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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
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: South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

Other names/site number: VDHR Architectural Inventory Number: 062-5119

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

### 2. Location

Street & number: Rockfish Valley Highway and feeder roads

City or town: Nellysford State: Virginia County: Nelson

Not For Publication:  N/A Vicinity:  X

### 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  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A  B  C  D

|   |  |                |
|---|--|----------------|
|  |  | <u>6/27/16</u> |
| Signature of certifying official/Title:   |  | Date           |
| <u>Virginia Department of Historic Resources</u>                                    |  |                |
| 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 or 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): \_\_\_\_\_

*Jon Edson H. Beall*  
Signature of the Keeper

*8.15.16*  
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

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

|              |                 |            |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| Contributing | Noncontributing |            |
| <u>108</u>   | <u>104</u>      | buildings  |
| <u>12</u>    | <u>0</u>        | sites      |
| <u>10</u>    | <u>13</u>       | structures |
| <u>1</u>     | <u>0</u>        | objects    |
| <u>131</u>   | <u>117</u>      |            |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 18

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling, Secondary Structure

COMMERCE/TRADE: Professional, Specialty Store, Department Store, Restaurant

GOVERNMENT: Post Office

EDUCATION: School

RELIGION: Religious Facility, Church-related Residence

FUNERARY: Cemetery

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Processing, Storage, Agricultural Field, Animal Facility, Agricultural Outbuilding

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION: Manufacturing Facility (mills)

LANDSCAPE: Forest, Unoccupied Land, Natural Feature

TRANSPORTATION: Road-Related (Vehicular)

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling, Secondary Structure, Hotel

COMMERCE/TRADE: Department Store, Restaurant

SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

RELIGION: Religious Facility, Church-related Residence

FUNERARY: Cemetery

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Museum, Sports Facility (playing field), Outdoor Recreation (park, campground, picnic area, hiking trail)

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Processing, Storage (granary), Agricultural Field, Animal Facility, Agricultural Outbuilding

LANDSCAPE: Park, Garden, Forest, Unoccupied Land, Natural Feature, Conservation Area

TRANSPORTATION: Road-Related (Vehicular), Pedestrian Related

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## 7. Description

**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions.)

COLONIAL: Georgian

EARLY REPUBLIC: Early Classical Revival, Federal

MID-19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival

LATE VICTORIAN: Gothic, Queen Anne

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:

Bungalow/Craftsman

OTHER: Minimal Traditional, I-House, Post Modern

MODERN MOVEMENT: Ranch

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

Principal exterior materials of the property: ASPHALT; BRICK; CONCRETE; METAL;

Aluminum, Steel, Tin; STONE: Limestone; STUCCO; SYNTHETICS: Vinyl, Plastic;

WOOD: Weatherboard, Shingle, Log

## 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

The South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District comprises 1,620 acres of bottomland in northwestern Nelson County, Virginia. The gently rolling landscape of the river valley contrasts starkly with the rugged terrain to the southeast and especially with the Blue Ridge Mountains, which loom to the northwest. Located 15 miles northwest of the county seat of Lovingston, the district follows the South Fork of the Rockfish River from the eastern outskirts of the village of Beech Grove in a generally northeastward direction for about 8 miles. At the community of Lodebar, the South Fork passes out of the district boundary and heads east to join the main branch of the Rockfish River. At the southwest end of the district, Reeds Creek flows gently through floodplain into the South Fork from the southwest, while Spruce, Stoney, and Allen's creeks tumble down from the slopes of the Blue Ridge to their confluences with the South Fork of the Rockfish farther to the northeast. At its northeastern end, the district also takes in a 2,000-foot bend of the North Fork of the Rockfish River. Extending the entire length of the district, historic Rockfish Valley Highway (SR 151) has served as the valley's main transportation corridor since the 18th century, with only minor changes in alignment.<sup>1</sup> Generally, the roadway

<sup>1</sup> Paul Saunders, *Heartbeats of Nelson* (Piney River, Virginia: Saunders Publications, 2007), 480.

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runs along the inside of the district's northern/northwestern boundary, separating the setting of historic farm complexes, woodland, and large, open tracts from the Wintergreen Resort's residential development (begun in the 1970s) to the northwest. The highway runs along the northwestern edges of the floodplain, which averages about a half mile in width, except at the broader extremities of the district. The district's cultural landscape retains an exceptional degree of integrity. Historic eighteenth- and nineteenth-century farmhouses with complexes of historic domestic and agricultural outbuildings stand on parcels that have remained largely intact. It is telling that the average size of the district's 139 parcels—including clusters of smaller historic and non-contributing residential and commercial properties in Beech Grove and Nellysford—is nearly 11 acres. Historic fence lines, farm roads, and the settlement pattern of small crossroads communities amid large tracts of agricultural land that have been farmed for more nearly three centuries add to the continuity of the traditional, rural cultural landscape. Natural features such as the river, tributary streams, and areas of woodland contribute to the district's character.

Unobstructed views toward surrounding Devil's Knob, Black Rock Mountain, Grassy Ridge, Crawford Knob, and Horseshoe Mountain are also important features. Many of the district's eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century farmhouses began as relatively modest vernacular dwellings, which the owners expanded and embellished with high-style elements as they grew more prosperous. Historic farmhouses represent a variety of architectural styles, including Georgian, Classical Revival, Federal, Greek Revival, and Queen Anne, along with vernacular forms such as I-houses. Residential construction in the small crossroads communities embraced some of the popular styles of the turn of the twentieth century such as Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, and Bungalow, and later the Ranch style. Other contributing architectural resources include five historic churches, a general store, two former apple packing sheds, quarters for enslaved workers, and a wide variety of agricultural and domestic outbuildings. The historic district includes four properties that are individually listed in the NRHP: River Bluff (NRHP 1980; 062-0088/062-5119-0009; 1 contributing resource), Elk Hill (NRHP 2007; 062-0005/062-5119-0001; 11 contributing resources), Major Woods' House/Three Chimneys (NRHP 2013; 062-0433/062-5119-0011; 5 contributing resources), and the Wintergreen Country Store (NRHP 2005; 062-0117/062-5119-0010; 1 contributing resource).

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## Narrative Description

### Setting

On satellite photographs, the South Rockfish Valley's pale swath of agricultural fields contrasts sharply with the rest of Nelson County's patchwork of forested ridges and small stream-hollow farms. Soil surveys confirm the valley's agricultural productivity with descriptors such as "prime farmland" (Delanco loams) and "farmland of statewide importance" (Hayesville loams) for the valley's most common soil types. It is no wonder that eighteenth-century speculators and settlers ventured first to the far northwestern portion of what is now Nelson County, claiming grants and purchasing properties along the waters of the South Fork of the Rockfish River long before populating the rugged, less hospitable landscape that extends from the surrounding ridges southeast to the James River along the county's opposite edge. The broad sweeps of the valley's bottomland—dedicated to dark leaf tobacco and grain cultivation in the eighteenth and

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nineteenth centuries, and apple growing from the late nineteenth century to the 1940s—retain their agricultural functions, which now consists of pasture for beef cattle, hayfields, niches of viticulture, and some small orchards for craft cideries. The district's landscape remains overwhelmingly rural, made up of large, open areas of farmland, patches of forest, vistas of surrounding mountains, dispersed historic farmhouse complexes, and a handful of residential and commercial clusters that consist mostly of historic, contributing buildings.

Surrounding the valley floor are forested mountain ridges to the northwest, west, and south. Northwest of the district, the South Fork of the Rockfish River rises from the southeast-facing slopes of the Blue Ridge just west of Reeds Gap. A rushing stream at this stage, the South Fork descends southward and parallel to Beech Grove Road (Route 664) between Piney Mountain and then PJ's Mound on the east, and the spine of the Blue Ridge on the west. At the eastern base of Three Ridges Mountain, Beech Grove Road and the South Fork both curl eastward through the village of Beech Grove and skirt along the southern base of Bryant Mountain. After entering the district at High View Farm, the South Rockfish flows along the northern boundary for about 1.3 miles, then crosses under Rockfish Valley Highway (SR 151) east of River Bluff Farm. An elevational anomaly called Elk Hill rises in the middle of the valley south of the river and immediately north of the intersection of Beech Grove Road with Rockfish Valley Highway. Continuing northeast, the highway forms the district's northern and northwestern boundary for approximately 4.6 miles. From southwest to northeast, mountain peaks towering above the district include Devil's Knob, Black Rock, Grassy Ridge, and Crawford Knob. Approximately 0.5 mile south of the Lodebar community, the South Fork turns eastward and exits the district boundary before reaching its confluence with the main branch of the Rockfish 1.3 miles to the east. At the community of Lodebar, the district's northwest boundary shifts westward from the Rockfish Valley Highway to include some large historic farm properties. From Lodebar to the northern terminus of the district at the historic Rockfish Valley School (now Rockfish Valley Community Center) (approximately 1.8 miles), the highway forms the spine of the district. Just beyond the northeast end of the district, Pilot Mountain overlooks a short stretch of the main branch of the Rockfish River that runs through River Run Farm. Across the Rockfish to the southwest is the more gently sloped McLean Mountain; the South Fork flows around the north side of its base toward the confluence with the Rockfish. Along the southeast side of the district, the mountain peaks are somewhat lower, though high enough to convey the district's character as a fertile valley tightly confined by rugged ridges on three sides, only opening up to the northeast as the South Fork flows toward the Rockfish. The sprawling mass of Three Ridges projects southward off the Blue Ridge and defines the viewshed from the western end of the district. To the east, Horseshoe Mountain loops around so that its convex northern end overlooks the southwest half of the district to the southwest of McClean Mountain.

As the South Fork flows through the district, it is joined by several major tributaries. Reeds Creek rushes down from the southern slopes of Bolton Mountain and enters the district south of Elk Hill. The stream then flows northeastward and generally parallel to Route 627 until reaching the confluence with the South Fork 0.4 miles south of the historic Wintergreen community (at the crossroads of Route 627 and Route 151). All of the other major tributaries within the district

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flow down from the northwest side of the South Rockfish Valley. Spruce Creek has its sources on the slopes of Piney and Black Rock mountains. These minor streams converge between Bryants Mountain on the south and Black Rock Mountain on the north and then flow eastward, passing beneath Route 151 a quarter mile west of Wintergreen and entering into the South Fork about 1.2 miles farther east. In the vicinity of Wintergreen, Spruce Creek supplied the flow of water that powered a succession of mills in this historic community. Stoney Creek rises near the peak of the Blue Ridge and moves directly southeastward through the valley between Grassy Ridge and Crawfords Knob and enters the district 1.1 miles east of Wintergreen. The stream passes under Route 151 at this point, and then reaches its confluence with the South Fork approximately 0.4 miles to the southeast. Allen Creek is a much shorter stream to the east, which originates at the base of Crawfords Knob within the Wintergreen Resort. It enters the district on the northwest side of Route 151 and immediately flows into the South Fork on the southeast side of the road. The only other major stream within the district is Paul's Creek, which flows southeastward past Rockfish Valley School, crosses Route 151, and then enters the main branch of the Rockfish just north of Route 6 on the River Run Farm property.

Despite the development of Wintergreen Resort since the 1970s (on the slopes to the north and outside the district), the character of the largest adjacent community, Nellysford, remains that of a small village, with a low-density mix of commercial buildings and residences. Furthermore, the relatively low density residential development makes the resort barely noticeable when viewing the awe-inspiring viewsheds of Grassy Ridge and Crawfords Knob beyond. A testament to the district's integrity of setting in the Nellysford area is the Three Chimneys farm property. Although its entrance lies within the heart of the village, the late eighteenth-century dwelling and outbuildings are set well back from the main road (Route 151) on a large tract that sweeps southward to include the South Fork of the Rockfish. Views toward the main dwelling include broad, open vistas or screens of vegetation that are consistent with this National Register-listed property's historic setting.

### **Architectural Fabric**

The most numerous type of resource in the district is domestic, including both farmsteads and single dwellings on residential parcels. Especially noteworthy is the impressive collection of historic farmhouses and associated complexes of outbuildings that retain their integrity of setting within large agricultural tracts. Later dwellings stand on smaller parcels subdivided from the valley's primordial farms, or are clustered around the communities of Nellysford and Lodebar, and the outskirts of Beech Grove.

A high density of large, well-preserved mid-eighteenth- through mid-nineteenth-century farmhouses distinguishes the architectural fabric of the South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District. Especially in the western half of the valley, this settlement pattern of large dwellings seated on estates of several hundred acres is especially evident. Ten such buildings stood no more than a mile apart from one other, and seven of these survive within the district: Glenthorne (built ca. 1767), River Bluff (ca. 1785), Elk Hill (1790), Wintergreen (ca. 1810), Major Woods

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House/Three Chimneys (ca. 1795), High View/Mill Hill Farm (ca. 1830), and Full Circle Farm (ca. 1850). The Crawford House (ca. 1750) survives just north of the district boundary on the Wintergreen Resort property, while Valley Mont (ca. 1850) and Glen Mary (1840) are no longer standing. Views between several of the houses remain unobstructed across open fields, including Elk Hill and High View, Elk Hill and River Bluff, and Wintergreen and Glenthorne. Reserving the fertile bottomland soils of the valley floor for farming, the owners displayed their wealth and social status within the local community by choosing sites for their houses that were elevated on bluffs at the foot of the surrounding mountain slopes or in the instance of Elk Hill on a knoll in the middle of the valley. The eighteenth-century dwellings typically evolved from relatively modest vernacular treatments of hall-parlor plans with the later addition of wings and late Georgian and Neoclassical treatments.<sup>2</sup>

Glenthorne (062-0006/062-5119-0002) is a ca. 1767 Georgian brick house with three sections: a core, two-story, side-gabled brick section at the west; a one-story, side-gabled addition to the east; and east of the latter a flat-roofed frame addition built between 2002 and 2007. The primary section has a nearly full-width porch at the north with Doric columns and plasters. The central entrance is by a paneled, double-leaf door with five-light sidelights on either side, each with a panel below. Above the doors, but not the sidelights, is a four-light transom. There appear to be jack arches above each masonry opening, but the brickwork is obscured by paint. The brick appears to be laid in Flemish bond, again obscured by paint. Fenestration is generally graduated with nine-over-nine sash windows on the first floor and nine-over-six above. The center bay on the first floor of the south elevation has a single-bay porch with Doric columns and a Chippendale rail sheltering a single-leaf door with a four-light transom. The porch roof is flat with a low Chippendale rail and services a single-leaf door with a three-light transom. The core has four interior end chimneys flanking the gable ends.

River Bluff (062-0088/062-5119-0009; individually listed in 1980), built ca. 1785, is a three-part brick house with a central two-story pavilion and flanking one-story wings. It is thought to have been built in stages with the one-room, side hall core built in 1785 and the wings completed by 1805. The orientation also changed from east to south with a new entrance on the south elevation and a porch added sometime after 1938. The house is constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond with diapered brickwork in the east wing and jack arches above the masonry openings. Scholars from Colonial Williamsburg posit that the changes represent “the influence of Palladian forms on Virginia vernacular architecture,” with an emphasis on symmetry in three- and five-part dwelling.

Elk Hill (062-0005/062-5119-0001; individually listed in 2007) dates to 1790-1810, and has been remodeled and expanded over the course of several building campaigns. Built by Coleman family, the original Early Classical Revival, two-story, frame dwelling rested on a brick English basement and probably had a hall-parlor plan. A Greek Revival addition and porch in the 1820s

<sup>2</sup> Jesús Manuel Najjar Fierro, “The South Rockfish Valley, A Rural Preservation Plan” (Master’s thesis, University of Virginia, 2010), 38-39.



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resulted in an L-shaped plan. The porch had square columns and may have resembled the porch at Wintergreen (see below). In 1902, owner Arthur T. Ewing transformed the exterior of the house to its current Neoclassical appearance. In place of the Greek Revival porch, Ewing built a broad portico with Scamozzi-form ionic columns, crowned by a stuccoed pediment with a Palladian window. In keeping with the style of the portico was a single-leaf entrance with elliptical fanlight above and four-light sidelights. Above the entrance and under the shade of the portico, Ewing added a balcony with spindled balustrade, supported by curved wood brackets. Complementing the Neoclassical portico, block modillions and dentil molding replaced the plain treatment of the Greek Revival cornice. In 1955, Charlottesville architect Milton Grigg designed a one-story rear master bedroom addition with modern windows and several modern amenities that he sensitively integrated with the historic fabric of the house. Grigg's portfolio, spanning the 1920s through 1970s, included restoration work at Monticello and Colonial Williamsburg, restoration and the addition of modern conveniences for historic farmhouses across Virginia, and modern designs for new construction of residential and public buildings.<sup>3</sup> Apart from the 2002 replacement of windows in the 1955 addition with ones that more closely matched historic windows on the rest of the building, Elk Hill remains unchanged since 1955.

Major Woods' House/Three Chimneys (062-0433/062-5119-0011; individually listed in 2013) is a large, late Georgian (ca. 1795) two-and-a-half-story brick dwelling constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond. The entry, centered on the first floor is a single-leaf, five panel door with a jack arch above. A full-width, one-story porch with Tuscan columns and a central cross-gable was added ca. 1910, as were three hipped-roofed dormer windows on the roof's front slope, the current cornice, and the metal shingles on the roof. The house has two exterior end chimneys laid in Flemish bond on the southwest gable end and an interior end chimney in the northeastern gable end. As with Glenthorne, Major Woods' House has graduated fenestration, consisting of nine-over-nine, double-hung sash on the first floor and nine-over-six, double-hung sash on the second floor. According to a 1992 survey, the house has "an unusual floor plan and the most elaborate chimneypiece identified by the 1992 intensive level survey of Nelson County. Tradition holds that the house was an ordinary or tavern and that the main entry doors were wide so that coffins could be brought in and out."<sup>4</sup>

Wintergreen (062-0031/062-5119-0004), a ca. 1815-1828 Federal-style house, is in poor condition. The house is built of heavy timber frame with brick nogging and is clad in beaded weatherboard. The foundation is variously Flemish and common bond brick and poured concrete. The two-story main section, flanked by one story wings, has a two-story portico that has deteriorated through neglect. Its Tuscan columns remain but its railing is gone. Early survey

<sup>3</sup> John E. Wells and Robert E. Dalton, *The Virginia Architects 1835-1955: A Biographical Dictionary* (Richmond, Virginia: New South Architectural Press, 1997), 174.

<sup>4</sup> The Thomas Jefferson Planning District and Land and Community Associates, *Historic Resources Identification and Assessment of Nelson County, Virginia* (Charlottesville, Virginia: Land and Community Associates, 1993), 56; V-CRIS record for 062-0433, on file Archives, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond.

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reports indicate that all mantels, doors, stair railing, some stair brackets, and several door surrounds have been removed from the interior. The rear ell and ell chimney are collapsed beyond salvage. Despite these shortcomings, Wintergreen's prominence and the distinctive features of its façade make it a key element of the district's historic architecture.

High View or Mill Hill (062-0045/062-5119-0005), built ca. 1830, is a two-story frame house clad in beaded weatherboard on a Flemish bond brick foundation. It has graduated fenestration with nine-over-six sash on the first floor and six-over-six sash on the second. The two exterior-end brick chimneys are laid in Flemish bond. A large, one-story rear addition dates to 1982 as does the front porch.

Full Circle Farm (062-5119-0113), built ca. 1850, has a two-story, hipped-roofed house with additions constructed of brick laid in a random bond pattern. The facade has a full-width, hipped-roofed porch. The Doric columns on brick piers and turned balustrade are likely later replacements. The central entrance is by a single-leaf door with three-light sidelights (with panels below) topped by a full-width, six-light transom. Nine-over-six windows flank the door and are in the east and west bays above. The west elevation shows the two story cross-hipped frame rear wing. East of this addition is a one-story, hipped-roofed frame wing, set back slightly from the two-story addition.

The core of Fork Farm (062-5119-0006) is reputed to have been built ca. 1740 by James Woods and may be the oldest extant building in the Rockfish Valley. The southern portion of this frame house is a one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled dwelling with an inset porch under the gable and two exterior end chimneys. To the north is a two-story, cross-gabled ell with a one-story, shed-roofed porch to the west and stacked porches under a shed roof to the east. The southern porch is set on piers, and the arrangement of the door and windows within it (in addition to the difference in chimney sizes at the gable ends) provides evidence that the house began as a smaller building (one room up and one room down) and was extended later to a hall-parlor or central passage house.

Fork Crest (062-5119-0071), though now subdivided from Fork Farm on an adjacent parcel, was built ca. 1810 as a tenant house. This frame house consists of a one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled core on a raised basement with a later telescoping cross-gabled addition to the west. The building rests on a stone foundation, is clad in board-and-batten siding, and has standing-seam metal roofs. The house is built into a grade. The northeast elevation has a double porch under the roof gable eaves. The rear addition has a one-bay, gable-roofed porch on the southeast with a single-leaf door. The porch has square posts and a matchstick rail at the porch level but diagonal rails at the steps. Centered above the porch is a gabled wall dormer with a six-over-six sash window.

Although this modest dwelling at 3995 Adial Road (062-5119-0108) has been altered, it retains several important historic features. Built ca. 1825, this is a side-gabled, two-bay, frame house with an exterior end brick chimney. The house is built on a slope, and the change in grade exposes a stone foundation in the sides and rear. The six-light, single-leaf door has two-light

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sidelights with panels below and a three-light transom spanning the door and sidelights. The majority of the house is clad in asbestos shingles, but they do not obscure the cornice returns on the north and south elevations. The south elevation has an exterior end chimney with a stone base and one set of shoulders set in various-course common bond.

The Mark Addy Inn (062-0073/062-5119-0007) is also known as the Dr. J. C. Everett House and Upland Farm. The core of this Queen Anne-style house was built ca. 1884, but large additions and remodeling date to 1908. Two gabled masses are incorporated under a large hipped roof. The facade shows the sides of the gables with the hip above. There is a pedimented cross gable on the facade containing a Palladian window. The central entrance is a single-leaf door with single-light sidelights (panels below) and a single-light, full-width transom. It is sheltered by a one-bay entry porch with Doric columns and pilasters. The porch roof is flat and has a modern faux Victorian balustrade servicing paired glass doors on the second floor. On the south elevation, the western gable end projects slightly. Both gable ends have paired one-over-one windows in the first and second floors and a louvered vent in the pedimented gable ends. Between the gable ends are two levels of porches. The upper porch has a jigsaw balustrade. Above, there is a pedimented dormer with paired one-over-one windows and a sunburst pattern in the pedimented gable.

