

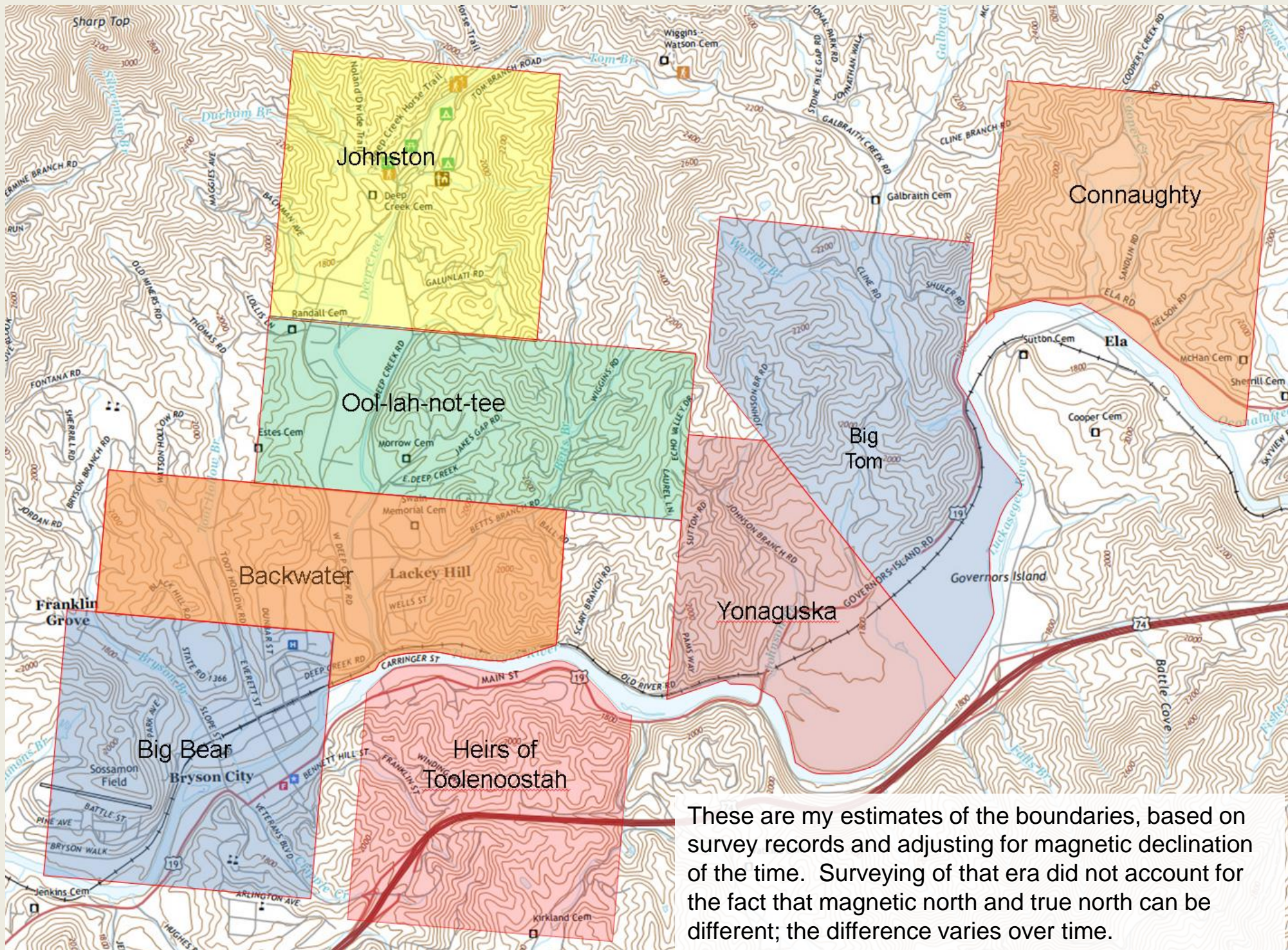
Deep Creek – from the Front country campground to Hammer Branch

Don Casada

For Swain County Extension Service “Walkie Talkies”

March 2, 2022

These Cherokee tracts were taken out per provisions of the 1819 Cherokee cession treaty. Most tracts were already occupied by the Cherokee who took out the reserve.



