

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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: Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout

Other names/site number: White Rock Fire Lookout

Name of related multiple property listing:

Historic Resources of Great Smoky Mountains National Park

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)



2. Location

Street & number: Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GRSM) – end of Mount Cammerer Trail.

City or town: Cosby

State: TN

County: Cocke

Not For Publication:

Vicinity:

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 ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A ___ B X C ___ D

<u>Surkeija C. Howe, acting FPO</u>	<u>5/09/2019</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>National Park Service</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

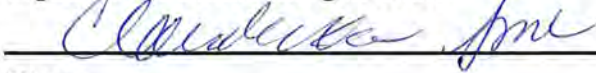
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In my opinion, the property meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date



2/17/19

Title :

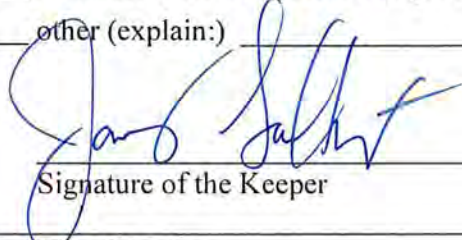
State or Federal agency/bureau
or Tribal Government

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

6-12-2019
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

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Structure

Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER/Fire Lookout

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS

OTHER: Park Service Rustic Architecture

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: STONE/native Thunderhead Sandstone;
WOOD/Log, wood shingle

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout is a two-story octagonal structure partially built into the side of the mountain. Constructed 1937-1939 by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), the battered walls of roughly squared stone are laid up in broken courses and rise to the level of the windows on the second level where the lookout lived and worked. Peeled round log rafters support an eight-sided pyramidal roof. A log and plank observation platform or balcony carried on angled log supports girds the structure. A wooden external stair provides access to the balcony. Located in Cocke County, Tennessee, this lookout stands on the crest of Mount Cammerer in Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP). One of ten fire lookout or fire towers built within GSMNP, Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout was the only stone lookout built within GSMNP. Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout is an important example of the National Park Service (NPS) 1930s rustic architecture design approach.

This registration form nominates the Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout individually under the broader contexts defined in a Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) prepared for the

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Historic Resources of Great Smoky Mountains National Park and approved November 29, 2016
(MC64501273).¹

Narrative Description

Setting

Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout is located Cocke County, Tennessee in the northeast quadrant of GSMNP. Accessible only by trail, the tower is located at the end of a spur trail off of the Appalachian Trail (AT). This six-tenths of a mile long spur trail is located nearly midway on the four and four-tenths miles segment of the AT between the ATs' intersection with Low Gap Trail to the west and the ATs' intersection with Lower Mount Cammerer Trail to the east.

The spur trail leading to the lookout extends northwest from its intersection with the AT along Mount Cammerer Ridge until it nears the end of the ridge; a point 4,930 feet in elevation. From this location the lookout has views to the east toward Greenbrier Pinnacle, to the south toward Balsam Mountain, to the west toward Snowbird Mountain (United States Forest Service (USFS)) and to the north toward Stone Mountain (USFS).

Dominated by exposed rock, before the establishment of GSMNP Mount Cammerer was commonly known as 'White Rock.' The geology underlying the area of the lookout is Thunderhead Sandstone (at the tower) and Rich Butt Sandstone to the north of the lookout. Thunderhead Sandstone is part of the Great Smoky Group which also includes Anakeesta Formation, and Elkmont Sandstone. Thunderhead Sandstone is described as "coarse, gray feldspathic sandstone, graywacke, and conglomerate; occurs in massive ledges; graded bedding and blue quartz characteristic. Thickness 5,500 to 6,300 feet." Rich Butt Sandstone is in the Ocoee Supergroup. Rich Butt Sandstone is described as "gray, massive beds of feldspathic, fine- to medium-grained sandstone, with interbeds of dark slate and arkosic conglomerate; exact stratigraphic position unknown. Thickness about 1,500 feet."²

¹ Stephen Olausen, John Daly, and Laura Kline, *National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form: Historic Resources of Great Smoky Mountains National Park* (report prepared for National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, Atlanta, GA, by PAL (The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.), Pawtucket, RI, 2016).

² U.S. Geological Survey, "Great Smoky Group, including Anakeesta Formation, Thunderhead Sandstone, and Elkmont Sandstone." Accessed August 14, 2017. <https://mrdata.usgs.gov/geology/state/sgmc-unit.php?unit=TNpCAG%3B11> and U.S. Geological Survey, "Ocoee Supergroup, including Walden Creek Group, (including Sandsuck Formation, Wihite Formation, Shields Formation, Licklog Formation), Cades Sandstone, and Rich Butt Sandstone," Accessed August 14, 2017. <https://mrdata.usgs.gov/geology/state/sgmc-unit.php?unit=TNpCAAo%3B15>.

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The area in the immediate area of the lookout is dominated by a heath bald vegetative cover. This type of cover is composed of shrubs such as mountain laurel, rhododendron, blueberry, huckleberry and sand myrtle. To the north of the lookout, is a pocket of Spruce-fir forest while most of the forest surrounding the heath bald is dominated by Northern Hardwood forest.

Resource Description³

Mount Cammerer Lookout Tower (contributing structure, 1939)

The Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout, built between 1937 and 1939 by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), is representative of that time's fire management policy of complete fire suppression in all national parks and forests. It is a two-story, octagonal stone and log structure with a design based on the National Park Service's Standard Type No. 9 lookout.

The observation level has a regular, octagonal plan measuring seventeen feet, eight and one-half inches in diameter. This main floor is clear of any structural components that might obstruct the lookout's view of the surrounding lands. A catwalk measuring two feet six inches in width wraps the entire observation level and is supported by nine inch in diameter log braces, which meet the lookout's stone base three feet six inches below the catwalk's underside at each of the eight corners. A handrail of rough-hewn logs encircles the catwalk and stands four feet and one-half inch tall.

The entrance to the observation level is found on the western façade and is reached by ascending four wooden stairs from the rocky outcrop on which the lookout sits. A simple batten door is located in the center of the western façade and flanked by two single-hung windows with one-over-one lights. Each of the other seven sides contains three bays of windows, also single-hung with one-over-one lights. The exterior stone wall extends two feet four inches up from the catwalk to a wooden sill below the windows on all sides. Windows make up the remaining portion of the exterior walls for the observation level. Where the walls meets the roof, in the center of each of the eight facades, a small rectangular screen, measuring three and three-quarter inches by two feet, allows for air movement within the observation level.

This structure is topped by a pyramidal roof covered in wooden shakes. The roof is supported by a fanned brace system of logs, which meet at a central post. Four logs extend slightly beyond the lookout walls on each façade, one at each corner and two splitting the difference of the

³ Laura Beth Ingle, "*White Rock Lookout Tower - Written Historical and Descriptive Data*" (Historic American Buildings Survey, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, HABS No. TN-262, 2012). The text dealing with the structural description of the Mount Cammerer Lookout Tower was drawn nearly verbatim from this source.

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remaining side. An interlocking web of one-half inch metal rods provides additional support for the structure.⁴

Each of the eight walls on the upper story measures seven feet four inches on the inside, providing room for furnishings that at one time would have included a table, bed, stove, and fire locating equipment.

Another simple batten door provides entrance to the lower level of the lookout on the southwest façade. This area provided storage space for the fire lookout personnel who would have lived and worked from the observation level above. Interior walls in this lower level are formed by the same stone used to form the exterior wall. The floor is an uneven surface of dirt and exposed boulder. The ceiling of this space is formed by the underside of the floor above. Joists run north and south while one large beam spans the space from east to west supported in the center by one wood post. A manhole cover allows access to the 1,400-gallon cistern which was once fed by a roof gutter system. A metal pipe still extends from the exterior through the rock wall into the lower level and connects to cistern. The interior of this lower level measures sixteen feet eight inches in diameter, with walls approximately two feet one and one-quarter inches thick at the base of the lookout.

