

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: 15000444

Date Listed: 7/21/2015

Property Name: Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower (Tennessee Division of Forestry Lookout
Towers, 1933-1975 MPS)

County: Bledsoe

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

7-21-2015
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 3: Level of Significance

The Level of Significance is hereby amended to LOCAL.

While the history of this tower is interesting, having been utilized as a tourist tower at the Chickamauga Battlefield, its importance under this context is related to its local use as a fire tower.

The Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

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 nominated, it should be marked "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 Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower
Other names/site number N/A
Name of related multiple property listing Tennessee Division of Forestry Fire Lookout Towers, 1933-1975
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & Number: Fire Tower Road
City or town: Pikeville State: Tennessee County: Bledsoe (007)
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: Zip Code: 37367

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:
 national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Christina Spivey 5/28/15
Signature of certifying official/Title: Date
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission
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: Date
Title: State of Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

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

Jim Hubert
 Signature of the Keeper

7.21.2015
 Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
9	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	1	structures
0	0	objects
9	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/Fire Lookout

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/Fire Lookout (emergency)

VACANT/Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER/Adapted Visitor Observatory/Fire Lookout Tower

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: CONCRETE; METAL: Steel; WOOD; STONE

Narrative Description

The Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower is a skeletal steel building that provided a high, sheltered location for fire observation. The tower is capped by a square cab marked by a ribbon of windows which provided the observer a 360° panoramic view of the surrounding terrain. Although Fall Creek Falls was administered by the Tennessee Forestry Service and Department of Agriculture in the 1930s and 1940s, construction of park facilities fell to the Works Progress Administration (WPA), while the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was tasked with reforestation and wildlife management (Nichols, 1998:298). As part of a compound of buildings and structures associated with the fire observation tower, it is likely the dwelling was built by the WPA in connection with the park's fire suppression efforts. While the fire lookout tower has experienced normal wear and tear, it is in overall good condition. The nominated property includes a contributing lookout operator's cabin, crew house, two sheds, and two privies.

Fall Creek Falls Fire Tower, ca. 1895, 1941 (C)

Situated on an east-west axis at an elevation of 2,026 feet, the Fall Creek Falls Fire Tower is located in Bledsoe County in East Tennessee. Originally constructed ca. 1895, the building was moved to its current location in 1941 by the CCC (Paige and Greene, 1983). The eighty-foot tall skeletal steel tower with bolted connections is supported by four, angle section legs secured to ground-level concrete footers. X-bracing, consisting of turnbuckle tensioners affixed to each face of the structural frame by bolts, is employed on four

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of the tower's five levels, with additional lattice bracing incorporated into the five landing levels. The lowest level of the tower is approximately half the height of the other levels and includes horizontal cross bracing spanning the distance between each leg. Additional cross bracing is similarly installed at the juncture of the other four levels of the tower. At its base, the fire lookout tower measures sixteen feet by sixteen feet.

The structural steel members bear the markings of both "Carnegie" and "Jones & Laughlins". The two Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania-based manufacturers were major steel producers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The precise wording of the mark, "Jones & Laughlins", indicates a date of manufacture prior to 1902, when the steel maker changed its name from Jones & Laughlin's, Limited to Jones & Laughlin Steel Company (Vukmir, 2010:18-19).

The observation tower tapers slightly in width from the base to its apex, which consists of a steel platform with steel balustrade and newel posts capped by a square-plan observation room. Access to the approximately 9-foot-square observation room is achieved via an open newel steel staircase with metal stair treads and handrails. The staircase of 108 steps rises diagonally along the interior face of each level of the tower, incorporating one landing at the lowest level and two landings at each of the four remaining levels. The penultimate landing at the base of the fifth level consists of a U-shaped walkway along the interior faces of the north, west, and south elevations, at which point the staircase continues along the east face to a final landing at the northeast corner of the tower before rising to the uppermost level of the structure. Each landing also includes a newel post, all of which bear evidence of having once featured decorative finials.

The observation room, or cab, is wood-framed, partially clad in metal sheeting, and topped with a hipped metal roof. Access to the interior of the room is achieved via an aluminum-frame, single-light storm door on the west elevation. The wooden floor consists of tongue-in-groove boards with repaired areas consisting of wood planking. Interior walls are finished with vertical wood boards. The ceiling is approximately seven-feet in height and is composed of painted plywood trimmed with a simple, beaded cornice molding. A series of single-light, operable, metal sash windows on each elevation provide observation capabilities for the lookout operator. Notably, the cab appears to have been altered ca. 1980 to include the replacement of the windows, door, and exterior siding.

Crew House, ca. 1941 (C)

A ca. 1941 crew house is located east of the fire lookout tower. The thirty-five foot by forty-eight foot, one-story, frame building is situated on an east-west axis and features a symmetrical façade and multi-light windows. The west façade includes a front porch with a tongue-in-groove wood ceiling supported by four evenly-spaced wood columns on sandstone bases atop a concrete floor. The façade features a centered, wood entry door with a fan-light, flanked by two, six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash windows with aluminum-frame storm windows. The foundation is constructed of sandstone, and the exterior is clad in asbestos shingle siding. A ca. 1950 addition constructed on a cement block foundation was added to the building's south gable end. The house is capped by a gable roof covered with asphalt shingles and features two interior chimneys constructed of sandstone.

The north gable end of the building is distinguished by a pair of six-over-six double-hung wood sash windows, with aluminum-frame storm windows, located at the west end. A single, four-over-four double-hung wood sash window with an aluminum-frame storm window is located toward the east end of the wall. Centered at the crest of the gable is a single, six-light, wood casement window. The east elevation has an enclosed porch with a wood entry door at the north end and two replacement single-light, operable, metal

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sash windows at the south end of the addition, immediately adjacent to the entry door. The north elevation of the addition contains a replacement single-light, operable, metal sash window. The east elevation also includes a contemporary wood deck in fair to poor condition. Abutting the south end of the addition, along the east elevation of the house, is a ca. 1941 six-over-six double-hung wood sash window with an aluminum-frame storm window.

The south gable end of the building features an addition resting on a concrete block foundation. The west elevation of the addition is windowless. The south end of the addition (south elevation) features two evenly-spaced six-over-six double-hung wood sash windows with aluminum-frame storm windows. Centered at the crest of the gables of both the ca. 1941 house and the later addition are wood vents for the attic. The west elevation of the addition is marked by a six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash window covered with an aluminum-frame storm window. A single basement-level vent, covered by a metal grill, is located at the center of the concrete block foundation.

The interior of the crew house consist of six rooms. The ca. 1941 portion contains rooms: the living room, kitchen, two bedrooms; and an enclosed porch which also contains both a laundry room and a bathroom. A gable roof addition was constructed to the south elevation ca. 1950 and contains one large room with two closets.

Throughout the ca. 1941 section of the house, the walls are clad with wide vertical pine wood planks with wood molding and baseboards with the exception of part of the kitchen, the enclosed porch and the bathroom. The ceilings are of varying widths of pine wood planks and the floors are pine tongue and groove flooring. A stone fireplace is located on the east wall and has a rustic stone shelf supported by wood engaged stone brackets. The firebox has been filled with concrete along with the flue hole that was used after the fireplace was sealed. The hearth has also been covered with concrete. To the north of the fireplace is an original triple panel wood panel door that leads to a closet. To the south of the fireplace is the entry into the kitchen.

The kitchen is large enough to include both the sink area and an eating area. The north wall contains the original sink and pine wood cabinets and cupboards. The west wall has a stone chimney that it shares with the living room and a sealed flue opening. To the north of the chimney is an original open pine wood pantry with pine wood shelving. Two-thirds of the kitchen area has a linoleum covered floor while the other portion is pine wood flooring. A doorway on the north side of east wall leads into the enclosed porch and the floors are covered in linoleum. At the south side of the east wall is an entry which leads to the ca. 1950 bathroom which consists of a fiberglass combined shower/bathtub, a sink and a toilet. The bathroom floor is covered with linoleum. On the south wall is the access to Bedroom 2. The door is an original three panel wood door with original hardware.

Bedroom 2 has an inset bookcase with pine wood shelving on the south wall and a closet and small stone flue on the west wall. The closet door is an original wood panel door with original hardware. The floor, ceiling, and walls are all of pine wood.

Bedroom 1 is accessed from the living room along the south wall. The door is an original wood panel door with original hardware. On the east wall is the stone flue that is shared with Bedroom 2 and a closet with an original pine wood panel door. Access to the ca. 1950 addition is through a ca. 1950 hollow-core wood door

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with a rounded ca. 1950 surround (all other doorways and closets have a square original surround) on the south wall.