River Run Farm (062-5119-0106) is a ca. 1910 Folk Victorian house with a hipped roof, a gabled east addition, a cross-gabled wing, and two smaller cross gables. A wraparound porch spans the facade and portions of the adjacent elevations. The primary entrance is a single-leaf, single-light door with a transom, flanked by paired one-over-one windows. The porch is supported by Doric columns with a matchstick balustrade. The south elevation has a projecting cross-gabled wing. The porch dies into this wing, and there is a single-leaf door from the west side of the wing onto the porch. Beyond the wing is a recessed portion of the core of the house and then a hyphen to the east leading to a one-story, side-gabled addition. The north elevation has a one-bay entrance porch with Doric columns sheltering a single-leaf, one-light door with a transom above. Farther east is a hyphen to the one-story gabled wing. On the wing's north elevation is an exterior chimney that appears to be stone veneer flanked by one-over-one windows. The east elevation of the house has two sets of paired doors with a full-width transom above each pair on the one-story, gabled wing. The attic-level gables in the main core of the house are pedimented with fishtail shingles in contrast to the weatherboard siding of the house.

The Samuel Woods Witt House/Meander Inn (062-5039/062-5119-0015) was built ca. 1913. This two-and-a-half-story frame dwelling has a single-leaf paneled wood door with stained glass sidelights and transom centered in the facade within a one-story hipped-roofed porch with Doric columns. On the facade two hipped-roofed dormers are flanked by interior brick chimneys with corbeled caps. The house is clad in vinyl siding and has two-story additions on all sides except the façade.

At 2884 Rockfish Valley Highway (062-5119-0058) in Nellysford is a rare example of a large house built in a village context on a smaller lot and set back from but oriented to the main road. Built ca. 1910, this north-facing, two-story, three-bay I-house has a two-story rear ell that

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extends off the west end of the south elevation. On the east side of the ell is a two-story, shed-roofed addition that appears to consist of former porches on both levels that were enclosed later. A one story, shed-roofed addition extends off the south end of the ell. Three interior brick chimneys pierce the standing-seam metal roof. The entire house is clad in aluminum siding. The primary entrance is a single-leaf, one-light, three-panel door. It is flanked by narrow, grooved pilasters. Outboard of the pilasters within the door framing are half-height sidelights, each with two raised panels below. The porch is supported by chamfered square posts and pilasters with decorative brackets. This is a good example of an I-house in the Folk Victorian style.

Houses built later in the twentieth century are generally more modest, stand on smaller parcels some of which are likely outparcels and subdivisions from larger farms, are generally clustered in greater density than the examples cited above, and often are oriented toward the road with a modest setback. Architectural styles and forms of housing from later in the period of significance include Craftsman (House, 2757 Rockfish Valley Highway 062-5119-0083), bungalow (House, 2294 Rockfish Valley Highway 062-5119-0082) Tudor Revival (House, 2056 Rockfish Valley Highway 062-5119-0033) as well as Ranch, and Minimal Traditional.

Two commercial buildings along Rockfish Valley Highway have an association with the region's history of apple production. The Tuckahoe Antiques Mall (062-5119-0065) and the complex at 2188 Rockfish Valley Highway (062-5119-0050) include large side-gabled buildings that were once apple packing sheds.

Other agricultural buildings and domestic outbuildings survive as clusters around historic farmhouses. Mill Hill has a large collection of outbuildings including an ice house, bank barn, privy, school/office and slave dwelling/tenant house. Outbuildings at Elk Hill include a double-pen log barn and a tobacco prizery containing a rare early nineteenth century tobacco press. Although the late eighteenth-century Castle Hill (062-5138) farmhouse was rebuilt in 1963, the below-ground remains of a possible concrete ice house and a secondary dwelling survive. The Major Woods House/Three Chimneys property includes the below-ground portion of an ice house along with a late eighteenth-century brick kitchen contemporary with the dwelling, a late nineteenth-century frame kitchen, and a ca. 1915 barn with various framing types that may include elements of an earlier building.

As a reminder of the legacy of slave labor on the Valley's farms, the district includes several examples of an increasingly rare building type across Virginia: quarters for enslaved workers. Although the typical Scots-Irish settlement pattern of small, mixed family farms in the western Piedmont/Blue Ridge region typically entailed lower enslaved populations than the large plantations of the Coastal Plain, the South Rockfish Valley began as a tobacco-growing region with soils especially well suited to the cultivation of dark leaf tobacco, a labor-intensive crop for which eighteenth- and nineteenth-century planters depended on enslaved workers.

At High View (062-0045/062-5119-0005), where the two-story Greek Revival main house was built ca. 1830, there is a side-gabled secondary dwelling (built ca. 1850) with central stone

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chimney and two entrances, designed to accommodate two enslaved families in relative privacy. Built into a hillside, the slave quarter rests on a stone basement that is above ground in the rear. Although alterations include vinyl siding, the addition of large windows in the side walls, replacement pressure-treated posts supporting the shed-roofed porch, and a rear shed-roofed addition, the building retains the distinctive form of a duplex slave quarter. As a sound structure that has endured more than a century and a half, the quarter at High View represents a trend toward more sophisticated slave housing in the first half of the nineteenth century. At the other end of the spectrum, many enslaved people who worked in fields in the tobacco economy of the colonial period lived in crudely built, poorly lit, damp, and badly ventilated shelters of hewn or round logs or other inexpensive materials, located out of sight from the slave owner's house.<sup>5</sup> Elite plantation owners emphasized their status with outward displays of wealth and taste that ranged from fashionable consumer goods, such as imported porcelain and fine furniture, to architecture and designed landscapes in the public areas of their properties. Slave housing for domestic servants and for other enslaved individuals working near the main house sometimes contributed to the display of wealth and power designed to impress other members of white society who moved through the plantation landscape.<sup>6</sup>

At Castle Hill, a secondary dwelling located only 230 feet southwest of the site of the original ca. 1782 main house (now destroyed) also reportedly served as a slave quarter. This two-story, side-gabled frame building rests on a rubble stone foundation with some concrete block repair. An interior brick flue pierces the ridge of the standing seam metal roof. Original wood siding has been covered with asbestos siding. On one end of the building is a shed addition with a vertical-board entry and a fixed six-light window. The off-center main entry is paneled and appears to open into a hallway.

A third probable slave dwelling stands at Full Circle Farm (062-5119-0113). This side-gabled, frame building includes a shed-roofed porch (with a rebuilt wooden deck) that rests on piers. Beneath the porch are two single-leaf, vertical-board doors that may have once been part of the building. A cased window opening is covered with a vertical-board shutter. The building appears to be contemporary with the farm's main house, a ca. 1850 Greek Revival brick building located 120 feet to the northwest. The slave quarter stands in a line of domestic and agricultural outbuildings to the rear of the house.

Another important vestige of the Valley's legacy of slavery and continued African American presence through the twentieth century is a large cemetery within the historic boundary of Elk Hill (062-0005) farm, though no longer under the same ownership as this National Register-listed property that includes a complex comprising a late eighteenth-century house and surrounding outbuildings. The cemetery extends across the entire 3.3-acre lightly wooded

<sup>5</sup> Martha B. Katz-Hyman and Kym S. Rice, eds., *World of a Slave: Encyclopedia of the Material Life of Slaves in the United States*, 2 vols. (Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2011), 1: 448-453.

<sup>6</sup> Dell Upton, "White and Black Landscapes in Eighteenth-Century Virginia." In *Material Life in America, 1600-1860*, Robert Blair St. George, ed. (Boston: Northeastern University Press, 1988), 357-369.

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property approximately 3,700 feet southwest of the Elk Hill house, at the opposite end of the Elk Hill topographic prominence on the valley floor. At least one hundred burials are distributed across the gently sloping ground. Some are unmarked depressions, others have plain granite field stone markers, and more recent burials include inscribed markers. The earliest marked grave dates to 1820, and the descendant community continues to use the property as a graveyard.

Commercial buildings in the district are scattered along the Rockfish Valley Highway, the major transportation route since the eighteenth century. Two frame stores located at the village centers of Nellysford and Wintergreen date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, respectively. Both have been expanded over time and both served as community centers by including a post office, and one a voting precinct.

Local lore contends that the ca. 1878 house at 2950 Rockfish Valley Highway (062-5119-0060) in Nellysford, which is currently vacant and for sale, was once both a store and a post office. This highly evolved house exhibits several architectural styles and phases of construction. The northwestern section may be the oldest. Its facade is oriented to the west toward a former alignment of Adial Road, which previously intersected Rockfish Valley Highway at the northwest corner of the property. This portion of the house is a two-story, side-gabled frame structure. Irregularities in the fenestration and door placement suggest that it originally was smaller, with only one room up and one room down, and heated by the exterior end chimney on its south gable. Later, this footprint was extended northward to create three bays with an off-center door on the first floor. The core has a nearly full-width, one-story porch supported by Doric columns resting on a poured concrete porch deck. A two-story, cross-gabled ell extends eastward, flush with the north gable end of the core structure. The ell has a one-story, first-floor inset porch below its east gable, which extends south. This porch and a second-story porch with jig-sawn balustrade above are sheltered under a shed-roofed addition on the south side of the ell. Immediately to the south is a second two-story, cross-gabled ell, flush with the core's south gable end. The entire building is clad in weatherboard and has standing-seam metal roofs. The foundation attests to multiple building campaigns with sections built of stone, poured concrete, and concrete block.

The Wintergreen County Store (062-0117, individually listed in 2005) dates from 1908 with expansions in the 1920s and 1970s. It is the sole survivor of a small commercial core in the unincorporated village of Wintergreen. At various times, the building has also housed the local post office and voting precinct. The one-story, one-room frame store expanded to two stories, which historically also included a residential component. Currently, the building includes a museum, apartments, and the headquarters office of the Rockfish Valley Foundation.

The ca. 1925 Craftsman-style building at 5766 Rockfish Valley Highway (062-5119-0072) was once a store and likely a service station. Located at the intersection of Rockfish Valley Highway and River Road, this one-story, jerkinhead-roofed building is constructed of random rubble with squeezed mortar joints. The northwest corner of the building has been clipped, perhaps related to a road realignment, so that the footprint is no longer rectangular. A full-width porch, which is an

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extension of the roof, is supported by two stone piers resting at grade. The porch shelters a large masonry opening that could accommodate vehicles, with a wooden lintel and a door that slides on tracks. Under the porch, there is also a single-leaf entrance and a six-over-six wooden sash window. The roof is pressed metal shingle with exposed rafter tails.

There are two former schools dating from the 1930s within the district. Both have been adapted for new uses. Though only six miles apart, they are vastly different in size and material, having been built during segregation, one for African Americans and one for whites.

The former Wintergreen Colored School (now a dwelling) at the south end of the district dates to 1932. The frame building rests on a poured concrete foundation, is clad in weatherboard, and has a standing seam metal roof. The one-story, gable-roofed core has a gable-roofed extension to the southeast, an enclosed shed-roofed addition to the west that spans both gabled sections, and a shed-roofed porch on the southeast gabled section. The east elevation of the primary gabled space has a bank of five oversize, six-over-six, double hung sash windows. Though adapted for use as a home, the building retains many features that attest to its original use as a school, including a bell over the door. The building is not listed in the Rosenwald School archives, nor does it conform to the typical Rosenwald architectural plans; however, the banks of large windows show the influence of the standard plans developed through the program.

The Rockfish Valley School, built in 1939, is a brick Colonial Revival building with a T-shaped plan, with a central, five-bay section flanked by four-bay wings. An arched entrance is flanked by engaged pilasters with a pediment above. The gabled roof is clad in standing seam metal. Similar to the Wintergreen Colored School's windows are the large eight-over-eight, double-hung sash, designed to maximize natural light and air circulation. A ca. 1976 addition is congruent with the original design but lacks the same level of architectural ornament and detail. The building now houses a community center.

Religious buildings in the district included one Presbyterian church and three Baptist churches. The Presbyterian church and one Baptist church, which both serve white congregations, are masonry and stand along district's main thoroughfare, Rockfish Valley Highway. The two remaining Baptist churches, which serve historically African American congregations, are both frame and are located along the south side of the district adjacent to the South Fork of the Rockfish River.

The current Rockfish Presbyterian Church (062-0014, 062-5119-0003) dates to 1853, though the congregation was established in 1746; the current building replaced earlier churches on the site. The simple, front-gabled Greek Revival Church is constructed of brick laid in common bond and has a pedimented frame gable and a broad cornice on three sides. There are dual double-leaf entrances on the facade and the east elevation has large multi-light sash windows with multi-light transoms above. Severe damage from Hurricane Hazel in 1954 required replacement of the roof and possible reconstruction of the facade. Subsequent additions, including the 1967 Sunday school wing, detract somewhat from the simplicity of this early temple form.

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Elk Hill Baptist Church (062-5020, 062-5119-0014) and Mt. Eagle Baptist Church (062-5119-0044), both serving African American congregations, were built in 1880 and 1910 respectively. Located a half mile south of the Wintergreen community, Elk Hill Baptist Church is within a wooded setting along the South Fork of the Rockfish River. Prominent features of this Late Gothic Revival, frame church include lancet windows, a gable-roofed entrance vestibule, and a hipped-roofed tower. Later vinyl siding may obscure some architectural details. Although this location is now somewhat isolated, it would have been more prominent when Glenthorne Loop served as the main road in the southwestern portion of the district prior to an early 1930s extension of Rockfish Valley Highway.

Mt. Eagle Baptist Church is somewhat similar in form to Elk Hill Baptist Church, with a gable-roofed core and projecting gabled vestibule; however, its tower is gable-roofed and later additions have obscured the form to some extent and altered the entrance and circulation patterns. It is also clad in vinyl siding.

Rockfish Valley Baptist Church (062-5119-0043), built in 1928, stands along the north side of Rockfish Valley Highway just east of Nellysford. The building has a cruciform plan and is constructed of uncoursed masonry. The one-bay entrance porch has a pedimented gable supported by paired Doric columns and single pilasters. The double-leaf entrance has a classical surround and a four-light transom. Though obscured by exterior screens, the six-over-six windows with three-light transoms remain. A square base on the gable supports a two-part steeple composed of a squared shaft with chamfered edges. The faces of the shaft have lozenge-shaped louvers flanked by ersatz pilasters with necking that extends across the chamfers to the adjacent pilaster on the perpendicular face. A coved molding supports a base for a pyramidal metal roof, which rises to a finial. Gable ends have rectangular louvered vents in the gable peaks, and windows on these sides have a flat painted lintel (perhaps stone) with a keystone. Lintels for windows on the interior walls abut the cornice. The Parish Hall extension dates to 1975.

### Inventory of Resources

Properties in the South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District inventory are organized alphabetically by street (under centered street name headings) and numerically by street number. The italicized headings contain essential information about each property's primary resource. Beginning at the left side of the page is the ***Street Number***. If a property lacks a street number (such as a parcel containing only a site or a structure, but no building), it appears with a dash in place of a street number at the beginning of the list of properties under a given street name, and before the properties with street numbers. Separated from the street number with a slash is the ***Department of Historic Resources (DHR) Identification Number***. This is typically an 11-digit number, with the first seven digits identifying the district (062-5119) and a four-digit suffix. In cases where a property had been previously recorded individually, the originally assigned seven-digit identification number and another slash precede the 11-digit number. If known, the property's ***Name*** appears in bold italics below the street number and DHR identification



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number(s). The central portion of the entry includes the number of *Stories* (if the primary resource is a building), architectural *Style*, and *Date* of construction. On the right side of the entry are the *Description* of the resource (e.g., Bridge, Dwelling, Church, Cemetery, etc.; the National Register resource *Type* in parentheses (Building, Structure, Site, or Object); *Status*—whether contributing (abbreviated C) or non-contributing (NC) to the district; and the *Quantity* of resources of that description. Below the italicized primary resource entry, less detailed, information appears in Roman type for associated secondary resources.

An outline/footprint of each primary resource appears on the attached district sketch map, labeled with its corresponding DHR Identification Number; secondary resources are not depicted. Primary resources are shaded to indicate whether they are contributing or non-contributing to the significance of the district. The sketch map also delineates the boundaries of county tax parcels. Each property may comprise one or more tax parcels.

Contributing resources date to sometime within the district's period of significance (1739-1966) and have retained a sufficient degree of integrity to contribute under Criterion A and/or C. Dates are based on field observation, local history sources, court records, and/or tax records. Resources identified as non-contributing were either of more recent date or have been moved, altered, or deteriorated to such an extent that they lack minimum integrity requirements. Unless otherwise indicated, all dwellings are single dwellings.

*Inventory Abbreviations:*

Bldg. = Building; C = Contributing; Descr. = Description; No disc. style = No particular architectural style discernible; NC = Non-contributing; No. = Number.; St. = Story

*Street No./DHR ID No(s).*                      *Stories, Style, Date*                      *Descr. (Type) Status: Quantity*  
*Name*

**ADIAL ROAD**

|  |                                |  |
|--|--------------------------------|--|
| — / 062-5119-0107  | <i>No disc. style, 1974</i>    | <i>Bridge (Structure) NC: 1</i>  |
| 3995 / 062-5119-0108   | <i>2-St., Vernacular, 1825</i> | <i>Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1</i>   |
| 4094 / 062-5119-0044<br><b><i>Mount Eagle Baptist Church</i></b> | <i>1-St., Vernacular, 1910</i> | <i>Church (Bldg.) NC: 1</i><br><br><i>Cemetery (Site) C: 1</i><br><i>Shelter (Structure) NC: 1</i> |
| 4207 / 062-5119-0057   | <i>1-St., Ranch, 1958</i>      | <i>Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1</i>   |

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4267 / 062-5119-0056 *1-St., Minimal Traditional, 1958* *Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1*  
*Garage (Bldg.) C: 1*  
*Shed (Bldg.) NC: 2*  
*Wall (Structure) C: 1*

4387 / 062-5119-0055 *1-St., No disc. style, 1974* *Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1*  
*Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1*

**BEECH GROVE ROAD**

270 / 062-5119-0027 *1-St., Craftsman, Ca 1955* *Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1*  
*Garage (Bldg.) NC: 1*

428 / 062-5119-0026 *1½-St., Vernacular, Ca 1920* *Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1*  
*Shed (Bldg.) C: 1*  
*Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1*

466 / 062-5119-0025 *1-St., Ranch, 1955* *Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1*  
*Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1*

536 / 062-5119-0024 *1-St., Vernacular, 1950* *Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1*  
*Garage (Bldg.) NC: 1*  
*Shed (Bldg.) C: 1*  
*Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1*

**BERRY HILL ROAD**

— / 062-5119-0073 *No disc. style, 1920* *Bridge (Structure) C: 1*  
*Bridge #6006, Berry Hill Rd (Rt 613), S. Fork Rockfish River*

3100 / 062-5039 / 062-5119-0015 *2½-St., Colonial Revival, Ca 1913* *Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1*  
**Samuel Woods Witt House/Meander Inn**  
*Secondary Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1*  
*Shed (Bldg.) C: 1*  
*Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1*  
*Animal Shelter/Kennel (Structure) NC: 1*  
*Barn (Bldg.) C: 1*  
*Chicken House/Poultry House (Bldg.) NC: 2*  
*Carport (Structure) NC: 2*

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### DEER RUN ROAD

1004 / 062-5119-0123      1-St., No disc. style, Ca 1988      Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1  
Secondary Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1  
Outbuilding, Domestic (Bldg.) NC: 1

### GLENTHORNE LOOP

77 / 062-5119-0029      2-St., No disc. style, 1905      Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1  
Shed (Bldg.) C: 1

225 / 062-5119-0115      2-St., No disc. style, 2009      Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1  
Barn (Bldg.) NC: 1  
Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1

231 / 062-5119-0114      2-St., Other, 2005      Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1

542 / 062-5119-0109      2-St., Vernacular, 1941      Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1

1268 / 062-0006 / 062-5119-0002      2-St., Georgian / ca. 1767      Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1  
**Glenthorne**  
Barn (Bldg.) C: 1  
Garage (Bldg.) C: 1  
Granary (Bldg.) C: 1  
Smoke/Meat House (Bldg.) C: 1

1293 / 062-5020 / 062-5119-0014      1-St., Gothic Revival, ca. 1880      Church (Bldg.) C: 1  
**Elk Hill Baptist Church**  
Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1  
Shelter (Structure) NC: 1

### MILL HILL LANE

— / 062-5113 / 062-5119-0020      No disc. style, Ca 1820      Cemetery (Site) C: 1  
**Elk Hill Cemetery**

72 / 062-5119-0023      1½-St., Vernacular, 1915      Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1  
Carport (Structure) NC: 1  
Garage (Bldg.) NC: 1

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Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1

### RIVER ROAD

5556 / 062-5119-0106

2-St., Folk Victorian, Ca 1910

Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1

**River Run Farm**

Barn (Bldg.) NC: 1

Outbuilding, Domestic (Bldg.) C: 1

Outbuilding, Domestic (Bldg.) NC: 1

Secondary/Tenant (Bldg.) NC: 1

Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1

### ROCKFISH SCHOOL LANE

190 / 062-5109 / 062-5119-0019 1-St., Colonial Revival, 1939

School (Bldg.) C: 1

**Rockfish Valley School (Rockfish Community Center)**

Clubhouse (Bldg.) NC: 1

Shed (Bldg.) NC: 2

Shelter (Structure) NC: 1

### ROCKFISH VALLEY HIGHWAY

— / 062-5090 / 062-5119-0017 No disc. style, 1936

Bridge (Structure) C: 1

Bridge #1030, Rt 151, Spruce Creek

— / 062-5091 / 062-5119-0018 No disc. style, 1936

Bridge (Structure) C: 1

Bridge #1031, Rt 151, S. Fork Rockfish River

— / 062-5119-0112 No disc. style, 1936

Bridge (Structure) C: 1

Bridge #1029, Rt 151, Stoney Creek

— / 062-5119-0200

1-St., No disc. style, Ca. 1990

Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1

12 / 062-5119-0030

1-St., No disc. style, 1910

Office Bldg. (Bldg.) C: 1

100 / 062-5119-0031

1-St., No disc. style, 2000

Office Bldg. (Bldg.) NC: 1

Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1

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511 / 062-0005 / 062-5119-0001 2½-St., Classical Revival, Ca 1790 \*Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1  
**Elk Hill Individually listed in the NRHP 2007**

(\* - resources labeled with asterisk under 062-0005 and 062-5119-0049 were included in the inventory of resources for the 2007 NRHP nomination for Elk Hill (062-0005) NRHP nomination)

\*Barn (Bldg.) C: 1  
\*Chimney Ruin (Site) C: 1  
Feed Shed (Structure) NC: 1  
\*Garage (Bldg.) C: 2  
\*Ice House/Well Ruin (Site) C: 1  
\*Privy (Bldg.) C: 1  
\*Shed, Generator (foundation) (Site) C: 1  
\*Smoke/Meat House (Bldg.) C: 1  
\*Tobacco Barn (Bldg.) C: 1  
\*Wall (boundary) (Structure) C: 1

