

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

July 3, 1935.

Mrs. Rosalie Edge,
Emergency Conservation Committee,
734 Lexington Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Mrs. Edge:

Thank you for sending the mimeographed statement concerning the Leatherwood Forest in Perry County, Kentucky. The account convinces me that the area is worth investigating and I am therefore calling it to the attention of our Branch of Planning which investigates proposed park or monument areas. It is hoped that the forest will turn out to be even better than Miss Braun's account of it.

Your short visit the other day was a pleasure. I sincerely hope that your jaunt through the parks this summer will be a profitable and pleasant adventure. There is much to see even along the beaten paths, but still more away from them. With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Ben H. Thompson,
Acting Chief,
Wildlife Division.

cc Wildlife Division, Washington
Wildlife Division, Berkeley

BHT:ELG

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VICE

"Save the Big Trees" on Leatherwood, Perry County.

A talk given at the spring meeting of the Garden Club of Kentucky, at Millersburg, March 29, 1935.

By E. Lucy Braun, University of Cincinnati.

Down in the southern part of Perry County, on Lynn Fork of Leatherwood Creek, is one of the most beautiful tracts of virgin forest I have ever seen. For some time I had heard of the "big poplar" of Perry County, and it was while on the quest for this that I saw this magnificent forest. It occupies the left fork of Lynn Fork and for some two miles we walked through untouched forest, following a faint trail which led to the "big poplar," a gigantic tulip tree nearly 24 feet in circumference, breast high. It took five people with arms outstretched to reach around the tree. This gigantic trunk towered upward, unbranched, to such heights that it was impossible to distinguish the leaves of the crown. Nowhere east of California have I seen such a gigantic tree. And this was only one of many large trees.

The forest contains a variety of trees -- tulip trees, oaks, beech, sugar maple, hemlock -- all large. Oftentimes we see tracts of so-called virgin forest from which this or that tree has been removed; or if the canopy is intact, with the undergrowth ruined by grazing or by rooting hogs. But not so here. Nothing has ever disturbed this area; the luxuriance of the undergrowth is beyond description. There is a wealth of herbaceous plants, and beautiful wild flowers and ferns are everywhere. The whole place is awe-inspiring in its beauty and grandeur.

Very few virgin forest areas remain. Of the original forest of Kentucky, less than two per cent remains in such condition that it can be classed as old-growth forest; and only a small part of this is really virgin. The Lynn Fork forest is one of these.

Why not save a piece of your native country, your native state, in its original condition as a monument to the original beauty and grandeur of your forests, just as you save an historical shrine?

Nowhere in the whole world is there the equal in beauty and magnificence of our eastern deciduous forest. It is unexcelled. And in Kentucky and Tennessee this deciduous forest reached its superlative development. So by saving a piece of Kentucky's virgin forest you would be saving a forest outstanding of its kind.

Our pioneer ancestors moved westward through this trackless forest. We have hardly a remnant left to show what that country they traveled through was like, what hardships, what problems confronted those hardy pioneers. Is there anything left in the Blue Grass to give even an idea of the original condition when the settlers came? Nothing. It is too late now in the Blue Grass to have an area perpetuating original conditions, but not so in the eastern part of the state. Some virgin forest still remains there.

How shall we go about saving this forest; these grand trees?

Several methods suggest themselves:

1. Make the area a state park.

But, the beautiful delicate undergrowth, trampled by many feet, over-run by picnickers, could not long endure. The "development" to which all State Parks are rightly exposed -- the road to make access easy, the many paths, would at once destroy the primitive wilderness which is one of the awe-inspiring features of this remote tract. The publicity surrounding the establishment of a State Park, the ease of access which would soon follow "development" would result in the place being visited by hordes of people. And we all know that there are many who go to parks because they are parks, not for any real love and appreciation of the beauty and sublimity of nature. We want State Parks and more of them, but for the preservation of this particular area, a State Park will not suffice.

2. A second method suggests itself:

Make the area a State Forest. State forests do not receive the publicity which is the lot of state parks. But to make this area a state forest would defeat our purpose for it is in accordance with good forestry practice to cut mature trees. And these grand old trees are mature -- but untouched they can live on for many scores of years. This should not be taken in any way as criticism of state forests. They are splendid things. But, remember, the functions of state forests have this afternoon been stated as being (1) timber production, (2) erosion control, (3) recreation, and (4) fish and game. They should pay for themselves in the returns they yield. But if this area yields a return in money then it no longer will be the area we are trying to save.

The enabling bill now before Congress for Federal aid in the establishment of State Forests is a good thing and needs your support -- but it is entirely distinct from the problem of saving the Lynn Fork forest.

One other point which applies alike to State Parks and State Forests -- and that is that state policies are subject to radical changes with changing administrations. Policies do not endure.

3. There is left a third way:

Include this area in a National Forest and designate it a primitive area to remain forever untouched as an example of America's primitive wilderness. This is an established policy of the Forest Service and has a recent precedent in the Tionesta Creek forest of western Pennsylvania -- a virgin forest tract recently acquired and set aside as a permanent preserve.

Considerable area in the mountains of Kentucky comes within the limits of the proposed purchase units of the new Cumberland National Forest. One great tract of this proposed National Forest stretches from Morehead southwestward to the Tennessee boundary. Other lesser areas are farther east; one includes some land in Perry County, but the boundary is east of the Lynn Fork area, but not far from it. The method would be to have the boundary of the new national forest extended to include Lynn Fork. How can this be done? Let me read two paragraphs from a letter from the American Forestry Association:

"All of this land and the boundaries of the proposed Cumberland National Forest are a few miles east of the virgin forest tract described and mapped by you.