These are my estimates of the boundaries, based on survey records and adjusting for magnetic declination of the time. Surveying of that era did not account for the fact that magnetic north and true north can be different; the difference varies over time.

Ephraim and Nancy Bumgarner cabins on Bumgarner Branch; the smaller cabin was reportedly Cherokee-built

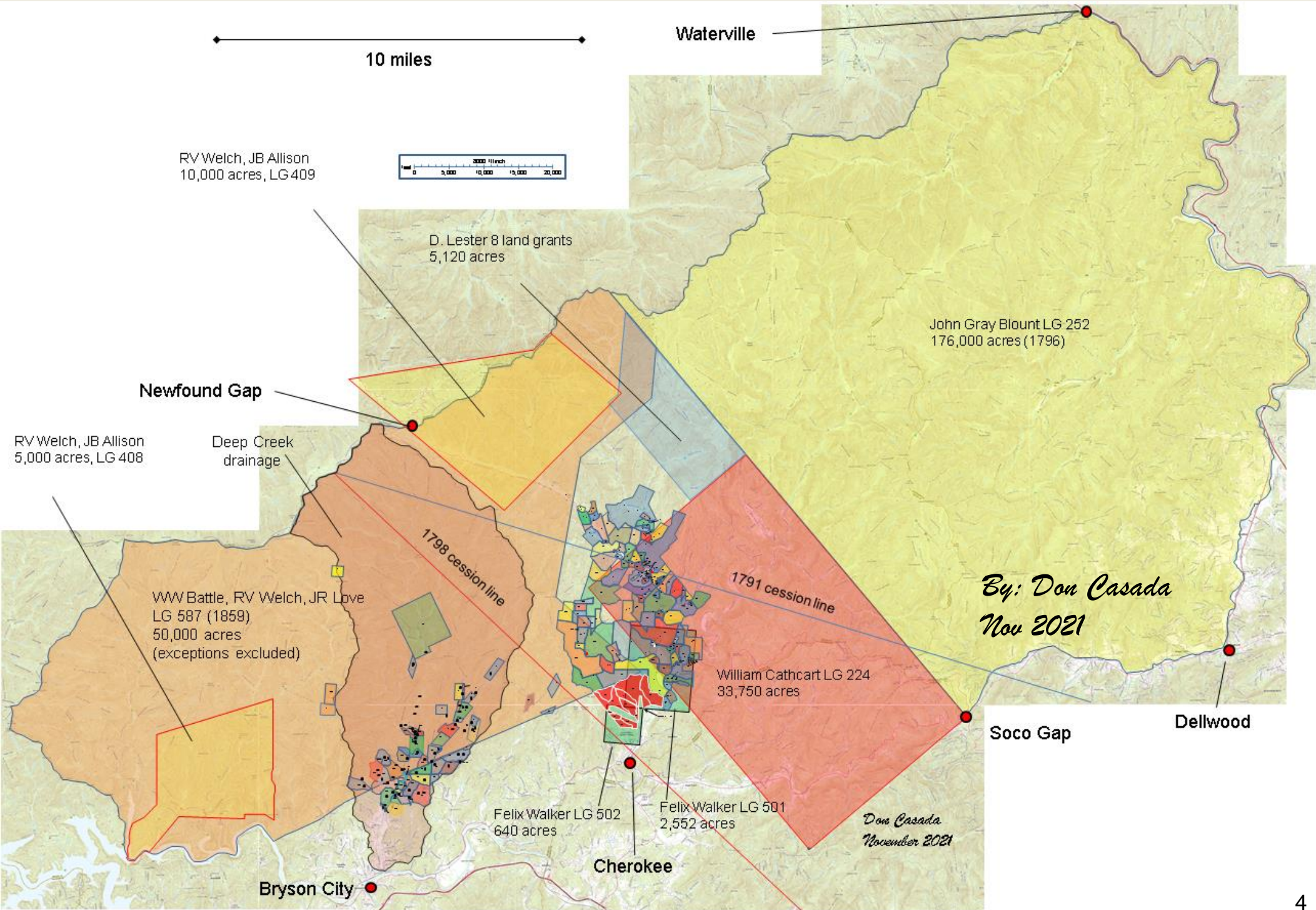


The smaller cabin had but one small window, which may very well have been added after it was constructed. The report of it having been built by Cherokees came from the notes of Charles Grossman, early Park historian.