Building plans from 1937 vary from what was actually built. These show windows on the lower level along with a set of interior stone steps connecting the upper observation level with the lower level. However, there are no windows on this level and there is no physical evidence in the building to support that interior steps were ever installed. A NPS employee who worked on the 1995 rehabilitation remembers that there were no interior steps. Also the lower level floor is uneven dirt and exposed boulder surface rather than the level concrete shown in plans.⁵

Building files indicate that in 1962 the lookout was reroofed, new floor joists, flooring and windows were installed along with work on the ceiling. Circa 1969, this lookout and other fire towers in GSMNP were no longer manned. Without a need for its use in the fire management program or an alternate park management purpose, the structure went without routine maintenance. The lookout's wood components deteriorated in the harsh high elevation conditions and vandals also contributed by breaking windows and tearing off doors from cabinets.⁶

An undated photograph shows the lookout in a 'mothballed' state with shuttered windows and a padlocked door. In this photograph the log handrail and posts atop the catwalk had been

⁴ HABS documentation describes a central post extending five feet down from the ceiling to end seven feet three inches above the floor. This post was missing when the site was visited in September 2017.

⁵ Curtis Middleton (GSMNP Maintenance Worker) interview on site with author, September 18, 2017.

⁶ Memorandum from GSMNP Historian to GSMNP Chief of Resource Management Division, December 20, 1985. Building Files, GSMNP Archives.

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replaced with a simple railing structure fashioned of dimensional lumber. The roof was asphalt shingles and was pierced by a metal flue vent. A 1985 photograph shows portions of the exterior catwalk missing and shutters over the windows. By 1992, plywood had been placed over the door and the two windows to either side of the door to block access. The windows on the remaining seven sides were boarded over on the interior. The catwalk structure had been removed because of safety concerns and the exterior stairs and at least one window frame were missing.

In 1995, a restoration of the lookout was funded. This included installation of a new catwalk and railing using pressure treated lumber, exterior stairs, pine flooring, a cedar shake roof, along with the replacement of exterior doors and repairing boarded-up windows. At this same time the downspout (feeding into the cistern) and metal flue vent were likely removed. An interpretive panel also was added along the approach path. In 2017, preservation work included the replacement of the 1995 cedar shake roof with new cedar shakes. One broken window frame was also replaced. No interior cabinetry or equipment associated the historic use of this structure remains.

Statement of Integrity

The appearance of Mount Cammerer Lookout is nearly unchanged from the time of its construction and it continues to strongly convey its association with the CCC and New Deal conservation efforts. It retains a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, and association. Substantial integrity of materials and workmanship is also present. While built primarily to serve as a fire lookout, the design used for this Lookout was selected in part because the designers knew the site would continue to be a visitor destination. Today, hikers still visit this Lookout and enjoy the views over the surrounding landscape from the structure.

The rock-faced masonry characteristic of the NPS rustic style is intact and strongly conveys the original design intent and workmanship. Wood elements of the Lookout however are particularly susceptible to deterioration because of the wet and exposed conditions experienced at this location. Many of the wood elements have had to be rebuilt or repaired over the years with resulting changes in the wood species used based on availability. Subtle changes in workmanship related to these wood elements have also occurred, however the original design intent has been maintained. For example, the 1995 replacement of deteriorated wood members used pressure treated lumber to rebuild the missing catwalk, railing and stairs. These building components had originally been spruce; harvested from nearby the site. While no longer spruce, the 1995 catwalk and railing replacement replicated the original in form and design with the addition of thin uprights. These uprights were added to address visitor safety. Other maintenance work has included reroofing the structure multiple times; transitioning from wood shake to asphalt and

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back again to wood shake in 1995. Exterior doors have been replaced but the replacement doors mimic the originals in design and size. Other exterior alterations have been the removal of a downspout and metal flue during the 1995 work.

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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

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- 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

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Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE
CONSERVATION

Period of Significance
1937 – 1969

Significant Dates
1937-1939: Construction of Lookout

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
N/A

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Mount Cammerer Lookout is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C at the local level as an example of the Fire and Lookout Tower property type defined in the Historic Resources of Great Smoky Mountains National Park Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF). The property possesses significance under Criteria A in the area of Conservation within the MPDF context *The Initial Development of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 1926-1942* because it represents the efforts of conservationists, state officials, Congress and the Roosevelt Administration to revive the economy through public works while also conserving natural resources and providing recreational opportunities to the American people. This property is significant under Criteria C in the area of Architecture within the MPDF context *The Initial Development of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 1926-1942* because it embodies the distinctive design philosophy and qualities of craftsmanship perfected by the NPS in the New Deal period. While based on a NPS standard plan developed in the 1930s, it appears that use of this particular standard plan was uncommon. At the time of preparation of this document, the only other known NPS example of an octagonal fire lookout of this period is the Park Point Lookout in Mesa Verde. Plans for this lookout were approved April 1939.⁷

The period of significance for the Mount Cammerer Lookout extends from 1937, the beginning of construction of the lookout, through 1969, the end of routine use and manning of fire towers and lookouts in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

CRITERION A – CONSERVATION

The Mount Cammerer Lookout meets the registration requirements for local significance under Criteria A in the area of Conservation as defined in the *Historic Resources of Great Smoky Mountains National Park* MPDF (Section F) for the Fire and Lookout Tower property type within the MPDF context *The Initial Development of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 1926-1942*. The lookout was constructed in accordance with the park's master plan to facilitate early detection of and response to forest fires. It possesses the aspects of integrity necessary to

⁷ "Fire Lookout – Park Point," Drawing MEVE_307_2029B (1939).

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convey its associations with the initial development of GSMNP and the New Deal program as defined in the MPDF. CCC laborers assisted NPS stonemasons in the construction of this lookout between 1937 and 1939.

The nationwide forest fire philosophy in the early 1900s was one of total suppression. That philosophy only strengthened after a series of major fires in 1910. These western fires burned five million acres and resulted in the deaths of eighty-five fire fighters and the injury of many more. After the devastation of 1910, the USFS recognized the value of a quick response while fires were small and reliance on a network of fixed lookout points to spot fires grew. In 1912, Forest Bulletin 113, *Methods and Apparatus for the Prevention and Control of Forest Fires as Exemplified on the Arkansas National Forest*, was published. The work of Daniel W Adam, this bulletin called for lookouts on the highest peaks 10 to 15 miles apart. His work in the Arkansas National Forest tested the use of system of five lookouts equipped with telephones and range finder equipment and showed a significant decline in fire damage. Construction of fire lookout towers increased steadily and in 1924, the USFS published two volumes of approved plans and specifications for lookout towers and houses.⁸

It was into this era of total forest fire suppression that GSMNP was born. The park was formed through the acquisition of privately held land including large parcels of land held by logging and pulp companies. One company, the Little River Lumber Company, actually continued operations within the park until October 1935. Logging operations of this time period left behind large quantities of slash. This debris dried to become fuel for wildland fires along with the dead and dying chestnut trees impacted by the chestnut blight. The periods of mid-March to Mid-May and October through December were considered periods of high fire danger.⁹

In January 1931, Ross Eakin entered into duty as the first superintendent of GSMNP. By the start of the October fire season, he had already established a team of eighteen patrolmen. With the establishment of the CCC, the park was able to develop a more extensive fire management plan and early master plans document the importance given to fire management. Versions of these early master plans dedicated one map to detailing the fire control plan for the park along with maps for road, trail and development plans. The fire control plan indicated the location of fire

⁸ Clay Griffith, "Lookout Towers Documentation and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation" (Report prepared for USDA Forest Service Eastern Administrative Zone, Asheville NC, by Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc., Durham NC, December 2005) 9-13.

⁹ Theodore Catton, "A Gift for All Time, Great Smoky Mountains National Park Administrative History" (Report prepared for Great Smoky Mountains Association and Great Smoky Mountain National Park by Environmental History Workshop, Stevensville MT, October 2008) 45-46, 186-187.

