NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES
(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON: Tellico Blockhouse Site

AND/OR HISTORIC: 

2. LOCATION

2½ miles east of Vonore; ¼ mile SW of Tenn. #72; 3/4 mile SE of US 411

CITY OR TOWN: Vonore vicinity

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Second

STATE: Tennessee

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)

☑ Site ☐ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Object

OWNERSHIP (Check One)

☒ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both

STATUS (Check One)

☐ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress

ACCESIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (Check One)

☒ Yes: ☐ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Agricultural ☐ Commercial ☐ Educational ☐ Entertainment

☐ Government ☐ Industrial ☐ Military ☐ Religious

☐ Park ☐ Private Residence ☐ Museum ☐ Scientific

☐ Transportation ☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Comments

4. AGENCY

United States of America, with custody being in Tennessee Valley Authority

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)
New Sprinkle Building
500-516 Union Avenue
Knoxville

STATE: Tennessee

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Monroe County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Madisonville

STATE: Tennessee

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: ☑ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: 

STATE: 

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE: AUG 11 1975

RECEIVED DECEMBER 1, 1974
Tellico Blockhouse Site, opposite Fort Loudoun on the Little Tennessee River, is in a pasture field two-thirds down the southeast slope of a high hill at approximately Mile 20 of the Little Tennessee River, just above the mouth of Nine Mile Creek. The site of about 23.6 acres is one-fourth mile south of Tenn. Highway 72 and three-fourths mile southeast of U.S. 411, and two and one fourth miles east of Vonore, Tennessee, in Monroe County.

Once a forested river knob, the land has been cleared since the building of the Blockhouse in 1793. At various times the field in which the site lies has been cultivated, by local tradition, the last time being in the 1930's. Until archaeological excavation, the site was discernable by surface indications. The total remaining site of the Blockhouse proper has been excavated under the direction of Dr. Alfred Guthe, McClung Museum, University of Tennessee Knoxville. No excavation has at this time been done for the outlying buildings, such as an inn mentioned by eyewitnesses. Such excavation is scheduled for the summer of 1975.

In accordance with Article 14 of the Treaty of Holston, signed at Knoxville on July 2, 1791, between the Chiefs of the Cherokee Nation and William Blount, Governor of the Territory of the U.S. South of the River Ohio, Tellico Blockhouse was completed in its first stage, probably before March 1793, some 12 miles inside Cherokee lands. Its original purpose, according to the Treaty of Holston, was as a residence for certain Federal representatives who were to "lead" the Cherokee Nation "to a greater degree of civilization, and to become Herdsmen and cultivators, instead of remaining in a state of hunters." No Federal troops were stationed at the Blockhouse at the time of its establishment and, according to Ramsey's Annals, local militia occupied it for a relatively short period in the campaign of 1793-94.

After the passage by Congress on April 8, 1794, of a resolution authorizing the President to establish military posts on the frontiers as safeguards, Blount chose the Blockhouse, along with Southwest Point at Kingston, as military stations under the authority of the Congressional resolution. Thus although the original purpose of the Blockhouse was non-military and peaceful, it became a military garrison certainly by 1796 with a small detachment of troops under Captain Edward Butler stationed there. Although the troops seem to have moved in and out according to the needs of the frontiers, the garrison use of the Blockhouse necessitated structural and building changes from the original simple Blockhouse plan. Finally, under the Congressional Act of May 19, 1796, ("An Act for Establishing Trading Houses with the Indian Tribes . . ."), the Federal Government established at Colerain, Georgia, on the St. Mary's River, and at Tellico Blockhouse the first Indian trading posts sponsored and paid for by the Federal Government, called "factories." The purposes of the factory at Tellico were to make available to the Indian nations by trade, beyond what the Federal Government doled out to them, the tools and implements of civilization ranging from plows to spinning wheels and cotton cards; to recover from the Indians through trade some of the monies doled out to them through treaty annuities; and to draw away from the British and Spanish the total Southwest Indian peltry trade. The establishment of such a factory at Tellico necessitated further changes in the structures and area of the Blockhouse, including the probable enlargement of the palisade area.
7. DESCRIPTION

The attached report, Tellico Blockhouse Historic Site Stabilization, by Richard Polhemus, field director of the archaeological excavation, gives further details of the stages of the development of the Blockhouse and the accompanying maps will add clarification.

