



# 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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name Tellico Dam Project  
Other names/site number Tellico Dam  
Name of related multiple property listing Historic Resources of the Tennessee Valley Authority Hydroelectric Project, 1933-1979

## 2. Location

Street & Number: c/o 1280 City Park Drive  
City or town: Lenoir City State: Tennessee County: Loudon  
Not For Publication:  N/A Vicinity:  N/A Zip: 37772

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:  A  B  C  D

Patricia Bernard Eggell 11-9-16  
Signature of certifying official/Title: Date  
Dir. Program Mgr., Tribal Relations & History and Federal  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government Preservation Officer

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.

Claudette Spe 11-28-16  
Signature of Commenting Official: Date  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer,  
Tennessee Historical Commission  
Title: State of Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

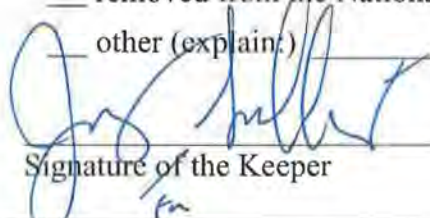
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**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

  
 Signature of the Keeper

8-14-2017  
 Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	2	buildings
1	0	sites
2	0	structures
0	0	objects
5	2	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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## 6. Function or Use

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### Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY/Waterworks/Dam

RECREATION AND CULTURE/Outdoor  
Recreation

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY/Waterworks/Dam

RECREATION AND CULTURE/Outdoor  
Recreation

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## 7. Description

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### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

No Style

OTHER: Dam

### Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

CONCRETE; STEEL; ROCK; EARTH

### Narrative Description

The Tellico Hydroelectric Project is located on the Little Tennessee River 0.3 mile above its confluence with the Tennessee River (Watts Bar Reservoir). To the immediate upstream (northeast) of this confluence is the Loudon Hydroelectric Project on the Tennessee River. The Tellico Project is not a hydroelectric plant; it does, however provide water to the Loudon Hydroelectric Project, which has four generating units, via a canal connecting the two respective reservoirs. The Tellico project site is one air mile south of Lenoir City (2014 est. pop. 9,034) and twenty-three miles southwest of Knoxville. The Tellico Project impounds the Tellico Reservoir, which extends thirty-three miles to Chilhowee Dam in Blount County. The reservoir has a flood-storage capacity of 120,000 acre-feet. Construction of the project began in 1967 and was completed in 1979.<sup>1</sup> The Tellico Reservoir has shorelines in Loudon, Monroe and Blount Counties. Total drainage area at the dam is 2,627 square miles; the uncontrolled streamflow area below the dam is 1,056 square miles.<sup>2</sup>

## INVENTORY

The Tellico Dam Project originally consisted of the main embankment and concrete dam across the river. Since completion of the original project, recreational buildings and sites have been added to the property (*see Photos 1-3*).

### 1. Tellico Dam, 1979 (Contributing Structure)

The Tellico Dam is a concrete gravity non-overflow dam and spillway with an impervious rolled earth-fill embankment. Its total length is 3,237.5 feet, consisting of the 2,700-foot earth embankment, a 150-foot concrete

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<sup>1</sup> Tennessee Valley Authority, "Tellico Reservoir," at webpage <http://www.tva.gov/sites/tellico.htm> accessed July 6, 2015.

<sup>2</sup> Tennessee Valley Authority, "Tellico Dam," (Knoxville: Tennessee Valley Authority, 1999), 11.

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spillway, and a right and left non-overflow dam (*see Photo 4*). Construction of the dam used 78,000 cubic yards of concrete. Construction of the main embankment used 180,000,000 cubic yards of rolled earth fill. The dam's maximum height at the deepest excavation point is 129 feet and its maximum width at the base of the spillway section is eighty-six feet; 205 feet including the apron. The deck level and the earth embankment are at elevation 830 feet above sea level. Atop the dam is a fourteen-foot wide service road (*see Photo 5*). The spillway has three gates divided by seven-and-one-half-foot wide piers (*see Photo 6*). Each gate measures forty feet wide by forty-two feet high. Discharge capacity is 126,000 cubic feet per second. The spillway gates have three hoists, each with a 72-ton capacity. The motors are located next to the roadway atop the dam (*see Photo 7*). On the east end of the dam is a small, concrete support building with a flat roof and steel door.

### **2. Spillway Storage Building, ca. 2000 (Non-Contributing Building)**

At the west end of the dam is a small one-story, prefabricated metal storage building. This building has a gable-front roof and siding of corrugated metal. The main (north) façade has a metal, overhead-track door (*see Photo 8*).

### **3. Canal, 1979 (Contributing Structure)**

A 1,000-foot long canal connects the right side of the Tellico Reservoir to the left side of the Fort Loudoun Reservoir (*see Photos 9, 10*). In its construction, 713,000 cubic yards of earth was excavated. A section of the east side of the canal is lined with a concrete walking path and rock fill. The canal is 602 feet wide at elevation 807 feet above sea level. U.S. Highway 321 passes over the canal via a 1,135-foot five-span continuous concrete bridge with forty-two-foot navigational clearance. The Tellico Dam was designed to handle all flows except major floods, which would pass through the canal to discharge via Fort Loudoun Dam's spillway.<sup>3</sup>

### **4- 5. (2) Restrooms, 1979 (Contributing Buildings)**

The picnic areas have two, identical plan restrooms which are standardized plans used by TVA. These are one-story buildings of concrete block construction with saltbox roofs of asphalt shingles. The entrances are located at either end of a recessed, integral, central bay. The side elevations have fixed asymmetrical windows. The buildings have tile walls and tile floors, original sinks and toilet fixtures, new vinyl covered ceilings, and steel doors (*see Photo 11*).

### **6. Picnic Pavilion, 1980 (Non-Contributing Building)**

This is a one-story building with a gable roof of asphalt shingles. The side elevations are in five bays, divided by square, wood posts on a concrete foundation (*see Photo 12*).

### **7. Recreational Area, 1980 (Contributing Site)**

To the southwest of the dam is a recreational area containing a sand beach, a picnic area with original concrete benches and tables, and a boat ramp. This landscaped area also contains an asphalt parking area (*see Photo 13-16*).

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., 14, 16, 28.

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**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.)

