

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name (former) Linville Falls Tavern
other names/site number Linville Falls Restaurant, Gift Shop, Service Station and Store, The Franklin House Restaurant, Rock House Restaurant

2. Location

street & number 25 Rock House Lane n/a not for publication
city or town Linville Falls, n/a vicinity
state North Carolina code NC county McDowell, Avery, Burke 011,023,111
zip code 28647

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jeffrey Crow SHPO 10/31/00
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

n/a

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

~~COMMERCE: Restaurant~~

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE: Restaurant

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Rustic Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls stone

wood

roof asphalt

other cedar shake

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

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

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- ~~Social History~~
- ~~Architecture~~
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Period of Significance

1936 - 1950 _____

Significant Dates

1936 _____

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a _____

Cultural Affiliation

n/a _____

Architect/Builder

Franklin, Lenoir: stone mason _____

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

(former) Linville Falls Tavern
Name of Property

McDowell, Avery, Burke Counties, North
County and State
Carolina

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	17	4114960	39796100
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2			

3			
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Helen Cain; Nancy Van Dolsen, North Carolina Historic Preservation Office

organization _____ date January 7, 2000; Sept. 25, 2000

street & number 1146 Lyncrest Avenue; 515 Blount St. telephone 601-355-8230; 919-733-6545

city or town Jackson; Raleigh state MS; NC zip code 39202; 27699

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Mrs. Louise Henson and Ms. Shirley Jennings

street & number P. O. Box 1 telephone 828-733-4237

city or town Crossnore state NC zip code 28616

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet(Former) Linville Falls Tavern
Avery, Burke, and McDowell Counties, NCSection number 7 Page 1

Setting

The (former) Linville Falls Tavern located at the junction of three North Carolina counties--Avery, Burke and McDowell--is an excellent example of the Rustic Revival style used in a commercial building. Built in 1936 for C. J. Howell, it was constructed by Lenoir Franklin, Avery County's celebrated stonemason. At the elevation of 3350 feet, the one-and-one-half story native stone building faces southeast and is located at the intersection where NC 183 terminates at US 221. Entering Linville Falls community from the southeast on NC 183, one sees on the right several houses, the rustic stone 1940 Post Office, and a Citgo station; on the left are several houses, a small red board-and-batten community church, the Linville Falls Lodge, and Spears B-B-Q. Facing US 221 is the (former) Linville Falls Tavern. Parking spaces surround the (former) Linville Falls Tavern on all sides. The southwest lot is separated from the restaurant by Rock House Lane which leads to the houses on the bluff behind the restaurant. Window boxes with seasonal flowers are the only plantings.

Description

The (former) Linville Falls Tavern is a one-and-one-half story building dominated by a hip roof, which is pierced by a wide, gabled dormer on the façade. The centrally placed dormer was built as part of the original building in 1936. The structure is constructed of one-foot-thick walls of native stone collected during the building of U. S. 221 up the mountain from Marion to Linville. The exterior walls were hand-laid by local stone mason Lenoir Franklin and his crew, which included members of his family. The entire structure sits on a continuous rock foundation, also of native stone.

The building retains its original exterior architectural details, including two stone chimneys, large dormer, eight-bay façade, and six-over-six double-hung window sash. The eight bay façade is divided into three bays north of the main entrance and three bays and a second entrance south of the main entrance. The secondary entrance previously served the meat market/store/service station portion of the building. Except for unusual rock shapes such as the large heart shaped stone to the left of the main entrance, the exterior walls are devoid of decoration. The southwest wall has two small single-light upper windows, one which pivots inward to house a fan and the other is sealed. The northeast wall has a band of three sliding six-by-six horizontal upper windows housing fans in the summer months. The roof overhang on the façade has been altered slightly; it

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

(Former) Linville Falls Tavern
Avery, Burke, and McDowell Counties, NC

Section 7 Page 2

formerly extended only over the entrances but now covers the entire façade. Shed rooms were added in 1962 and in 1988 to the rear of the building for the convenience of the restaurant; however, the original stone rear walls are undisturbed.