By the Treaty of Tellico in 1805, the boundary line was moved westward to the Little Tennessee River and eventually the functions and probably the timbers of the Blockhouse were moved to Hiwassee Garrison, around the year 1807.

Shortly after 1807 the site passed into private ownership and became part of a working farm during the next century and a half. Following the announcement of TVA's Tellico Dam and Reservoir Project in the mid-1960's, two amateur archaeologists excavated two features of the site. In 1972, intensive archaeological investigations were undertaken by the University of Tennessee with funds provided by TVA. This work was coordinated with the Regional Archaeologist of the National Park Service, and original research by a professional historian was initiated by TVA. As indicated earlier, the site has now been acquired by TVA in connection with its Tellico Project and is now in public ownership. Additional lands have also been acquired which include frontage on State Highway 72 at two points, and one or both of these will provide access to the public for reaching the site which was formerly inaccessible and not available to public view.

The essential features of the Tellico Blockhouse are above the operating level of Tellico Reservoir and will not be flooded, although water will be closer to the site, once the reservoir is filled, than formerly. The Blockhouse site is presently on a point of land between the Little Tennessee River and Nine Mile Creek. When Tellico Dam is closed and the reservoir filled, the site will be on a point between the main body of the lake and the Nine Mile Creek embayment.

In connection with its construction of the Tellico Project, TVA has announced its intent to insure preservation of the remains of the Tellico Blockhouse and to work with responsible organizations in the development of the Blockhouse site as an historic place, open to the public, properly interpreted, and properly maintained.
### 8. SIGNIFICANCE

**PERIOD**

- Pre-Columbian
- 16th Century
- 18th Century
- 20th Century

**SPECIFIC DATE(S)** (If Applicable and Known)

- c. 1793 - c. 1807

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

- Aboriginal
- Prehistoric
- Historic
- Agriculture
- Special Architecture
- Art
- Commerce
- Communications
- Conservation
- Education
- Engineering
- Industry
- Invention
- Landscape Architecture
- Literature
- Military
- Music
- Political
- Philosophy
- Science
- Sculpture
- Social/Humanitarian
- Theater
- Transportation
- Urban Planning
- Other (Specify)

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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the Tellico Blockhouse (1793-1807) to the State of Tennessee, the Southeastern United States, and the Nation is

1. **The Blockhouse was, from its inception, a principal place for testing and enforcing Federal policies toward the Indians of the frontier—particularly the "civilizing policy" of Henry Knox and the military protection policy of Washington. In relation to the former, for example, a "resident artist" and his wife were stationed at the Blockhouse to teach the Cherokees the "civilized domestic arts."**

2. **The Blockhouse was the symbol of peace on the frontier of the lands south of the Ohio: peace between the white settlers and the Indian tribes and peace among the Indian nations themselves. For example, the Blockhouse was instrumental in maintaining peace between the Cherokees and the Creeks. And the Blockhouse acted as a deterrent to white settlers' encroachment upon Indian lands. It was also the place of exchange of stolen horses, a major contention between the Indians and the white settlers.**

3. **The Blockhouse was a principal point of communication with the Indians. Governor Blount, David Henley (Agent of the War Department) and his successor Return J. Meigs, Governor Seyjer, Commissioners of the United States (including Hawkins, Pickins, Winchester, McClung, Martin, and Smith, among others), agents to the various tribes, interpreters sent among them, artisans, settlers, traders, and travelers -- all used Tellico Blockhouse as a point of communication with the Indians, not only the Cherokees, but also the Upper Creeks, Choctaws, and the Chickasaws. Official announcements were made to the Indians at the Blockhouse. And the treaties of 1794, 1795, 1798, 1804, and 1805 with the Cherokees were negotiated and signed at the Blockhouse or in its vicinity.**

4. **The Blockhouse was chosen as one of the two places on the frontier at which the "factory" system enacted in 1796 ("An Act for Establishing Trading Houses with the Indian Tribes . . ." May 19, 1796), should be tried. An actual "factory" or trading post was built within the compound and continued in operation until the removal to Hiwassee Garrison in 1807.**