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towers, fire lanes, fire foot and truck trails as well as radio locations to support fire control operations.¹⁰

During the 1930s, the CCC built 3,400 fire towers across the country. In GSMNP, they constructed nine of the ten towers and the corresponding cabins; the NPS and the Public Works Administration are listed as the builders for the Shuckstack tower. Several more towers were built just outside the park's boundaries in adjacent national forests to work in cooperation with the NPS.¹¹

Ordinarily the highest points of vantage within a park were selected for the location of fire towers, but atmospheric conditions in GSMNP necessitated a deviation from customary procedure because the highest points are frequently under clouds. For maximum effectiveness, fire tower sites were chosen so that each viewshed would overlap with at least one other tower and provide about 10 to 15 miles of visibility. In most situations, a steel tower was necessary to raise the observation area above the treetops and a separate cabin near the base of each tower provide living quarters for the seasonally employed fire tower watchmen. Most towers in GSMNP rose to a height of 60 feet with a square metal cab at the top, walled with tilting windows and accessed through a trap door in the floor.¹²

Mount Cammerer presented a different situation. It had been selected as the site of a fire lookout as early as 1933, primarily because it provided views of the Tennessee section of GSMNP that would be hidden from view from the Mount Sterling and Greenbrier Pinnacle towers. Views from this point could be had without the use of a steel tower. However, the bald rock outcrop was visible for many miles and it was feared that any structure placed there could prove to be an eyesore. Park Superintendent Eakin favored the placement of a simple sheet metal cab. However, NPS Chief Forester F. D. Coffman believed a low stone lookout comparable to those used in the west would be less of an intrusion. Following a great deal of discussion, the decision was made to construct a lookout following one of several standard NPS plans for lookouts.¹³

CCC men from the Big Creek camp (NP-7) based in Haywood County, North Carolina began construction of the lookout in June 1937. While working, the CCC men stayed in a 'fly camp' nearby the work site and were under the supervision of NPS employees. The NPS employees included Marshall Fox, a local from Tennessee who had learned stone masonry in the CCC under

¹⁰ Ibid, 187; "Great Smoky Mountains National Park – The Master Plan," Drawing GRSM_133_60713 (1937); and "Great Smoky Mountains National Park – The Master Plan," Drawing GRSM_133_60724 (1941).

¹¹ John Daly and Laura Kline, "Great Smoky Mountains National Park Historic Resource Study" (Report prepared for National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, Atlanta GA, By PAL, Inc., Pawtucket, RI, 2015) 106.

¹² Ibid, 106.

¹³ Memorandum from GSMNP Superintendent to Assistant Forester, June 25, 1937. Building Files, GSMNP Archives.

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the tutelage of Italian stonemason T. L. Yon. Fox was joined in this work by Robert McClure, of North Carolina, and a third mason whose name is unknown. CCC workers quarried stone for the walls some 100 to 300 feet below the building site. Rough blocks of stone were then transported by hand on wooden pallets to the building site, where they were hewed and finished. The CCC laborers also felled nearby trees for roof timbers and shingles. Sand and cement for mortar, windows, and hardware came up the mountainside on mule back from the Big Creek CCC camp. The CCC enrollees completed the Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout in September 1939.¹⁴

After World War II, how wildland fires were detected and managed began to change. While the number of fire lookout towers in the United State peaked in 1953, at over 5,000, the need for towers soon declined with improved aerial detection and communication systems. Some towers in western North Carolina (outside of GSMNP) were even removed in the 1950s. Beginning in the early 1960s the Park Service also began to change its view of fire suppression and acknowledged the impacts of total fire suppression on natural resources. By 1968, the Park Service had adopted a policy of allowing lightning caused fires to run the course when it met management objectives and within set limits. One way these national policy changes manifested themselves at GSMNP was in changes to how the fire towers were managed. While fire towers in the park were ‘completely overhauled’ in 1962 by the maintenance division and manned up to and during the 1967 fire season, that use ended with the 1968 to 1969 seasons. A 1979 draft fire management plan for the park notes the detection system included overflights, a North Carolina Department of Forestry manned tower and reports from park visitors. In the 1980s most of the park’s metal fire towers were removed, leaving just three of the metal fire towers and the Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout standing inside GSMNP.¹⁵

CRITERION C- ARCHITECTURE

The Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout meets the registration requirements of the *Historic Resources of Great Smoky Mountains National Park* MPDF for local significance under Criteria C in the area of Architecture, expressing the design philosophy and qualities of craftsmanship perfected by the NPS in the New Deal Period. The lookout qualifies as an example of the Fire and Lookout Tower property type, defined in the MPDF (Section F) as a building designed for the purpose of monitoring fire activity in the surrounding area. It adheres to the design principles of employing local materials and building to harmonize with the surrounding natural

¹⁴ NP 7 was located in the Big Creek area of the GSMNP and operated from 1933 to 1939. Based on the servicing post office NP 7 has also been known as the Mount Sterling CCC camp; Notes from Marshall Fox interview conducted by Kitty Manscill and _____ (unidentified in notes but probably Park Historian Ed Trout), interview conducted Dec 12, 1992. Building Files, GSMNP Archives; and Daly, “Great Smoky Mountains National Park Historic Resource Study”, 107.

¹⁵ Griffith, “Lookout Towers Documentation and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation”, 17; and Catton, “A Gift for All Time, Great Smoky Mountains National Park Administrative History”, 190.

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environment. It possesses all the aspects of integrity necessary to convey its architectural significance as identified in the MPDF.

The design of the Mount Cammerer Lookout was ultimately based on one of a set of standard plans for fire lookouts developed by landscape architects at the NPS Western Field Office, Landscape Division under the direction of Thomas Vint, a graduate of the University of Berkeley who was named to the NPS chief landscape architect position in 1927. According to May Shivers Culpin:

“Vint began his National Park Service career at a very challenging time. The late 1920s and early 1930s were times of extensive construction of roads, housing, visitor lodging, and campgrounds. Assembling a staff of fine, creative landscape architects and architects, Vint instilled the philosophy of harmonizing the buildings or structures with the environment.”¹⁶

Those working at the Western Field Office in San Francisco run by Vint in the late 1920s into the 1930s served as professional advisors to park superintendents and staff in all matters pertaining to the field of landscape architecture and planning. Logical, well thought through general development plans were needed for each park that went beyond park building developments (with utility lines and sewers) and roads to include forest management and land use plans. Staff needed to be multidisciplinary and in 1928, Vint drafted a job description and examination for National Park Service landscape architect positions. This examination reflected the type of work done by landscape architects in the national parks which Vint described as having little to do with planting and more with designing and siting park buildings and structures within an existing landscape. The examination included designing “from given floor plans of a park residence, two elevations for each of three types of construction—stone, log, and timber.”¹⁷

The standard plans for fire lookouts were developed in the early 1930s. Much like Vint’s examination question the standard plans show similar buildings that varied in shape of structure, roofline and construction materials used. Copies of plans for lookout Standard Type Nos. 1, 2, and 3 show the same basic two-story square building with a hip roof, catwalk and exterior stairs.

¹⁶ May Shivers Culpin, “Thomas Vint, 1984-1967,” *National Park Service: The First 75 Years, Biographical Vignettes*, last modified March 27, 2017. Accessed December 5, 2017. https://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/online_books/sontag/sontagb.htm

¹⁷ Linda Flint McClelland, “The Work of the Western Field Office, 1927-1932,” *Presenting Nature: The Historic Landscape Design of the National Park Service, 1916-1942*, last modified October 31, 2002. Accessed July 27, 2018. https://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/online_books/mcclelland/mcclelland4.htm; and Ethan Carr, *Wilderness by Design: Landscape Architecture and the National Park Service* (University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln and London, 1998), 189-195.

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The major difference is in the material used with No. 1 constructed using dimensional lumber, No. 2 using rustic timber construction and No. 3 having a stone base with rustic timber above.¹⁸

Although these standard plans were available when planning for this lookout began, it appears that considerable design thought was put into the Mount Cammerer project with consideration given to function, visibility both from the structure out and of the structure from below and cost. Early on the park proposed the construction of a simple steel cab structure as a lookout. In September 1936, Park Resident Architect Frank Mattson corresponded with the Regional Landscape Architect K. C. McCarter under the subject line of Project 765, Class 116, Lookout Tower – White Rock, Camp NP-6. GSMNP:

“The project has been carried in ECW [Emergency Conservation Work] programs from the first to the present period. A number of approaches have been made to determine the size, type of design and elevation to use. No studies or plans were made until this summer, as far as I am able to ascertain.

The location or site has been determined evidently for some time and conclusions reaches [sic] that some type of structure would be placed in any event. Our Branch of the Service has most likely proposed a rustic type of structure, the cost of which would mean some extra justification to carry it on an ECW program.

We therefore proceeded on the basis of a structure which would combine a number of desirable features, such as: (1) Public display (2) Living quarters underneath (3) Observation room and terrace above. Studies were made of such a structure using masonry for the walls up to the window sills. A few of the studies presented a fair appearance when viewed in the immediate vicinity. We were always keeping in mind the appearance of the structure as it presented itself in profile from the lower elevations, as for instance the Cosby area.

