United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property

County and State

Section number _____ Page _____ Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 100001463 Date Listed: 8/11/2017

Property Name: Watauga Hydroelectric Project (TVA Hydroelectric System, 1933-1979 MPS)

County: Carter State: TN

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

Signature of the Keeper

8-11-2017
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 8: Area(s) of Significance

ARCHITECTURE, INDUSTRY, AND SOCIAL HISTORY are hereby deleted as areas of significance. The nomination does not adequately support these areas of significance for the Watauga project.

The TVA FPO and the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

154United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

MP-1463

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: Watauga Hydroelectric Project

Other names/site number: Watauga Dam

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic Resources of the Tennessee Valley Authority Hydroelectric Project, 1933-1979

2. Location

Street & Number: 774 Wilbur Dam Road

City or town: Elizabethton State: Tennessee County: Carter

Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A Zip: 37643

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

[ ] national [X] statewide [X] local

Applicable National Register Criteria: [X] A [ ] B [X] C [ ] D

Patricia Bernard Eggell 11-9-16

Signature of certifying official/Title: **Date**

Sr. Prog. Mgr., Tribal Relations + History and Federal Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of Commenting Official: Claudette Fyne **Date** 11-30-16

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer,
Tennessee Historical Commission

Title: **State of Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

Watauga Hydroelectric Project | Carter County, Tennessee
Name of Property | County and State

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 | 8.11.2017 Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private	☐
Public – Local	☐
Public – State	☐
Public – Federal	X

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	☐
District	X
Site	☐
Structure	☐
Object	☐

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
5	2	buildings
1	0	sites
5	0	structures
0	0	objects
11	2	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Watauga Hydroelectric Project | Carter County, Tennessee
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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/ Energy Facility	INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/ Energy Facility
RECREATION AND CULTURE/Outdoor Recreation	RECREATION AND CULTURE/Outdoor Recreation

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

No Style
OTHER: Hydroelectric Dam
OTHER: Mid-Century Modern

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: CONCRETE; STEEL; GLASS; ROCK; EARTH; PORCELAIN; TILE: Terrazzo; STONE: Marble

Narrative Description

The Watauga Hydroelectric Project was constructed from 1942-1949 by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). The project was constructed for the purpose of generating power, flood control, aquatic ecology, and supplementing water flow across the TVA hydroelectric system during dry periods. The Watauga Hydroelectric Project is located at mile 36.7 on the Watauga River in Carter County in East Tennessee. Its location is 1.4 miles above TVAôs Boone Hydroelectric Project. The closest town to the Watauga Hydroelectric Project is Butler, Tennessee, (pop. 3,743 in 2010), approximately five miles upstream. The city of Elizabethton, Tennessee, (pop. 14,308 in 2010), is about five miles to the west of the project site. The 318-foot high Watauga Dam has an overall crest length of 900 feet. The project required 980,400 cubic yards of concrete and 3,497,800 cubic yards of earth and/or rock fill. Watauga Dam is a fixed-crest morning glory spillway dam constructed mainly of earth and rock. The Watauga Dam impounds the 6,430-acre, 16.7-mile

long Watauga Reservoir (also called Watauga Lake), which provides 678,800 acre-feet of total volume.[1] Watauga Reservoir lies in both Carter and Johnson Counties. The drainage area of the South Fork Holston River and its tributaries (i.e., Watauga River) forms a triangle of 2048 square miles in the states of Tennessee, Virginia, and North Carolina. This area represents five percent of the Tennessee Valley watershed. Watauga is one of the four TVA hydroelectric projects (Watauga, South Holston, Boone, and Fort Patrick Henry) of the Upper Holston group.

INVENTORY

Construction of the Watauga project began February 16, 1942. In October of that year, however, work was ordered stopped, as the project was not deemed essential to war efforts. Work resumed on the Watauga Hydroelectric Project on July 22, 1946. The facility was placed in commercial operation August 30, 1949. The Watauga Hydroelectric Project originally consisted of the dam, powerhouse, control building, and switchyard, which are interconnected and integral to one another *(see Photo 1)*, and a visitor building, picnic area, and maintenance buildings were also completed with the dam.

1. Watauga Dam, 1948 (Contributing Structure)

The Watauga Hydroelectric Projectôs dam is an earth- and rock-filled embankment across the natural river channel (*see Photo 2*). The damôs top width of thirty-two feet was designed when it was intended to serve as a road base for a relocated state highway, which ultimately was placed elsewhere. It has a morning-glory type spillway with a crest at an elevation of 1998 feet located at the right (east) bank of the reservoir (*see Photo 3)*. The spillwayôs morning-glory type entrance has a crest diameter of 128 feet at an elevation of 1975 feet. A 600-foot tunnel used to divert the river during construction became integrated into the design of the spillway and sluiceway works.[2]

The tunnel is a safety feature in the event of excess water. Unlike concrete dams, an earthen dam as at Watauga cannot withstand the force of water overrun (*see Photo 4*). The morning glory spillway, built on the right (east) bank, is designed to prevent overrun. This circular opening, twenty-five feet below the top of the dam, drains excess water into its funnel-shaped vertical shaft (diameter of thirty-four feet) and conveys the water through a seventy-five-foot radius elbow into the horizontal spillway tunnel. The sluiceway intake, also located on the right bank, serves as a controlled means of releasing excess water. The intake connects to the spillway tunnel. The upstream end of the tunnel was converted into the sluiceway. Two ninety-six-inch Howell-Bunger valves were installed in the tunnel to control the discharge. On the upstream side of each valve there is a slide gate measuring five-foot, eight-inch by ten-foot for emergency service.[3]

2. Intake, 1948, (Contributing Structure)

The intake tower is located at the right (east) bank of the reservoir (*see Photo 5*). It has a base section that is thirty-one feet by thirty-seven-and-one-half feet that forms a tunnel portal for the intake gate. A jib crane was installed for the construction and servicing of the intake gate and intake gate hoist. This feature consists of a rotating box-type structural steel mast and a pivoting structural steel boom. The maximum hoist capacity is twenty tons; the maximum lift is 290 feet; and the maximum operating radius is twenty-five feet, two-and-

[1] Tennessee Valley Authority, *The Upper Holston Projects: A Comprehensive Report on the Planning, Design, Construction, Initial Operations and Costs of Four Hydro Projects in the Holston Basin at the Eastern Tip of Tennessee,* Technical Report no. 14, (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1958), 4, 6.
[2] Ibid., 42, 95.
[3] Ibid., 42, 94.

one-quarter inches. These specifications were made to allow for the handling of equipment from a truck or barge to the top of the intake tower.[4] The intake feature has a support building constructed of poured concrete. It is octagonal in shape and has a flat roof and a louvered metal door.

3. Powerhouse, 1948 (Contributing Building)

The Watauga projectôs power facilities include a powerhouse with generating units, a power tunnel, and a surge chamber. The power tunnel, 3700 feet in length, carries water to the powerhouse, located downstream of the dam. This design takes advantage of a natural drop of thirty-five feet in elevation over a distance of 4800 feet. The surge chamber is sixty feet in diameter, and its total height is 235 feet. About 175 feet downstream of the surge chamber, the tunnel forks into two steel-lined tunnels, each eleven feet in diameter. Each fork terminates at a butterfly valve near a turbine inlet. The powerhouse is an indoor type[5] and has two vertical Francis turbines. Each is rated at 27,777 kilovolt-amperes at 0.9 power factor, 13.8 kilovolts each, operating at 200 RPM (revolutions per minute) under a head of 275 feet.[6]

The powerhouse is on the left (west) bank of the river, approximately 2,100 feet downstream from the toe of the embankment. The structure has two unit blocks and a service bay. Operations for the facilities are carried out in the control building across the river and next to the switchyard. The powerhouseôs substructure is reinforced concrete; the superstructure is structure steel frame with aluminum siding. The roof is steel Q-panels with insulation and a layer of gravel.[7]

The service bay of the powerhouse is unattended and operated remotely from the control building across the river. It was not designed with a visitor room or facilities. The east elevation of the powerhouse is accessed from a concrete bridge across the river. It has metal railing that continues around the concrete deck around the powerhouse. The access bridge to the powerhouse is a steel girder span type. The bridge dimensions are 283 feet in length and 21.5 feet in width. It has a two percent grade towards the powerhouse abutment. The bridge is supported by three piers, thirty feet in height.[8]

The façade (east) elevation of the powerhouse has a large, metal, overhead-track door at its south end. The shed roof slopes towards the rear (west) elevation. The façade roofline extends over the front wall to form an eight-foot canopy over a bank of canted windows, consisting of twelve-foot sheets of corrugated wire glass in aluminum frames (*see Photo 6*). These windows provide natural light within the generator room. Exterior walls above the concrete substructure are metal siding panels.[9] The north elevation has no openings. The west elevation has no openings. The south elevation has a solid metal pedestrian door (*see Photo 7*). This entrance leads into a mezzanine (*see Photo 8*) overlooking the generator room (*see Photo 9*). This roomôs ceiling is painted white for reflection of light. The mezzanine has a floor of ceramic tiles. Walls of the interior are exposed vertical metal and framework. There is a metal rail at the edge of the mezzanine overlook. This is the top floor of the powerhouse service bay at an elevation of 1685 feet.