5. **The Blockhouse was a major port of entry into and exit from the Indian lands. Entry permits and trading licenses were checked at Tellico Blockhouse by the Commanding Officer or his representative. Many of the chiefs and their attendants came onto the territories of the U. S. through the Blockhouse, thus assuring themselves safe conduct. The great Chickasaw Chief Piamingo, for example, came to the Blockhouse to be**
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

American State Papers. (Indian Affairs and Military Affairs)
Henley, David. Waste Book of David Henley, Agent of the War Department, 1797-98. (Unpublished original account book in private hands.)
Indian Land Cessions in the U.S. Compiled by Charles C. Royce . . .
Washington, 1900.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY ON OR NEAR A PARCEL OF LAND, THE CENTER POINT OF WHICH IS THE PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 23.6 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE
STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE
STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE
STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: J. Porter Taylor, Director
BUSINESS ADDRESS: Division of Reservoir Properties
Tennessee Valley Authority
STREET AND NUMBER: 109 West Cumberland Building
CITY OR TOWN: Knoxville
STATE: CODE 37902 47

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:
☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ None

Director of Reservoir Properties, TVA

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is ☐ National ☐ State ☐ Local.

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

GPO 938-449
conducted to Philadelphia in a wagon for medical treatment in 1798. Chiefs going to Philadelphia and later Washington on official visits from the southern tribes passed through the Blockhouse, receiving from there forward and return proper escorts. Indian children from those same nations on their way to white schools maintained by the Quakers and Moravians in Pennsylvania and New Jersey also passed through the Blockhouse.

6. And the Blockhouse was visited by various important travelers, the most important of whom were the Duke of Orleans (Louis Philippe) and his two brothers (Duke of Montpensier and Count Beaujolais). Washington himself is supposed to have marked the route for them in red ink on a copy of Bradley's map. It is significant that Washington chose the Cherokees as the Indian nation which the Duke and his brothers should see most intimately; and by choosing the Cherokees, he made Tellico Blockhouse their headquarters during the visit in 1798.
TELICO BLOCKHOUSE HISTORIC SITE
STABILIZATION

Richard Polhemus
McClung Museum
Department of Anthropology
University of Tennessee
Knoxville, Tennessee
May 22, 1974

Report Prepared For Water
Control Planning Division
Tennessee Valley Authority
Knoxville, Tennessee
TELLICO BLOCKHOUSE; SITE
STABILIZATION FIGURES

Figure 1  Site map at end of 1972 season - with contours indicating position and extent of fill on east edge of site and riprap position.

Figure 2  Site map at end of 1973 season - showing relationship of structures and features. Phase III features and structures indicated.

Figure 3  Excavation plan of the Structure A area.

Figure 4  Excavation plan of the southwest bastion and Structure B area.

Figure 5  Excavation plan of the Structure C area.

Figure 6  Excavation plan of the Structure D area, excavated portion.

Figure 7  Excavation plan of the Structure E area, east end, and privy.

Figure 8  Excavation plan of the northwest bastion area including the west end of Structure E and Structure F.

Figure 9  Excavation plan of the southeast bastion and east palisade area.

Figure 10 Excavation plan of the east palisade area and part of Structure D.

Figure 11 Schematic profile through the southwest bastion providing elevations on stone replacement and bastion fill.
TELLICO BLOCKHOUSE; SITE STABILIZATION

INTRODUCTION

The question of historic site stabilization or reconstruction is dependent on a number of factors concerning the site and its purpose. Primary factors involved include; the significance of the site to the history of the area; the feasibility of stabilization or reconstruction; the benefits of such stabilization or reconstruction; cost of stabilization or reconstruction; and the maintenance of such an historical site after such development. The following comments concerning stabilization or reconstruction of historic sites deal primarily with the Tellico Blockhouse (404.R50) but are applicable to many other historic sites in the Tennessee Valley and elsewhere.