- 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.
- 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 N/A**  
 (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)  
 Property is:

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

**Areas of Significance**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

CONSERVATION  
 ENGINEERING  
 RECREATION

**Period of Significance**  
 1967-1979

**Significant Dates**  
 1967, 1979

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

**Cultural Affiliation**  
 N/A

**Architect/Builder**  
 Architect: Tennessee Valley Authority; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
 Builder: Tennessee Valley Authority

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### **Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph**

The Tellico Dam Project is significant under National Register criteria A and C for its role in the improvement of quality of life through control of seasonal flooding and creation of public recreational facilities as part of TVA's overall hydroelectric system and for engineering. The project is significant in the area of conservation for its role in the environmental movement of the 1960s. The project's significance in engineering is reflected in TVA's overall plan for an integrated system of river management through site-specific designs tested on scaled models. The project is significant in recreation because of the extensive outdoor opportunities it fostered. The Tellico Dam Project is also significant under Criteria Consideration G for achieving significance within the past fifty years for its role in national environmental and hydropower policy. The period of significance for the project is 1979 which marks its completion date as the last dam constructed by TVA. The Tellico Dam Project is the last of twenty-five hydroelectric and dam projects constructed by the TVA in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Congress approved funding for the Tellico Project on October 15, 1966, and TVA's Board of Directors authorized the project November 8, 1966. Construction of the Tellico project began on March 7, 1967. The Tellico Dam Project was controversial due to environmental concerns and a shift in public attitude towards hydroelectric developments. Construction was litigated for many years before the dam was closed on November 29, 1979.<sup>4</sup> The Tellico Dam Project meets the registration requirements set forth in the Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historical Resources of the Tennessee Valley Authority Hydroelectric Project, 1933-1979."

### **Narrative Statement of Significance**

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) was created under President Roosevelt's New Deal program as part of his "First One Hundred Days." Roosevelt envisioned "a corporation clothed with the power of government but possessed of the flexibility and initiative of a private enterprise." To this end, Congress passed the TVA Act on May 18, 1933.<sup>5</sup> The multi-purpose legislation sought to improve navigation and flood control of the Tennessee River, spur agricultural and industrial development in the Tennessee Valley, and provide for national defense via government facilities in the proximity of Muscle Shoals, Alabama (Sec. 1). The act authorized the TVA Corporation to acquire real estate for the construction of dams, reservoirs, power houses, transmission lines, or navigations projects at any point along the Tennessee River and its tributaries (Sec. 4i).<sup>6</sup>

From the 1930s to the early 1960s, TVA had constructed over twenty hydroelectric projects on the Tennessee River and its tributaries. In late 1964, TVA submitted a proposal for two new hydroelectric projects - Tims Ford and Tellico - to the Bureau of the Budget. The two projects had been under consideration for a few years, and TVA hoped to secure funding for both in President Lyndon Johnson's 1966 fiscal budget. Budgetary constraints from Johnson's anti-poverty welfare program and from the Vietnam War, however, allowed for just one of the two projects. The Tellico project, with the inclusion of a planned model city, represented TVA's "new mission" and thus became the priority. Therefore, Johnson submitted to Congress in January of 1965 a budget that included \$5,775,000 to start the Tellico project.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Tennessee Valley Authority, "Tellico" (Knoxville: Tennessee Valley Authority, 1999), 11.

<sup>5</sup> "History of the Tennessee Valley Authority," at website [http://www.policyalmanac.org/economic/archive/tva\\_history.shtml](http://www.policyalmanac.org/economic/archive/tva_history.shtml) accessed April 16, 2015.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> William Bruce Wheeler and Michael J. McDonald, *TVA and the Tellico Dam, 1936-1979: A Bureaucratic Crisis in Post-industrial America*, (Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 1986), 104-06.

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Representative Joe L Evins of Tennessee's Fourth Congressional District chaired the House Public Works Subcommittee that read the Tellico project item. Evins had a history of supporting TVA projects, and the Tims Ford project was located in his district. Evins allowed heated debate between his fellow subcommittee members and TVA chairman Wagner on land development controversies surrounding Tellico before suggesting the substitution of the Tims Ford Project. The subcommittee approved funding for Tims Ford, as did the House Appropriations Committee, and then the U.S. House later that year. Evins claimed the Tellico project had spawned a barrage of letters and petitions opposing the project, which was therefore postponed.<sup>8</sup>

TVA, however, worked to reverse the House's decision in the U.S. Senate, calling on citizen groups, the Mayor of Knoxville, the Knoxville City Council, and the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce to endorse its preferred project at Tellico. The Senate Subcommittee Chairman, Allen Ellender of Louisiana, however, attacked the cost:benefit ratio of Tellico, calling it overrated. Additionally, Ellender sharply criticized TVA for its plan to invoke eminent domain for profit to prop up the tenuous ratio. TVA called on Senators Al Gore and Ross Bass of Tennessee to support the Tellico project. The Subcommittee and then the Senate reversed the House's decision, reinstating Tellico as the priority for funding. Ultimately, both the Tellico and Tims Ford Projects were approved. President Johnson signed the budget, with appropriations for Tellico, on October 17, 1966. Construction of the project began early the following year.<sup>9</sup>

The struggle for federal approval was only the beginning of the opposition the Tellico Project faced. The project engaged local landowners, state politicians, and federal advisors of two administrations, as public momentum gained against TVA's macro-planning. But the grievances that dogged the project (suspect cost-to-benefit ratio, excessive land taking for development, and destruction of a scenic river ecosystem) became submerged beneath headline news of urban riots, Vietnam, and Johnson's sinking approval rating. By 1971, however, the tide began to turn as American awareness of environmental issues grew. The Tellico project brought together environmentalists, outdoors enthusiasts, land owners, archaeologists, historic preservationists, and Cherokee tribe leaders, gaining the attention of national media.<sup>10</sup>

A major magnet of negativity for the Tellico project was the ever-expanding taking line for the reservoir. Even after construction began, TVA had no idea of the affected population, unlike its previous projects, which were preceded by thorough deed research and family interviews. At Tellico, the agency repeatedly increased the acreage it would take, ultimately amounting to more than three times the land necessary for the reservoir. TVA wanted the extra land for re-sale in order to re-coup costs and also for building a planned town. Dubbed Timberlake, the model town was an idyllic vision of community development that would implement energy conservation standards and industrial land use regulations.<sup>11</sup> Though TVA did not have a solid plan for its model city at Tellico, the premise mirrored early TVA visions at Norris. During the 1930s, FDR and then TVA Director Arthur Morgan had agreed on the inclusion of a planned community in the TVA project model. At the Norris site, however, the concept was plagued by cost over-runs and housing that was out of reach for the average local resident. Crises in 1960s American urban settings helped inspire the revival of the model city idea among enthusiastic TVA planners. At Tellico, however, TVA courted major corporations for financial backing, with only Boeing Corporation showing interest. At the Tellico location, however, there was not enough industry to warrant a large-scale new urban experiment, and TVA's solution to acquire even more surrounding land for

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., 104-06, 160.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid., 107, 110.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid., 125.

<sup>11</sup> Wheeler and McDonald, 127.

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speculation fueled controversy. Urban planning consultants' recommendations to limit the model city's demographics to upper-middle classes waded into social elitism.<sup>12</sup> Timberlake was on track to repeat the inherent flaws of TVA's planned town at Norris, with housing too expensive for the displaced local wage earners.

Journalists predicted the model city of Timberlake would be a government-controlled experiment with human guinea pigs. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce decried the project as an assault on free enterprise, likening it to a federal blueprint for land speculation and corporate favoritism. TVA alternately countered that the site was not really conducive to industrial development and argued for the economic development the project would spur. Archaeologists opposed the project on the grounds of Cherokee cultural material across the Tellico area, to which TVA stated that the University of Tennessee was conducting explorations of the artifact-rich reservoir area. Environmentalists, invoking the Endangered Species Act with the discovery of the snail darter in Little Tennessee River waters, brought the project to an abrupt halt at ninety percent completion.<sup>13</sup> From 1973 into 1979, the snail darter issue held up completion of the dam, though critics of project claimed the fish was a scapegoat for an upside-down financial model.

