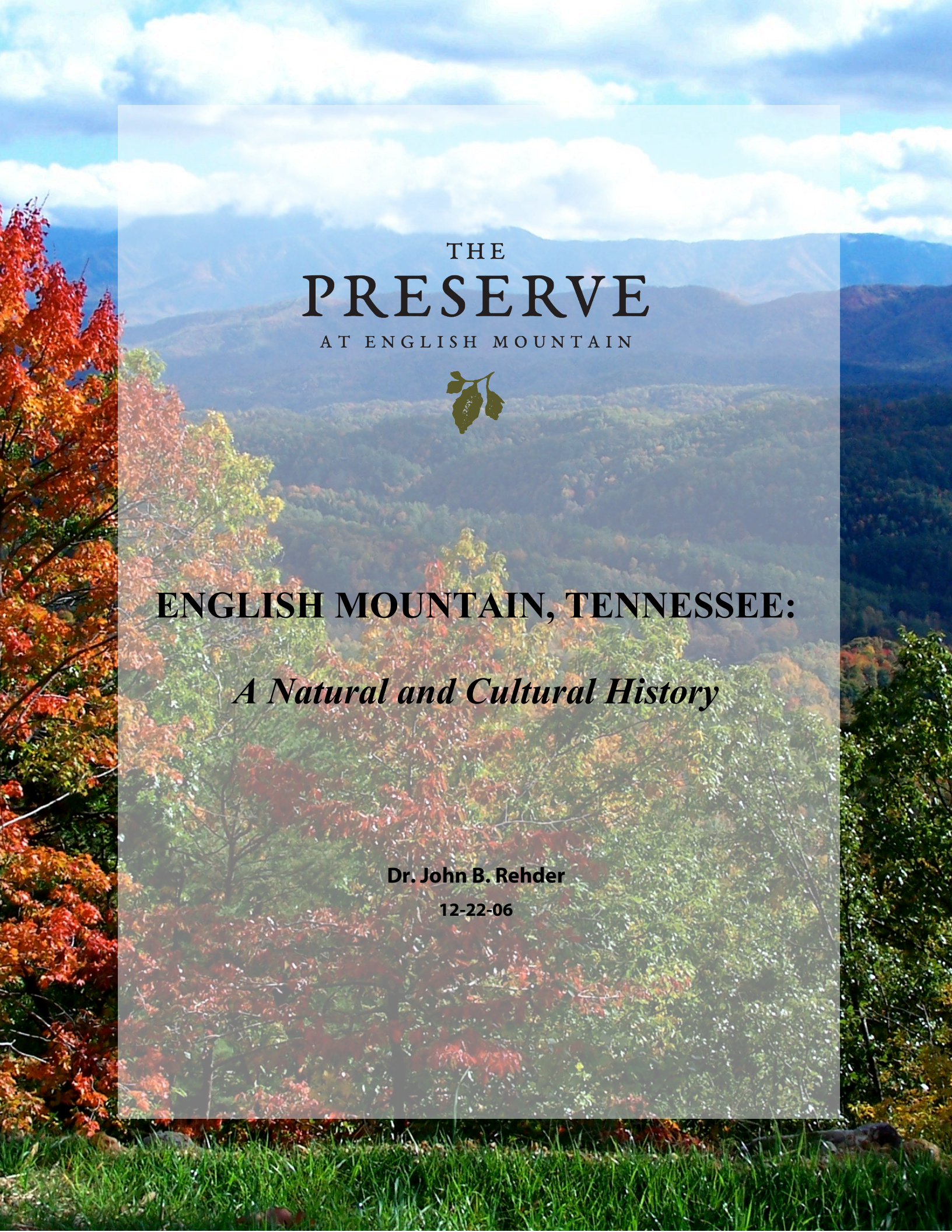

THE
PRESERVE
AT ENGLISH MOUNTAIN

ENGLISH MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE:

A Natural and Cultural History

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INTRODUCTION

This project is an historical journey that explores broad areas in time and place but in all focuses on English Mountain, Tennessee. My purpose is to give you a glimpse of a place with majestic mountains, woodlands, and streams where people of different cultures met, lingered, and lived on a unique landscape.

How did English Mountain get its name? English Mountain was likely named for an individual, perhaps James English from Cocke County, because a mid-nineteenth century source refers to the place as "English's Mountain." (Ramsey 1853 [1926], 743). Northeast of English Mountain is English Creek, a tributary to the Pigeon River near Newport, that appears in the vicinity of where James English once lived. Given the sparse numbers of settlers with a certain English ethnic identity in the region, it is unlikely that the mountain was named for any specific English culture group of settlers. Moreover, early European settlers here were predominantly Scotch-Irish and German.

In some circumstances, eighteenth-century place names were set to lay claim to lands or to recognize lands claimed by others. For example, the French Broad River was named for the fact that French-held territory was situated to the west. Early explorers in western North Carolina perceived the wide river as flowing toward French lands and so named it the French Broad. (Dykeman [1955] 1973, 15-16). It is quite unlikely that English Mountain was named to establish English land claims, for if it were, the name would have been attached to a much larger territory.

This is Appalachia, an Appalachia that you may not have imagined because the images here are real, right now, and in this place. I won't trouble you with myriad thoughts of how Appalachia was negatively seen in the past and I certainly don't want to reinforce stereotypical hillbilly misrepresentations. Just sit back, perhaps relaxing on your front porch or indoors beside a cozy warm fireplace and absorb the deep richness of an American heritage.

APPALACHIA AND THE MOUNTAIN ENVIRONMENT

We are in a region called Southern Appalachia, an area of high rugged forested mountains to the east, a corrugated pattern of forested ridges and cleared oft-farmed valleys in the center, and dissected eroded yet forested plateaus to the west. There is no single Appalachian landscape or environment, there are many and in this section we will introduce you to all three major landform regions - Blue Ridge, Ridge and Valley, and Cumberland and Allegheny Plateaus - that constitute Southern Appalachia. All the while, I'll make certain that you will know where you are in time and place within the context of English Mountain and its surroundings.

The Blue Ridge Province

To the east of us lies the Blue Ridge Province of North America. I know what you are thinking- "Aren't these mountains called the 'Smokies'?" Yes, the mountains in front of you just to the east are the Great Smoky Mountains, the very ones now protected by the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The Cherokee's name for the mountains was *shaconage* meaning "blue" as in the color of blue smoke. The atmosphere of this ancient land with its abundant natural moisture, aerosols from trees, and mountain mists early on came to be called "Blue" Ridge and Great Smoky Mountains. Today's man-induced hazy atmosphere often goes beyond the primeval natural blue and smoky conditions.

So how does "Blue Ridge" fit in as a mountain phenomenon? The Blue Ridge Province is an ancient mountain core of mountains with different local names that extends from southern Pennsylvania to northern Georgia. They are exceptionally old mountains composed of granite, quartz, slate and other rocks of Precambrian age more than 600 million years old. They are so old that they predate fossils so don't expect to see any fossils in the Smokies (Moore 1994, 22, 26-28; Rehder 2004, 35-36, 51-52; Raitz, Ulack, and Leinbach 1984, 39-84; Fenneman, Nevin M. 1938).

The Blue Ridge Province is shaped like a boat paddle with a very narrow northern end and a broad 80-mile wide southern one. Within the province the name *Blue Ridge* is also attached to special mountains on its easternmost side all the way from Pennsylvania to Georgia. Ranging in elevations from about 1,200 feet to over 6,000 feet along the way, this Blue Ridge portion of the Blue Ridge Province is remarkably distinct largely because it is the first mountain mass that one would see if you were traveling from east to west from Virginia, the Carolinas, or northern Georgia. This Blue Ridge is indeed an impressive, formidable escarpment or cliff when approached from the east. In northern Virginia you could see the Blue Ridge front by traveling west along I-66 out of Washington, DC to Front Royal, VA or on I-64 out of Charlottesville to Waynesboro and Staunton. Another route is I-77 going northwest from Statesville, NC into Virginia. To experience the Blue Ridge escarpment in a steep dramatic way, you could climb it via I-40 through Black Mountain to Asheville, NC or come via I-26 from South Carolina through Saluda Gap to Asheville, NC. Simply put, the Blue Ridge is a distinctive mountain range and it is the easternmost portion of the Blue Ridge Province. (Rehder 2004, 4-7, 33-35).

To the south and west of the Blue Ridge is the broadest part of the "paddle" and the highest mountain core of Southern Appalachia's Blue Ridge Province. It is an 80- mile wide mass of transverse east-west trending mountains with a dozen names. In the center of the "paddle" are mountain ranges called the Black, Balsam, Pisgah, Cowee, Cheoah, Nantahala, Snowbird, Unicoi, and so many others in western North Carolina. In the Black Mountains northeast of Asheville, North Carolina is Mount Mitchell (6,684 feet), the highest mountain in the United States east of the Rocky Mountains. On the northwest side of

the broad part of the paddle between Roanoke, Virginia and northeastern Tennessee are the Iron Mountains and Unakas.

Our Great Smoky Mountains on the immediate west side of the paddle blade are always seen as impressive high mountains. Astride the Tennessee and North Carolina state line, the Great Smoky Mountains are 54 miles long as the crow flies between the Pigeon River where I-40 passes through at the north end and Chilhowee Lake (Little Tennessee River) on the south. For thirty-six of those miles, the crest of the Smokies is 5,000 feet or more in elevation. Sixteen peaks in the range exceed 6,000 feet. Incidentally, the Appalachian Trail's 70-mile portion through the Great Smoky Mountains National Park encounters many of the higher peaks as it follows the ridgeline. Highest peaks in the Great Smoky Mountains within sight of English Mountain are north to south: Mount Cammerer (4,928 feet) the one you see with a 45 degree slope to the north and east, Mount Guyot (6,621 feet) , Mount LeConte (6,593 feet) with its distinctive three peaks, and Clingmans Dome (6,643 feet) highest mountain in the Smokies and highest mountain in Tennessee. (Moore1994, 28-31; Rehder 2004, 35-36, 51-52; Raitz, Ulack, and Leinbach 1984, 39-84; Fenneman 1938; Appalachian Trail Conference 1967, 2-33).

