A report prepared for:

The Municipality of Tracy City, Grundy County, Tennessee
and Hendon Engineering Associates, Incorporated

An Archaeological Survey of the Proposed Water Reservoir on Scott, Holywater, and Sewanee Creeks, Grundy County, Tennessee

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Introduction

Nicholas Honerkamp, Director of the Jeffrey L. Brown Institute of Archaeology, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, was contacted by Hendon Engineering Associates, Birmingham, and asked to submit a technical proposal and bid to perform an archaeological survey on a tract of land to be impacted by construction of a proposed water reservoir for the municipality of Tracy City, Grundy County, Tennessee. The archaeological assessment was instigated by the State of Tennessee, Department of Conservation, Division of Archaeology. The State required that prior to final design of the proposed dam that the areas to be potentially impacted be subjected to an archaeological survey to determine the nature, distribution, and significance of prehistoric and historic cultural resources present. As a qualified archaeologist recognized by the state, Honerkamp was approached to submit a technical research proposal and budget for the needed archaeological survey. Honerkamp was awarded the project and undertook the research under a personal services contract. The author was engaged by Honerkamp to participate in the field survey and produce the final report. After completion of the draft final report, the project was converted at the request of the sponsor to a state contract with the Jeffrey L. Brown Institute of Archaeology, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Research Objectives

Archaeological surveying entails the discovery of prehistoric and historic period activity localities by visual reconnaissance and/or sub-surface testing. This "Phase I" level of research is one of site discovery. An archaeological site is loosely defined as a locality in which there are concentrated artifacts and/or immovable features evidencing past utilizations or occupations. Prehistoric sites are those originating prior to the appearance of the European in North America in the late 15th century. Historic-period sites are those generated by Euro-Americans or during the Euro-American period, up to the present. All sites of a given period or culture constitute a non-renewable resource; with the passage of time, the inventory of sites diminishes irreversibly. Archaeological sites, prehistoric or historic, are judged "significant" only if the information they contain - or potentially contain - will yield scientifically-valid observations about a poorly-known cultural period or cultural process. The Tennessee Division of Archaeology has developed a list of specific research questions for each defined prehistoric period and geographical region of the state.

Locating archaeological sites rests on superficial observation of visible evidences of past human activity and in subsurface testing for the same. Most site surveys are based on a pedestrian reconnaissance of the project area, that is, a simple walkover by trained personnel sensitive to the appearance and distribution of cultural manifestations and modifications of the natural landscape. Not all evidences of sites are superficially observable. In some cases, sites are only located on the basis of artifacts recovered from sub-surface excavations. The excavation of subsurface tests for cultural debris are undertaken when the nature of the landscape is suitable.

Environmental Background

The project area is situated within the Cumberland Plateau physiographic province as defined by Miller (1974). The Cumberland Plateau consists of a high, level upland
stretching northeast to southwest over the eastern portion of Tennessee. Averaging over a thousand feet higher than the landforms to the east and west, the plateau features a prominent escarpment on the east bordering the Great Valley of East Tennessee and less well-defined relief contours with the Eastern Highland Rim physiographic province to the west. The Sequatchie Valley is subsumed within the plateau and consists of a highly-incised river valley formed along a major fault line within the larger plateau. Streams in the project area drain east into the Little Sequatchie River. The plateau is heavily dissected by surface water drainage courses collecting into successively larger streams and flowing ultimately into the Tennessee River, which bisects the plateau near the junction of the states of Tennessee, Georgia, and Alabama.

Geologically, the Cumberland Plateau consists of Pennsylvanian sandstones underlain by limestones of Mississippian, Devonian, Silurian, Ordovician, and Cambrian ages, resting on a base of Ordovician and Cambrian dolomites. The plateau is rich in economically-important mineral resources, particularly bituminous coals and iron ores. Much of the recent history of the region reflects exploitation of these mineral resources. The plateau is vegetated with a mixed mesophytic forest dominated by tulip, poplar, white and red oak, hemlock, basswood, beech, chestnut, and sugar maple. In the project area, the well-drained slopes feature pine trees, and in the rocky bottom land dense stands of rhododendrons are common.