With the Tims Ford Project underway, Evins warmed to supporting the Tellico Project when it became mired in controversy. On behalf of TVA, Evins approached the newly elected Tennessee Governor Ray Blanton to endorse the project. Tellico opposition galvanized among splintered groups coalescing around environmental attorney Zygmunt Plater. While a legal suit could have been brought under the unconstitutional resale of eminent domain-taken land, Plater's preferred angle was to focus on the discovery of the snail darter in the Little Tennessee River. This small fish awaited listing as an endangered species, while the river itself awaited designation as a critical habitat. Plater attempted and failed to gain injunctions against continuation of the Tellico project. The TVA continued construction on the premise that any legal action would be in favor of fulfilling the nearly completed project. On appeal, Sixth Circuit Justice Anthony Celebrezze overturned previous rulings, stating that money spent on the project was immaterial, upholding the integrity of the Endangered Species Act.<sup>14</sup> Ultimately, Congress amended the Endangered Species Act to grant TVA an exemption, permitting the completion of the Tellico Project in 1979.

The amendment that allowed for the completion of Tellico was submitted as rider to a tedious public works appropriation bill read during a House session with minimal attendance. Congressman John Duncan submitted the amendment to the House clerk with a motion to waive its reading. Representatives Tom Bevill and John Myers agreed. A voice vote of those present accepted the amendment, exempting the Tellico project from the Endangered Species Act. Tellico opponents suspected the amendment originated from a staff assistant of Senator Howard Baker, an active political proponent of Tellico. Forwarded to the Senate, the bill failed its first vote. On a second attempt, Baker managed to secure enough votes to pass the bill, which next landed on President Carter's desk. A Tellico opponent, Carter reluctantly signed the bill in exchange for other legislation he desired.<sup>15</sup> The battle over the Tellico project ended anticlimactically as a political pawn.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid., 159-62.

<sup>13</sup> North Callahan, *TVA ó Bridge Over Troubled Waters: A History of the Tennessee Valley Authority*, (Cranbury, NJ: A. S. Barnes and Co., Inc.), 1980), 225-26, 363.

<sup>14</sup> Wheeler and McDonald, 191, 193 195-197.

<sup>15</sup> Wheeler and McDonald, 212-23.



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The idyllic planned town of Timberlake, intended to offset Tellico project costs, however, became its albatross, weighing it down with an upside-down benefit-to-cost ratio.<sup>16</sup> TVA never broke ground on the planned town, after Boeing Corporation backed out as financier. In 1982, TVA transferred 11,151 acres of project land to the newly formed local development district, Tellico Reservoir Development Association (TDRA), a quasi-governmental state entity. TDRA sold much of the land to a private developer who created the upscale retirement community Tellico Village on the west side of Tellico Reservoir. TVA was criticized for the re-sale, which was at odds with the mission of the original TVA Act to improve the lives of local residents. Instead, TVA took thousands of acres of family farms in addition to what was needed for the reservoir, planning to recoup costs through economic development that materialized.<sup>17</sup>

For the Tellico project, TVA acquired a total of 37,900 acres of land. Approximately half this area was prime agricultural land. TVA justified the unusually large taking (preceded only by the Norris Project, which had a similar model town) under new policy that provided for planned development purposes to maximize project benefits, a position reiterated in the 1977 Comptroller's Report to Congress.<sup>18</sup> The Tellico project displaced 276 families and relocated 1,300 graves. In the course of the project, a total of eighty-four miles of roads and highways were adjusted. Fourteen bridges were built, and 212 miles of utility lines were adjusted or constructed.<sup>19</sup> Since Congress's initial approval of the Tellico project, its estimated cost of construction increased from \$45,000,000 to \$116,000,000 in 1977.<sup>20</sup> TVA asserted that this increase was due to delays caused by court injunctions. The initial cost for the completed project came to \$137,123,000. Safety modifications for maximum probable flood levels added \$2,960,000, for a total cost of \$140,083,000.<sup>21</sup>

The Tellico project exposed the extreme politicism behind TVA's power growth in the post-World War II period and left the agency with a sullied reputation. TVA had known opposition from its creation, chiefly the invested local power companies and the displaced residents, dismissed as uneducated. By the height of the fight to complete the Tellico Dam, TVA detractors had expanded to include not just landowners within the reservoir, but those concerned about the far reach of eminent domain; average citizens interested in ecology, history, fishing and boating; and economists, archaeologists, biologists, attorneys, and other professional who counted themselves as intellectual peers to TVA's experts.<sup>22</sup>

The public and even some politicians came to feel that TVA had over-reached its mission, especially with non-power projects like Tellico, Normandy, and Columbia, as well as the development of the Land Between the Lakes recreational area. At the direction of President Kennedy, TVA was to oversee the establishment of a National Recreational Area. The President envisioned the experimental project as a wilderness preservation area and a demonstration of economic development where timber and industrial resources were limited. The Land Between the Lake development was highly controversial, displacing multi-generational residents enjoying an isolated geography for TVA recreational development. The nearly 1,000 families removed from the land

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, 170.

<sup>17</sup> Kenneth M. Murchison, *The Snail Darter Case, TVA versus the Endangered Species Act*, (Lawrence, Kansas: University Press of Kansas, 2007), 176-77.

<sup>18</sup> United States. General Accounting Office, "The Tennessee Valley Authority's Tellico Dam Project: Costs, Alternatives, and Benefits" (1977). *Snail Darter Documents*. Paper 4, accessed August 19, 2015 at webpage [http://lawdigitalcommons.bc.edu/darter\\_materials/4](http://lawdigitalcommons.bc.edu/darter_materials/4), 5-7.

<sup>19</sup> Tennessee Valley Authority, "Tellico," 15.

<sup>20</sup> United States. General Accounting Office, 5.

<sup>21</sup> Tennessee Valley Authority, "Tellico," 11.

<sup>22</sup> Murchison, 177-179.

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between Kentucky Lake and Lake Barkley (Cumberland River) decried TVA's disrespectful treatment and sharply undercut land assessments.<sup>23</sup>

TVA, some felt, had become a cloistered institution of social engineers. Even new TVA Director David Freeman in 1977 criticized agency employees, suggesting TVA was declining in its own bureaucracy.<sup>24</sup> The Tellico Dam, coupled with the equally controversial Columbia Dam in middle Tennessee, represented the end of TVA's dam-building. Freeman commented in the midst of Columbia construction delays that the two projects should probably never have been built.<sup>25</sup> The Columbia Dam, in fact, was never completed. TVA faltered in its new mission to transcend power production as a national laboratory of idealism.<sup>26</sup> The Tellico project ultimately persevered major challenges, yet by extreme means that disregarded environmental concerns and private property rights.