[4] Ibid., 110-11.
[5] TVA powerhouses varied in type. Indoor powerhouses have their generators completely enclosed within the building. This differs from semi-outdoor type powerhouses, where the generators project through the roof of the building and are shielded from the elements by materials appropriate for outdoor use.
[6] Tennessee Valley Authority, *The Upper Holston Project*s, 43, 104, 113-115.
[7] Ibid., 118-119.
[8] Ibid., 126.
[9] Ibid., 123-26.

The service bay has three levels. It has a stairwell to the middle floor, at an elevation of 1669 feet, where the generators, machine shop (*see Photo 10*), electrical equipment, toilets, and lockers are located. The lowest floor, at an elevation of 1655 feet, contains the CO_2 equipment, oil purification room, battery room and cable tray tunnel to the switchyard (*see Photo 11*). Floors are reinforced concrete slabs on steel beams. The substructure of the service bay was placed directly against rock on its land side.

4. Switchyard/Transmission Lines, ca. 1948 (Contributing Structure)

The switchyard is located on the right bank of the river, upstream of the control building. It has seven sixty-nine-kilovolt bays and two transformer structures with porcelain insulators. As built in 1948, the switchyard measured 115 feet wide and 300 feet long. Space was left for extension of 164 feet. It is the same structural design as at the Cherokee and Douglas projects, consisting of seven bays, spaced at twenty-six feet. Transmission lines from the Switchyard span to the southwest (*see Photo 12 & 13*). [10]

5. Oil Purification Building, ca. 1948 (Contributing Building)

This is a one-story building of concrete construction with a flat roof and concrete foundation. The building measures eighteen feet by thirty-two feet. The façade (west) has two pairs of steel doors, each with an aluminum shed awning. The center of the façade has been altered with a three-over-one wood sash window set within structural glass blocks. The north elevation has four single-light, metal-frame, fixed windows above a brick wall (*see Photo 14*). There are no openings on the south elevation.

6. Control Building, ca. 1948 (Contributing Building)

The control building is located on the right (east) bank across the river from the powerhouse. The control building also provides remote control at South Holston and Wilbur power plants. The building is ell-shaped and measures eighty feet by eighty-six feet. It has a basement level with the communications room and a storage room; the main floor with the control room and employee facilities, a lab and dark room, a kitchen, locker rooms, and a first-aid room; and an upper floor on one wing only. The buildingôs substructure is reinforced concrete. Above ground, the control room wing is steel frame with aluminum siding on the south and east elevation (*see Photo 15*). The office wing is reinforced concrete and brick and projects from the west elevation of the control room (*see Photo 16*). On the façade (north), both the exterior of the control building and office wing are visible. The exterior of the control building is aluminum siding with the name WATAUGA in red letters. The entrance has aluminum and glass double doors flanked by full-height, fixed windows. The office wing projects to the north and has four bays divided by concrete pilasters. Each bay has a brick skirt wall and three vertical, fixed, aluminum windows (*see Photo 17*).

The lobby floor has original terrazzo flooring and original aluminum lettering of ñ1942 ï BUILT FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ï 1948.ò The lobby has brick walls, a terrazzo floor, and a large viewing window into the control room. The interior of the control room is paneled in bleached walnut; its floor is marbleized rubber tile (*See Photo 18*). These tiles are also used in corridors and offices (*see Photos 19* and 20).[11] The menôs and womenôs restrooms have original terrazzo flooring and marble walls (*see Photo 21*).

[10] Ibid., 43, 158.
[11] Ibid., 43, 140, 142.

7. Visitor Building, ca. 1948 (Contributing Building)
The Watauga project provided for public visitation with an overlook facility consisting of a reception space and toilets. This Mid-Century Modern-style building is located 1500 feet upstream of the embankment, with a clear view of the lake. Exterior walls use Crab Orchard stone and vertical tongue-in-groove siding and extensive use of glass. The buildingôs butterfly roof sweeps upward towards the lake. The façade (south) has a breezeway with an entrance in the west interior wall. This inner wall has horizontal, single-light windows. The west elevation is a glass-wall observation room (*see Photo 22*). The east elevation of the building is recessed and has vertical board siding and a central solid wood door flanked by two wood-frame, two-light windows *(see Photo 23*). Interior walls of the building depict the TVA story in photographic murals (*see Photo 24*).[12]

8. Picnic Grounds, ca. 1948 (Contributing Site)
Next to the visitor overlook is a picnic area with a 700-foot pathway to a small overlook of the morning-glory spillway. The overlook is terraced using native stone on the retaining walls (*see Photo 25*).[13]

9. Well House, ca. 1948 (Contributing Structure)
This is a square-plan structure of concrete block construction. It has a low-pitched, gable roof of asphalt shingles and a metal door with a louvered panel (*see Photo 26*).

10. Restroom, ca. 1994 (Non-Contributing Building)
This is a square-plan building of textured concrete block construction with a dividing smooth beltcourse. It has a hip roof of standing seam metal. Entrances to the interior of the building are within an inset entrance bay. Below the roofline are rectangular, single-light windows in metal frames (*see Photo 27*).

Maintenance Base – 3 resources
Located one-half mile downstream of the powerhouse is the maintenance base with:

11. Chemical Storage Building, ca. 1948 (Contributing Structure)
This is a ca. 1948 one-story, brick structure for chemical storage with a flat roof and two openings covered with chain-link gates (*see Photo 29*).

12. Office/Garage Building, ca. 1955 (Contributing Building)
This is a ca. 1955 one-story, concrete block garage and office building with a side-gable roof of asphalt shingles and four garage bays with original three-light/twelve-wood-panel, overhead-tracking doors on the façade (west). It measures twenty-five feet by eighty-four feet. At the south end of the garage bays is the office portion with an inset dock of poured concrete and roof supported by square wood posts. On the roof is a large shed dormer with eight fixed, single-light windows (*see Photo 28*).

13. Equipment Building, ca. 1990 (Non-Contributing Building)
This is a ca. 1990 one-story, metal frame equipment building with a shed roof, corrugated metal siding, and three open bays (*see Photo 30*).

[12] Ibid., 163-164.
[13] Ibid., 163.

Watauga Hydroelectric Project | Carter County, Tennessee
Name of Property | County and State

8. Statement of Significance

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

- [X] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [ ] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [X] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations 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.)

ARCHITECTURE
ENGINEERING
INDUSTRY
RECREATION
SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1942- 1965

Significant Dates

1942-1949

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

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Watauga Hydroelectric Project meets National Register Criteria A and C for its historical and architectural and engineering significance at the state and local levels as an integral part of the Tennessee Valley Authority Hydroelectric Project. Its period of significance is from 1942, when the project commenced, to 1965, in keeping with the fifty-year guideline. The Watauga Hydroelectric Project is significant in the expansion of energy for World War II manufacturing and in the improvement of quality of life through transmission of electricity, control of seasonal flooding, and creation of public recreational facilities. The Watauga Hydroelectric Project was one of twenty-five (25) projects constructed by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) for the purpose of generating electrical power from, improving navigation of, and controlling seasonal flooding of the river system of the region. The main objective of the 1933 Tennessee Valley Authority Act was the creation of a continuously navigable nine-foot channel from the mouth of the Tennessee River to Knoxville, as well as flood control, power generation, and public benefits. Given its location east of Knoxville, the Watauga project was not original to TVAôs unified plan (for navigation) submitted to Congress in 1936. Construction of the Watauga project began February 16, 1942. In October of that year, however, work was ordered stopped, as the project was not deemed essential to war efforts. Protective measures required before shut-down of the project were completed December 21, 1942. Work resumed on the Watauga Hydroelectric Project on July 22, 1946. The dam was closed December 1, 1948. Generator Unit 2 was placed in commercial operation August 30, 1949, followed by Generator Unit 1, on September 29 of the same year.[14] The projectôs significance in engineering is reflected in TVAôs overall plan for an integrated system of river management through site-specific designs tested on scaled models. The significance of the Watauga project in industry is seen through the increase of household electricity use and in war-related manufacturing. The project is significant in recreation because of the extensive outdoor opportunities it fostered. Finally, the Watauga project is significant in social history for its role in employment, housing, and improvement of quality of life. The Watauga Hydroelectric Project meets the registration requirements set forth in the Multiple Property Documentation Form, Historical Resources of the Tennessee Valley Authority Hydroelectric Project.