Many historic site archaeologists feel that the realm of historic site stabilization, development, and interpretation is beyond that of the archaeologist involved in the project; deeming the report produced from the excavation sufficient participation in the site development. Other historic site archaeologists, such as Stanley South, feel that the archaeologist has a responsibility toward seeing that the data provided in the archaeological report is properly utilized in such a stabilization or reconstruction and is not misinter-
preted, misrepresented, or simply ignored by the development group. Such problems are frequently encountered when working with small historical groups who lack sufficient funding and training in historic site work, often amplified by what Stanley South has referred to as the "Log Cabin Syndrome" (South 1972) (South 1970). Such problems can be lessened or avoided by continued cooperation with the historic site archaeologist during the development of the site and interpretive exhibits.

The distinction between historic site stabilization and reconstruction should be made prior to any consideration of historic site stabilization may be defined as the visible stabilization and representation of the remaining features of an historic site, such as building foundations, cellars, palisade trenches, or ditches. The method of representation may vary but does not and cannot extend beyond the evidence provided by archaeological research. Historic site reconstruction may be possible on the small percentage of sites provided with voluminous documentation in the form of primary descriptions, documents, paintings, sketches, or architects plans; however, the majority of sites excavated, interpreted, and developed do not have sufficient documentation to attempt complete reconstruction per se. A classic example of reconstruction without sufficient documentation and no archaeological research is the James White Fort in Knoxville, Tennessee. To attempt such reconstruction at the Tellico Blockhouse or any other similar site without additional documentation
would be to rely on the historical architects inclination and imagination.

The methods of representation recommended for use at the Tellico Blockhouse are chosen on the basis of effect upon the viewer to provide a clear idea of the form and composition of the fort, on the expense of development, and on the expense in maintenance after development. Limestone wall and chimney foundations should be stabilized a short distance above the ground surface and replaced where presently missing. Cellars should be indicated by relatively shallow depressions of proper configuration. The palisade position should be indicated by a row of short post segments (CA 1.5' above ground surface) replaced in the original palisade trench. Square, hewn gate posts of similar height should likewise be placed in the original post holes to indicate the position and size of the gates. Each structural element composing the last phase of the Tellico Blockhouse will be considered for such stabilization as opposed to those features removed by the occupants prior to the last phase. Each structural element of the Phase III Tellico Blockhouse complex will be considered in detail with regard to historic site stabilization, providing data concerning the quantity and type of materials necessary for such stabilization. All useable building stone encountered during excavation has been stockpiled for such stabilization of the limestone foundations. Similar examples of such historic site development to that projected for the Tellico Blockhouse may be found at Jamestown, Virginia, excavated by John Cotter.
THE SITE; GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The primary difficulty in the stabilization and development of the Tellico Blockhouse other than foundation stabilization and palisade deliniation is to be found in the southeast corner at an elevation slightly lower than the 813' level of the reservoir (Figure 1). The east side of the fortified area will need to be filled to an elevation above pool level and the Phase III features established on this higher surface through survey. The north, east, and south sides of the site may need a riprap of other erosion preventative work due to the steep slope and apparent lack of limestone outcrops on the hillside. Sufficient soil to establish a good erosion resistant grass cover will need to be replaced around the building foundations and over the lower terrace area to be completely excavated during the summer of 1974. Drainage will need to be provided for the cellars in Structures A, C, and D through the use of a gravel lower fill underlying soil and grass cover, or other means. Foundation walls will need to be stabilized or rebuilt to above the present ground surface to allow viewing without destruction by visitors. The log segments utilized to delinate the palisade lines should be treated to provide long use life and low enough to avoid producing a hazard. Once completed such site development
should provide an instructive outdoor exhibit economical to maintain; grass cutting and interpretive exhibit upkeep as necessary being the primary post development expenses.

THE STRUCTURES - SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Structure A:

Structure A consists of the limestone foundation for an horizontal log building two stories in height located south of the main gate (Figure 2). The structure is made up of a pair of rooms flanking a double hearth chimney foundation and a porch is present along the east side. A doorway is situated near the center of the west or outer wall of the building and opens into the north room (Figure 3).

