

## VI DESCRIPTION OF ADJOINING LANDS

### A. Land Ownership and Status

The Chattooga River lies within the boundaries of three National Forests. Over 87% of the lands directly along the river are National Forest lands.

Thirteen percent of the lands within the proposed river corridor are in private ownership. The majority of these private lands occur above Chattooga Cliffs in North Carolina where the river leaves the National Forest. In this area 12 landowners own 1241 acres within the proposed river boundary representing 63% of the individual private lands on the river.

The remaining 720 acres of private lands within the boundary are scattered along the river in South Carolina and Georgia. In Georgia, three private landowners own 297 acres on the Chattooga River and five private landowners own 360 acres on the West Fork. These tracts are at Earls Ford, opposite Fall Creek on the main river, and around Highway 28 and its junction with Warwoman Road and Overflow Road on the West Fork. On the South Carolina side of the river there are 63 acres of private land. Fifty acres of this is in one ownership, south of Whetstone Creek. The last 13 acres of private land is located at Highway 28 on the main river and is divided into 17 individual ownerships averaging less than one acre each.

### ACREAGE WITHIN PROPOSED RIVER CORRIDOR

	Main River		West Fork		TOTAL
	NC	SC	GA	GA	
National Forest	<del>2174</del> 1433	<del>4573</del> 4520	<del>6388</del> 6291	<del>1437</del> 1227	<del>14772</del> 13,471
Private	<sup>500</sup> <del>1241</del>	<del>63</del>	<sup>0</sup> <del>297</del>	<sup>100</sup> <del>360</del>	<del>1,961</del> 1,961
TOTAL	2674	4583	6588	1587	15,432

*AS 1981*  
*when plan written*

Of the 15,432 acres total within the proposed boundary, 17% is in North Carolina, 30% is in South Carolina, 43% is along the Chattooga River in Georgia, and 10% is along the West Fork in Georgia.

Except for private lands along the major roads and upper headwaters, the land away from the riparian strip along the river are mostly National Forest lands.

There are no mineral rights outstanding on federal lands within the proposed corridor. The only recent mining activity has been some sand removal near the U. S. 76 bridge and Woodall Shoals. This is not a large operation and occurs under permit to individuals.

## B. Physiography and Geology

The massive face of the Southeastern Blue Ridge Escarpment is divided by a number of beautiful gorges representing millions of years of carving by waterborne sands and millions of years of high rainfall. The Chattooga, flowing for a major pattern of its length through one of these gorges, is less developed than any of the other rivers of the Escarpment region. The topographic character of this area is a rather abrupt, deeply dissected escarpment forming the boundary between the complex mountains of the Blue Ridge Province and the hilly Piedmont Province. The physiographic nature of the dissection is that of a series of alternating ridges and gorges with southeastern and southern aspect in an area of a long continuous regime of high rainfall.

Mountains of the Southern Blue Ridge Province are classed as "subdued". Technically, this designates a stage in the cycle of weathering when height and steepness are so far lost that a mantle of decayed rock is general. Craggs, bare cliffs and talus slopes are rare. Occasional precipitous slopes of bare rock are located in recently deepened gorges. Summits are commonly rounded and higher slopes are less steep than valley sides. Forests cover the highest mountains except for a few locations where monolithic formations of exposed granite occur. Most slopes range from 20 to 80% and the drainage pattern is dendritic in nature.

The Chattooga River is entrenched by steep, rocky, forested slopes that plunge into deep, narrow gorges. The river flows through the steepest, most pronounced portion of the Chattooga Gorge in its first 20 miles, averaging over 84 feet drop per mile. The next 33 miles to Tugaloo Reservoir is through wider, more gentle mountains with an average drop of only 22 feet per mile.

above  
May 28

Except for a wide valley at Highway 28, the Chattooga flows between high ridges for almost all of its length. The steep slopes just above the river walls are mostly forested slopes, rather than abrupt rock faces. In many places rock outcrops and cliffs are exposed 400-600 feet above the river. A series of outstanding monolithic treeless domes and slopes of exposed resistant granite occur at the upper headwaters of the river.

The major portion of the rock through which the Chattooga River flows was formed from highly metamorphosed sediments and igneous intrusions. Deposition of the original sediments occurred during the late Precambrian or early Paleozoic period and was followed by folding, metamorphism, and intrusion. These later events corresponded in time with the close of the Ordovician period. These events gave rise to the metamorphic mica gneiss and schist and the igneous granite dominant in the area.