668 / 062-5119-0049 1-St., No disc. style, 1945 \*Secondary Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1  
\*Barn (Bldg.) NC: 1  
Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1  
\*Chicken House/Poultry House (Bldg.) NC: 1  
\*Feed Shed (Structure) NC: 1

779 / 062-0088 / 062-5119-0009 2-St., Other, Ca 1785 Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1  
**River Bluff Individually listed in the NRHP 1980**  
Outbuilding, Domestic (Bldg.) NC: 2  
Shed (Bldg.) NC: 2  
Spring/Spring House (Bldg.) NC: 1

1020 / 062-5119-0119 2-St., Ca. 2014 Cidery/Brewery (Bldg.) NC: 1  
**Bold Rock Cidery**  
Cidery/Brewery (Bldg.) NC: 5

1359 / 062-5119-0118 1-St., Ca 1900 Church (Bldg.) C: 1  
**Wintergreen Christian Church**

1368 / 062-0117 / 062-5119-0010 2-St., Other, Ca 1908 Dwelling/Store (Bldg.) C: 1  
**Wintergreen Country Store (Harris Store/Slaughter's) Individually listed in the NRHP 2005**

1387 / 062-0031 / 062-5119-0004 2-St., Federal/Adamesque, Post-1789 Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1  
**Wintergreen**  
Cemetery (Site) C: 1  
Chicken House/Poultry House (Bldg.) C: 1

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|   |                                  |   |
|---|----------------------------------|---|
|   |                                  | Privy (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Smoke/Meat House (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1   |
| 1694 / 062-5119-0032                            | 1-St., Minimal Traditional, 1998 | Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1<br>Animal Barn (Bldg.) NC: 1<br>Barn (Bldg.) NC: 1   |
| 1789 / 062-5119-0046<br><b>Graves Grocery</b>   | 2-St., No disc. style, 1956      | Service Station (Bldg.) C: 1<br><br>Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1<br>Store (Bldg.) NC: 2   |
| 2188 / 062-5119-0050                            | 2-St., No disc. style, 1960      | Shopping Center (Bldg.) NC: 1<br>Chimney (Site) C: 1<br>Office/Office Building (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Road-Related (Vehicular) (Structure) C: 1<br>Service Station (Bldg.) NC: 1<br>Shed (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1  |
| 2228 / 062-5119-0113<br><b>Full Circle Farm</b> | 2-St., Greek Revival, 1850       | Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1<br><br>Barn (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Garage (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Pool/Swimming Pool (Structure) NC: 1<br>Secondary Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Shed (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1<br>Shed - Vehicle (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Slave/Servant Quarters (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Stable (Bldg.) NC: 1 |
| 2230 / 062-5119-0051                            | 1-St., No disc. style, 1960      | Store (Bldg.) NC: 1   |
| 2294 / 062-5119-0082                            | 1½-St., Craftsman, Ca 1925       | Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Shed (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1  |
| 2384 / 062-5119-0034                            | 1½-St., Tudor Revival, Ca 1951   | Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1  |

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|                      |                                    |   |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|---|
|                      |                                    | Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1  |
| 2464 / 062-5119-0035 | <i>1-St., No disc. style, 2004</i> | <i>Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1</i><br><i>Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1</i>  |
| 2476 / 062-5119-0036 | <i>1-St., Craftsman, 1931</i>      | <i>Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1</i><br><i>Chicken House/Poultry House (Bldg.) C: 1</i><br><i>Shed (Bldg.) C: 1</i>               |
| 2514 / 062-5119-0037 | <i>1-St., No disc. style, 1947</i> | <i>Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1</i>   |
| 2568 / 062-5119-0038 | <i>1-St., Ranch, 1955</i>          | <i>Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1</i><br><i>Shed (Bldg.) C: 1</i><br><i>Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1</i><br><i>Carport (Structure) NC: 1</i> |
| 2646 / 062-5119-0039 | <i>1-St., No disc. style, 1960</i> | <i>Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1</i><br><i>Pool/Swimming Pool (Structure) NC: 1</i><br><i>Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1</i>                  |
| 2692 / 062-5119-0040 | <i>1-St., No disc. style, 1934</i> | <i>Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1</i><br><i>Shed (Bldg.) C: 1</i><br><i>Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1</i>                                    |
| 2712 / 062-5119-0041 | <i>1-St., Ranch, 1963</i>          | <i>Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1</i><br><i>Shed (Bldg.) C: 1</i>  |
| 2754 / 062-5119-0042 | <i>1½-St., Craftsman, Ca 1934</i>  | <i>Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1</i><br><i>Chicken House/Poultry House (Bldg.) NC: 1</i><br><i>Garage (Bldg.) C: 1</i>            |
| 2768 / 062-5119-0053 | <i>1-St., No disc. style, 1968</i> | <i>Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1</i><br><i>Garage (Bldg.) NC: 1</i><br><i>Shed (Bldg.) NC: 2</i>                                 |
| 2884 / 062-5119-0058 | <i>2-St., Folk Victorian, 1910</i> | <i>Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1</i><br><i>Shed (Bldg.) C: 2</i>  |

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|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 2928 / 062-5119-0059   | 1-St., Ranch, 1974   | Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1<br>Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1  |
| 2950 / 062-5119-0060   | 2-St., Mixed<br>(3+ styles from different periods), 1878   | Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Shed (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1<br>Well/Well House (Bldg.) C: 1  |
| 3042 / 062-0433/062-5119-0011  | 2.5-St., Georgian, Ca 1795<br><b>Major Woods' House/Three Chimneys <u>Individually Listed in the NRHP 2013</u></b> | Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Barn (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Kitchen (Bldg.) C: 2<br>Ice House Ruin (Site) C: 1  |
| 3361 / 062-5119-0043 /<br><b>Rockfish Valley Baptist Church</b>      | 1-St., Colonial Revival, 1928  | Church/Chapel (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Cemetery (Site) C: 1<br>Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1<br>Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1 |
| 4202 / 062-5119-0065   | 2-St., No disc. style, Ca 1920   | Store (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Shed (Bldg.) NC: 2  |
| 4300 / 062-5119-0066   | 1-St., No disc. style, Ca 1960   | Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1  |
| 4436 / 062-5119-0067   | 1-St., Ranch, 1940   | Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1   |
| 4454 / 062-5119-0068   | 1-St., Ranch, 1977   | Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1<br>Secondary/Tenant (Bldg.) NC: 1  |
| 4476 / 062-5119-0069   | 1-St., Vernacular, 1955  | Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Carport (Structure) C: 1<br>Shed (Bldg.) C: 3                            |
| 5016 / 062-0014/062-5119-0003<br><b>Rockfish Presbyterian Church</b> | 1-St., Greek Revival, Ca. 1853   | Church/Chapel (Bldg.) C: 1<br>Cemetery (Site) C: 1  |



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5060 / 062-5119-0070 *1-St., No disc. style, 2005* Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1  
 Secondary Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1

5243 / 062-5119-0122 *1-St., Ranch, ca.1977* Dwelling (Bldg.) NC: 1  
 Shed, Wood (Structure) NC: 1

5280 / 062-5119-0071 *1.5-St., Vernacular, Ca 1810* 2ndry/Tenant (Bldg.) C: 1  
**Fork Crest** Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1

5282 / 062-0047 / 062-5119-0006 *2-St., No disc. style, 1740s* Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1  
**Fork Farm** Animal Shelter/Kennel (Bldg.) NC: 1  
 Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1

5601 / 062-5138 / 062-5119-0022 *1-St., Minimal Traditional, 1964* Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1  
**Castle Hill** Barn (Bldg.) NC: 1  
 Chimney (Site) C: 1  
 Foundation (Site) C: 1  
 Gateposts/Entry (Object) C: 1  
 Outbuilding (Bldg.) NC: 1  
 Secondary/Tenant (Bldg.) C: 1  
 Shed (Bldg.) C: 1  
 Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1

5766 / 062-5119-0072 *1-St., Craftsman, Ca 1925* Service Station (Bldg.) C: 1

**RODES FARM DRIVE**

56 / 062-0073 / 062-5119-0007 *2-St., Queen Anne, Ca 1884* Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1  
**Upland Farm/Mark Addy Inn** Garage (Bldg.) C: 1  
 Greenhouse/Conservatory (Bldg.) NC: 1  
 Secondary Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1  
 Shed (Bldg.) C: 1  
 Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1  
 Smoke/Meat House (Bldg.) C: 1  
 Well (Structure) C: 1

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**SCHOOLHOUSE LANE**

338 / 062-5119-0028

**Wintergreen Colored School**

*1-St., Other, 1932*

*Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1*

*Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1*

**SPRUCE CREEK ROAD**

468 / 062-5119-0121

*1-St., Craftsman, Ca. 1860*

*Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1*

*Outbuilding, Domestic (Bldg.) C: 3*

**WINERY LANE**

462 / 062-5119-0048

*1.5-St., No disc. style, Ca 1900*

*Winery (Bldg.) C: 1*

*Agricultural Bldg. (Bldg.) NC: 1*

*Meeting/Fellowship Hall (Bldg.) NC: 1*

*Shed (Bldg.) NC: 1*

524 / 062-0045 / 062-5119-0005

**High View / Mill Hill Farm**

*2-St., Greek Revival, Ca 1830*

*Dwelling (Bldg.) C: 1*

*Animal Shelter/Kennel (Bldg.) C: 1*

*Bank Barn (Structure) C: 1*

*Chicken House/Poultry House (Bldg.) C: 1*

*Classroom Building (Bldg.) C: 1*

*Ice House (Bldg.) C: 1*

*Privy (Bldg.) C: 1*

*Slave/Servant Quarters (Bldg.) C: 1*

*Stable (Bldg.) C: 1*

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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.)

AGRICULTURE

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1737-1966

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1739

4 June 1745

1854

1880

1908

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

1737-1966

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Grigg, Milton

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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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 South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District, a 1,620-acre swath of historic farms, agricultural landscapes, and small crossroads residential communities in northwest Nelson County, is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Agriculture and under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. The district is nominated under Criterion A as a well-preserved rural landscape with a continuous tradition of farming in a circumscribed geographic area since the first half of the eighteenth century. The agricultural history of this exceptionally fertile valley chronicles the development of tobacco cultivation for international export from the eighteenth through late nineteenth century, the transition to a thriving apple orchard industry from the 1880s through early 1940s, and the present mix of cattle farming and experimentation with viticulture and cider orchards. The district is also nominated under Criterion C for its collection of eighteenth-, nineteenth-, and early twentieth-century architecture representing a variety of vernacular and more formal styles. Of particular interest is the collection of late eighteenth- to early nineteenth-century farmhouses with high integrity, including three that are individually listed on the National Register. In addition, an individually listed general store (built in 1908) anchors the historic crossroads community of Wintergreen, which included a succession of stores, mills, and schools from the 1840s through the early twentieth century (the sites of these buildings appear to hold excellent archaeological potential). The district's period of significance spans from the initial claim of land and early settlement in 1737 through 1966, after which activities begun historically continued to have importance but do not rise to the exceptional level of significance needed to justify extending the period beyond the usual limit of 50 years ago. The historic district's four properties that are individually listed in the NRHP are River Bluff (NRHP 1980; 062-0088/062-5119-0009; locally significant in the area of Architecture), Elk Hill (NRHP 2007; 062-0005/062-5119-0001; locally significant in the areas of Agriculture and Architecture), Major Woods' House/Three Chimneys (NRHP 2013; 062-0433/062-5119-0011; locally significant in the areas of Agriculture and Architecture), and the Wintergreen Country Store (NRHP 2005; 062-0117/062-5119-0010; locally significant in the areas of Architecture and Commerce).

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

### **Developmental History**

The fertile bottomlands of the South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District in northwestern Nelson County have sustained European settlement and a variety of agricultural production for nearly three centuries. By the 1720s, colonial settlement had extended far into the Virginia's Piedmont, and scattered land claims occurred as far west as the eastern slopes of the Blue Ridge

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Mountains. By 1727, the population was sufficient in this vast area for the formation of Goochland County from Henrico, one Virginia's eight original shires established in 1634.<sup>7</sup>

The first land patents within the rural historic district and along the North Fork and main branch of the Rockfish River were issued to John Chiswell in 1739. His father, Charles, probably obtained these patents totaling 30,000 acres in his son's name, since John Chiswell was only thirteen at the time. As an adult, Col. John Chiswell resided at his family home in Scotchtown, near Richmond in Hanover County. From there and from his second home in Williamsburg, where he served in the House of Burgesses, Chiswell speculated in frontier land and other ventures such as copper mines in present Amherst County and lead mines in what is now Wythe County. He also made trips west to his lands along the Rockfish and its branches. A travel diary kept by Rev. Robert Rose documents a trip that Rose and Chiswell took on horseback along the South Fork and the main branch of the Rockfish River in 1750. The men stayed overnight at Chiswell's Quarter, a property on the main branch that was farmed by tenants and/or enslaved workers.<sup>8</sup>

In his diary, Rose mentioned the names of settlers and landmarks present in the valley at the time of the 1750 excursion. Riding northwest from Rose's lands along the Tye River, the traveling companions crossed into the South Rockfish Valley through Verdiman's Pass (now the corridor of Cub Creek Road between Three Ridges Mountain to the west and Bolton Mountain to the east). Along the way down the South Rockfish, they first encountered "Montgomerie's Settlement," one of the valley's earliest homesteads, occupied by Alexander Montgomery. At the "Forks" (the confluence of the North and South forks) of the Rockfish River, they passed the "Meeting House" for Scots-Irish Presbyterians; as dissenters from the Anglican faith, they were prohibited by Virginia's colonial government from calling their house of worship a church. On the return journey, from northeast to southwest, Rose rode by the homes of two other early settlers, William Morrison and Alexander Reid. Only a decade after the issue of the first patent, the river valley contained at least three homesteads and a rudimentary religious center, but most likely also included other habitations not mentioned or not located directly along the clergyman's route.

Colonel Chiswell's 30,000 acres of patents included a 2,460-acre tract on the South Fork of the Rockfish that encompassed roughly the southwestern two-thirds of the rural historic district. Soon after reaching adulthood, on June 4, 1745, Chiswell sold this tract to Thomas Morrison, but a problem with the conveyance led to Morrison's son, William, acquiring a new patent for the property. To certify the location of his claim, William Morrison commissioned William Cabell to prepare a plat in 1747 and received the title through a land grant from the crown the following

<sup>7</sup> Michael F. Doran, *Atlas of County Boundary Changes in Virginia, 1634-1895* (Athens, Georgia: Iberian Publishing Company, 1987), 18.

<sup>8</sup> Catherine H. C. Seaman, *Tuckahoes and Cohees: The Settlers and Cultures of Amherst and Nelson Counties*, Faculty Publications Series (Sweet Briar, Virginia: Sweet Briar College Printing Press, 1992), 68, 76, 117-119.

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year. By this time, the district was part of Albemarle County, which had been formed from western Goochland in 1744. Unlike Chiswell, Morrison took up residence in the valley, and his offspring still owned land nearby half a century later. The 420-acre home tract where Morrison settled was probably close to what is now Nellysford. Initially, the South Fork of the Rockfish River was named for this early settler. "Morrison's Br." is the label that identifies the South Rockfish on Joshua Fry and Peter Jefferson's 1751 map of Virginia. After claiming his patent, Morrison played a major role in the area's development, which led to further settlement. In the late 1740s, he cleared a stretch of the "Thorofare," the predecessor of Route 151 and opened his house along the road as an ordinary, a type of early tavern licensed to sell food as well as alcoholic beverages.<sup>9</sup>

By the time Rose and Chiswell made their journey through the South Rockfish Valley, James Woods had established a 350-acre farm near the Presbyterian Meeting House. Dating to the late 1740s, the core of the house at Fork Farm likely represents the earliest surviving building in the district.<sup>10</sup> The core of this evolved house may have had a one-room plan, a common type of simple construction preferred during the initial years of settlement. Subsequently, the building expanded into a hall-parlor plan, and later owners built further additions as they grew more prosperous over the course of the next two centuries. During the American Revolution, Woods opened his house up to host a meeting of the Committee of Safety for the Albemarle, Amherst, Buckingham, and East Augusta District.<sup>11</sup>

James Woods, like the Morrisons, Reids, Montgomerys, and many subsequent settlers who established farms in the South Rockfish Valley were Scots-Irish—Presbyterian Protestants from Ulster, the northern province of Ireland. Their original homeland was the Scottish Lowlands, but social upheaval in Scotland had induced emigration to Northern Ireland in the early seventeenth century. The English rulers of Ireland welcomed the presence of the Presbyterian Scots as a counterbalance to the native Catholic majority. When Scots-Irish linen production began to compete with England's linen industry, however, Parliament passed trade laws that led to economic depression in Ulster.<sup>12</sup> Searching for both opportunity and religious freedom, in the 1720s Scots-Irish immigrants flocked to Pennsylvania where local laws were lenient toward dissenting Presbyterians, as well as German Protestant denominations such as the Lutherans and Mennonites. Although Virginia had more stringent policies against dissenters, the colonial

<sup>9</sup> Howard J. Kittell, "Regional Architecture of the Western Piedmont: River Bluff Plantation" (School of Architecture, University of Virginia, 1983), <http://search.lib.virginia.edu/catalog/u1966553>, pp. 2-3; Doran, *Atlas of County Boundary Changes*, 22; Catherine Coleman Seaman, *A History of Southern Rockfish Families and Old Houses* (Copy on file, Nelson County Historical Society, Lovingston: Privately published by the author, 1999), 11; Elizabeth G. Richardson, "History of Wintergreen Village and the Southern Rockfish Valley," *Nelson County Historical Society News*, 2015, pp. 1-2; Seaman, *Tuckahoes and Cohees*, 86, 98.

<sup>10</sup> Seaman, *A History of Southern Rockfish Families and Old Houses*, 17.

<sup>11</sup> W. Scott Breckinridge Smith, "Major Woods House," National Register nomination, listed 2013.

<sup>12</sup> Ron Chepesiuk, *The Scotch-Irish: From the North of Ireland to the Making of America* (Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland & Co., 2000), 48-49.

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government welcomed the settlement of Scots-Irish along the frontier as a buffer against Indian tribes to the west. With diminished prospects for claiming prime lands in the more populated Pennsylvania colony, Scots-Irish immigrants headed south to Virginia's Shenandoah Valley and Piedmont.<sup>13</sup>

Historians of Nelson County sometimes refer to the area's two major groups of eighteenth-century settlers as Cohees and Tuckahoes. Cohees referred to Germans (Lutheran and Mennonite) and Scots-Irish (Presbyterian) dissenters against the Established, Anglican Church. Initially, these settlers established small, mixed farms that sold minor surpluses of corn and grains locally and rarely used enslaved workers. In contrast, the area's so-called Tuckahoe settlers hailed from eastern, Tidewater Virginia and were usually English or Anglican Scots. Carrying their economic and social customs with them to the Blue Ridge foothills and the Shenandoah Valley, they favored cultivation of cash crops of tobacco for international export using the labor of enslaved African Americans. In the early years of settlement, Tuckahoe plantations clustered along the James River in what is now eastern Nelson County, while Cohees established many of the farms along the fertile branches of the Rockfish River. Although the families of Robert Rose and John Chiswell also were Scottish, they had arrived directly from Scotland, not as dissenting Presbyterians, but instead Anglicans who assimilated among the predominantly English elite of Virginia's social and political order.<sup>14</sup> Despite the predominantly Cohee population of early settlers in the South Rockfish, it should be noted that the area adopted a decidedly Tuckahoe economic model by the second half of the eighteenth century. The valley was characterized by large farms that relied on an enslaved workforce to cultivate tobacco for export, rather than the pattern of smaller family subsistence farms typically found in other areas of Scots-Irish settlement.

As soon as William Morrison obtained title to his 2,460-acre tract, he began selling portions to other settlers but retained 420 acres for his own family. In 1749, Alexander Reid purchased 700 acres at the southwest end of the district. A major tributary of the South Fork at the southwest end of the district still bears his name, with the spelling morphed to "Reeds Creek." Reid and his sons probably lived in one or more log cabins that no longer stand on the property; the site of one of these early houses may be the pile of stone chimney rubble in the backyard of Elk Hill. In 1774, Alexander Reid, Jr. sold 398 acres of this tract to Nathaniel Clarke. Sometime during his ownership (1774-1787), Clarke built the core of River Bluff, probably ca. 1785 based on architectural survey. Like most of the houses built in the district during this period, River Bluff occupies a commanding view on elevated ground above the valley floor, while reserving the fertile bottomland for agriculture. Thomas Goodwin purchased the River Bluff property in 1787 but probably did not move from Caroline County to River Bluff in what was then Amherst County (formed from Albemarle in 1761) until 1793. Tax values indicate that Goodwin added wings to the Clarke house ca. 1810. This major expansion transformed River Bluff's 20-x-30-

<sup>13</sup> Deedie Kagey, *When Past is Prologue: A History of Roanoke County* (Roanoke, Va.: Roanoke Sesquicentennial Committee, 1988), 15-16; Fierro, "The South Rockfish Valley," 1.

<sup>14</sup> Fierro, "The South Rockfish Valley," 33; 1. Seaman, *Tuckahoes and Cohees*, 74-75, 117.