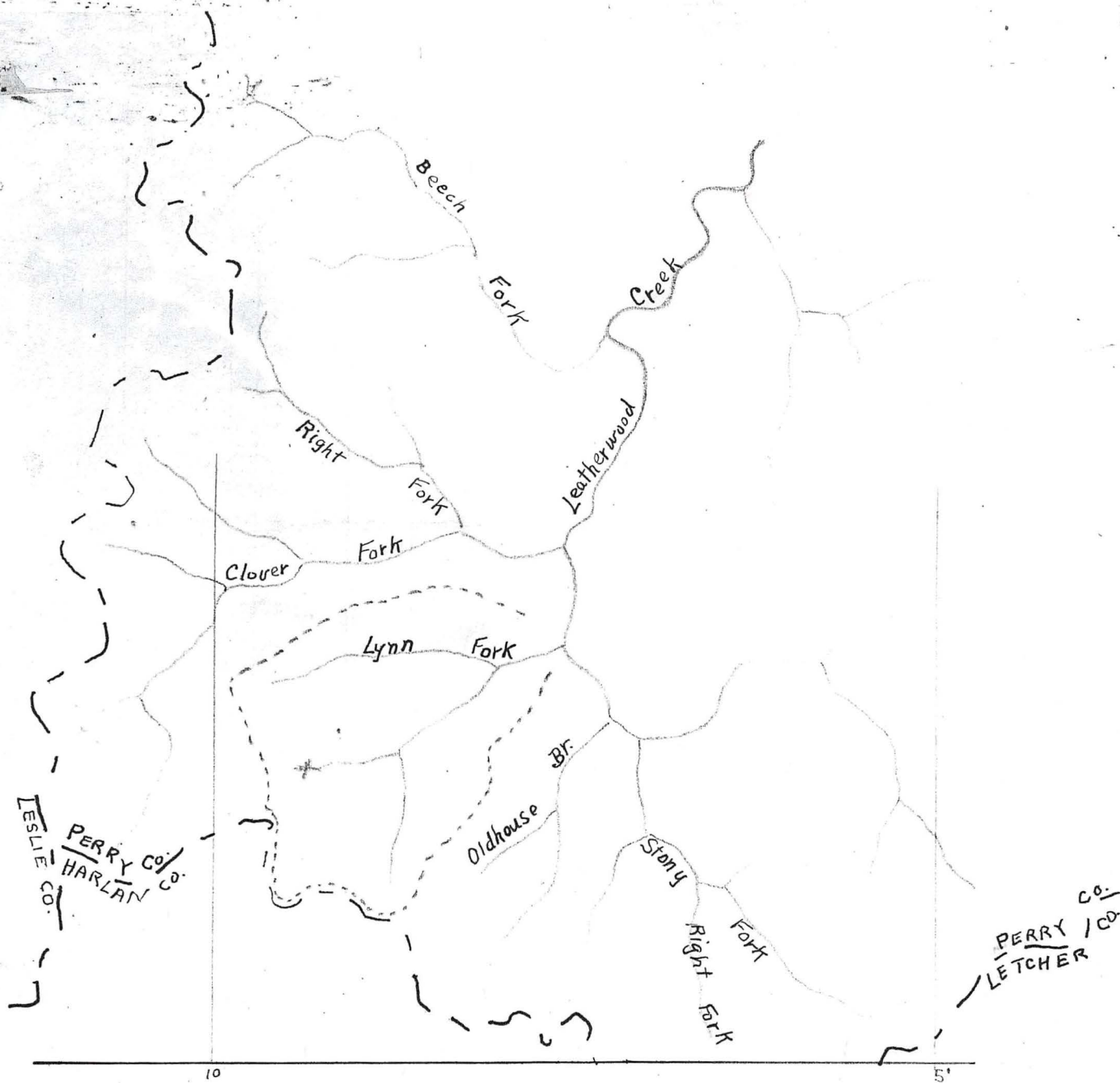
"Acquisition of such lands as you have in mind would prove exceedingly expensive. However, if sufficient public opinion were reflected to the Kentucky Representatives and Senators in Congress, they could probably be influential in extending the boundaries so that eventual purchase would be possible. I really think that is the best way to work it out."

If sufficient pressure is brought to bear -- if we want this badly enough -- we can get it.

We must act quickly before it is cut -- the timber rights are held by the Leatherwood Lumber Company who are now cutting in the next branch. Remember, timber rights and land are held separately and to secure the land is not to secure the timber.

By all means, this project is worthy of your greatest efforts. Nowhere, not even in the Great Smoky Mountains, have I seen a more beautiful forest or larger trees.

Let us work together to save this area.



X Approximate location of largest tulip poplar
 ----- Drainage basin of Lynn Fork

From
 Cornettsville
 topographic sheet

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

July 5, 1935.

Memorandum for Mr. Lee Brown:

Mrs. Edge of the Emergency Conservation Committee spoke about this Leatherwood Forest in Perry County, Kentucky, when she was in the office recently and has since forwarded us this mimeographed account. I am wondering if the area might not be worth investigation. Any tract of virgin forest which is as picturesque as Miss Braun describes would be difficult to maintain in its primeval condition unless it is a large area or unless it could have some monument designation which would keep it from being developed. Whether it should be state or national monument would of course depend upon its qualities. At any rate, the data is sent for your consideration.

Ben H. Thompson,
Acting Chief,
Wildlife Division.

Enclosure 678039

cc Wildlife Division, Washington

BHT:ELG

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mr. Lee Brown: *Wta*

Attached is letter RE Big Tree
area in Leatherwood County, Kentucky,
and P.C. Please advise if
there have been any developments
subsequent to B.H.I.'s memo of
July 5 to you.

J. H. Cahalane

Gen. del. Laying the Key.

July. 24. 1935.

VHC
File

My dear Mr. Thompson-

I am so glad to
hear thro. Mrs. Edge of
your interest in our
Leatherstock Wilderness
Area, that we are try-
ing so hard to save.
Sincerely

Dr. Braun of the Botany
Dept. of the University
of Cincinnati & President
of the Ohio Oculogist
Society has just come
from there where she
has made an inter-
view study of part of
it. She thinks some

thing should be done
right away. Perhaps
you can get in touch
with her to get her
last report.

Mrs. Edge says that she
hopes to see these
big trees early in Sept.

Can't you come at
the same time.

Very truly yours.

Katherine Pettit.

Dr. Lucy Braun
2702 May St.

Cincinnati
Ohio.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

7/26

Mr. Cahalane:

This area has been submitted to Regional Office for investigation, by letter shortly after receipt of Ben Thompson's memo. The report has not been received as yet, but we will route it through your office when received.

Allen

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

July 27, 1935.

Mrs. Katherine Pettit,
General Delivery,
Lexington, Kentucky.

Dear Mrs. Pettit:

Reference is made to your letter of July 24 to Mr. Thompson.

