

ISSAQUEENA LOOKOUT TOWER – RESTORATION COMMITTEE REPORT

See following text and photos.

Things are looking pretty good at the old "Lookout Tower". Since the last report, the exteriors of all the buildings have been reworked. Now there are new metal roofs on everything except the barn. There is new siding on all buildings except the house. Which, by-the-way, as you can see from the 1938 pic was originally board and batten (probably local yellow pine). At the start of the project I checked with the John Manville Company and found they began making gypsum siding board of the type that is now on the house in 1936. I assumed that it was installed on the Tower House around that time. However, about 6 months ago the 1938 photograph of the house was found in Dr. George H. Aull's papers at the ST Institute. Not only does it show the B&B siding but also note there is no electrical service line to the house. I had often wondered about the statement that it was the first house to have electricity in the area. It may have had a electrical power from a generator or battery system but not from from a remote source. I have on occasion spoke with some of the older local folks in the area (Pikes, Arnolds, Teets) and they all stated that there homes received electrical service in the Fall of 1940. The Tower is in the same service area as their homes were.

Anyway, many thanks are due to Knight Cox and Stassen Thompson for the tremendous progress. Stassen really got involved before his retirement and somehow found the funding to purchase the materials and pay contractors. He also arranged to have some of the maintenance personnel from the Farms Department work on the project as time allowed. Knight used some of his personnel and generally provided the coordination and oversight. Thanks are also due to Tree-South for donating the tree trimming work.

Of course there are a number of things that still need attention before the facility will be fully restored. The buildings on the site are in good shape and should not require major refurbishing for the next 30 to 40 years. The barn roof is the only roof that has not been replaced but Knight is making plans to have this done within the next year. The windmill needs to be restored. The manufacture, Aermoter Company, is still in business and assures me that it has parts in stock to rebuild the mill. The 7'x7' metal cabin on the Tower has not been inspected. Mainly, because we don't have many folks that are confident in climbing 100 feet of open steps. It needs to be inspected to at least make sure the cabin is still weather proof. Hopefully we can soon find some one who can get up there and assess the condition.

The house is currently occupied by Mr. & Mrs. Franklin Reynolds. Franklin (Red) works for Knight on the Clemson Forest. The Reynolds's have made some really major improvements to the interior of the house. I have not seen all of them but the last time I was on site "Red" was doing a complete overhaul on the bathroom.

If you would care to visit the site for a walk-around of the exteriors of the buildings, please contact Knight so he can inform the Reynolds. Check with Knight - but if you are taking a group on a tour of the Forest I don't think there would be any objection to just driving in the access road and making a loop around the Tower.

Note: No electrical service line.