The proposed water reservoir is situated on the drainages of Scott, Holywater, and Sewanee Creeks between the settlements of Hobbs Hill and Flat Branch in the southern area of Grundy County. Although cleared fields and pastures border the project area, there is no current economic use of the drainage or immediate environs. Scott, Holywater, and Sewanee Creeks flow over horizontally-bedded formations of sandstone and limestone, and gradients are moderate to steep. Lateral migration of the channel is restricted by resistant rock formations bordering the drainages. Small, alluvial islands are occasionally present in midstream. Visible evidence of frequent and often high levels of flooding are present.

Surveying was to concentrate below the 1800 foot AMSL contour. Approximately 2.2km of Scott Creek was surveyed, 1.0km of Holywater, and 400m of Sewanee Creek, the latter stream being formed by the confluence of the two former bodies. The lateral extent of the survey corridor varied from 50m to 200m. The maximum relief encountered in the project area varied from less than 5m at the headwater areas of Scott and Holywater Creek, to over 40m at the end of the survey corridor on Sewanee Creek. Total area of the survey tract is not precisely known, but is estimated to amount to about 39 hectares or roughly 96 acres.

At the time of the archaeological survey, the only available map of the proposed reservoir survey area was the 7.5 minute USGS Topographic Map, Tracy City Quadrangle, 99-SW. Detail was extremely limited. The 1800 foot contour had not been ground-marked during preliminary surveys of the project area, and it was possible only to estimate the pond line from the quad map.

This present research commenced with a consultation with the Division of Archaeology, Department of Conservation, State of Tennessee, which maintains state-wide archaeological site files. The only previously-recorded archaeological site in the vicinity of the project area and noted in the Tennessee state site files was a complex of 19th-century coke ovens nearby at Grundy Lakes. Surveys of the Grundy Forest State Natural Area and the Grundy Lakes State Recreation Area failed to record any historic or prehistoric archaeological sites (Froeschauer, Froeschauer, and Stripling 1986: 2-10). Both of these tracts are on the top of the plateau landform. This present survey, then, provides some much-needed baseline data on the immediate region.
Figure 1. Survey tract as shown on the USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Map, Tracy City, 99-SW. Outlined is the 1800 foot AMSL contour line, the survey boundary.
Field Methodology

The 39 hectare tract was subjected to a 100% pedestrian survey, entailing a walk-over of the property by the survey personnel. The four field personnel divided into two teams for a visual scan of each bank of the tributaries forming the proposed reservoir. The approximate location and nature of each site was recorded and described in narrative-style notes. Several of the sites were photographed, and two surface collections were made at looted rockshelter sites. Sites were given temporary site numbers as Tracy City Survey (TCS #) and logged on the USGS Quadrangle map. State site file numbers for four localities were sought at the completion of the fieldwork.

No subsurface testing was attempted during the survey, in part due to the time consumed examining areas of difficult access and low visibility and also due to the severe degree of slope on most the terrain bordering the drainage. The alluvial bottomland was not tested, following the rationale that these terraces, often only a meter above the adjacent steam, flooded frequently and would not contain permanent habitation sites. The survey documented no historic structures on the low alluvial terraces with the exception of a probable water-powered mill and several moonshine stills.

Ground cover in the basin ranged from moderately open floors under high forest canopy to extremely dense low growth with very low visibility. Upland areas on the bluff and talus were surveyed where access was possible. Very steep slopes that could not be approached on foot were examined from the stream bed or from the heights of the opposing shore. With safety, visibility, and access considerations in mind, the coverage of some areas of the bluff and debris talus sections of the project area cannot be considered 100% complete.