The easiest road trip to the top of the Smokies is to drive to Clingmans Dome (6,643 feet elevation) by taking US 441 through Gatlinburg to Newfound Gap then turn right on to the Clingmans Dome Road. Drive 7.1 miles to the parking lot; the road ends here anyway. A paved short trail goes directly to the summit and a spiral observation platform. Here you can experience a "Canadian-like" microclimate of cool crisp air, see Red Spruce forests and a few surviving Fraser Fir evergreen trees. On a clear day observe Mount LeConte just to the north of you and myriad other mountains in a 360-degree panorama. Such a trip to Clingmans Dome is perhaps the easiest and best way to experience the highest of the Great Smoky Mountains. (Wise1996, xxiv; 43,48;54-56;367; Rehder 2004, 48-49).

A favorite mountain for viewing and hiking is Mount LeConte (6,593 feet). LeConte is easily recognized because it has three prominent peaks on a spur jutting west of the main trend of the range. The mountain has no roads but has five steep trails that reach the top. Mount LeConte has 4,553 feet in vertical relief from its base near Gatlinburg (2,040 feet) to the summit at High Top at 6,593 feet elevation. Any trail to LeConte is strenuous, and most are long and steep. The shortest but steepest is the Alum Cave Trail at 5.1 miles one way that gains 2,600 feet in elevation. If you are in good condition and are on the trail by 8:00am, the Alum Cave Trail is a good day hike with time to explore the lodge, the summit at High Top, Cliff Tops to the west and even perhaps Myrtle Point that is an additional .7 mile to the east. The trailhead is the Alum Cave parking area 8.6 miles east of the Sugarlands Visitor Center on highway US 441. Another longer hike to Mount LeConte is a loop that combines the Rainbow Falls trail (6.7 miles one way) with the Bull Head trail (6 miles one way). Go to Gatlinburg, turn at traffic light #8, go up Airport Road that turns into Cherokee Orchard Road, and go straight up the mountain past the Ogle Place and the trailheads are at the Rainbow Falls parking lot. You might do the Alum Cave trail first then explore LeConte's four other trails for other times. These trails are tough but can be done in a day with good conditioning, a light pack with food and plenty of safe bottled water, and an early start. English Mountain can be seen in its entirety from several places on Mount LeConte such as from the LeConte Lodge's porch and from Myrtle Point, a lookout peak about .7mile east of the lodge complex on the mountaintop.

Whenever hiking in the area, never, never drink water from natural sources. I don't care if the stream or spring looks clean and clear or even if the water drips from moss overhanging a ledge. Consider all water in the GSMNP to be contaminated by giardia, a parasite that comes from the urine and feces of wild boar

– wild mountain pigs. The danger is real and the result is as if you had Montezuma's revenge or worse, so "don't drink the water"! For day hikes, bring your own bottled water, or water from home. For multi-day backpacking trips, boil and treat the water with chemicals and professional filters. There is one exception- the pump water at the Mount LeConte Lodge on top of Mount LeConte is safe to drink because it has been treated. I drank some water there in October 2005 and was ok. Still, it is always best to bring your own safe water.

The Ridge and Valley Province

The next large landform province is the Ridge and Valley Province of North America. Just as the name implies, the Ridge and Valley Province is composed of ridges and valleys that number between 10 and 18 set in a corrugated pattern in a wider larger valley that here is between 45 and 75 miles wide between the Blue Ridge Province to the east and the Cumberland and Allegheny Plateaus (also called the Appalachian Plateau Province) to the west. Average elevation of the province is about 1,000 feet above sea level. The main trend of the Ridge and Valley is northeast to southwest that extends from Pennsylvania to Alabama. The slopes of the ridges face northwest and southeast. Throughout the province, ridges are forested, while valleys are largely cleared and have been for centuries for agriculture and transportation. If you entered Tennessee either from Virginia via I-81 or from Georgia coming up I-75 you were traveling in one or more of the valleys in the Ridge and Valley Province. However if you entered Tennessee from the north via I-75 from Kentucky or from the east via I-40 from North Carolina, you would experience the region in profile or in a cross section in somewhat of a roller coaster fashion as you drove up and down over hills and valleys such as around Knoxville and Newport, Tennessee as you approach the English Mountain vicinity.

Along the east side of the Ridge and Valley Province are border mountains or foothills that include from north to south- Iron Mountain (Carter and Johnson counties), Holston Mountain (Sullivan and Johnson counties), *English Mountain*, (Cocke, Sevier, and Jefferson counties) Chilhowee Mountain (Sevier and Blount counties) and Starr Mountain (Polk County). Rock types are limestone, dolomite (a harder denser form of limestone named for the Dolomites Mountains in the Italian Alps), sandstone, siltstone, and shale. These rocks are of early Cambrian age approximately 570 to 500 million years old, some have fossils, and all are locally named the Chilhowee Group. There are places here that mark the exact contact point between the two provinces at a geologic fault called the Great Smoky Thrust Fault. At Chilhowee Mountain on US. 321southeast of Maryville, Tennessee about a half mile northwest of Walland, the fault line can be seen in the road cut on US 321. The slanted line marks rocks of Precambrian 600+ million years old in contact with rocks that are about 100 to 200 million years younger. It can be exhilarating to place your left hand on the Blue Ridge Province and your right hand on the Ridge and Valley Province with a couple of hundred million years between them! (Moore1994,16; 29-33; 206-208). Incidentally, that same Great Smoky Thrust Fault continues both south and north of the road cut site and passes through on the north, on the far side of English Mountain. We need not worry because the area is geologically inactive.

The geology of English Mountain can be stated this way. The upper mountain's age is Cambrian or about 500+ million years old but less than 600 million years old. Rock types are limestone on the north side, with sandstone, siltstone, and shale on top and to the south and east. As you enter the lower half of The Preserve's property, older rocks here consist of the Precambrian (600+mya) *Wilhite* Formation described as grey to green siltstone and slate with sandstone and quartzite that are four thousand feet thick (Hardeman 1966). The upper parts of English Mountain are distinctly separate like an island. But the

lower slopes in the *Wilhite* Formation form a broad apron that extends from the foot of English Mountain north to I-40 near Newport and south through Jones Cove, Richardson Cove, Pigeon Forge (but not Sevierville), surrounding Wears Cove and Cades Cove (but not in them) and beyond the Little Tennessee River southwest of here. Moreover, the southeast side of English Mountain in Cocke County has a large grey rock outcrop called "The Bench" that is visible east of the Pinnacle and from Cosby and the Foothills Parkway on the northwest corner of the GSMNP (Hardeman 1966).

Elevations especially in The Preserve at English Mountain range from 1000 up to 3000 feet. The highest point on the entire mountain is near the center called the Lookoff at a peak marked English at 3,629 feet where a lookout tower site is in the vicinity of where the counties Sevier, Jefferson, and Cocke converge. From the ridgeline of English Mountain you can see Douglas Lake, a TVA reservoir that covers the French Broad River Valley. From here landscape topography of the Ridge and Valley Province extends across to the next province.

The Cumberland Plateau

The Ridge and Valley Province continues westward with its rumpled corrugated pattern until it reaches the next large province called the Appalachian Plateaus Province consisting of the Cumberland and Allegheny Plateaus. Here, the Cumberland Plateau has on its eastern side a contact point called the Cumberland Plateau Escarpment. If you are traveling on I-40 west of Knoxville enroute to Nashville you will see the 1,000-foot escarpment or cliff with limestone and sandstone outcrops at mile marker 347. If you travel north of Knoxville on I-75 towards Kentucky at mile marker 134, the escarpment rises steeply in front of you. Or, you might be traveling up to the famous Cumberland Gap via U.S. 25E where the gap provides a noticeably easier entry into the plateau country. No wonder approximately 300,000 settlers passed through Cumberland Gap in search of lands to settle to the north and west in the period 1775-1810 (Rehder 2004, 70).

While the edges of the Cumberland Plateau are very steep at the escarpment, the top of the plateau is supposed to be flat; and in some places it is indeed a flat tableland, especially in the southern parts of the plateau in southern Tennessee around where I-40 crosses it and also in parts of northern Alabama. However, in the vicinity of where I-75 and US 25W and US 25E pass through the Cumberland Plateau, the terrain is far more dissected and cut up from high levels of erosion. While some areas are rough by uplift, far more of the northern Cumberland Plateau and all of the Allegheny Plateau are erosional surfaces marked by deeply incised hollows, steep slopes, but with relatively flat hilltops that have much the same elevations on top. We are now out of reach of English Mountain and the terrains that you can see from it so let's get back to examine the slope and aspect of English Mountain and the Smokies up close and personal.

SUN AND SHADE IN THE MOUNTAINS: ADRÊTE AND UBAC

Mountains have sun and shade. All of them have shaded dark sides and sunny bright sides often scientifically expressed as slope and aspect. In the Alps of Europe, people refer to the *adrête* (sunny) and *ubac* (shaded) in French speaking areas and *sonnenseit* for sunlit areas in Germanic speaking areas of Alpine Europe. You are probably thinking: "What does Alpine mountain geography have anything to do with Appalachian mountain geography?" Mountains have their own microclimates. They usually become cooler and wetter as you go up in elevation but they also are environmentally expressive between north

acidic, and damp and often there is an organic odor of wet rotting leaf litter and humus. The trail might even be wet and slippery so trek carefully. *Ubac* conditions continue for perhaps a mile or more as the trail winds up the mountain along the north face exposure. As for North Face® clothing and outdoor gear, their North Face® is named for the north face slope of Mount Everest but not our north facing slopes of Mount LeConte. Anyway, continue up the trail, you might pass a few stray pines along the way but at some point you will round a bend and will go directly from *ubac* (shade) to *adrête* (sunlit) in an instant. On this *adrête* side, the sun shines warmly on the mountain. Everything is dry and warm. The air smells of pine scent because several pine species dominate the slopes. The favored pine is Table Mountain Pine but other vegetation will be a few warm-natured oaks and an understory of mountain laurel. The dead pines you see are victims of the Southern Pine Bark Beetle. The soils are yellow to red and dry. It is as if you have turned a corner into another world and indeed you have. For this experiment, I suggest that we stop here on the *adrête* side, soak in the warmth and pine scent, and after a short rest return to the car.