Windmill - water source

Pasture

Barn

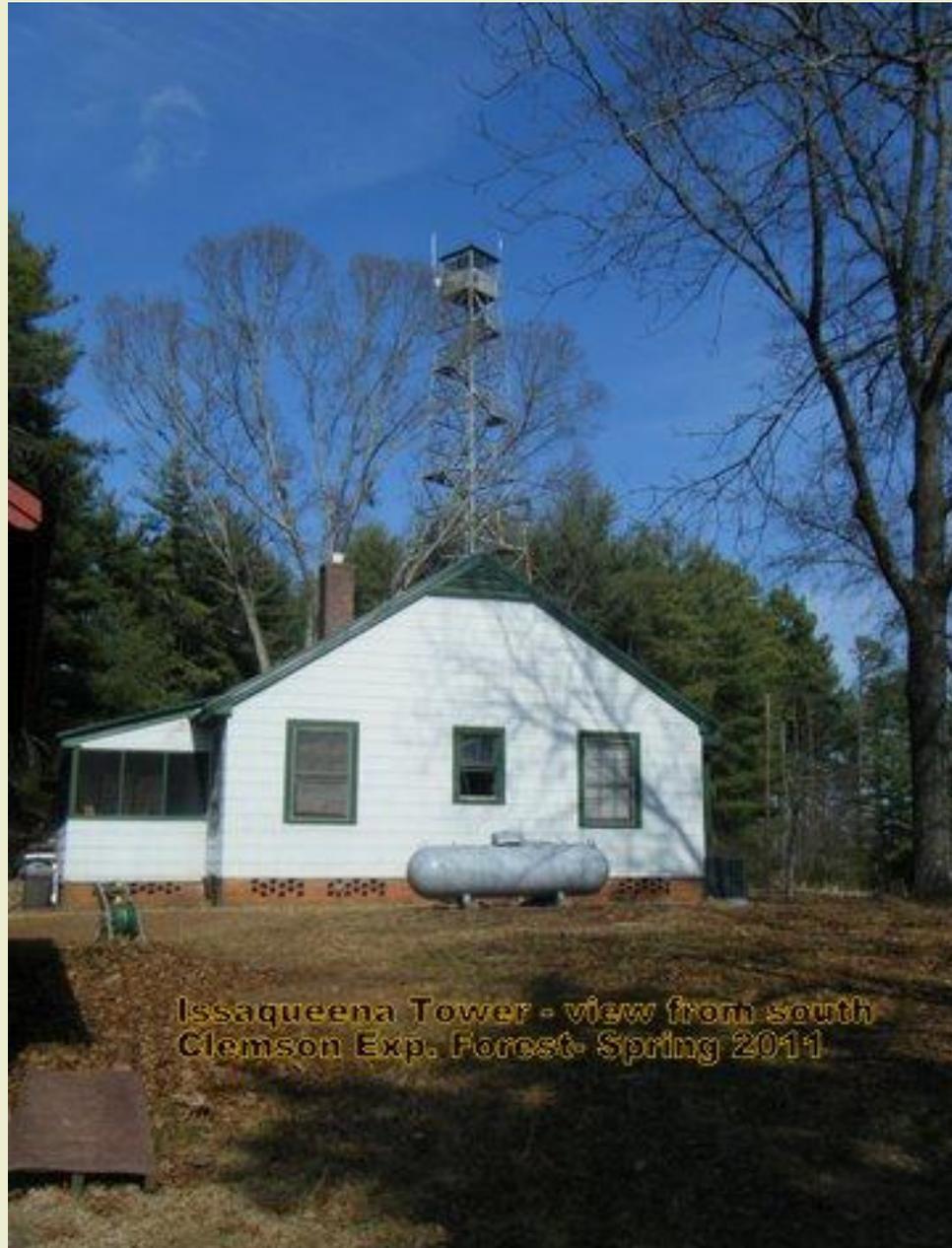
Hog Barn

Garage

Towerman's House

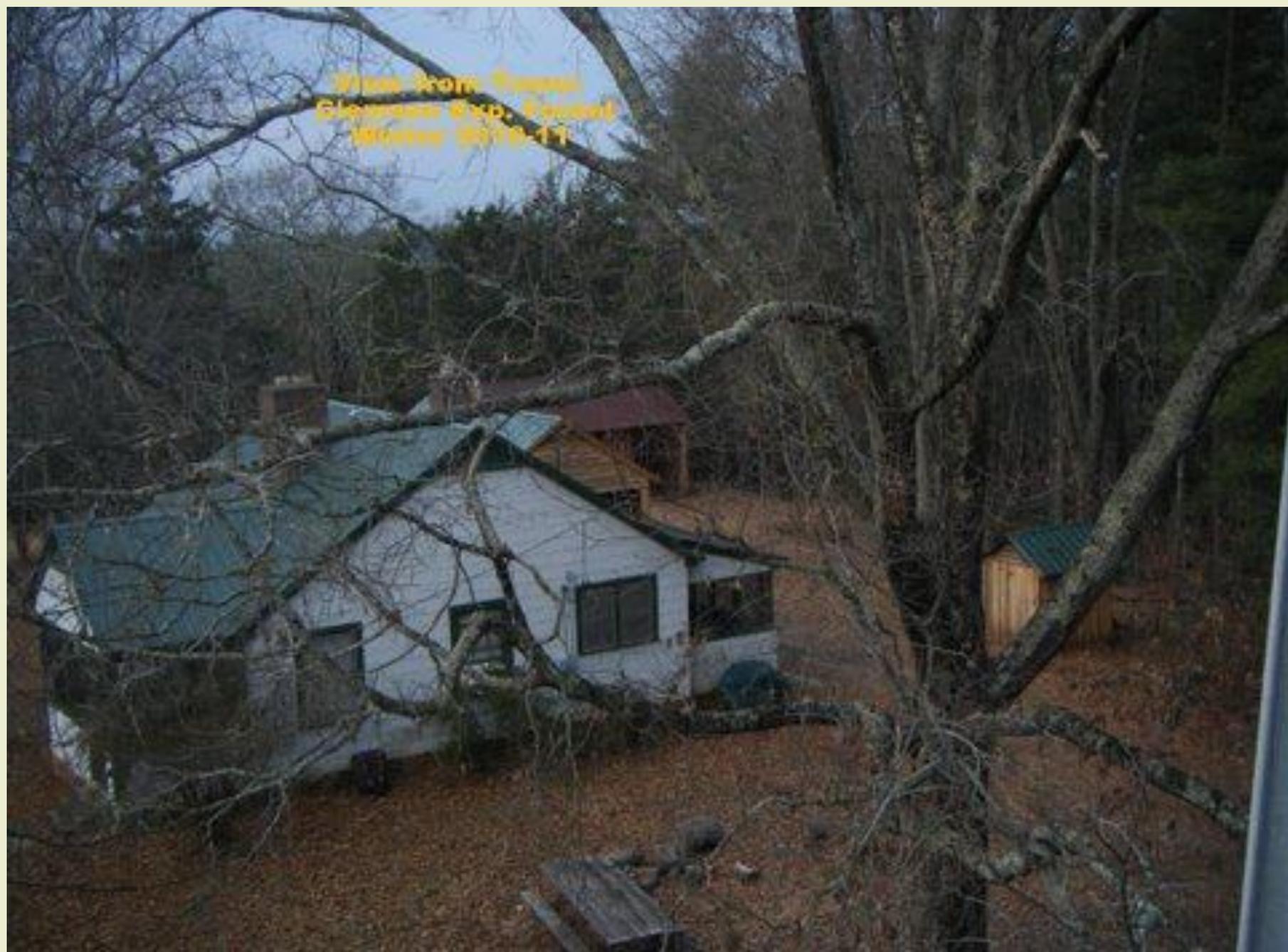
Issaqueena Lookout Tower House & Buildings, ca. 1938
Clemson Exp. Forest

LU-563-A



Issaqueena Tower - view from south
Clemson Exp. Forest- Spring 2011

11/11/2011
6:00 AM
11/11/2011





Isaqueena Tower House
Porches Repaired and Painted
Clamaco Exp. Forest
Winter 2010



Issaqueena Tower House - Exterior Repairs Completed
Clemson Experimental Forest
Spring 2010