We could locate or construct a building in such a manner that it would not be seen from below, but at the same time it would create blind spots from the observation tower.

None of the studies prepared for each condition could be accepted readily as the most desirable thing to do, even though some of the designs in themselves were acceptable. In

¹⁸ To date only plans for Standard Type Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, and 9 have been located. Standard Type Nos. 1, 2, and 3 show the same two-story square tower with a pyramid hip roof first in dimensional lumber, then in rustic log, and finally in stone and rustic timber. Standard Type No. 5 shows a two-story rustic timber lookout with a gable roof and a lower level slightly larger than the observation level. With the Standard Type No. 9 plan being a lookout octagonal in form with a stone base and rustic timbers, it is possible that the missing standard plans followed the same sequence of 3 variations of the same basic plan.

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each case it appeared as though attempting to comply with those first requirements gave us more building than we wanted to see from below.

Later discussions with Mr. Eakin, the Forester and Assistant Chief Ranger eliminated the necessity of living quarters and public display and even the possibility of its use as a trail shelter. The conclusion was then reached to use as simple a type of structure as possible, and therefore a steel cab, similar to that used on steel lookout towers is planned. It was placed at such an elevation and location that it does not become a feature upon this ridge.

This elevation, will, in the opinion of the Chief Forester, probably be questioned. Our explanation is put as briefly as possible. ... (5) This elevation is purposefully held to subordinate the structure to the ridge, which in this case is of great importance, as the whole problem has been centered upon this point (6) The lookout loses 3% visibility, say for sake of argument, we lose 40% in visibility from below.

Living quarters will be provided in the trees about 75 yards from this site in a cabin to be designed in the near future.

Mr. Ludgate will probably review this plan and better with you as he is familiar with this problem. I realize that this may be quite a departure from the earlier proposals and I hope that I have presented it in such a manner that it will appear as the logical solution to you.

This project will not need the extra approval because of cost because it does not go over the \$1500 limit.”¹⁹

While the regional office did not object to the placement of a seven by seven foot standard Forest Service cab, they were concerned with the appearance the structure. They believed that ‘White Rock’ would be one of the main visitor destinations in the Cosby area and recommended that the steel cab be modified with the addition of hand rived roof shakes and hand rived siding. Park Superintendent Eakin disagreed with this proposal citing concerns that a commercial steel cab would withstand such a treatment and the unnecessary cost of such a modification in the face of reduced allotments to CCC camps.²⁰

J. D. Coffman, Chief Forester for the NPS, weighed into the fray writing Eakin that for the “greatest efficiency from our lookout observers it is essential that the observer live in the lookout

¹⁹ Correspondence from Frank E. Mattson Resident Landscape Architect to K. C. McCarter, September 21, 1936. Building Files, GSMNP Archives.

²⁰ Correspondence from Herbert Evison, Regional Office to J. Ross Eakin, Superintendent, October 24, 1936. Building Files, GSMNP Archives; and Correspondence from J. Ross Eakin, Superintendent to Regional Officer, Region One, October 30, 1936. Building Files, GSMNP Archives.

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house... to observe and report fires at any time of the day or night..." He also noted the availability of standard lookout house plans and stated:

"I certainly do not want to impede the establishment of any essential lookout station, but I am unable to see the need for deviating from the standard plans and erecting a mere 7 foot by 7 foot observatory and then provide living quarters separately."²¹

Eakin's response to the Director of the NPS reflects his frustration delays in getting lookout established at Mount Cammerer. He wrote:

"His letter (Coffman) is very much to the point but the plan submitted seems the best we can get here with the various conflicting interests. For three years we have been trying to get a lookout on White Rock. We can now get it with a separate cabin. If he can get his point over this would be much appreciated.

... My one concern now is to avoid any unnecessary cost to the lookout cab, and, of course, to proceed with the erection of a lookout on White Rock."²²

Coffman followed up with a letter to the Director stating that the only exceptions to having a combined lookout and living-quarters "is where the conformation of the peak or ridge or height of the surrounding forest necessitates the construction of a tower for lookout observations."

He also made the case for utilizing the standard lookout plans writing:

"the San Francisco Office took special pains to incorporate in the lookout house plans for the national parks such features as would aid in making these structures of the most attractive appearance without interfering in any way with the essential requirements for the fullest possible visibility.... The modifications in appearance introduced by the Landscape Division greatly improved the appearance of the national park lookout houses as compared with those previously erected by the Forest Service and State organizations.... the entire Service can well take pride in the present type of lookout houses built in accordance with those plans.

....Superintendent Eakin has been endeavoring for three years to obtain clearance for a fire lookout station at White Rock, and he has felt it necessary to sacrifice the principles

²¹ Correspondence from J. D. Coffman Chief Forester to J. Ross Eakin, Superintendent, November 4, 1936. Building Files, GSMNP Archives.

²² Correspondence from J. Ross Eakin, Superintendent to Director, NPS, November 7, 1936. Building Files, GSMNP Archives.

Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout

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of most effective lookout service outlined above in order to obtain lookout service of any character at that point. The service will undoubtedly have necessity for erecting further lookout houses, other than towers, in the East. It is, therefore, essential at this time that it be definitely understood that standard plans embodying the essential features of the lookout visibility and efficient service be followed in the East as well as the West.”²³

As a result of Coffman’s letter, the Director requested that the park use a large lookout and the final question became cost and type. Ultimately, the decision was made to construct an octagonal lookout using masonry to the window sill and timber framing. Mattson wrote the following justification for following the octagonal standard No. 9 plan.

“We have no particular reason for recommending an octagonal building in preference to a square one. This was done because we believe by constructing it with a 16 foot inside dimension to reduce the size it would fit the site fairly well and allow orientation ‘square with the world’ on four sides. We know that such orientation is normally desirable in lookouts and therefore were trying to fulfill it.”²⁴

9. Major Bibliographical References

Carr, Ethan. *Wilderness by Design: Landscape Architecture and the National Park Service*. University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln and London, 1998.

Daly, John, and Laura Kline. *Great Smoky Mountains National Park Historic Resource Study*. Prepared for National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, Atlanta, GA, by the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc., Pawtucket, RI, 2015.

Ingle, Laura Beth. *Every Day is Fire Day: A Study of Historic Fire Towers and Lookout Life in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park*. Thesis graduate schools of Clemson University and the College of Charleston, May 2011.

National Park Service Archives and Repositories

Denver Service Center, Denver CO

Technical Information Center (TIC)

Drawings

Great Smoky Mountains National, Gatlinburg TN

Park Archives (Collection Preservation Center, Townsend, TN)

²³ Correspondence from J. D. Coffman Chief Forester to Director, NPS, November 16, 1936. Building Files, GSMNP Archives.

²⁴ December 4, 1936 Correspondence from Frank E. Mattson Resident Landscape Architect to Regional Officer, Region One, December 4, 1936. Building Files, GSMNP Archives.

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Superintendent Reports, 1933- 1939
Building Files
Photograph Collection

Olausen, Stephen, John Daly, and Laura Kline. *National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form: Historic Resources of Great Smoky Mountains National Park*. Prepared for National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, Atlanta, GA, by the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc., Pawtucket, RI, 2016.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #HABS TN-262
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout
Name of Property

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10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 0.33 acre

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 35.76359 | Longitude: -83.16108 |
| 2. Latitude: 35.76350 | Longitude: -83.16115 |
| 3. Latitude: 35.76339 | Longitude: -83.16160 |
| 4. Latitude: 35.76357 | Longitude: -83.16163 |
| 5. Latitude: 35.76364 | Longitude: -83.16135 |