The ca. 1950 addition has windows on the south and west elevations with grooved wood surrounds which are different from the ca. 1941 section. The walls are clad with pine wood paneling and the floor is of pine wood tongue and groove flooring. The ceiling is drywall and has a ca. 1950 light fixture. On the west wall are two closets with ca. 1950 hollow-core wood doors. This room is used as an additional bedroom.

Pump/Well house, ca. 1950 (C)

A ca. 1950 pump house is located on the grounds of the crew house approximately five feet from the east elevation of the building near the south end. Sited on an east-west axis, the pump house stands approximately five feet in height and is constructed of cement blocks. The east elevation includes a wood crawlspace entrance, and a spigot is located on the pump house's west elevation. The gabled roof of the building is covered with asphalt shingles.

Lookout Operator's Cabin, ca. 1941 (C)

A ca. 1941 lookout operator's cabin is located southeast of the fire observation tower, and once provided temporary shelter for fire spotter personnel. While the fifteen-foot by sixteen-foot cabin remains in good condition, it currently stands unused. The one-story, rectangular plan, frame building sits on a north-south axis, and rough cut stone piers support the building. The cabin is clad with replacement board and batten wood siding and capped by a gable roof covered with asphalt shingles.

The gabled, north façade of the building includes an original four-panel wood entry door. Entry to the cabin is by two, rough-hewn stone steps leading to the entry door. Also extant are four stone slabs set into the ground as pavers. The east elevation of the building is windowless. The eaves feature exposed rafter ends, all of which appear to be in good condition. The south elevation is distinguished by an exterior end concrete block flue. The chimney is sited at ground level and extends approximately one-foot above the ridgeline of the roof. The west elevation includes a six-light wood casement window, the glass of which has been painted over.

The floor of the building's singular room features pine wood planking, while the walls are covered in vertical pine wood boards. The ceiling is likewise constructed of pine wood boards, with wood corner molding employed throughout. Centered in the east elevation of the interior is a window opening that has been boarded over with the exterior replacement siding. A traditional coal/wood-burning stove is centered on the south elevation and is fitted to an exterior chimney. At the northeast corner of the ceiling is a small square opening that provides access to a storage loft.

Utility Shed No. 1, ca. 1941 (C)

East of the crew house, situated on an east-west axis is one of two utility sheds located near the fire observation tower. The twenty-foot by twenty-two-foot, one-story, rectangular plan frame building sits on a poured concrete slab foundation, and a flanking lean-to bay has been added to the south elevation. The exterior of the shed is clad in original board and batten wood siding and capped by a gable roof covered with asphalt shingles.

The west façade of the shed features an overhanging gable supported by thin wood brackets and shelters the entrance as a porch. A single-light wood door centered on the gabled façade provides entry to the shed. The

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north elevation of the building is windowless. Centered on the east elevation of the building is a single, two light wood sash window with an aluminum storm window. A modern metal security light, historic in appearance, is located near the peak of the gable. The south elevation includes a flanking lean-to bay. The floor of the side shed is earthen with a top layer of crushed stone.

The interior of the utility shed consisted of a single room used for storage, a workroom, and housing for volunteer summer workers. The floor is a rough concrete slab and the walls and ceiling are of pine wood planking set vertically.

Utility Shed No. 2, ca. 1941 (C)

East of the first utility shed and situated on an east-west axis is the second of two utility sheds which is located near the fire observation tower. Sited on deeply sloping ground, the twenty-foot by fifteen-foot abandoned shed rests on rough cut stone blocks and its gable roof is covered with corrugated metal. The exterior of the wood frame structure consists of vertical, hardwood boards. At the north end of the west façade is a single door constructed of wood boards. At the south end of the west elevation is a second door of identical construction, although it is no longer affixed to its frame.

A single open bay is located at the north end of the east elevation. Cut marks indicate that the bay was crudely cut out of the exterior wall, thereby leaving the structure open to the elements. Unfinished wood framing forms the interior of the shed, and the floor is constructed of wood boards.

Privies No.1 (C) and No.2, ca. 1941 (C)

Two privies are extant on the grounds near the Fall Creek Falls fire observation tower. The privies have been in disuse for an extended period of time.

Privy No.1 is situated south and west east of the Lookout Operator’s Cabin on deeply sloping ground within a transmission line landscape cut. The six-foot by seven-foot privy is of wood frame construction and sits atop a poured concrete foundation set on dry stack stones. Vertical wood boards comprise the exterior siding, and the privy is covered by a corrugated metal shed roof. Access is provided via a vertical wood board door. A raised wood platform with a wood toilet seat is extant above the pit toilet.

Privy No.2 is sited on deeply sloping ground to the south and east of the Utility Shed No. 1 and sits on a concrete slab foundation. The six-foot by seven-foot outhouse consists of a wood frame covered with vertical wood boards and is capped with a corrugated metal shed roof. Access is through a vertical wood board door. There is no seat extant. However, a rectangular panel constructed of wood provides a base for the pit toilet and a wood-handled square wood lid covers the hole.

Radio Tower, ca. 2011 (NC)

Situated approximately 175 yards east of the historic Fall Creek Falls Fire Tower, at an elevation of 2,021 feet, is a ca. 2011 radio tower under license to the State of Tennessee, Forestry Radio Division to broadcast public safety information to its subscribers (Federal Communications Commission, 2014). The cantilevered structure is constructed of steel and features a lattice of triangular cross-sections. The tower tapers in height from base to apex. This tower replaced the ca. 1950 radio tower that was installed at the same time as the ca. 1950 Radio Equipment Building.

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Radio Equipment Building, ca. 1950 (C)

West of the base of the radio tower and located within a chain-link fence topped with barbed wire is a radio equipment building with a shed metal roof. The walls of the fifteen-foot by thirteen-foot building are constructed of concrete block and the east elevation is differentiated by a single air-conditioning unit projecting from the wall. Access is through a solid metal door on the north façade. Thin rectangular louvered metal vents provide air flow to the interior of the building and are sited on all four corners surrounding the door. Two other louvered vents are location on the south elevation centered on the wall at the roof line and approximately a foot above the ground level. The tower, radio equipment building, and a metal gas tank are surrounded by a chain link metal fence.

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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.)

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

CONSERVATION

Period of Significance

1941-1965

Significant Dates

1941

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Civilian Conservation Corp. (CCC)

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

Criteria Considerations N/A
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

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

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as part of the "Tennessee Division of Forestry Fire Lookout Towers, 1933-1975" Multiple Property Document under National Register Criterion A in the area of Conservation as a reflection of changing conceptions regarding forest management and fire control in the twentieth century. Additionally, the tower is eligible for the NRHP under National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an example of an observation-only lookout tower. The tower retains its original design features, and its historic setting has been preserved. The tower was utilized as part of the Tennessee Division of Forestry's (TDF) statewide efforts to protect forested land in the state through its fire control program. The period of significance begins with the tower's movement to its current location in 1941, when the tower began to operate as a fire lookout. The period of significance terminates in 1965, when Tennessee fire lookout towers were largely abandoned in favor of other methods of fire identification.

Narrative Statement of Significance

While research was unable to locate an exact date of construction, the Fall Creek Falls fire lookout tower was constructed ca. 1895, and originally located on Missionary Ridge, near the city of Chattanooga (Paige and Greene, 1983). The tower functioned as one of two observatory towers on the ridge for visitors to the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park (*see Figures 1-3*). One tower was located at DeLong point, and the other on a knob that served as General Bragg's headquarters during the Battle of Chickamauga (Paige and Greene, 1983). The towers provided views of the Chickamauga Battlefield, Lookout Mountain, and the entire Chattanooga Valley (T.H. Payne & Co., 1900:32). In 1923, the tower was declared unsafe for visitors, and in need of repair or removal, and visitors were no longer allowed to climb the tower at this time. A new initiative by the War Department to provide guide services at the park in the early 1930s, continued through the park's administrative transfer to the National Park Service (NPS). The NPS implemented guide service using labor provided by the Civilian Conservation Corp. (CCC) to conduct tours and maintain the park (Paige and Greene, 1983). A decision was made to raze the tower in 1941. A push by local proponents for saving the tower led to its disassembly and transfer to Fall Creek Falls by CCC workers, where it was thence reassembled, and its cab enclosed (Paige and Greene, 1983).

The tower was moved to its current location on a high knob at the northeastern edge of Falls Creek Falls State Park as part of the public work effort of the CCC which began in the mid-1930s. The state park includes nearly 20,000 acres on the Cumberland Plateau, and was established in 1936 by the NPS. That year the CCC began forestry management and restoration work within the park under the direction of the Tennessee Division of Forestry (TDF), and began construction of administrative and visitor facilities (Nichols, 2010). Administrative duties for the park were shared between the TDF and the Department of Agriculture, who constructed hiking trails, picnic areas, a dam, scenic overlooks, and cabins. The park combines the beauty of natural resources, particularly the 250-foot Fall Creek falls among others, with amenities for visitors (Nichols, 2010). At the park, the tower was no longer used as a visitor observatory, but for fire prevention and management (*see Figures 4-5*). The tower was manned by CCC personnel likely from Companies 1214 and 5427 from the NP-11 work camp based in the vicinity of Cades Cove, Tennessee.