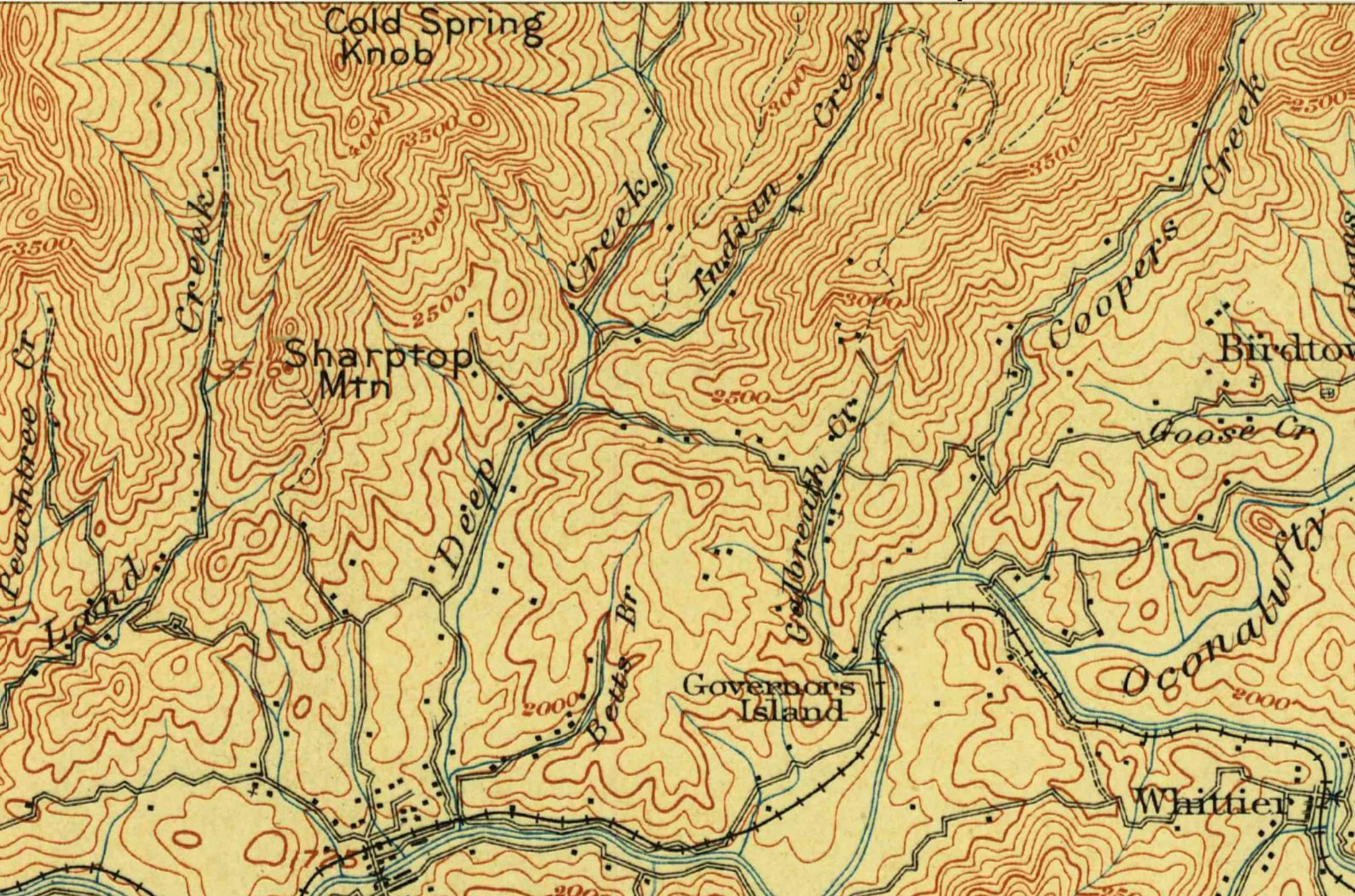
Photos source: [Open Parks Network](#)