The porch, north, south, and east walls may need an addition of course stone to approximate the original elevation of 821.5 and to raise the foundations above the surrounding ground surface. The interior of the structure needs to be filled to a level approximating the ground surface, as does that excavated portion outside the west wall, following wall stabilization. Remaining back dirt needs to be removed and the surface planted in grass.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chimney</th>
<th>7' x 13'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Wall</td>
<td>1.75' x 37'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Wall</td>
<td>1.75' x 37'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Porch Wall</td>
<td>1.5' x 37'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Wall</td>
<td>1.95' x 19'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Wall</td>
<td>1.5' x 19'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Southwest Bastion:

The southwest bastion consists of a pair of limestone retaining walls extending from structures A and B and joining at a right angle. The position of the southwest bastion is indicated in Figure 2 and Figure 4. The remaining courses of limestone retaining wall will need to be reset and the missing portion rebuilt to just above the level of the parade ground (AE 821.0), after which the area behind the wall should be filled and grassed.

West Wall 27.0' x (1.75 - 2.0' thick) 6.0 - 1.5' high
South Wall 17.0' x (1.75 - 2.0' thick) 6.0 - 6.0' high

Comment: The amount of wall to be rebuilt is about 5' to 6' high on the south side and becomes less as one moves up the west wall to the north, until it is about 1' above the outer ground surface. See schematic profile Figure II.

Structure B:

Structure B consists of a limestone foundation for an horizontal log building two stories in height making up most of the south fortification wall. The structure is composed of three segments, each having a cellar, separated by a pair of chimney foundations (Figure 4).

The walls for this structure average 1.5' in thickness and were extensively disturbed in the mid 19th century by the construction of two lime kilns. Lime kilns were constructed in both the east and west cellars and much of the foundation wall was utilized in the construction of the kilns and as raw material for lime production. The kilns have been excavated,
and recorded and should be preserved by filling over the remaining portion after the structure walls have been rebuilt and stabilized. The structure is 90' in length with a 20' square room and associated cellar at each end. The central 50' portion consists of a cellar flanked by a pair of single hearth chimney foundations linked to the outer walls by short segments of foundation wall.

The north wall of the structure requires rebuilding throughout the central section and the east end. The east chimney requires only stabilization and the addition of a few stones. The west chimney requires extensive rebuilding in the area disturbed by intrusion of kiln associated features to a height of about 1.5 - 2.0' to match the east example. The east end wall needs to be rebuilt in its entirety, also having been disturbed in the mid 19th century. The south wall of the structure requires the addition of 1.0 - 1.5' of stone to indicate its position. The interior of the central portion should be filled at a slope and grassed over, making sure to cover the lower most foundation course of the north wall to prevent erosional undercutting and subsequent displacement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wall</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Wall</td>
<td>1.5' x 90' x 3.0'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Wall</td>
<td>1.5' x 90' x 1.5'</td>
<td>Replace 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Wall</td>
<td>1.5' x 20' x 3.0' - 1.5'</td>
<td>Replace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Wall</td>
<td>1.5' x 20' x 3.0' - 1.5'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Chimney</td>
<td>11.0' x 5.0' x 2.0'</td>
<td>Present height</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Chimney</td>
<td>10.0' x 3.0' x 2.0'</td>
<td>To match present height</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
of the north fortification wall (Figure 2). This structure is represented by limestone foundation walls and a central double hearth chimney foundation (Figures 7 and 8). The building is 60.0' in length and 20.0' in width. The central portion of the structure has not yet been excavated and, as
Structure C:

Structure C consists of the remains of a log building without continuous foundations, enclosing a cellar and centered around a chimney foundation (Figure 2). The 16.0' square cellar does not have a stone lining although a pair of opposed entries do have limestone retaining walls (Figure 5). The elevation AE of the structure as a whole is 313 - 314 and is within the eastern area in which the general surface will need to be raised through filling to AE 315.0'. The unlined cellar should be represented by a rectangular depression 1.0 - 1.5' in depth of the proper rectangular form 16 feet square situated over the original cellar position. The chimney foundation will need to be stabilized and several courses added to provide an elevation of 316.5' for the top. The stone lined cellar entries should be indicated by segments of stone retaining wall surveyed in to the proper position in relation to the underlying original stone work. The stone work should be slightly (CA 0.5) above the ground surface on the exterior side and have a sloping grass cover between them down to the cellar depression bottom. The outline of the original structure may be indicated by a frame of four logs about 1.0' in diameter resting on the ground surface over the original wall position.