Carefully walk back to the car and go to English Mountain and search for the same stuff there! Will we see the same things at The Preserve at English Mountain? Yes, but here is how to do it. Drive up the main road of the Preserve to the top. All along this way you will be traveling on south facing slopes, the *adrête* side, the sunny warm dry side of English Mountain. The soils will be yellow, and they will be dry. The forest will be a mix of pines, oaks, and other trees with an understory of mountain laurel, blueberries, and huckleberries along the way. Conditions are warm, dry, and clearly *adrête* (sunlit). On top of English Mountain and looking northward over the ridgeline, now the north facing side, you will see shaded forests with maple, poplar, and hemlock; perhaps darker soils with usually damper conditions- surely the *ubac* (shaded) side of the mountain. In winter, an understory of rhododendron- a broadleaf evergreen will greet your eye here on the *ubac* (shaded) side. Moreover, this view out to the north and west will afford a view across the Ridge and Valley Province along with views of Douglas Lake, a TVA reservoir that was formed from the French Broad River and other nearby tributary streams such as the Nolichucky near White Pine and the Pigeon River at Newport, Tennessee.

What about the weather and climate in the mountains? First, remember this. All mountains have unique microclimates. You can always expect them to be cooler and wetter on the summits than in lowland valleys. Many peaks in the Great Smoky Mountains are 5,000 feet higher than elevations in the Ridge and Valley. How much cooler can it get? If the air is wet, the formula called the wet adiabatic rate will have a temperature change of three degrees F. per 1000 feet elevation. With the 4,553-foot elevation difference between Gatlinburg and the summit on Mount LeConte there could be a temperature difference under wet conditions of more than 13.6 degrees F. However, if the air is dry as in the formula for the dry adiabatic where the rate is 5.5 degrees per 1000 feet, the temperature difference between Gatlinburg and the top of Mount LeConte could be greater than 25 degrees! “Momma says wear a jacket” because temperatures are cooler in the mountains. The micoclimatic conditions from valley floor to mountain summit can be of the environmental range from Georgia to Newfoundland. If you climb up a mountain trail from 1500 feet to above 5000 feet, the difference is as if you had traveled northward a distance of 1000 miles! I often tell my students in geography courses at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville that they could visit “Canada” this afternoon by traveling to Clingmans Dome, a car journey of about sixty miles, where they could experience Canadian-like vegetation types, temperatures, and rain or winter snow conditions on top. (Rehder 2004, 48).

Precipitation ranges from eighty-five to ninety inches in the mountains to forty inches in the valleys and, yes, it snows in the higher elevations (Rehder 2004, 48). For several Octobers, I have had the enjoyable

opportunity to hike with my best friend to the top of Mount LeConte (5.1 miles one way) and spend the first Sunday night in October in one of the tiny cabins at LeConte Lodge. There are about a dozen small cabins, two larger lodge houses, a dining hall and other assorted staff structures. No electricity, clean safe treated water is from a hand pump, warm propane-heated cabins, hearty food, and great sunrises and sunsets are part of the experience. However, reservations at LeConte Lodge are extremely difficult to get but you can give it a try at 865-429-5704. On some of these October trips, it has snowed. One time, the temperature was 11 degrees Fahrenheit all night and day! Another time the wind blew cold mist and clouds in at 40 to 50 mph. Another time it was so warm that you could bask on the rocks at Cliff Tops until sundown with temperatures in the high 70s. On a recent overnight trip to LeConte on October 10, 2005, fog filled the valleys, bright sun warmed the mountain, cool mist and clouds arrived on the summit at dusk, and similar conditions were around for the next day. Mountains have their own weather and climate and as such have unique personalities.

Diversity: Biodiversity and Cultural Diversity

In a world of such great variety, it seems ironic that our culture must consciously search for a deeper meaning of diversity and make such efforts trying to embrace it. - We all live and breathe on this small planet where we ought to take care of its physical environment as well as its cultural environment. “Be nice”, my grandmother would say and “be particular,” my wife’s father would say are the kinds of statements that tell us about positive attitudes of getting along. Such harmony can still be found here.

The diversity of plant life in the Smokies is amazing. There are 130 tree species, 1,500 flowering plants, 50 ferns, 230 lichens, 330 mosses and liverworts, and 1,800 fungi that coexist in an area of about 800 square miles or 513,968 acres. There are more different tree species in the Great Smoky Mountains than in all of Europe. The forest ecology somehow survives despite the incredible destructive forces of logging in the region in the early 1900s, the introduction of the Balsam Wooly Adelgid in 1963 that has nearly destroyed all of the Frazer fir trees, and the more recent introduction of the Hemlock Adelgid that threatens 5,000 acres of hemlock trees. (Rehder 2004, 48-52; Pierce 2000, 204-206.)

A measure of cultural diversity is evident even though it cannot match the varieties in the natural world. Throughout its human history with several thousand years of occupance, the Great Smoky Mountains region has experienced at least three of the four phases of prehistoric Native Americans along with the dominant Cherokees and contact from at least three other Indian tribes. Sixteenth to eighteenth-century European explorers and military ventures came from Spanish and English origins. European settlers of considerable diversity arrived as Scotch-Irish, Germans, French Huguenots, English, Welsh, Irish, Scots, and perhaps even some Melungeons in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Twentieth-century populations in Sevier County grew as descendents largely from Scotch-Irish, German, and English stock. However, the most recent United States Census of 2000 for Sevier County reveals that the county has gained in cultural diversity. Out of a total population of 70,530 there were 1,160 foreign born who came from: Europe 390, Asia 280, Africa 40, Latin America 340, Northern America 100. Persons with a Hispanic or Latino identity in the census year of 2000 accounted for 680 people from the following sources: Mexico 370, Puerto Rico 60, Cuba 50, Other 200. (American Community Survey 1999-2001 and Census 2000 Comparison Study. Comparison Profile for Sevier County, TN. Table 1. General Demographic Characteristics and Table 2. Selected Social Characteristics. www.census.gov/acs/www/AdvMeth).

If we examine the ethnic/cultural ancestry, a wider pattern is revealed. First, remember that the following information is from a sample of Sevier Countians for the 2000 U.S, Census. It reveals the "believed-to-be" ancestry of the respondents. If you were to ask me what my ethnic ancestry is, I would say: "German from my father's family and English and Cherokee from my mother's family." Now you can see the complexity of the issue. This is a long list so hang on: Arab 80, Czech 180, Danish 100, Dutch 1210, English 7430, French 1890, French Canadian 330, German 7840, Greek 70, Hungarian 170, Irish 8110, Italian 1650, Lithuanian 10, Norwegian 330, Polish 500, Portuguese 90, Russian 90, Scotch-Irish 2550, Scottish 1500, Slovak 30, Subsaharan African 70, Swedish 340, Swiss 90, Ukranian 30, United States or American 14530, Welsh 380, West Indian (excluding Hispanic) 20. (American Community Survey 1999-2001 and Census 2000 Comparison Study. Comparison Profile for Sevier County, TN. Table 2. Selected Social Characteristics. www.census.gov/acs/www/AdvMeth).

CULTURE HISTORY

The First Americans were Native Americans

Now that we have a brief glimpse of the cultural diversity of the area, lets examine how the region became populated. Who came here to settle and what sequence did they arrive? People have been living in the vicinity of the Great Smoky Mountains especially near streams and coves for perhaps as a much as 8,000 years. The first Americans were Native Americans. In the terminology of archaeologists, there were four phases of prehistoric cultures: Paleoindian, Archaic, Woodland, and Mississippian.

About 12,000 years ago, small bands of Paleoindian hunters began to enter the southeastern parts of North America eventually reaching the western part of what was to become Tennessee. The Pleistocene, a geologic time of continental glaciation was waning, and hunters sought game wherever animal migrations took them. Paleoindian people were followers of game, hunters of game, and gatherers of wild plant foods, nuts, roots, and berries. Archeological evidence is extremely scarce for this time frame but it is believed that people lived and worked out of temporary base hunting camps in caves, rock shelters, and perhaps on river terraces and from small hilltops (Finger 1998, 2)

About 10,000 years ago, Paleoindian groups began to blend into the early Archaic Phase. Differing only by degree, the change from Paleo to Archaic was subtle. Archaic folks were still hunters and gatherers but for some reason their economy and settlement began to shift from sparse scattered temporary camps to more densely populated semi-permanent camps located on streambanks. A major difference was their dietary focus on an Appalachian fishery of fish, mussels, snails, turtles, frogs, and other aquatic life. An excellent example of an Archaic site is called Eva in western Tennessee in Benton County. Occupied from 6000BC to 1000BC, Eva had a large midden (a neat word for garbage heap) with freshwater clam shells, bones, and other evidence of aquatic foods. Even so, deer bones represented 90% of mammal remains in the site. So deer hunting still dominated the subsistence pattern of the population. (Finger 1998, 3; Lewis and Kneberg.1958, 21).

Then about 3,000 years ago, the Woodland Phase arrived. People were still hunting and gathering but their hunting technology was vastly improved by the introduction of the bow and arrow. Heretofore, hunters relied exclusively on sharpened stone tipped spears. Settlement continued to become more concentrated on riverbanks with villages springing up. The emergence of a primitive form of agriculture was most significant with the crude cultivation of sunflowers, gourds, and squash. We would have to wait a while for corn or maize to arrive about 900AD and beans came even later. Evidence of this a more

creative culture was the emergence of pottery, the use of ceremonial burial mounds, and a stratified social hierarchy (Finger 1998, 3-4).