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) was created under President Rooseveltôs New Deal program as part of his ñFirst One Hundred Days.ò Roosevelt envisioned ña corporation clothed with the power of government but possessed of the flexibility and initiative of a private enterprise.ò To this end, Congress passed the TVA Act on May 18, 1933.[15] 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).[16]

[14] Tennessee Valley Authority, *The Upper Holston Projects: A Comprehensive Report on the Planning, Design, Construction, Initial Operations and Costs of Four Hydro Projects in the Holston Basin at the Eastern Tip of Tennessee,* Technical Report no. 14, (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1958), 1.
[15] ñHistory of the Tennessee Valley Authority,ò at TVA website http://www.policyalmanac.org/economic/archive/tva_history.shtml accessed April 16, 2015.
[16] Ibid.

In 1939, a TVA report addressing flood control in Chattanooga, Tennessee, noted the benefits of large capacity reservoirs on tributaries upstream of the city.[17] In June of 1940, the Advisory Commission to the Council of National Defense was created. On June 14 of that year, the TVA submitted a proposal to the Advisory Commission for increasing the production of power in East Tennessee.[18] Approval of both the Watauga and South Holston projects occurred within the war-time context of national defense. By 1941, peak production at aluminum plants, chemical facilities, and ordinance plants surpassed expectations; TVA representatives informed a Congressional Appropriations Subcommittee that the agency would not be able to fulfill power requirements without constructing additional hydroelectric facilities. TVA identified the two most favorable, unnamed sites in the Holston River Basin which came to be called Watauga and South Holston. The agency projected completion dates in the fall of 1943, if the projects could begin by summer of 1941.[19]

In Washington, other TVA projects took precedence, particularly the project at Douglas, despite local opposition. In the Upper Holston, on the contrary, residents kept apprised of the discussions in Washington and strongly supported TVA projects. This support was largely due for flood control purposes, as the Watauga River had flooded in 1940, resulting in great loss of life and property around Elizabethton. Yet, the President, the Office of Production Management, and even TVA recommended against starting the Watauga and South Holston projects. Congress, however, approved funding for both, and on-site work began in December of 1941. Actual construction of the Watauga project began in February 1942. By then, funds for work at Douglas were provided, and the War Production Board (WPB) ordered TVA to cease work at Watauga, deeming it not directly essential to immediate war needs. TVA requested a temporary work continuation in order to stabilize the work in progress. Work at Watauga stopped on December 20. In November of 1943, TVA requested a re-examination of the status of the Watauga project, emphasizing its importance for flood control around Kingsport and Elizabethton. The WPB replied that re-initiation of the Watauga project was not integral to the war program. Both the Watauga and South Holston projects were in limbo during the war, despite a request for a status review from U.S. Senator Kenneth McKellar from Tennessee. Finally, the President's budget for fiscal year 1947 included plans to resume work at both sites, to be completed in tandem, in order to maximize the use of skilled labor and heavy equipment.[20]

The Watauga project required the purchase of 11,700 acres of land, displacing 761 families. Of this area, 1,663 acres were wooded and required clearing. Of the families residing in the reservoir area, 60 percent had at least one family member employed at an industrial plant at Bristol, Kingsport, or Elizabethton. Many of these families also were involved in farming, but outside employment freed them from dependence on agricultural income. Of 873 parcels TVA acquired for the project, 266 were farm tracts, averaging 28.4 acres. The remaining tracts were rural, non-farm lots, or improved lots in the town of Butler (pop. 608 in 1940). At an average of two-and-one-half acres, these lots account for just seventeen percent of the total land area, but more than two-thirds the total cost of land acquisition. As the Watauga project had ceased during and re-started after the war, market value of local land had surged in the post-war economy. This trend resulted in higher than usual acquisition costs. In the town of Butler, all tax parcels were acquired,

[17] Tennessee Valley Authority, *The Douglas Project: A Comprehensive Report on the Planning, Design, Construction, and Initial Operations of the Douglas Project*, Technical Report no. 10, (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1949), 3.
[18] Tennessee Valley Authority, *The Cherokee Project: A Comprehensive Report on the Planning, Design, Construction, and Initial Operations of the Cherokee Project*, Technical Report no. 7, (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1946), 6.
[19] Tennessee Valley Authority, *The Upper Holston Projects*, 13.
[20] Ibid., 14-17.

marking the first occasion that TVA purchased an entire incorporated town. The event required Tennessee to liquidate the town by legislative act. [21] The Watauga project also required the relocation of 1,281 graves.[22]

As Butler had been a trade center for the area, the Watauga project disrupted much of the road system of the surrounding area. In the course of the project, a total of 54.9 miles of roads and highways were constructed, relocated, resurfaced and/or improved in Carter and Johnson Counties. Pre-project roads followed the contour of valleys; post-inundation, the contours surrounding the reservoir were rugged and mountainous, making road construction more challenging. New roads required more curvature and grade, some of the cuts and fills were substantial. Three bridges were built across the Watauga Reservoir, and sixt-six miles of utility lines were adjusted or constructed.[23]

TVA participated less in the family readjustment aspect of the four Upper Holston projects than it had at any previous project. Most of this work was contracted with the University of Tennessee College of Agriculture. No family visits were conducted except in unusual circumstances conveyed to TVA by an Extension Service. TVAôs direct involvement with family relocation had increasingly deferred to local Extension Servicesô participation, as the hydroelectric program advanced. This trend culminated in the Extension Service taking the lead, by the time of the Watauga project, the first of the Upper Holston projects. Of the 1,277 families relocated among the four upper Holston projects, 742 were property owners; 535 were tenants. Of the total number, 406 were farm families, 871 were non-farm families. Most relocated families stayed in the area, due to family ties and employment at local industries, and gravitated to population centers. A total of fifty-four businesses were affected, mostly service industries, including twenty-seven in the Watauga Reservoir.[24]

Filling of the reservoir began December 1, 1948, with the closure of the dam. Generator Unit 2 was placed in commercial operation August 30, 1949, followed by Generator Unit 1, on September 29 of the same year.[25] Each is rated at 27,777 kilovolt-amperes at 0.9 power factor, or 25,000 kilowatts.[26]

Total land costs for the project amounted to $4,770,277, which included acquisition by fee and by certificate in condemnation proceedings when eminent domain was employed when landowners refused sale. Direct construction costs, such as labor, materials, equipment, transportation, totaled $21,071,911. Indirect construction costs, including accounting, timekeeping, office supplies, and police service, came to $2,195,513. Design and engineering expenditures, which included salaries and expenses of executive engineers, technicians, and inspectors, amounted to $1,721,576. These amounts plus other categorized costs brought the total project to $32,368,782.[27]

Since their construction the powerhouse, control building and visitor building have not been significantly altered and retains its original exterior and interior design and detailing. Of particular note is the intact original lobby with its marble walls, murals and terrazzo floors.

[21] Ibid., 758.
[22] Ibid., 23, 813.
[23] Ibid., 23, 788-89.
[24] Ibid., 770-772.
[25] Ibid., 1.
[26] Ibid., 817.
[27] Ibid., 25, 867.

SIGNIFICANCE IN ARCHITECTURE

The Watauga visitor building reflects the mid-century modern style of the period. Its signature butterfly roof and fixed-glass walls are character-defining features. Likewise, the use of mixed exterior materials of Crab Orchard stone and vertical tongue-in-groove siding is another common trait of mid-century modern architecture. The style has roots in avant-garde minimalism that highlighted a form-to-function philosophy. The visitor building is grounded in and showcases its surroundings, with a roof that sweeps upward visually to emphasize the reservoir. Its transparent walls serve to feature views of the site. From the interior, the visitor has a sense of being amidst the natural landscape. The use of Mid-Century Modern design was an appropriate architectural style at the post-war period when engineering and science were dominant themes in the Cold War climate.

SIGNIFICANCE IN ENGINEERING

The Watauga Hydroelectric Project is an integral part of the overall engineering design of the TVA system. The dam was built utilizing the most advanced methods of its time. The Watauga damôs release provides power to the Boone Project downstream. The four Upper Holston projects (Boone, South Holston, Fort Patrick Henry, and Watauga) are located near the head of the Tennessee Valley. As the valley progresses west and south from the main mountain chains, the topography is characterized by smaller ridges and valleys. The streams follow the contours of the valleys. TVA developed its network of hydroelectric projects in the context of the natural conditions at each location. Site plans, materials to be used, architectural designs, exact placement of a dam axis and its associated project components, spillway type, and many other engineering nuances of each project took into account the natural topography, elevation changes, rock strata, bedrock, annual rainfall, and watershed volume. Numerous laboratory models and studies were performed to obtain the ideal combination of dam site, reservoir size, turbine count, and many other inter-related aspects engineering design, at each project and in relation to up- and/or down-stream facilities.