The eight-bay façade faces southeast and features two recessed entrances, each with two six-over-six double-hung sash flanking the door. The secondary entrance features the same recessed, stone-stepped entrance with two double-hung six-over-six sash, one either side of the replacement door and screen. First-story façade openings are topped with standing stone lintels and have large outer sills of dressed stone supporting concrete planters. Single-pane sliding glass windows on either side of the restaurant sign, centered on the original dormer, provide light for the upper story, as do the four one-over-one windows on the rear, northwest-facing dormer.

A one-story shed-roof frame addition for kitchen and dishwashing facilities was built onto the northwest elevation in 1962. In 1988, a shed-roof frame storage room on the west rear corner was built to provide more storage space. The screened porch on the north corner is original and now used as part of the kitchen. A narrow passage between the kitchen and west corner pantry leads to the original back entrance.

Asphalt shingles cover the entire hip roof and gabled dormer. Cedar shingles cover both the front and sides of the dormer. A small stone chimney protrudes on the southwest side of the roof and served a wood stove. An interior stone chimney pierces the northeast roof. This chimney serves the large fireplace in the dining room. The fireplace is said to be the point at which the boundaries of three counties--Avery, Burke and McDowell--meet.

As the building has always been used as a place of gathering, eating, and entertainment, the interior has not been significantly altered. The first floor contains the original fireplace and the original closed staircase to the upper story. A twenty-seven foot dividing wall that separated the eleven-foot wide gas station or store area from the restaurant was removed in 1987 so that the whole area could be used as restaurant space.¹

¹ Files of Linville Falls historian Mrs. Albert Franklin (deceased). Lent courtesy of her daughter, Tense F. Banks, also an historian who is working on a manuscript, "The History of Linville Falls." (hereafter cited as "Franklin Files.")

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

(Former) Linville Falls Tavern
Avery, Burke, and McDowell Counties, NC

Section number 7 Page 3

The interior is in good condition and retains some original finishes. The hardwood floors are now covered with carpet. On the northeast side, the beaded-board paneling of knotty pine is original. The ceilings are replacement plaster and interspersed with ceiling fans with lights. On the southwest side, there is a baseboard, painted dado, and wallpaper border serving as chair rail. The hardware on the windows is original, as are the six-over-six sashes; however, the doors and door hardware are replacements. There are no original furnishings to the building, as each new owner redecorated. At present, there are numerous moveable tables and chairs for customer seating. The configuration of the kitchen has changed over the years with various owners, but has remained in the rear section of the building.

The upper story, accessed by the enclosed straight stair, has been used for several purposes, most notably to board some of the stonemasons constructing the bridges of the Blue Ridge Parkway. The space is now the upper eating area of the restaurant, with three booths located on the southwest wall. The remainder of the upstairs room is open and furnished with eating tables and chairs. At the northeast end is a counter/bar with sink and refrigerator.

Few alterations, such as door replacements, have been made to the (former) Linville Falls Tavern and the building remains largely intact. The most significant changes, necessary to the running of a modern restaurant, were the enlargement of the kitchen in 1962 and the addition of a rear storage room in 1988. New wiring and heating have been installed without compromising the integrity of the building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

(Former) Linville Falls Tavern
Avery, Burke, and McDowell Counties, NC

Section number 8 Page 1

Summary

The (former) Linville Falls Tavern is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C, in the areas of social history and architecture. The (former) Linville Falls Tavern is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A in the area of social history for its role as a gathering place and center of community life for the residents of Linville Falls and as a stopping place for tourists and visitors traveling through northwestern North Carolina. Constructed in 1936 for C. J. Howell, it is located at the juncture of three North Carolina counties, Avery, Burke and McDowell. The (former) Linville Falls Tavern has served the public as a tavern, restaurant combined with gift shop, service station and store, and as a family restaurant and night club. The property is eligible under Criterion C as a significant local example of the Rustic Revival style as expressed in a commercial building. The tavern is part of a group of Appalachian rustic buildings inspired by A.J. Downing's principles of landscape and design, Gustav Stickley's *Craftsman* magazine, and the government rustic style that was prevalent in the region. In addition, it is one of a few surviving commercial rustic buildings in the area. The period of significance extends from 1936, when the building was constructed, to 1950, when the character of the establishment changed due to the ban of alcohol sales in these three counties.