Finally, about 900AD the Mississippian Phase replaced the Woodland Phase. Marked by a strong identity and commitment to agriculture based largely on maize (corn), the Mississippian Phase still went about hunting, fishing, gathering along with agriculture based on sunflower, gourds, and squash. But corn was to make a considerable difference. Beans came sometime later but were grown together with corn. Beans literally climbed corn stalks in a somewhat symbiotic way. Settlement continued on the path of villages on riverbanks. Mounds became pyramids. Many sites in the southeastern United States are evidence of the Mississippian Phase namely: Cahokia across the river from St. Louis, Missouri; Moundville, Alabama; Etowah, Georgia; and dozens of sites throughout the lower Mississippi River Valley.

In East Tennessee, Toqua is a Mississippian site on the Little Tennessee River south of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park about 50 miles from Sevierville. Toqua was a small site of 4.8 acres with a population of 250-300 people in 1400AD. It had a palisade that separated the village from outlying agricultural fields. Two mounds formed the core of a settlement that was occupied over a span of several centuries. Unfortunately, the site cannot be seen because TVA's Tellico Dam and reservoir flooded the Little Tennessee River Valley in 1979. However, Dr. Jefferson Chapman's book *Tellico Archaeology* examines the detailed excavations and artifacts found at Toqua and other sites and all archaeological phases of the Little Tennessee Valley (Chapman 1994, 77-86; Finger 1998, 6-7). Additionally, you might visit the Frank H. McClung Museum on the campus of the University of Tennessee in nearby Knoxville to see artifacts from Tellico, Toqua, and other evidence of Native-American culture in their immense exhibit called " Archaeology and the Native Peoples of Tennessee." Incidentally, Dr. Jefferson Chapman is the director of the Frank H. McClung Museum at UT and was one of the archeologists who did the 14-year salvage archaeological research on the Little Tennessee River Valley that flooded and became theTellico Reservoir.

There are two ways to get to the Little Tennessee River Valley, Tellico Reservoir, and the Toqua area. (1) From the English Mountain area, take US 411 and follow it southwesterly through Sevierville, and through Maryville, to Vonore, a distance of about 56 miles. Turn south on TN360 where you can see Fort Loudoun a replica English fort (1756-1760) and just down the road is the museum birthplace of Sequoyah, the famous Cherokee leader. The Sequoyah birthplace museum is operated by the Eastern Band of Cherokees. Both sites are worth a stop here. A little farther south on TN360 is a recreational beach and park called Toqua, the closest you can get to the original site that is now out in the lake and under water. Or (2) Go to Sevierville on US 411, turn left (south) on TN66 to the edge of Pigeon Forge, turn right (west) on US 321 to Wears Cove and through Townsend. Take the Foothills Parkway west, a very scenic road with great vistas at pull-offs, about 16 miles to where it intersects US129. Turn right (north) on US129, then after a few miles turn left onto TN72 and go north to US 411. (If you miss the TN72 left turn, you could keep going north on US129 until it joins US 411 and there turn left.) On US411 go south to Vonore and turn left and south on TN360 to the Ft. Loudoun, Sequoyah Museum, and the Toqua beach area. The second route reminds me of a sports car rally because it is longer, more winding, but more scenic (Rehder 2004, 283-284). Of the four prehistoric phases of aboriginal settlement in Tennessee, the latter three- Archaic, Woodland, and Mississippian- had contact with the vicinity of the Great Smoky Mountains and thus would have had the opportunity to come in contact with the English Mountain locale (Pierce 2000, 2-5).

Closer to home in Sevier County is the McMahan Indian Mound site that is located on the west side of Sevierville on highway TN 66 on the Forks of the River Parkway at River Trail Lane next to Shoneys. A silver information sign marks the location. Here, a Mississippian earth mound built in late Mississippian time circa 1200 to 1500AD, had dimensions of sixteen feet high and 240 feet in circumference. Artifacts from an 1881 excavation of the site are housed in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC. Later excavations at nearby streamside villages along the Little Pigeon River, up to near the forks of the rivers where the Little Pigeon River joins the French Broad River, indicated aboriginal settlement dating from Woodland 200AD to Cherokee (Tennessee Historical Commission 1996,137).

Cherokee Culture

Cherokees and three other tribes constitute the remaining Native American's history of the region. While there were Yuchi, Shawnee, Creek and other hunting parties in the area, one large Indian population stands out- the Cherokee. At the time of European contact, it has been estimated that the Cherokees had about 25,000 people living on 40,000 square miles of land in present-day western North Carolina, eastern Tennessee, northern Georgia, northern South Carolina, and northern Alabama. Cherokee settlements focused on river valleys in three distinct locales: the Lower Towns were along the upper Savannah River in South Carolina; the Middle Towns were in western North Carolina; and the Upper Towns also known as the Overhill Cherokees occupied the Little Tennessee River Valley in eastern Tennessee and western North Carolina (Rehder 2004, p. 62; Hudson 1976; Chapman 1994). Village life was based on agriculture with its maize-beans-squash trilogy of domesticated plants but still with a strong emphasis on hunting, fishing, and gathering for ways of making a living.

Indian trails became exceedingly important in the settlement geography and history of the region. One such trail was the Great Indian War Trail also called the Great Indian War & Trading Trail. The entire trail was a 1,100mile foot trail that went from Alabama to Pennsylvania. From south to north in Tennessee the trail route went from the vicinity of Chattanooga to the Kingsport area and on into Virginia. Locally it arrived here just south of Maryville along Boyd's Creek and went just north of Sevierville. It went northwesterly across Buckingham Island in the French Broad River to Dumplin Creek near today's intersection of I-40 with TN66. From here, the trail went up valley along the lines of what became parts of US 11E west of Dandridge and US 11W around Rogersville and thence to the Kingsport area and beyond. In Sevier, County, a branch of the trail broke off in the vicinity of Boyd's Creek and ran south and southwesterly to Tuckaleechee Cove at Townsend and points west to join the Cherokee villages in the Little Tennessee River Valley. Another branch went directly south through the Great Smoky Mountains through Indian Gap near Newfound Gap to join other Indian trails in western North Carolina. (Jones 1996, 3, 6).

It is difficult to retrace the Great Indian War &Trading Trail along its entirety in Tennessee, but at certain key points along the way contacts and conflicts between Europeans and Cherokees occurred. For example, in Sevier County off TN66 and west on TN338 near the Great Smoky Knife Works, is Boyd's Creek named for Alexander Boyd, a Scotsman and Virginia trader, who was killed by Indians on the trail in 1775. After Boyd was attacked, searchers discovered Boyd's pocket watch shining in the creek that still bears his name. A year later, Colonel William Christian's expedition used the trail and island crossing point on the French Broad River to pursue marauding Cherokees. In 1780, John Sevier broke Cherokee resistance in the same area and the first permanent European settlers began to arrive in 1782-1784 (Tennessee Historical Commission 1996,141; Ramsey [1853] 1926, 87-88,143).

Cherokees dominated the aboriginal population until the 1830s. A federal census in 1835 recorded Cherokee population as follows: 2,528 in Tennessee, 3,644 in North Carolina, 8,946 in Georgia, and 1,424 in Alabama making a total of 16,542 people identified as Cherokee (Rehder 2004, 63. Finger 1984, 16)

Cherokee history after European contact was one marked by numerous skirmishes, heinous massacres from both sides, ill-gotten treaties, a high degree of cultural acculturation with positive traits exchanged between the two cultures, and an infamous form of ethnic cleansing called the Trail of Tears that took place in the late 1830s. In the early 1830s, gold had been discovered in northern Georgia around Dahlonega. By 1835, a treaty was made that called for an official Cherokee Removal. In 1837-1838, thousands of Cherokees were rounded up and forced to March 1,200 miles to Oklahoma. On this, the Trail of Tears, some 4,000 Cherokee men, women, and children died. The Oklahoma Cherokees came to be called the Cherokee Nation. The few Cherokees (about 1,400 people) who escaped to hide out in the mountains and their descendants came to be called the Eastern Band of the Cherokees. Today about 12,000 Cherokee descendants live in the Qualla Boundary, the Cherokee reservation in western North Carolina (Rehder 2004, 63; Finger 1984).

Two nearby areas have strong Cherokee identity with our area. The first and most obvious is the Qualla Boundary, a Cherokee Indian reservation, home of the Eastern Band of Cherokees that is centered on the town of Cherokee, North Carolina. An easy drive through the Great Smoky Mountains National Park over the Great Smoky Mountains on US 441 out of Gatlinburg via Newfound Gap will bring you into another world, a Cherokee one. Although Cherokee, NC has more than its share of expected and odd attractions from souvenir shops to a gambling casino, the true and best Cherokee history can be found in the Oconaluftee Village and Cherokee Museum in town. The other venue for Cherokee history is to go to the Little Tennessee River Valley; see the routes described above for going to the Little Tennessee River Valley, Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, and Toqua area. The Sequoyah Birthplace Museum near Vonore on TN 360 is one of the best places on this the west side of the Smokies to learn about Cherokee history.

Any direct connections between English Mountain and Cherokee or earlier Native American phases of occupation were not great, and some are at best conjecture. We might assume that Native Americans would have passed by and around English Mountain on hunting treks. They may have sought shelter or even occupied some of the caves on the north side of the mountain for some undetermined amount of time. It is said that Forbidden Caverns was once a winter shelter and chert/flint rock acquisition site for Native Americans during the Woodland Phase. Logic would tell us that the summits and steep slopes of English Mountain would not have been choice sites for long-term aboriginal settlement. Native Americans were just too smart for that. While they could have pursued game on hunting parties in the immediate area, any semblance of a permanent or semi-permanent settlement is unlikely. Much like the European agricultural settlers who followed, Native Americans especially the ones with agriculture and permanent villages- those of the Mississippian phase through the Cherokee- sought low valley sites along streambanks.