Survey Results

Reference should be made to Figure 2, which presents the approximate locations of the archaeological sites discussed below. Distances are estimated, and are computed along the meanders of the streams and perpendicular to the site location. The head of the reservoir on Scott Creek is taken as the old stone bridge at the crossroads.

TCS #1 designates the limestone bridge standing unused at the upper end of the proposed reservoir near the crossroads at Flat Branch (Figure 3). A local informant suggested the double-arch stone bridge was built by a man named Lockhart in the late 1880s or 1890s. The date of construction was said to be engraved into the side of the structure, but the date is now obscured by spoil dirt. The Tennessee Historical Commission revealed that the double arch bridge is listed on a Tennessee Multiple Property Form under "Historic Resources of Grundy County." According to this National Register of Historic Places listing, the structure was built c. 1898 by R. M. Crick for the sum of $620, and is the oldest of three such Crick bridges in the county. The structure is locally referred to as the "old stone bridge" and is a significant local historical landmark. No more detailed information on the structure is available at this time, and there is no mention of the bridge in the county history by Nicholson (1982). Although the 1800' contour line nominally extends along the creek a hundred meters above the bridge, this area was not surveyed as verbally stipulated by the sponsor.
Figure 2. Location of archaeological sites in the proposed reservoir.
Figure 3. The "old stone bridge" at the crossroads near Flat Branch. Although the roadbed has suffered some deterioration, the bridge still retains its structural integrity.
TCS #2 designates a prehistoric rockshelter site on the left (east) bank of Scott Creek approximately 875m from the crossroads at the head of the proposed reservoir (Figure 4). The site consists of a main overhang in one rock formation and smaller overhangs in a contiguous formation. The formations are separated by a "ramp" down from the tableland. The main rock formation is 13m from the banks of the creek, but the formation containing the smaller overhangs ends barely one meter from the active water course. Recent disturbances in the form of amateur excavations have cleared much of the fill under the main shelter, exposing an overhang 8.3m wide, 3.6m deep, and 1.7m high.

Artifacts surface collected from the looter's spoil dirt include: one historic ironstone/whiteware sherd, one aboriginal limestone-tempered plain sherd, one unidentified mammal vertebra, three worked quartzite fragments, one quartzite prismatic blade, two flint cores, 15 flint cortical flakes and/or shatterblock debris, 46 pieces of flint debitage, seven utilized flakes, and three partial scrapers/choppers. The site has been assigned the state site file number 40GY79.

TCS #3 designates an historic-period stone abutment situated on the left (east) bank of Scott Creek approximately 1325m from the head of the proposed reservoir (Figure 5). The mortared rubble-coursed feature stands about one meter above the surrounding terrain and is c. 2.1m in width and roughly 7m long. The abutment is parallel to Scott Creek which is about 4m to the west, and is aligned about 30 degrees west of north. The inland side of the feature is bordered with depressions in the ground surface, the deepest and largest of which is at the northeast corner of the stonework. The significance of this depression is unknown. The abutment evidently represents the partial foundation for a mill, but the variety (saw or grist), period of construction, and historical associations are unknown. No cultural debris was collected.

There are no apparent mill dams evidenced in the floor of the creek adjacent to or above the abutment, and no evidences of above-ground flumes for providing water to the presumed mill structure. There are no indications of a surface raceway to the structure. If in fact the remains are those of a water-powered mill of some kind, then there is the possibility that it employed a simple flutter wheel placed in the stream bed adjacent to the abutment. No more detailed historical data is currently available, and there is no mention of the mill site in the county history by Nicholson (1982). The site has been assigned the state site file number 40GY80.

TCS #4 designates a rock overhang and possible prehistoric rockshelter situated on the right (west) bank of Scott Creek approximately 1575m from the head of the proposed reservoir. No cultural debris was noted at the site, but there has been some limited amateur excavation at this locality. The overhang is c. 18m long, 3m in maximum depth, and 1.5 to 2m high. Scattered small flint chips were noted on the surface but not collected. This site is also above the 1800 foot contour line and is thus technically out of the project area. The site, however, may be affected by secondary impacts. The state site file number for this rockshelter is 40GY81.