### SIGNIFICANCE IN CONSERVATION

The Tellico Dam Project is significant under Criteria Consideration G for its role in the environmental movement of the 1960s-70s, illustrating a shifting public policy towards hydroelectric projects. While the dam and reservoir were ultimately completed, it ended TVA's "new mission" of projects designed to promote economic development.<sup>27</sup>

American culture of the 1960s was characterized by a new focus on environmental issues and social struggles. The 1962 publication of Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*, criticizing the over-use of DDT pesticide, was a watershed event for the emerging environmental movement. The book introduced environmental concerns into the American public discourse. During the following decade, numerous federal acts were passed that addressed environmental issues: the Clean Air Act of 1963 authorized the U.S. Public Health Service to study the effects of air pollution; the National Wilderness Protection Act of 1964 set aside nine million acres of wilderness lands, the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 established a means for reviewing federal projects in relation to historic and culture resources; Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 established policy to preserve the natural and recreational value of free-flowing rivers; the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 established the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); the 1970 Clean Air and Clean Water Acts authorized the EPA to set and enforce quality standards.

This was also a period with intense anti-war and Civil Rights movements. Yet the separate realms of environmental and social reform failed to find common ground that could elevate both simultaneously. Civil Rights champions felt their cause was pitted against policies focusing on ecology, noting that the latter curtailed economic development in distressed urban areas. Though TVA projected a self-image as an engine of social science, it only succeeded in exposing these American societal rifts. Johnson's Great Society, proposing to rebuild cities and raise urban residents out of poverty, floundered, while TVA's proposed model community at Tellico, located far from any deteriorating urban conditions, closed the circle on its potential demographics.

<sup>23</sup> J. Milton Henry, *The Land Between the Rivers*, (Clarksville, Tennessee: Austin Peay University Press, 1975), 188.

<sup>24</sup> Wheeler and McDonald, 185-86.

<sup>25</sup> Philip Shabecoff, "Columbia Dam May Rival Tellico in Controversy," *New York Times News Service in The Dispatch, Lexington, N.C.*, February 14, 1980.

<sup>26</sup> Erwin C. Hargrove, *Pioneers of Myth: The Leadership of the Tennessee Valley Authority, 1933-1990*, (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1994), 203-05, 220.

<sup>27</sup> Kenneth M. Murchison, *The Snail Darter Case, TVA versus the Endangered Species Act*, (Lawrence, Kansas: University Press of Kansas, 2007), 170.

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Ironically, Tellico's ostensible benefit of economic development would not target the people most in need, failing TVA's purported new mission. Instead, the Tellico project gained the ire of land owners and environmentalists. As outdoor enthusiasts, scientists, and archaeologists helped cobble together a formidable challenge to the project, the environmental movement persisted with a reputation born of white, middle class idealism reminiscent of the nineteenth-century conservation movement.<sup>28</sup> These societal conflicts formed the backdrop of both TVA's Tellico project and its larger agenda for social experimentation.

During the same period that TVA fought to build the Tellico Dam, agricultural land use evolved from a marginalized tangent of policy discussion into a socio-political issue that directly impacted the cost:benefit troubles of Tellico. In 1960, an incoming President John F. Kennedy informed his staff that he had no interest in discussing agriculture, citing more pressing modern problems. Carson's writings, however, not only raised awareness on the poisoning of wildlife and humans, but also illuminated the conflict of interest inherent in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's dual role in regulating pesticides and promoting the agriculture industry. The 1972 Federal Environmental Pesticide Control Act re-assigned pesticide regulation to the EPA and shifted emphasis to the protection of human health and the environment. By the end of the 1960s, Washington officials, alarmed by Malthusian models of world food shortages, soil erosion, and questionable water quality and quantity, were far from complacent on agriculture's influence in social matters.<sup>29</sup> Loss of agricultural land became a hot topic precisely as TVA's Tellico project took excessive amounts of prime farmlands for a model community and speculative land development. According to one agricultural economist, the loss of one percent of the nation's farmland increased food costs seven percent, converted as \$1,500 per acre lost. The taking of 28,000 acres of prime farmland at Tellico, therefore, would equate with \$42,000,000, charged to the "cost" side of the project's cost:benefit ratio.<sup>30</sup> TVA's troubling over-reach of eminent domain served to reinforce the indignation of ecologists and nature lovers who opposed damming of the scenic, free-flowing Little Tennessee River.

TVA, however, quantified the benefits with annual visitor projections amounting to \$1.4 million in revenue,<sup>31</sup> ignoring fishery and forest staff within the agency who attempted to qualify the loss of existing recreational benefits of the free-flowing river and natural landscape. Ironically, TVA Agricultural Division's days of esteem and power were passed. During the 1940s, decades before the official upswing of the American environmental movement, the Agricultural Division was highly effective in influencing land use policy. Working with local units of the Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service, the Division earned an international reputation for engendering a "Green Revolution" in the Tennessee Valley, reversing destructive farming practices and introducing innovative ideas.<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> Chris J. Magoc, "Power and Place: The Meeting of Social and Environmental History," in *So Glorious a Landscape: Nature and the Environment in American History and Culture*, (Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resource, Inc., 2002), 157, 164-65. A multi-racial movement of social injustice would not emerge until the early 1980s, linking the geography of people of color and degraded environmental conditions (page 166).

<sup>29</sup> Tim Lehman, *Public Values, Private Lands: Farmland Preservation Policy, 1933-1985*, (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1995), 1-2.

<sup>30</sup> Wheeler and McDonald, 103.

<sup>31</sup> Zygmunt J.B. Plater. "Reflected in a River: Agency Accountability and the TVA Tellico Dam Case," *Tennessee Law Review* 49, (1982), 754, available at webpage <http://lawdigitalcommons.bc.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1178&context=lsfp> accessed August 24, 2015.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*, 101.

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Though Tellico proponents within TVA turned a deaf ear on staff agriculturalists, a national trend was evolving regarding economic development. The doctrine that afforded Kennedy a laissez-faire attitude towards agriculture was obsolete. Where ca. 1960 convention wisdom held that any and all development was synonymous with general welfare, a new paradigm indicated agriculture and environment played key roles in maintaining general welfare.<sup>33</sup> Growing interest in conservation and environmental issues informed President Lyndon B. Johnson's "Special Message to Congress on Conservation and Restoration of Natural Beauty," made on February 8, 1965. In his speech, Johnson warned a growing U.S. population against overburdening the scenic natural areas that inspired and define our national heritage. He cautioned against becoming jaded to pollution and blight in the wake of technological and industrial advances. Johnson specifically mentioned the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Open Space Program as new conservation programs. With proposals for the Tellico and Tims Ford TVA projects on his desk, Johnson made an ambivalent reference in his speech to the pros and cons of hydroelectric projects on American rivers:

"They were our first highways, and some remain among the most important. We have had to control their ravages, harness their power, and use their water to help make whole regions prosper.

"Yet even this seemingly indestructible natural resource is in danger.

"Through our pollution control programs we can do much to restore our rivers. We will continue to conserve the water and power for tomorrow's needs with well-planned reservoirs and power dams. But the time has also come to identify and preserve free flowing stretches of our great scenic rivers before growth and development make the beauty of the unspoiled waterway a memory.