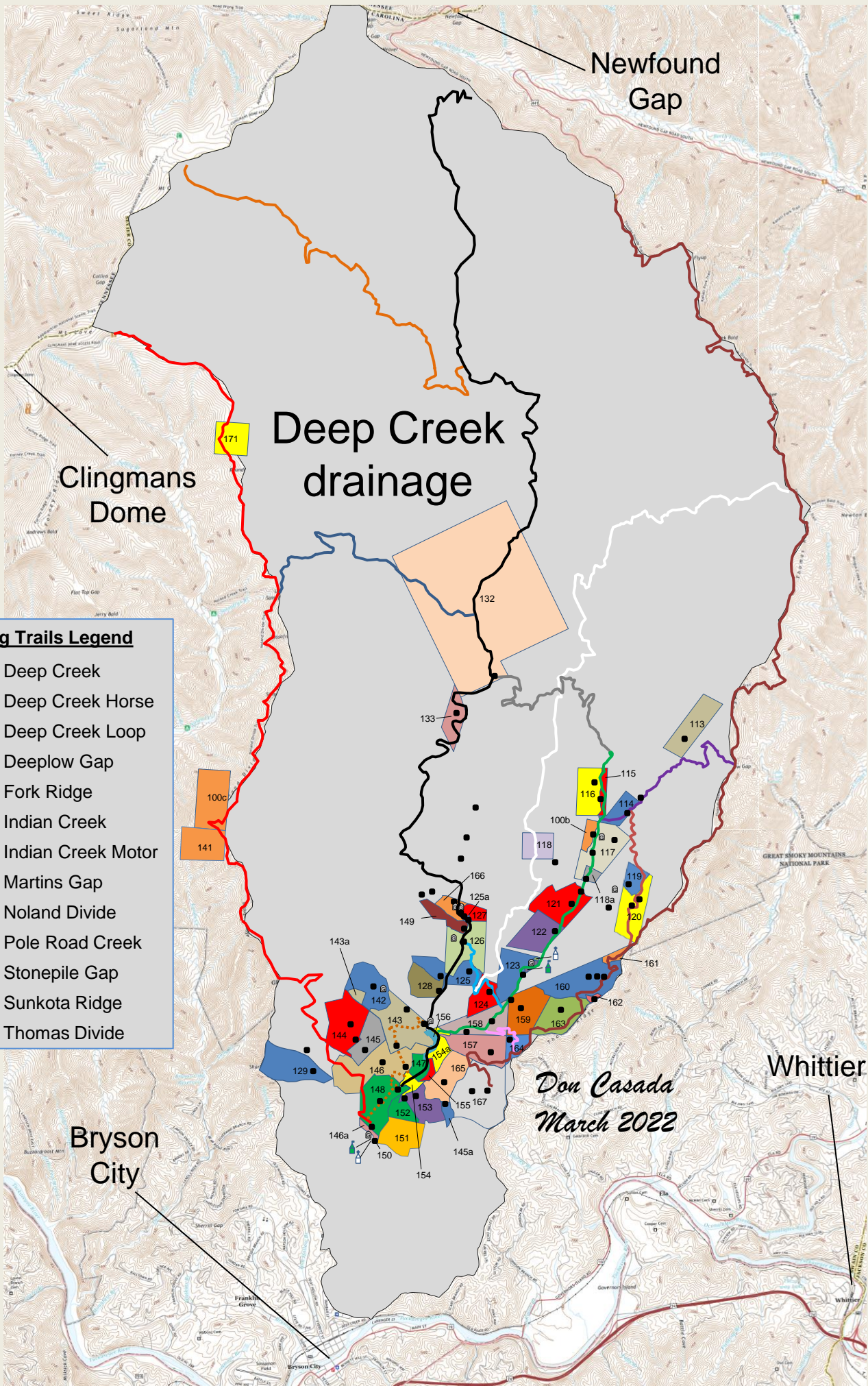
Bigger picture and time perspectives



Section from 1907 Cowee topo



Note the bridge symbols across the Tuckasegee River in both Whittier and Bryson City: \asymp But also note that there is no such symbol on any crossing on other streams, including Deep and Indian Creeks – suggesting those crossings were fords. One other possibility is that the bridge crossing symbols weren't used for wooden bridges.