### C. Soils

Folding of the Southern Appalachians during the Precambrian and Paleozoic periods created a landscape characterized by changing slope gradients. These differences in slopes caused variations in the erosional forces similar to those which exist today. Within given climatic regimens, similar geological parent materials produced the characteristic soil patterns.

Soils along the Chattooga River above the mouth of Reed Creek are characteristically shallow, rocky and very steep with no potential for recreational development on the steeper side-slopes. Severe slope gradients, stone, and bedrock outcrops in some locations would require blasting for foot trail construction. Occasionally along this portion of the river, flood waters have deposited alluvial materials on narrow flood plains. These alluvial deposits are usually rather level and less than 200 feet wide. They are well suited for many recreational activities but are not recommended for high unit cost investments since they can be expected to flood again in the future. Due to the sandy nature of these soils and their close proximity to the stream, septic tank drain fields are not recommended because of the danger of pollution. Certain areas along the toe of the slopes, often near smaller tributaries, are characterized by deep colluvial deposits well suited for small camp sites. These areas seldom exceed ten acres in size but development may be prohibitive because of the steepness of the slopes.

Below Reed Creek downstream to Adline Branch the flood plain is wider and as a result a different soil pattern developed on these terraces. Immediately adjacent to the river there is usually a thick deposit of sandy soils caused by the initial deposition by flood waters. As the flood waters receded the natural levee formed by these deposits trapped flood waters and allowed silt to settle out. The deposition of silt produced fertile, moderately well-drained soils. These areas are suitable for development within the limitations imposed by the relatively high water table and occasional flooding hazard. Also occurring in the flood plains are generally small areas of poorly drained soils which are ideally suited for natural areas because of their unique flora.

Above the flood plain and extending southward from Reed Creek to Tugaloo Lake, the soils are very steep and shallow with disintegrated rock extending to great depths. Relatively level ridges occur about 500 feet above the river. The broader ridges have moderately deep clay soils generally suited for most types of developments. Along the major tributaries, such as Licklog and Dicks Creeks, there are large areas of colluvial soils occupying gently sloping, undulating topography. The more level areas above the stream terraces are usually suitable for development with primary considerations being erosion control and percolation characteristics. Acquisition of these level lands for recreation areas could result in savings by reducing high initial investments and the tremendous cost of up-keep associated with developments on steep, shallow soils.

In general, soils along the Chattooga River have the ability to take in and provide temporary storage for a large quantity of water, thus assuring a sustained flow in the rivers and streams. Due to steep slopes and medium depths to bedrock, rapid return flow and some overland flow can be expected during periods of intense rainfall.

#### D. Vegetation

The Southern Appalachian Region around the Chattooga River is known for its rich variety of plant life, including natural vegetation typical of both southern and more northern regions. The Southeastern Escarpment of the Blue Ridge forms the physiographic boundary between the Blue Ridge and Eastern Piedmont Provinces. In this area the Oak-Chestnut Forest region of the mountains gives way to the Oak-Pine Forest region of the Piedmont. Wide differences in elevation and high rainfall combine to create a unique environment, supporting plants of wide geographical variations and environmental requirements.

Although most of the Chattooga is in a completely forested condition, few virgin timber stands remain along the river. The overstory trees along the Chattooga are for the most part second growth. Many tree species such as white pine, are successional species and their presence along the Chattooga is the direct result of past types and degrees of disturbance in the area.

Dumond <sup>1/</sup>, in a recent study of the upper 25 miles of the Chattooga, characterizes the nature of the Chattooga vegetation as a continuum, in which forest elements merge, shift and can only rarely be recognized as constituting distinctive types. He attributes this in part to past disturbance by man and partially to the ecotonal nature of the entire escarpment vegetation. Dumond's unpublished study is the most recent authoritative survey of the vegetation of the Chattooga River.

Several rare plant species occur along the Chattooga. Mountain camellia is found in abundance along Dicks Creek. The rare *Shortia* plant is found along Reed Creek and just above Burrells Ford. These areas, described first by pioneer botanist William Bartram, are still rich in botanical rarities including many species of wild orchids, fern, ground pine, lilies, trilliums and violets.

Forest Service classifications of the vegetation along the Chattooga River are based on the timber in the overstory. Most of the timber stands are of a mixed composition - that is, pine-hardwood type - although there are stands of pure pine or hardwood. Commercially important conifers are hemlock, shortleaf, pitch, Virginia and white pines. Commercial hardwood species are white, black, scarlet, northern red and chestnut oaks; yellow poplar; basswood; hickory and red maple. Other infrequently occurring species are black cherry, walnut, cucumber, ash and gums. Not commercially important, but most significant from an aesthetic viewpoint, are dogwood, sourwood, mountain laurel, rhododendron and other small flowering plants. Most stands are not fully stocked with desirable stems and are uneven-aged in character.