"To this end I will shortly send to the Congress a Bill to establish a National Wild Rivers System."<sup>34</sup>

The Tellico Dam Project was approved by Congress and Johnson, and TVA proceeded with construction in a climate of growing public disdain for pork barrel projects, as well as environmental awareness. Local opposition to the project, however, went largely unheard. It was passage of NEPA, requiring the filing of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for all federally funded projects, that represented Tellico's first real challenge. TVA officials first claimed exemption from NEPA compliance, stating it was a federal corporation, not an agency; then they argued Tellico was exempt from the EIS requirement because it was already in progress before the legislation was passed. The courts disagreed and executed an injunction, postponing the project until an EIS was filed in 1972. The delay bolstered opponents of the Tellico project, and in 1973, the Endangered Species Act dealt a new challenge to the Tellico Project. When the snail darter fish was found in the Little Tennessee River, and nowhere else in the Tennessee River Valley, TVA again claimed exemption to federal policy and discouraged the listing of the fish as an endangered species. Citizen opposition helped push

<sup>33</sup> Ibid., 104.

<sup>34</sup> *Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1965*, Volume I, entry 54, (Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1966), 155-65, available at webpage <http://www.lbjlib.utexas.edu/johnson/archives.hom/speeches.hom/650208.asp> accessed August 24, 2015. Johnson signed the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act, October 2, 1968.

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through the listing, and the Department of the Interior requested TVA halt construction at Tellico. TVA refused, leading to litigation on the grounds of the Endangered Species Act.<sup>35</sup>

It was in this context of growing momentum for conservation that opposition to Tellico gained a growing voice against the project and TVA's macro-planning. While the snail darter became the lightning rod of the Tellico Project, beneath the surface of the controversy there were many inter-connecting issues of land use and conservation affecting public opinion and federal policy. While the courts ultimately upheld the integrity of the Endangered Species Act, Congress granted TVA an exemption to complete the Tellico Dam. Despite the end result, the growing public awareness of conservation issues, coinciding with a waning acceptance of huge public works projects, brought TVA's dam-building to an end.

### **SIGNIFICANCE IN ENGINEERING**

The Tellico Dam is an integral part of the overall engineering design of the TVA system. Prior to the development of TVA, the ALCOA company in East Tennessee built several dams on the upper Little Tennessee River. The engineering importance of the Tellico Dam on the Little Tennessee lies in its location at the river's confluence with the Tennessee River and its proximity to the Fort Loudoun Hydroelectric Project. The Tellico Dam holds back waters of the Little Tennessee River in order to divert the water through a lateral canal that joins with the Fort Loudoun Reservoir above the Fort Loudoun Dam. TVA's Board of Directors planned this configuration as early as 1941, as other projects such as Fontana and Douglas were in development. When the Fort Loudoun Dam was in design, navigation studies were conducted on a 1:130-scale model. Two different spillway designs were tested, one with twenty gates, and another with fifteen. The latter was adopted with the provision of an auxiliary dam (future Tellico Dam) with its own spillway across the Little Tennessee River. The Fort Loudoun powerhouse gains twenty-three megawatts of power via the diversion canal connecting the Fort Loudoun and Tellico Reservoirs. Tellico Reservoir also provides additional flood storage above Chattanooga. The canal also affords circumvention of the Fort Loudoun lock by commercial barges accessing Tellico.

### **SIGNIFICANCE IN RECREATION**

Following World War II, as middle class American households gained wealth and indoor electricity, a by-product was outdoor leisure time. The TVA's contribution to recreational activities is noteworthy. The agency's hydroelectric projects' reservoirs attract outdoor enthusiasts who enjoy fishing, boating, camping, and hiking in the environs the TVA helped create, re-forest, and conserve. The agency operates some 100 public recreation areas throughout the TVA region.

The natural rolling terrain and nearby Great Smoky Mountains provide a breathtaking backdrop for both the main river and its tributary. Along the thirty-three-mile Tellico Reservoir there are twelve boat-launching ramps and 141 campsites.<sup>36</sup> TVA worked with the volunteer group WATeR (The Watershed Association of the Tellico Reservoir) in the development of the East Lakeshore Trail, located along the east shore of Tellico Reservoir. TVA and WATeR work in partnership to maintain the trail system. The U.S. Department of the Interior recently designated Tellico's East Lakeshore Trail a National Recreation Trail. The trail system includes six paved trailhead parking areas, six informational kiosks, thirty-one bridges, one-hundred-seventy-two total linear feet

<sup>35</sup> Plater, 765-66, 768.

<sup>36</sup> Watershed Association of the Tellico Reservoir, "Watershed Data," accessed August 21, 2015 at website

<http://www.tellicowater.org/>.

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of boardwalk over wet areas, eight sets of stairs and 180 timber tread steps, seven fence stiles over pasture fences, 2,000 feet of crushed stone on trails, six scenic view benches and three boat landing areas with immediate access to trails.<sup>37</sup>

An important historic site open to the public and located on the shoreline of Tellico Reservoir is the ruins of Fort Loudoun, a key military garrison built during the French and Indian War (1754-1763). Fort Loudoun was left deserted, and in 1794, the U. S. government built a garrisoned blockhouse on the fort ruins to keep peace in the region. The Blockhouse served as a trading post and center of negotiations with the Cherokee until 1807. In 1933, the Tennessee General Assembly purchased the abandoned site and created the Fort Loudoun Association to manage it. Reconstruction of the fort occurred under the Works Progress Administration beginning in 1935. TVA's 1940s hydroelectric project at this location was named in honor of Fort Loudoun. The historic site was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1965. In 1977, during the halt on construction of TVA's Tellico project, the historic site became a Tennessee State Park. Backfill from the Tellico project raised the site seventeen feet. Today the reconstructed fort and the ruins of the 1794 Tellico Blockhouse at the 1,200-acre Fort Loudoun State Park overlook TVA's Tellico Reservoir.

### Summary

The Tellico Dam Project was one of twenty-five constructed by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) for the multi-purpose mission of generating electrical power from, improving navigation of, and controlling seasonal flooding of the river system of the region. The Tellico Dam Project was one of only two projects (Normandy Dam is the other) built by TVA that did not involve direct power generation. The Tellico Dam was designed to assist in flood control and overall water supply on the Little Tennessee River as well as provide recreational opportunities through boating and fishing. The Tellico Dam was also built with a canal to flow into the Fort Loudoun Reservoir, providing for electrical generation at the Fort Loudoun Dam.

The Tellico Dam Project meets National Register criteria A for its historical significance as an integral part of the Tennessee Valley Authority Hydroelectric Project. The project is less than fifty years of age but meets Criteria Consideration G for its overall role in the design and construction of the TVA Hydroelectric system from 1933 to 1979. This interdependent system consists of twenty-five separate projects on the Tennessee River and its tributaries. The Tellico Dam is also significant under Criteria Consideration G for achieving significance within the past fifty years for its role in national environmental and hydropower policy. The period of significance for the project is 1979 which marks its completion date as the last dam constructed by TVA. The Tellico Dam Project is the last of twenty-five hydroelectric and dam projects constructed by the TVA in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The Tellico Dam has not been significantly altered since its original construction in 1979 and retains the engineering qualities that render it National Register-eligible. The Tellico Dam Project meets the registration requirements set forth in the Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic Resources of the Tennessee Valley Authority Hydroelectric Project, 1933-1979."