Chimney 8.0 x 9.0 x 2.0' To be extended up to filled surface

Cellar Entry Walls

North - East side 6.0 x 1.0' x 2.0'
West side 6.0 x 1.0' x 2.0'
South

East side  4.0' x 1.0' x 2.0'
North side  4.0' x 1.0' x 2.0'

Outline: The outline of the entire structure is yet to be determined. The area will be completely excavated in the 1974 season.

Structure D:

Structure D consists of the foundation walls of a horizontal log building 20' wide, 120' in length, having a 25' square wing in the center of the east side. (Figures 6 and 10) This structure has been only partially excavated and as a result figures on wall stabilization and replacement must remain tentative until complete excavation in the summer of 1974. The west wall of the structure also serves as a retaining wall for the filled parade grounds on which it fronts (Figure 2). The wall is 1.5' in thickness in the excavated portions of Structure D and should be stabilized and rebuilt to an elevation of approximately 319.0', resulting in an exposed east face 1.5 - 2.0' in height. A chimney foundation is present in the unexcavated area and so has not been measured but should approximate that in Structure A.

The south wall has not been excavated and will probably need the addition of several courses of stone to raise the foundation to just above the ground surface. The north wall will need to be rebuilt on the east end and a course or two added on the west end. The east wall has been completely re-
TELCCO BLOCKHOUSE
40MR50
STRUCTURE E

Scale feet

- Limestone rocks
- Quartzite pebbles
- Parade ground
- Red clay
- Mortar

569 Provenience number
moved in the excavated portion and will need replacement by a wall 120' in length, 1.5' in thickness, and 1.0' in height. The central 25' portion of this wall is made up of the west side of the central extension or wing. The walls of the 25.0' square structure will need to be raised through the addition of courses to an elevation of 816.5' and the cellar filled to 815.0' and grassed. The bottom portion of the fill should be gravel to provide adequate drainage.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>120' x 1.5'w x 2.0 - 3.0'h</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>West Wall:</strong></td>
<td>Add to east end</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>North Wall:</strong></td>
<td>20' x 1.5'w x 2.0 - 1.0'h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>North Interior Wall:</strong></td>
<td>Replace east end</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>South Wall:</strong> (approx.)</td>
<td>20' x 1.5'w x 2.0 - 1.0'h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>East Wall:</strong></td>
<td>Add courses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**East Extension**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>25.0' x 1.5' x 3.0'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>North Wall</strong></td>
<td>Add courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>East Wall</strong></td>
<td>25.0' x 1.5' x 3.0'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>South Wall</strong></td>
<td>Add courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>West Wall</strong></td>
<td>(Incorporated into east wall of structure)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Structure E:**

Structure E consists of a two story horizontal log structure with a porch along the south side making up most of the north fortification wall (Figure 2). This structure is represented by limestone foundation walls and a central double hearth chimney foundation (Figures 7 and 8). The building is 60.0' in length and 20.0' in width. The central portion of the structure has not yet been excavated and, as
a result, estimates concerning stabilization may change after complete excavation in the summer of 1974. The walls average 1.5' in thickness and much of the north wall and west end of the foundation will need to be replaced. The west foundations were deposited in the well in the northwest bastion in an attempt to bring the land back into cultivation during the depression. The south walls and east wall will need to be stabilized and perhaps a course added to raise the foundation above the surrounding ground surface. The chimney foundation should be stabilized and should be well enough preserved to make any additions unnecessary. The size of the chimney has not been determined through excavation but should approximate that of Structure A.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wall Type</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Wall</td>
<td>60.0' x 1.5' x 1.5'h.</td>
<td>needs replacement throughout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Wall</td>
<td>20.0' x 1.5' x 1.5'N - 1.0'S</td>
<td>needs some stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Wall</td>
<td>20.0' x 1.5' x 1.5'N - 1.0'S</td>
<td>needs replacement needs some stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Wall</td>
<td>60.0' x 1.5' x 1.0'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Porch Wall</td>
<td>60.0' x 1.5' x 0.5 - 0.75'S</td>
<td>needs some stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chimney (approx.)</td>
<td>7.0' x 13.0' x 2.0'</td>
<td>needs some stone</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Northwest Bastion**