Following a conversation with Mrs. Edge concerning the Leatherwood Creek tract in Perry County, Kentucky, the desirability of designation of this area as a state or national monument was submitted to the regional office of the State Parks Division of the National Park Service for investigation. A report has not been received as yet, but you may be sure that all consideration will be given to the necessity for the preservation of this wilderness area.

Sincerely yours,

Victor H. Cahalane,
Acting Chief,
Wildlife Division.

cc Mrs. C. N. Edge
Dr. Lucy Braun
Wildlife Division, Washington
Wildlife Division, Berkeley

VHC:ELG

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MISS KATHERINE PETTIT
MRS. ETHEL DE LONG ZANDE

Aug. 1. '35

TREASURER
C. N. MANNING
SECURITY TRUST CO.
LEXINGTON, KY.

PINE MOUNTAIN SETTLEMENT SCHOOL, INC.
PINE MOUNTAIN, HARLAN COUNTY
KENTUCKY

J. B.
VHC
File

Gen. Del. Lexington Ky.

Dear Mr. Cahalane:

I am glad to
have your letter of July 27.
telling of your interest
in the Wilderness Area
in our Ky. Mts. that we
are trying to save. Mrs.
Edge expects to go there
early in Sept. as also be.
We will leave the next.
After that perhaps you
can help her and us
to formulate some
plan that we may
work for. as a rep.

sentiment of The Wild
Life Division & wish
you could see ^{this} area.
Care it you.

Very Truly yours -

(Miss) Katherine Pettit

File

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

August 15, 1935.

Dr. E. Lucy Braun,
2702 May Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Braun:

Reference is made to your letter of August 5, describing the Leatherwood Creek tract in Perry County, Kentucky.

Your letter has made the rounds in this office, and I know has made people here conscious of the value of this fine tract of timber. Consideration of its value for state park purposes has not yet been completed but you will be informed as soon as a decision is reached.

Thank you for your graphic presentation of this wilderness picture.

Sincerely yours,

Victor H. Cahalane,
Acting Chief,
Wildlife Division.

cc Mr. Lee Brown
Wildlife Division, Washington
Wildlife Division, Berkeley

VHC:ELG

Wright

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

September 11, 1935.

Memorandum for
MR. WIRTH:

Reference is made to Mr. Howard's report on the Leatherwood Forest, Perry County, Kentucky. It seems to me that Mr. Howard's recommendation that the tract should be preserved as a typical relic of the forests traversed by Daniel Boone and other pioneers is sensible. In order to accomplish this purpose, National Monument status is desirable.

Because of the relatively close proximity of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, I recommend that in order to find out if the forest on the Leatherwood tract shows sufficient diversity from virgin forests in the lower elevations of the Great Smoky Mountains that an examination of the Kentucky tract be made by someone familiar with the National Park. Wildlife Technician Willis King, for instance, would be qualified and available to go from his headquarters at Gatlinburg to the Leatherwood tract and make a report on this comparison.

It would also appear to be desirable to obtain from Mr. Howard an estimate of the probable cost of acquisition of the mineral rights and timber rights of the Leatherwood area. My study of his report indicates that he has said that the land could probably be bought for \$1.00 per acre, but I can find no mention of the probable cost of acquiring these other two features.

Victor H. Cahalane,
Acting Assistant Chief,
Wildlife Division.

cc Wildlife Division, Washington
Wildlife Division, Berkeley

VHC:ELG

Wright

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

September 14, 1935.

Mr. Willis King,
Assistant Wildlife Technician,
Great Smoky Mountains National Park,
Elkmont, Tennessee.

Dear Mr. King:

You are asked to conduct a preliminary investigation of the Leatherwood tract in southeastern Kentucky. This tract is being considered for acquisition as a national monument. Information on this area, comparing the vegetation with that in portions of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, is desired before any steps are taken toward its acquisition. Plan to visit this area during the current month, if possible.

Sincerely yours,

Victor H. Cahalane
Acting Assistant Chief
Wildlife Division.

WK
CC Wildlife Division
Washington and Berkeley.
CC Mr. Wirth.

Wright

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

September 23, 1935.


Memorandum for
MR. DEMARAY:

Reference is made to your letter of September 20 to Superintendent Toll regarding inspection of the proposed Leatherwood Forest National Monument, Kentucky.

With the approval of Mr. Butterfield, Wildlife Technician Willis King of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park has been requested to make an inspection of the proposed monument within the next week or two in order to make comparisons between the forest cover of the Leatherwood tract and the Great Smokies, with a view to establishing differences or similarities. Mr. King will furnish a report to this office, with copies to Mr. Wirth and Superintendent Toll.

Victor H. Cahalane,
Acting Assistant Chief,
Wildlife Division.

cc Mr. H. E. Weatherman
Mr. Paul V. Brown
Mr. Butterfield
Mr. King
Supt. Toll
Wildlife Division, Washington
Wildlife Division, San Francisco



VHC:ELG

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

W.K. King

October 25, 1935.

Dr. H. M. Jennison,
Associate Wildlife Technician,
Great Smoky Mountains National Park,
Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

Dear Dr. Jennison:

I am sending you our copies of the report on the Leatherwood Forest. There were only enough prints for one of these, but we can get others from my negatives if necessary. Copies of the report went to Mr. Wirth (State Parks), Mr. Toll, at Yellowstone, the Director, and to the Wildlife Division offices, Washington and San Francisco.

I thought it best to reduce the text somewhat and trust the final form is satisfactory to you. I believe it states our findings and conclusions clearly enough.

Sincerely yours,

Willis King,
Acting Chief,
Wildlife Division.

Enclosure 234355

cc - Wildlife Division, Washington
cc - Wildlife Division, San Francisco

WK:bn

VHC

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

November 22, 1935

Memorandum for
MR. WRIGHT:

Re: Leatherwood Forest Tract,
Perry County, Kentucky.

On the basis of the reports submitted by Howard and Mutchler, State Parks Division, and by Jennison and myself of your Division, it was decided that the Federal Government should abandon efforts toward the acquisition of the tract in question. This was not because those investigating the area reported that the forests were not worthy of preservation, but because the Director felt the tract contained nothing of outstanding interest which is not included in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park or Mammoth Cave.

The 1200 acres of virgin hardwood trees, surrounded by some 800 additional acres^{near} virgin forest, are well worth preserving irrespective of whether the Federal Government or the State of Kentucky is the one to do it. There is no doubt but that logging operations will begin in the area within a few months. This is not just a far cry. The situation is further complicated by mineral holdings of a coal company, which promises to exploit its holdings eventually.