TVAôs hydroelectric projects were designed, in part, to manage the rises and falls of the annual cycles of the Tennessee River system. While the reservoirs on the Tennessee River are designed to provide proper water depth for navigation of barge traffic, reservoirs on the tributary rivers, such as the Watauga Reservoir, serve as an emergency storage system to prevent flooding downstream. These reservoirs, therefore, must store an enormous amount of December-April precipitation. The completion of TVAôs four projects in the Holston Valley averted potentially disastrous floods at Chattanooga. By the beginning of the annual flood season (January 1- April 1) of 1957, flood regulation since TVA started operations had spared Chattanooga of an estimated $53.5 million in damages. The 1957 season alone produced heavy rains that would have caused the second greatest flood of record at Chattanooga, with an estimated river cresting of twenty-four feet above flood stage. The four Upper Holston reservoirs, completed between 1948 and 1953, are credited with avoiding an estimated $66 million in damages at Chattanooga.[28]

The storage capacities of the Upper Holston reservoirs figure into power potential downstream. Releases at Watauga develop energy not only at that facility, but also at Cherokee and nine other main-river plants (Fort Loudon through Kentucky). Prior to the construction of Boone and Fort Patrick Henry, the total head at Watauga (with an average head of 275 feet) and downstream plants was 865 feet.[29]

[28] Ibid., 24.
[29] Ibid., 49.

SIGNIFICANCE IN INDUSTRY

By the end of the World War II, TVA had completed a 650-mile navigation channel from Knoxville to the mouth of the Tennessee River. At that time, TVA was the nationôs largest electricity supplier. Yet increasing demand for electricity continued to out-pace TVAôs capacity to produce power from hydroelectric dams. TVAôs total electric production capacity during the immediate post-war period equaled 2,513,102 kilowatts (an increase of 127 percent since 1940).[30]

With two units in operation, the gross generation of the Watauga Hydroelectric Project from start-up through December of 1956 was 831,985,000 kilowatt-hours. Average output during that period was 12,931 kilowatts, and peak load, 61,000 kilowatts.[31] The average annual energy expected from the Watauga plant was 121,000,000 kilowatt-hours.[32]

Since then TVA has continued to recruit industry with attractive affordable power. Economic Development is a critical component of TVA's mission. In 2013, TVA Economic Development helped attract or retain almost 52,000 jobs and generate nearly $5.0 billion in capital investment across the TVA region.[33]

Today the Watauga Hydroelectric Project, with two generating units, has a net dependable capacity (average daily power produced minus what is used by the dam itself) of sixty-six megawatts.[34]

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 TVAôs contribution to recreational activities is noteworthy. The agencyôs hydroelectric projectsô 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.

Two areas for public recreation were identified during the construction of the Watauga project. On the south side of the reservoir was the Tigue Branch embayment, located along a heavily used state highway. This area was leased to a private firm, Watauga Lakeshores, Inc., which developed the property with a boat dock, swimming pool, cabins, and a restaurant. During the 1950s, the lease was assumed by the Forest Service. On the dam reservation, a commercial boat operation was leased. TVA provided visitor facilities at the Watauga project site, including an overlook building, picnic areas, and outdoor ovens.[35]

SIGNIFICANCE IN SOCIAL HISTORY

The re-initiation of the Watauga Hydroelectric Project in 1946 was the first return to construction of the TVA hydroelectric program after the war. It was hoped that returning GIs would fill the personnel field at

[30] W. Bruce Wheeler, ñTennessee Valley Authority,ò at Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture webpage, https://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entry.php?rec=1362 accessed May 29, 2015.
[31] Tennessee Valley Authority, *The Upper Holston Project*, 24.
[32] Ibid., 50.
[33] ñEconomic Development,ò at TVA webpage http://www.tva.com/econdev/index.htm accessed May 5, 2015.
[34] ñWatauga Reservoir,ò at TVA webpage http://www.tva.gov/sites/Watauga.htm accessed May 6, 2015.
[35] Tennessee Valley Authority, *The Upper Holston Project*, 856.

Watauga. A local housing shortage, however, resulted in veterans refusing TVA job offers. Employee housing helped advance the recruitment process, and ultimately positions at Watauga were filled by veterans and former TVA employees. TVA encouraged employees organizing unions, with the presumption that it streamlined the negotiation process, as well as deferred labor disputes to union management. In 1940 TVA entered into a general agreement contract with the Tennessee Valley Trades and Labor Council delineating pay rate, hours, and work conditions. A joint cooperative committee was established under the agreement in 1947, soon after work at Watauga resumed. This committee met monthly to receive and act on employee suggestions regarding job efficiency, health and safety conditions, employee morale, and work relations with supervisors. Similar committees were established at the South Holston, Boone, and Fort Patrick Henry projects.[36]

Employees benefitted from services not readily available in the area. Medical services at Watauga were provided to employees in the form of periodic health exams, immunizations, and emergency care. Due to the shortage of medical professionals in the general area at the time, the Watauga site had a medical center with three doctors, six nurses, and five medical assistants, clerks, technicians, orderlies, and a cook, a far greater medical staff than at previous project sites. (The Watauga medical building was later moved to and re-used at the Boone project.) Watauga and South Holston projects in particular were considered potentially much more hazardous sites because of extensive tunneling and quarrying. Typical problems were control of dust and removal of fumes from blasting-equipment. Workers assigned to ñdusty tradesò had X-rays of lungs at six-month intervals to monitor their conditions.[37]

Recreation and library services and employee training were available to employees at the four Upper Holston Projects. Evening classes were available for steamfitter journeymen and machinist apprentices at the Johnson City Vocational School. Among the four Upper Holston TVA projects, forty-seven men completed their apprenticeships, preparing them for the greater workforce in the future. Accounting and blueprint reading classes were held in Elizabethton. At Boone, public safety officer training and fire training were both available. Despite the benefits and opportunities, labor turnover higher at Watauga and South Holston than at TVA projects before the war. Accounting for this turnover were several conditions: completion of specialized work by highly skilled workers, such as tunnel workers; difficulty in securing reliable transportation from outlying areas; and housing shortages. Yet, turnover at Boone and Fort Patrick Henry was unusually low.[38]

Employment at the Watauga project peaked at approximately 600 workers in September of 1942 before the project was closed down temporarily. After the project resumed in 1946, approximately 1,200 hourly workers were employed at both the Watauga and (pre-TVA) Wilbur sites by the last quarter of the year. This number peaked at approximately 1,400 workers a year later and then gradually dwindled to project end. Salaried employees, shared among Watauga, Wilbur, and South Holston projects, were fairly constant in number between early 1947 and late 1950. Office staff numbered in the range of 100-200 employees, while camp management during the same period averaged around 300 workers.[39]

[36] Tennessee Valley Authority, *The Upper Holston Projects*, 525-27.
[37] Ibid., 1133-1135.
[38] Ibid., 529, 531.
[39] Ibid., 530.

To help counter the housing crisis, TVA utilized a variety of solutions. Male workers were housed on site at Watauga in dormitories in the construction camp. TVA accommodated families by constructing houses in the Lilly Addition in the city of Elizabethton. TVA also provided a trailer camp there, too. These were all re-used during the South Holston project, and the houses at Lilly Addition remained in use for the duration of the Boon and Fort Patrick Henry projects, as well. Three dormitories housed 52,104, and 120 workers. Eleven tents housed fifty-five men. A cafeteria on site sat ninety-six persons at a time. Materials for the cafeteria building were sourced from one wing of the dismantled medical center at TVAôs Fort Loudon project.[40]

TVAôs Upper Holston projects were characterized by very positive reception from local residents seeking flood control measures. Unlike some of TVAôs other projects where dislocated families were strongly attached to farming the fertile river valleys, residents of the more rugged Upper Holston were not as collectively invested in agriculture. Of the 1,277 families relocated among the four upper Holston projects, 406 were farm families, 871 were non-farm families. Except for the South Holston project, the land acquired was largely small-acreage homesites, not vast rural farming tracts. While some of these families did farm, sixty percent had at least one family member employed at an industrial plant at Bristol, Kingsport, or Elizabethton. Employment opportunities at industrial plants included two of the countryôs largest rayon mills in Elizabethton, five miles from the Watauga site. At Kingsport, a planned industrial community three miles from the Fort Patrick Henry Project, were the Tennessee Eastman plants, Blue Ridge Glass manufacturing plant, Kingsport Press, Mead Paper Corporation, and Holston Ordnance Works. Thus, over the decades between 1930 and 1950, there was a marked trend across the region of full-time farming ceding to subsistence farming that supplemented family income derived from industrial employment. This shift in economy resulted in a new demand for small, rural homesite tracts of two to five acres. As industry attracted workers, and local populations grew, land values increased sharply. This was true especially in the Watauga project area, due to its proximity to industrial plants. At the Watauga site, TVAôs per-acre acquisition was $354, the highest price at any TVA project to date.[41]

The Watauga projectôs most noteworthy relocation effect was the de-incorporation and removal of every family, business, and public institution of the town of Butler. The town had a post office, Masonic Lodge, elementary and high schools, three grocery stores, two furniture stores, two hardware stores, a drug store, and two doctorsô and one dentistôs offices. Butler was a trade center for much of the Watauga project area. TVA consulted with residents to ascertain potential interest re- establishing the entire town in a new location. Most residents decided to relocate individually, though a few joined with an outside group to establish a new planned community of Carderview, named for Reverend M. H. Carder, a project leader.[42]

Another social aspect of the TVAôs hydroelectric project involved the removal and relocation of graves located within the reservoir area. In 103 cemeteries surveyed within the Watuaga Reservoir area, 3,452 graves were investigated. Of these, 1,281 were relocated. The remainder were determined unaffected by the project. Additionally, 874 grave markers, including both head- and footstones, were removed, cleaned, and reset.[43]

[40] Ibid., 383-384, 1136.
[41] Ibid., 755, 758, 771.
[42] Ibid., 769-70, 772.
[43] Ibid., 23, 813.