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The lookout tower is eligible for the NRHP under National Register Criterion A in the area of Conservation as a reflection of changing conceptions regarding forest management and fire control in the twentieth century. Tennessee, along with many other states, benefited from the early shift in public policy allowing for improvement in fire detection as a result of the conservation movement that led to the construction and staffing of fire towers. In Region 8 or the Southern Region of the United States Forest Service and particularly in the State of Tennessee, with large areas of difficult-to-access mountain terrain and thick forest canopy, fire towers have served as a particularly important fire management tool. At its peak, the state had 208 lookout towers of which 142 are extant as of March 26, 2014 (University of Tennessee-Knoxville, 2014). The lookout tower is a prominent symbol of the history of fire management and a key component of the conservation movement. From its establishment, the Forestry Service played a significant role in shaping national fire control policies as well as in the development of state-level fire prevention systems. The Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower is a visual reminder of this multi-agency, federal and state-level governmental cooperation for the benefit of forest land in Tennessee.

The Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower is significant under National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an excellent example of an observation-only lookout tower. The Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower is unique as a late 19th century visitor's observation tower later adapted to function as a fire identification station. Although the cab has been enclosed, the tower retains its original design and materials, maintaining a high level of integrity. Despite being moved from its original location, the tower has achieved significance of association in its current setting. While originally functioning as a visitor's observatory platform, the tower's significance is derived from its function as a fire lookout tower used by the TDF. In 1992, the Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower was the first tower in Tennessee to be named to the National Historic Lookout Register as # US50 TN1.

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9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

Federal Communications Commission

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2013 Tennessee Lookout Towers. Electronic document, <http://web.eecs.utk.edu/~dunigan/towers/>. Accessed October 1, 2013.

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Please refer to the Multiple Property Documentation Form "Tennessee Division of Forestry Fire Lookout Towers, 1933-1975" for additional related sources.

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

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property	Approximately	USGS Quadrangle	Sampson 103 NE
	<u>4-acres</u>		

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84:

Latitude: 35.669445 Longitude: -85.306249

Verbal Boundary Description

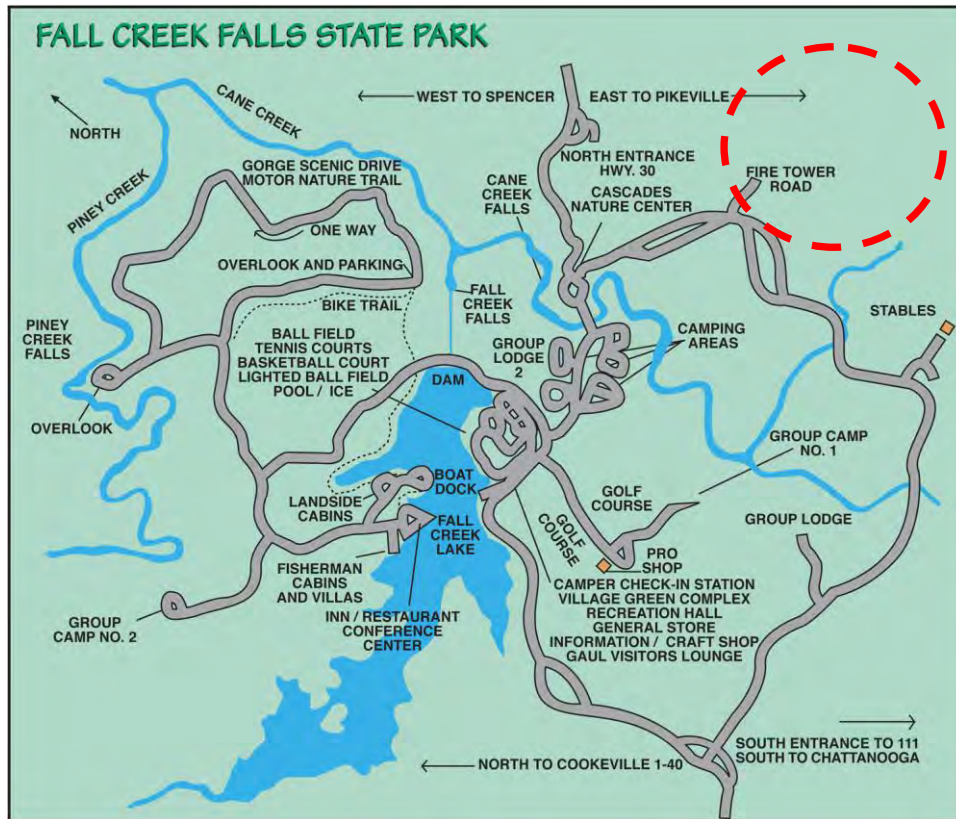
The proposed boundary of the Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower property is shown on the accompanying site map entitled "Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower Boundary". The National Register boundary includes seven contributing buildings sited on the top of Bradden Knob within the Falls Creek Falls State Park. The proposed NRHP boundary is an approximate 4-acres of the 6,733 acre Bledsoe County Parcel 053 001.00.

Boundary Justification

The National Register boundary for the Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower property includes those buildings that are historically associated with the fire observation complex during its period of significance (1933-1975) and retain adequate integrity.

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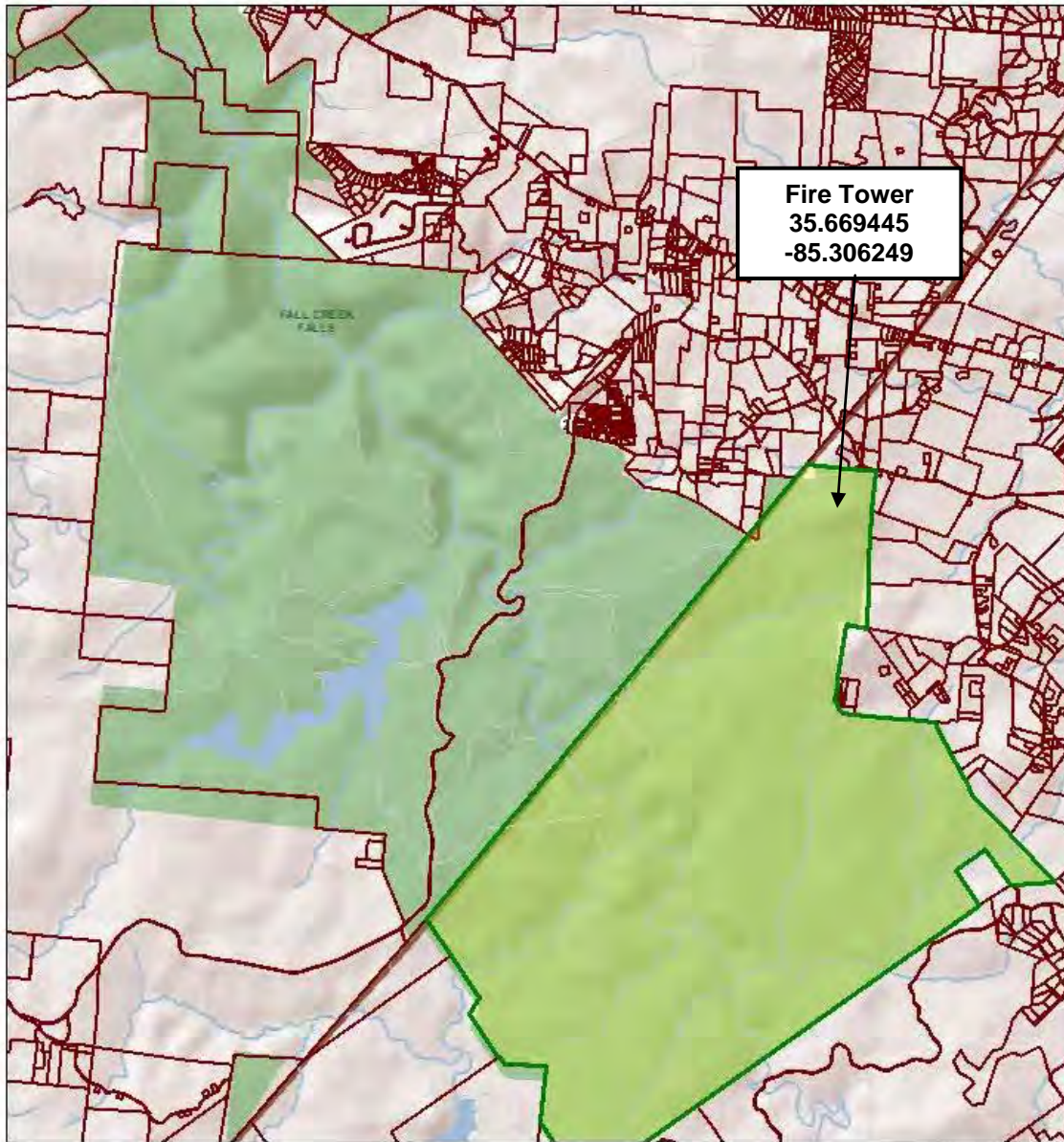


Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower is located within the boundary of the Fall Creek Falls State Park off Fire Tower Road.