Verbal Boundary Description

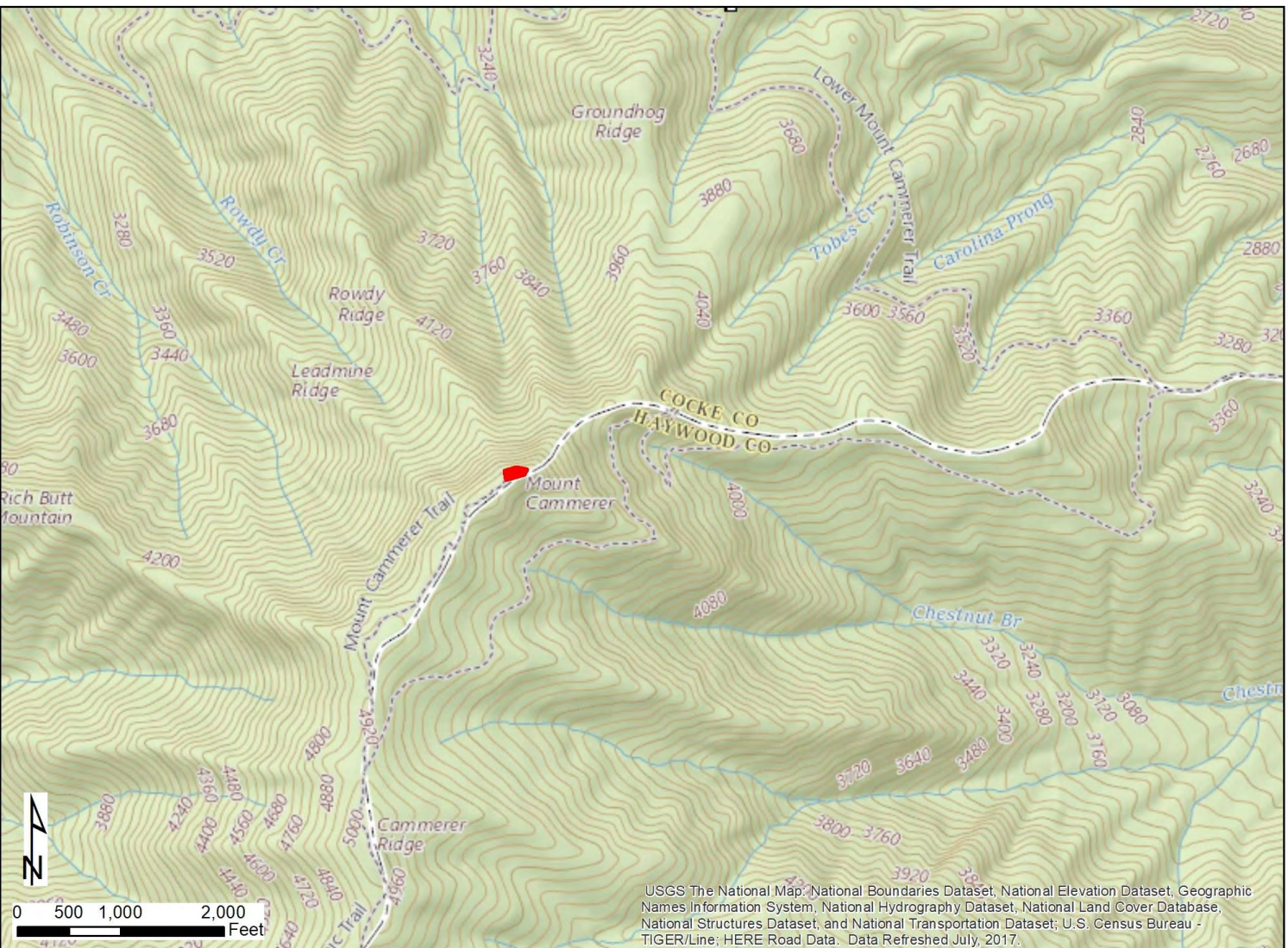
The 0.33 acre Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout property is bounded by a line of convenience beginning at point A located approximately 70 feet ENE away from the Lookout. The line then runs approximately 97 feet SSW to point B, then 340 feet WSW to point C (located on the trail leading to the Lookout), then 165 feet NNW to point D, then 210 feet ENE to point E, and finally 195 feet ESE to return to point A.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout as well as the surrounding "White Rock" area which was historically associated with the tower and contributes to the property's historic significance. The boundary circumscribes a rough pentagon that includes the Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout, approximately 200 feet of the trail approaching the Lookout from the west, and much of the exposed rock outcrop immediately surrounding the Lookout. The surrounding terrain drops off sharply to the north, east and south of the Lookout. Historically this area was known as "White Rock" and even prior to the establishment of the Lookout, hikers were drawn to the rock outcrop within this boundary for the views. The exposed site and concerns about visibility of a structure at "White Rock" led to construction using local stone as well as the lookout design used.

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Topographic Area Map

Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout _____
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Location Map

Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout
Name of Property

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Dianne Flaugh/Landscape Architect
organization: NPS, Great Smoky Mountains National Park
street & number: 107 Park Headquarters Road
city or town: Gatlinburg state: TN zip code: 37738
e-mail dianne flaugh@nps.gov
telephone: 865-430-0339
date: February 12, 20198

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
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Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout
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Photo Log

Name of Property: Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout

City or Vicinity: Cosby

County: Cocke State: TN

Photographers: Dianne Flaugh and Katherine Lappe, GSMNP

Date Photographed: November 7, 2018

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

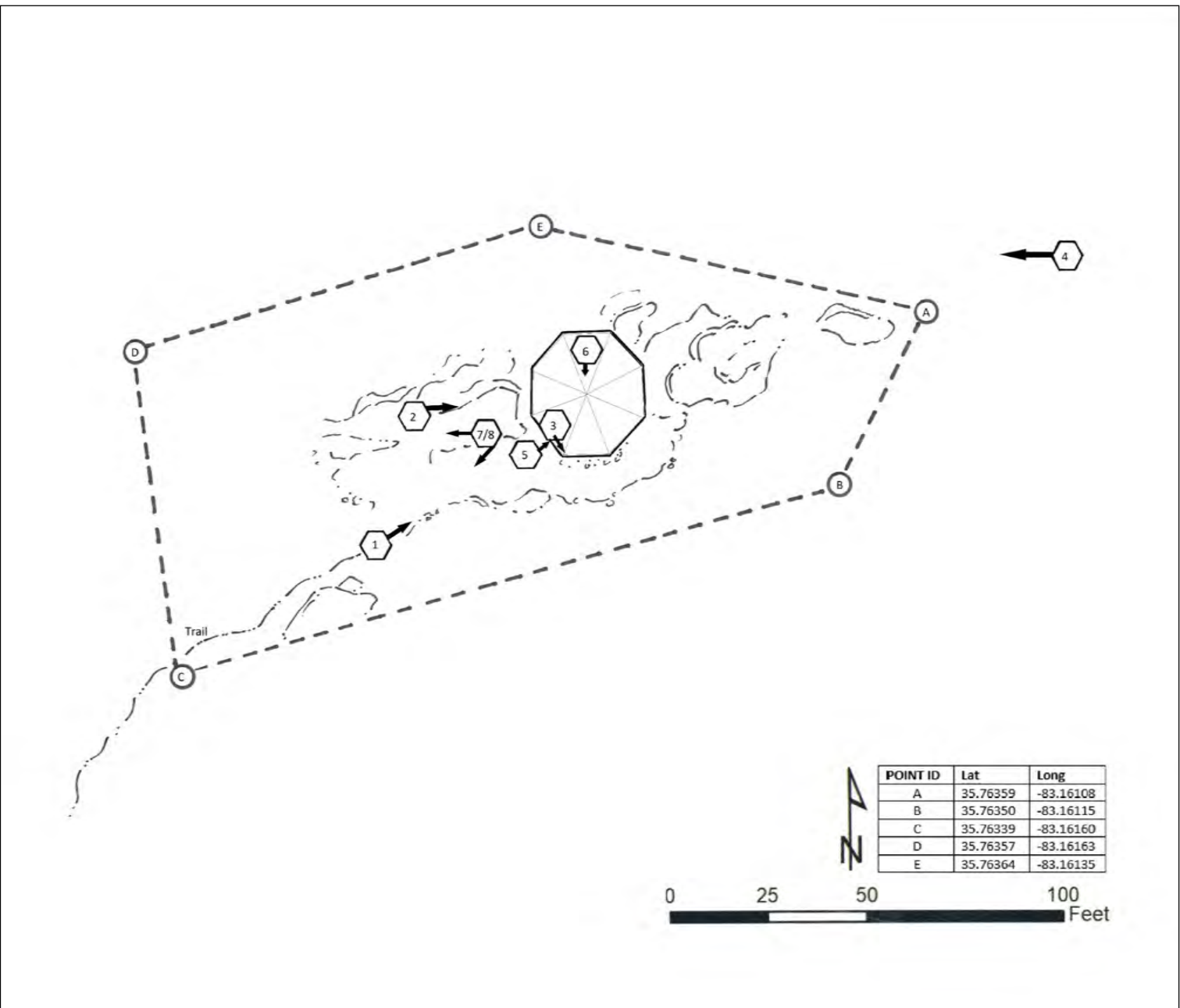
- 1 of 8. Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout, southwest elevation, looking northeast from trail.
- 2 of 8. Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout, west elevation, looking east.
- 3 of 8. Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout, catwalk along southwest elevation, looking southeast.
- 4 of 8. Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout, view of east and northeast elevations, looking west.
- 5 of 8. Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout, door to lower level on southwest elevation.
- 6 of 8. Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout, interior view of roof bracing and vents.
- 7 of 8. Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout, exterior stone steps, looking west.
- 8 of 8. Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout Rock, signage and approach trail, looking southwest.