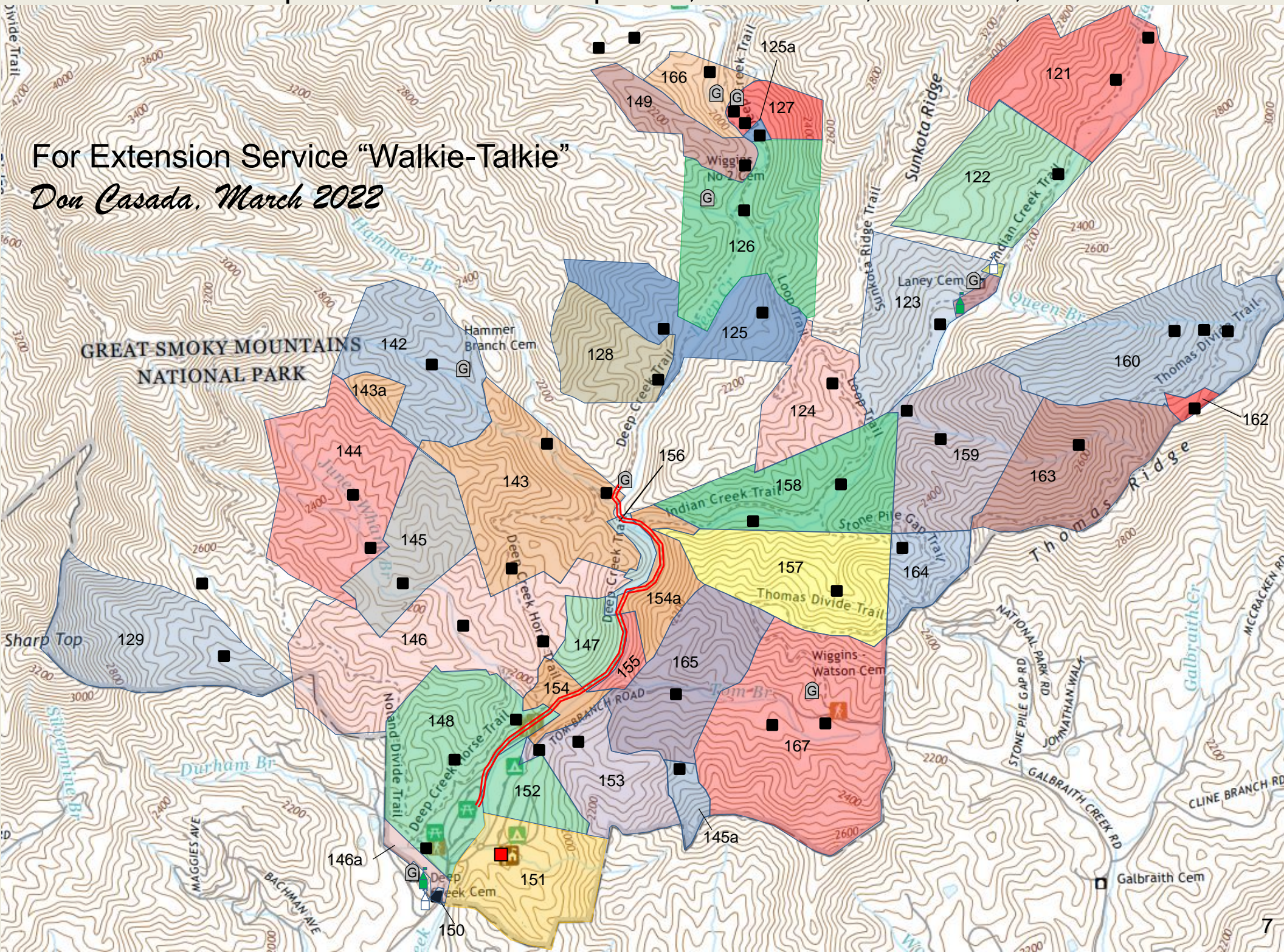


Hiking Trails Legend

- Deep Creek
- Deep Creek Horse
- Deep Creek Loop
- Deeplow Gap
- Fork Ridge
- Indian Creek
- Indian Creek Motor
- Martins Gap
- Noland Divide
- Pole Road Creek
- Stonepile Gap
- Sunkota Ridge
- Thomas Divide

Lower Deep Creek tracts, home places, cemeteries, churches, schools

For Extension Service "Walkie-Talkie"
Don Casada, March 2022



Monteith, Watkins/Massey & Morris families, around 1913

Photo and name sources: Charles Thomson, Carol Layman – Ancestry.com



Martha Monteith Lollis was a daughter of W.R. Monteith and his first wife, Candace Adeline Chambers. Martha married Ben Lollis in 1909. They purchased tract 144 on Juney Whank Branch from Joe and Minnie Casada. When the Park was created, they moved to a new home on Canebrake – only to have to leave it when TVA took the land in conjunction with the Fontana project. Sallie Massey Morris, wife of Joe, was the daughter of Elvira Watkins Massey by her first husband, Charles. Joe and Sallie owned tracts 148 and 152 (previously owned by Joe's parents, Sarah Louisa Shuler and Billy Morris). By the time the NC Park Commission took the land, adjoining tract 151 was jointly owned by Elvira Watkins and W.R. Monteith and their daughter Mae, who by that time had married James Harley Wilson. Mae lived a long life, dying in 2009 at the age of 104. The interconnectedness of this family with neighbors was a pattern which was common on Deep Creek, and for that matter, throughout the land taken for the Park, both initially and in the Fontana project.