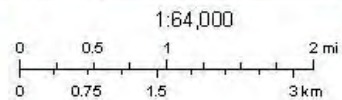
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Bledsoe County, Tennessee
County and State

Bledsoe County - Parcel: 053 001.00



March 18, 2015

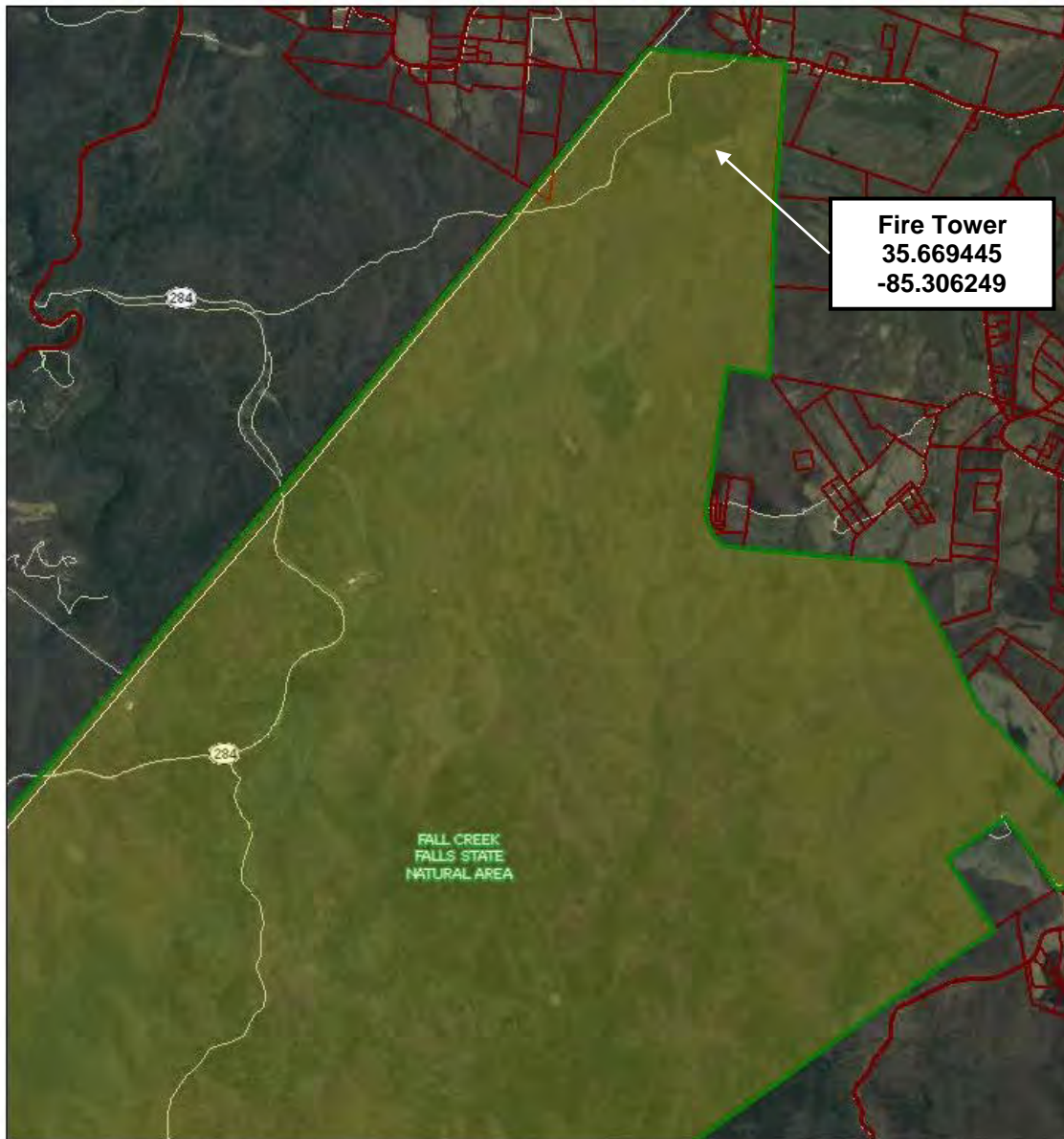


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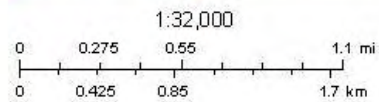
Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower
Name of Property

Bledsoe County, Tennessee
County and State

Bledsoe County - Parcel: 053 001.00



April 2, 2015

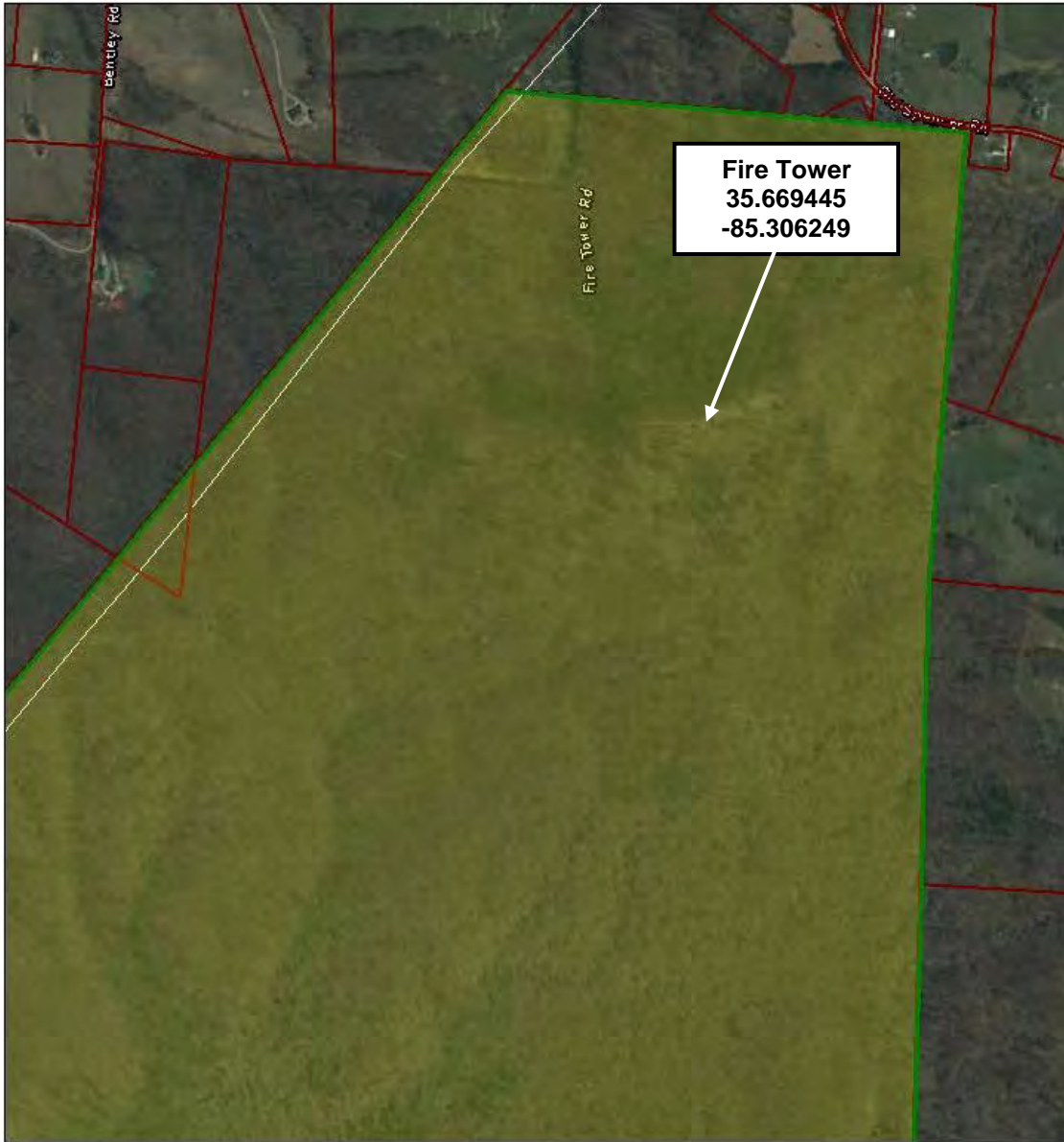


©IRGISat.com

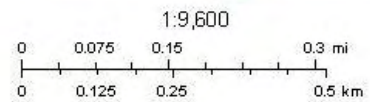
Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower
Name of Property