Mr. Van Name is incorrect in stating that this "is perhaps the most outstanding tract of primeval forest left in the Eastern United States, as yet unspoiled and containing the largest and finest tulip poplars in existence". The Great Smokies has at least a dozen coves equally as good and as large as the Leatherwood Tract, where the plant and animal species are much greater in number. The one big yellow poplar is a little larger than any known tree in the Smokies, but in the latter place there are scores compared to the few in the Kentucky tract.

The Leatherwood Forest is worth saving as an example of the virgin hardwood forests, which formerly clothed the Cumberland Mountains. Its streams and wildlife are insignificant. If the State of Kentucky is willing to shoulder the responsibility of preserving it, it is ^{one} ~~there~~ to do it. The Federal Government might take an active hand only if necessary to insure its preservation. It would be valuable to know if there are other areas in Eastern United States that are more deserving of federal recognition than is this one.

Willis King

Willis King,
Acting Assistant Chief,
Wildlife Division.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

December 9, 1935.

Dr. Willard G. Van Name,
American Museum of Natural History,
77th Street and Central Park West,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Van Name:

I wish to acknowledge and to thank you for your letter of November 19 regarding the desirability of acquiring certain tracts of primeval forest lands as areas of historic significance, and having particular reference to the Leatherwood Forest tract in Kentucky.

Please be assured that your letter has received the earnest consideration of Mr. Ben Thompson and myself, as well as of other members of the Park Service staff. However, as I know that you discussed this important matter with Mr. Thompson on the occasion of your last visit, I shall not burden you here with repetition of our comments and conclusions on this subject.

Sincerely yours,

George M. Wright,
Chief,
Wildlife Division.

cc - Wildlife Division, Washington
cc - Wildlife Division, San Francisco

bn

*Miss Bailey
file
BTK*

The Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League
Lexington, Kentucky

MISS DAISY HUME, CHAIRMAN
WINCHESTER PIKE, LEXINGTON, KY.

DR. E. LUCY BRAUN, EXEC.-SEC.
2702 MAY STREET, CINCINNATI, OHIO

**Come one, Come all
to the
Mass Meeting on January 4**

Natio. Park Service	
MRS. BAILEY P. WOOTTON, SEC. TREAS.	
818 SHELBY STREET, FRANKFORT, KY.	
Date: JAN 2 1936	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Write	
<input type="checkbox"/> The reason	BTK
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash	VHC
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There is an emergency; we need your help. Kentucky, and with her the Nation at large, is faced with the destruction and consequent loss of one of the finest areas of mixed hardwood forest remaining in eastern United States. It is our duty, as citizens, to unite in efforts to save this beautiful area for posterity, and to extend our efforts in such manner that we may have, in the years to come, not one but several beautiful monuments of deciduous forest, one of the greatest masterpieces of the Creator.

Nowhere in the whole world is there the equal in beauty and magnificence of our eastern hardwood forest. And in Kentucky and Tennessee this forest reaches its superlative development. Just as we save examples of man's handicraft, just as we save an historical shrine, so also should we save superlative pieces of our original forest.

Our pioneer ancestors moved westward through this trackless forest, this great barrier to the migrations from Virginia to the Middle West. What was the country they passed through? What hardships did it present? What obstacles did it interpose? Scarcely anything is left of that dense forest from which we can get an idea of the problems which confronted those hardy pioneers. Let us act before it is too late.

Realization of the rapidity with which the last remaining stands of virgin forest are falling beneath the ax has lead to the organization of the Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League, whose objective is the acquisition of the best remaining tracts of virgin forest to be maintained for all time as inviolate preserves. **Everyone** who feels the appeal of the wilderness and the exquisite beauty of the virgin forest; **everyone** who finds interest in picturing the early history of Blue Grass Kentucky and the Middle West; **everyone** who delights in the literature and art of this country which had inspiration in unspoiled nature; **EVERYONE** is urged to give aid to this project in every possible way.

Come to our mass meeting in Lexington on January 4. Then we will **show** you, with slides and moving pictures, what our first project is. We will tell of plans and give you a chance to take part in an epoch-making event.

Cordially yours,

The Organization Committee

The Time: January 4, 1936, at 1 P.M.

The Place: Ball Room, Phoenix Hotel, Lexington, Kentucky.

LEATHERWOOD CREEK TRACT PERRY CO KENTUCKY

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Washington

JAN 6 1936

National Park Service Wildlife Division	
Date: 9861 2 NVT	
Wright	
Thompson	
Cahalane	VHC
File:	✓

Mrs. J. Kidwell Grannis,

Flemingsburg, Kentucky.

My dear Mrs. Grannis:

This is in reply to your letter of November 23 to Mr. Victor H. Cahalane, of the National Park Service, regarding the virgin tract of timber in Perry County, Kentucky, known as Leatherwood Forest.

This tract has been investigated recently by representatives of this Service who reported the timber to be worthy of preservation. However, due to high timber and mineral values, and to the fact that this is not considered the best existing example of this particular type of forest, it has been found inadvisable to recommend it for administration by this Service.

It is hoped, however, that this virgin forest can be preserved through other channels.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) O.L. Wirth

Conrad L. Wirth.
Assistant Director.

CC: Mr. Cahalane ✓
5th Reg. Officer

JLN-fmd

REFERENCE SERVICE SLIP					DATE	NO.
NAME OF REQUESTOR			AGENCY OR ADDRESS			
UNITS OF SERVICE					SOURCE OF REQUEST (Check)	
INFORMATION SERVICE (Number of replies)		RECORDS FURNISHED (Number of items)	TEXTUAL, STILL PICTURES, ETC. (Number of pages)	MOTION PICTURES (Number of feet)	SOUND RECORDINGS (Number of feet)	NA Administrative Use
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WRITTEN	ORAL					Other Government
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RG NO. 79	STACK AREA 150	ROW 35	COMPARTMENT 8		SHELF 5	OUTCARD NO.
<p>RECORD IDENTIFICATION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Box 6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FILE</p> <p>ENTRY PROPOSED PARKS: LEATHERWOOD TRACT (K4) (1935-1936)</p>						
RECEIVED BY			DATE	RETURNED TO		DATE

LEATHERWOOD NATIONAL MONUMENT (KENTUCKY), 1936

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

N. P. S. - REGION 1
RICHMOND, VA.

JUL 25 1936

RECEIVED
MAILS AND FILES

July 24, 1936.