SUMMARY

By 1951, the TVA Hydroelectric program had resulted in construction of eighteen (18) dams: seven (7) on the Tennessee River and eleven (11) on tributaries. The projects on the main river are: Kentucky, Pickwick Landing, Wheeler, Guntersville, Chickamauga, Watts Bar, and Fort Loudon. Those on tributaries are: Apalachia, Hiwassee, Chatuge, Ocoee No. 3, Nottely, Norris, Fontana, Douglas, South Holston, and Watauga. Total costs for the eighteen dams were more than $600 million.[44]

The Watauga Hydroelectric Project was one of twenty-five (25) constructed by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) for the purpose of generating electrical power from, improving navigation of, and controlling seasonal flooding of the river system of the region. The project brought construction jobs and later electricity to the rural area. During planning and construction, TVA provided technical assistance in local schools, municipal land use planning, road relocation and improvement, and shoreline development.

The Watauga Hydroelectric Project retains much of its integrity from its original design in the 1940s and later improvements in following decades. The dam, powerhouse, and control building have not been significantly altered. The project continues to be an integral part of the TVA system. The Watauga Hydroelectric Project meets the registration requirements set forth in the Multiple Property Documentation Form, ñHistorical Resources of the Tennessee Valley Authority Hydroelectric Project,ò and this MPDF contains additional contextual information concerning TVA and its hydroelectric system.

[44] Tennessee Valley Authority, *Design of TVA Projects Technical Report No. 24, Vol. 1*, 1.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

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ñWatauga Reservoir.ò At TVA webpage http://www.tva.gov/sites/Watauga.htm. Accessed May 6, 2015.

Wheeler, W. Bruce. ñTennessee Valley Authority.ò At Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture webpage https://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entry.php?rec=1362. Accessed May 29, 2015.

Watauga Hydroelectric Project | Carter County, Tennessee
Name of Property | County and State

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

Watauga Hydroelectric Project | Carter County, Tennessee
Name of Property | County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property å 698 acres **USGS Quadrangle** Elizabethton 207 SW
Watauga Dam 207 SE