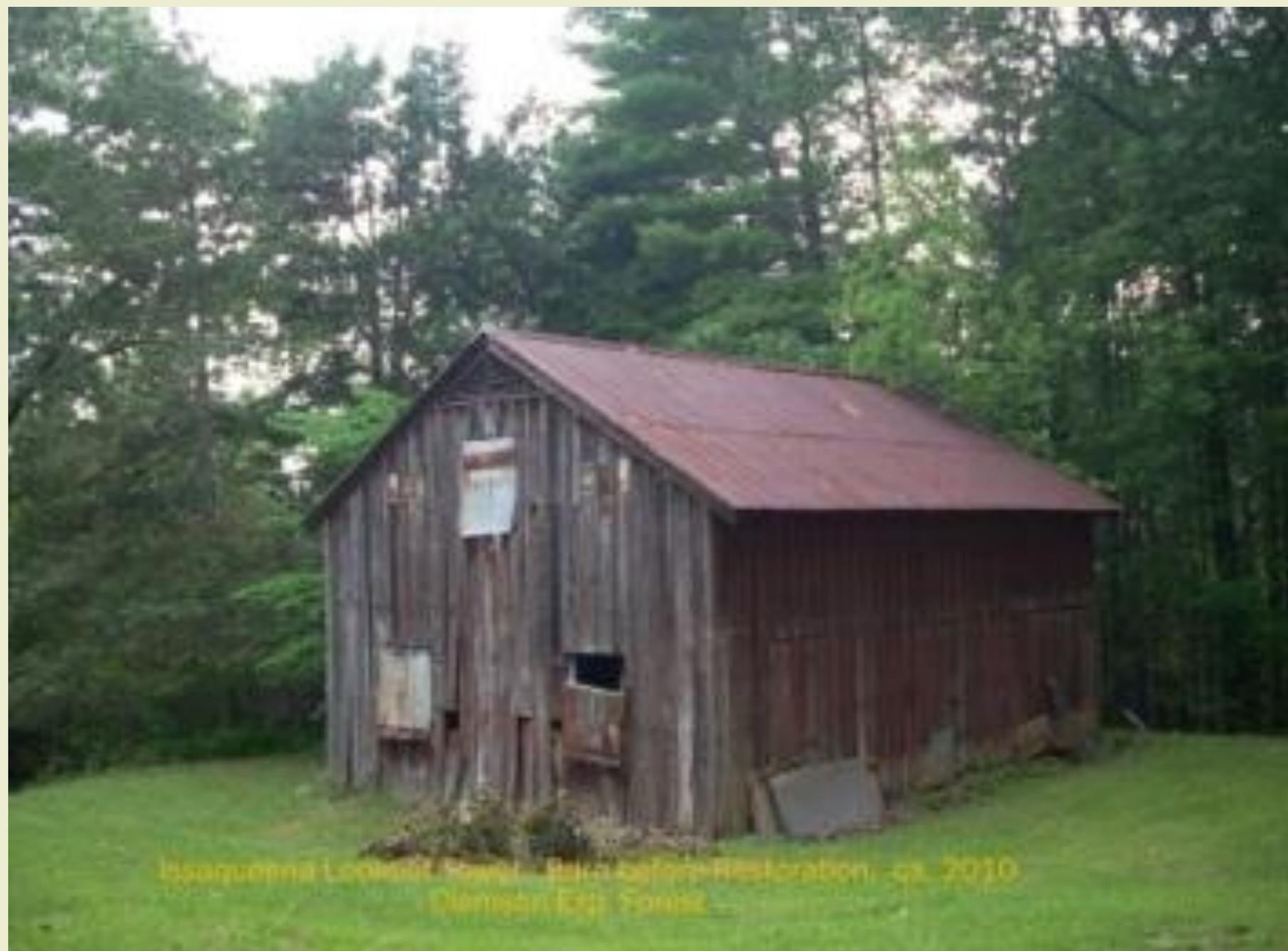
Issaquena Lookout Tower - Trees Trimmed by
Tree South, ca 2019