TCS #5 designates an historic moonshine still situated on the right (west) bank of Scott Creek approximately 1750m from the head of the proposed reservoir. The rock-lined depression sat adjacent to an unnamed wet branch. The remains are not in a remarkably good state of preservation and their information potential is negligible.

TCS #6 designates an historic moonshine still situated on the right (west) bank of Scott Creek approximately 1825m from the head of the proposed reservoir. This still was situated c. 75m south of TCS #5. The remains are not in a remarkably good state of preservation and their information potential is negligible.
Figure 4. TCS #2, (40GY79), a prehistoric rockshelter site on the left (east) bank of Scott Creek. Scale is in 50cm zones, facing southeast.
Figure 5. TCS #3, (40GY80), historic mill (?) abutment on the left (east) bank of Scott Creek. The 2.1m wide stone structure parallels the creek. Facing south.
TCS #7 designates a prehistoric rockshelter site situated on the left (north) bank of Holywater Creek approximately 125m downstream from the 1800 foot contour line point on that stream. Remains consist of a series of contiguous overhangs in a single rock outcropping line extending about 60m in an east-west line paralleling the creek at a distance of c. 7m.

The site has been heavily disturbed by amateur archaeologists. Several stationary and one box water screen were noted at the site as were large spoil heaps, worked surfaces under the overhang, and at least one trench in front of the shelter. Much of the quartz and dark gray flint exposed in the looter's pits has evidently been reworked by the excavators, confusing the artifact situation somewhat. Recovered materials from the spoil piles and finds within the shelter itself include: one limestone-tempered plain sherd, two flint cortical/shatterblock fragments, one flint scraper/chopper, one bifacial blade fragment of blue-gray flint, four utilized flint flakes, and 16 pieces of flint debitage. Observed but not collected were quartzite pebbles and chipping debris, river pebbles, and miscellaneous lithic debris removed from the shelter floor by looters. Several untested areas of the shelter may be amenable to further controlled archaeological research. The state site file number for this rockshelter is 40GY82.

TCS #8 designates an historic moonshine still situated on the left (north) bank of Holywater Creek 150m downstream from the 1800 foot contour line and at the eastern end of TCS #7. The sheet metal tub remained in its rock-lined pit at the edge of the stream, and was 1.35m deep and with a diameter of 1.5m. The tub had been "disturbed" with axe strokes and pick punctures, indicating intentional "busting." The remains, although the best of the still sub-sample, are not complete, nor are they in a remarkably good state of preservation. Their information potential is negligible.

TCS #9 designates an historic moonshine still situated on the left (north) bank of Holywater Creek 175m downstream from the 1800 foot contour on said stream. Remains of the still consist of a rock-lined pit, concrete blocks, and barrel hoops. The remains are not in a remarkably good state of preservation and their information potential is negligible.

TCS #10 designates a rock overhang and possible prehistoric rockshelter situated on the left (north) bank of Holywater Creek approximately 200m downstream from the crossover of the 1800 foot contour on said stream. The site is c. 25m east of TCS #7. The depth of the overhang is 2m. No cultural debris was observed at this locality and no sub-surface tests were conducted. As such, the assignment of a state site file number will depend on the results of secondary testing.

TCS #11 designates a rock overhang and possible prehistoric rockshelter situated on the left (north) bank of Holywater Creek approximately 250m downstream from the 1800 foot contour on said stream. The site is c. 50m downstream from TCS #10. Possible soot stains mark the surface of the overhang which is 3m long, 2m wide, and 1.5m high. No associated artifacts were observed. No cultural debris was observed at this locality and no sub-surface tests were conducted. As such, the assignment of a state site file number will depend on the results of secondary testing.