Early European Exploration

At this point, let's examine the earliest European exploration and their meager development in the region of east Tennessee. Spanish explorers were perhaps the very first Europeans to enter the region. In the spring of 1540, Hernando de Soto and an army of soldiers, having come northward from Florida through

Georgia, entered our area through the Hiwassee River Valley in southeastern Tennessee. De Soto and his men lingered there for a while then went to the Chattanooga vicinity, and then departed for points south and west. In 1566-1567, another Spanish military party led by Juan Pardo came to the region perhaps following the same general route as de Soto (Bergeron, Ash, and Keith 1999, 8)

Early English contact with Southern Appalachia was sparse and inconsistent but for some reason, the story of Abraham Wood, James Needham, and Gabriel Arthur speaks of the tenuous contact with place and aboriginal people. In 1673-1674, the three men were caught up in exploration, trade, and trouble with the Indians. Abraham Wood, a Virginian trader who had explored Virginia with William Byrd in 1668, was now in 1674 at his station in south central Virginia at the falls of the Appomattox River awaiting word on James Needham and Gabriel Arthur. Earlier in the spring, Needham had penetrated the Blue Ridge to become perhaps the first Englishman to enter the lands beyond the mountains (Blue Ridge) to the south and west, to witness the rich valleys and cane breaks, rivers, game and Indian trails, and to return safely to report these things to Abraham Wood. On September 20, 1673, James Needham and Gabriel Arthur, an indentured servant, with eight Indians and four horses embarked on another expedition into the wilderness. Months passed and it appeared to Wood that his men were long overdue. Abraham Wood quizzed very Indian who came to trade at his station about the whereabouts of his men; still no word. Finally, on June 18, 1674 Gabriel Arthur staggered into Wood's station to tell of the murder of James Needham and his own near-death experience at the hands of the Indians. The party had journeyed southwesterly perhaps along the old Catawba Trail to a wide river later named the French Broad. After much quarreling between James Needham and Indian John, an Indian guide on both trips, violence broke out, a hatchet was thrown in anger, a gunshot rang out, and in an instant James Needham lay dead. Indian John proceeded to cut Needham's heart from his body, held it up in the air, and sent word to a nearby Indian village that Gabriel Arthur was to be killed as well. Gabriel Arthur was tied to a stake and canes piled around his feet. But before a fire could be started, the village chief interceded and set Arthur free to return to his master and employer Abraham Wood back in central Virginia. This rare account of very early exploration, observation, contact, conflict, and murder tells us of a region that was at once attractive but rugged, difficult, and downright dangerous (Dykeman [1955] 1973, 27-30; Ramsey [1853] 1926, 45).

English military expeditions later explored and established forts in the Southern Appalachian region as a response to the French and Indian War of 1754 and to further secure claims by Britian. One such fort was Fort Loudoun (1756-1760) located on the Little Tennessee River (then called "Tenassee") at the juncture between the Tellico River and the Tenassee in the midst of villages of the Overhill Cherokees. English colonists and soldiers from South Carolina constructed the fort to protect English territory from the French who threatened to enter the region. At first, the idea of an English fort here was accepted and even invited by the Cherokees. While cautious trading took place, an uneasy atmosphere between the English military presence and the Cherokees led to conflicts and a failure to maintain and hold the fort. On August 8, 1760 the fort's population of 180 soldiers and 60 dependents began a trek toward Fort Prince George in the foothills in South Carolina about a hundred miles away. A short time and distance thereafter, many were killed when 700 Indians attacked the fleeing garrison. (Bergeron, Ash, and Keith 1999,15-18; Kelly 1958). Today, we can visit a replica of Fort Loudon and its museum in Vonore, Tennessee off US411 on TN360 about 15 miles south of Maryville (see directions to Toqua above). Such earliest European contacts could not and did not lead to any kind of permanent settlement for many years thereafter.

EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT

The initial occupance of a place and first effective settlement are concepts that settlement geographers often address. Simply put, the first effective settlement for a region is the one that leads to permanent settlement. While there had been contacts and failed efforts earlier in initial occupations, the first effective settlement became the most important for subsequent settlement layers. So, here we are in a land of unmatched beauty, a land with tall mountains, green trees, flat valleys, choice natural springs, great streams, and good soils. It is a place that European settlers have been searching.

From the perspective of Europeans, there were physical and cultural barriers that slowed the progress of migration. Physical mountain barriers, lands claimed by other Europeans namely the French, and the presence of Native Americans presented the main challenges. A major reason for the slowing of European migration in the period 1674 to 1838 was that the region belonged to Cherokees and other Native Americans. It would be only a matter of time that such Indian-held lands, as it was perceived by the Europeans, would be made available to incoming settlers. Strange how from the European perspective, land was for the taking only if they could get the “Indians” out of the way. Stranger still was the Cherokee approach to land “non-ownership” that meant that people only used land but did not own it. It was a system of usufruct rights that meant that one could gain the right to use the land but not possess it. Perhaps none of this is strange when you think of the atmosphere with the clouds, rain, sunshine and the oxygen we breath as some of earth’s elements used by us, shared by us, but not really owned by us.

The ancestral ethnic patterns of southern Appalachia embraced diverse European culture groups. The dominant ones were Scotch-Irish and Germans who created a major impact on the development of folk landscapes in the region. Eighteenth-century German and Scotch-Irish settlers entered the Appalachian region from two ports of entry: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Charleston, South Carolina. Philadelphia was not only the earlier port of entry but was also the more important one funneling thousands of immigrants towards the west, then south to follow the southwesterly trend of the Ridge and Valley Province along the Great Valley. Traveling on a track called the Great Philadelphia Wagon Road (also know as The Great wagon Road) from southeastern Pennsylvania to Roanoke, Virginia, settlers slowly made their way southward. This old route way later became US highway 11 and more recently parts of it are now covered by interstate highway I-81. At Roanoke, the route divided, and an eastern branch took them to the North Carolina Piedmont area around Salem, thence to Salisbury and points southward all the way to Augusta, Georgia. From Roanoke, the western branch called The Wilderness Road took settlers to northeastern Tennessee and thence to Cumberland Gap where between 1775 and 1810 some 300,000 people passed through this most important gateway to the west (Rehder 2004, 64-71).

Other immigrants from the British Isles chiefly the English, Welsh, Irish, and Scots entered Appalachia at various times and in relatively small numbers. The English, however, played a decisive role in initiating, occupying, and developing the English Tidewater coastal region between southeastern Virginia and southeastern Georgia. However, the English Tidewater became a narrow coastal cultural region whose early focus was not towards the western frontier and interior but rather faced the Atlantic towards Britain. Eventually an upcountry British presence developed as eastern seaboard lands were taken up and as interior lands became available. Small but not insignificant groups such as the Melungeons, Native American Cherokees, and African Americans working at quite different temporal and spatial scales were making their presence felt in an Appalachia. These and many others have created an Appalachian place that is far more culturally diverse than anyone ever expected (Rehder 1992, 99; Kennedy 1997).

SETTLEMENT IN SEVIER COUNTY 1782-1865

While Europeans were rapidly settling Upper East Tennessee in the Watauga settlements after 1770, the area around Sevier County and the French Broad River were not even beginning to be settled until a decade later. European occupance of Sevier County area began in about 1782. The direction of settlement came from the French Broad River and proceeded from west to east and from north to south in the Ridge and Valley Province. Between 1782 and 1785, a few frontier settlers began to settle in the northern and western parts of Sevier County. Settlers such as Hugh Henry, Joshua Gist, James Hubbert, and Benjamin Gist first located on the north side of the French Broad River and the Great Indian War & Trading Trail around the Dumplin Creek area (near where I-40 and TN66 intersect at exit 407). An almost magical spot was a crossing point where the Great Indian War & Trading Trail crossed over an island in the French Broad River. The island site was absolutely essential as one of the few places where the river was shallow enough to cross. And as such, it created a focus point where travelers would congregate and a few would settle there. Places like Wears Fort (circa 1781), Henry's Station (circa 1782), Gists Fort (1782), were established in the vicinity. By 1783, other settlers began to move into the Boyd's Creek area and up the Little Pigeon River Valley in the direction toward the Great Smoky Mountains. They entered the region much like you or I did only we came here via highways I-40 and TN 66.

On May 31, 1785, at Hugh Henry's Station (c.1782) near the mouth of Dumplin Creek, on the north bank of the French Broad River, a treaty was signed between John Sevier representing European settlers in the State of Franklin and the Chief Ancoo representing the Cherokees. This important treaty, called the Treaty of Dumplin Creek, opened lands south of the French Broad and Holston Rivers to a much greater thrust of European settlers (Tennessee Historical Commission 1996, 136; Ramsey [1853] 1926, 274, 299). Arthur Bohanan, president of the Hugh Henry Foundation, has been investigating a site thought to be Hugh Henry's Station. Long-range plans have been to build a replica of the station, a fortified log farmstead, on the 18-acre site near Kodak.

Wilma Dykeman, award winning author of many fine books such as *The French Broad* 1955; *The Tall Woman* 1962, *Explorations* 1984, longtime resident of Newport, Tennessee, and friend writing about the French Broad River said about it: "A strange and beautiful river, this one the hunters found and settlers peopled and travelers described, but few knew intimately…To the treaty makers, part of its course served as a natural dividing line between lands owned by the Cherokees and whites. For the soldiers of both peoples, white settlers and red owners, the one seeking to have and the other to hold this land, the river was a campsite and a route on the way to bring death to their enemy." (Dykeman [1955] 1973, 16)

Now that new lands were available after the Dumplin Creek Treaty of 1785, a flood of Europeans began to settle in the territory that came to be called the lands "South of the French Broad." Following the general direction of present-day TN66, the highway that connects Sevierville with I-40, the early settlers came southwest along Boyd's creek and south along the Little Pigeon River to the site that was to become Sevierville. Forts were built at Newell's and McGaughey's stations. Other stations in this the northern part of the county that focused on the French Broad River, Dumplin Creek, Boyd's Creek and the Little Pigeon River, included Wear's Fort (ca. 1781); Henry's Station (1782), Gists Fort (1782), Lawson's Fort (1795). Settlement expanded southward to forts and stations such as Willson's Fort (1783), Shield's Fort (1786). In the center of the county, Isaac Thomas' Fort (1783) was located in what would become the town of Sevierville. Isaac Thomas (1735-1819), a Virginian who had been an Indian trader, built a station here that served as a dwelling, trading post, tavern, inn, and fort. He also built and ran a mill on

the nearby stream. Other old settler names associated with the beginnings of the county and focused at the Sevierville site were Spencer Clack and James McMahan, both from Virginia (Jones1996, 14-15; Ramsey1853 [1926,369).