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National Park Service

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National Park Service

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Photo 2.

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Photo 3.

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Photo 4.

**United States Department of the Interior
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Photo 5.

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Photo 6.

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Photo 7.

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Photo 8.

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National Park Service

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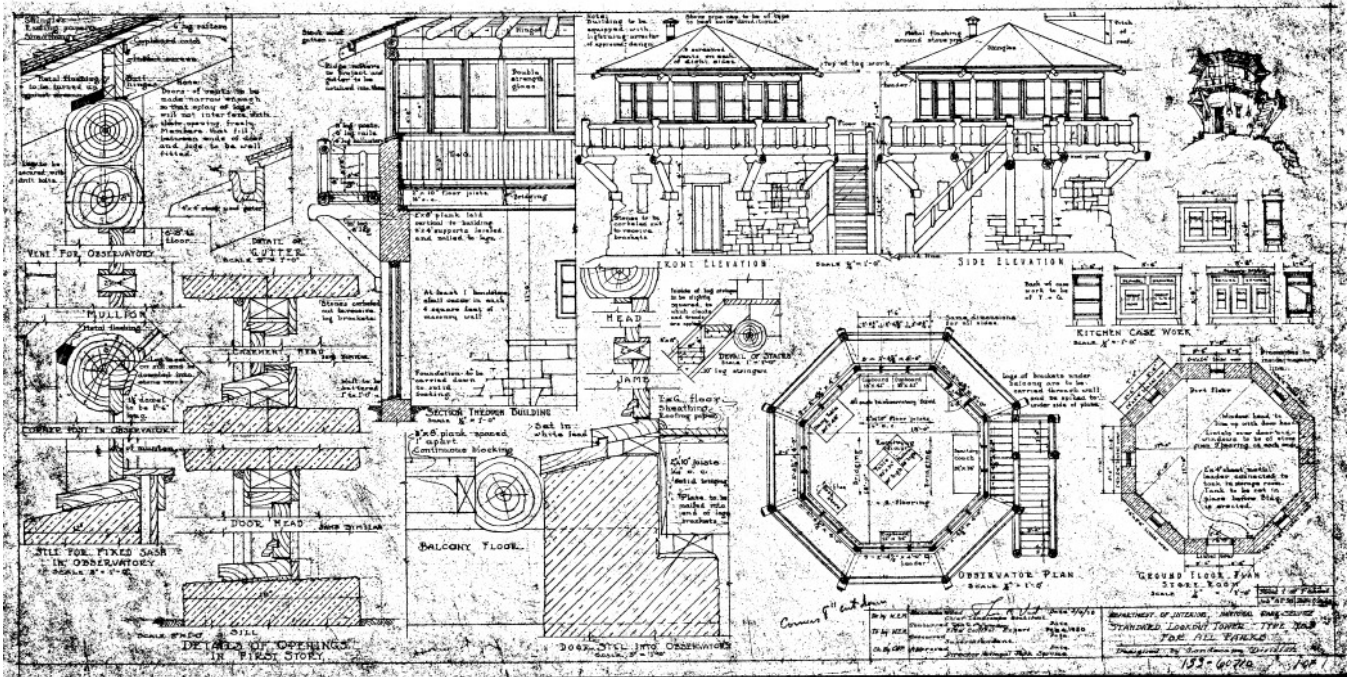


Figure 1. Standard Lookout Tower – Type 9 for all parks, 1930 (GRSM_133_60710, NPS Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center, Denver Colorado).

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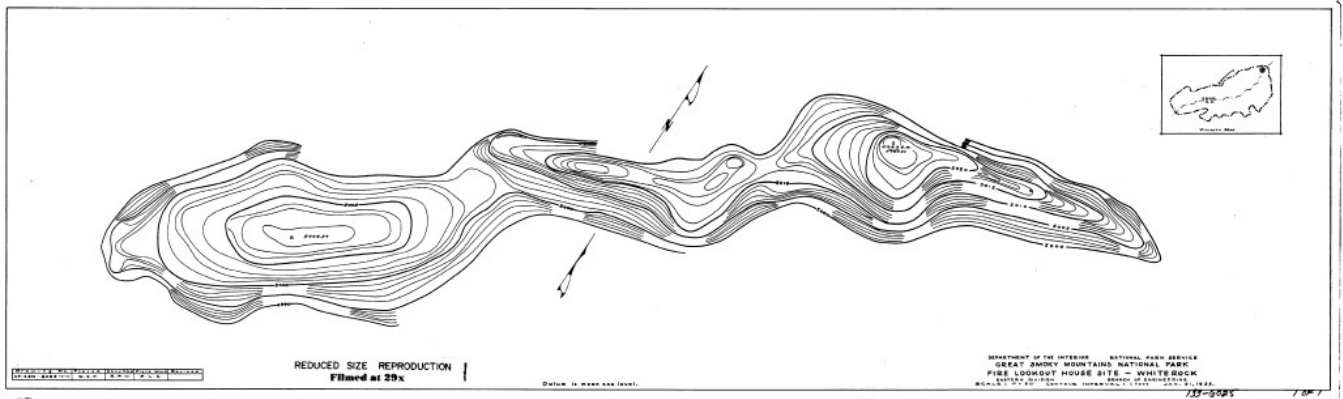


Figure 2. Site survey drawing, 1935 (GRSM_133_6025, source: NPS Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center, Denver Colorado).



Figure 3. Photograph from White Rocks prior to construction of Mount Cammerer Lookout, 1936. One of three photos which together provide a 360 degree view from this point (source: GSMNP, Collection Preservation Center, Townsend Tennessee).

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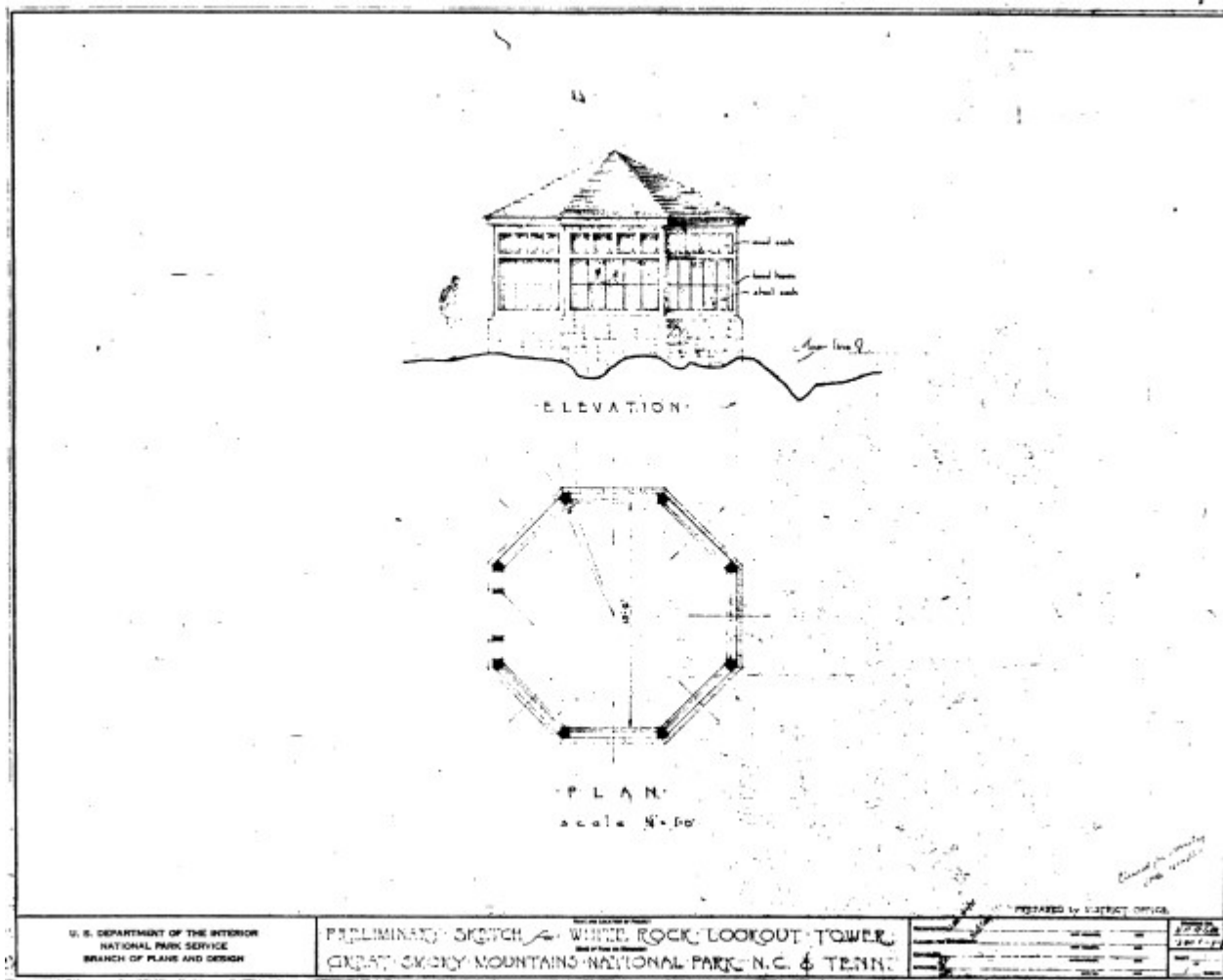