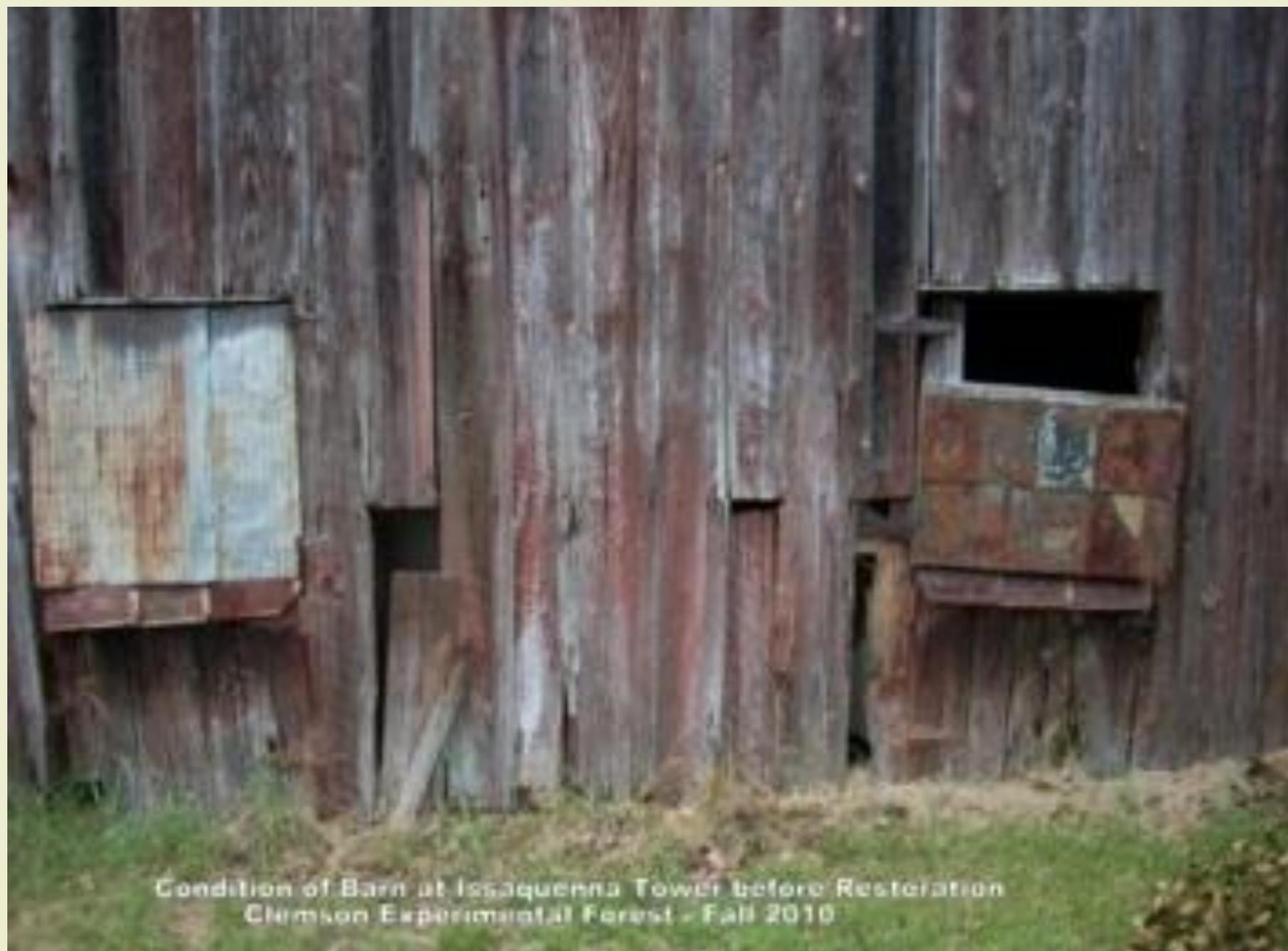
Isaquesena Lookout Tower - windows reglazed and painted. Clemson Exp. Forest, ca 2010



Issaqueena Lookout Tower - Porches, screens,
new hardware restored, ca 2010
Clemson Exp. Forest