Historical Background

In 1835 Levi Chandler and Samuel Franklin settled in the "Village of Linville Falls," building their dwellings on large tracts of land at the foot of Humpback Mountain (where the Linville Falls Trailer Lodge now stands). This area of western North Carolina was settled in the early nineteenth century by people attracted to its lush forests, abundant fresh water, and fertile valleys. In the late nineteenth century, settlers were drawn to this area by the commercial potential of the large hardwood forests. Railroad lines opened more economic opportunities leading to the establishment of churches, stores, hotels and schools by the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

The community of Linville Falls first developed southeast of its present location. By the early twentieth century, businesses included a sawmill owned by the Franklin Brothers, Hyams store where the first mail delivery came, and the Ritter Lumber Company commissary. There were three summer boarding houses in the community: Henry

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

(Former) Linville Falls Tavern
Avery, Burke, and McDowell Counties, NC

Section number 8 Page 2

Franklin's, built in 1902 which contained one of the first bathrooms in Linville Falls, Bob Franklin's boarding house; and the Penland House.

From 1916 to 1920, US 221 was extended from Marion, the McDowell County seat, through Linville Falls to Boone in the north. Development in Linville Falls began to move northeast toward the junction of US 221.

At the location of the (former) Linville Falls Tavern, the three counties of Burke, McDowell, and Avery converge at a point where there once stood a large tree referred to as the "tri-county tree." In a 1926 photograph, Mr. J. M. Franklin, then the postmaster at Linville Falls, is pictured standing in view of the tri-county tree. In 1929, a Rustic Revival auto repair garage owned by "Shorty" Cashwell was located below the tri-county tree. Uphill from the tree site was Bob Franklin's General Store and adjoining this was a summer gift shop selling authentic mountain crafts done by the local residents.² These buildings, none of which have survived, were built of stone in the rustic style. In the next few years, Linville Falls Tavern was built, as well as a garage and new stone Rustic Revival post office.

During the 1930s, several taverns flourished in Linville Falls, including Rich and Rat's Tavern, Culbertson's Tavern, and Benfield's Tavern.³ They were famous for their "Wild West" atmosphere and drew people from miles around to the "social" activities. In response to disturbances at these taverns, a bunker-type concrete jail was built in the mid-1930s to hold the "rowdys" when there was not time to take them to the appropriate county jail. Because of Linville Falls's unusual geographic location in three counties, North Carolina Governor Huey, in the mid-1930s, gave Justice of the Peace Romulus Franklin a special two-mile radius jurisdiction from the center of town and thus "law and order" came to Linville Falls.⁴

The influx of large numbers of people to this area encouraged C. J. Howell to use the lower portion of his acreage along US 221 to construct a tavern. In 1935, the tri-county tree was cut down and the hillside leveled for construction. The owners decided to build in the Rustic Revival style, in keeping with the style of the other buildings in the

² *The Avery Journal* (Newland, NC), 10 April 1986.

³ Vivian McKiney and Dour Ollis. Interview with Helen Cain.