Figure 4. Preliminary plan for Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout, 1937 (GRSM_133_2001_Z1, source: NPS Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center, Denver Colorado).

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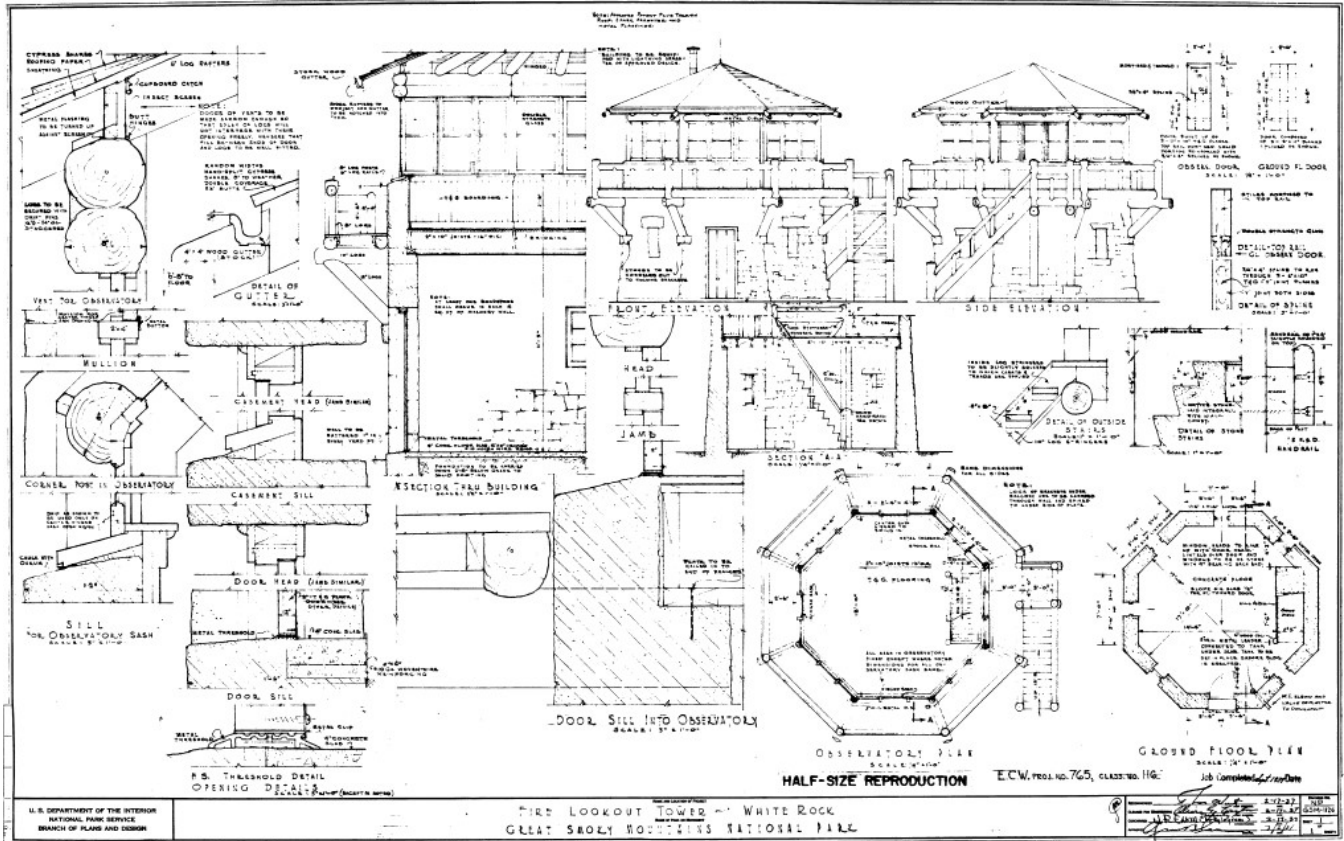


Figure 5. Construction plans for Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout, 1939 (GRSM_133_1126, source: NPS Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center, Denver Colorado).

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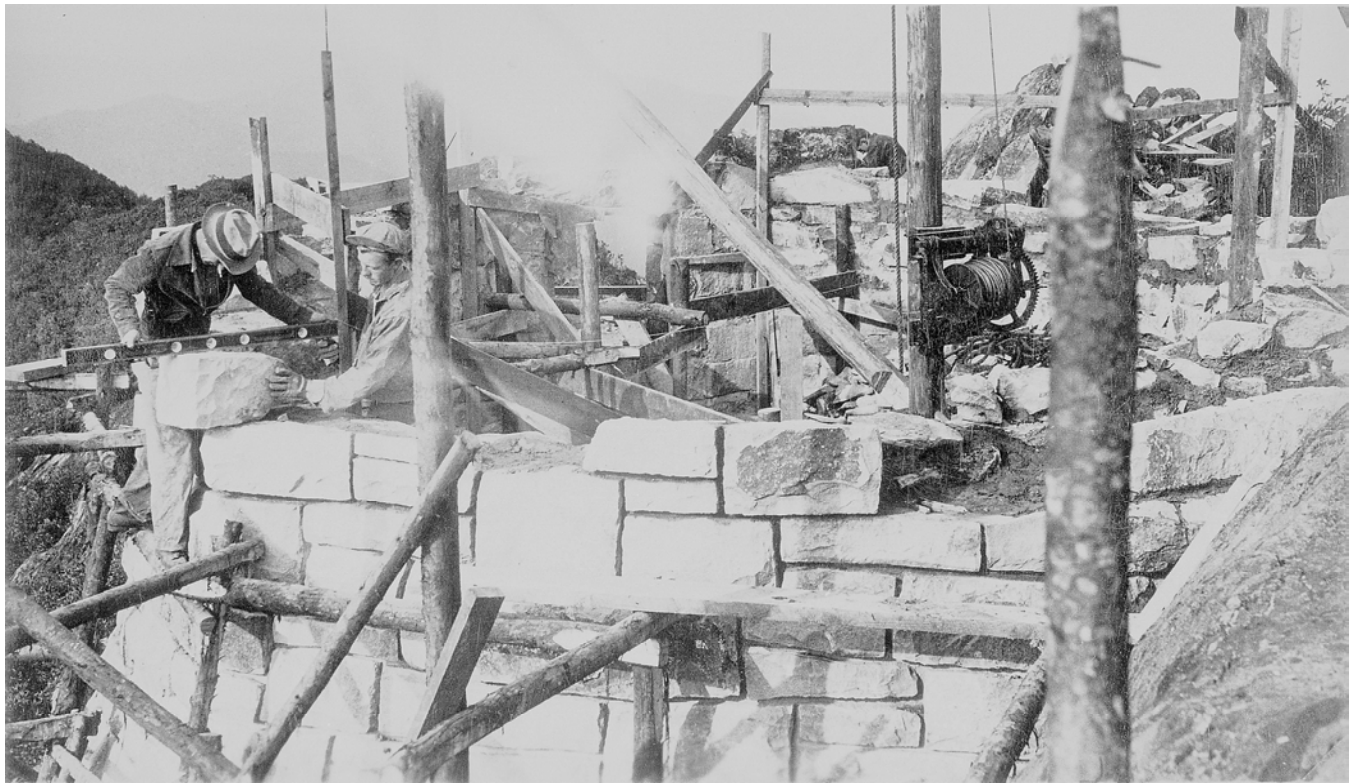


Figure 6. Photograph of Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout under construction, 1937 (source: GSMNP, Collection Preservation Center, Townsend Tennessee).