TCS #12 designates an historic moonshine still situated on the left (north) bank of Holywater Creek c. 600m downstream from the crossover of the 1800 foot contour on said stream. The site is on the inside of a sharp bend in the creek opposite the outfall of two small unnamed streams entering from the south. Remains of the still include sheet metal vat walls, barrel hoops, and a stone-lined pit. The remains are not in a remarkably good state of preservation and their information potential is negligible.

TCS #13 designates an historic moonshine still situated on the right (south) bank of Holywater Creek 575m downstream from the crossover of the 1800 foot contour on said stream and c. 425m upstream from the junction with Scott Creek. The still, evidenced by a busted vat and five barrels. The remains are not in a remarkably good state of preservation and their information potential is negligible.
TCS #14 designates an historic moonshine still situated on the right (south) bank of Holywater Creek 825m downstream from the crossover of the 1800 foot contour of said stream. The still is evidenced by a rock-lined depression. The remains are not in a remarkably good state of preservation and their information potential is negligible.

TCS #15 designates an historic moonshine still situated on the right (south) bank of Holywater Creek 925m downstream from the crossover of the 1800 foot contour of said stream. The still is 75m upstream from the junction with Scott Creek. The remains, consisting of a rock-filled depression, are not in a remarkably good state of preservation and their information potential is negligible.

TCS #16 designates an historic moonshine still situated on the left (north) bank of Holywater Creek 925m downstream from the crossover of the 1800 foot contour on said stream. The site is c. 75m upstream from the junction with Scott Creek, forming Sewanee Creek. The still is represented by a rock-lined pit and a bumper to an early model automobile. The remains are not in a remarkably good state of preservation and their information potential is negligible.

TCS #17 designates two historic moonshine stills situated on the right (west) bank of Scott Creek on an unnamed small stream approximately 1075m downstream from the head of the proposed reservoir. The stills are represented by two large stone-lined depressions in the hillside and by surface artifacts including one flexible plastic water pipe and several barrel hoops. The remains are not in a remarkably good state of preservation and their information potential is negligible.
Figure 6. Prehistoric rockshelter site TCS #7 (40GC1082) is a series of overhangs in one bluff formation off Holywater Creek. Several of the overhangs have been subjected to looting.
Figure 7. Historic site TCS #8 represents the remains of a groundhog style moonshine still. The remains of the "pot" are still in place, although altered by the addition of axe and pick punctures.
Moonshine stills are a vanishing artifact in the modern world. Since the late 1960s, their numbers have dramatically diminished, and the art of distilling whiskey 'on the sly' is in danger of extinction. The archaeology of moonshining is represented by a small body of literature (e.g. Crook 1980; Blitz 1978), and these sites are frequently found in surveys of isolated drainage systems in the southeastern United States.

Ten groundhog style moonshine stills were noted in the survey. Of the varieties of distilling apparatus, the groundhog style is the most sophisticated and in size usually indicates a commercial-scale enterprise. Groundhog stills consisted of a large "pot" fabricated of sheet metal and wood usually situated in the side of a hill or slope. The base and lid of the pot were formed of wood, usually poplar, secured to the metal walls with tightly spaced nails. The exterior base of the pot was surrounded by a heating duct formed of brick, concrete blocks, or formed clay, and connected with a source of heat, usually a kerosene burner of some type. An aperture at the top of the pot was sealed with a "cap" from which lead a "steamline" connected to a "condenser" consisting of either a barrel or, occasionally, a suitable automobile radiator.

Water, brar., sugar, and yeast was boiled in the pot to form what was called "beer" which boiled off in the form of steam conveyed up through the cap and steamline into the condenser. Barrel condensers were filled with cool stream water, and as the steam from the pot passed through copper coils immersed in the barrel, the distilled whiskey condensed and was collected by a cotton-filtered funnel into a suitable container.