First Regional Office,
National Park Service,
801 Grace Securities Building,
Richmond, Virginia.

Dear Sir:

Subject: Report - Leatherwood Natl
Monument, Perry Co., Ky.

This will acknowledge receipt of a letter of July 20, 1936, signed by C. C. Stutts, Acting Chief Clerk, submitting a copy of the report by Fred M. Mutchler and William J. Howard, regarding the proposed Leatherwood National Monument, Perry County, Kentucky.

We are herewith returning the copy of the report you transmitted to us as we have finally located through diligent search, a copy of the original report which contains maps but no newspaper clippings.

We sincerely appreciate your cooperation in sending this additional copy of the report.

Sincerely yours,

Conrad L. Wirth.
Assistant Director.

by:

Kenneth B. Simmons
Kenneth B. Simmons.
Deputy Assistant
Director.

Encl. 999121

File
CB

By 0-35
Leatherwood
N.M.

C O P Y

REPORT ON LEATHERWOOD NATIONAL MONUMENT

PERRY COUNTY - KENTUCKY

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
BRANCH OF PLANNING
EXTENSION DIVISION

C o p y

PROPOSED NATIONAL PARKS AND MONUMENTS

Name of Project: Leatherwood Forest.

Location - Kentucky, Perry County, 30 miles south of Hayard, Ky.

Area - Total approx. 2200 acres. Approx. 3.44 square miles.

Boundaries -

Recommended: The particular tract of land recommended for acquisition is known as the Kentucky Union tract. It is bounded on the east by Lynn Fork of Leatherwood Creek; on the south by the crest of the divide separating Leatherwood Creek and the Line Fork of the Kentucky River; on the west by Clover Fork of Leatherwood Creek; on the north by a line connecting Lynn and Clover Forks of Leatherwood Creek. (See Map). It will be necessary to obtain both sides of the ridge separating Clover and Lynn Forks in order to give protection to the area from mineral claims.

Accessibility:

Railway - Louisville & Nashville RR to Cornettsville, Ky., 12 miles from the area.

Highway - Kentucky Highway 15 to Jeff, Ky., 22 miles from the area; County Highway, graded to Daisy, Ky. (10 miles distant); County Highway, ungraded, to junction of Lynn Fork & Leatherwood Creek (2 miles distant): the dirt road is passable about eight months of the year.

Airline - None

Waterway - None

Major Characteristics:

1. Scenic Features -

Topography - The area is in the heart of Cumberland mountains, although not in that part having the greatest elevation. The country is fairly rugged, with timbered ridges, separated by narrow valleys. This particular locality is at the extreme headwaters of the North Fork of the Kentucky River. It is very close to Pine Mountain (12 miles) which is the divide between the Kentucky and Cumberland River Basins.

Scenic features here are not exceptional. They do not compare favorably with certain other localities in the Cumberland Range.

Elevation - The difference in elevation in the area under discussion is approximately 400 feet. The crest of the highest ridge which would be included in these boundaries is approximately 2200 feet above sea level.

Plant Cover - The entire area is heavily timbered with a virgin mixed deciduous and coniferous forest. This is the primary feature of the area. For details see paragraphs Nos. 2 and 5 of this report.

Permanent water sufficient for the needs of wildlife is present in Lynn and Clover Forks of Leatherwood Creek. The water supply is not of such a nature as to be of use for fishing, drinking, bathing or other human uses.

2. Historical or prehistoric features -

This area has indirect historical value. Volumes have been written concerning the character of the primitive wilderness as seen by Daniel Boone and the early settlers of Kentucky upon reaching Cumberland Gap. Early writings lead us to believe that a hardwood forest extended over a large part of the Northeast Territory

and the states of Kentucky and Tennessee. Far less than one percent of this forest is existent. The Leatherwood Area is a part of this virgin forest. It seems logical and desirable that a remnant of this once large acreage be preserved in its original status.

3. Geological features -

The outcroppings are all of sandstone and shales of the Pennsylvania Era. Some fossil plants were noted.

4. Recreational possibilities -

National - Not compatible with project

Local - " " " "

Estimated population within a radius of 50 miles - 400,000

" " " " " 100 " 1,250,000

" " " " " 200 " 2,500,000

5. Biological features

a. Vegetative - The area represents a typical ecological association. It is a climax mesophytic forest. The principal trees are tulip (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), white oak (*Quercus alba*), chestnut oak (*Q. montana*), beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), and basswood (*Tilia* sp.) These trees are large and mature. The canopy is practically unbroken on northern exposure slopes resulting in a woodland with very little dense undergrowth. On southern exposure slopes the undergrowth is heavy. This is partly due to the fact that trees never were as thick here and partly to the loss of the chestnut from blight. There is some difference in species due to elevation; notably the chestnut oak replacing white oak near crests of the ridges. The forest presents an appearance of extreme old age and is typical of a type long since removed from most of our country. It should be of greatest interest to students of ecology.

b. Wildlife: In common with all other areas in Eastern Kentucky most game species have long since been eliminated. There is evidence of the presence of the usual species of the small mammals indigenous to the region and this type of habitat. There was evidence of an abundance of forest dwelling bird species, reptiles and amphibians. There is no habitat for aquatic forms. Restoration of many forms of wildlife once native is not practical because of the limited size of the proposed area.

Need for Conservation: One of the very few tracts of virgin deciduous timber remaining in the Appalachians and as such should be preserved intact.

Relative importance in comparison with areas of similar nature elsewhere: The writer of this report knows of no similar area elsewhere.

Possible development -

Recreational facilities - Not compatible with project.

Utilities - Water supply - sufficient for terrestrial wildlife.

Light and Power facilities: None needed.

Parking space, capacity: None recommended.

Campground sites, capacity: Camping not compatible with the nature of this virgin forest.

Sewage disposal facilities: None needed.

Capacity for handling of visitors: Character of the project in itself requires very limited human use of the area.

Practicability of administration and protection: Single caretaker needed to protect the area from vandalism. There is no evidence of fire ever having occurred. Caretaker should be a combination of administrator, ranger, and guide.

Other land uses -

Mining resources: This area is reported to be underlaid with rich deposits of coal. The mining rights are controlled by the Kentucky River Coal Company, of Lexington, Ky.