<sup>1/</sup> Dumond, David Morse, "Floristic and Vegetational Survey of the Chattooga River Gorge" (Unpublished Master's thesis, North Carolina State University, 1969).

Of the approximately 15,143 acres within the river boundary, 7,138 are in National Forest status. Ellicott's Rock Scenic Area has 713 acres within the proposed river zone. This acreage is classified as commercial productive reserved and is permanently reserved from timber harvest. The remaining 6,425 National Forest acres are typed as follows:

<u>Type</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Shortleaf pine-oak	1,990
White pine-oak	1,870
Shortleaf pine	1,194
WO-RO-hickory	732
White pine	228
Chestnut Oak	175
Pitch pine-oak	100
Hemlock-hardwood	100
Scarlet oak	36
Total	6,425

Approximately 59% or 3,792 acres of National Forest commercial forest land is immature sawtimber and 28% or 1,782 acres is classed as mature sawtimber, based on a 100 year rotation. The remaining acres are mostly sparse or low quality sawtimber. The 6,425 acres of National Forest commercial forest land contain about 26.3 million board feet of sawtimber and 21.3 thousand cords of pulpwood.

#### E. Wildlife

The wildlife species of the area are varied and serve different interests. Game animals provide hunting, and these, plus the non-game animals, are also available for scientific study. The Highlands Biological Station at Highlands, N. C. considers the Chattooga River area a rich study area and one of the last remaining primitive river environments in the Southeast.

The many species of birds provide ample opportunity for nature photography and bird watching.

Hunting conditions are fairly similar throughout the Chattooga drainage. The terrain immediately adjacent to the river is generally rugged and steep. Rocky bluffs and dense rhododendron or mountain laurel "slicks" are common along the river. Such terrain is somewhat unproductive in terms of animal numbers produced but offers a challenging type of big game hunting.

Only two areas in the proposed zone are especially suitable for small game management. These include the flat bottomlands in the vicinity of Highway 28 Bridge and the old fields on the extreme headwaters near Cashiers.

## Game Species

### Deer

Deer are scarce in all sections of the Chattooga River, however the herd is increasing in all three states, with fastest build-up in the Holcomb Creek area (Georgia) and in Blue Valley (North Carolina) which is a deer restoration area.

Habitat in most of the zone is not ideal for deer since an essentially unbroken overstory canopy predominates. Herds should build up to a huntable level and provide the major hunting resource in the area.

### Bear

Bears are scarce throughout this drainage. Those occasionally encountered are usually transient and do not stay in one place for any length of time. Populations may increase in the future, but such an increase will be slight and the amount of hunting offered will likely be negligible. The primary reason is the lack of isolated terrain necessary for good bear range. North Carolina biologists feel that a contiguous block of land at least 35,000 - 50,000 acres in size is needed to provide huntable bear populations. National Forest land in the Chattooga drainage is not consolidated to this extent.

### Turkey

Turkeys are present in huntable numbers in several sections of the drainage in all three states, but no areas contain them in sufficient numbers to provide top notch hunting. Best hunting for turkey, at present, is in Georgia and South Carolina.

Populations are slowly increasing and should continue to increase as protection improves and habitat improvements are added.

Habitat is only fair for turkey in most areas of the Chattooga due to a lack of openings in the forest canopy and the prevalence of dense rhododendron and mountain laurel understory. The major factor in the turkey's favor in the proposed wild river zone would be the lack of access and corresponding lack of disturbance during nesting seasons.

### Grouse

Grouse are found in all sections of the Chattooga and are providing hunting ranging from fair to excellent. Habitat in the

proposed zone is only fair in most areas due to a lack of openings in the forest canopy. The dense understory that is a serious limiting factor for turkey, provides good cover for grouse.

Best hunting is found on the upper tributaries in North Carolina. The old cultivated fields (now grown up) along the upper extremities of the main stream, above Grimshawe Bridge are probably the top grouse habitat in the proposed boundary.

#### Squirrel

Good squirrel hunting is available in scattered oak-hickory stands throughout the drainage. Best hunting is in such stands lying adjacent to cultivated cornfields where food is always available.

Modified timber cutting that lengthens rotation or in any way increases the average age and size of hardwood stands should improve squirrel hunting.

#### Rabbit and Quail

Rabbit and quail hunting is incidental due to a lack of farmland cultivation. The only worthwhile hunting for these two game animals is in the bottomlands near Highway 28 Bridge in Georgia and South Carolina.