⁴ Linville Falls Jail, Survey Files, North Carolina Department of Archive and History, Western Office, Asheville, North Carolina.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet(Former) Linville Falls Tavern
Avery, Burke, and McDowell Counties, NCSection number 8 Page 3

immediate vicinity. Opening in 1936 as Linville Falls Tavern, the building housed a tavern and restaurant, service station, and boarding house. A local advertisement proclaimed it, "One minute South of the Parkway on US 221. Grade A café. Country Ham and Fried Chicken Dinners. Beer and Soft Drinks. Gulf Gas and Oil."⁵ Its opening welcomed the town's citizens and filled a need for a place where they could socialize and exchange news of the community.

In 1947, Mr. Howell sold the Linville Falls Tavern to Guy and Phillis Huskins.⁶ In 1961, the Huskins sold what was known as "Linville Falls Restaurant, Gift Shop, Service Station and Store" to Otis Earl Lumpkin and wife, Joyce S. Lumpkin, of Miami, Florida.⁷ An inventory of the restaurant and store was filed with the deed. Among the items listed were "one wet Coca Cola Cooler and Water Fountain," "one Toledo Computing Scales (Grocery Type)," and "one Postage Stamp Machine." Also listed were the items to be sold in the store such as "All stock, Groceries, Souvenirs, Pots, Pans, China, Glass Ware, Silver Ware and Equipment now in building." In 1962, the Lumpkins sold the restaurant to the Albert Franklins of Linville Falls, who changed the name to "The Franklin House Restaurant."⁸ In the late 1970s the Franklin family sold the building to Tony and Ruth Paterno, who wished to turn it into an Italian Restaurant, but Linville Falls was apparently not ready for this. One year later, the Paternos sold the café to Gary Robinson who took out the downstairs partition and opened a night club featuring bands, music, drinking, and dancing. The night club was not a success and soon closed. A barbed-wire and chain link fence enclosed the building, which began to appear derelict. Not wanting to see this happen to the historic building, the Albert Franklins repurchased it in 1986 and again opened a restaurant. However, the trials of doing this twenty-odd years later convinced the family that they did not wish to remain in the restaurant business. Leasing the restaurant to Louise Henson in December of 1986, the Franklins sold to Mrs. Henson, the current owners, in February of 1989. The building is now known as the Rock House Restaurant.⁹

⁵ *Tri-County News*, September 1940.

⁶ Avery County Deed Book 43: 480.

⁷ Avery County Deed Book 58: 449.

⁸ Avery County Deed Book 73: 1018.

⁹ Avery County Deed Book 179: 262; 199: 678-681; McDowell County Deed Book 393: 419-421; Burke County Deed Book 750: 507.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

(Former) Linville Falls Tavern
Avery, Burke, and McDowell Counties, NC

Section 8 Page 4

Architecture Context

The (former) Linville Falls Tavern exemplifies the influence of the Rustic Revival style on the commercial building traditions in the mountains of western North Carolina. Rugged locations such as this were particularly suited to the Rustic Revival style. The building is an original and intact example of the regional style in which natural, indigenous materials were used so that the simple structure blended harmoniously with its surroundings. The tavern is architecturally significant as a part of a group of Appalachian rustic-style buildings. The Rustic Revival style evolved from the principals of A.J. Downing and was later interpreted in the magazines of Gustav Stickley and in the buildings and engineering works constructed by the government within the region. It is one of the few surviving Rustic Revival style commercial buildings in the area.

Stone and log were used in the construction of tourist-related buildings associated with the wealthier segments of the society such as the Grove Park Inn (NR, 1973) in Asheville and the buildings in the resort area of the nearby Linville Historic District (NR, 1979). As noted by Catherine Bishir, *et al* in an architectural guidebook to the region: "Although western North Carolinians built in a range of nationally popular styles, in Asheville and elsewhere some sense of a regional architectural character emerged by the early twentieth century. It was expressed in a preference for picturesque, romantic, and rustic designs and natural materials..."¹⁰ The use of rustic materials also became a fashionable architectural idiom for domestic buildings owned and occupied by year-round residents such as found in the Ray Wiseman House (NR, 1996) located in Altamont at the intersection of Bowman Road and US 221. In time, rustic stone houses, churches and commercial buildings occurred across the regional landscape. A rustic stone commercial gas station, built by Ernest Franklin, was an example of this regional style. Located at the intersection of NC 194 and US 221, the building was torn down in 1999. Early in the 1920s, a rustic stone commercial auto garage was located in Altamont on Camp Creek Road, but it remains only in photographs.