Agricultural resources: None

Grazing: None

Cultivated Crops: None

Timber: Timber rights are controlled by the Leatherwood Lumber Company which is operating a camp at Daisy, Ky.

Hunting and Fishing uses: No fishing possible. Hunting should be prohibited.

Power resources: None

Irrigation resources: None.

Ownership:

Railways	None
State	None
Municipalities	None
Private	2200 acres
Total alienated lands	-----

Mining claims:	None
Grazing permits and withdrawals	None
Power permits	None
Total permit acreage	----

National forest lands	None
Public domain	None
Reclamation projects	None
Indian lands	None
Total public lands	----

Total acreage	2200 acres
---------------	------------

Land values: Exclusive of timber and mineral rights the land is practically valueless and could possibly be purchased for \$1.00 per acre.

History of project: For several decades title to this land has been tied up by litigation. Most of the timber was removed from adjoining lands about forty years ago. These adjoining lands are now covered with good second growth timber which is being logged.

About thirty years ago the Leatherwood Lumber Company acquired the timber rights to the entire watershed of Leatherwood Creek; about

twenty-eight years ago timbering operations were commenced and have continued sporadically. At the present time the timber along Clover Fork (see map), which is adjoining to Lynn Fork, is being cut.

Mr. R. L. Ellis, of the Leatherwood Lumber Company, advised that the particular timber with which this report is concerned may be cut in 1936.

The Leatherwood Lumber Company acquired the timber rights from the Kentucky River Coal Company. The latter concern owns the land and mineral rights and assured the writer that they intend mining the coal from under this tract some time in the future.

Local attitude: Local citizens interested in the size of the trees, but only mildly interested in their preservation.

Persons interested: A select few conservationists, scientists and students. (See attached list).

Itinerary:

- July 17th - William J. Howard, Regional Wildlife Technician, Fifth Region, and Fred M. Mutchler, Asst. Wildlife Technician, Fifth Region, arrived in Hazard, Perry County, Kentucky, in the evening and spent the night there.
- July 18th - Traveled by automobile on Kentucky State Highway 15 to Jeff, Kentucky (6 miles); thence on graded dirt road to the Camp of the Leatherwood Lumber Co., Daisy, Kentucky (14 miles). Interviewed Mr. R. L. Ellis, Vice-President and General Manager, gave pertinent information concerning history, location, and extent of the area and activities of the Lumber Co. A guide was furnished gratis by Mr. Ellis; travelled by automobile on ungraded dirt road up the Leatherwood Creek bed to the mouth of Lynn Fork of Leatherwood Creek (8 miles); thence on foot into the heart of the tract of virgin timber (2 miles); spent six hours making a reconnaissance and photographing the area; returned to Hazard, Kentucky.
- July 19th - Hazard, Kentucky - obtained maps of Perry County, Kentucky to use in report and other information necessary for report. Travelled by automobile to Lexington, Kentucky. Spent night there.
- July 20th - Lexington, Kentucky. Interviewed officials of the Kentucky River Coal Company, J. N. Camdon and G. T. Howard. Received information concerning ownership and mineral deposits and other pertinent data for use in the report. Returned to Louisville, Ky., official headquarters of Mr. Fred M. Mutchler, and prepared the report.
- July 21st - Louisville, Kentucky. Finished work on report.

Bibliography: See attached speech by E. Lucy Braun, University of Cincinnati "Save the Big Trees" in Leatherwood, Perry County.

C O P Y

"Save the Big Trees" in Leatherwood, Perry County.

A talk given at the spring meeting of the Garden Club of Kentucky, at Millersburg, March 20, 1935.

By

E. Lucy Braun, University of Cincinnati.

Down in the southern part of Perry County, on Lynn Fork of Leatherwood Creek, is one of the most beautiful tracts of virgin forest I have ever seen. For some time I had heard of the "big poplar" of Perry County, and it was while on the quest for this that I saw this magnificent forest. It occupies the left fork of Lynn Fork and for some two miles we walked through untouched forest, following a faint trail which led to the "big poplar", a gigantic tulip tree nearly 24 feet in circumference, breast high. It took five people with arms outstretched to reach around the tree. This gigantic trunk towered upward, unbranched, to such heights that it was impossible to distinguish the leaves of the crown. Nowhere east of California have I seen such a gigantic tree. And this was only one of many large trees.

The forest contains a variety of trees -- tulip trees, oaks, beech, sugar maple, hemlock --- all large. Oftentimes we see tracts of so-called virgin forest from which this or that tree has been removed; or if the canopy is intact, with the undergrowth ruined by grazing or by rooting hogs. But no so here. Nothing has ever disturbed this area; the luxuriance of the undergrowth is beyond description. There is a wealth of herbaceous plants, and beautiful wild flowers and ferns are everywhere. The whole place is awe-inspiring in its beauty and grandeur.

Very few virgin forest areas remain. Of the original forest of Kentucky, less than two per cent remains in such condition that it can be classed as old-growth forest; and only a small part of this is really virgin. The Lynn Fork forest is one of these.

Why not save a piece of your native country, your native state, in its original condition as a monument to the original beauty and grandeur of your forests, just as you save an historical shrine?

Nowhere in the whole world is there the equal in beauty and magnificence of our eastern deciduous forest. It is unexcelled. And in Kentucky and Tennessee this deciduous Forest reached its superlative development. So by saving a piece of Kentucky's virgin forest you would be saving a forest outstanding of its kind.

Our pioneer ancestors moved westward through this trackless forest. We have hardly a remnant left to show what that country they traveled through was like, what hardships, what problems confronted these hardy pioneers. Is there anything left in the Blue Grass to give even an idea of the original condition when the settlers came? Nothing. It is too late now in the Blue Grass to have an area perpetuating original conditions but not so in the eastern part of the state. Some virgin forest still remains there.

How shall we go about saving this forest; these grand trees?

Several methods suggest themselves:

1. Make the areas a state park.

But, the beautiful delicate undergrowth, trampled by many feet, over-run by picnickers, could not long endure. The "development" to which all state parks are rightly exposed - the road to make access easy, the many paths, would at once destroy the primitive wilderness which is one of the awe-inspiring features of this remote tract. The publicity surrounding the establishment of a state park, the ease of access which would soon follow "development" would result in the place being visited by hordes of people. And we all know that there are many who go to parks because they are parks, not for any real love and appreciation of the beauty and sublimity of nature. We want State Parks and more of them, but for the preservation of this particular area, a State Park will not suffice.