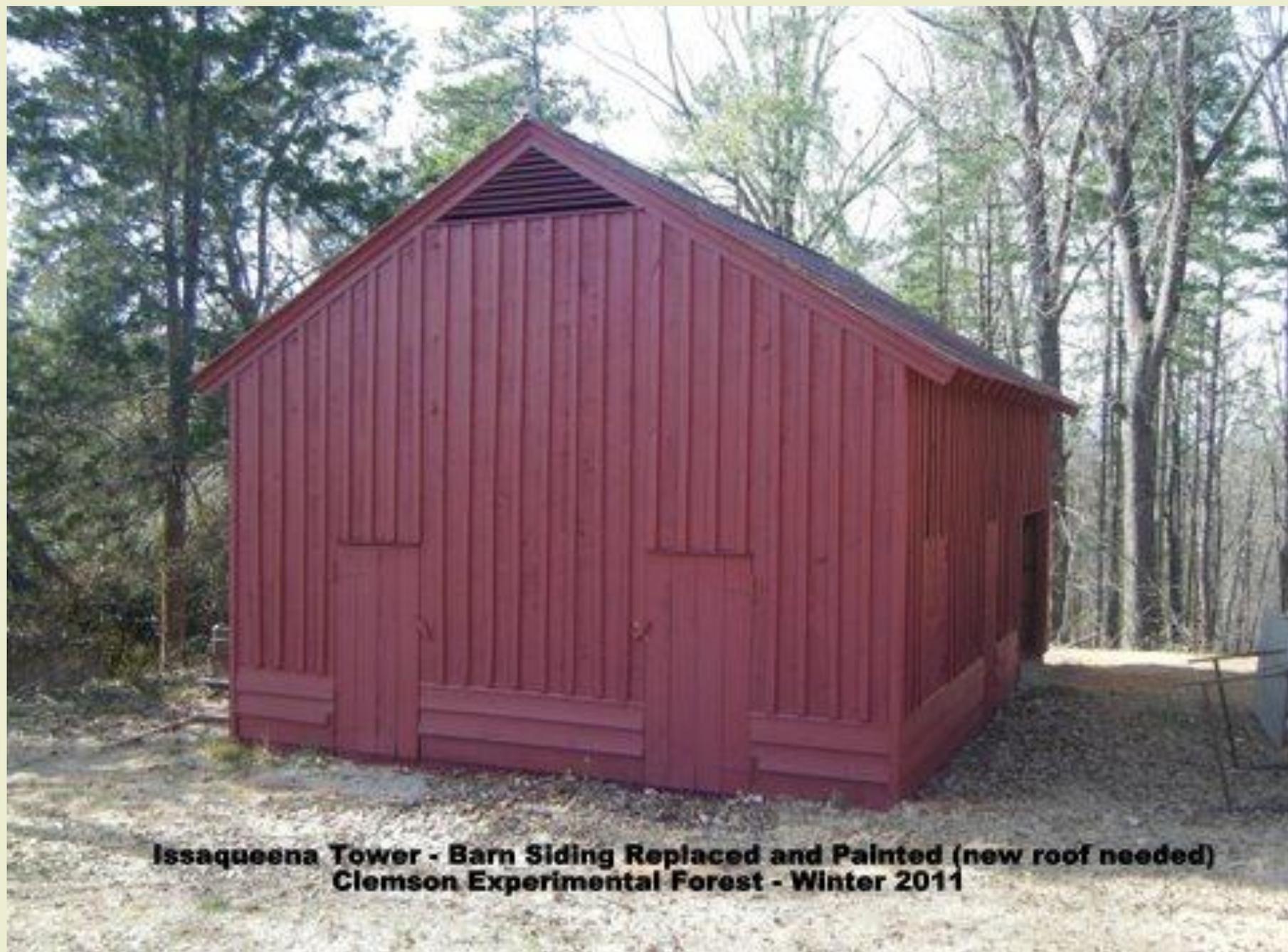
Isaquonnia Lockwell Farm - Barn before Restoration - ca. 2010
©Nancy Egg Forest



Condition of Barn at Issaquena Tower before Restoration
Clemson Experimental Forest - Fall 2010