Ben Lollis, husband of Martha Monteith with horse and mules



Sources: Swain County Extension Service (top left), TVA Kodak Negatives, Atlanta National Archives (bottom right)



Photo source: Jim Estes

Billy Morris (1836-1926) was shot in the left leg at Altoona Heights in Georgia, shattering a leg bone; he suffered for the rest of his life.

(Confederate.)

M | 29 | N. C.

William L. Morris

4th Co. 1st Regt. } 29 Regiment
North Carolina Troops.

Appears on a

Roll of Honor*

of the organization named above.

County *Jackson*

Date of entrance into service *Aug 31, 1861*

Age *25*; Vol. or Conscript *Vol*

Died or discharged, and when

Remarks: *Promoted to Lieut.*
Nov. 13, 1862.

Home of Billy and Sarah Louisa Shuler Morris. It was home to their son Joe and his wife, Sallie Massey until taken by the NC Park Commission. It was used as ranger quarters up until the 1960s.



Photo source: [Open Parks Network](#)

Home (and crib) in the background of new bridge construction in the 1930s.



Photo source: [Open Parks Network](#)

Deep Creek Ranger Station, early 1950s

Below: Lola and Billy Rolen on the front porch

Right: Ranger Bill Rolen



Photos source: Billy Rolen



Deep Creek dam and powerhouse;
photos courtesy of Jim Estes



A family connection to Billy Morris: Nancy Morris and Hill Cathey, their son Mark



Nancy Morris Cathey and Billy Morris were siblings; the Cathey home was on Indian Creek (tract 158), next to the trail, halfway between the Stonepile Gap and Loop Trail connectors to the Indian Creek trail.