#### Raccoon

Raccoon hunting is popular in all three States and is good near farmlands adjacent to the Chattooga. Although populations are somewhat lower in the wilder areas hunting is fair there and will still be popular with the Chattooga under wild and scenic river management.

#### Waterfowl

Waterfowl found on the Chattooga are migratory birds and occasionally are present in huntable numbers.

#### Other Animals

Beaver, muskrat, mink, fox, bobcat and opossum are all present along the Chattooga River drainage in numbers high enough that local people occasionally trap or hunt them for sport or fur.

The beaver population is to be expanding in this drainage and has created minor problems with their dams on a few small tributaries. It is unlikely that they will be a major problem in the Chattooga drainage because of the steep terrain which allows only very small impounded areas.

### Uncommon Species

Several species of small mammals reach the southern limit of their natural range in the Chattooga River. Animals like the masked shrew and woodland jumping mouse are more commonly found at higher latitudes.

Some species of salamanders, a small lizard-type, are found only in the general area of the Chattooga River and its tributaries.

### Poisonous Insects and Reptiles

Potentially dangerous insects and snakes normally encountered in this area include the following:

Timber Rattlesnake

Copperhead

Yellow Jackets

Hornets

Honeybees

Stinging Caterpillars (various species)

These insects and snakes are encountered only occasionally and are considered a natural part of the environment. They usually bite or sting only when threatened and seldom or never build up in numbers to dangerous proportions. They occur throughout the Southern Appalachians and most hikers and outdoor recreationists can recognize and avoid them. They are accepted and respected as dangerous members of the natural ecosystem. No measures should be considered to control them.

### F. Present Land Uses

The most intensive land use along the river occurs on the small tracts of private land. A number of summer homes are present in areas near the headwaters in North Carolina and downriver near State Highway 28 in South Carolina. Some of these dwellings detract from the aesthetic qualities of the river landscape.

A few old farmlands with their abandoned fields and pastures, now being reforested with small trees, create welcome openings in the forested shoreline. Major bridge structures occur at U.S. Highway 76, State Highway 28, Burrells Ford and Grimshawes. Two single-wire power lines cross the river above Grimshawes Bridge. The Forest Service campground at Burrells Ford accounts for most camping use along the river.

Numerous undeveloped fisherman trails or paths can be found near the major access points, especially at bridges. Old logging roads are now used by jeeps for access to the river in many otherwise inaccessible spots along the river.

Some logging has occurred on both National Forest and Georgia Power Company lands in the proposed river corridor. These operations caused some temporary loss of aesthetic values that have been recovered quickly because of the nature of the hardwood forest in this area to grow back at a fast rate.

A detailed analysis of land uses and their potential effects are given in Chapter X-B, Administration - Management.

#### G. The Nature of the View From the River

The Chattooga is deeply entrenched between high ridges for most of its length. Steep forested slopes on either side of the river give a sensation of seclusion to anyone on the river. The dense forest along the banks of the river usually prevents a view of the high sloping ridges on either side, except on the canyon sections where sheer rock cliffs rise vertically from the river. The river constantly curves and meanders and there are good views of the surrounding ridges from these bends.

The seasons of the year affect the color, texture and character of the vegetation. During spring and summer the river is blanketed with varying shades of green. In autumn, the vegetation changes into a patchwork of red, yellow and orange, mixed with the dark green of the yellow pines and rhododendron and the softer bluish-green of the white pines. In winter the dense cloak of leaves is stripped away and the steep hillsides can be seen on either side of the river. The pines, rhododendron and mountain laurel then provide patches of green color against the grey-brown hillsides and exposed rock formations.

The river itself provides a constantly changing scene. It follows a varying route over thundering falls and cascades, down raging rapids, around enormous boulders and twisting rock-choked channels, and through narrow cliff-enclosed, deep pools. Rock formations divide, narrow, and concentrate the course of the water. Seldom is a straight section of the river longer than 1/2 mile. The twisting and turning adds interest to the river by creating suspense and anticipation of what is ahead.

On the slower stretches, sounds other than that of the water can be heard and attention is drawn away from the river course. Smooth water reflects images of plants along the bank as well as clouds, sky and ridges. Slow water allows the surroundings to be seen and enjoyed, provides relaxation after the last rapids, and gives time to prepare for the next rapids. Near Highway 28, two long sections of slow, smooth water occur on the River and West Fork.