Remains of still sites are principally marked by depressions in hillsides adjacent to streams or springs. These depressions are up to two meters in diameter. Barrel hoops, metal flue piping, and small ceramic, metal or plastic containers are found in association, but valuable copper piping and coils are rarely left to decay.

Despite the increasing scholarly interest in the anthropology of moonshining, still sites less than 50 years of age are noted in archaeological surveys but not necessarily assigned numbers in the state site file. The sites often represent family industries and reflect long-standing traditions of distilling technology and production. None of the stills encountered during the present survey merited assignment of state site file numbers, most being thought to be less than 50 years of age and containing very little in situ structural remains.

Notably absent in the survey of the proposed reservoir were the remains of historic 19th and 20th century farmsteads and housesites. However, given that the survey was necessarily concentrated on slopes and frequently inundated bottom lands, the absence of historic domestic sites is not surprising. These types of habitation sites are evidently situated on adjoining tablelands above the drainage systems surveyed. The presumed water-powered mill site TCS #3 was situated in the floodplain of Scott Creek out of industrial necessity.

With respect to prehistoric resources in the proposed reservoir, rockshelters were the most significant archaeological finds. Consisting of undercut rock bluffs which generate a protective overhang suitable for short-term human habitation, rockshelters are known to occur in very restricted geological circumstances. The geology of the Cumberland Plateau consists of an eroded peneplain or tableland capped with resistant sandstone strata. However, several underlying strata consist of soluble limestones. As a stream passes in elevation a limestone strata, the water slowly carves out the softer stone, leaving an overhanging ledge of more resistant material. Prehistoric peoples inhabiting the plateau used these rockshelters and caves as temporary camps. Particularly favorable sites featured both easy access to the tableland above and convenient access to water below.

The two principal rockshelter sites recorded in the survey were in localities where the maximum relief between stream and adjacent tableland did not exceed ten meters. Only limited generalizations can be made about the periods of occupation of the shelters and the activities that occurred there. The presence of limestone-tempered ceramic fragments in
both TCS #2 (40GY79) and TCS #7 (40GY82) indicate an association with the Woodland period, a time period in which sedentary Indian populations manufactured pottery tempered with crushed limestone. The undecorated sherds of limestone-tempered pottery are not especially diagnostic from a temporal standpoint, as limestone-tempered pottery continued to be made into the Mississippian period after A.D. 1100. The bluffs of the Cumberland Plateau provided a rich source of stone for lithic tools. In both rockshelters, white quartzite and flints ranging in color from light brown to very dark brown and gray were manufactured into a variety of tools. Doubtless, additional testing will produce a more interesting sample of these tools than those discarded by looters and collected during our survey.

From a behavioral point of view, it is widely held that Woodland Indian populations used the caves and rockshelters on the fringes of the Cumberland Plateau as winter camps where game was hunted, local nuts and berries were collected, and where flint and other cryptocrystalline stones were gathered for the production of tools. During periods of drought, these upland sites may have been refuges, supplied with water from underground springs. Woodland peoples used the wide flood terraces of large streams and rivers for horticulture, but these landforms were subject to flooding, particularly in the winter and early spring. Later Mississippian groups, who specialized in intensive agriculture on the fertile floodplains, evidently made less use of the rockshelters than during the Woodland period.

In a recent study of archaeological surveys of state-owned land, Division of Archaeology personnel noted that the Cumberland Plateau is the physiographic region with the most state-owned land in Tennessee (Froeschauer, Froeschauer, and Stripling 1986:6-2). Surveys on these lands have documented historic and prehistoric sites, but in the lower plateau, only a survey of Prentice-Cooper State Forest has produced both types of sites; surveys of Grundy Forest State Natural Area and Grundy Lakes State Recreation area, near the proposed reservoir, yielded sites of neither type. The Prentice-Cooper survey documented 13 aboriginal sites on the edge of the Cumberland Plateau, and all but one were rockshelter sites. Of these, six were in use in the Woodland period, as evidenced by associated artifacts (ibid.: 3-13).