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foot, one-room, side-passage plan into a tripartite Palladian dwelling. Goodwin continued to acquire portions of the Reid property and other tracts, which enlarged the River Bluff to 867 acres by 1804. Goodwin retained ownership of this large property until his death in 1848. His son Edmund inherited the 232-acre house parcel, which remained in the family until 1866.<sup>15</sup>

A second large, early property carved out of the Morrison patent was Glenthorne, located along the southern edge of the district near the confluence of Reeds Creek with the South Fork of the Rockfish. Alexander Montgomery purchased land in the vicinity prior to 1747, but the exact location is not known. Sometime in the mid-eighteenth century, his son, James, acquired the tract now called Glenthorne, where he initially lived in a log cabin. According to architectural historians, the present brick dwelling on the property probably dates to the time of James Montgomery's ownership, ca. 1767. After his death in 1778, his eighteen-year-old son, Joseph, inherited Glenthorne and purchased adjacent land that expanded the property to 1,287 acres. In 1781, Montgomery married Jane Woods, daughter of Samuel Woods, and also enrolled in the Virginia Militia. Glenthorne remained in Joseph Montgomery's possession until his death in 1842.<sup>16</sup>

In 1789, Revolutionary War veteran Hawes Coleman purchased the 420 acres along Spruce Creek from Thomas and Francis Morrison. Vermont was the name Coleman gave to this tract located between Goodwin's River Bluff on the west and the Wood property at Nellysford (with the dwelling known as Three Chimneys). Later the Vermont property became known as Wintergreen. By 1802 but probably soon after the purchase, Coleman built the two-story core of the Wintergreen house on a terrace at the edge of the valley floodplain. An 1802 Mutual Assurance Society policy to insure the building against fire damage placed the dwelling's value at \$1,500, and indicated that \$300 had been subtracted from the original assessment "for deterioration." Barring rapid, wanton neglect, which seems unlikely, the decline in value suggests a building that may have been standing for more than a decade. With other capital investments in land, crops, and labor, maintenance of the house may have suffered somewhat during these early years. According to the policy, the building also included an 8 x 12 foot "porch," the imposing two-story, three-bay portico with square Tuscan columns that still distinguishes Wintergreen as a building of high architectural pretensions. The portico's pediment features an eye-shaped molding that sets off a plain inset panel of the same shape behind it. Cornices and full entablature include decorative moldings. The present configuration of the house was probably achieved in the second or third decade of the nineteenth century with the addition of one-story, two-bay flanking wings. The entire building rests on a raised English basement constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond. At some point, an earlier building, possibly a dwelling occupied by a Morrison tenant or servant, was connected to the rear of Wintergreen

<sup>15</sup> Seaman, *A History of Southern Rockfish Families and Old Houses*, 21; Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, "River Bluff" National Register nomination (1980); Kittell, "Regional Architecture of the Western Piedmont," 7; Doran, *Atlas of County Boundary Changes in Virginia*, 26; Seaman, *Tuckahoes and Cohees*, 120.

<sup>16</sup> Seaman, *A History of Southern Rockfish Families and Old Houses*, 4, 25.

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by a breezeway that was later closed in and integrated to the larger building. Wintergreen stands as a prominent example of the elite dwellings built and expanded in the late eighteenth through early nineteenth centuries by prosperous tobacco farmers such as Coleman. In the early nineteenth century, approximately 20 enslaved workers cultivated tobacco on his lands. Hawes Coleman remained at Wintergreen until his death and is buried in a family cemetery on the property (though not currently under the same ownership as the house, the cemetery is within an adjacent tract and included in the district). Coleman's son, John Jay Coleman, inherited and occupied Wintergreen in 1840.<sup>17</sup>

Elk Hill, built sometime between 1790 and 1810, stands on a topographic prominence in the middle of the valley floor in the western portion of district. The property was part of a 500-acre tract purchased by Andrew Reid in 1749 that lay adjacent to the 700-acre tract belonging to his cousin, Alexander Reid. Alexander's son, Samuel, purchased 136 acres of this tract in 1774. A ruin of brick and stone chimney rubble located only 200 feet from the current house may have been an early house occupied by Alexander and/or Samuel Reid. The current house was probably built by Samuel Reid sometime between 1790 and his 1805 sale of the core 139 acres of the Elk Hill property to Hawes Netherland Coleman, given the increase in value from 30 pounds in 1774 to 1,500 pounds in 1805. As previously noted, Coleman had also purchased the 420-acre Wintergreen tract from the Morrises in 1789. Two years later, he bought an additional 210 acres from the Morrises. The prime tobacco lands at Elk Hill in 1805 were an important acquisition for this ambitious plantation owner who had accumulated a total of 1,500 acres of property in the Valley. A tobacco barn on the property probably dates to the time of Coleman's purchase and still houses a rare late eighteenth-century tobacco press. In 1814 Hawes Coleman conveyed the 139-acre Elk Hill property to his seventeen-year-old son, John Jay Coleman. After marrying, Catherine Walker Hawes in 1819, John probably moved his family to Elk Hill and eventually had nine children. The couple moved temporarily to Kentucky (1826-1834), but still had eleven enslaved workers at Elk Hill in 1827. The following year, Dr. Hawes Netherland Coleman purchased Elk Hill for \$5,000. Documentary evidence is unclear regarding the residents of the Elk Hill house during this period since Dr. Hawes Netherland Coleman also owned a farm called Valley Mount, located to the north of Wintergreen.<sup>18</sup>

The prosperous antebellum years are reflected at Elk Hill by a major addition to the house in 1838, which cost as much as \$500 based on increased building values. In 1836, John Jay Coleman returned from Kentucky to live with his ailing father and in 1840 inherited Wintergreen. Two years later, John Jay Coleman bought back Elk Hill from his brother, Dr. Hawes Netherland Coleman, who began serving as Nelson County sheriff in 1841. A boom in

<sup>17</sup> Diane L. Easley, "Wintergreen," Preliminary Information Form (for preliminary consideration of National Register eligibility) on file, Archives, Va. Dept. of Historic Resources, Richmond; Seaman, *A History of South Rockfish Families*, 45.

<sup>18</sup> Peter Agelasto, Betsy Rawls Agelasto, and Chris Novelli, "Elk Hill" National Register nomination, listed 2007.

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the tobacco market led to further prosperity, with some seventy-eight enslaved workers recorded under John Jay Coleman's name in the 1840 census.<sup>19</sup>

The next known occupant of Elk Hill was Dr. Hawes Nicholas Coleman, son of John Jay Coleman. After studying medicine at University of Virginia and University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Coleman lived at Elk Hill and ran a practice from an office that once stood near the house. Like several other physicians in antebellum Virginia, he also was a successful owner of a plantation with an enslaved work force; scientific training in medicine may have led to an interest in applying experimentation and innovations to agriculture as well. Dr. Richard Eppes of Appomattox Plantation in Prince George County is another prominent example, and less widely known physicians whose stories have come to light during an archaeological study of historic sites at Fort Pickett in central Virginia.<sup>20</sup> Coleman is known to have diversified his crops to avoid the risk of wide swings in tobacco prices. As will be noted below, the South Rockfish Valley gradually shifted from tobacco to apple growing over the course of the second half of the nineteenth century, and Coleman was an early innovator with this new cash crop. By 1860, Coleman was extremely wealthy and had some 125 enslaved people under his name in the 1860 census. He also represented the local area in Virginia's House of Delegates for one term.<sup>21</sup>

Moving west of Wintergreen, the land in the vicinity of present Nellysford lay outside the large Chiswell patent and instead was first granted to Edwin Hickman in 1737. Hickman's land comprised two grants of 400 acres each extending from the vicinity of Nellysford to Lodebar. The tract to the southwest underwent a series of transfers and in 1746 was repatented by James Woods, who also owned Fork Farm (062-0047) to the northeast near the confluence of the South and North forks of the Rockfish. Subsequently, the property (expanded to 410 acres) passed through the hands of the Crawford and Pope families. By 1795, the grandson of James Woods of Fork Plantation, Maj. James Woods, acquired the 410 acres, five years after marrying Sarah Netherland of Powhatan County. In addition to this purchase, he acquired an additional 1,800 acres from the estates of his father (Samuel) and his grandfather (James) toward the far northeast end of the district. That same year, he was appointed coroner of Amherst County (which encompassed Nelson County at the time) and it appears also that he built the large, two-story, double-pile brick dwelling (062-0433) that still stands on a 32-acre remnant of the property in Nellysford. James and Sarah Woods had at least six children by the time she died in 1810. Firmly established in the valley, James served as one of Nelson County's first justices as well as coroner immediately after its formation in 1807. He also represented the surrounding community in Virginia's House of Delegates and became a local militia commander during the War of 1812.

<sup>19</sup> Smith, "Major Woods House"; Doran, *Atlas of County Boundary Changes in Virginia*, 38.

<sup>20</sup> William H. Moore et al., "Archaeological Assessment and Predictive Model of Maneuver Training Center, Fort Pickett, Nottoway, Dinwiddie, and Brunswick Counties, Virginia" (William and Mary Center for Archaeological Research, Williamsburg, Virginia. Submitted to Virginia Department of Military Affairs-Virginia Army National Guard, Blackstone, Virginia., 2014).

<sup>21</sup> Agelasto et al., "Elk Hill"; Lyon Gardiner Tyler, *Men of Mark in Virginia: Ideals of American Life; a Collection of Biographies of the Leading Men in the State* (Men of Mark Publishing Company, 1907), 87.

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In addition, Woods was elected county sheriff in 1812. Like the other owners of large tracts in the South Rockfish Valley, he also depended on enslaved labor to cultivate his prime tobacco lands; there were 58 enslaved worker listed under his name in the 1820 census. Woods' descendants kept control of much of his property through the antebellum period. His son, Samuel, inherited the estate after 1832 and continued to prosper with the rest of the community through the 1850s.<sup>22</sup>

By 1854, a small community was established at the present location of Nellysford, known as Rockfish Post Office, with Dr. Hawes Nicholas Coleman serving as the first postmaster. To avoid confusion the name changed to Nelly's Ford in 1870 when a new post office named Rockfish Depot was established to the north at Orange & Alexandria Railroad's crossing of the main branch of the Rockfish River.<sup>23</sup> Other hubs formed around early mills at Wintergreen and Elk Hill as some diversification of crops led to the need to process grain into flour. During the Civil War, no combat occurred in the South Rockfish Valley. In the winter of 1864-1865, however, troops in the Confederacy's Department of Southwest Virginia encamped on the Elk Hill property within a half mile of the house. Dr. Hawes Nicholas Coleman hosted the department's commander, Maj. Gen. John Cabell Breckinridge, several times at Elk Hill during the general's visits. Breckinridge had served as Vice President in the Buchanan Administration from 1857 until the outbreak of the war.<sup>24</sup>

Following the Civil War, the transition from slavery to free labor led to shifts in agricultural production. Many freedmen and freewomen continued to reside in the valley after emancipation. Descendant communities are represented in two of the district's four churches, Elk Hill Baptist, (1880) just south of Wintergreen on Glenthorne Loop, and Mt. Eagle Baptist (1910), on Adial Road as it approaches Nellysford from the south. One descendant of a worker at Glenthorne, Oscar Randolph Fitch, lived to the age of 104 and was buried in the cemetery at Elk Hill Baptist Church in 1998. He was the child of a late second marriage of Woodson Fitch (age seventy-eight) to a much younger Mariah Fitch. Born ca. 1816, Woodson Fitch had experienced the era of slavery on the Glenthorne Farm, though it is not clear whether he may have been a free person or enslaved. Oscar Fitch, worked for the Phillips family, who owned Glenthorne beginning in the second half of the nineteenth century. During an interview conducted by Lynn Coffey in 1985, Fitch recalled some of the traditions of the African American church, including baptism in the South Fork of the Rockfish, which flows alongside the church property. Typically, baptisms occurred after large church revival meetings held every August. Oscar Fitch's twentieth-century dwelling still stands at 542 Glenthorne Loop.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>22</sup> Smith, "Major Woods House."

<sup>23</sup> Smith, "Major Woods House."

<sup>24</sup> Seaman, "A History of Southern Rockfish Families," 49; William Marvel, *The Battles for Saltville: Southwest Virginia in the Civil War*, 1st ed., Virginia Civil War Battles and Leaders Series (Lynchburg, Va.: H.E. Howard, 1992), 79-80.

<sup>25</sup> Lynn Coffey, *Backroads: Plain Folk and Simple Livin'* (Charlottesville, Va.: Quartet Books, 2009), 77-81.

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As a consequence of changes from slave labor to free labor and improved transportation in the second half of the nineteenth century, apples superseded tobacco as the South Rockfish Valley's main agricultural commodity. Some of the same soils suited for growing dark leaf tobacco proved equally well adapted to orchards of Pippin apples. Additionally, apple production was far less labor-intensive than tobacco cultivation, an important consideration for landowners who no longer could exploit an enslaved workforce. As the trailblazer of the valley's transition to apple growing, the innovative Dr. Hawes Nicholas Coleman planted some 10,000 Albemarle Pippin trees at Elk Hill in the early 1870s. After his death in 1877, his widow, Nannie, shipped 500 barrels of apples to a broker in New York. Large areas of the local farms could be planted with orchards because apples thrived on certain sloping and mountain top soils, while the bottomlands could be dedicated to orchards as well as other crops and grazing. Statistics for Nelson County demonstrate the agricultural economy's rapid shift to apples as a cash crop in the late nineteenth to early twentieth century. In 1899, 80 percent of the county's apple crop was for home consumption and the remaining 38,501 barrels went to market, whereas in 1919 farmers sold 92 percent (154,655 barrels) of their apples for commercial distribution.<sup>26</sup>

Apples required a large seasonal work force for picking, sorting, and packaging the apples, along with specialized equipment and buildings. Before the widespread planting of dwarf varieties, apple trees were often 20 feet tall. Pickers on ladders depended on "nippers" to run their buckets of apples for dumping into large crates. To carry the apples down the hillslopes, the boxes were loaded onto large sleds pulled by horses to apple packing sheds. Two of these buildings, dating to the early twentieth century, survive in the district (062-5119-0050 and 062-5119-0065). Initially, the packing sheds simply provided a large, shaded indoor work area for hand sorting the apples on tables and storing the barrels and later cardboard crates of apples for shipment. Early-twentieth-century innovations included mechanical sorters and refrigerated storage areas. From the apple packing sheds and storage buildings, the product headed by horse cart and later by motorized vehicles to Rockfish Depot, where the railroad passed through the valley of the main branch of the Rockfish. Local apples were consumed in New York and other large cities, or distributed overseas, especially to Britain.<sup>27</sup>

During the second half of the nineteenth century, small communities developed around crossroads, fords, and mills in the South Rockfish Valley. Within the district, these include, from northeast to southwest, Lodebar, Nellysford, and Wintergreen. The Lodebar community's heyday was in late nineteenth century when it had a post office. In 1880 Cyrus McCue became the first postmaster and ran the post office in his general store. Five years later, Garrett W.

<sup>26</sup> Henry Peyton Creasy et al., *The County of Nelson, Geography Supplement* (Charlottesville: Nelson County School Board and University of Virginia, 1929), 13; Seaman, *A History of Southern Rockfish Families*, 49; 238, 244-245

<sup>27</sup> Saunders, *Heartbeats of Nelson*, 238, 244-245.

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Martin, the owner of Fork Farm, served as the postmaster, but the store appears to have ceased functioning in the 1890s. By 1900, the post office also closed.<sup>28</sup>

Nellysford, the main commercial and residential cluster currently within the district, is focused at the crossroads of Adial Road (Route 634) and Rockfish Valley Highway (Route 151). In the mid-nineteenth century, Adial Road led travelers from the South Rockfish Valley southeastward around the southern edge of McLean Mountain toward what is now Route 6 and connections to the main road (now U.S. Route 29) between the Nelson County seat at Lovingson and the City of Charlottesville. As early as the mid-eighteenth century, William Morrison operated an ordinary in the vicinity. By 1857, John J. Coleman, Jr. the son of the owner of Wintergreen farm, owned a store and post office on part of the property where Mt. Eagle Baptist Church now stands along Adial Road. The store and crossroads, labeled “Coleman,” figured prominently on Civil War maps.<sup>29</sup> The location was a convenient stopping place for travelers to stop as they crossed the South Fork of the Rockfish at Nelly’s Ford. By 1866, the post office had taken on the name of the ford, which also became the name for the community of residences and business that clustered around. The focus of Nellysford shifted to Rockfish Valley Highway in 1882, when a subsequent postmaster, Walter R. Cabell, moved the post office into a building located a few hundred yards to the north at the intersection of Route 151 and Adial Road.<sup>30</sup>

The historic community of Wintergreen emerged as another important crossroads in the second half of the nineteenth century. Before realignment in the 1930s, Route 151 followed what is now Glenthorne Loop to its current terminus at Spruce Creek Road. Most traffic entering the South Rockfish Valley from the north (through Reed’s Gap over the Blue Ridge) or from the Tye River basin (along Cub Creek Road) would have passed through this intersection directly below Wintergreen house before heading northeast down the valley. As an important crossroads, Wintergreen became the site of several mills, stores, and other commercial and social activities. The first store in the vicinity was about a mile to the southwest at Elk Hill. Although the main road followed the course of Glenthorne Loop at this time, Civil War era and late nineteenth-century maps show that a secondary road ran along the current Route 151 corridor southwest of Spruce Creek Road. This dirt track conveyed customers to a small store at Elk Hill owned by Dr. Hawes Nicholas Coleman. There his two store clerks sold dry goods, hardware, clothing, medicines, and liquor from 1869 until Coleman’s death in 1877. In the early nineteenth century, Thomas Goodwin of River Bluff owned a 400-acre tract called the mill seat in the southwest quadrant of the crossroads at Wintergreen. There, he operated a mill powered by the waters of Spruce Creek, grinding corn, wheat, and other cereal crops. After Goodwin’s death in 1848, John Jay Coleman, the proprietor of adjacent Wintergreen Farm, purchased the mill seat and his family operated the mill during the next four decades. Dr. Hawes Nicholas Coleman owned the

<sup>28</sup> Liz Richardson, “Some Stores and Post Offices Known to Have Existed in the Southern Rockfish Valley.” Typescript on file, Nelson County Historical Society, Lovingson.

<sup>29</sup> Jedediah Hotchkiss, C. W. Oltmanns, and S. (Sampson) Robinson, “Map of Nelson County, Virginia /.” 1866. Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3883n.cwh00301>.

<sup>30</sup> Seaman, *Tuckahoes and Cohees*, 86, 98; Richardson, “Some Stores and Post Offices.”

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property prior to his death in 1877. In 1880, his widow sold the property to Samuel Slaughter, who diversified the businesses on the property to include the gristmill, as well as a sawmill, a general store run as a partnership with an individual named Fitzpatrick, and a post office. With this proliferation into a commercial hub, the community was labeled Slaughters on maps of the area, identifying the name of the post office. After Slaughter's death from typhoid in 1885, John E. Gannaway purchased the store. When the old store burned ca. 1890, Gannaway rebuilt it on the same site. Gannaway expanded his business after purchasing the mills in 1894. During the remaining years of the nineteenth century, business directories indicate that Gannaway ran a distillery and saloon in addition to the mills, general store, and post office. The community retained the post office name of Slaughters until 1902, when it was changed to Wintergreen. Failing health led Gannaway to sell his properties between 1906 and 1908, the store to Thomas W. Hughes and the mills to Robert L. Hughes. Sometime between 1901 and 1907, a relative, Alexander F. Hughes, built a one-room frame store on the property at the northwest corner of Spruce Creek Lane and Route 151, which continued in operation until ca. 1930, was later used as a residence, but was no longer standing by the 1950s. With all of this activity at the crossroads, a church was built on the northeast quadrant of the intersection in the early twentieth century, the current Wintergreen Christian Church.<sup>31</sup>

In 1900, John W. Harris, Jr., a relative of the Colemans, purchased Wintergreen Farm and eight years later Harris and his wife conveyed the quarter-acre lot at the southwest quadrant of the Route 151/Spruce Creek Road intersection to their son, Grover C. Harris. In 1908, Grover Harris built the core of a building that still stands on the site. Initially, the building contained a store with living quarters. In the 1920s, Harris made additions to the east and west sides of the building to accommodate a larger living quarters and a bar with slot machines. Acquisition of the old mill property in 1928 enhanced Harris's business as all mill customers had to complete their transactions in the store. Between the 1930s and early 1950s, Harris's businesses provided a number of key services to the surrounding community, as the store served as a voting precinct and sold gasoline and groceries, and his mill ground meal and flour and sawed lumber. Following Harris's death due to a mill accident in 1953, his family continued to operate the store but all of the businesses gradually declined until the store was sold ca. 1970. After serving various purposes during the following three decades, the building now houses the non-profit South Rockfish Valley Foundation and includes a museum. The building was individually listed in the National Register in 2005.<sup>32</sup>

On August 20, 1969, torrential rains, following remnants of Hurricane Camille, devastated Nelson County. A rainfall in excess of 25 inches occurred largely within a 5-hour period, and swept away or buried many miles of roads, over 100 bridges, and over 900 buildings

<sup>31</sup> Peter Agelasto, "Wintergreen Country Store," National Register nomination, listed 2005; Rivanna Archaeological Services, "Proposal for a Phase I Archaeological Survey"; Liz Richardson, "Dr. Hawes N. Coleman's Store at Elk Hill," Typescript on file, Nelson County Historical Society, Lovingston; Richardson, "Some Stores."

<sup>32</sup> Easley, "Wintergreen"; Agelasto, "Wintergreen Country Store."

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countywide. According to official records, 114 people died during the catastrophe and 37 people remain to be accounted for. The damage totaled more than \$100 million and Virginia was declared a disaster area.

Nelson County's recovery from Hurricane Camille included rebuilding or replacing the damaged roads, bridges, and buildings. While the disaster was a signature event in local history, response was shaped by larger economic and social forces that had been picking up momentum since World War II. Most notable, during the second half of the twentieth century, apple production decreased significantly as did agriculture as a mainstay of the local economy. Although large farms like Elk Hill and Glenthorn continued to be profitable, small holders took advantage of more accessible automobile transportation to commute to manufacturing and service jobs in Waynesboro, Charlottesville, and Lynchburg, all within less than 40 miles of Nellysford. Small-scale cattle farming, raising chickens and hogs, and growing fruits and vegetables, however, continued for family consumption and provided supplemental income.<sup>33</sup> Despite the decrease in orchards, Nelson County now ranks fifth in Virginia for both grape and apple production.<sup>34</sup>

Currently, the Wintergreen Resort with its residential development consisting largely of vacation home, ski facilities, and a golf course make a large contribution to the tax base of the South Rockfish Valley. Small, locally owned shops and restaurants, and a hardware store in Nellysford serve the residents of Wintergreen and the small population within the district. In the last decade, Nelson County's economic development initiatives have also attracted several breweries, wineries, cideries, and boutique distilleries to the valley. Typically, these businesses include tasting rooms and, in some cases, attached restaurants with a thriving clientele of local residents and tourists.

### Archaeological Potential

No archaeological investigations have been conducted within the district boundaries, nor has Nelson County been the subject of extensive study—to date, only 202 sites have been recorded within the jurisdiction's 474 square miles. Nevertheless, regional predictive models indicate the district's potential to include archaeological sites representing the entire span of Virginia prehistory from ca. 12,000 BC through European Contact in the seventeenth century. The variety of settings, soils, freshwater springs and streams, and readily available raw materials for making stone tools indicate the potential for a wide variety of site functions.<sup>35</sup> Within the period of significance, a potential exists for significant archaeological sites that could yield important information about settlement patterns and lifeways of the earliest settlers who typically

<sup>33</sup> Cynthia L. Brinson, "Courtship in Rockfish Valley, Virginia: Valley Folk and Mountain Folk" (Master's thesis, University of Virginia, 1977), 10.

<sup>34</sup> Fierro, "The South Rockfish Valley," 25.

