historic photographs that grass did not grow in the cemetery as well as it does today. The vegetation of the Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery is a contributing feature of the historic landscape.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Vegetation patterns at the Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment:	Good
Assessment Date:	09/30/1999
Condition Assessment:	Fair
Assessment Date:	08/01/2006
Condition Assessment:	Fair
Assessment Date:	09/18/2012

Impacts

Type of Impact:	Release To Succession
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Release to succession has increased the amount of forest on the valley floor and hillsides, resulting in less extensive views across the cove.

Type of Impact:	Visitation
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	In 1991, the circulation system was rehabilitated to keep visitors off the graves and reduce erosion at the site. Cable-wire fencing was added around a portion of the gravesites at this time, with more circling the pathway between 2000 and 2006. The pea gravel pathway and fencing protect much of the cemetery from visitor traffic, but they also negatively impact views and spatial organization.

Type of Impact:	Vandalism/Theft/Arson
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Graffiti

Treatment

Treatment

Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative:

GRSM contracted with John Milner and Associates to complete a Cultural Landscape Report for Cades Cove. A 100% draft was submitted in 2004, and it is expected to be completed and approved in FY 2007. The suggested treatment alternative is rehabilitation.

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography

Citation Title:	Draft "Historic Structure Report, Cades Cove Historic District (Churches)"
Source Name:	Other
Citation Title:	N/A
Source Name:	Other
Citation Location:	See Cades Cove Cultural Landscape Bibliography for a complete list of references

Supplemental Information

Title:	Cades Cove
Description:	TIC map NP-GSM 2163-A, dated 1946
Title:	Cultural Exhibit Cades Cove Area
Description:	TIC map NP-GSM 2163, dated 1942