Of special interest is Derrick's Fort, an initial German settlement that emerged on the north side of English Mountain. By about 1787, German settlers began to move into the limestone valley area on the north side of English Mountain where they established a place later known as "The Old Dutch Settlement." The term "Dutch" was a corruption of the word "Deutsch" meaning "German." It was a confusing misnomer then and people in East Tennessee today still make this mistaken identity. The Fox Cemetery on US 411 just west of Bird Crossroad has perhaps the oldest grave marker in Sevier County is the one for settler Mark Fox, who was killed by Cherokees in 1787. By 1790, settlers were pouring into the coves that came to be called Jones Cove, named for Stephen Jones and Richardson Cove named for William Richardson (1746-1835). Jones Cove, which is on the way to the Preserve at English Mountain, was named for Stephen Jones, an early settler who was killed by Cherokees on June 25, 1794 (Jones1996,15).

The first census taken in 1791 for the lands "South of the French Broad" and yet to be divided into counties, had a total population of 3,619 of which 163 were slaves. The white population in 1791 was: 681 males who were 21 years old or older; 1,082 males under 21 years of age; and 1,627 females of all ages. There were 66 other persons for whom age, gender, or racial identity data were not indicated. Sevier County became an official county on September 27, 1794. Even so, this was still two years before Tennessee became a state! By the time of statehood in 1796, Sevier County's population was 3,573 of which 129 were slaves (Bergeron, Ash, and Keith 1999, 60; Jones 1996, 16).
By 1795, the census showed a total of 3,578 people in Sevier County and 7,840 in Jefferson County. Sevier County had 628 free white males above the age of sixteen, 1,045 free white males under sixteen, 1,503 free white females, 129 slaves, and 273 listed as "all other free persons." Jefferson County at the time was much larger than it is today and out of its 7,840 total population had the following: 1,706 free white males over sixteen, 2,225 free white males under sixteen, 3,021 free white females, 776 slaves, and 112 other free persons (Ramsey 1853 [1926, 648).

By 1800, Sevier County was well on its way to being settled by numerous European folk and descendants from Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina even though the threat of attacks on and from Cherokees were to continue for years thereafter. The population was 3,419 with 162 slaves. Industrious folk were being recognized so that by 1810, there were 849 looms in the county, more than any other place in Tennessee. Other local industries in 1810 included tanners, saddle makers, hatters and whisky distillers who made the sixth highest production of liquor in the state. In 1816, Isaac Love bought a mill and 151 acre farm from the heirs of Mordeicah Lewis in what was to become Pigeon Forge and in 1817, Mr. Love built a bloomery for making iron hence the name Pigeon Forge, (Jones 1996, 16-18).

We often find identity with our jobs and occupations. We may have a better glimpse of the non-farm activities of persons in the county who were engaged in manufacturing in 1820. There were forty legitimate whiskey makers, five sawyers, two wagon makers, two wheelwrights, one iron maker (Isaac Love), and six millers (U.S. Census of Manufacturers. www.
Sevierlibrary.org/genealogy/Census/1820manu.html). Sevier County's population in 1820 was 4,722 people and nearby Cocke County had 4,892 people. Census takers recorded 382 slaves in Sevier County in 1830. The two largest slave owners were John Sharp with 24 slaves and John Brabson with 16 slaves on farms in the Boyd's Creek and French Broad River valleys. This only supports the

understanding that Appalachia farmers were mostly subsistence farmers with few if any slaves. Moreover, Appalachian agriculture was almost entirely based on small farms but not plantations when compared to the plantation economies in the Deep South. (Rehder 1999, 54, 99; Rehder 2004, 63). By 1833, the small town of Sevierville had about 150 people of which there were: four lawyers, two physicians, one clergyman, two carpenters, a cabinet maker, two brick layers, a hatter, a shoemaker, two tailors, a saddler, and a tanner. (Jones 1996, 19-21).

In adjacent Cocke County in 1820, eleven men had small manufacturing concerns. Adam Blazer, Joseph Headrick, and William Kirby were iron mongers making farm tools and wagons. Leather makers were Jakob Boyers, James Cochrum, and John Cockran. Three wood workers, James Swaggerty, Anthony Menick, and George Murphy made saddle trees and wagons. William Maples and William Marrill were hatters (U.S. Census of Manufacturers. 1820. Cocke County, Tennessee). It is interesting that no one was listed as a distiller or whiskey maker in 1820 even though in later years, Cocke County would become the number one county in the state for making moonshine. Perhaps they were already hard at work making whiskey illegally and thus did not disclose the activity to census takers in 1820.

In the 1830s and 1840s, more of East Tennessee's lands once occupied by the Cherokees became open for expanded European settlement. The dreadful ethnic cleansing from the Trail of Tears in 1837-1838 took care of much of that. As lands opened up, settlers moved south and east towards the Chattanooga vicinity. Moreover, Tennessee's farmers were discovering soil depletion so a number of folk began to look west and migrate to Illinois, Arkansas, the Missouri Ozarks, and other places in the west.

The tally of the 1850 census showed that out of 1,071 households, there were 6,536 people, all assumed to be white. In terms of age diversity: one person was 100+ years old, 507 were 50 years old or older, and 265 were infants under a year old. Everyone else was somewhere in between. In 1850, Sevier County had 17 free blacks and 52 mulattos. One might note that the slave population in between 1795 and 1850 was changing considerably over the decades: in 1795 there were 129 slaves, in 1800 there were 162 slaves, in 1830 there were 382 slaves, in 1840 there were 403 slaves, and in 1850 there were 538 slaves (Jones 1996, 16-27). In the post Civil War period, more blacks arrived, and southern and eastern Europeans came to the coal fields to work as miners over on the Cumberland Plateau about a hundred miles to the northwest of here.

In 1850 Sevier County's people were doing various jobs aside from the dominant one of farmer: There were two teachers, six physicians; nineteen blacksmiths, eight carpenters, six wagon makers, two shoemakers, one chain maker, five cabinet makers, seven merchants, and thirty-one adults who listed "none" for their occupation. One 45-year-old fellow listed his job as "sitting"; some of us can relate to that one (U.S. Census1850. Manuscript Census for Sevier County, TN. ftp://ftp.us-census.org/pub/usgenweb/census).

The 1860 census of manufacturing indicated a decline for Sevier County. Only nineteen businesses were engaged in industry and manufacturing. Among them were four sawmills, five grist mills, two tanners, a cabinet maker, and one bloomery/forge which was located in Pigeon Forge and operated by John Sevier Trotter who had bought it in 1849(Jones 1996, 29-30).

The Civil War in the 1860s would become a major issue for much of the South but to a lesser degree for Southern Appalachia. Tennessee was a state in limbo; it was the last state to secede from the Union and

the first to join it after the Civil War. Sevier County was representative of most surrounding counties in that East Tennessee and especially Upper East Tennessee that sided with the Union. The general explanation was based on the slavery issue. While there were small numbers of slaves in eastern Tennessee, farms continued to be small, a plantation economy never materialized, and the region was one that could live with or without slavery. The "peculiar institution" of slavery on which the Deep South so depended was a labor source that eastern Tennessee could function without. Moreover, East Tennesseans did not uniformly side with the North because some people were suspicious of northern outsiders, abolitionists, and fears following the aftermath of John Browns' raid on the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. The site was up valley in the Ridge and Valley Province where the Shenandoah River joins the Potomac; not really nearby but close enough that news of it probably set some people on edge. The Civil War not only divided the nation but also divided families. It is true that some sons joined the Union army while other sons joined the Confederate forces. In the otherwise Democratic South in the 1950s, the "Union" legacy continued so that in 1952 eighty-seven percent of Sevier County voted Republican (Dykeman [1955] 1973, 78).

Oral histories about English Mountain speak of the mountain as a Civil War hiding place for draft-age boys from Sevier, Cocke and Jefferson counties. A favorite hangout was called the "marble yard" where the boys wiled away their time playing marbles and avoiding the military draft. The marble yard site was located on the tract that once belonged to J. B. Waters; today, the tract is primary part of the Preserve at English Mountain (Berry 2005). Other stories speak of soldiers seeking refuge in caves on the north side of the mountain when enemy troops were in the area. Confusion must have reigned supreme about "Who was the enemy- Union forces or Confederate troops, Yankees, Rebels, or Brothers?"

On January 27, 1864 an area at the southwest end of English Mountain was involved in a military battle called the Battle of Fair Garden. Brigadier General Samuel D. Sturgis of the Union Army had deployed troops to watch stream crossings, fords, and bridges in the French Broad River vicinity in the northern part Sevier County. At the same time, two Confederate cavalry brigades were heading south from Fair Garden to Sevierville. On January 27, in heavy fog, Colonel Edward McCook's Union forces attacked Major General William Martin's Confederates along the old Newport Road at the site of Dr. Robert H. Hodsen's home and estate. Casualties at the day-long battle of Fair Garden were estimated to be about100 Federal troops and 165 Confederates. It was the only Civil War battle fought in Sevier County. Except for the Battle of Fair Garden, the Civil War and its connection with English Mountain was minimal. (Jones 1996, 37-39; Civil War Sites Advisory Commission 1993, 134-135).