Most of the waters of the Chattooga are continually broken up with ripples, rapids and whitewater. The sound of water rushing over rocks drowns out all other sound on the faster sections of the river. Many of the steeper cascades and falls can be heard for a long distance before they are seen.

There are two types of fast water--over rapids and over shoals. Rapids create an elevation drop over a long distance, sometimes being forced by rock outcrops into a twisting channel, constantly changing direction, sometimes widening with fast shallow water flowing over rocks. "Shoals" is a local term and are vertical drops in elevation sometimes created by rock ledges and sometimes by large boulders blocking and channeling the river. Large boils below the shoals create turbulent water, often dangerous for canoeists and floaters.

The lower four miles of the West Fork and six miles of the main river from Nicholson Fields to Turnhole differ markedly from the rest of the river. Here the river leaves the steep ridge-enclosed portions of whitewater and enters slow, smooth-flowing sections of water through narrow and then widening valleys. Much of the area along these gently sloping sections is in fields or pastures. Vegetation along the forested portions of these sections is less dense, and one can see into the forest on either side for distances varying from 15-50 feet. The less dense vegetation of these valley sections lessens the feeling of seclusion. While arching over the water in many places, the thinner growth allows easier access to the land.

Looking at the adjacent land along these valley sections reveals many examples of man's influence--farms, pastures, cabins, roads and cars. In many areas, cleared land extends down to the riverbanks. These sections have little of the wild nature of the rest of the river.

#### H. History and Points of Interest

The Chattooga River flows through an area rich in settler and Indian history and outstanding scenic features. The cultural history of the Chattooga River area extends back beyond the first white settlements in this region. Prior to 1700 this

was the land of the Cherokee Indian. Today the area is still rich in Cherokee history, legends and artifacts. A number of main Indian trails and several Indian settlements were located on or near the Chattooga.

Chattooga Old Town - This was a large settlement of Indians predating the Cherokees. It was destroyed before 1600 by the Cherokees, and was located near the present site of Highway 28 Bridge. This site is now open fields and completely within the proposed area.

Kanuga - Translation "Blackberry Patch." In 1761 John Stuart, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, drew a map of the locations of all the Cherokee Villages in North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. He located 43 villages ranging in size from 20 to 130 braves. The closest of these to Chattooga River was Kanuga, located on Indian Camp Creek. This village was later destroyed by Col. Williamson about 1776. The Cherokees had allied with the British in the Revolutionary War, and Col. Williamson's expedition destroyed the Indians' ability to harass the colonies. The surviving villagers from Kanuga moved into Western North Carolina around Hayesville and founded another village by the same name. The site of this village is outside the Chattooga River corridor but has interpretative possibilities that could provide a complementary feature tied into the Chattooga River.

Indian Trails - At least three Indian trails crossed the Chattooga River.

1. The Kusa Nunnahi--translation "Creek Trading Trail," was a major trading trail between the Creek Nation and the middle Cherokees. This trail parallels the present location of Highway 107 to about two miles from the South Carolina line. It continues around the southside of Ellicott Mountain and down Indian Camp Creek to the East Fork of the Chattooga, crossing the river about one-half mile below the mouth of the East Fork and continuing down the river a short way before it turns west leaving the river.
2. Another Indian Trail crossed at Chattooga Old Town near the present location of Highway 28 Bridge.
3. The third Indian Trail crossed near Earls Ford connecting the large Indian towns of Keowee, 20 miles east of the river, and Stekoa, 10 miles west of the river.

The routes of these old Indian trails can still be traced and are an interesting part of the history of the area.

The Southern Appalachian Region immediately around the Chattooga River was not visited by white men until the early 1700's. The earliest records of settlers visiting this mountainous area are hunter maps of 1730 and 1751.

William Bartram, an early American botanist, crossed the "main branch of the Tugilo" within a few days after May 19, 1775, collecting plant specimens of the Southeastern United States. The "Tugilo" was the Chattooga, and Bartram evidently crossed it near the mouth of Warwoman Creek, travelling a portion of the main Indian trail between the Indian villages of Keowee and Stekoa.

Andre Michaux, pioneer botanist, travelled and collected in the area about 1787 and discovered the rare Shortia plant (Oconee-Bells).