<sup>35</sup> Rivanna Archaeological Services, LLC, "Proposal for a Phase I Archaeological Survey of the Historic Slaughter Project Area, Wintergreen, Nelson County, Virginia: Scope of Work and Cost Estimate (Charlottesville, Va., 2014; submitted to Rockfish Valley Foundation), 3.



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constructed log dwellings upon first occupying land in the valley. Although none of these buildings survive, intact subsurface archaeological features and deposits have much to add to the history of early settlement and subsistence. Archaeological research also could refine the dates for early extant buildings through investigation of building trenches and deposits in the yards of historic houses, where early documentary records provide few specific details.

One of the most promising areas of archaeological research is the potential to investigate the lifeways of the numerous enslaved African Americans who labored on the larger farms. This group left few written records for historical examination due to entrenched racial prejudices against their education, and their lack of economic freedom resulted in very few court records and tax records that form an important source of documentary information for other ethnic groups. Archaeological survey of plantation complexes has the potential to locate previously unknown quarters and activity areas associated with the enslaved population. Further investigations of such sites and areas adjacent to at least three standing servant/slave quarter buildings (one each at High View, Castle Hill, and Full Circle Farm) have the potential to shed light on the lives of antebellum African Americans, whose lifeways in the county have been almost entirely unexplored in Nelson County. Typically cemeteries for enslaved people were marked with only rudimentary features, such as fieldstones, or traditional plantings, such as periwinkle, making them difficult to identify today. Combined with documentary research, however, professional field investigations, can lead to identification of such cemeteries and recovery of important information about past generations of African American families.

Another important avenue of archaeological investigation is already in the planning stages and offers the opportunity to explore the history of commercial and industrial development at the crossroads community of Wintergreen in the nineteenth century. A 2014 grant proposal by Rivanna Archaeological Services LLC outlined a plan for archaeological survey of a 6-acre tract located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Glenthorne Loop and Route 151. The plan calls for systematic survey to identify all sites on the property, which is associated with the community known as Coleman, Slaughters, and most recently Wintergreen. According to historical documentation, the area contained a succession of mills and stores, a distillery, a blacksmith shop, and a store owner's dwelling from the 1840s through the early twentieth century. A preliminary walkover of the proposed survey area revealed numerous surface features, including a mill race depression, a two-story stone chimney likely associated with a dwelling, an iron sluice pipe, a mortared masonry wall, and a concrete mill foundation.<sup>36</sup> Archaeological research on this site and others mentioned above may eventually lead to future opportunities to update the historic district's nomination to include significance under Criterion D in the areas of Industry and Archaeology: Historic - Non-Aboriginal. The potential for historic significance for sites associated with aboriginal groups in the prehistoric era also may be identified.

<sup>36</sup> Rivanna Archaeological Services, "Proposal for Phase I Archaeological Survey," 3-4.

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**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- 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: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** DHR No. 062-5119

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreege of Property** 1,620

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N

South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic  
District

Nelson County, VA

Name of Property

County and State

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 37.925650 Longitude: -78.929440
2. Latitude: 37.926050 Longitude: -78.827300
3. Latitude: 37.865090 Longitude: -78.929440
4. Latitude: 37.865360 Longitude: -78.828160

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The true and correct historic boundary for the South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District appears on the attached map, entitled "Sketch Map - South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District."

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary captures an extent of the bottomlands of the South Fork of the Rockfish River in northwestern Nelson County, Virginia, between the eastern outskirts of Beech Grove and the southern edge of Greenfield. These respective southwestern and northeastern limits bound an area with a high proportion of significant architectural resources dating to the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries; traditional agricultural landscapes; and related natural features. The organizing natural feature is the South Fork of the Rockfish River, which extends nearly through the entire length of the district except for the northeastern-most portion. Less than a thousand feet from this end of the district, the river turns sharply eastward, immediately south of Virginia Lane and exits the boundary. The Rockfish Valley Highway (Route 151) corridor extends along the entire length of the district. Given the significance of this historic transportation corridor to settlement patterns in the district, the boundary contains the entire width of the roadway, including the 4.7-mile stretch that marks the boundary between low-density residential subdivision development of Wintergreen Resort to the northwest and the traditional, open rural landscape of the district to the southeast. Typically, the boundary follows roadways, streams, and tax parcel lines that mark the separation from areas of non-contributing properties and upland areas. In the three instances where the district includes partial tax parcels, the boundary is drawn to exclude hundreds of acres of rugged upland forest that contrast markedly with the character of the district's landscape.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: David Lewes, Project Manager/Historian; Mary Ruffin Hanbury, Architectural Historian

organizations: William and Mary Center for Archaeological Research; Hanbury Preservation Consulting

South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic  
District

Name of Property

Nelson County, VA

County and State

street & number: 327 Richmond Road

city or town: Williamsburg; Raleigh state: VA; NC zip code: 23185

e-mail: dwlwe@wm.edu; maryruffin@hanburypreservation.com

telephone: (757) 221-2579; (919) 828-1905

date: March 29, 2016

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### 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 this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Unless otherwise indicated, the following information applies to all photographs.

Name of Property: South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

City or Vicinity: N/A

County: Nelson

State: Virginia

1. View: Western end of the district, looking southeast from Bryant Mountain.

Date Photographed: 17 February 2016

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0001.tif

Photographer: David Lewes

South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic  
District

Name of Property

Nelson County, VA

County and State

2. View: Spruce Creek from south side of Route 151 east of intersection of Route 751, looking southeast.

Date Photographed: 18 February 2016

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0002.tif

Photographer: David Lewes

3. View: Spruce Creek, looking northwest from bridge on farm road leading to Full Circle Farm.

Date Photographed: 17 February 2016

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0003.tif

Photographer: David Lewes

4. View: Major Woods House property, looking east from Route 151.

Date Photographed: 18 February 2016

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0004.tif

Photographer: David Lewes

5. View: Rural landscape, looking east from south side of Route 151 across from intersection with Saylor Glen Lane.

Date Photographed: 18 February 2016

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0005.tif

Photographer: David Lewes

6. View: South Fork of the Rockfish River, looking southeast from the intersection of Virginia Lane with Route 151.

Date Photographed: 18 February 2016

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0006.tif

Photographer: David Lewes

7. View: Meander Inn and surrounding farmland, looking northeast.

Date Photographed: 18 February 2016

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0007.tif

Photographer: David Lewes

8. View: Pastureland near northeast end of the district, looking west from the entrance to Rockfish Presbyterian Church toward Crawford Knob.

Date Photographed: 18 February 2016

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0008.tif

Photographer: David Lewes

9. View: Farm field on the Castle Hill property, looking south from Rockfish School Lane with Pilot Mountain in background.

Date Photographed: 18 February 2016

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0009.tif

South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic  
District

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Property

Nelson County, VA

\_\_\_\_\_  
County and State

Photographer: David Lewes

10. View: Along Route 151 from intersection with Rodes Farm Drive, looking southwest.

Date Photographed: 17 February 2016

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0010.tif

Photographer: David Lewes

11. View: Fork Farm, south elevation.

Date Photographed: 6 April 2015

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0011.tif

Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury

12. View: River Bluff, south elevation.

Date Photographed: 16 March 2015

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0012.tif

Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury

13. View: River Bluff, detail of decorative brick patten on chimney.

Date Photographed: 16 March 2015

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0013.tif

Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury

14. View: Elk Hill, front portico on south elevation.

Date Photographed: 24 September 2006

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0014.tif

Photographer: Peter Agelasto

15. View: Wintergreen, façade (south elevation).

Date Photographed: 16 January 2010

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0015.tif

Photographer: Mark Bittle

16. View: Full Circle Farm, façade (north elevation).

Date Photographed: 12 May 2015

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0016.tif

Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury

17. View: House at 428 Beech Grove Road, façade (south elevation).

Date Photographed: 3 February 2015

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0017.tif

Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury



South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic  
District

Name of Property

Nelson County, VA

County and State

18. View: House in Nellysford at 2950 Rockfish Valley Highway, north elevation.  
Date Photographed: 17 March 2015  
Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0018.tif  
Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury
19. View: House at 2056 Rockfish Valley Highway, east and north elevations.  
Date Photographed: 9 February 2015  
Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0019.tif  
Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury
20. View: Former apple packing shed at 2188 Rockfish Valley Highway, north and west elevations.  
Date Photographed: 16 March 2015  
Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0020.tif  
Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury
21. View: River Run Farm, south and east elevations.  
Date Photographed: 11 May 2015  
Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0021.tif  
Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury
22. View: Former Wintergreen Colored School, north and east elevations.  
Date Photographed: 17 February 2016  
Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0022.tif  
Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury
23. View: Non-contributing commercial building at 100 Rockfish Valley Highway, north and west elevations.  
Date Photographed: 9 February 2015  
Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0023.tif  
Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury
24. View: Former slave quarter at Castle Hill.  
Date Photographed: 12 May 2015  
Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0024.tif  
Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury
25. View: Former slave quarter at Full Circle Farm.  
Date Photographed: 12 May 2015  
Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0025.tif  
Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury

South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic  
District

Name of Property

Nelson County, VA

County and State

26. View: Barn at Glenthorne, east elevation.

Date Photographed: 12 May 2015

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0026.tif

Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury

27. View: Smokehouse at Glenthorne.

Date Photographed: 12 May 2015

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0027.tif

Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury

28. View: Tobacco barn at Elk Hill.

Date Photographed: 17 February 2016

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0028.tif

Photographer: David W. Lewes

29. View: Tobacco press in tobacco barn at Elk Hill.

Date Photographed: 12 May 2015

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0029.tif

Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury

30. View: Kitchen at Major Woods House.

Date Photographed: 14 March 2013

Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0030.tif

Photographer: W. Scott Smith

31. View: Elk Hill Baptist Church, looking west from bridge on Glenthorne Loop over South Fork of the Rockfish River.

Date Photographed: 17 February 2016

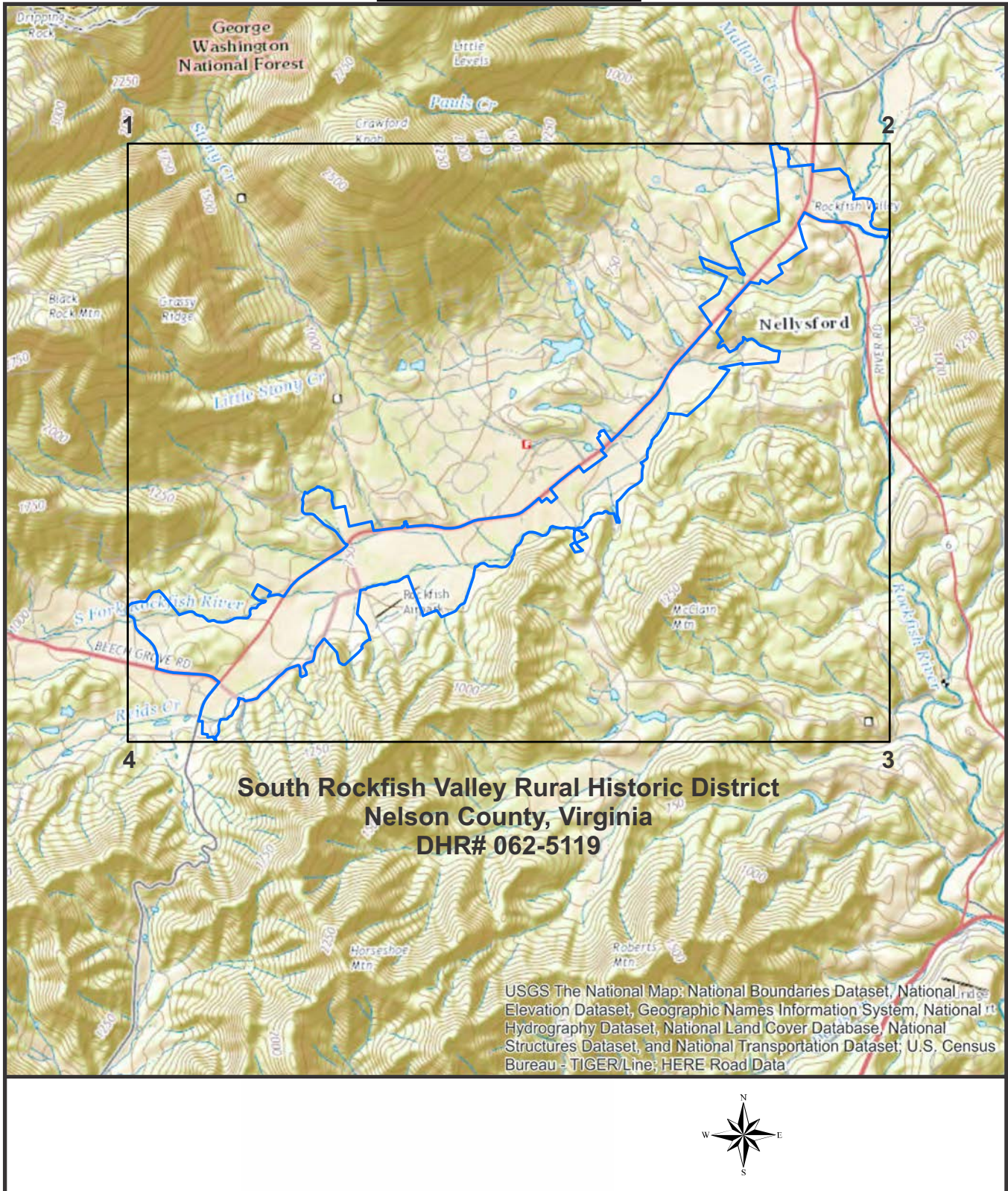
Image: VA\_NelsonCo\_SouthRockfishValleyRHD\_0031.tif

Photographer: David W. Lewes

**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.

# LOCATION MAP



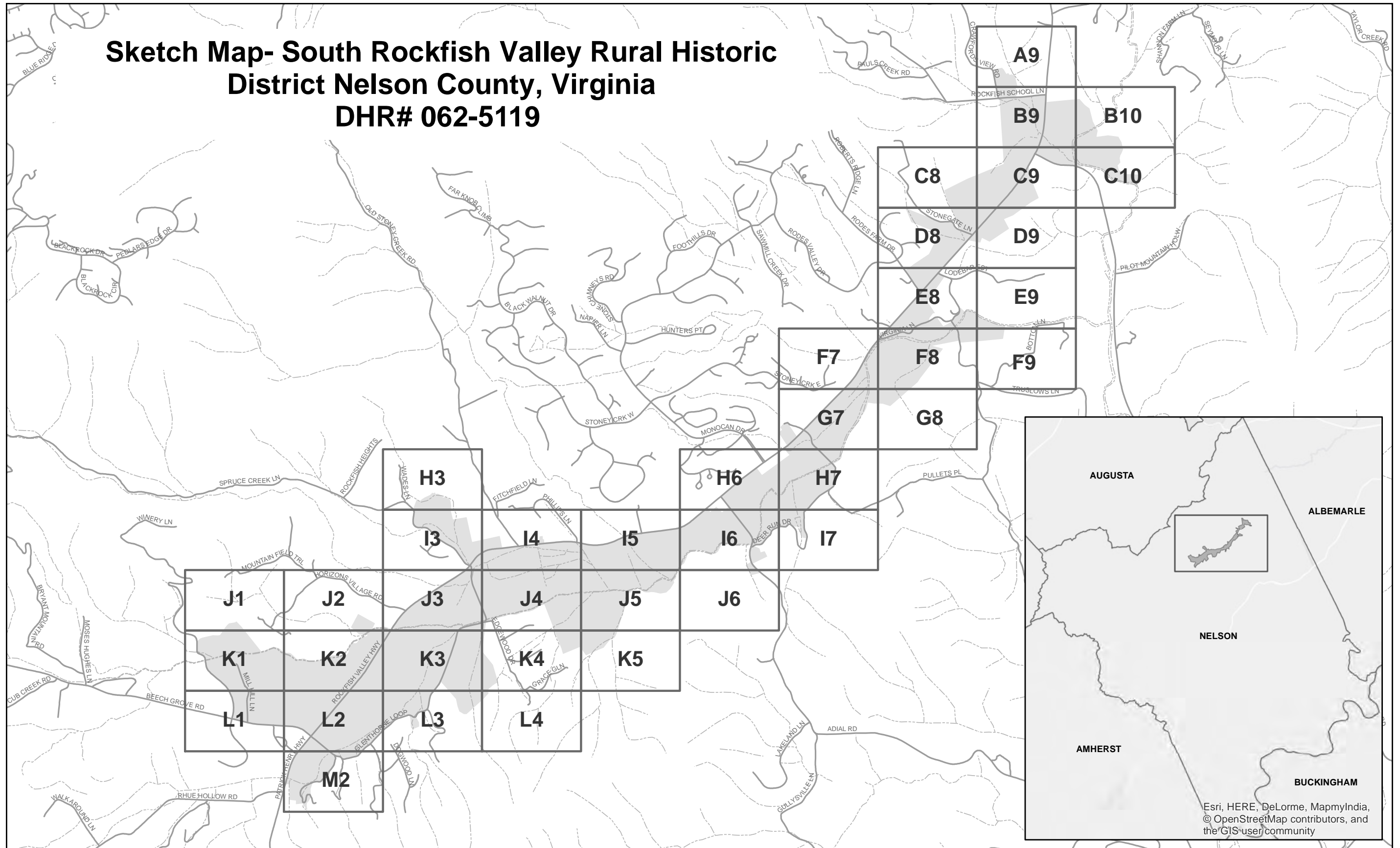
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



- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
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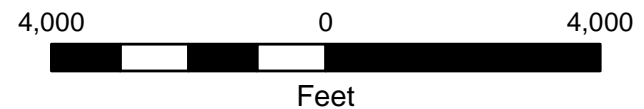
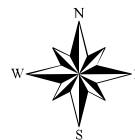


# Sketch Map- South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District Nelson County, Virginia

## DHR# 062-5119

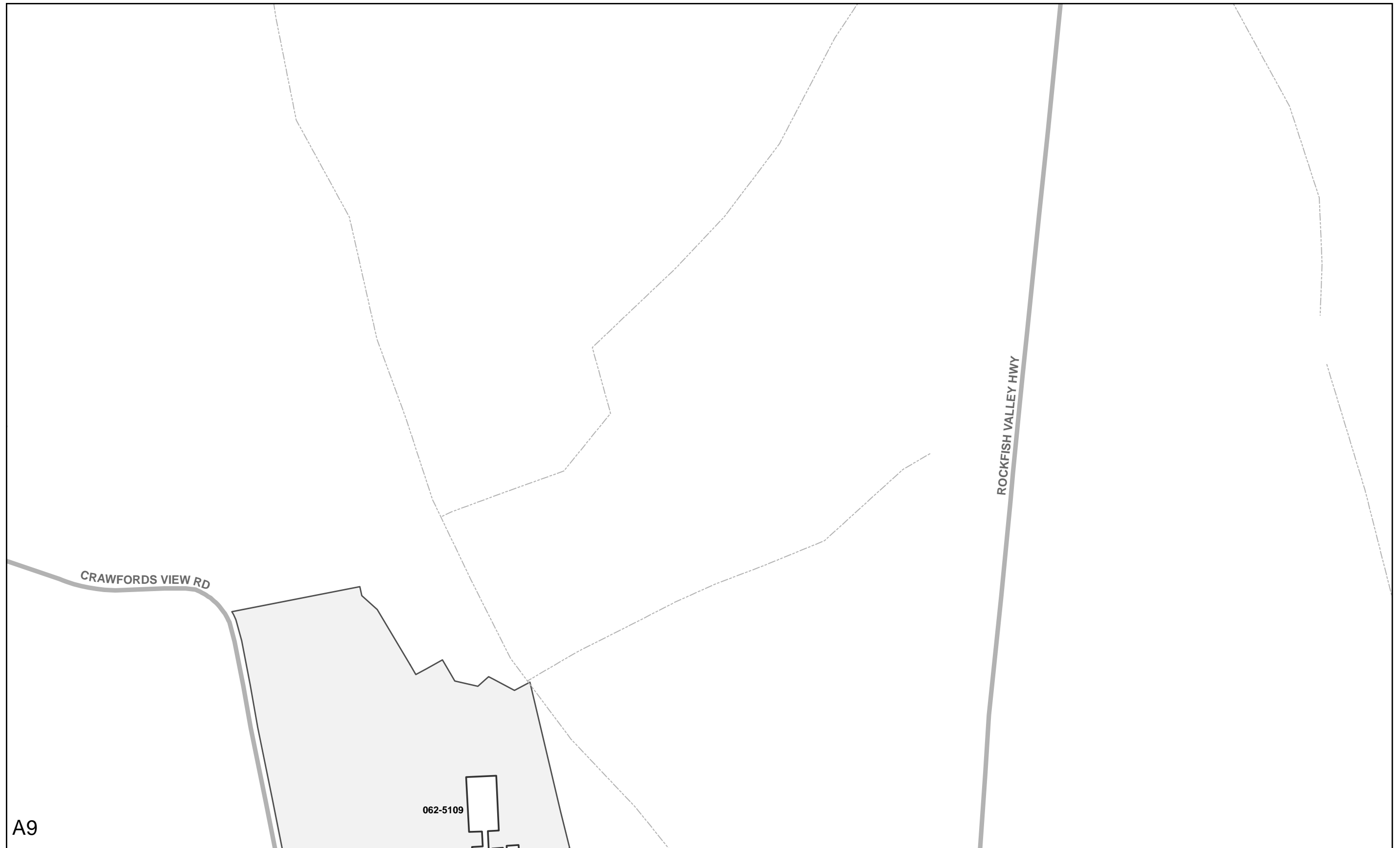


|   |   |  |                |
|---|---|--|----------------|
|  | South Rockfish Valley Historic District |  | Roads          |
|  | Map Index                               |  | Rivers/Streams |



1 inch = 2,800 feet

Esri, HERE, DeLorme, MapmyIndia,  
© OpenStreetMap contributors,  
and the GIS user community



A9



Contributing Primary Resource



Non-Contributing Primary Resource



South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District



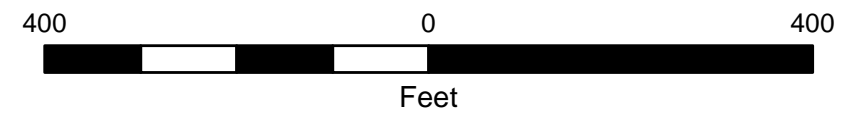
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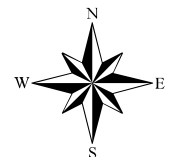
Roads