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

A. Latitude: 36.336476 Longitude: -82.128300

B. Latitude: 36.337359 Longitude: -82.108146

C. Latitude: 36.314002 Longitude: -82.128671

D. Latitude: 36.314338 Longitude: -82.107974

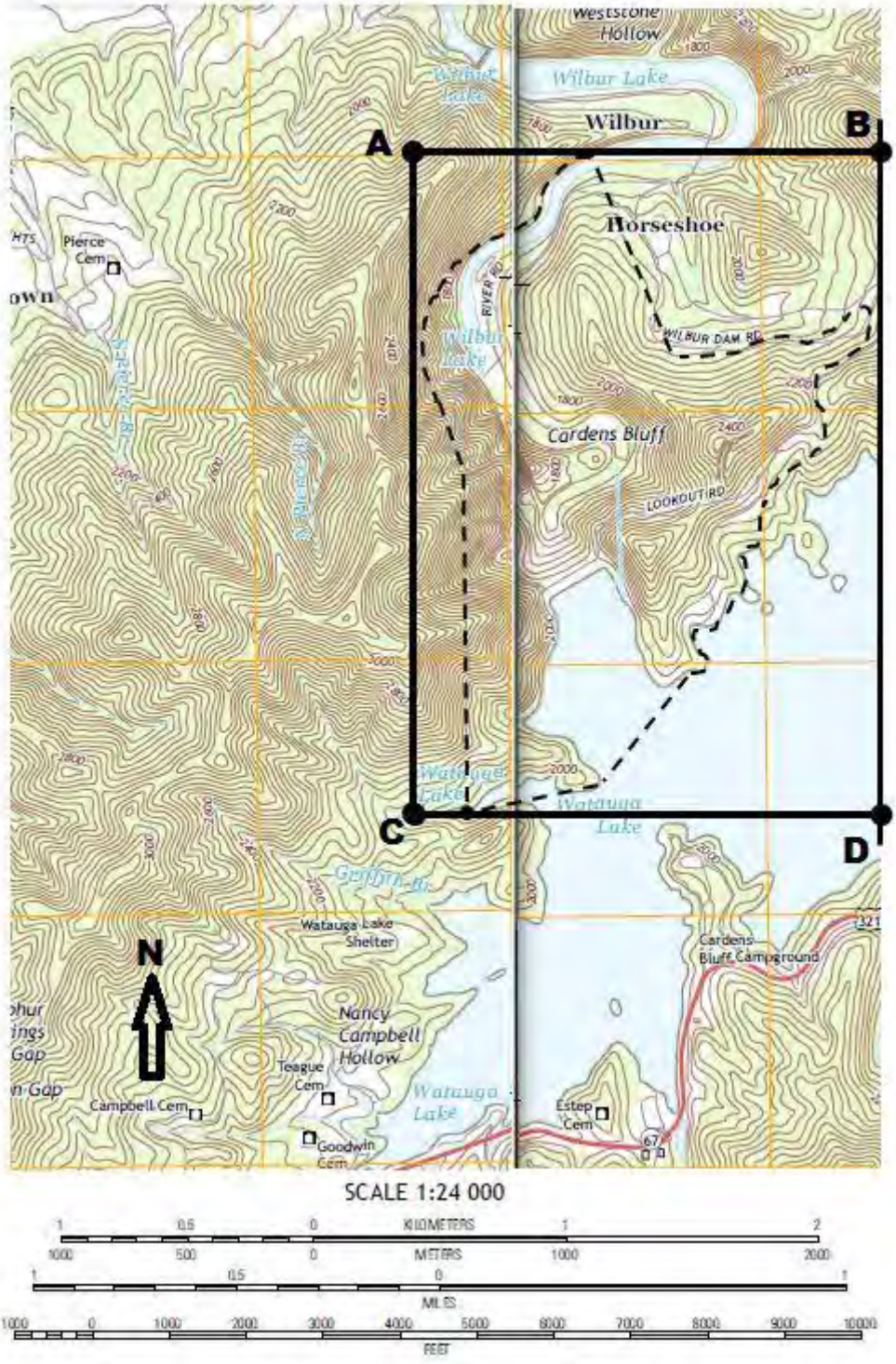
Verbal Boundary Description

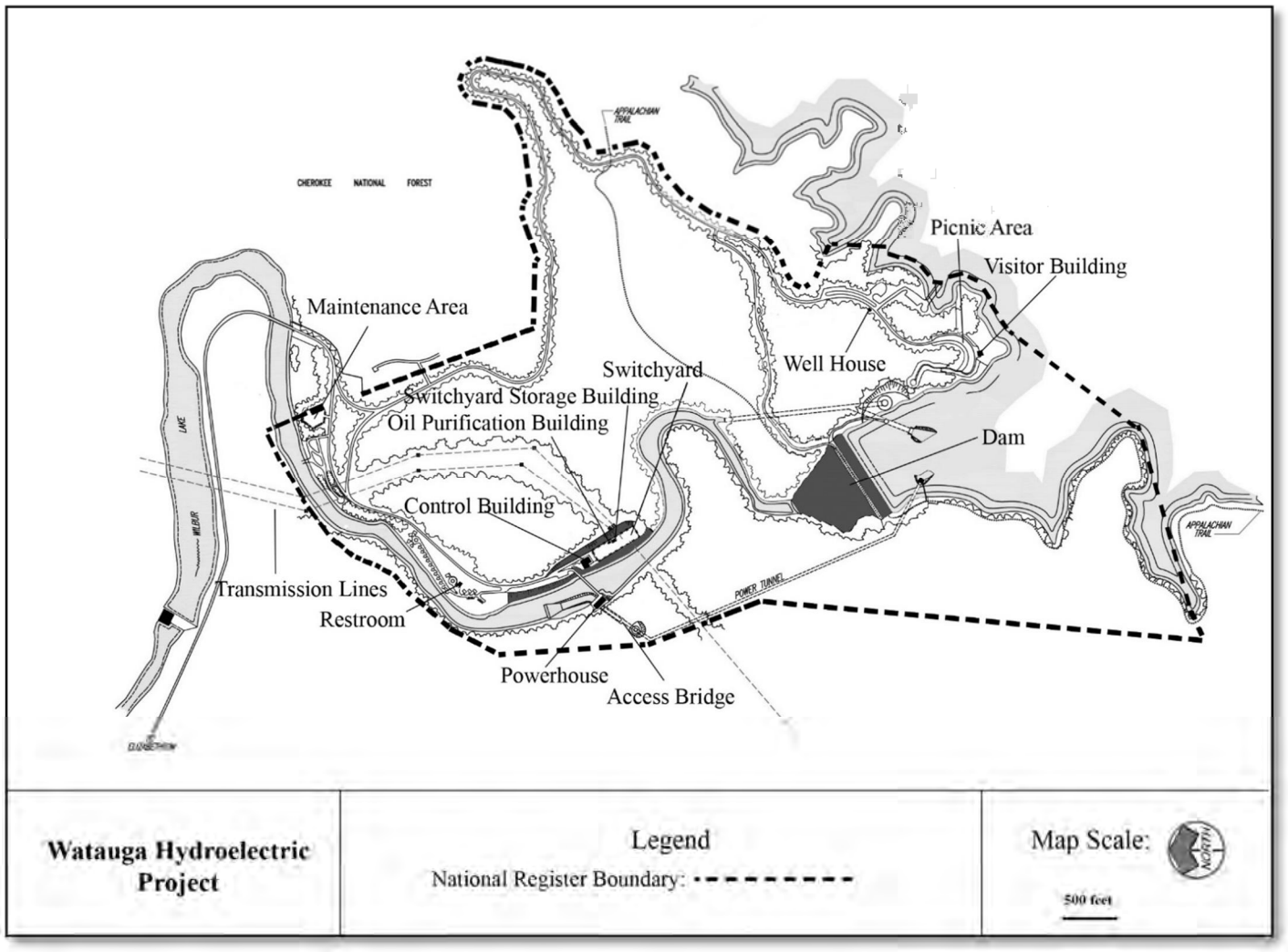
The boundary for the Watauga Hydroelectric Project is depicted as a dashed line on the accompanying USGS Topographical Quadrangle maps and site plan map. The National Register boundary is consistent with the overall Watauga reservation boundary on the west elevation. It departs from the reservation boundary on the north, following the curve of Wilbur Lakeôs shoreline then falls to the southeast to include the maintenance area. The National Register boundary rejoins the reservation boundary, and the overlapping boundaries continue east then south, following the switchbacks of Wilbur Dam Road. Then meeting the north bank of Watauga Lake, the boundary turns to the southwest to follow the shoreline. It then crosses the reservoir between peninsulas on the northeast and southwest before rejoining the original starting point on the west.

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.

Watauga Dam and Elizabethton USGS Topographical Quadrangle maps depicting the NR boundary for the Watauga Hydroelectric Project.





Site plan map with National Register boundary for Watauga Hydroelectric Project
(see 11 x 17" version)

Watauga Hydroelectric Project | Carter County, Tennessee
Name of Property | County and State

11. Form Prepared By

Name	Andra Kowalczyk Martens; Rebecca Hightower; Phil Thomason		
Organization	Thomason and Associates		
Street & Number	P.O. Box 121225	Date	October 26, 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)

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo Log

Name of Property: Watauga Hydroelectric Project
City or Vicinity: Elizabethton
County: Carter State: TN
Photographer: Thomason and Associates
Date Photographed: May 26, 2015

1 of 30 - General view of Watauga power facilities, looking northwest.

2 of 30 - Watauga Dam looking east.

3 of 30 - Watauga Dam and morning glory spillway, looking northwest.

4 of 30 - Top and north side of Watauga Dam, looking north.

5 of 30 ï Intake, looking north.

6 of 30 - Powerhouse exterior, southwest elevation, looking north.

7 of 30 - Powerhouse exterior, northwest elevation, looking southeast.

8 of 30 - Powerhouse interior, overlook mezzanine looking northwest.

9 of 30 - Powerhouse interior, generator No. 1 & No. 2.

10 of 30 - Powerhouse interior, machine shop.

11 of 30 - Powerhouse interior, cable tray tunnel to switchyard.

12 of 30 ï Switchyard, looking northwest.

13 of 30 - Transmission lines, looking west.

14 of 30 - Oil Purification Building, exterior northwest elevation, looking southeast.

15 of 30 - Control Building exterior, southeast elevation, looking northwest.

16 of 30 - Control Building exterior, west elevation, looking northeast.

17 of 30 - Control Building exterior, north elevation, looking south.

18 of 30 - Control Building interior, lobby.

19 of 30 - Control Building interior, office corridor.

20 of 30 - Control Building interior, office.

21 of 30 - Control Building interior, restroom.

22 of 30 - Visitor Building exterior, south elevation, looking north.

23 of 30 - Visitor building exterior, southeast elevation, looking west.

24 of 30 - Visitor building interior, lobby.

25 of 30 - Picnic grounds, looking northeast.

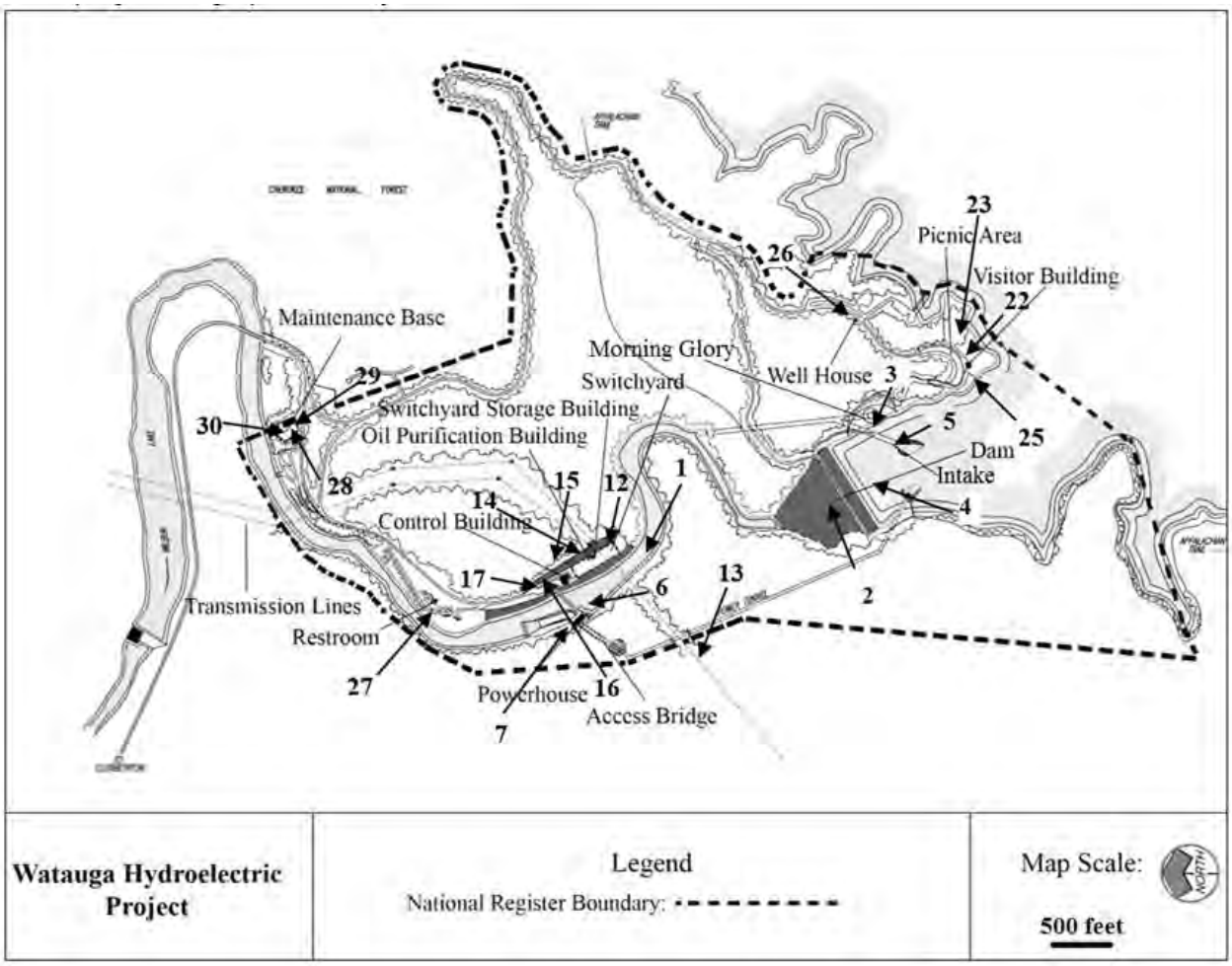
26 of 30 - Well house, exterior east elevation, looking southwest.

27 of 30 ï Bathhouse, looking southeast.

28 of 30 - Maintenance Base, main office/garage, looking northeast.