Bledsoe County, Tennessee
County and State

Bledsoe County - Parcel: 053 001.00



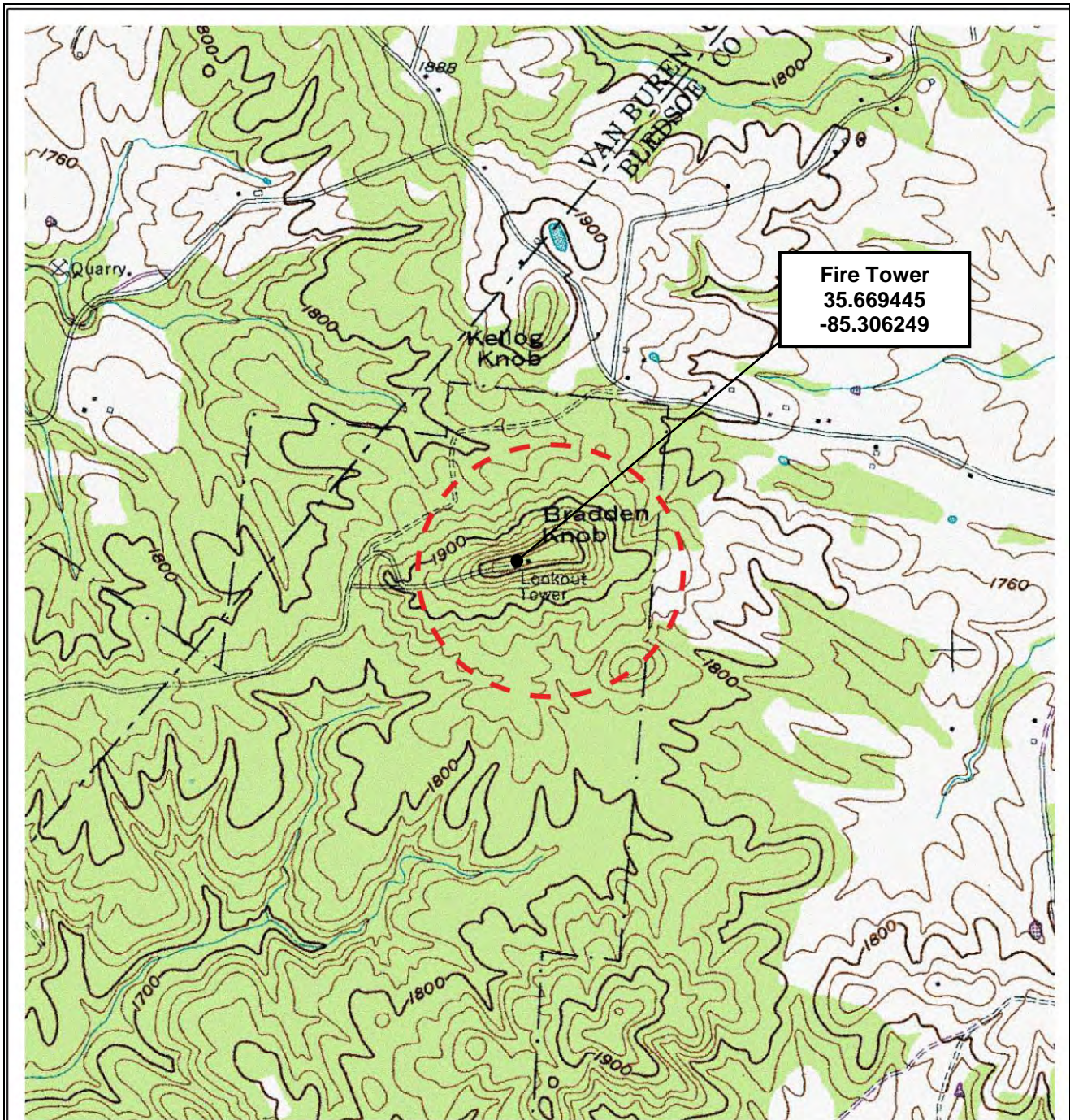
April 2, 2015



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Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower
Name of Property

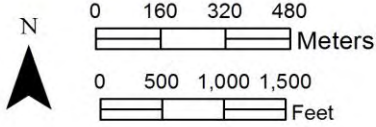
Bledsoe County, Tennessee
County and State



Fire Tower
35.669445
-85.306249

Location of Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower

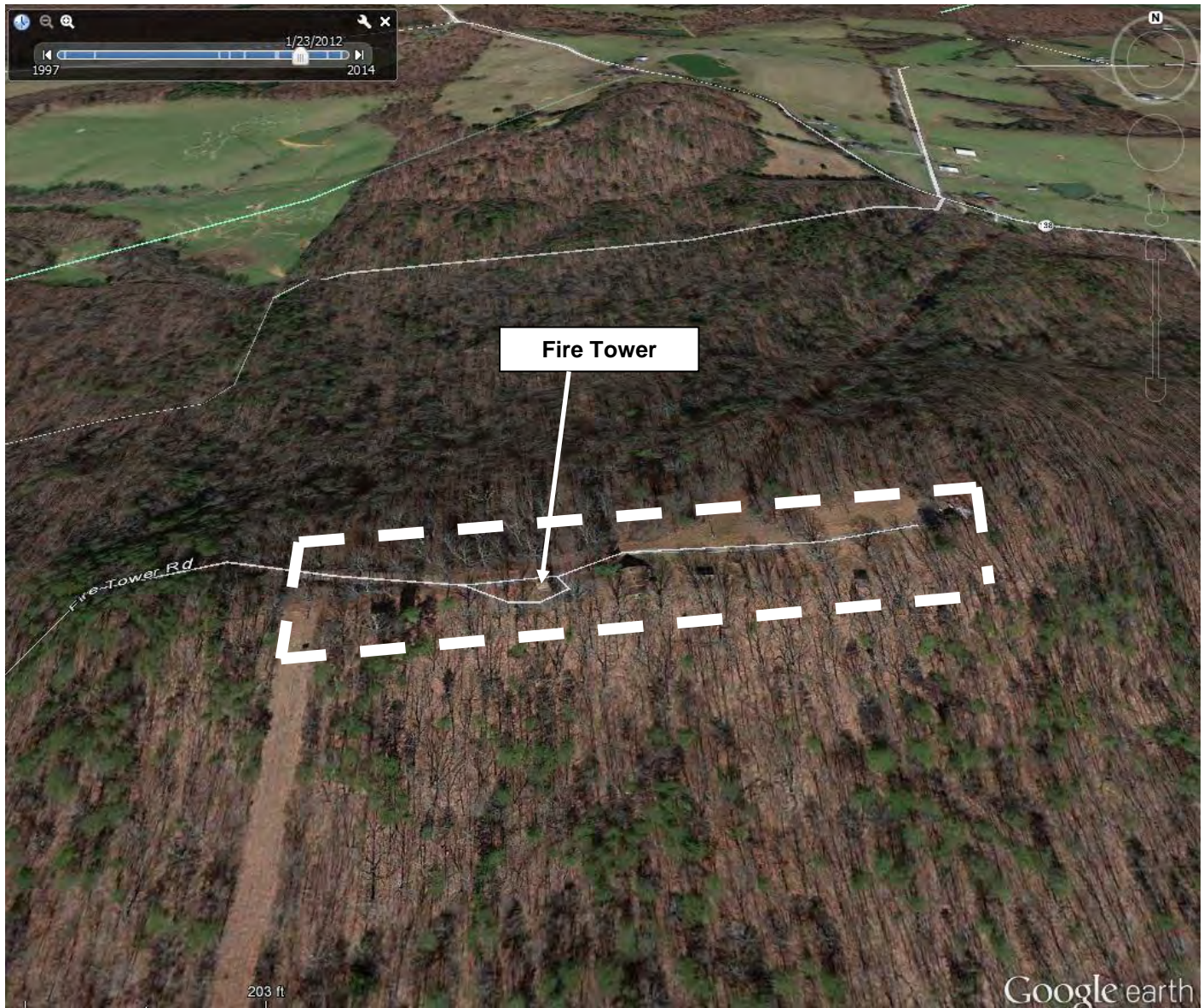
 Fire lookout tower location



Located on USGS 1974 Sampson 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle.

Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower
Name of Property

Bledsoe County, Tennessee
County and State



2012 Location of the Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower with the boundary outlined with a dashed white line. Aerial courtesy of Google Earth.

Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower
Name of Property

Bledsoe County, Tennessee
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

Name Sr. Preservation Planner Ted Karpyneec, Preservation Planner Meghan Weaver,
Historian David Sprouse; Peggy Nickell, TN Historical Commission

Organization Tennessee Valley Archaeology Research

Street & Number 4219 Hillsboro Pike, Suite 201

Date June 2, 2014

City or Town Nashville

Telephone 615-760-5693

E-mail mweaver@tvaresearch.com

State TN Zip Code 37215

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower
Name of Property

Bledsoe County, Tennessee
County and State

Photo Log

Name of Property: Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower

City or Vicinity: Pikeville

County: Bledsoe State: Tennessee

Photographer: Meghan Weaver, Tennessee Valley Archaeological Research, Nashville, TN

Peggy Nickell, Tennessee Historical Commission, Nashville, TN

Date Photographed: January 31, 2014 and April 2, 2015

0001. Fire lookout tower (C) west elevation with crew house (C) in background. Camera facing east.
1 of 64.

0002. Overview with Utility shed No. 1 (C), crew house (C), and fire lookout tower (C). Camera facing west.
2 of 64.

0003. Fire lookout tower (C) lattice work and bracing detail on west and north elevations. Camera facing southeast.
3 of 64.

0004. Fire lookout tower (C) northeast leg detail with concrete pad. Camera facing northeast.
4 of 64.

0005. Fire lookout tower (C) X-bracing detail.
5 of 64.

0006. Fire lookout tower (C) stairway. Camera facing northeast.
6 of 64.

0007. Fire lookout tower (C) stairway. Camera facing southwest.
7 of 64.

0008. Electrical box serving the fire lookout tower (C). Camera facing southeast.
8 of 56.

0009. "JONES & LAUGHLINS" stamp on fire lookout tower (C) stairway. Camera facing west.
9 of 64.

0010. Fire lookout tower (C) south and east elevations. Camera facing northwest.
10 of 64.

0011. Fire lookout tower (C) stairway, cab floor, X-bracing. View looking up from base of tower.
11 of 64.

0012. Detail of fire lookout tower (C) cab floor and X-bracing. View looking up from base of tower.
12 of 64.

Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower
Name of Property

Bledsoe County, Tennessee
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-
0013. Fire lookout tower (C) north and west elevations. Camera facing southeast.
13 of 64.
0014. View from fire lookout tower (C) observation deck. Camera facing southeast.
14 of 64.
0015. Fire lookout tower (C) cab north and east elevations. Camera facing southwest.
15 of 64.
0016. View from fire lookout tower (C) observation deck. Camera facing southwest.
16 of 64.
0017. Fire lookout tower (C) cab west elevation. Camera facing east.
17 of 64.
0018. Fire lookout tower (C) cab interior.
18 of 64.
0019. Fire lookout tower (C) cab interior.
19 of 64.
0020. Fire lookout tower (C) cab interior, showing wood floor.
20 of 64.
0021. Fire lookout tower (C) cab interior, showing ceiling.
21 of 64.
0022. Fire lookout tower (C) cab interior.
22 of 64.
0023. Fire lookout tower (C) observation deck, floor and railing detail.
23 of 64.
0024. Fire lookout tower (C) walkway and stairs detail.
24 of 64.
0025. Fire lookout tower (C) X-bracing bolt detail.
25 of 64.
0026. Fire lookout tower (C) newel post detail, with missing finial.
26 of 64.
0027. Lookout operator's cabin (C) east elevation façade with privy (C) in background. Camera facing southwest.
27 of 64.

Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower
Name of Property

Bledsoe County, Tennessee
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0028. Lookout operator's cabin (C) north and west elevations. Camera facing southeast.
28 of 64.

0029. Lookout operator's cabin (C) south and east elevations. Camera facing northwest.
29 of 64.

0030. Lookout operator's cabin (C) interior. Camera facing northwest.
30 of 64.

0031. Lookout operator's cabin (C) interior. Camera facing southwest.
31 of 64.

0032. Lookout operator's cabin (C) wood stove. Camera facing west.
32 of 64.

0033. Crew house (C) west elevation façade. Camera facing southeast.
33 of 64.

0034. Crew house (C) north and west elevations. Camera facing southeast.
34 of 64.

0035. Crew house (C) north and east elevations, with pump house. Camera facing southwest.
35 of 64.

0036. Crew house (C) south and east elevations, with fire lookout tower (C) in background. Camera facing northwest.
36 of 64.

0037. Crew House (C) Interior, living room. Camera facing northeast.
37 of 64.

0038. Crew House (C) Interior, kitchen. Camera facing north.
38 of 64.

0039. Crew House (C) Interior, bedroom 1. Camera facing southeast.
39 of 64.

0040. Crew House (C) Interior, bedroom 2. Camera facing east.
40 of 64.

0041. Crew House (C) Interior, ca. 1950 addition-bedroom. Camera facing west.
41 of 64.

0042. Crew House (C) Interior, ca. 1950 addition-bedroom. Camera facing southeast.
42 of 64.

Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower
Name of Property

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0043. Pump/Well house (C) south and east elevations, with crew house (C) in background. Camera facing northwest.

43 of 64.

0044. Pump/Well house (C) south and west elevations. Camera facing northeast.

44 of 56.

0045. Utility shed No.1 (C) south and west elevations. Camera facing northeast.

45 of 64.

0046. Utility shed No. 1 (C) north and west elevations. Camera facing southeast.

46 of 64.

0047. Utility shed No.1 (C) interior. Camera facing east.

47 of 64.

0048. Utility shed No. 1 (C) interior. Camera facing east northeast.

48 of 64.

0049. Utility shed No. 1 (C) lean-to interior. Camera facing east.

49 of 64.

0050. Utility shed No. 2 (C) north and west elevations. Camera facing southeast.

50 of 64.

0051. Utility shed No. 2 (C) east elevation. Camera facing west.

51 of 64.

0052. Utility shed No. 2 (C) south and east elevations. Camera facing northwest.

52 of 64.

0053. Modern radio tower (NC) and radio equipment building (NC). Camera facing east.

53 of 64.

0054. Radio equipment building (NC) south and east elevations. Camera facing northwest.

54 of 64.

0055. Radio equipment building (NC) north and west elevations. Camera facing southeast.

55 of 64.

0056. Overview of radio tower (NC), radio equipment building (NC), and Utility shed No. 2 (C). Camera facing east.

56 of 64.

Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower
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0057. Privy 1 (C) north and east elevations. Camera facing southwest.
57 of 64.