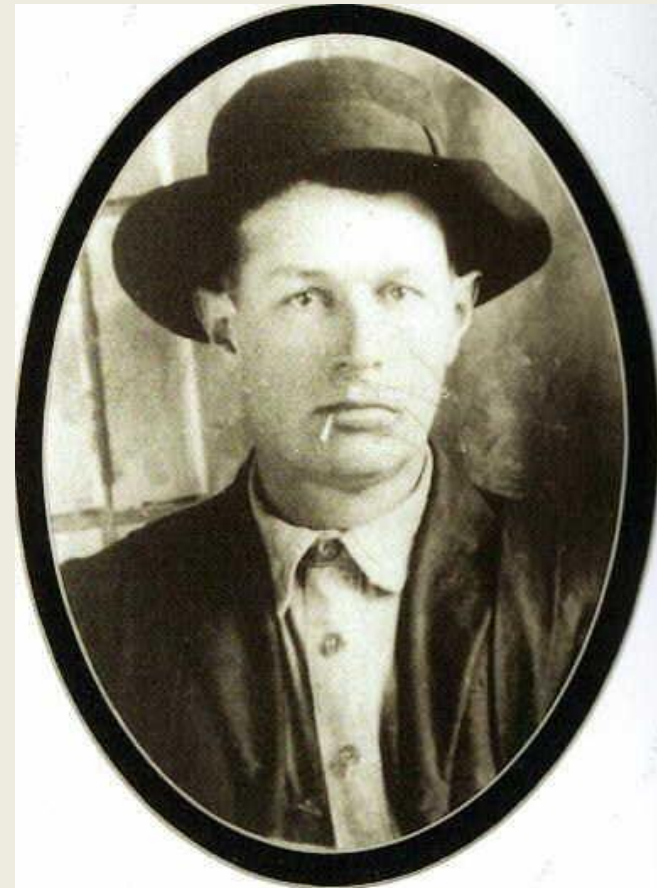


Sam Hunnicutt:

“I claim to be a perfect hunter and fisherman for game fish”



Above: Mark Cathey & Sam Hunnicutt with dogs and bears



Left photos: From *20 Years Hunting and Fishing in the Great Smoky Mountains*

Right photo: Hunnicutt family

Note: Western Carolina digitized Sam's book; it is available (free) on-line:

https://libres.uncg.edu/ir/wcu/f/Hunnicutt_20Year_OA.pdf

Also see these two articles on hunting buddies of Sam who are buried in the Bryson City Cemetery:

[Friends of Sam Hunnicutt](#)

[John Everett](#)

THE EPPLEY FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH

SUPPORT FOR ADVANCED SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

History

Captain Eppley was a physical chemist, born in New Jersey in 1883. Studying at Princeton, he received his M.A. in 1912 and his Ph.D. in 1919.

The First World War cut off the US supply of standard cells from Germany that were needed for precise calibration of potentiometers and other electrical manufacturing instruments. At Princeton, Captain Eppley had begun experimentation in the manufacture of these cells and in 1917 launched the Eppley Laboratory in Newport, Rhode Island, to produce them.

In the course of his career, Captain Eppley worked to improve the efficiency and reliability of cadmium standard cells through research in theoretical aspects of electromotive force in Ostwald's dilution law, relating ionization of an electrolyte to its concentration, and in general theory of solutions. Under Captain Eppley's guidance, the Eppley Laboratory also entered the field of thermal radiation and today continues to be involved in both laboratory and solar measurement of radiation. Captain Eppley directed the Eppley Laboratory until the end of his life.

In 1947, Captain Eppley established The Eppley Foundation for Research. On his death in 1960, his will created the Eppley Charitable Trust, the income from which also goes to support the work of the Eppley Foundation.

Twice in the course of his career Marion Eppley's work was interrupted by service to his country. During the First World War he served as a lieutenant commander and he was recalled to duty in 1941 as a captain. He was with the Pacific Fleet until the conclusion of hostilities as personal representative of Chester W. Nimitz, Fleet Admiral, and he was awarded the Legion of Merit.



Captain Marion Eppley



The Eppley home at Beacon Rock, Rhode Island
Sold in December, 2021 for \$23,000,000

<http://newportrhodeislandrealestate.com/iconic-beacon-rock-estate-sold/>