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Figure 7. Photograph of Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout under construction, supports for catwalk in place, 1937 (source: GSMNP, Collection Preservation Center, Townsend Tennessee).

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Figure 8. Photograph of Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout after completion, undated (source: GSMNP, Collection Preservation Center, Townsend Tennessee).

















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout

Multiple Name: Great Smoky Mountains National Park MPS

State & County: TENNESSEE, Cocke

Date Received: 5/9/2019 Date of Pending List: 5/28/2019 Date of 16th Day: 6/12/2019 Date of 45th Day: 6/24/2019 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number: MP100004091

Nominator: Federal Agency, SHPO

Reason For Review:

X Accept Return Reject 6/12/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: Meets the registration requirements of the MPS. An excellent example of a New Deal era, park rustic designed lookout. Built to blend in with the natural materials and contours of the mountain, the fire lookout served as defense against forest fires until NPS forest management policies were changed.

Recommendation/ Criteria: Accept / A & C

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.



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
107 Park Headquarters Road
Gatlinburg, Tennessee 37738



1.A.2

NOV 14 2018

Crystal Ottinger, County Mayor
Cocke County Courthouse Annex
360 East Main Street, Room 146
Newport Tennessee 37821-3129



Dear Mayor Ottinger:

In accordance with National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) regulations for the nomination of properties by Federal agencies, please find enclosed for your comment a NRHP nomination for Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout. This property is located inside Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Park) in Cocke County, Tennessee.

In 2016, the National Park Service (NPS) submitted to the NRHP a Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) for the Park to serve as the basis for evaluating the National Register eligibility of related properties within the boundaries of the Park. This cover document was approved by the NRHP in November 2016.

The enclosed NRHP nomination for Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout uses the MPDF as a cover. It argues that the lookout is eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A and C at the local level as an example of the Fire and Lookout Tower property type defined in the MPDF. The property possesses significance under Criteria A in the area of Conservation within the MPDF context The Initial Development of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 1926-1942 because it represents the efforts of conservationists, state officials, Congress and the Roosevelt Administration to revive the economy through public works while also conserving natural resources and providing recreational opportunities to the American people. This property is significant under Criteria C in the area of Architecture within the MPDF context The Initial Development of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 1926-1942 because it embodies the distinctive design philosophy and qualities of craftsmanship perfected by the NPS in the New Deal period.

The period of significance for the Mount Cammerer Lookout extends from 1937, the beginning of construction of the lookout, through 1969, the end of routine use and manning of fire towers and lookouts in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

If following your review you have comments on the National Register nomination for the Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout please mail those comments to:

Dianne Flaugh
107 Park Headquarters Road
Gatlinburg TN 37738

Or send them electronically to dianne_flaugh@nps.gov.

Comments are requested by December 18, 2018.

We appreciate the assistance of your office in evaluating NPS historic resources within Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Trotter, For

Cassius M. Cash
Superintendent

Enclosure



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
107 Park Headquarters Road
Gatlinburg, Tennessee 37738



1.A.2

NOV 14 2018

E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr. Executive Director
Tennessee Historical Commission
Department of Environment and Conservation
2941 Lebanon Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37243



Dear Mr. McIntyre:

In accordance with National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) regulations for the nomination of properties by Federal agencies, please find enclosed for your comment a NRHP nomination for Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout. This property is located inside Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Park) in Cocke County, Tennessee.

In 2016, the National Park Service (NPS) submitted to the NRHP a Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) for the Park to serve as the basis for evaluating the National Register eligibility of related properties within the boundaries of the Park. This cover document was approved by the NRHP in November 2016.

The enclosed NRHP nomination for Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout uses the MPDF as a cover. It argues that the lookout is eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A and C at the local level as an example of the Fire and Lookout Tower property type defined in the MPDF. The property possesses significance under Criteria A in the area of Conservation within the MPDF context The Initial Development of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 1926-1942 because it represents the efforts of conservationists, state officials, Congress and the Roosevelt Administration to revive the economy through public works while also conserving natural resources and providing recreational opportunities to the American people. This property is significant under Criteria C in the area of Architecture within the MPDF context The Initial Development of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 1926-1942 because it embodies the distinctive design philosophy and qualities of craftsmanship perfected by the NPS in the New Deal period.

The period of significance for the Mount Cammerer Lookout extends from 1937, the beginning of construction of the lookout, through 1969, the end of routine use and manning of fire towers and lookouts in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

If following your review you have comments on the National Register nomination for the Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout please mail those comments to:

Dianne Flaugh
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Gatlinburg TN 37738

Or send them electronically to dianne_flough@nps.gov.

Comments are requested by December 18, 2018.

We appreciate the assistance of your office in evaluating NPS historic resources within Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Troutman, FOR

Cassius M. Cash
Superintendent

Enclosure



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
107 Park Headquarters Road
Gatlinburg, Tennessee 37738



I.A.2

MAR 07 2019

Ms. Turkiya Lowe
Acting Federal Preservation Officer
Park History Program
National Park Service
1849 C St NW
Mail Stop 7508
Washington, DC 20005



Dear Ms. Lowe:

Enclosed for your review is a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nomination (on CD) for the Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout. This tower is located inside Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Park) in Cocke County, Tennessee.

This document was provided to the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Officer (TN SHPO), and the Mayor of Cocke County, Tennessee. Copies of this correspondence have been enclosed. The TN SHPO office has agreed that the Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout meets National Register criteria and the original signed signature page is enclosed.

In 2016, the National Park Service submitted to the NRHP a Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) for the Park to serve as the basis for evaluating the National Register eligibility of related properties within the boundaries of the Park. This cover document was approved by NRHP in November 2016.


The enclosed National Register nomination for Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout uses the MPDF as a cover. It argues that the tower is eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A and C at the local level as an example of the Fire and Lookout Tower property type defined MPDF. The property possesses significance under Criteria A in the area of Conservation within the MPDF context *The Initial Development of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 1926-1942* because it represents the efforts of conservationists, state officials, Congress, and the Roosevelt Administration to revive the economy through public works while also conserving natural resources and providing recreational opportunities to the American people. This property is significant under Criteria C in the area of Architecture within the MPDF context *The Initial Development of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 1926-1942* because it embodies the distinctive design principles and qualities of craftsmanship perfected by the NPS in the New Deal period.

The period of significance for the Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout extends from 1937 the beginning of construction of the lookout, through 1969, the end of routine use and manning of fire towers and lookouts in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Concerns or questions this nomination should be directed to Dianne Flaugh, Great Smoky Mountains National Park Cultural Resource Program Manager at (865) 430-0339 or to Cynthia Walton, National Historic Landmarks Program Manager, National Park Service, Southeast Region at (404) 507-5792.

Sincerely,



 Cassius M. Cash
Superintendent

Enclosures



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240



H32(2280)

Memorandum

To: Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

From: Acting, NPS Federal Preservation Officer *Larkye R. Rowe*

Subject: National Register Nomination for Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Cocke County, TN

I am forwarding the National Register Nomination for the Mount Cammerer Fire Lookout in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The Park History Program has reviewed the nomination and found it eligible under Criteria A, C, with Areas of Significance of Conservation and Architecture. This nomination is being submitted under the *Historic Resources of Great Smoky Mountains National Park* Multiple Property Documentation Form, accepted by the National Register in 2016.

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and chief local elected official(s) were sent the documentation on February 12, 2019. Within 45 days, the SHPO x supported supported with comments did not respond. Any comments received are included with the documentation.

If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Spradley-Kurowski at 202-354-2266 or kelly_spradley-kurowski@nps.gov.