Ellicott's Rock - King George II issued the Georgia Crown Charter in 1732 and set the northern boundary at the 35th degree of North Latitude. Neither Georgia nor North Carolina could agree where the 35th parallel was located. The disputed strip became known as the "Orphan Strip", a refuge for outlaws and other characters avoiding the law of both states. In 1811, Georgia's Governor Mitchell contracted Andrew Ellicott, a surveyor from Pennsylvania, to survey the boundary between North Carolina and Georgia and establish a monument. This was done and in 1813, South Carolina and North Carolina appointed commissioners to establish the line between these two states. They could not find Ellicott's Rock and located another, scribing it with the letters "LAT 35, AD 1813." This rock can be seen today as can the true Ellicott's Rock, which is only a few feet away on the same side of the river. A 3584 acre National Forest Scenic Area was established around Ellicott's Rock in 1966 to protect this historic site and scenic area.

Early Settlement - The earliest known settlement by a white man in the Chattooga River Gorge was near Monroe house where the remains of an old chimney can still be seen. About 50 acres of land was cleared here in 1830. Several other early settler houses were later scattered around Burrells Ford and the present location of Highway 28 Bridge. Streams in these areas still retain some of the old family names.

Black Diamond Railroad, also called the Blue Ridge Railroad, was started in 1853 to connect Charleston, South Carolina, with Cincinnati by way of North Carolina and Tennessee. Construction started in South Carolina and stopped in North Georgia just outside Mountain City. Construction was halted during the Civil War and never continued. The old roadbed is still visible where it crossed the Chattooga and large blocks of granite can be seen that were cut out to form the roadbed. Chisel marks are still visible on the rocks.

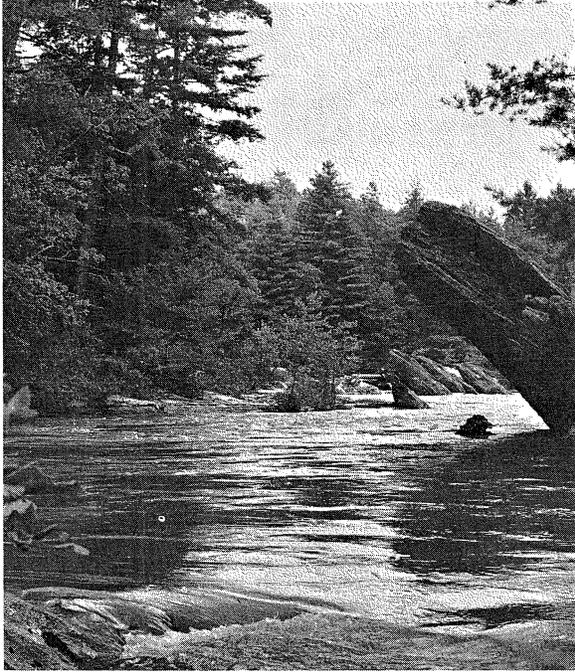
Splash Dams - In the early 1900's the river was used to transport logs to sawmills downriver. The water was not deep enough to transport a winter's harvest of logs, so log splash dams were constructed to hold the logs and dam up the river. In the spring the dams were blown and the logs would go racing downriver to the mills. Remains of these old dams are still visible on the West Fork.

Thriffts Ferry - The remains of an old wooden ferry can still be seen 2.8 miles above U. S. 76 Bridge. It was used in the 1950's to help log the Georgia side of the river.

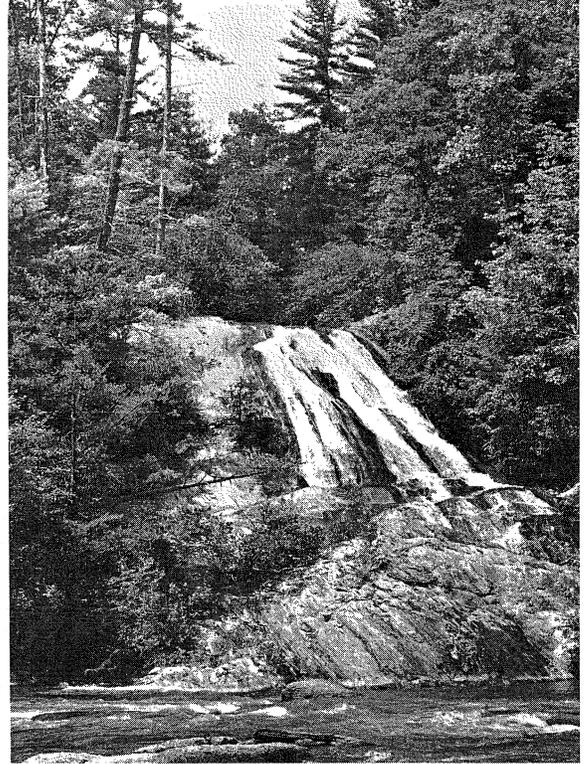
Old Buncombe Trail - This was a drover's trail from Asheville to Atlanta, used until about 1912. Herds of hogs, turkeys, and some cattle were slowly grazed down to the railhead at Atlanta. The trail more or less follows the old Creek Trading Trail, except that it crosses the river at Burrells Ford instead of farther upstream.