The Blue Ridge Parkway, built in the 1930s just one-half mile north of the tavern, was a challenge to the planners and designers to preserve the landscape as well as to harmonize with the building and engineering features. Linda McClelland, in a landscape history of

¹⁰ Catherine W. Bishir, Michael T. Southern, and Jennifer F. Martin, *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Western North Carolina* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1999) 59.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

(Former) Linville Falls Tavern
Avery, Burke, and McDowell Counties, NC

Section 8 Page 5

the properties of the National Park Service, defined this attempt as an “ethic of design, commonly referred to as Rustic.”¹¹ The rustic stone work of the bridges gave a permanent characteristic to the structures. The bridges were built of concrete and then overlaid with rock in a rustic form. The triple-span over the Linville River and the single span over US 221 near Linville Falls community are but two of the many bridges built in the rustic fashion to harmonize with the environment, thereby establishing a philosophy of landscape protection and harmonization.¹² The rustic stonework found along the Blue Ridge Parkway most likely influenced the use of stone in the vernacular buildings of the area. This endeavor also brought workers into the area, as well as increased work for the local stone masons, such as Lenoir Franklin, who built the tavern.

The (former) Linville Falls Tavern is an unaltered example of the superb stone masonry of Lenoir Franklin, known throughout the area as a highly skilled and innovative craftsman. According to local tradition, “around 1925, after studying many books on different styles and designs of masonry, [Lenoir] concentrated his effort on native stone masonry.”¹³ The late Mr. Donald Wiseman, of Altamont, who was an engineer with the State Highway Department, recalled that the stone for the Linville Falls Tavern had been hauled to the building location while US 221 was being constructed up the mountainside from Marion. This native stone, collected just down the mountain, was used by local craftsman Lenoir Franklin and his family in the building of the tavern. The one-and-one-half story stone Rustic Revival commercial building reflects the influence of this style on the building traditions in this area in the early twentieth century.

Lenoir Franklin and family established and maintained a tradition of strong, functional, well-finished and picturesque works in native stone. In 1930, Lenoir Franklin worked on the cellar rockwork and battered stone porch piers of the Sallie Wiseman house located in Altamont three miles north on US 221 (destroyed by fire). Also in Altamont, in the late 1940s, he added the stone porch balustrade of the Don Wiseman bungalow on Bowman Road, State Road 1113. The Franklin brothers and their families lived on the old section of NC 194, Old Three Mile Road, and each had rustic stonework on their homes. All of this rustic stonework is within five miles of the Linville Falls community. Lenoir’s son,

¹¹ Linda Flint McClelland, *Building the National Parks, Historic Landscape Design and Construction* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998) 181.

¹² McClelland, 20.

¹³ *Avery County Heritage*, vol. III (Banner Elk, NC: Puddingstone Press and the Avery County Historical Society, 1989) 82.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

(Former) Linville Falls Tavern
Avery, Burke, and McDowell Counties, NC

Section 8 Page 6

Ernest Franklin, with brother Clingman, built the stone Craftsman style Ray Wiseman House (NR,1996) located in Altamont on US 221 at the intersection of Bowman Road. In this Ernest Franklin used the skills that had been passed from father to son.

Social History

The (former) Linville Falls Tavern is significant in the social history of the area. It played a central role in the development of the small village of Linville Falls as it re-formed around the intersection with US 221 during the 1920s and 1930s. Taverns, such as the Linville Falls Tavern, and community stores furnished a social gathering place for residents of the area. A major part of their business was the fellowship of the customers. People gathered to hear the latest news, tell stories, and catch up on local events. Restaurants and country stores, such as the Parkway Junction Store, located at the Linville Falls exit from the Blue Ridge Parkway, still serve as centers of community life.