The last phase of the northwest bastion consists of an unequally faced extension of the northwest corner capped by a small bastionette (Figure 2). The north face of the bastion is 25.0' in length; the south face 50.0' in length and both flanks are extended 5.0' out from the adjoining wall line. The bastionette is 4.0' on a side, flanks and faces, and is centered on a large posthole (1.5') which may be for a swivel
TELLICO BLOCKHOUSE
40MR50
NORTHWEST BASTION AND STRUCTURE F

Limestone rocks
Parade ground
Red clay
Red clay and limestone
Limestone chips and brown soil
Mortar
543 Provenience number
Posthole
Rock

Scale feet
0 2 5 10
gun mount. Figure 8 illustrates the form and position of the northwest bastion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>East Flank</th>
<th>5.0'</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Face</td>
<td>25.0'</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Flank - Bastionette</td>
<td>4.0'</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Face - Bastionette</td>
<td>4.0'</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Face - Bastionette</td>
<td>4.0'</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Flank - Bastionette</td>
<td>4.0'</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Face</td>
<td>50.0'</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Flank</td>
<td>5.0'</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

101.0' Palisade 106 posts

The segments of palisade posts should be set against the outer face of the palisade trench and extend 1.5' above the ground surface. The posts should be 0.8' - 1.0' in diameter. The upper surface should present an even contour, sloping with the ground surface and could perhaps be produced by cutting the upper end with a chain saw after placement.

**Structure F:**

Structure F consists of a stone lined cellar with entry fronting on the west side of the parade ground (Figure 2). The traces of a single hearth chimney foundation are present adjoining the north end of the cellar. Further excavation is necessary to determine the exact size of the structure overlying this cellar. An addition was made to the north end of this structure at some point after 1797 as indicated by the mortared limestone foundation designated 667 on the excavation plan (Figure 8).
The cellar has been refilled with recent refuse since its initial excavation in 1960 - 1963 by James H. Polhemus and Richard Myers, and will need to be cleaned out with a backhoe before the limestone cellar walls can be stabilized and an average of 2.0' of stone work added to raise the foundation to the present ground surface. The cellar will need to be filled to an elevation of 318.0 - 319.0 to prevent a hazard and allow the addition of several feet of gravel under the fill and grass to provide proper drainage. The fill of the cellar entry may be sloped from the surrounding ground surface down to the fill level and grassed, allowing access by grass cutting equipment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wall Type</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Wall</td>
<td>22.0' x 1.5' x 6.0'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Wall</td>
<td>11.0' x 1.5' x 6.0'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Wall</td>
<td>18.0' x 1.5' x 6.0'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Wall</td>
<td>11.0' x 1.5' x 6.0'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cellar Entry - Northside</td>
<td>4.0' x 1.5' x 6.0' - 1.0'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cellar Entry - South side</td>
<td>4.0' x 1.5' x 6.0' - 1.0'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chimney (Approx.)</td>
<td>8.0' x 5.0' x 1.5' x 6.0'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**West Gate:**

The west or main gate is situated between Structures A and F and is 10.0' in width (Figure 2). The gate structure is made up of a pair of square hewn posts set in large post-holes (Figure 3) joined by a heavy wooden sill at ground level. The gate should be indicated by a pair of square hewn posts extending about 2.0' above the ground surface and joined by
a square hewn sill set into the ground between them.

North Gate Post  0.8' x 0.8' x 4.0' long
South Gate Post  0.6' x 0.6' x 4.0' long
Sill  0.6' x 0.8' x 10.0' long

East Palisade and South East Bastion:

The east side of the Tellico Blockhouse is protected by a palisade made up of posts 0.8' - 1.0' in diameter making up the south east bastion and east fortification wall (Figure 2). The east side of the fort below the 815.0 EA will need to be filled to AE 815.0 and the position of historic features resurveyed onto the raised ground surface. The northeast corner of the palisade enclosure may have been totally destroyed by the early county road intruding through it and as a result the presence of a single flanked bastion similar to that in the southeast corner (Figure 4) is presently conjectural. The necessity of a bastion of some sort at this point is clearly indicated by the need for flanking fire down the east wall. The calculation of the number of post segments necessary to delineate the palisade outline includes an allowance for this form of bastion. The east gate should be indicated by a pair of square hewn posts similar to the west gate.