2. A second method suggests itself:

Make the area a State Forest. State forests do not receive the publicity which is the lot of state parks. But to make this area a state forest would defeat our purpose for it is in accordance with good forestry practice to cut mature trees. And these grand old trees are mature -- but untouched they can live on for many scores of years. This should not be taken in any way as criticism of state forests. They are splendid things. But, remember, the functions of state forests have this afternoon been stated as being (1) timber production, (2) erosion control, (3) recreation, and (4) fish and game. They should pay for themselves in the returns they yield. But if this area yields a return in money then it no longer will be the area we are trying to save.

The enabling bill now before Congress for Federal aid in the establishment of State Forests is a good thing and needs your support -- but it is entirely distinct from the problem of saving the Lynn Forest.

One other point which applies alike to State Parks and State Forests -- and that is that state policies are subject to radical changes with changing administrations. Policies do not endure.

3. There is left a third way:

Include this area in a National Forest and designate it a primitive area to remain forever untouched as an example of America's primitive wilderness. This is an established policy of the Forest Service and has a recent precedent in the Tionesta Creek forest of western Pennsylvania -- a virgin forest tract recently acquired and set aside as a permanent preserve.

Considerable area in the mountains of Kentucky comes within the limits of the proposed purchase units of the new Cumberland National Forest. One great tract of this proposed National Forest stretches from Morehead southwestward to the Tennessee boundary. Other lesser areas are farther east; one includes some land in Perry County, but the boundary is east of the Lynn Fork area, but not far from it. The method would be to have the boundary of the new national forest extended to include Lynn Fork. Now can this be done? Let me read two paragraphs from a letter from the American Forestry Association:

"All of this land and the boundaries of the proposed Cumberland National Forest are a few miles east of the virgin forest tract described and mapped by you.

"Acquisition of such lands as you have in mind would prove exceedingly expensive. However, if sufficient public opinion were reflected to the Kentucky Representatives and Senators in Congress, they could probably be influential in extending the boundaries so that eventual purchase would be possible. It really think that is the best way to work it out."

If sufficient pressure is brought to bear -- if we want this badly enough -- we can get it.

We must act quickly before it is cut -- the timber rights are held by the Leatherwood Lumber Company who are now cutting in the next branch. Remember, timber rights and land are held separately and to secure the land is not to secure the timber.

By all means, this project is worthy of your greatest efforts. Nowhere not even in the Great Smoky Mountains, have I seen a more beautiful forest or larger trees.

Let us work together to save this area.

LIST OF INTERESTED PARTIES

E. Lucy Braun, University of Cincinnati

Mrs. Edge, Emergency Conservation Committee

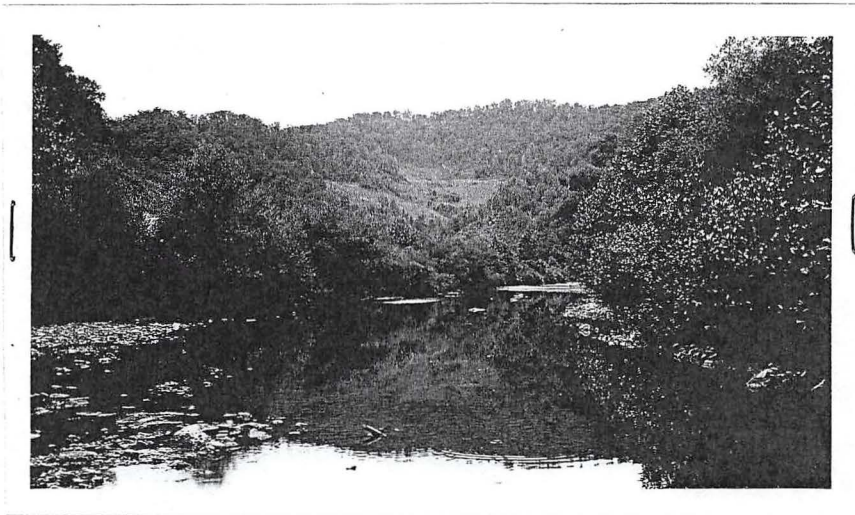
Tom Wallace, Editor of Louisville (Ky.) Times

Eugene Stuart, Secretary Louisville Auto Club

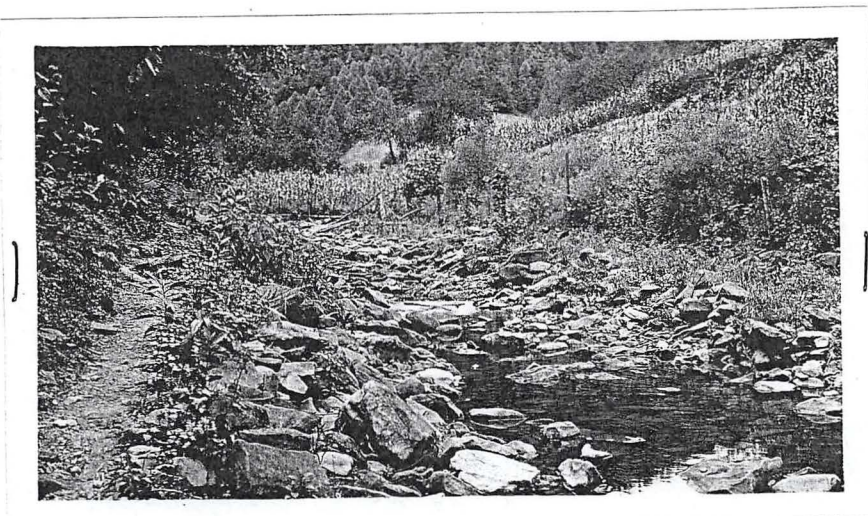
Miss Pettitt, Lexington, Ky.