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<sup>37</sup> Watershed Association of the Tellico Reservoir, "Newsletters, April 2015," accessed August 21, 2015 at website <http://www.tellicowater.org/>.

Tellico Dam Project  
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## 9. Major Bibliographic References

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Murchison, Kenneth M. *The Snail Darter Case, TVA versus the Endangered Species Act*. Lawrence, Kansas: University Press of Kansas, 2007.

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[http://www.policyalmanac.org/economic/archive/tva\\_history.shtml](http://www.policyalmanac.org/economic/archive/tva_history.shtml) accessed April 16, 2015.

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Magoc, Chris J. õPower and Place: The Meeting of Social and Environmental History.õ In *So Glorious a Landscape: Nature and the Environment in American History and Culture*. Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resource, Inc., 2002.

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\_\_\_\_\_. õTellico Dam.õ Knoxville: Tennessee Valley Authority, 1999.

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 \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_. "Tellico Reservoir." At webpage <http://www.tva.gov/sites/tellico.htm>. Accessed July 16, 2015.

Tennessee Valley Authority Act of 1933. Accessed April 16, 2015. At webpage [http://www.policyalmanac.org/economic/archive/tva\\_history.shtml](http://www.policyalmanac.org/economic/archive/tva_history.shtml).

Watershed Association of the Tellico Reservoir. "Newsletters, April 2015," and "Watershed Data." Accessed August 21, 2015 at webpage <http://www.tellicowater.org/>.

Wheeler William Bruce, and Michael J. McDonald, *TVA and the Tellico Dam, 1936-1979: A Bureaucratic Crisis in Post-industrial America*. Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 1986.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):		Primary location of additional data:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	State Historic Preservation Office
<input type="checkbox"/>	previously listed in the National Register	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other State agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	previously determined eligible by the National Register	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Federal agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	designated a National Historic Landmark	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local government
<input type="checkbox"/>	recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #	<input type="checkbox"/>	University
<input type="checkbox"/>	recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
<input type="checkbox"/>	recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #	Name of repository: Tennessee Valley Authority Knoxville, TN	
Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):			



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**10. Geographical Data**

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**Acreege of Property** 243 acres **USGS Quadrangle** Lenoir City

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary for the Tellico Dam Project is depicted as a dashed line on the accompanying US Quad map and TVA site plan map. The boundary includes property to encompass the adjacent recreational facilities as well as the immediate environs of the dam.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes all facilities necessary for the operation of the hydroelectric project and/or associated with the mission of TVA of power generation, navigation, and public recreation. The boundary omits other TVA lands not directly associated with hydroelectric production.

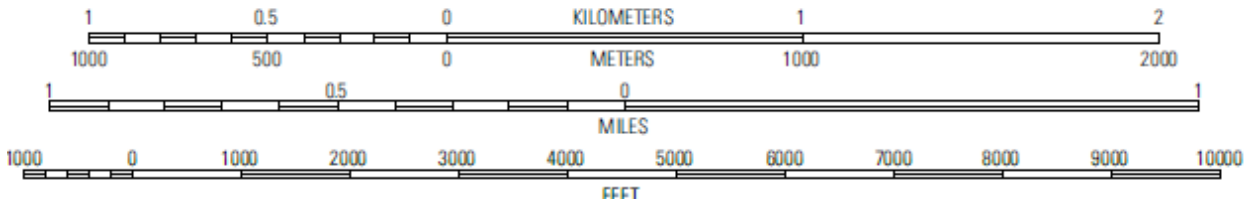
Tellico Dam Project  
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**NR boundary of Tellico Dam.**

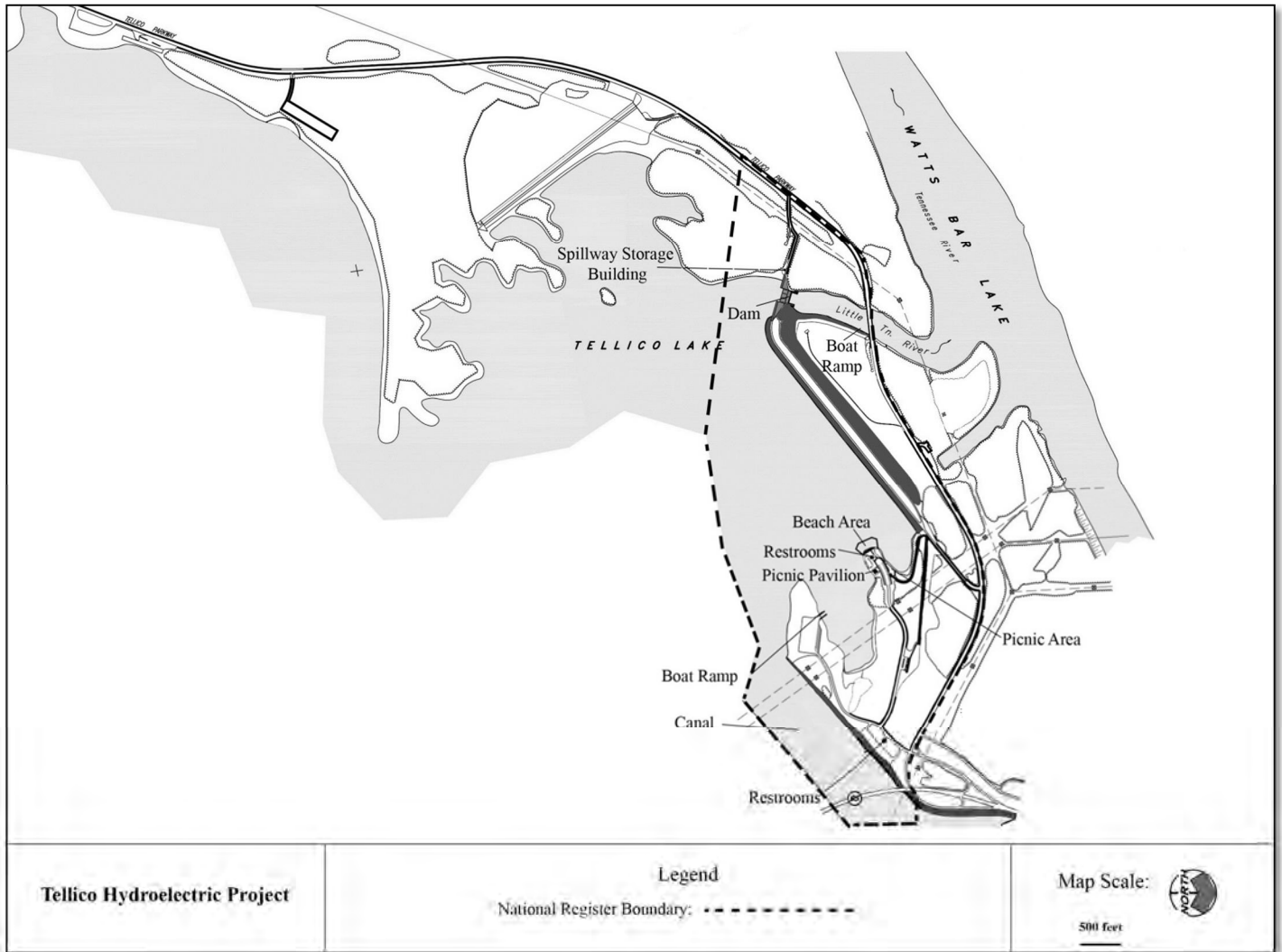


SCALE 1:24 000



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Site plan and National Register boundary of Tellico Dam Project (see 11 x 17" Site Plan Map).