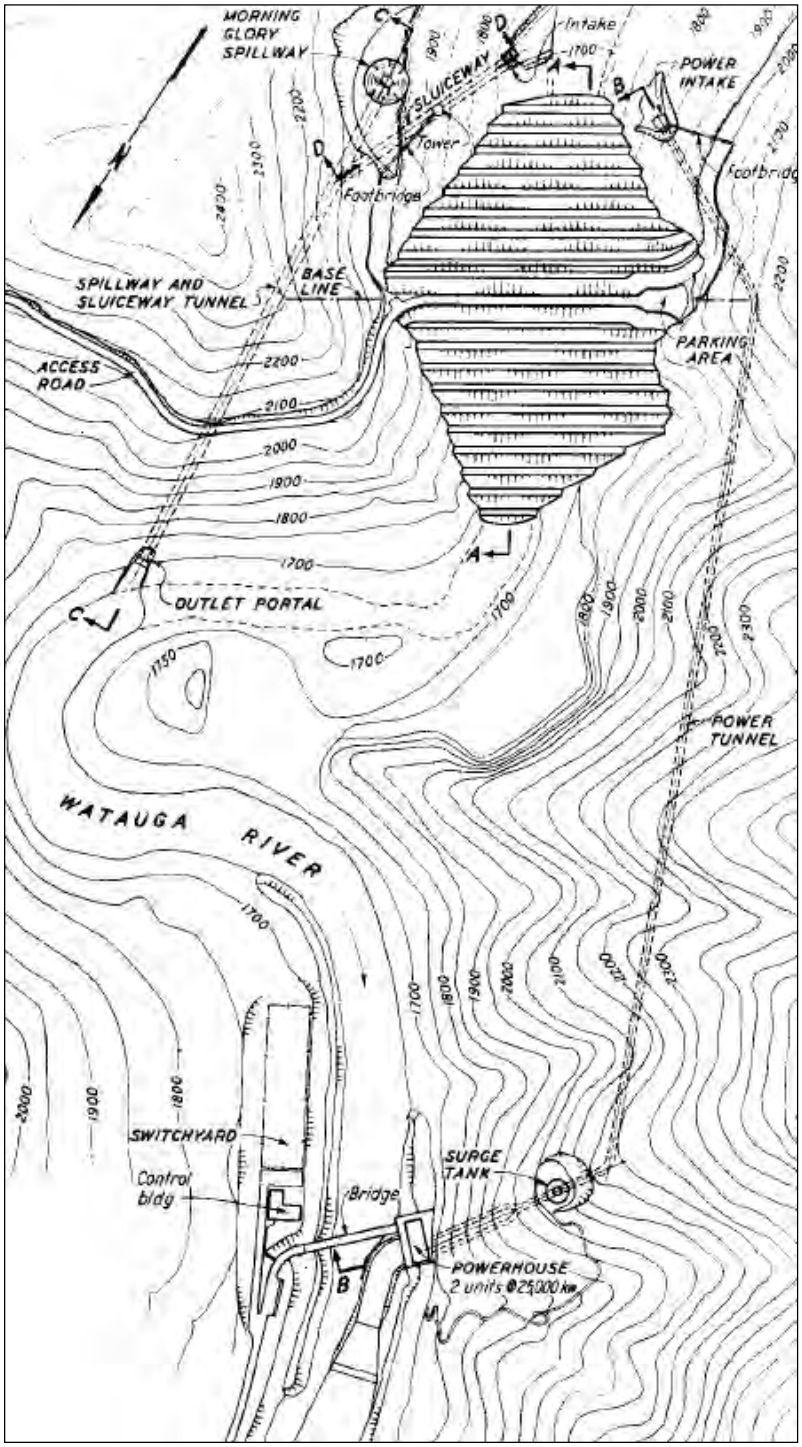
29 of 30 - Maintenance Base, chemical storage building, looking north.

30 of 30 - Maintenance Base, metal equipment shed, looking southeast.



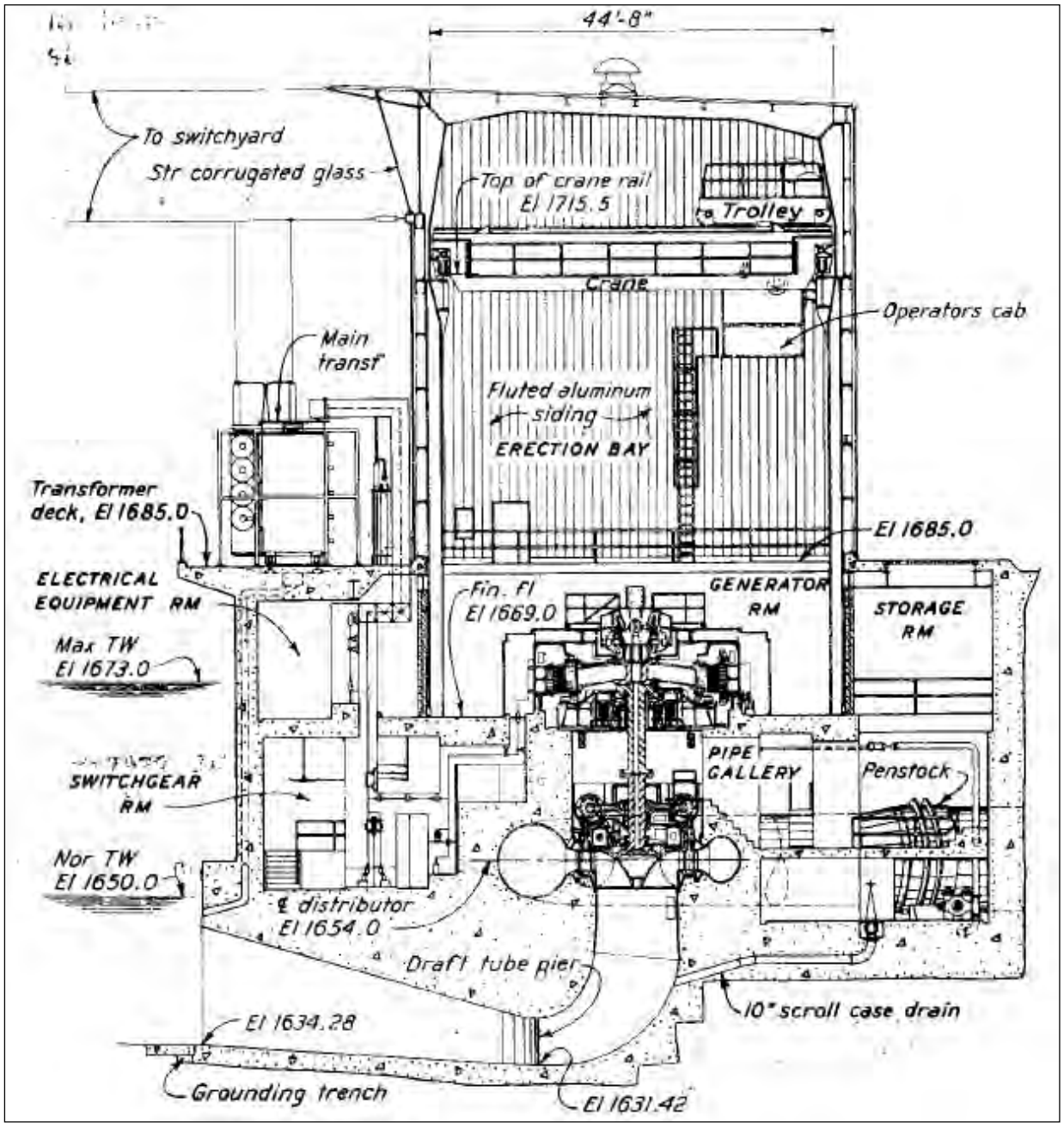
Watauga Hydroelectric Project Photo Key Map
(see accompanying 11 X 17 Map)

Site Plan



TVA site plan of the Watauga Hydroelectric Project

Schematic



Cross section along center line of unit in powerhouse

Property Owner:

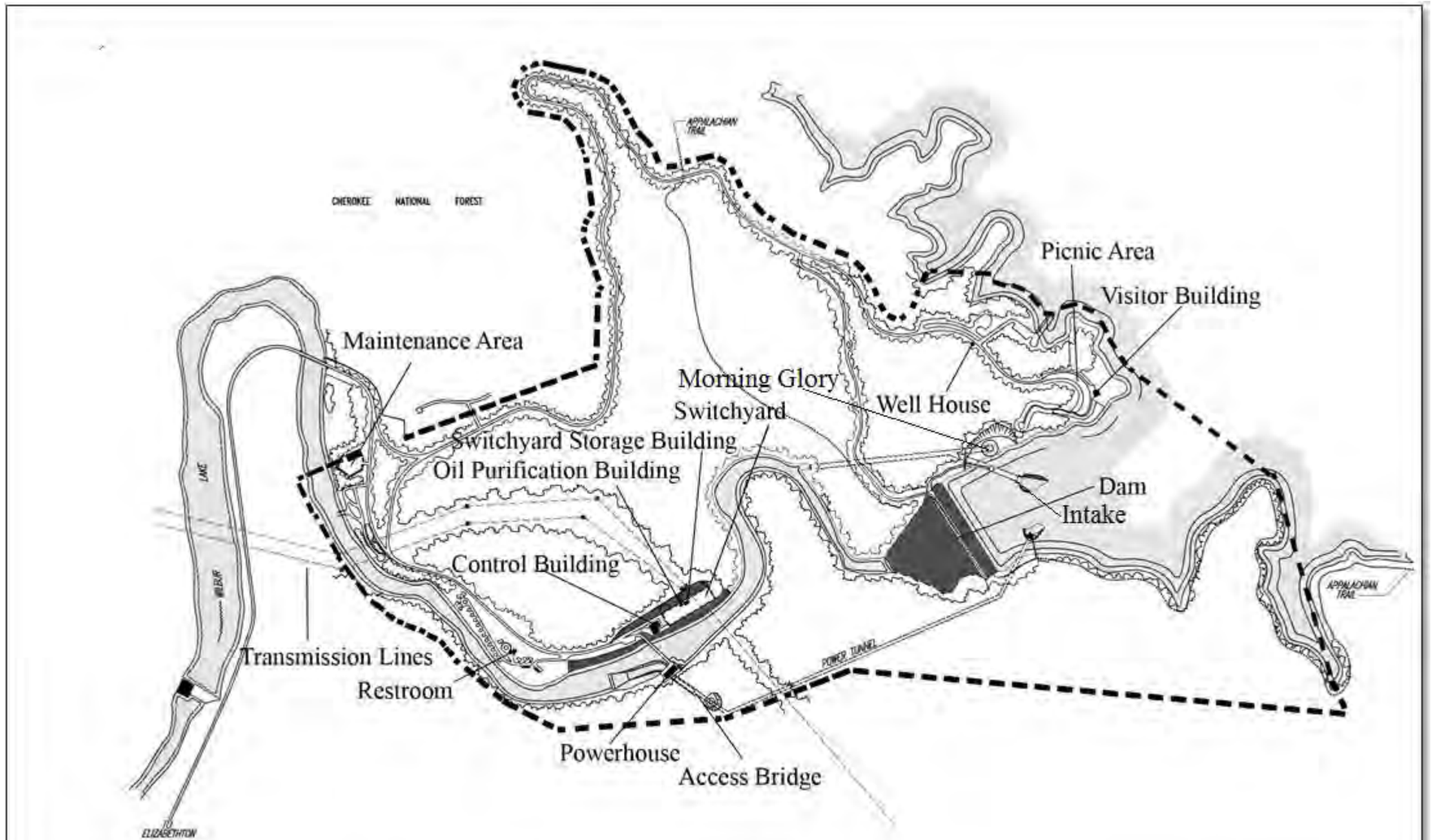
(This information will not be submitted to the National Park Service, but will remain on file at the Tennessee Historical Commission)

Name Tennessee Valley Authority ï Pat Ezzell

Street & Number 400 West Summit Hill Drive 460WT7D-K Telephone 865-632-6461

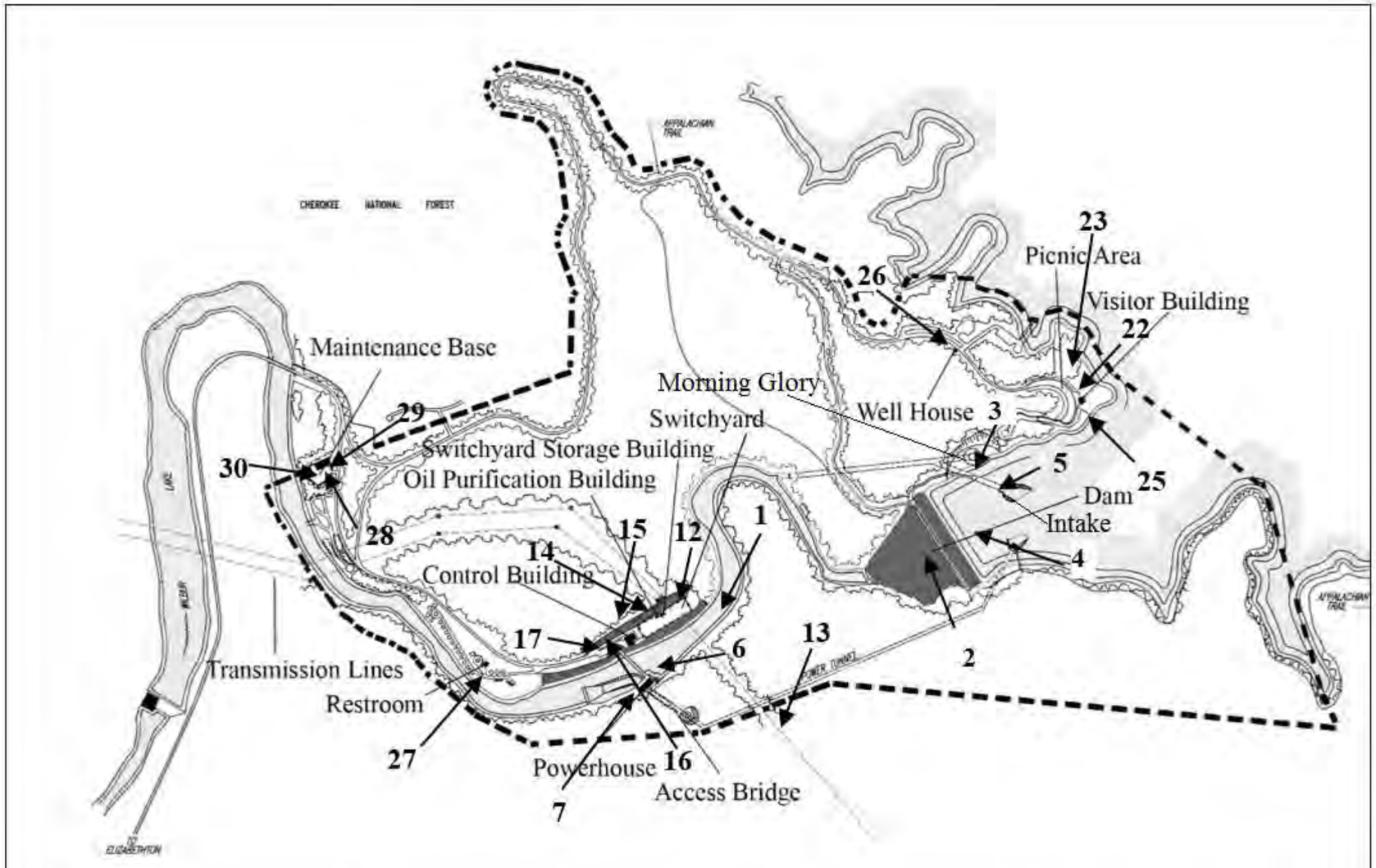
City or Town Knoxville State/Zip TN 37902

Site plan map for Watauga



Watauga Hydroelectric Project	Legend National Register Boundary: - - - - - - - -	Map Scale: NORTH 500 feet

Photo Key map for Watauga Hydroelectric Project



Watauga Hydroelectric Project	Legend National Register Boundary: - - - - - - - -	Map Scale: NORTH **500 feet**


USED
OIL


DANGER


FIRE EQUIPMENT


TAUGA


1942 BUILT FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 1948


FIRE
Our
VISION
Our
VISION


STOP


WATAUGA


TVA


DANGER
NO SMOKING
OR OPEN FLAMES
WITHIN 50 FEET
CAUTION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Nomination
Property Name:	Watauga Hydroelectric Project
Multiple Name:	Tennessee Valley Authority Hydroelectric System, 1933-1979 MPS
State & County:	TENNESSEE, Carter

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

Reference number:	MP100001463
Nominator:	State

Reason For Review:

__ Appeal	__ PDIL	__ Text/Data Issue
__ SHPO Request	__ Landscape	__ Photo
__ Waiver	__ National	__ Map/Boundary
__ Resubmission	__ Mobile Resource	__ Period
__ Other	__ TCP	__ Less than 50 years
	__ CLG	

__X__ Accept _____ Return _____ Reject __8/11/2017__ Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:	Meets registration requirements of MPs. Architecture, Industry, and Social History are not supported as areas of significance.
Recommendation/ Criteria	Accept / A & C

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 Date

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : **Yes**

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

Thomason&Associates
preservation planners

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,

Philip Thomason
Principal

cc. Pat Ezell, Senior Program Manager, TVA

Enc/

p.o. box 121225 nashville, tn 37212 615.385.4960 www.thomasonandassociates.com

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

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Please contact me if any additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

Pat Bernard Ezzell

Patricia Bernard Ezzell
Federal Preservation Officer
Communications

Enclosures