Palisade Post Segments  220' trench = 220 posts - 3.0' long
East Gate Square Hewn Posts  0.6' x 0.6' x 4.0' (2) necessary

Privy:

The stone lined privy situated near structure E (Figure 2) designated 64d should be back filled to within 2.0' of the
surrounding ground surface and the top of the stone work raised to about 819' to 820' through the addition of 1.5' of stone.

North Wall 6.0' x 1.0' x 15.0'
South Wall 6.0' x 1.0' x 15.0'
East Wall 3.0' x 1.0' x 15.0'
West Wall 3.0' x 1.0' x 15.0'

**Well:**

The stone lined well associated with the 1797 - 1807 occupation of the Tellico Blockhouse is located in the center of the northwest bastion (Figure 2). The collapsed upper 4.0' of stone have been replaced with a corrugated metal culvert section to stabilize the casing until such time as the remaining fill may be excavated (Figure 3). Once excavated the well should be back filled and the culvert replaced with stabilized stone work. A depth of 2.0' - 4.0' should be retained to maintain the appearance of a well.

Well Casing 4.0' diameter
4.0' height to be rebuilt

**North Fortification Wall:**

This limestone segment resembles those of the southwest bastion and joins the east end of structure E with the north end of structure D (figure 2). The retaining wall is 40.0' in length and 1.75' in thickness. Several courses need to be added to this wall to maintain an elevation of 819 - 820 (Figure 7). The wall needs some stabilization.
The Parade Ground:

The parade ground is in good condition and after removal of accumulated back dirt and maintenance of the grass cover should provide no problems (Figure 2). The brick drains bordering the north and west sides of the parade ground may be rebuilt if desired or necessary to take care of drainage problems (Figure 7 and 8). The use of modern brick chosen to match the color and texture of the original brick would make this possible, if desired. Surface indications suggest the presence of a flag pole at the center of the parade ground, which after proper excavation and recording, could again be used for such purpose.

CONCLUSIONS

The primary features making up the last phase of the Tellico Blockhouse have been described and evaluated in relation to the use of the stabilized ruin concept of historic site interpretation. The value of the stabilization of the Tellico Blockhouse remains over that of reconstruction has been discussed. An attempt has been made to estimate the number of linear feet of stone foundation wall needing stabilization or replacement that are present at the Tellico Blockhouse, as well as to estimate the number of post segments necessary to delineate the palisade positions. Suggestions have been made concerning various aspects of the historic site stabilization process as concern the Tellico Blockhouse.

The source of limestone suitable for rebuilding and
stabilizing the foundation walls at the Tellico Blockhouse is to be found in the features of the site itself and in the old road cut adjoining the site. A quantity of stone may be obtained from reexcavating the cellars of structures C and F, from reexcavating the well in the north west bastion, from the gully in the slope below the southwest bastion, and the old road cut in addition to the stone stock piled during the 1973 excavation. It is hoped that the original stone available from these sources will prove to be sufficient for stabilization and interpretation of the Tellico Blockhouse site.

One remaining problem which must be considered is the control of erosion on the north, east, and south slopes after the east portion of the fort site is raised to elevation of 815.0 AI5. Figure I illustrates the limits of the area to be filled and the approximate line of riprap or other erosion preventative measures.
**SUMMARY OF MATERIALS AND WALL STABILIZATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stone Foundation Walls</td>
<td>1,160 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stone Chimney Foundations</td>
<td>3 x 5 x 2 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13 x 7 x 2 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13 x 7 x 2 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 x 8 x 2 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 x 8 x 2 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11 x 5 x 2 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 x 8 x 2 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13 x 7 x 2 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palisade Post Segments</td>
<td>0.8' - 1.0' in diameter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 feet in length = 332 - 350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Square Hewn Timbers</td>
<td>0.8' x 0.8' x 4.0' = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.6' x 0.6' x 4.0' = 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Square Hewn Sill</td>
<td>0.6' x 0.8' x 10.0' = 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TELlico BLOCKhouse
40MA850
SITE STABILIZATION

FIGURE 11

SOUTHwEST BASTION; SCHEMATIC PROFILE OF THE WEST
FACE, PROVIDING ELEVATIONS ON STONE REPLACEMENT.


1965


1970


1972