Tellico Dam Project  
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**11. Form Prepared By**

---

Name Andra Kowalczyk Martens; Phil Thomason

Organization Thomason and Associates

Street & Number P.O. Box 121225 Date July 25, 2016

City or Town Nashville Telephone 615-385-4960

E-mail Thomason@bellsouth.net State TN Zip Code 37212

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to map.
- **Photographs** (refer to Tennessee Historical Commission National Register *Photo Policy* for submittal of digital images and prints)
- **Additional items:** (additional supporting documentation including historic photographs, historic maps, etc. should be included on a Continuation Sheet following the photographic log and sketch maps)

**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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**Photo Log (See 11 x 17" Photo Key Map)**

Name of Property: Tellico Dam Project  
City or Vicinity: Lenoir City  
County: Loudon State: TN  
Photographer: Philip Thomason  
Date Photographed: July 16, 2015.

Photo 1 of 16 North side of dam from east embankment, view to west.

Photo 2 of 16 South side of dam from top of dam, view to east.

Photo 3 of 16 North side of dam from west access gate, view to east.

Photo 4 of 16 General view of dam access road, view to southwest.

Photo 5 of 16 North side of dam from top of dam, view to west.

Photo 6 of 16 Spillway gates, view to southwest.

Photo 7 of 16 Spillway hoists, view to east.

Photo 8 of 16 Power structure for spillway hoists, view to south.

Photo 9 of 16 Canal, view to southwest.

Photo 10 of 16 Canal, view to northeast.

Photo 11 of 16 Bath house at recreation area, view to southwest.

Photo 12 of 16 Picnic Pavilion at recreation area, view to northeast.

Photo 13 of 16 Beach Area, view to north.

Photo 14 of 16 Picnic area east of beach parking lot, view to south.

Photo 15 of 16 Boat ramp on east side, view to northwest.

Photo 16 of 16 View of recreation area from top of dam, view to southeast.

---

**Property Owner:**

(This information will not be submitted to the National Park Service, but will remain on file at the Tennessee Historical Commission)