Peter Cave, some 20 airline miles to the northwest near Sherwood, Tennessee, yielded a considerable quantity of cultural debris from the Middle Woodland period, indicating substantial use through time of the large rock overhang (Hartney 1962). Another archaeological survey was conducted by TVA on the west side of the Sequatchie Valley on the drainages of Reynolds and Big Brush Creeks in Sequatchie County. Numerous rockshelter sites, some quite large, were documented, as were many early historic-period cabins and more recent industrial sites (McCollough 1977). Northern Alabama has produced a number of important rockshelter and cave habitation sites, among them the famous Russell Cave. The largest of these rockshelter sites typically produce deep middens from the Archaic through the Mississippian periods, and often include historic-period utilizations such as saltpeter mining, animal pens, and moonshine stills.

Recommendations

This archaeological survey budgeted no time for historical research. Consequently, our information on the historic structures encountered is very sketchy. The "old stone bridge" at the crossroads near Flat Branch merits preservation in place through an active program of stabilization, monitoring, and interpretation. The bridge is a visually interesting landmark and is a familiar reference point to the local people interviewed during the survey. A small public park or picnic area adjacent to the structure would be an appropriate interpretive gesture as part of reservoir development. This study does not recommend archaeological research on the structure, but does suggest that driftwood accumulating against the upstream face be periodically removed, and that vegetation on the sides and top
of the structure be removed to prevent deterioration of the bridge by bioturbation. Several
restraining bars which, according to a local informant, were part of the timber railing of the
structure, are located in the stream bed below the bridge and should be recovered. Ponding
to a contour of 1800' will have no significant impact on the structure, but secondary
impacts around the perimeter of such a reservoir may include increased visitation in the area
and result in increasing wear and tear on the historic R. M. Crick bridge.

More research is needed to determine the historical associations of the mill structure
identified as TCS #3 (40GY80). Since the structure is immediately adjacent to Scott Creek,
inundation to or near the 1800 foot contour will submerge the site and its adjacent terrace.
It is recommended that the site be subjected to secondary archaeological testing to determine
the date of construction, type of mill, and variety of motive power. Depressions in the
ground adjacent to the stone abutment may be turbine or water wheel pits and these should
be carefully excavated.

The remaining historic sites noted in the proposed reservoir consist of groundhog
moonshine still sites discussed above. Verbal communication with the Division of
Archaeology, State of Tennessee, indicates that stills are not normally entered into the state
site files unless the sites are older than 50 years and have important historical associations.
None of recorded stills are in a condition that merits any further recording or interpretation,
and none have significant historical associations with the stills are indicated.

The principal cultural resources threatened by the creation of the proposed reservoir
are the prehistoric rockshelters which dot the project area. The largest of these shelters -
TCS #2 (40GY79) and TCS #7(40GY82) - have already been subjected to intensive
looting by amateur archaeologists, but portions of them may be amenable to scientific
testing. Other, smaller shelters may be undisturbed and might contain sufficient data to
document the cultural associations and chronology of their use. Two localities, TCS#10
and 11, require secondary testing to determine if, in fact, these are prehistoric activity
localities or merely geological forms.

Of the definite and possible prehistoric activity localities, it is recommended that
TCS #2, #4, #7, #10, and #11 be subjected to a limited program of secondary
archaeological testing to determine the potential of the sites to yield significant data on the
period of occupation and cultural associations of rockshelter habitation in the drainage
system of the upper reaches of Sewanee Gulf. This testing would consist of the excavation
of small, controlled stratigraphic test pits within or in front of the shelters in areas
undisturbed by artifact hunting. Data obtained during this secondary testing would be used
to determine if the sites are significant and worthy of more intensive testing and data
recovery efforts.

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