0058. Privy 1 (C) south and west elevations. Camera facing northeast.
58 of 64.

0059. Privy 1 (C) interior. Camera facing west.
59 of 64.

0060. Privy 1 (C) interior, showing roof.
60 of 64.

0061. Privy No. 2 (C) north and east elevations. Camera facing southwest.
61 of 64.

0062. Privy No. 2 (C) south and west elevations. Camera facing northeast.
62 of 64.

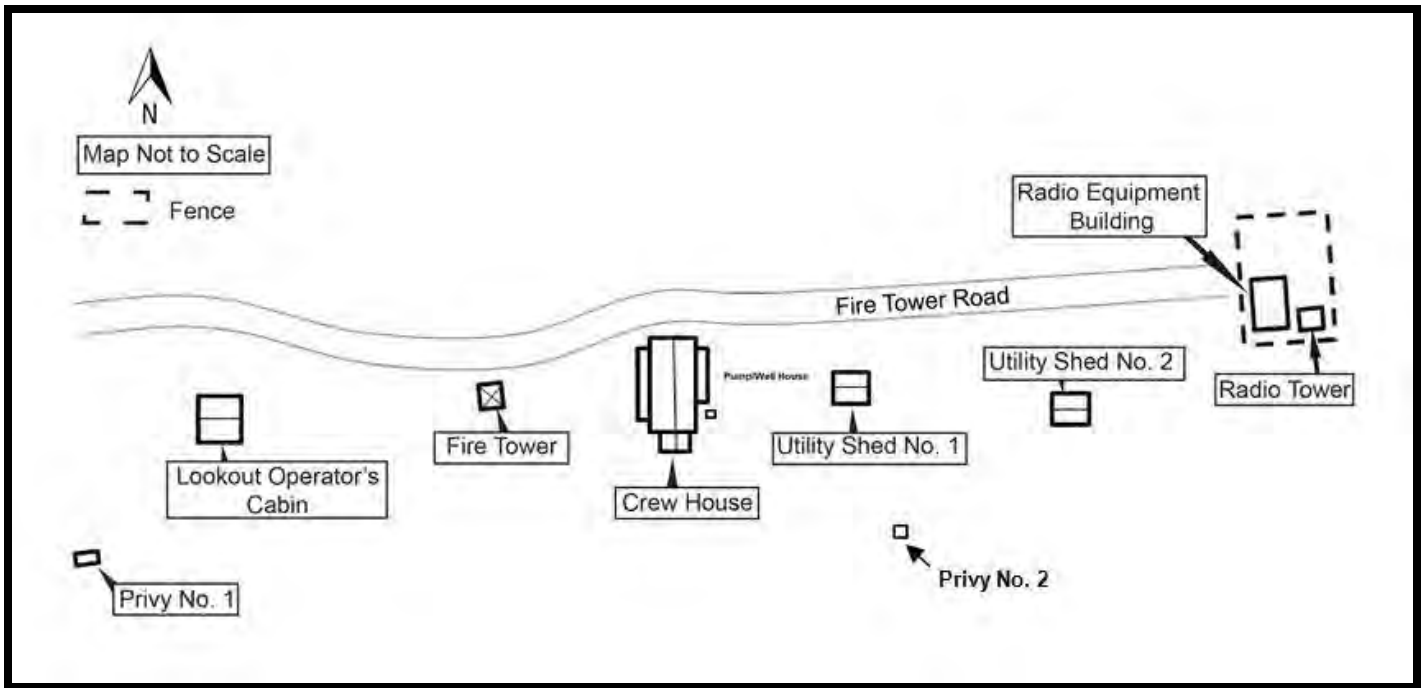
0063. Privy No. 2 (C) south and east elevations. Camera facing northwest.
63 of 64.

0064. Privy No. 2 (C) interior. Camera facing north.
64 of 64.

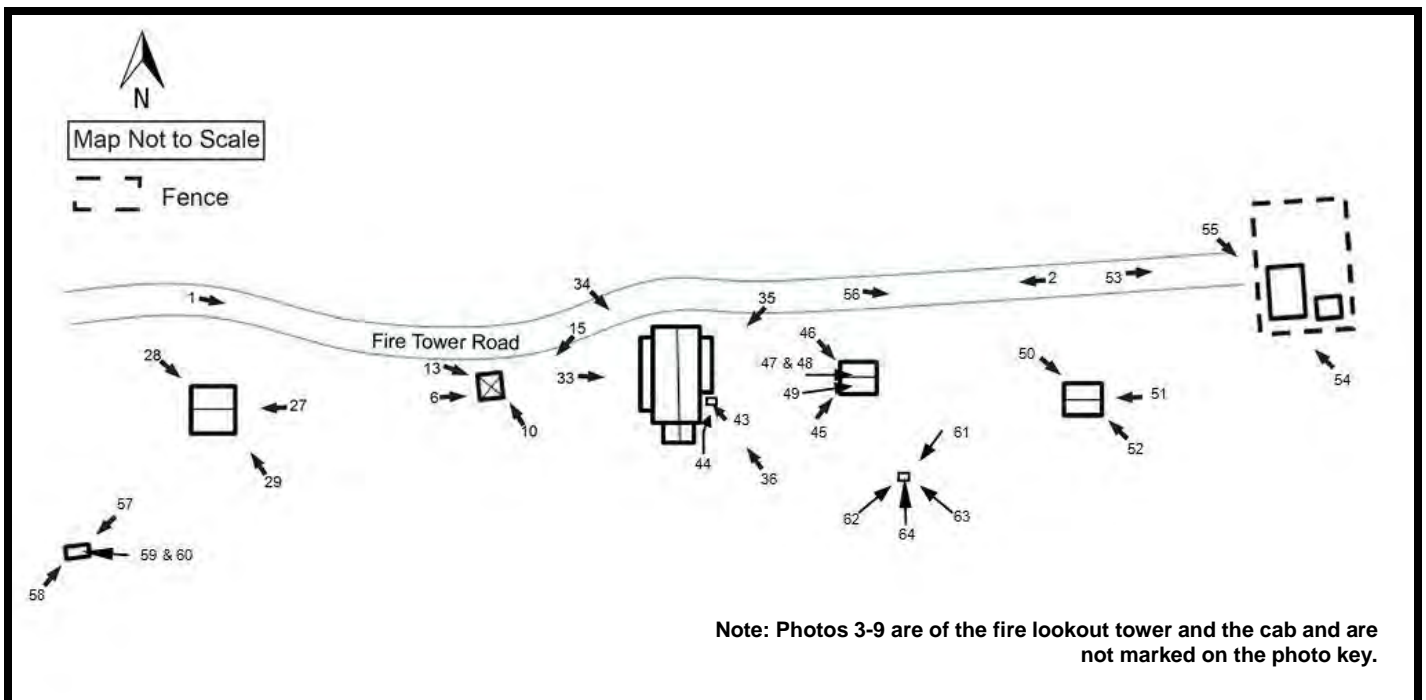
Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower
 Name of Property

Bledsoe County, Tennessee
 County and State

Fall Creek Falls Lookout Tower Site Plan



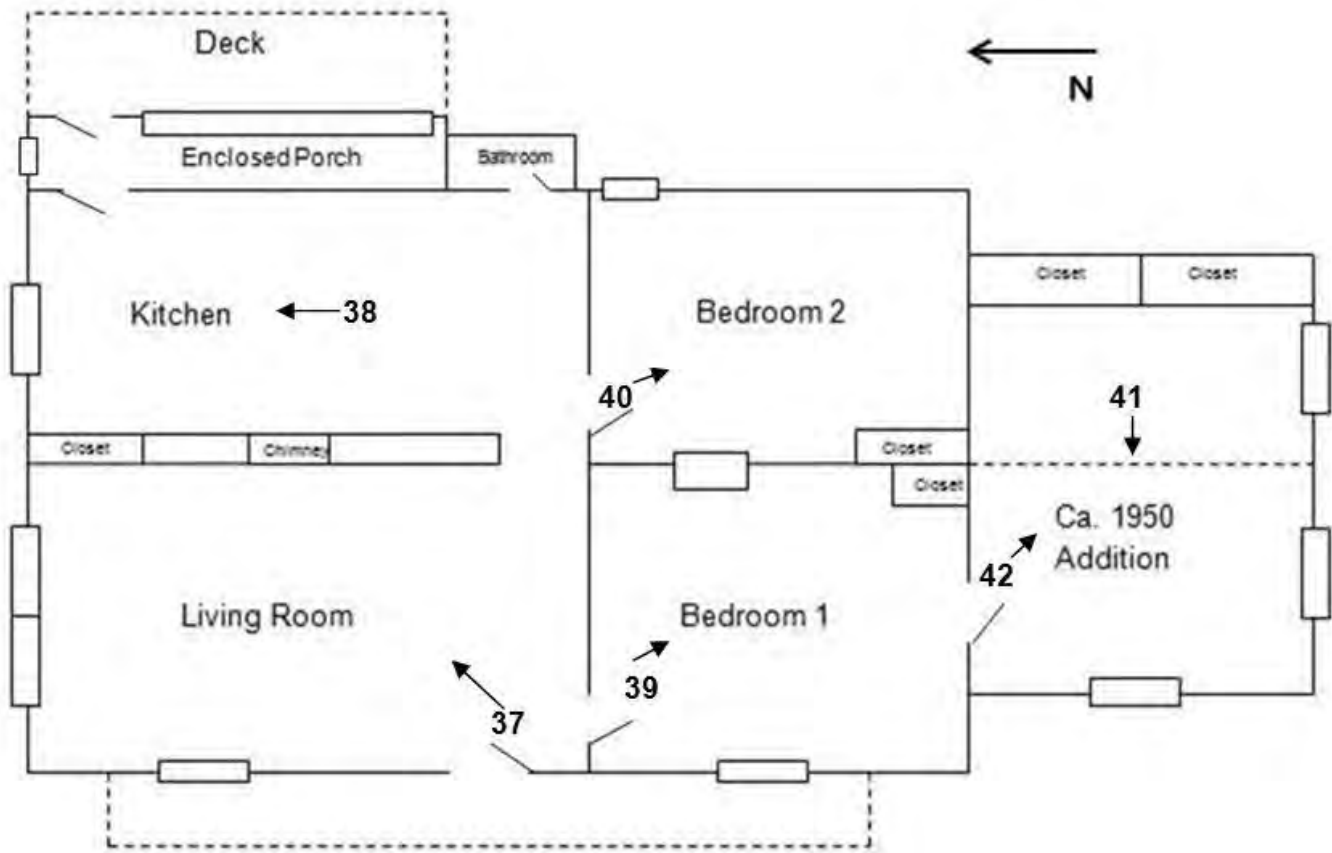
Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower Site Plan With Photo Key



Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower
Name of Property

Bledsoe County, Tennessee
County and State

Crew House Floor Plan and Photo Key (*not to scale*)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 29

Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower

Name of Property

Bledsoe County, Tennessee

County and State

Fire Lookout Towers of Tennessee, 1930-1975

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Figure 1. The Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower ca. 1895 in its original location in Chattanooga, Tennessee.
Photo courtesy of the Chattanooga Public Library.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 30

Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower

Name of Property

Bledsoe County, Tennessee

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Fire Lookout Towers of Tennessee, 1930-1975

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Figure 2. The Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower ca. 1900 in its original location in Chattanooga, Tennessee.
Photo courtesy of the Chattanooga Public Library.