Rivers/Streams









1 inch = 200 feet



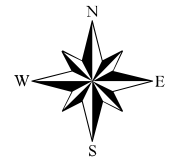


B9

-  Contributing Primary Resource
-  Non-Contributing Primary Resource
-  South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District
-  Photo Key
-  Roads
-  Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet





B10



Contributing Primary Resource



Non-Contributing Primary Resource



South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District



Photo Key



Roads



Rivers/Streams

400



0

400

Feet

1 inch = 200 feet





C8



Contributing Primary Resource



Non-Contributing Primary Resource



South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District



Photo Key



Roads



Rivers/Streams

400

0

400




Feet

1 inch = 200 feet







 Contributing Primary Resource

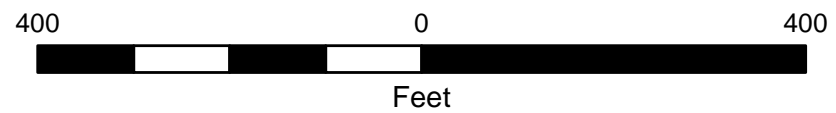
 Non-Contributing Primary Resource

 South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

 Photo Key

 Roads

 Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet





C10



Contributing Primary Resource



Non-Contributing Primary Resource



South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District



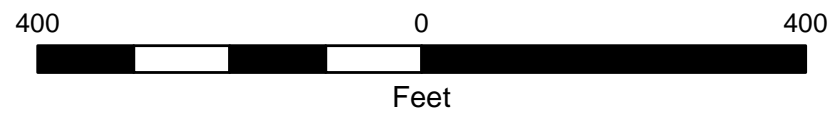
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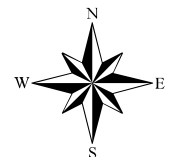
Roads

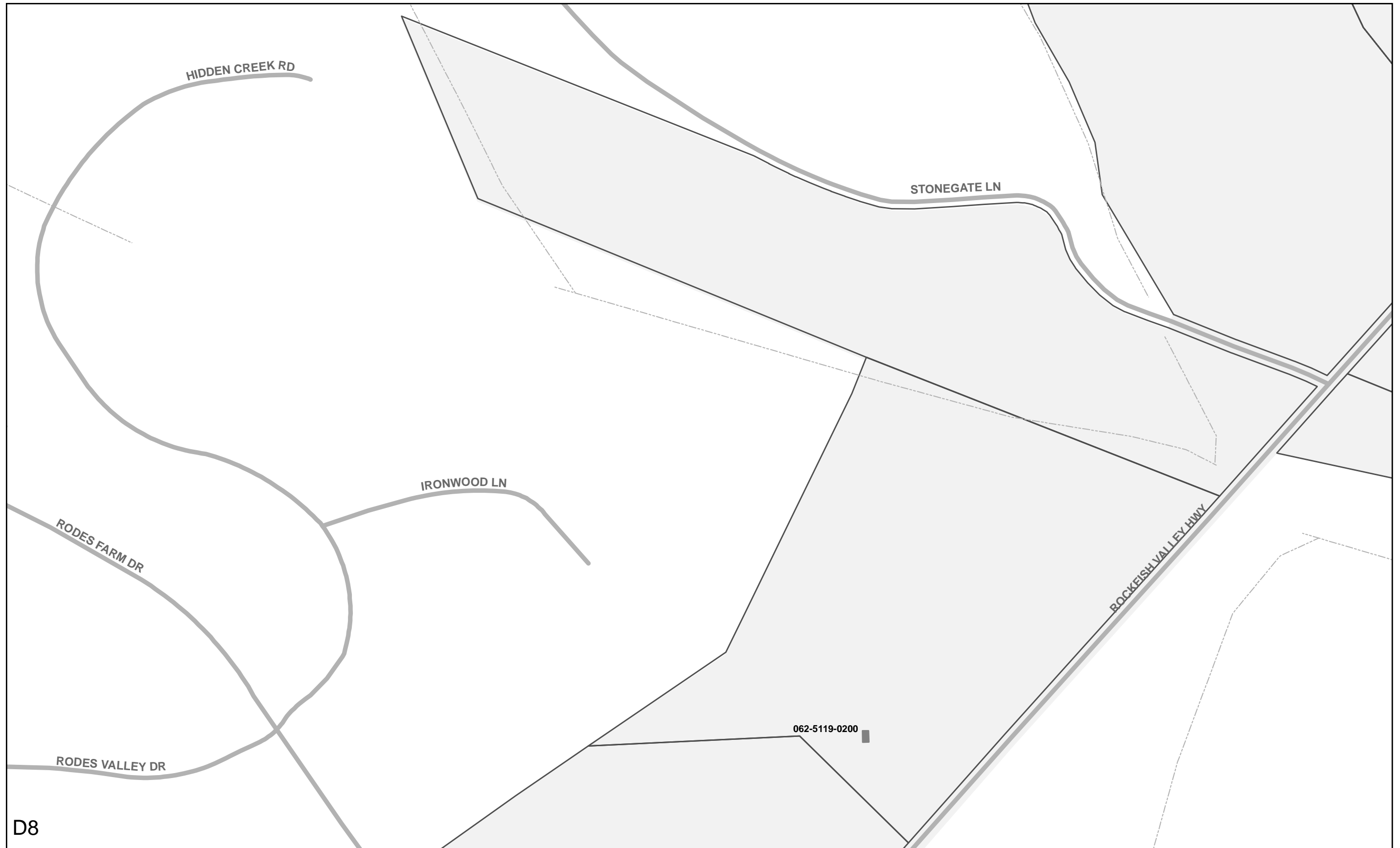


Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet





□ Contributing Primary Resource

■ Non-Contributing Primary Resource

■ South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

◀ Photo Key

— Roads

- - - Rivers/Streams









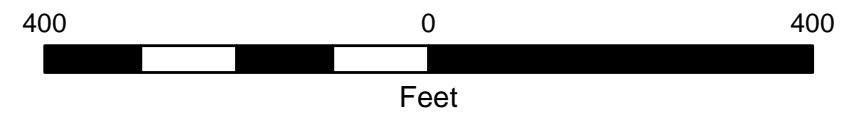
1 inch = 200 feet





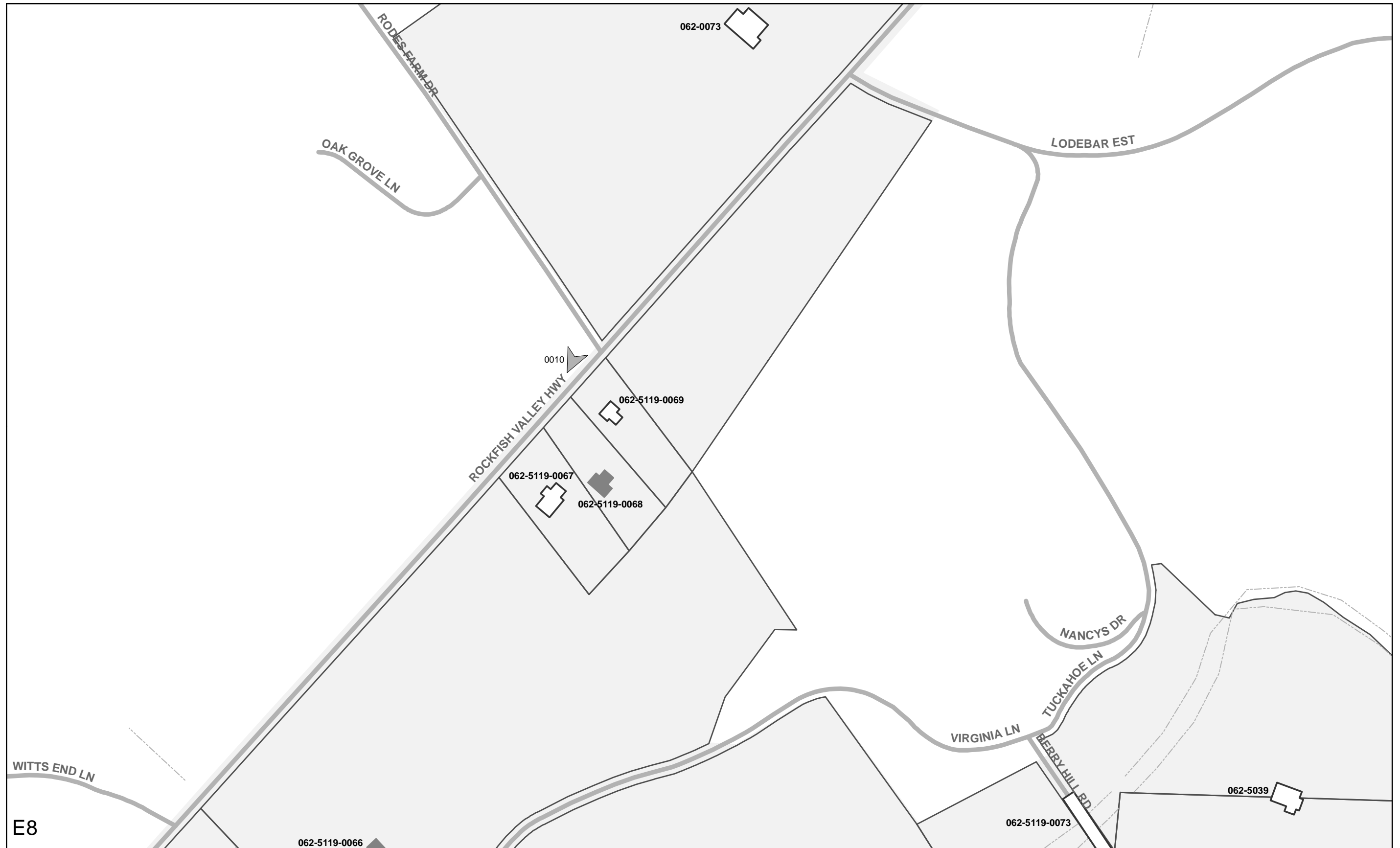
D9


- |   |   |   |                |
|---|---|---|----------------|
|  | Contributing Primary Resource                 |  | Photo Key      |
|  | Non-Contributing Primary Resource             |  | Roads          |
|  | South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District |  | Rivers/Streams |



1 inch = 200 feet





 Contributing Primary Resource

 Non-Contributing Primary Resource

 South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

 Photo Key

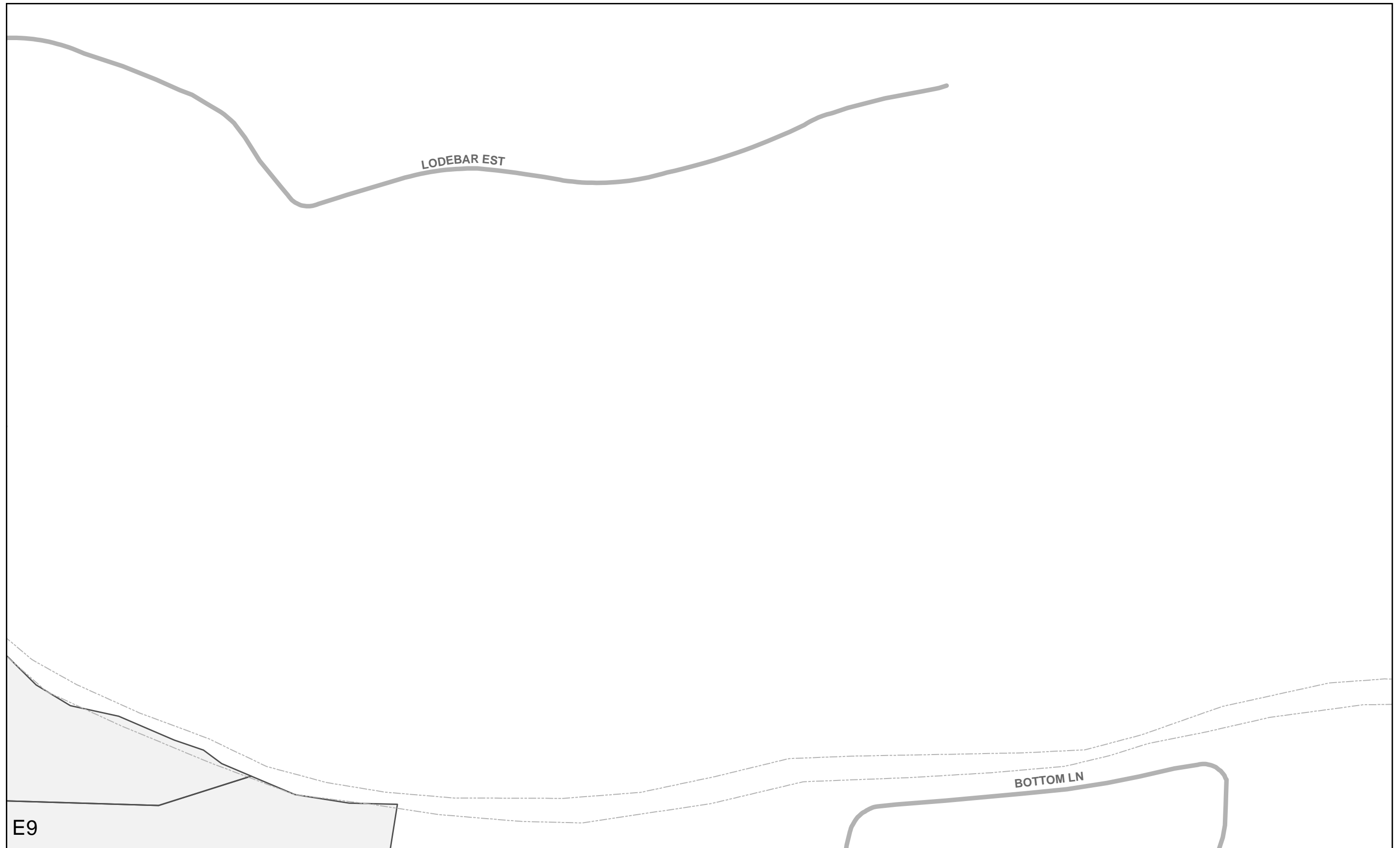
 Roads


 Rivers/Streams




1 inch = 200 feet






 Contributing Primary Resource

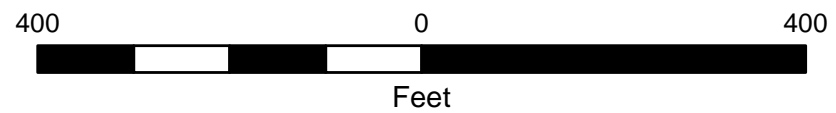
 Non-Contributing Primary Resource

 South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

 Photo Key

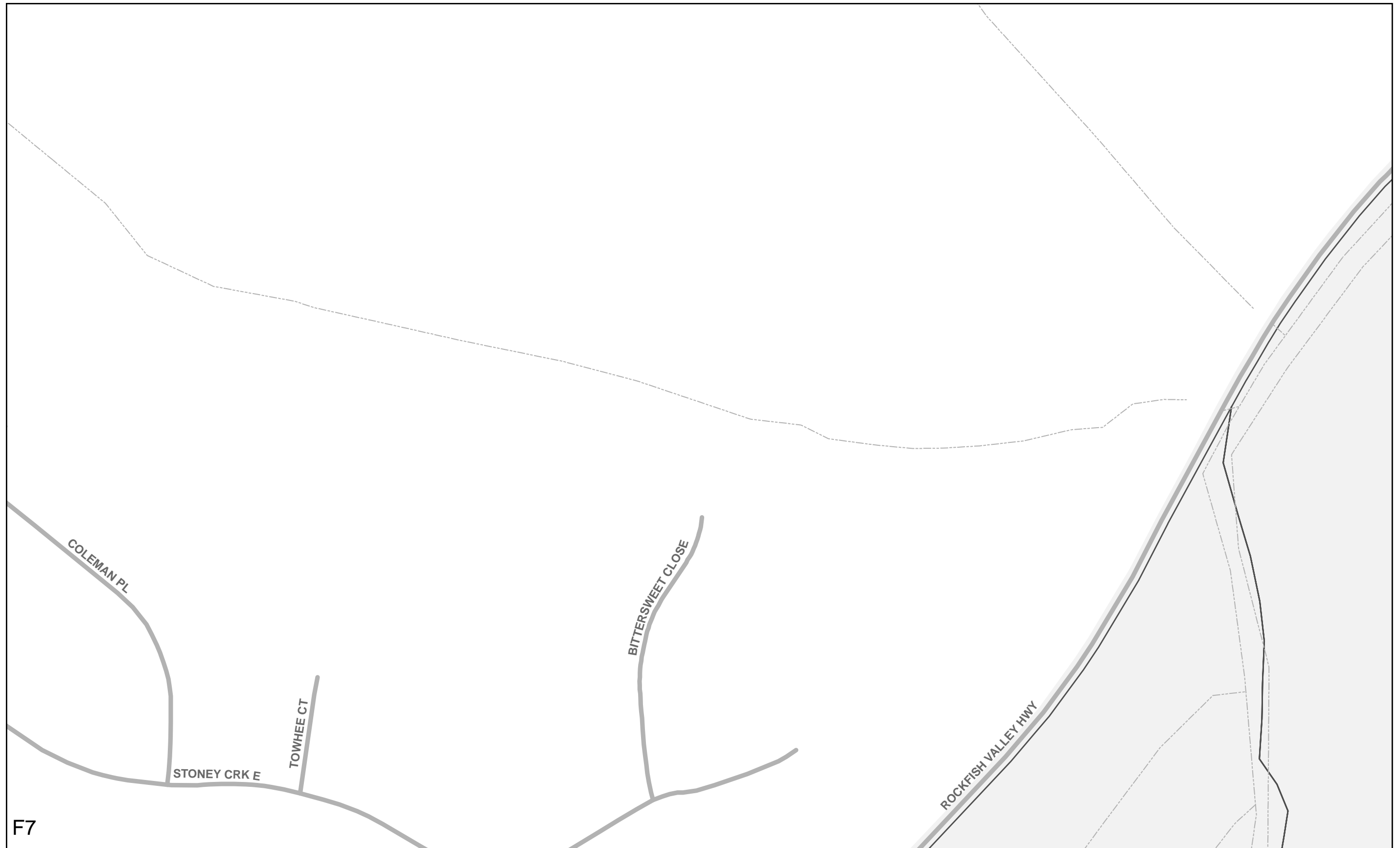
 Roads

 Rivers/Streams



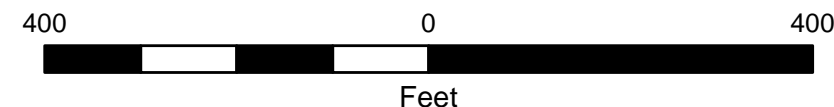
1 inch = 200 feet





F7


- Contributing Primary Resource
- Non-Contributing Primary Resource
- South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District
- Photo Key
- Roads
- Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet





 Contributing Primary Resource

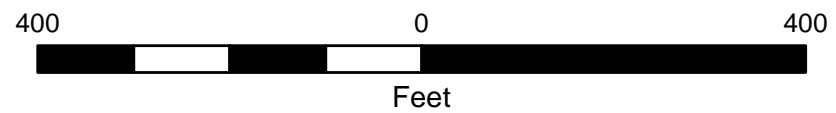
 Non-Contributing Primary Resource

 South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

 Photo Key

 Roads

 Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet







F9



Contributing Primary Resource



Non-Contributing Primary Resource



South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District



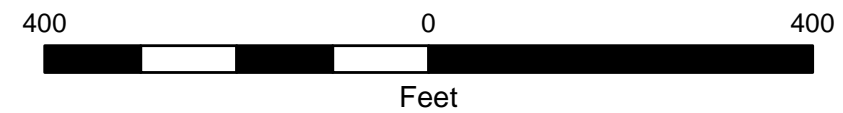
Photo Key



Roads

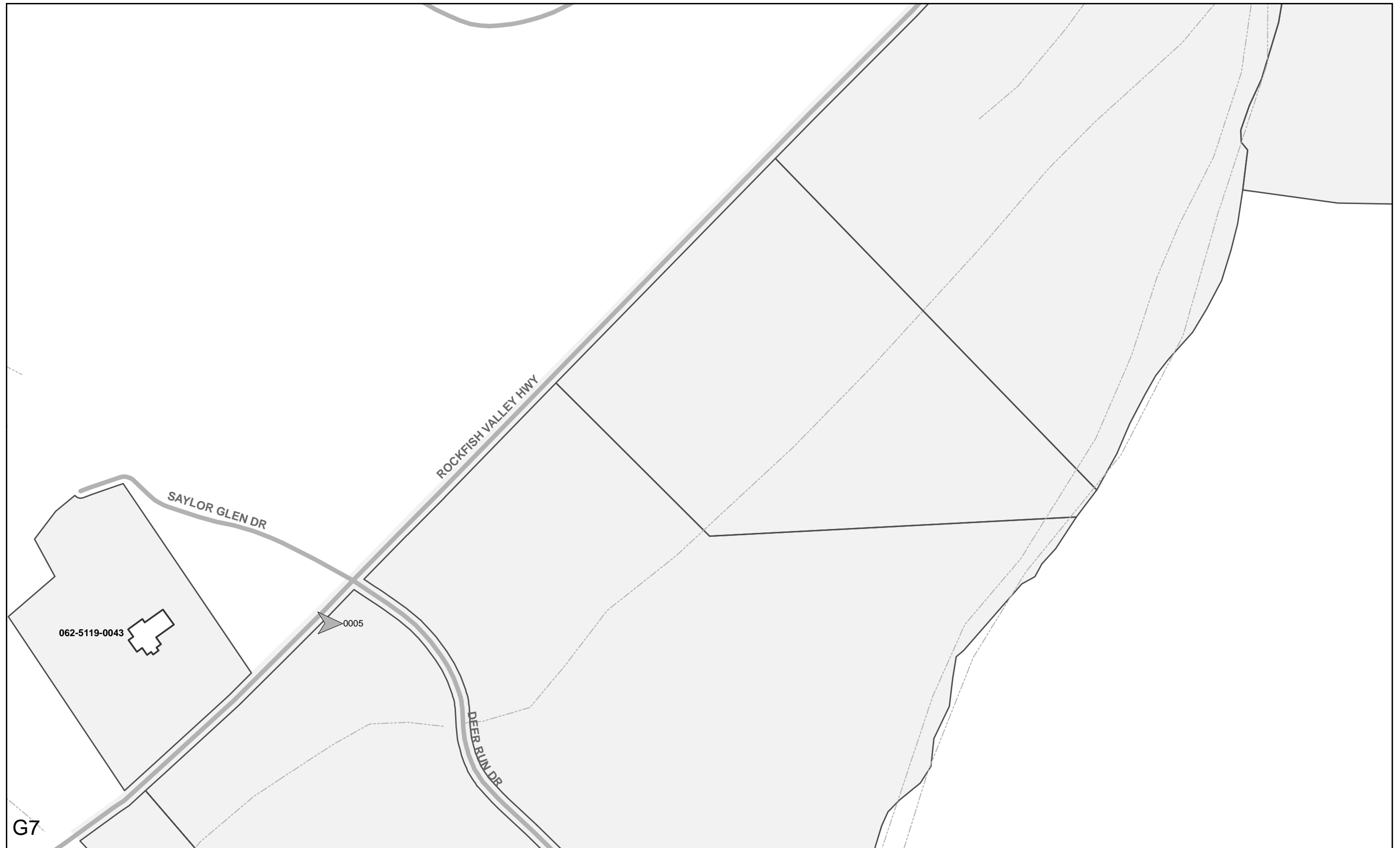


Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet





□ Contributing Primary Resource

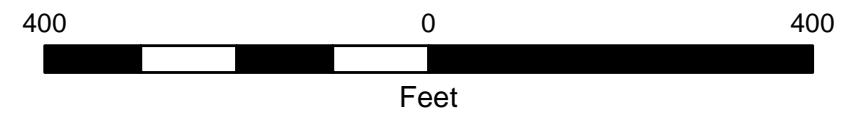
■ Non-Contributing Primary Resource

□ South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

◀ Photo Key

— Roads

- - - Rivers/Streams









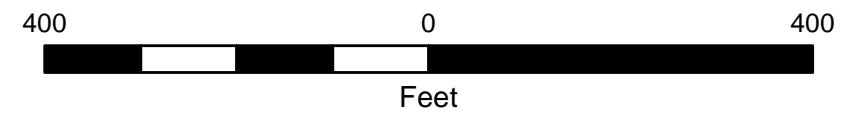
1 inch = 200 feet



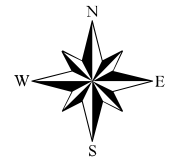


G8


- |   |  |
|---|--|
|  Contributing Primary Resource                 |  Photo Key      |
|  Non-Contributing Primary Resource             |  Roads          |
|  South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District |  Rivers/Streams |