Issaquena Lookout Tower - Barn partially restored, ca 2010
Clamson Exp. Forest



**Issaqueena Tower - Barn Siding Replaced and Painted (new roof needed)
Clemson Experimental Forest - Winter 2011**



Inaquesna Lookout Tower - Garage restoration, ca 2010
Clemson Exp. Forest



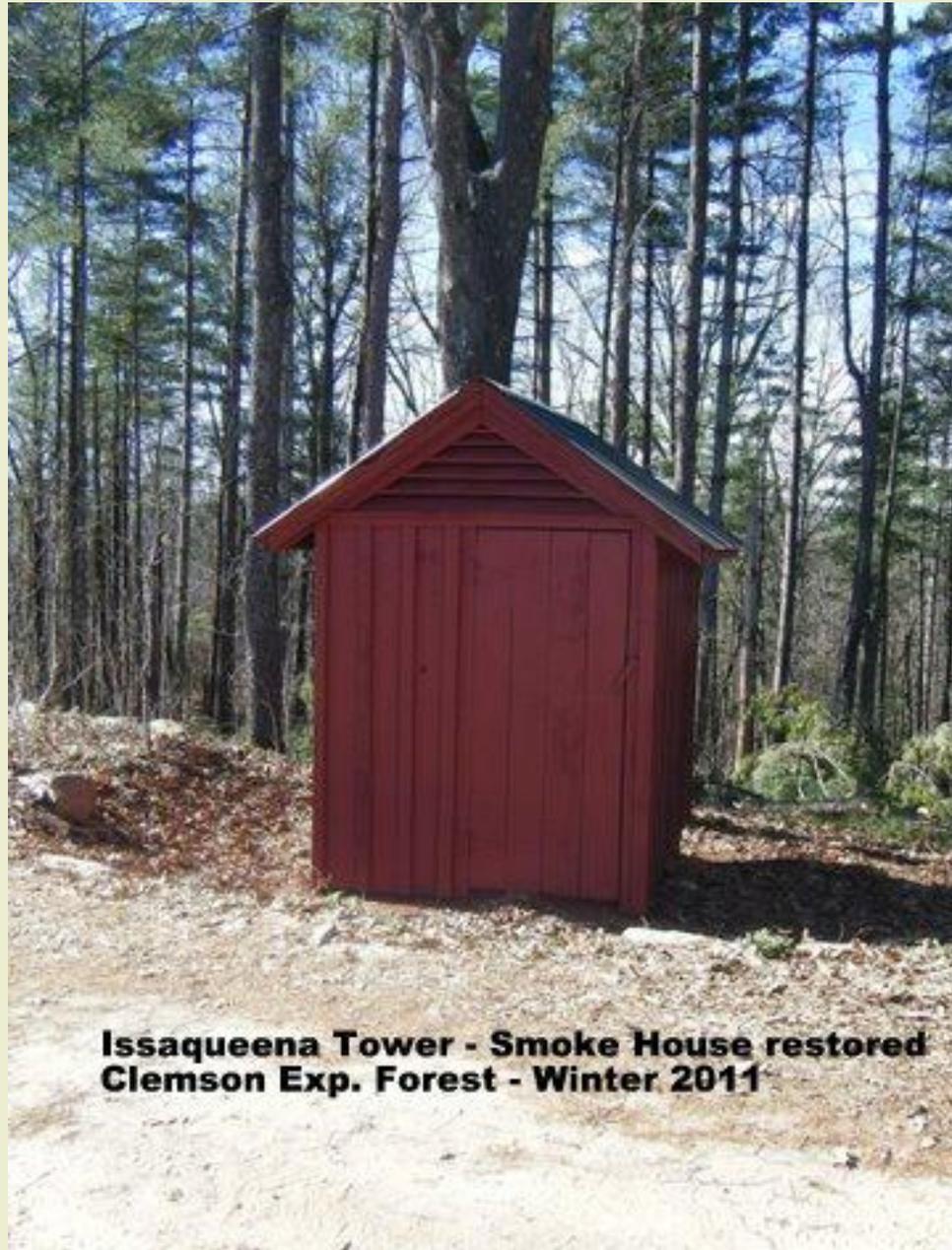
**Issaqueena Tower - Restoration
of the Garage - View of firewood
storage bins.
Clemson Exp. Forest
Spring 2011**