Later History - The Chattooga River area has remained undeveloped since the early days. Today, permanent residences are found only near Grimshawes and Highway 28 Bridges. Many fields in these two areas are now reverting to forest. Almost all traces of early logging within the proposed corridor have disappeared. Only the abundance of white pine, a successional species, indicates that the slopes of the Chattooga River were once logged.

Whitesides Mountain - A monolithic formation with sheer rock walls rising 2000 feet above the surrounding valley floor near the headwaters of the river in North Carolina.

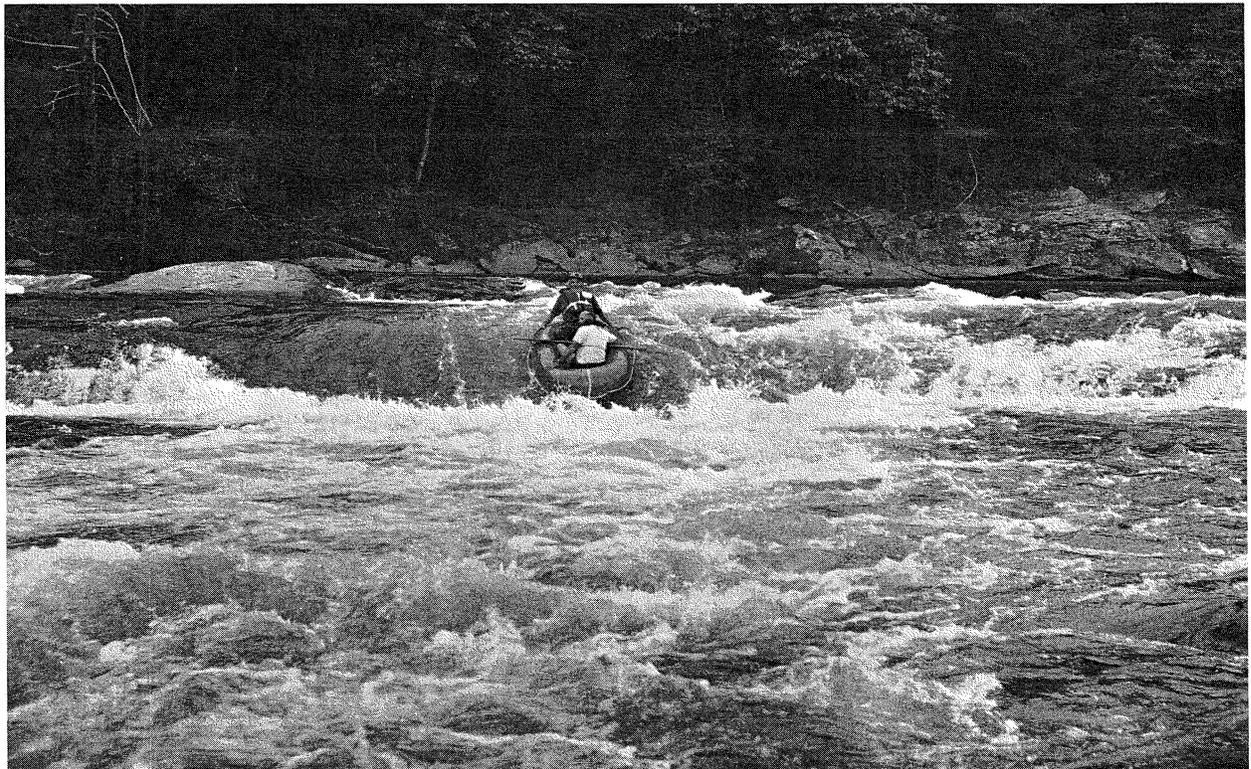


*Rock Garden.*



*Dicks Creek Falls.*

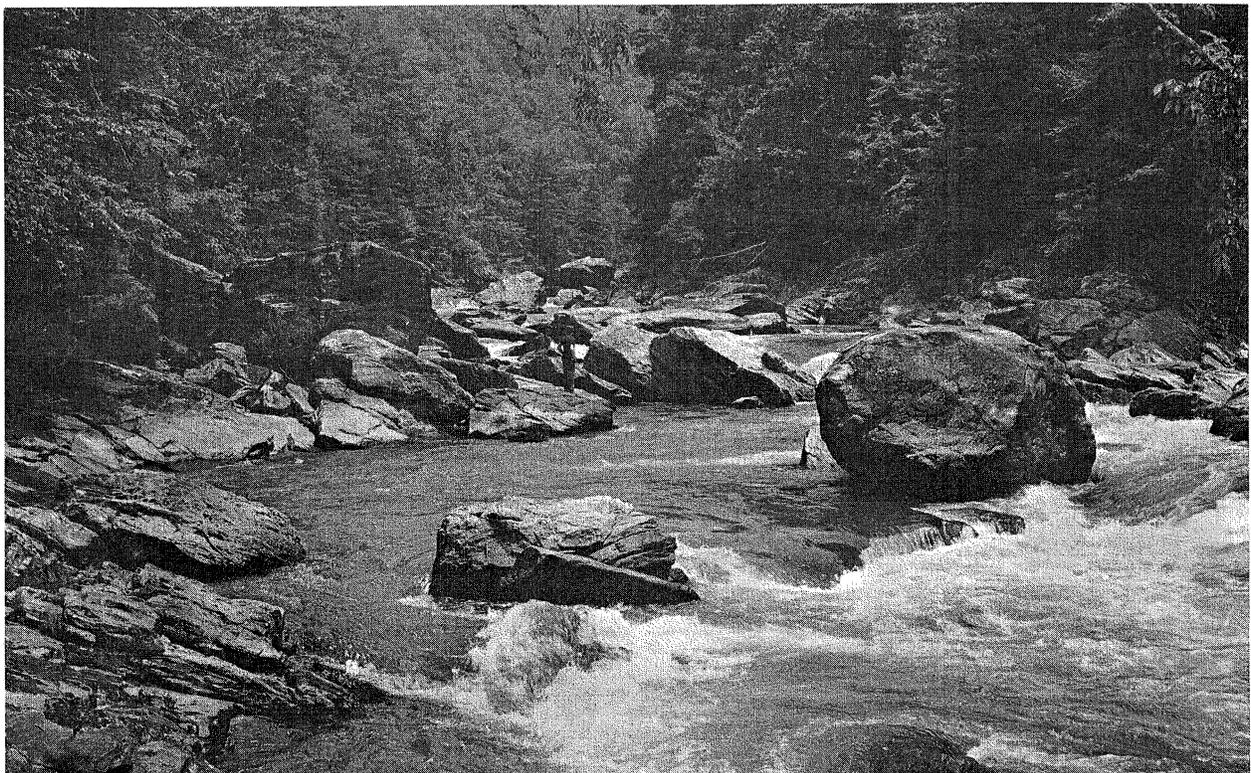
*Woodall Shoals.*





*Big Bend Falls.*

*Above Sockum Dog Hole.*



Silverslipper and Ribbon Falls - Two small but spectacular waterfalls, cascading 150 feet and 75 feet respectively, down steep mountainsides on the extreme headwaters of the Chattooga River.

Corkscrew Falls - The largest free-falling falls on the River, dropping 25 feet vertically into a deep pool.

Chattooga Cliffs - A series of prominent smoothfaced granite outcrops exposed 400-600 feet above the river, continuing at intervals between 2,800 and 3,300 feet elevation from Bearpen Mountain to Polly Mountain.

Big Bend Falls - A series of cascades and two small falls dropping almost vertically for 12-20 feet over a rugged stretch of white water.

Rock Gorge - The steepest portion of the Chattooga River Gorge. High forested ridges rise 200 feet above the river, and huge boulders constrict the river into a narrow, mile-long channel over a continuous succession of rapids, cascades and white water sluices.

Big Shoals - The river divides here around a large low boulder and down a five foot ledge through boiling white-water.

Rock Garden - A series of spectacular rock formations. The geologic strata has been tipped 45° from horizontal, with softer layers eroded away. This has left large slabs of rock sticking up to 25 feet out of the river at a sharp angle.

Dicks Creek Falls - The most classically beautiful falls along the river, dropping 50-feet over a steep ledge into the River.

The Narrows - Here the surging waters of the river are squeezed between rock walls into a deep, narrow, fast moving channel less than six feet wide.

Bull Sluice - a 10-foot high falls dropping over a large rock formation in the river.

Woodall Shoals - A large rock shoals above an eight foot cascading falls and a twisting turbulent rapid.

Raven Rock Cliffs - Steep rock cliffs on the South Carolina side rising 200 feet above the river, partially overhanging it.

Sockum Dog Hole - A shoals directly above a large boil followed by long treacherous rapids. Not far below this, the river empties into Lake Tugaloo.



# Points of Interest