1 inch = 200 feet






 Contributing Primary Resource

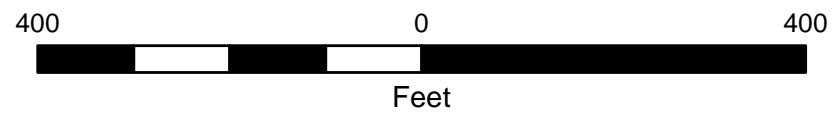
 Non-Contributing Primary Resource

 South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

 Photo Key

 Roads

 Rivers/Streams



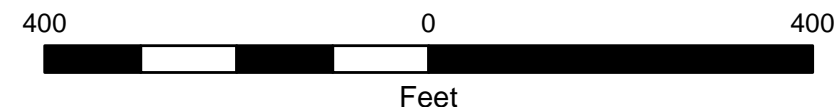
1 inch = 200 feet





H6

- Contributing Primary Resource
- Non-Contributing Primary Resource
- South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District
- Photo Key
- Roads
- Rivers/Streams





1 inch = 200 feet





H7

 Contributing Primary Resource

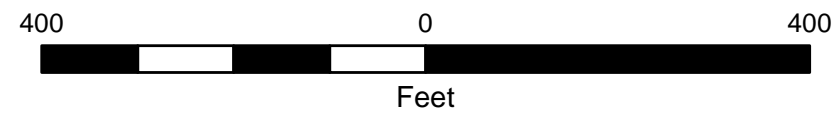
 Non-Contributing Primary Resource

 South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

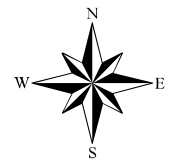
 Photo Key

 Roads

 Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet

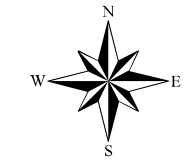


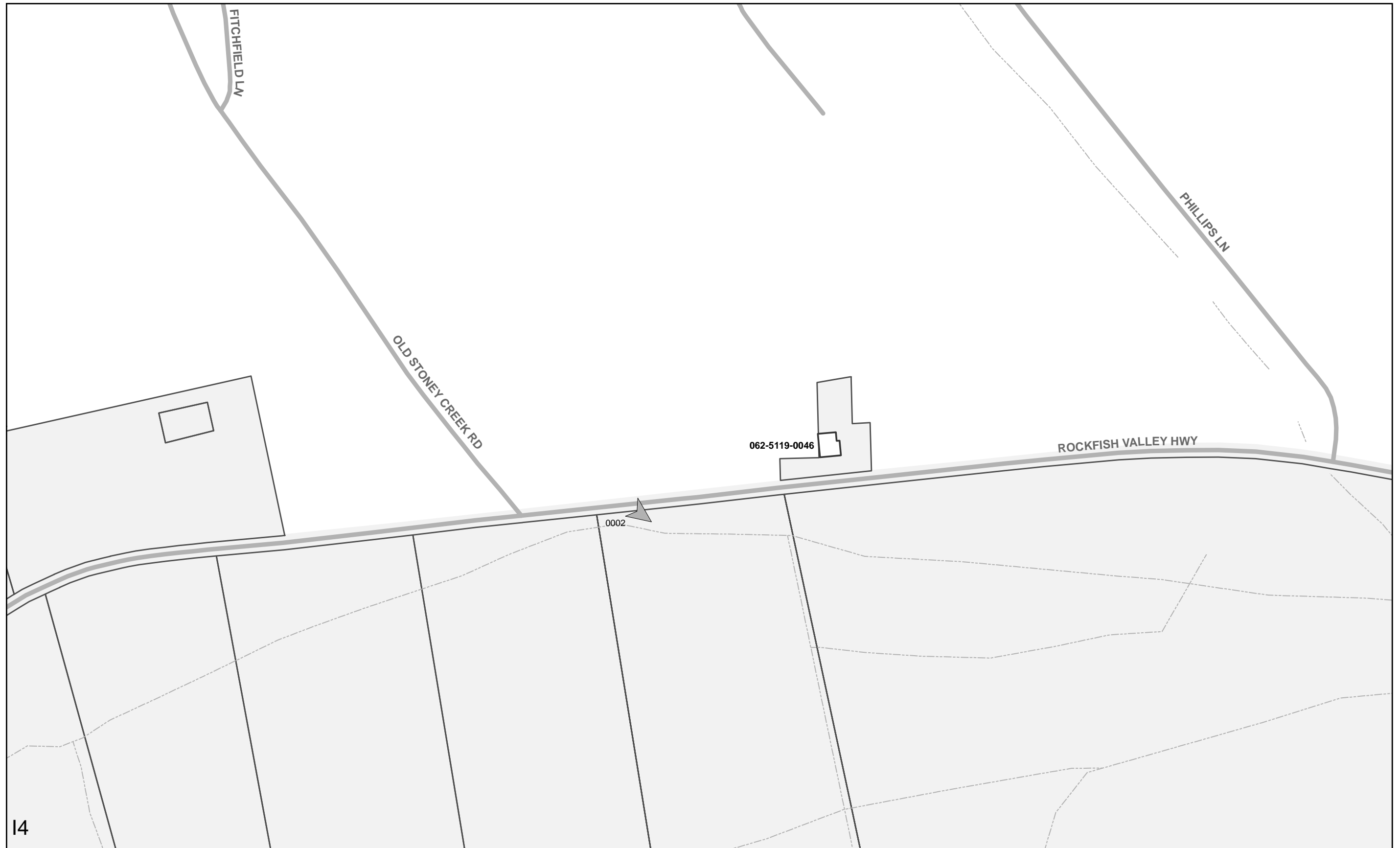


- Contributing Primary Resource
- Non-Contributing Primary Resource
- South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District
- Photo Key
- Roads
- Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet





- Contributing Primary Resource
- Non-Contributing Primary Resource
- South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District
- Photo Key
- Roads
- Rivers/Streams




1 inch = 200 feet







 Contributing Primary Resource

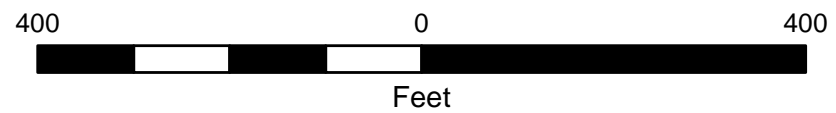
 Non-Contributing Primary Resource

 South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

 Photo Key

 Roads

 Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet

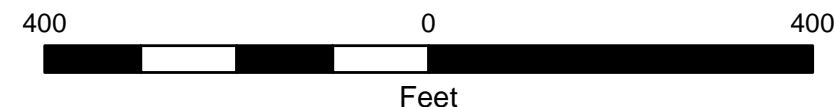


I5



I6

- Contributing Primary Resource
- Non-Contributing Primary Resource
- South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District
- Photo Key
- Roads
- Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet





17



Contributing Primary Resource



Non-Contributing Primary Resource



South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District



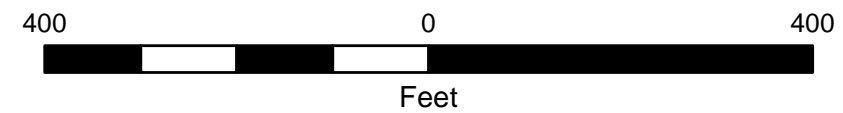
Photo Key



Roads



Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet





J1

□ Contributing Primary Resource

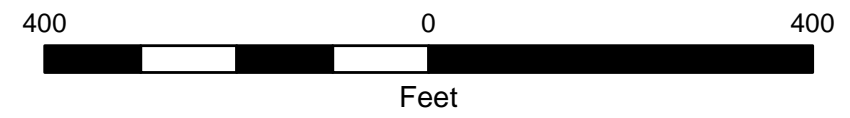
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▨ South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

◀ Photo Key

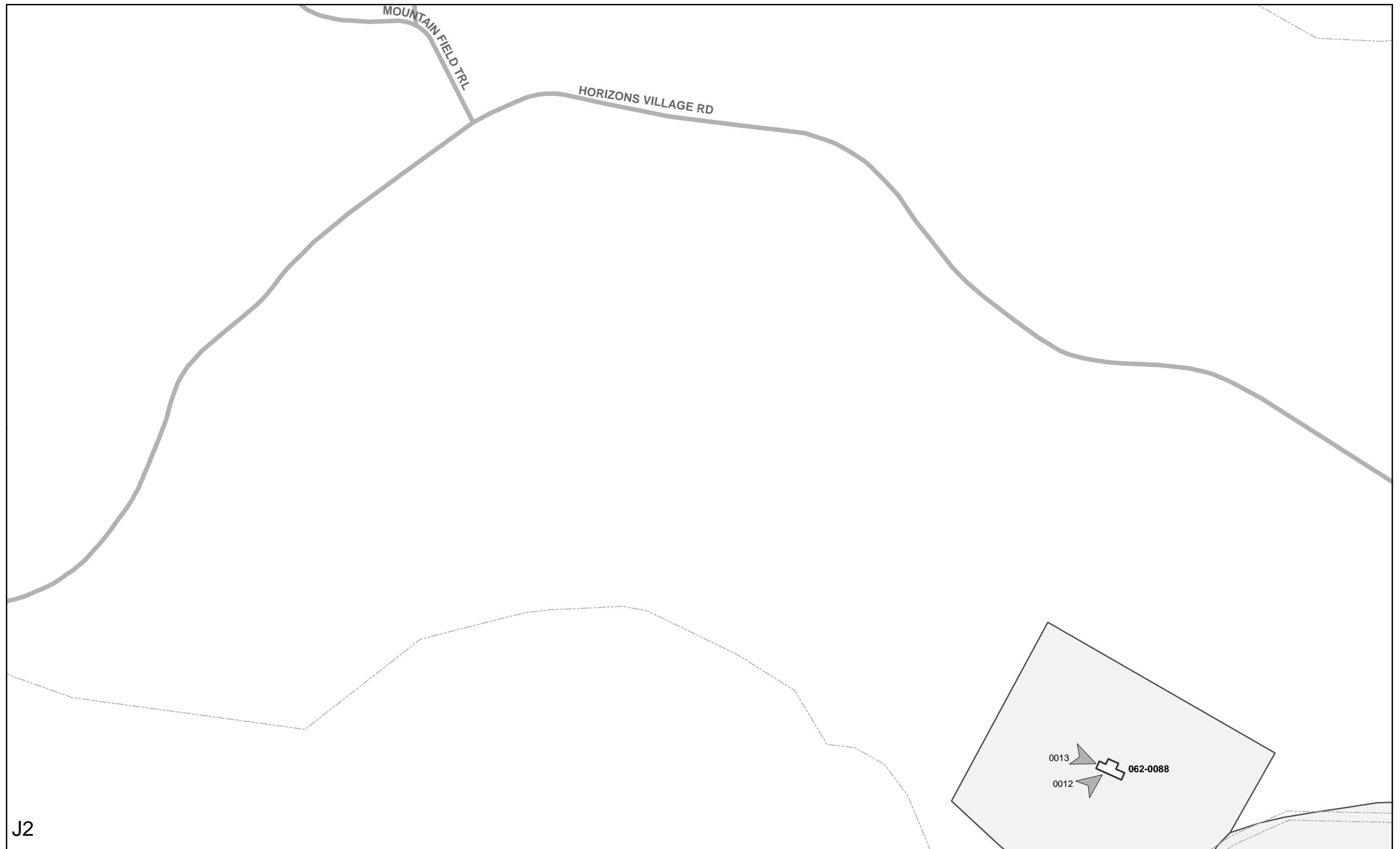
— Roads

- - - Rivers/Streams









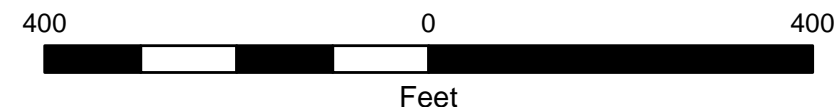
1 inch = 200 feet





J2

-  Contributing Primary Resource
-  Non-Contributing Primary Resource
-  South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District
-  Photo Key
-  Roads
-  Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet





 Contributing Primary Resource

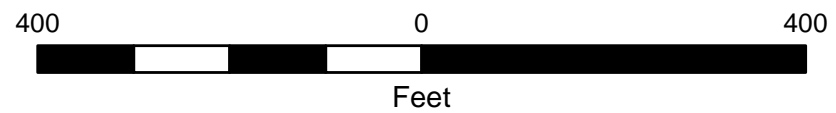
 Non-Contributing Primary Resource

 South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

 Photo Key

 Roads


 Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet





 Contributing Primary Resource

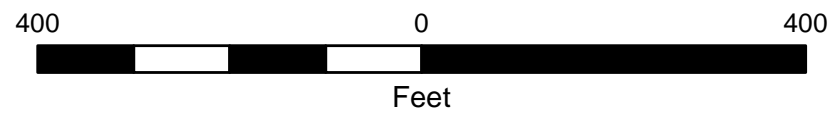
 Non-Contributing Primary Resource

 South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

 Photo Key

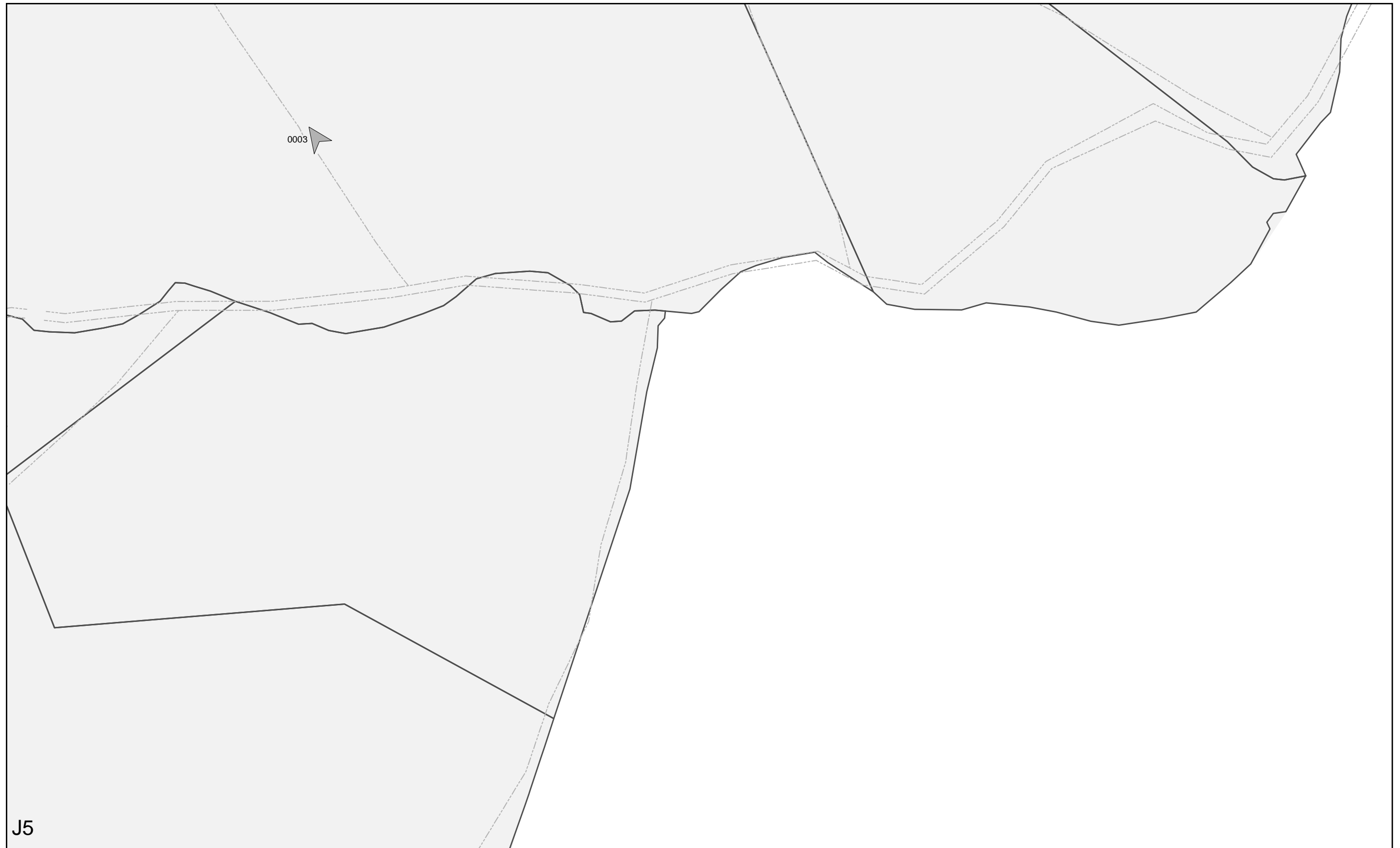
 Roads

 Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet





J5



Contributing Primary Resource



Non-Contributing Primary Resource



South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District



Photo Key

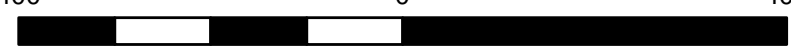


Roads



Rivers/Streams

400



0

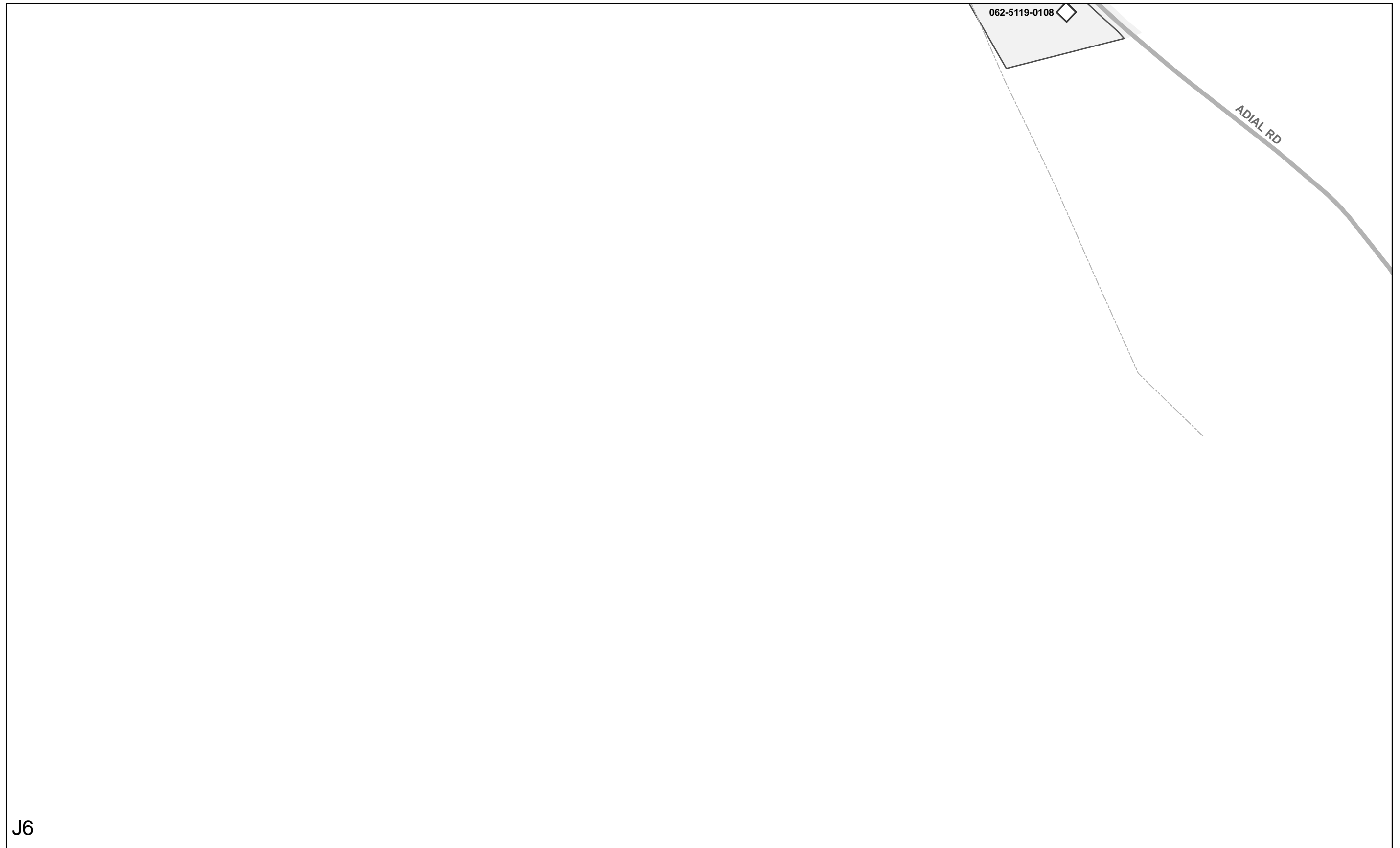
400

Feet







1 inch = 200 feet

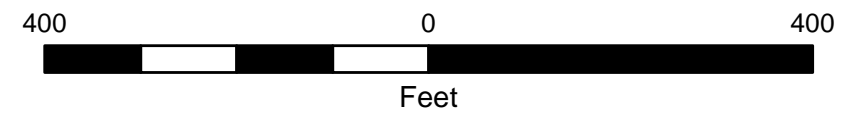






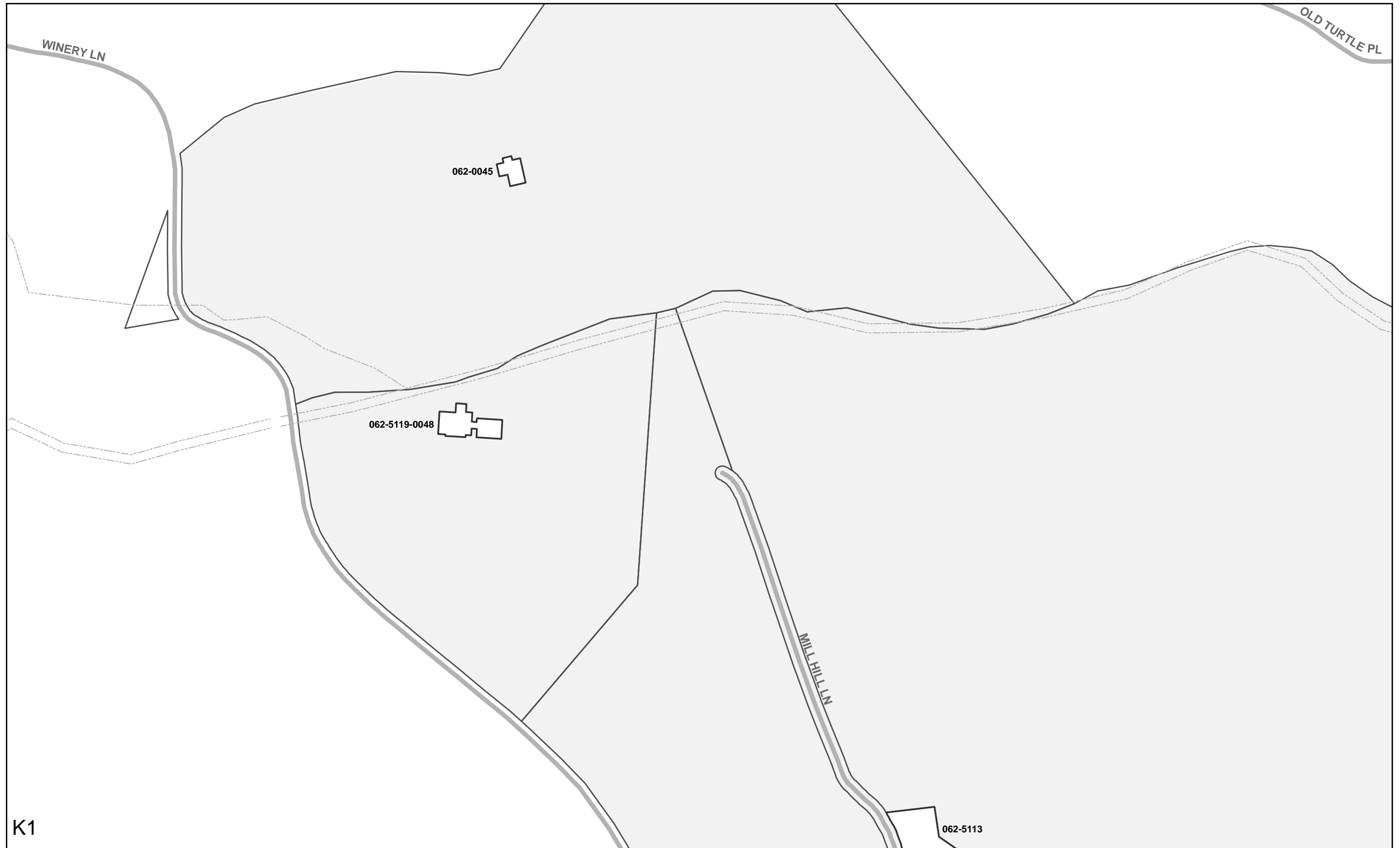
J6

- |   |  |
|---|--|
|  Contributing Primary Resource                 |  Photo Key      |
|  Non-Contributing Primary Resource             |  Roads          |
|  South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District |  Rivers/Streams |



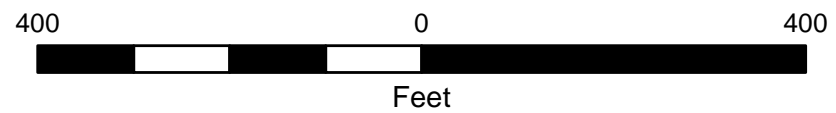
1 inch = 200 feet





K1







- Contributing Primary Resource
- Non-Contributing Primary Resource
- South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District
- Roads
- Rivers/Streams
- Photo Key



1 inch = 200 feet





-  Contributing Primary Resource
-  Non-Contributing Primary Resource
-  South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District
-  Photo Key
-  Roads
-  Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet





□ Contributing Primary Resource

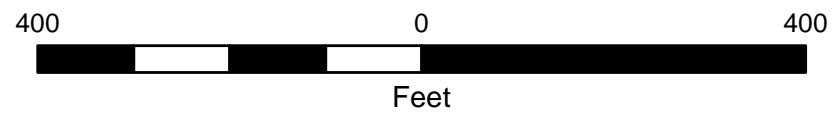
■ Non-Contributing Primary Resource

□ South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

◀ Photo Key

— Roads


- - - Rivers/Streams




1 inch = 200 feet





 Contributing Primary Resource

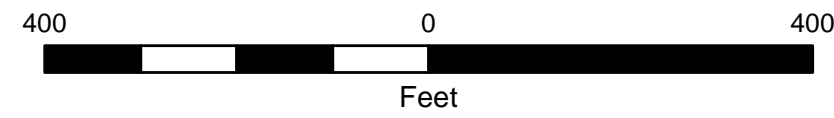
 Non-Contributing Primary Resource

 South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District

 Photo Key

 Roads

 Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet





K5



Contributing Primary Resource



Non-Contributing Primary Resource



South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District



Photo Key

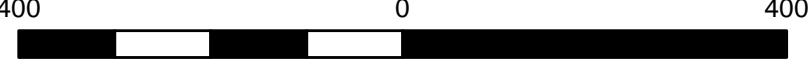


Roads



Rivers/Streams

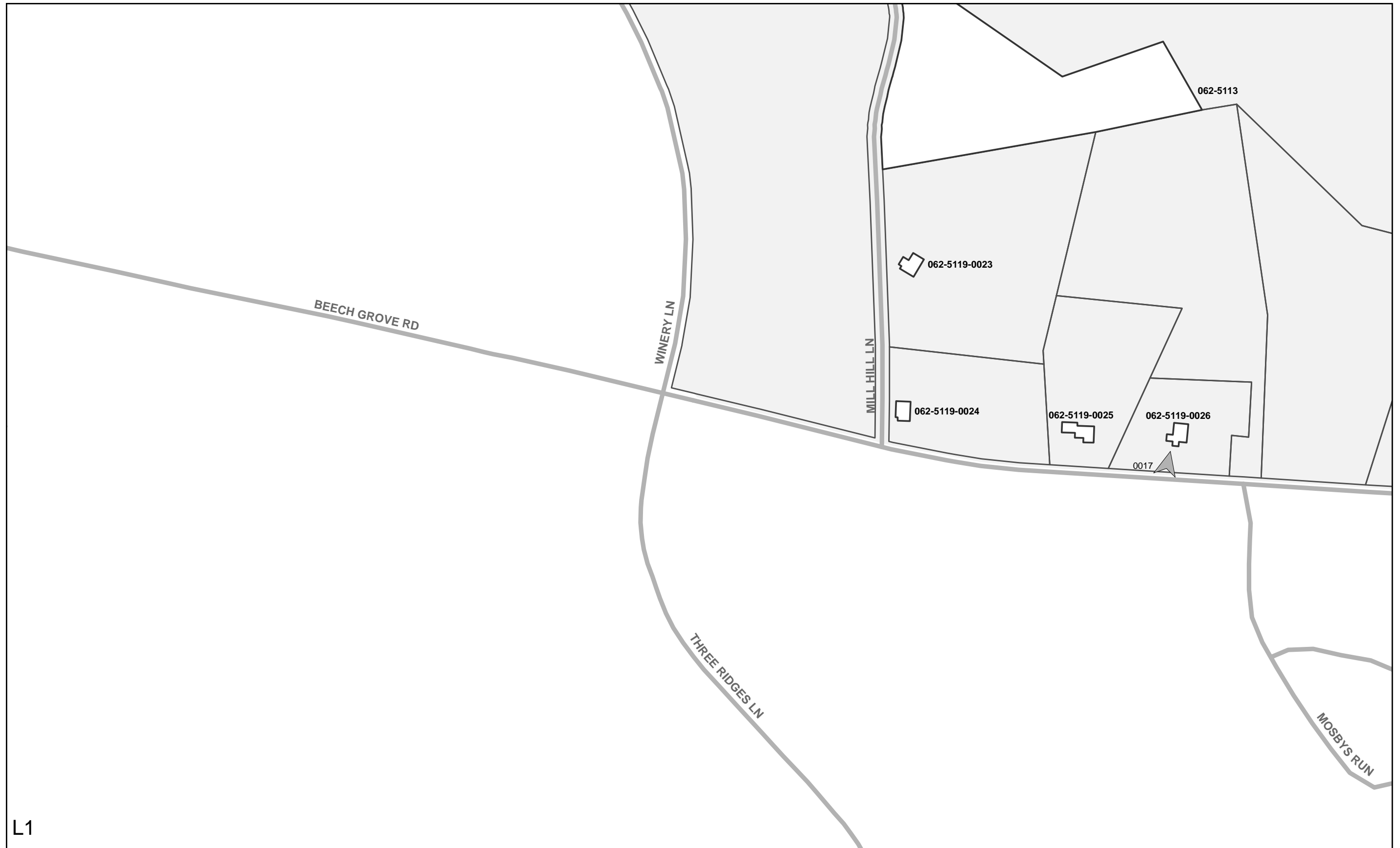
400









Feet

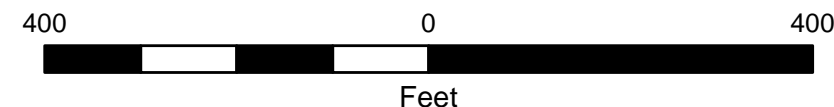
1 inch = 200 feet





L1

-  Contributing Primary Resource
-  Non-Contributing Primary Resource
-  South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District
-  Photo Key
-  Roads
-  Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet



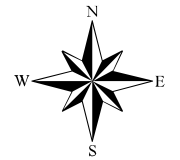


L2

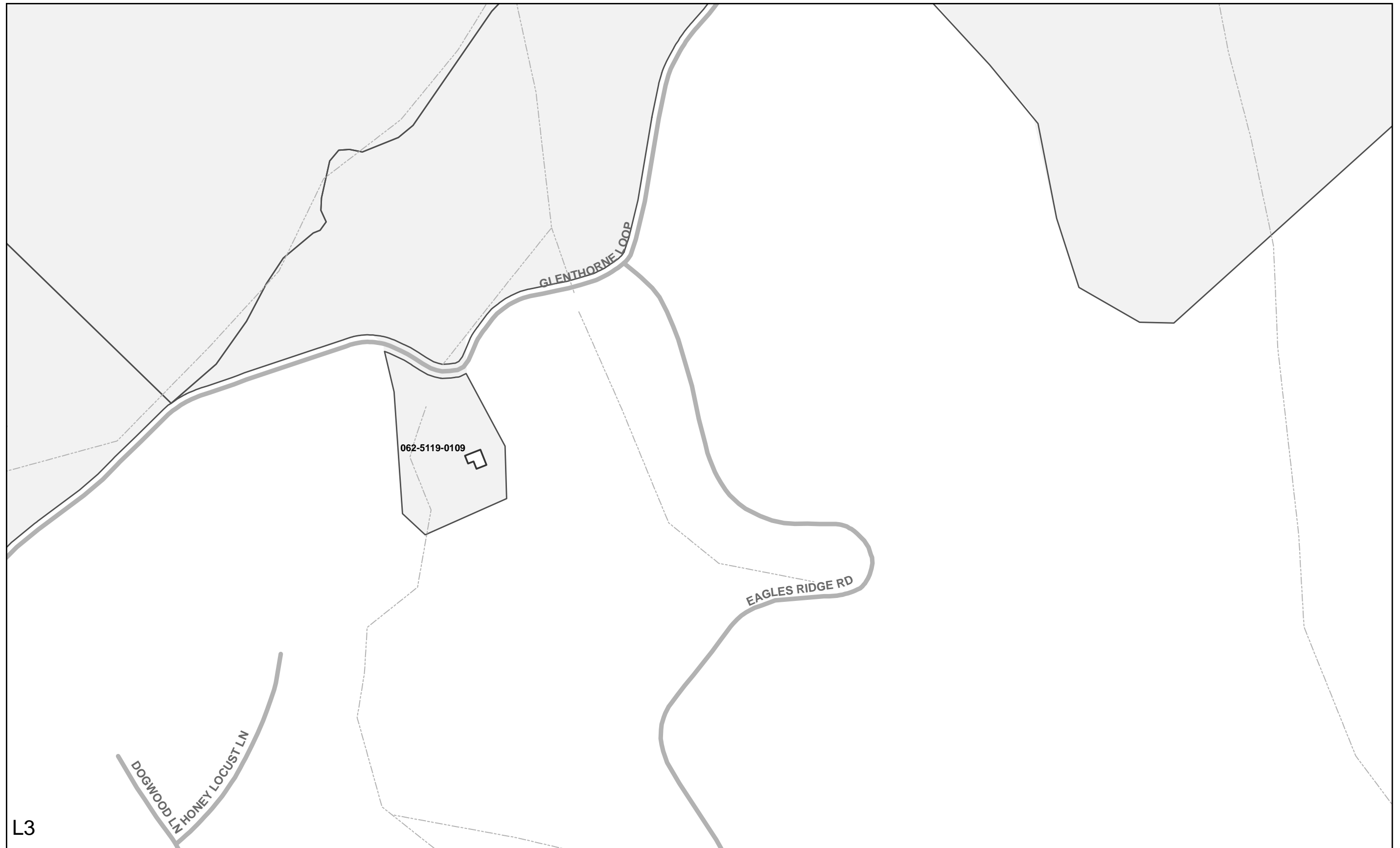
- Contributing Primary Resource
- Non-Contributing Primary Resource
- South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District
- Photo Key
- Roads
- Rivers/Streams









1 inch = 200 feet







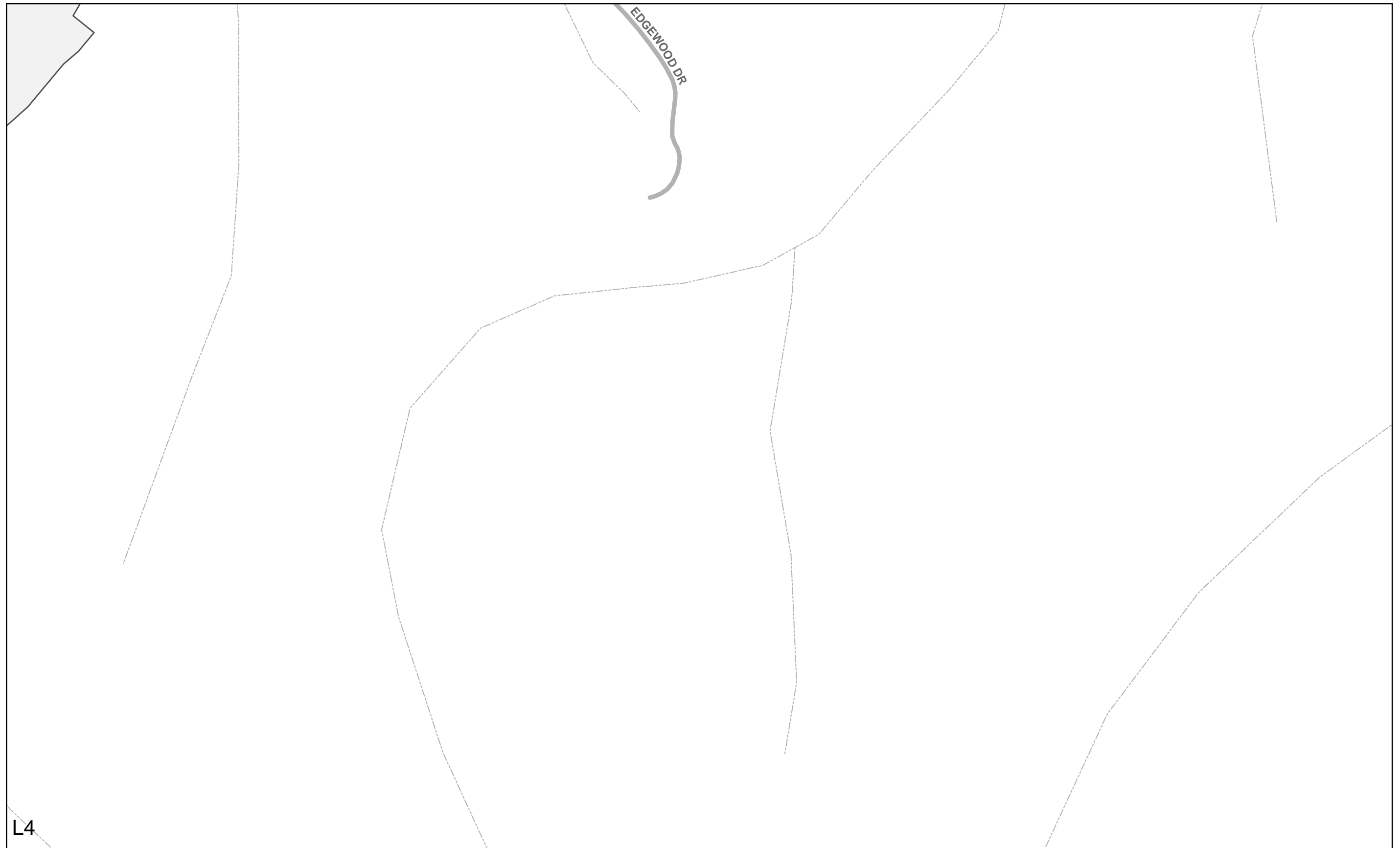
L3

- |   |   |   |                |
|---|---|---|----------------|
|  | Contributing Primary Resource                 |  | Photo Key      |
|  | Non-Contributing Primary Resource             |  | Roads          |
|  | South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District |  | Rivers/Streams |



1 inch = 200 feet





L4



Contributing Primary Resource



Non-Contributing Primary Resource



South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District



Photo Key



Roads



Rivers/Streams

400



0

400

Feet

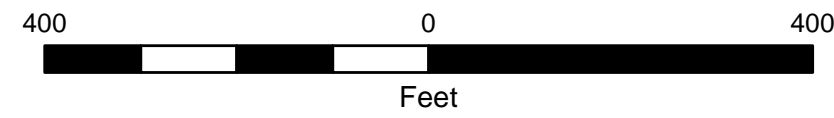
1 inch = 200 feet



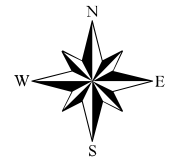


M2

- Contributing Primary Resource
- Non-Contributing Primary Resource
- South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District
- Photo Key
- Roads
- Rivers/Streams



1 inch = 200 feet

















































































**THE BOLT**  
A large bolt or screw was used to hold the barrel in place. The bolt is made of iron and has a decorative head. The bolt is suspended from a wooden beam above the barrel.







6027

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: VIRGINIA, Nelson

DATE RECEIVED: 7/01/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/26/16  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/10/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/16/16  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000534

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: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 8-15-16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ 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.

South Rockfish Valley  
Rural HD

June 13, 2016

Commonwealth of Virginia  
Department of Historic Resources

Nelson County Board of Supervisors

As an affected landowner involved in South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District I hereby object to inclusion of my land in such arbitrary designation. As a fifth generation native of Nelson County, I am not opposed to historical preservation. However, I feel this proposal is too late in coming: with the exception of a few old houses, all local history has been abolished with the commercialization brought in by Wintergreen, commercial breweries, wineries, real estate offices, golf courses, distilleries, all throughout the proposed corridor. Any rural appeal my hay field might have is preempted by proximity of the Ski Barn and Devil's Backbone Restaurant & Brewery, now owned by Anheuser Busch.

Therefore, I recommend that individuals preserve their own history utilizing whatever grants and tax credits they choose, and not subject their neighbors to more governmental restriction on their property.



David J. Dodd  
3276 Cub Creek Rd.  
Roseland, Va. 22967

Nelson County, Va  
June 13, 2016



9/30/20







RECEIVED 2280

JUL - 1 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## Department of Historic Resources

2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221

Molly Joseph Ward  
*Secretary of Natural Resources*

Julie V. Langan  
*Director*

Tel: (804) 367-2323  
Fax: (804) 367-2391  
[www.dhr.virginia.gov](http://www.dhr.virginia.gov)

June 27, 2016

Mr. Paul Loether  
Chief, National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks Programs  
National Park Service 2280  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 I ("Eye") Street, N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20005

**Re: South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District, Nelson County, Virginia**

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the **South Rockfish Valley Rural Historic District** to the National Register of Historic Places. Submitted for your review, the nomination has been considered, and approved, by the State Review Board and the Virginia SHPO has recommended it for listing. Any letters of comment or objection have been copied at the end of the nomination material, along with any FPO notification letters.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. My direct phone line is 804-482-6439.

Sincerely,

Lena Sweeten McDonald  
National/State Register Historian

Enclosures

Administrative Services  
10 Courthouse Ave.  
Petersburg, VA 23803  
Tel: (804) 862-6408  
Fax: (804) 862-6196

Eastern Region Office  
2801 Kensington Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23221  
Tel: (804) 367-2323  
Fax: (804) 367-2391

Western Region Office  
962 Kime Lane  
Salem, VA 24153  
Tel: (540) 387-5443  
Fax: (540) 387-5446

Northern Region Office  
5357 Main Street  
PO Box 519  
Stephens City, VA 22655  
Tel: (540) 868-7029  
Fax: (540) 868-7033