Figure 3. The Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower in its original location as depicted in a ca. 1910 postcard.
Image courtesy of the Chattanooga Public Library.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 31

Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower

Name of Property

Bledsoe County, Tennessee

County and State

Fire Lookout Towers of Tennessee, 1930-1975

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Figure 4. Fire control instruction at the Fall Creek Falls State Park Forestry School. *Photo courtesy of the Tennessee State Library and Archives.*

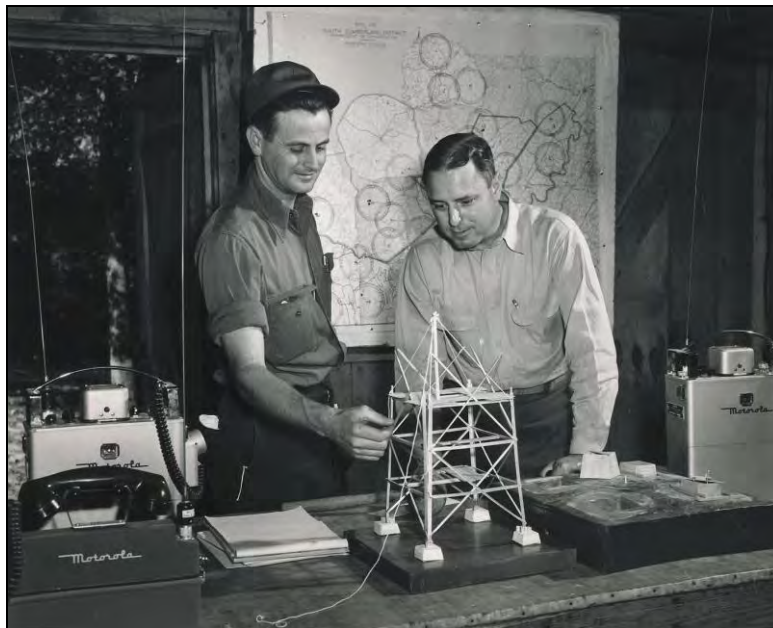


Figure 5. The demonstration of new radio equipment for forest fire management at Fall Creek Falls State Park. *Photo Courtesy of the Tennessee State Library and Archives.*

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 32

Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower
Name of Property
Bledsoe County, Tennessee
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Fire Lookout Towers of Tennessee, 1930-1975
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



1999 location of the Falls Creek Falls Fire Tower within the Falls Creek Falls State Park.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 33

Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower

Name of Property

Bledsoe County, Tennessee

County and State

Fire Lookout Towers of Tennessee, 1930-1975

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



2010 Image of the location of the Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower. *Aerial courtesy of Google Earth.*













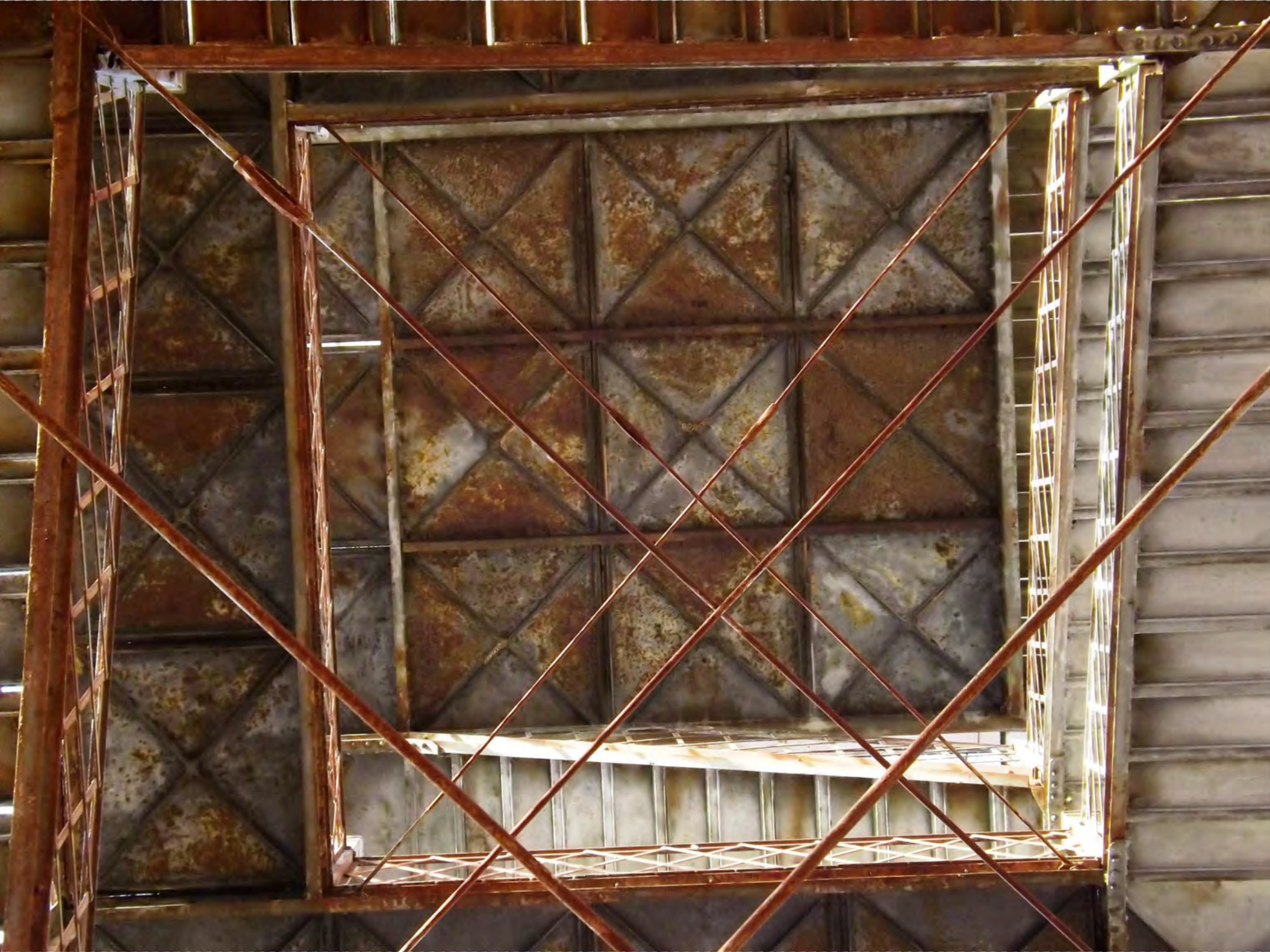
























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JAMIE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Fall Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower

MULTIPLE NAME: Tennessee Division of Forestry Fire Lookout Towers MPS

STATE & COUNTY: TENNESSEE, Bledsoe

DATE RECEIVED: 6/05/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/07/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/22/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/21/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000444

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 7.21.2015 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Meets Reg. Requirements of multiple

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Asc

REVIEWER J. Gubler DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

RECEIVED 2280

JUN - 5 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service



TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

2941 LEBANON ROAD

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0442

OFFICE: (615) 532-1550

E-mail: Claudette.Stager@tn.gov

(615) 770-1089

www.tnhistoricalcommission.org

May 29, 2015

J. Paul Loether
Deputy Keeper and Chief,
National Register and National Historic Landmark Programs
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye Street NW, 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find the documentation to nominate the *Falls Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower* to the National Register of Historic Places. The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the nomination for the listing of the *Falls Creek Falls Fire Lookout Tower* to the National Register of Historic Places. For more information regarding the Tennessee Fire Lookout Towers please refer to the *Tennessee Division of Forestry Fire Lookout Towers, 1933-1975 Multiple Property Document* which was accepted on March 31, 2015.

If you have any questions or if more information is needed, contact Peggy Nickell at 615/770-1087 or Peggy.Nickell@tn.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Claudette Stager".

Claudette Stager
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

CS:pn

Enclosures(4)