In the post-Civil War years and until about 1900, Sevier County was isolated. It had no railroads, no highways, few large farms, no major industries, and little else to encourage transportation or economic development. About all it had going for it was widespread long-term subsistence agriculture and a transitory logging industry in the region. In 1900, there were only 24 farms with acreages of more than 500 acres each and almost all of them were located in the French River Valley and lower adjacent tributary valleys (Smoky Mountain Historical Society 1989, 2). The primary urban market for buying and selling goods was Knoxville, located miles and almost light years away. The establishment of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in 1934 opened the county to future unprecedented growth that was to evolve especially after the 1950s into the amazing pattern of tourism that we see today.

Smoky Mountain tourism did not happen overnight. The Great Depression and World War Two had unconstructive impacts on the immediate growth of tourism. However, after World War Two, especially in

the 1950s, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park became a magnet that attracted scores of tourist visitors to the Park. In 1960 about two million visits were recorded for those entering the GSMNP and by 1977 the number of visits had grown to over eight million (Campbell [1960] 1998, xii). In 2005, Park visits were estimated to be 9.19 million people, a slight increase over 2004 (Simmons 2006, A1).

One-time sleepy Sevier settlements became at first service centers and later tourist destinations in the subsequent decades. I have personally witnessed the pattern of this development starting with Gatlinburg in the 1950s as THE gateway town to the GSMNP on the Tennessee side. Gatlinburg became the hotel and motel accommodations center with restaurants and shops reminiscent of a Swiss alpine village. In some ways, it retains that same charm today. However, Gatlinburg was limited by Park boundaries so tourism's growth in accommodations proceeded north into Pigeon Forge in the 1970s and 1980s. As Pigeon Forge filled with motels, restaurants, discount factory shopping malls, and myriad amusement attractions in the 1980s to 2000 plus, the growth pattern proceeded into and beyond Sevierville. Today's growth pattern takes us all the way up highway TN 66 to the intersection with Interstate 40 exit at mile marker 407 where the Bass Pro Shop Complex and the Smoky Baseball Stadium anchor the busy interchange. In spite of the tremendous tourism growth in the county, there are still many parts that remain rural and quite out of the way. I like it that way.

Ethnicity

The culture history of any place reflects an ethnic pattern of settlers and settlement. For the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the German element in Appalachian culture so often is understated. German surnames abound throughout the region and are well represented in the English Mountain vicinity. Throughout the region's vernacular, the word Dutch was often used when the proper term "Deutsch" meaning German should have been used instead. You will see places called Dutchtown, Dutch Valley, or Dutch Bottoms or the like. In nearby Cocke County near Newport on the north bank of the French Broad River, a colony of Pennsylvania Germans settled there in 1789; the place became known as Dutch Bottoms. Some of the family names here were Ottinger, Huff, and Boyer.

In 1787, on the north side of English Mountain, a settlement there called "The Old Dutch Settlement" emerged but was actually a German settlement. It was located in Bird Crossroads at Fox cemetery and associated with Derrick Fort all near US441 and Blowing Cave Road. A Lutheran church was said to have been located near the Fox cemetery. Early settlers were Jacob Derrick, Jacob Bird, James Baker and Adam Fox. In 1787, settler Mark Fox was killed by Indians near Muddy Creek (Tennessee Historical Commission 1996,147). In the vicinity of Derrick Road near Blowing Cave Road are German names such Layman (Lehmann) and Shrader (Schrader) that date to the 1850s. (U.S. Census1850. Manuscript Census for Sevier County, TN. ftp://ftp.us-census.org/pub/usgenweb/census). Derrick is a much older name dating from the late 1780s. In the 1940s, a man named Bruff Derrick, a descendant of the original Derricks was considered an old timer in the area. The Derrick Road area is located north-northwest of The Preserve and can be seen in a view from the ridge top on English Mountain.

On the northeast end of Sevier County near Pittman Center is Emert Cove, a site selected by early German settlers such as Federick Emert and Martin Schlutz. (Goodspeed [1887] 1972, 835). The settlement is just west of Pittman Center on US 321. The area around Rocky Flats off US 321 and just south and east of Jones Cove, is marked by Shults Grove Church and is likely another early German site. The Shults-Williams farmstead built about the turn of the twentieth century by George Shults (1848-1915) represents a late 19th-century complex of log structures including the main house, barn, smokehouse,

springhouse and other structures. (Works Projects Administration. [1939] 1986, 431; Goodspeed [1887] 1972, 864).

In spite of their European roots, however, settler families were not recent immigrants but rather were from Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. An extremely prominent name in Sevier County is Ogle while it appears to be German, the Ogles were English settlers originally named Oglesby from South Carolina. The Ogles and their offspring have been among the few families with deep histories and extensive land and real estate interests. It is not my purpose to grow a family tree here, but it is safe to say that the Ogle name is the single best-known one in the county. The telephone book lists 352 Ogles in Sevier County alone! Among them are the Ogles who once had Ogle's Water Park; the site has since been turned into a shopping complex. An early Ogle was Noah "Bud" Ogle who with his wife Cindy established a subsistence farm of 400 acres in 1879 in what is now the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Located at the foot of Mount LeConte on Airport Road/Cherokee Orchard Road (turn at traffic light #8 in Gatlinburg), the Bud Ogle place is a restored saddlebag log house and a four crib log barn with original chestnut logs and represents one of the very best historic restorations of log structures in the GSMNP. Others with English ancestry in the area were Clabo (Clabaugh, Clabough), Onsby (Owensby), Oakley, King, Watson, Newman, Bales, Franklin, Whaley.

Any name with "Mac" or "Mc" has the potential of either being Scot or Scotch-Irish. The McMahans have been in Sevier County since 1800 or earlier. They appeared in the 1840 census prominently on eight pages of the manuscript census. The current telephone book lists 79 McMahans for Sevier County. The McCarters and Kears also had Scottish origins. Families with Scotch-Irish and Irish identities were Reagan (since 1802 from Virginia), Maples, and Bohannon (Greve [1931] 2003, 3-23).

HISTORIC SETTLEMENT AT ENGLISH MOUNTAIN

It was not my intent to write a complete formal chronology of Sevier County, or of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, or of east Tennessee although I have given you several insights into these places. In the English Mountain area are specific family names that are attached to the landscape. Former landowner's names associated with The Preserve are John B. Waters and the Meek Williams' (1878-1960) family. The Appalachian region is rich in the presence of family cemeteries; Sevier County alone has seventy. In the English Mountain vicinity, Cocke County has sixteen cemeteries, Jefferson County has one, and Sevier County has about eight cemeteries three of which are close the Preserve. Each indicates something about the local history. For example, the Thomas Cemetery with 190 graves is located at Williams Hollow Road, just off Wilhite Road on the west end about 1/3 mile from the Jones Cove Road intersection. Here the oldest grave marker is for Nancy Anne Williams (1782-1866). Family names here are Ball with 8 graves, Hurst with 48 graves, Loveday with 7, Webb with 13, and Williams with 22 graves. Other old gravesites are for Ausbon Ball (1842-1910), Elvin Hurst (1850-1932) the man for whom Elvin Branch and Elvin Branch Road is named, James Loveday (1860-1959), Reverend William Thomas (1838-1924), and Joseph Webb (1818-1864). Other family names represented here are Breeden probably for whom Breeden Branch Road is named; Spurgeon probably for whom Spurgeon Hollow Road is named; and Mize, Oakley and Wheeler.
(http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/tn/sevier/cemeteries/thomas.txt).

A little farther east on Wilhite Road and just east of Elvin Branch Road is the Williams Cemetery. Naturally, the Williams families are well represented with 33 graves of the 129 graves there. Other families are Harrell with 24 graves, Henry and Rolen with 11 each, and the Jenkins and Sutton families

with 7 each. The oldest graves based on year of birth are: Eli Williams (1825-1902) probably for whom the cemetery is named; Rhoda Williams (1849-1907) who was wife of Eli; Dicey Jones (1830-1902), John Large (1830-1911), Millie Eslinger (1847-1927), Carroll Williams (1849-1919); and William Henry (1857-1896). (http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/tn/sevier/cemeteries/williams.txt.

Historic Land Use on English Mountain 1870-1973

In the following section we will make a circumnavigation around English Mountain in a history of landuses and settlement features. From mineral spring spas and resorts to church camps to settlement schools to the German-settled "Old Dutch Settlement" and caverns on the north side of the mountain, we will examine how the mountain was used. In the period 1870-1920, throughout the southern United States and especially in parts of Appalachia, spas, mineral springs, and summer resorts of many kinds began to appear. Sevier County could boast of three such resorts: Glen Alpine on English Mountain, the Seaton Springs Inn (very much in operation) at the base of Shields Mountain, and the Henderson Springs Hotel (circa 1830) near Pigeon Forge.

The one that should interest us most is the Glen Alpine resort that was located on the south slope of English Mountain on the east side of the Preserve. Glen Alpine was built sometime in the 1880s on English Mountain in the vicinity of the junction between the Sevier, Cocke and Jefferson County lines. It was located near the Pinnacle and in the streamside vicinity of Lin Creek. Glen Alpine had a fifty-six-room hotel, about fifty small cottages, an outdoor pavilion, croquet courts, and horseback trails. Its claim to fame, however, was its mineral spring waters known as the Yellow Springs. The seven springs at Yellow Springs were located about 200 yards apart and it was said that no two had the same mineral and chemical content; among them were chalybeate springs and sulphur springs. The hotel was located under a steep trail that led to the Pinnacle. In 1948, local resident F. Elwyn Latta remembered: The"GLEN ALPINE HOTEL site was set like a drop left in a cup in a high bowl, set among mountains towering above on all sides except to the south where a wild tangle of cuts and valleys runs down towards Jones Cove in the Wilhite (Wilhoit) region." In 1902, the hotel burned to the ground, but cottage owners and other folks continued to visit the springs for many years thereafter. (Jones 1996*,* 50; Patton 1948). Latta's 1948 eyewitness description of the Glen Alpine- Yellow Springs part of English Mountain revealed "Nothing remains to be seen now but a dilapidated corner of one of the ancient buildings." Even so, the site "… furnished vistas from which some of the finest scenery may be observed." (Patton 1948).