**Issaqueena Tower- garage restored
Clemson Exp. Forest
Spring of 2011**

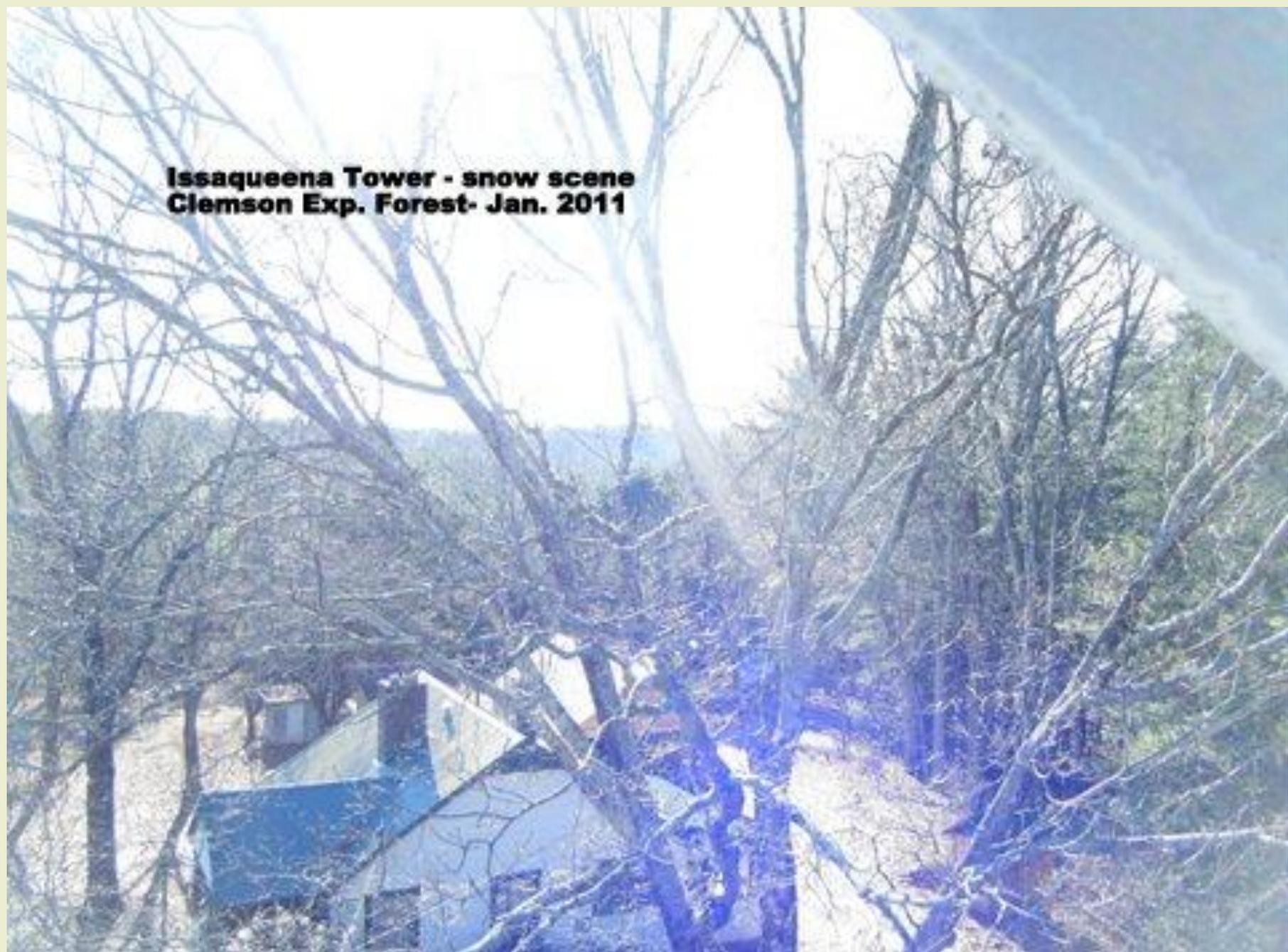
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Bisquitona Tower - Smoke House
Clemson Exp. Forest - Summer 1911





**Issaqueena Tower - Smoke House restored
Clemson Exp. Forest - Winter 2011**

**Issaqueena Tower - snow scene
Clemson Exp. Forest- Jan. 2011**



At this time we going to declare the first phase of restoration complete. As most of you know the Tower and buildings are listed on the national registry of firetowers. The grid of fire lookout towers that at one time spanned all the forested regions was one of the key factors enabling the conservation of the forest resources of the Nation. They served the purpose well for over 80 years but are rapidly disappearing from the landscape. Hopefully, the Issaqueena Tower will be well maintained into the future and perhaps, one-day, achieve a place on the National Historical Register.

Larry Reamer

July, 2011