---

Name Tennessee Valley Authority ó Pat Ezzell

Street &

Number 400 West Summit Hill Drive 460WT7D-K

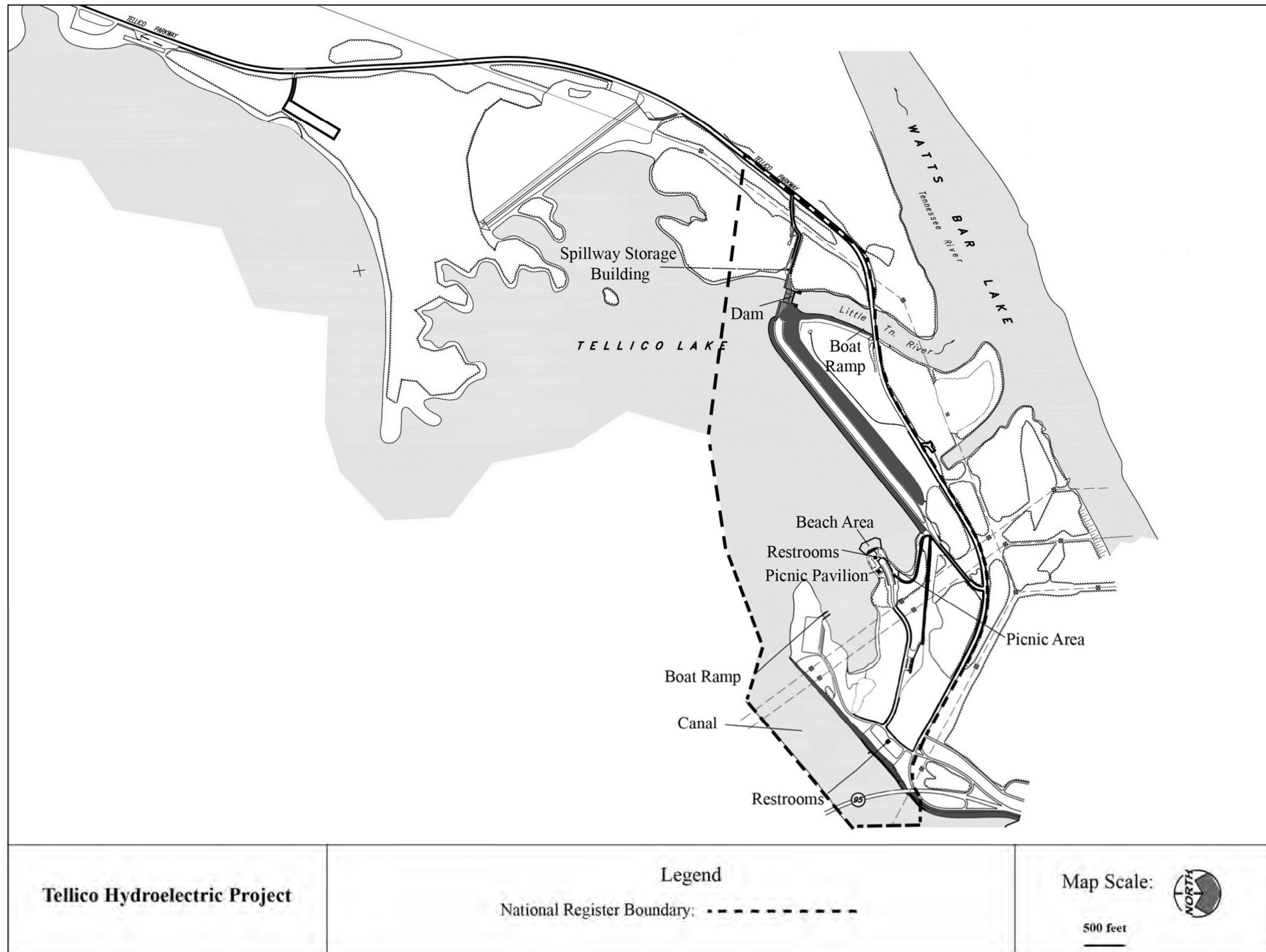
Telephone 865-632-6461

City or Town Knoxville

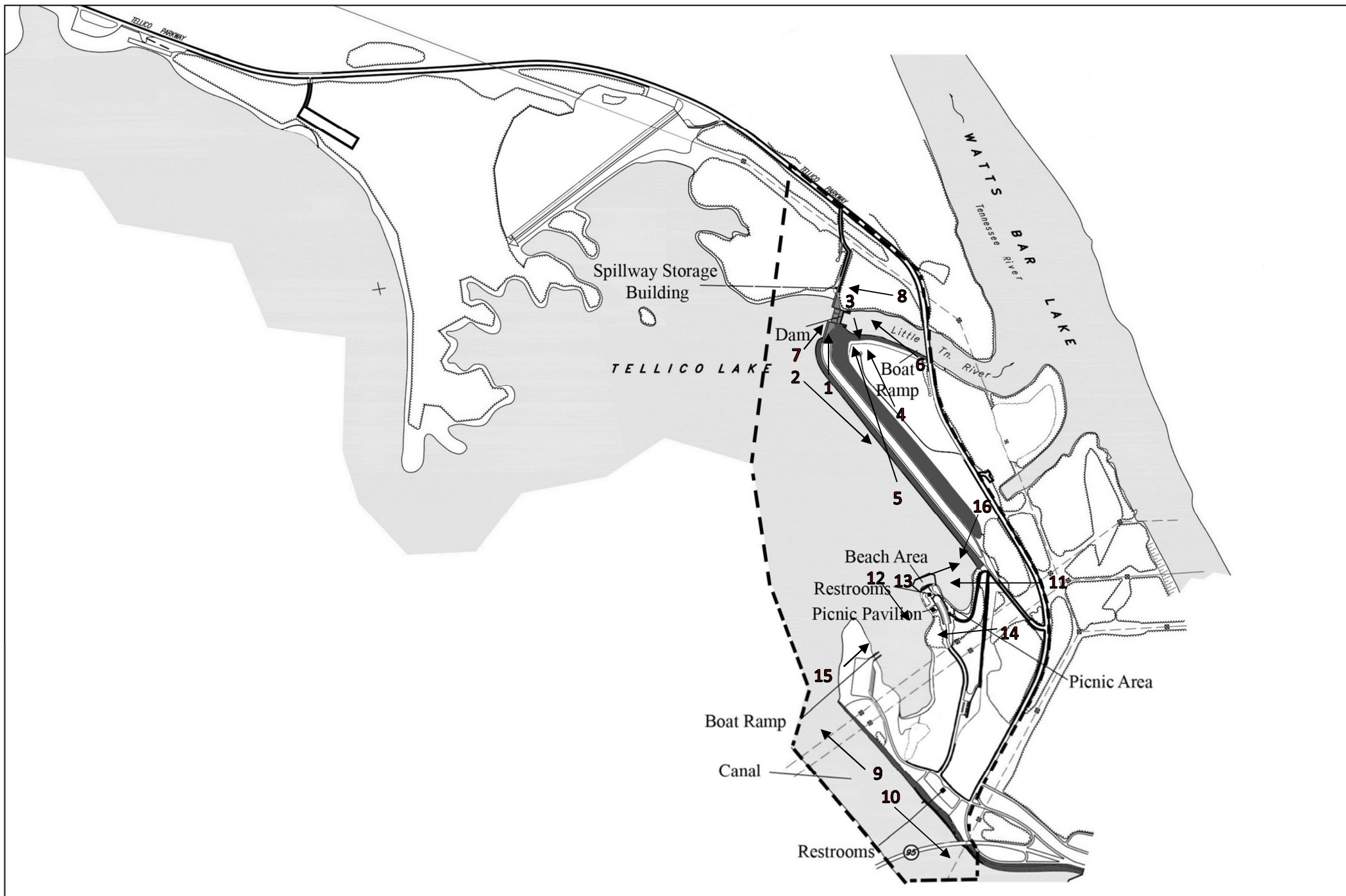
State/Zip TN 37902

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Site Plan and National Register Boundary for the Tellico Dam Project



**Photo Key Map for Tellico**



**Tellico Hydroelectric Project**

**Legend**

National Register Boundary: - - - - -

Map Scale:



500 feet



















PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA



**CAUTION**  
AUTOMATIC  
EQUIPMENT  
READ OPERATING MANUAL























UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 6/30/2017      Date of Pending List: 7/27/2017      Date of 16th Day: 8/11/2017      Date of 45th Day: 8/14/2017      Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- |                                       |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal       | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL                | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape           | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource     | <input type="checkbox"/> Period                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other        | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
|                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG                 |  |

Accept       Return       Reject      8/14/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria:

Reviewer Jim Gabbert      Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275      Date \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION:    see attached comments : No    see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



June 21, 2017

Paul Loether  
National Register of Historic Places, Keeper  
Mail Stop 7228  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Mr. Loether,

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) contracted with Thomason and Associates, Preservation Planners to complete nominations to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for twenty-five of its hydroelectric projects. Three nominations - for the Norris, Guntersville, and Wheeler Hydroelectric Projects - were previously submitted, resulting in listing in the NRHP in 2016. The TVA proposes the nomination of the remaining twenty-two hydroelectric projects. The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copies of the nominations of:

Georgia: the Nottely Hydroelectric Project;  
Kentucky: the Kentucky Hydroelectric Project;  
North Carolina: the Apalachia, Chatuge, Fontana, and Hiwassee Hydroelectric Projects; and  
Tennessee: the Boone, Cherokee, Chickamauga, Douglas, Fort Loudoun, Fort Patrick Henry, Melton Hill, Nickajack, Normandy, Ocoee No. 3, Pickwick Landing, South Holston, Tellico, Tims Ford, Watts Bar, and Watauga Hydroelectric Projects.

The overall context for these nominations, the MPDF "Historic Resources of the Tennessee Valley Authority Hydroelectric System, 1933-1979" was approved by your office on March 12, 2016. The enclosed nominations have been reviewed by TVA as well as the respective State Review Boards and enclosed are the twenty-two physical signed copies of the signature pages of each nomination. All local governments have been notified of the intent to list these hydroelectric projects in the National Register.

We are pleased to submit these nominations to you which recognize the diverse history and contributions made by the Tennessee Valley Authority to our nation.

Please contact me if any additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip Thomason".

Philip Thomason  
Principal

cc. Pat Ezell, Senior Program Manager, TVA

Enc/



Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37902

August 9, 2017

Mr. Paul Loether  
National Register of Historic Places, Keeper  
Mail Stop 7228  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Mr. Loether,

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) contracted with Thomason and Associates, Preservation Planners to complete nominations to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for twenty-five of its hydroelectric projects. Three nominations for the Norris, Guntersville, and Wheeler Hydroelectric Projects were previously submitted resulting in listing in the NRHP in 2016. The TVA proposes the nomination of the remaining twenty-two hydroelectric projects. The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copies of the nominations of:

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We are pleased to submit these nominations to you which recognize the diverse history and contributions made by the Tennessee Valley Authority to our nation.

Please contact me if any additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Bernard Ezzell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patricia Bernard Ezzell  
Federal Preservation Officer  
Communications

Enclosures