In the early 1970s, a development called "English Mountain Resort Community" re-established existing roads, built new ones, laid out 836 lots, and set the area into a struggling high-density recreational resort development. The property report boasted of many real and planned activity centers: horseback riding, swimming, a teen center, a kiddie park, bingo, movies, hiking trails, and a bar called the "IT Lounge" located above the laundromat. Recreational activities also included: tennis, basketball, shuffleboard, croquet, badminton, tetherball, volleyball, water polo, pingpong, and mountain golf (miniature golf). The only facilities owned by the developer were the country store, snack bar, picnic tables, and charcoal grills. All other amenity centers were operated by the English Mountain Country Club, Incorporated and as such required membership fees and dues from property owners. The development also had long-term plans for a100 acre fishing lake, a golf course, and a ski run and lodge (Property Report for English Mountain Resort Community, August 10, 1972). The company, however, seemed to be more interested in selling lots than developing the site. A few years afterward, the English Mountain Resort Community development went out of business.

In September 2005, I explored the Glen Alpine area expecting to find another “lost resort” but found an astonishing number of cottages, mountain chalets, condos and the like along the main road called Alpine Drive. Entering from the south, the two-lane paved road climbs English Mountain in a steep but easy-to-drive condition and reaches a village complex in a natural amphitheatre near the top of English Mountain. Obviously, this is the center of what was once the English Mountain Resort Community, but it is not called that anymore. Here they have a store, a pool and pool house, miniature golf, tennis courts, a condominium complex, and the English Mountain Restaurant (it was closed on the Monday that I checked on it).

Alpine Drive surprisingly continues through more residential areas where new cottages are springing up and then the road crosses the top of the mountain. Have someone else in the car watch for *adrête* and *ubac* conditions here as the road descends extremely steeply down the north slope of English Mountain. Put your car in LOW gear and hang on! The road drops down to the Blowing Cave Road intersection and here it is best to go straight ahead. If you wish to explore this cavernous north side of the mountain, the most obvious landmarks are Blowing Cave Road and Forbidden Caverns. The latter is a commercially prepared cave that has an interesting history. Between the 1920s and 1943, the caverns were used by moonshiners to make illegal whiskey. In 1964 the site was purchased and in June1967, “Forbidden Caverns” was opened to the public. To get here from Sevierville, take US411 ten miles east, watch for huge signs along the way and turn right (south) on Blowing Cave Road. But coming from Glen Alpine as we are doing here, the Forbidden Caverns complex is on Blowing Cave Road north of the intersection with Derrick Road/McCoig Road. Beyond Forbidden Caverns, you pass the Blowing Cave Mill that was built in 1880 at Bird’s Crossroads by the Early brothers (Jones 1996, 52). Continuing north straight past the mill, you come to the intersection with US 411 and a careful left turn will take you back to the intersection for Jones Cove at TN339 at the BP (once Citgo) station landmark, or if you want, you could continue on US 411into Sevierville for supper.

Near the east end of English Mountain in Cocke County is Carson Springs. Established in the nineteenth century, the Carson Springs Resort was another summer spa based on mineral waters. It, too, had croquet and tennis courts (Works Projects Administration [1939] 1986, 432). The Peterson Hotel and adjacent apple orchards were the focus of Carson Springs for many years until the site became a church retreat and church camp complex.

Perhaps the most fascinating aspect of Carson Springs in the late twentieth-century has been its identity with a small church there that has had snake-handling services in it. In 1973, two church leaders Jimmy Williams and Buford Pack died of strychnine poisoning at the Carson Springs Church of God in Jesus Name. They were participating in unusual religious rituals in Southern Appalachia that include handling poisonous snakes and /or consuming poisons to verify that given enough faith, a person’s life will be spared and he or she can survive from such dangerous acts. Since 1936, more than seventy people have died from snakebite in snake–handling ritual services in a few rural churches in Southern Appalachia (Rehder 2004, 233-235, Brown and McDonald 2000; Burton 1993).

Moonshine: White Lightning, Mountain Dew, Rotgut, Redeye, PopSkull…

Cocke County has been infamous for being the sure “Capital of Moonshine” of East Tennessee if not all of Tennessee for decades. In the 1950s, Cocke County (the next county east of here) and Marion County located just west of Chattanooga were the two major moonshine producers in Tennessee. Although county figures are unknown, in 1954-55, “In one week in East Tennessee, agents seized 25,000 gallons

of the state's 32,000-gallon total. In April 1955 agents destroyed ninety-four stills in East Tennessee; in one day they bagged twenty-three." (Rehder 2004,196-197). Incidentally, on this the south side of English Mountain where the Preserve's entrance and main road are located is a valley and creek named "Stillhouse Creek", sufficient evidence of one-time likker making here. Wilma Dykeman, famed author and friend, described an odd situation that occurred on English Mountain near the Pinnacle where the three counties of Sevier, Cocke, and Jefferson converge. Local and Federal officers were aware of some moonshine activity around English Mountain. "The only trouble was that the local officers said they were not just sure which county the [whiskey] still was in…on this certain night, the Federal officers went up the mountain to stage a raid on the still, and they did not follow the customary procedure of informing the local sheriff and his deputies as to their plans. They hid themselves behind strategic trees, bushes, and rocks surrounding the still site. With the first faint gray light they saw movement in the woods…The Federals shouted to their prisoners to drop their guns and raise their hands. When they dropped to the ground instead and started firing, the Federals let them have it… Somewhere in the nearby woods a third group of men were listening in frozen amazement to the exchange. The moonshiners doubtless wondered who could have been ambushed at their still. For the [Federal] ATU agents had only succeeded in killing one and capturing four officers of Jefferson County who had also come on a secret raid that same morning…the moonshiners felt the millennium had arrived with the two agencies of justice shooting it out between themselves…" (Dykeman [1955] 1973, 246).

Settlement Schools

In the first quarter of the twentieth century Southern Appalachia became a major mission field for philanthropic interests. Perceived as an educationally backward region, Appalachia's negative image was in part conceived by those who viewed it through their own personal cultural lenses from afar. Rather than ignore it or even pity it, some well meaning people thought that the region could be helped through the establishment of settlement schools, mission schools, and craft centers. In my book *Appalachian Folkways*, I list almost thirty crafting schools and guilds dating between1893 and 1928. Two such crafting schools were established in Sevier County: Pi Beta Phi Settlement School in 1912 in Gatlinburg that continues operating as the Arrowmont craft school today for people of all ages and the Pittman Community Center established at Pittman Center at the intersection of US 321 and TN416 east of Richardson Cove. The first mission school in Sevier County was initiated in 1900 and was called the Juniper School. Established by the Presbyterian Church's Women's Board of Missions, Juniper School was located in the Wilhite Community on the southern side of English Mountain near the Cocke County line. A settlement school on English Mountain was called the Sunset Gap Mission School and was established in 1924. (Rehder 2004, 275-276; Jones, 83; 100; Becker 1998; Eaton [1937] 1973). The old school building remains in remarkably good condition and is still used for education where it is a private school.

"The Old Dutch Settlement" was German

We are on the north side of English Mountain, an area that was settled quite early in 1787 by German settlers. The settlement came to be called "The Old Dutch Settlement" because local people confused the term "Dutch with the proper term "Deutsch" meaning German. The community was located around Bird Crossroads at Fox cemetery and was associated with the original Derrick Fort. A Lutheran church was said to have been located near the Fox cemetery. German settlers' names were Jacob Bird, Jacob Derrick, and Adam Fox. In 1787, settler Mark Fox was killed by Indians near Muddy Creek and his grave is located in the Fox Cemetery on US 411 and Blowing Cave Road near Bird Crossroads. (Tennessee

Historical Commission 1996, 147). In 1948, local resident, F. Elwyn Latta said of the culture here: “Bruff Derrick, of old Dutch [Deutsch for German] stock, also lives right where the road starts up the mountain in Sevier County. Bruff himself is from the ‘original settlement’ stock and can tell stories of that region” (Patton 1948). Today, Derrick Road is located north-northwest of The Preserve and this vicinity can be seen from the ridge top of English Mountain.

Cultural Landscape Features

Whenever you are out and about, be looking for old farms, houses, barns, fences, fields, woodlands and other evidence of rural farm life. One such site is the Meek Williams Place, an old abandoned farm on part of The Preserve at English Mountain. Be sure to look for country churches as there are some very good ones on Jones Cove Road and Wilhite Road. The Harrisburg covered bridge is an excellent restoration of an 1875 truss-covered bridge; some of the timbers are from the original bridge. On the way in from Sevierville look for the Harrisburg sign and turn off TN339 about a mile south of the junction with US411. On the northeast side of the mountain on US 321 near the Bush Brothers Cannery at Chestnut Hill is the English Mountain Spring Water Company, a commercial water bottling operation. The water here is good, tasty, and available in stores. There are several good historic mills: Blowing Cave Mill on the north side of the mountain, the mill on Old Mill Ave in the “downtown center” of Pigeon Forge, the Cable Mill in Cades Cove and the Mingus Mill on the North Carolina side of the Smokies near Cherokee; the latter two are in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. There are these and other good things to see that have an historical fascination about them within the sphere of English Mountain.

Finale

Whew! We seem to have reached trails end here. I’m certain that we could have explored other venues, other times, other people (such as Dolly Parton from Locust Ridge near Richardson Cove Road), and a whole lot of other things. Perhaps it is best not to tell you too much right now. Rather, you might want to discover more of the natural and cultural history of English Mountain and its environs on your own. Armed with a good road map and a soul full of curiosity, I am sure you can. And for those who simply want to stop, view the mountains, and rest comfortably in one spot, there can be no better place to do that than on English Mountain.