During the late 1930s, the second floor of the tavern also served as a boarding house for some of the craftsmen working on the Blue Ridge Parkway. The Spanish master stonemason, Joe Troitino, and his craftsmen, who built the stone bridges of the Blue Ridge Parkway including the renowned triple stone arches at Linville Falls, lived at the tavern until the work around Linville Falls was complete.

By 1940 Guy and Phillis Huskins managed the tavern and in a local paper announced, "Grand Opening of Dance Hall. Linville Falls Tavern. New Dance Hall will open Friday night, September 13, 1940. Opening night free."¹⁴ Having a dance hall, as well as a tavern, made the Linville Falls Tavern even more popular. Area bands, such as Erman Vick and His Orchestra, Don Rhodes & His Rainbow Islanders, Algie Boss and his Carolina Aces, and Al Dunn and his Orchestra, made the rounds of local dance halls and restaurants.¹⁵ Except for the (former) Linville Falls Tavern, none of these dance halls stand today.

In ca. 1950, when beer and liquor sales became illegal in these counties, the character of the establishment changed with the conversion from tavern to restaurant. No longer a place to drink and dance during the evening as well as a place to meet to catch up on

¹⁴ *Tri-County News*, September 1940.

¹⁵ Franklin Files.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

(Former) Linville Falls Tavern
Avery, Burke, and McDowell Counties, NC

Section 8 Page 7

local events, the building became known for its restaurant that specialized in country cooking.

The (former) Linville Falls Tavern still serves as a community gathering place. The “snowbird Floridas,” the seasonal people who come to these cool mountains from their winter homes in Florida and who are already known to each other, meet for breakfast and coffee “klatches” each morning in the summer season. Meetings of Blue Ridge Parkway personnel are held here, as well as of law enforcement officials from all counties and the State Highway Patrol. Area utility crews are seen often, meeting at “Famous Louise’s” Rock House Restaurant for lunch. It is widely known up and down the Parkway as “the” place to eat when in this area. Camaraderie is still most evident among all who frequent this exceptional restaurant.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

(Former) Linville Falls Tavern
Avery, Burke, and McDowell Counties, NC

Section 9 Page 1

Bibliography

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Parris, John. "Linville One Hundred Years of Mountain Charm." *Blue Ridge Peaks*. Winter 1992.

Troitino, Frank. Interview with Helen Cain. December 1999.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

(Former) Linville Falls Tavern
Avery, Burke, and McDowell Counties, NC

Section 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description

The property included in this nomination is less than one acre and is filed as parcel 17-0778 as shown on Avery County Tax Map 1821.02.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the (former) Linville Falls Tavern and the land immediately surrounding the building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

(Former) Linville Falls Tavern
Avery, Burke, and McDowell Counties, NC

Section _____ Page _____

Photographs

All photographs are of the (former) Linville Falls Tavern in Avery, McDowell, and Burke counties, North Carolina. Photographs were taken by Helen Cain in October 1999. Negatives are on file at the Western Office of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History in Asheville, North Carolina.

