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7. DESCRIPTIO	N						
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CONDITION			(Check O	 ne)			ck One)
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Brinegar Cabin is typical of the small farm dwellings built throughout the mountain region of North Carolina during the past two hundred years. It is a one-story log house covered with lapped siding and resting on an uncoursed fieldstone foundation. The gable roof retains early wooden shingles.

The only opening on the front (east) facade is a central entrance with a plain heavy surround and a board-and-batten door. The interior is lighted by one tiny window beside the large stone chimney on the south end and a slightly larger window containing six-over-two sash on the north wall. A rectangular louvered vent with crude horizontal bars located near the apex of the north gable ventilates the attic.

On the rear of the cabin is a shed addition with a smaller stone chimney on the south side. The addition has a central exterior door on the rear (west) facade similar in design to the main entrance. Flanking the door are windows containing four-over-two sash.

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The interior consists of two rooms, one in the main block and one in the shed addition. Both are finished with horizontally sheathed walls and low exposed-beam ceilings. The mantels, which may be replacements, are quite simple with heavy shelves supported by large brackets. The unfinished attic is reached by a ladder rising on the rear wall in the main room.

Located to the northwest of the house is a frame outbuilding covered with lapped siding and protected by a gable roof. Beneath the building is a full stone basement entered through a board-and-batten door on the south side. This basement probably served as a dairy.



Pre-Columb	oian 🗌 16th Century	/ 🗌 18th Century	20th Century
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PECIFIC DATE(S) (If A	pplicable and Known)		
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About 1880 Martin Brinegar and his young bride, the former Caroline Joines, settled on their newly purchased farm. The site of their homestead was a tract at an elevation of 3,500 feet in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Alleghany County. It took Martin five years to complete the cabin and several outbuildings that stood nearby. It is said that except for the placing of the heavy logs of the cabin, he did all of the work himself. In addition to farming Martin worked as a cobbler. He attended and was clerk of the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church.

Following the death of Martin Brinegar in 1925, his widow lived in the cabin for a decade, after which it was purchased by the state of North Carolina. The state later donated the property to the federal government, and it became a part of the lands comprising the Blue Ridge Parkway. Currently the Brinegar Cabin houses a display of mountain crafts and weaving. The cabin is notable as an unusually well-preserved example of a type of construction that was used not only by the early settlers in the eighteenth century but also by settlers of more remote regions in later times.



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