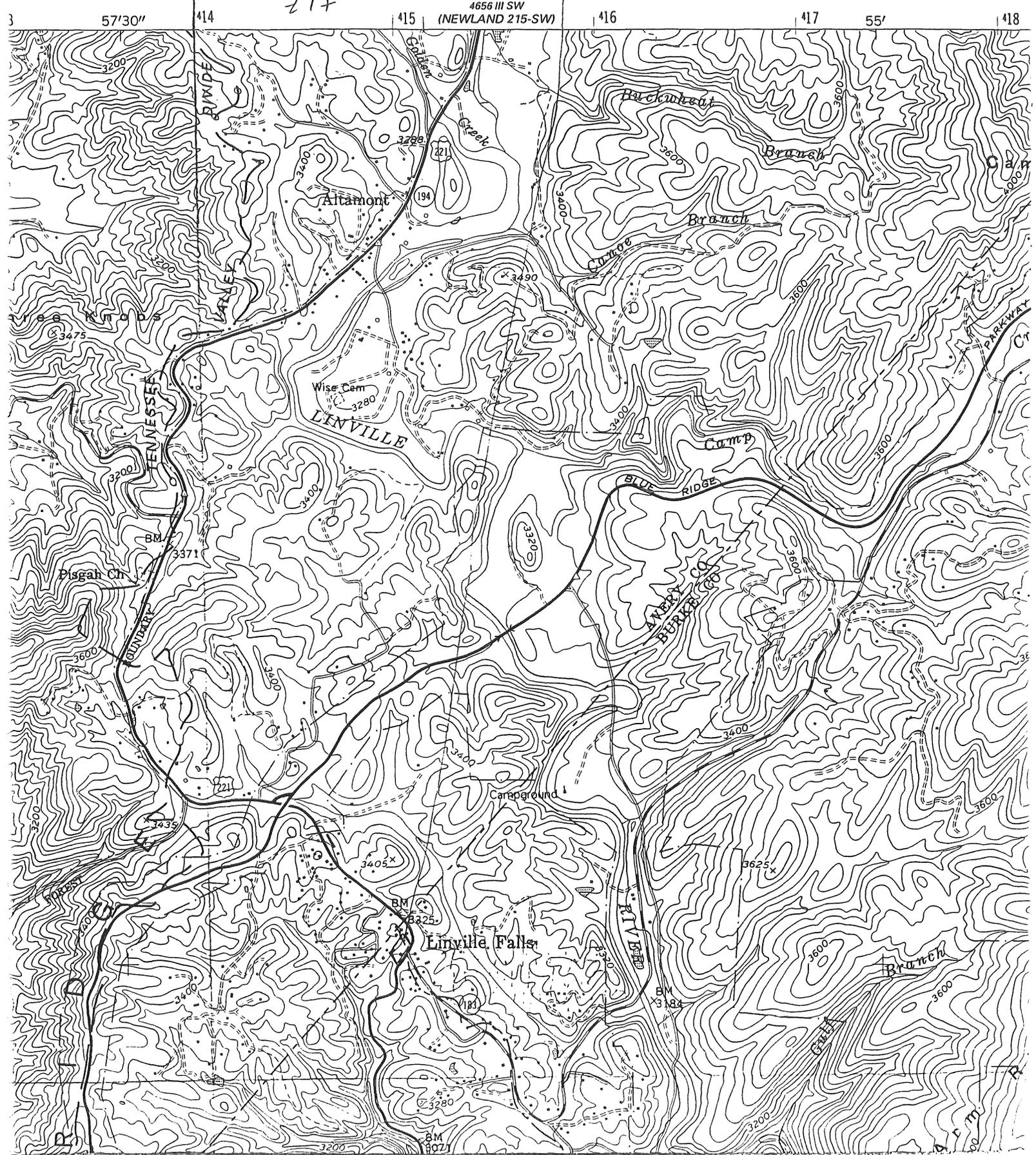
1. Façade (southeast elevation), looking northwest.
2. Southwest elevation, looking northeast.
3. Northwest elevation, looking southeast.
4. Northeast elevation, looking southwest.
5. Interior, stone fireplace.
6. Interior, first floor, looking southwest.
7. Interior, second floor, looking northeast.

FORMER LINVILLE TAVERN
USGS LINVILLE FALLS, NC
E 414960
N 3979600
Z 17

Linville Falls Pond
NC 69

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT,
AND NATURAL RESOURCES
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

UNITED STATES
FISH AND WILDERNESS SERVICE
MAPPING SERVICES BRANCH





FAMOUS LOUISE'S
ROCK HOUSE
RESTAURANT