Annette Braun, University of Cincinnati

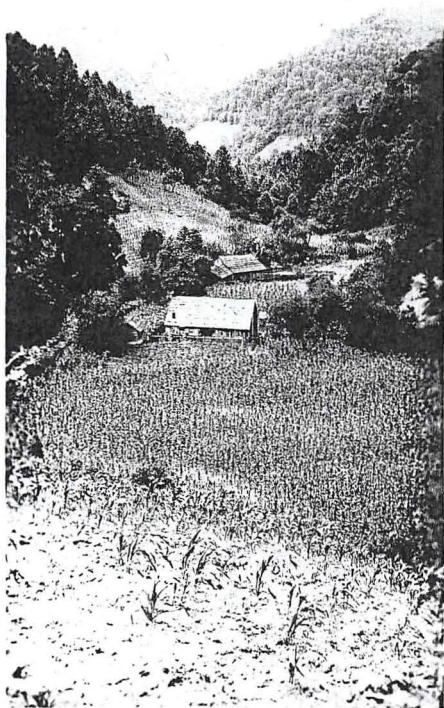
K. G. McConnel, Kentucky State Forester



Leatherwood Creek. This stream is shallow and parts of its bed are used as a roadway to get to Leatherwood Forest.



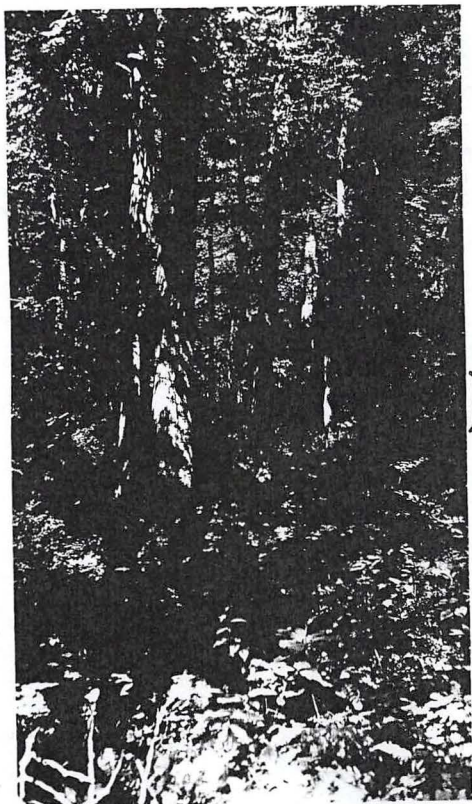
Lynn Fork of Leatherwood Creek. This is the stream which drains part of the Leatherwood Forest.



A view down the valley of Leatherwood Creek. At the rear and to the right of the photographer is the entrance to the Leatherwood Forest. This photograph illustrates the primitive character of the agriculture in this community. The corn field in the foreground is about 150 high and must be climbed to get to the forest.

A view in the Leatherwood Forest. The tulip tree in the left background is approximately twelve feet in circumference.

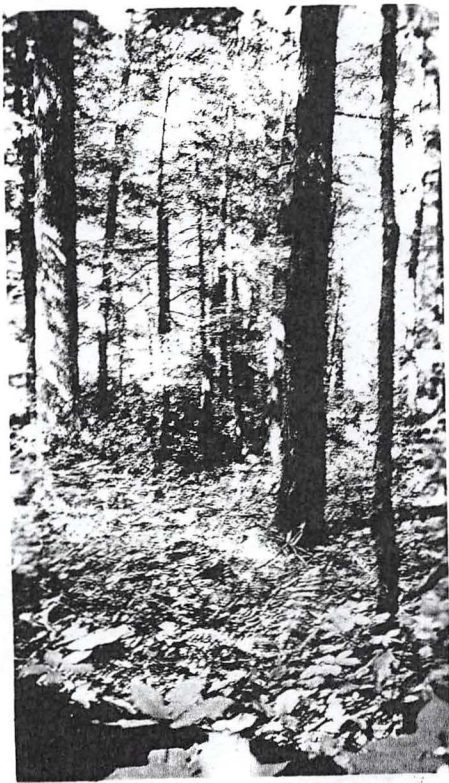




Many of the tulip trees in Leatherwood Forest are ten, twelve and fifteen feet in circumference. The largest one, the "Big Tree", is twenty-three feet in circumference breast high.

The character of the cover varies according to the exposure of the slope and the altitude.





These two photographs give an idea of the density of ground cover, which is rather sparse, because of the unbroken canopy of this climax forest.



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RG NO. 79	STACK AREA 150		ROW 67	COMPARTMENT 35		SHELF 5		OUTCARD NO.	
RECORD IDENTIFICATION <div style="text-align: center;">Box 12</div> <div style="text-align: center;">FILE</div> <div style="text-align: center;">LEATHERWOOD NATIONAL MONUMENT (KY) 1936</div> <div style="position: absolute; left: 40px; top: 60px; transform: rotate(-45deg); font-weight: bold;">ENTRY</div>									
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(May 1920)

6-7410

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

_____ NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO.

0-35
Leatherwood

LEATHERWOOD TRACT

Kentucky

IMPORTANT

This file constitutes a part of the official records of the National Park Service and should not be separated or papers withdrawn without express authority of the official in charge.

All Files should be returned promptly to the File Room.

Officials and employees will be held responsible for failure to observe these rules, which are necessary to protect the integrity of the official records.

Ben H. Thompson

ARNO B. CAMMERER,
Director.

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY—BIOLOGY BUILDING

Cincinnati, Ohio: File:
August 5, 1935.

There is precedent for the establishment of a National Monument for the avowed purpose of saving a type of vegetation -- in Papago Sahuaro National Monument and in Palm Canyon. Why not make this a policy before it is too late, and have national monuments scattered about the country to perpetuate examples of each and every type of vegetation. This would by no means be a lowering of National Park standards, which must be maintained. Any examples, to be selected, should be in virgin

condition and maintained so, with a minimum of disturbance. They should be superlative examples of their type, in so far as the geographic area is concerned.

The Lynn Fork of Leatherwood area in Perry County, Kentucky, meets all these conditions. It is a superlative example of deciduous forest, unexcelled even in the Great Smokies. It contains the largest tulip poplar tree in Kentucky, and probably the largest in existence (larger ones have been cut, but in so far as I can ascertain, none larger is still standing). It contains a large variety of forest types depicting all the variations related to physiography -- forest of "bottoms," of ravines, of north and south slope, east and west slope, ridge top; it has a ground cover of rare beauty, unspoiled by grazing or human interference.

The location of the area under consideration can be ascertained from the accompanying tracing of the lower middle third of the Cornettsville, Ky., topographic sheet. My suggestion is the entire drainage basin of Lynn Fork as this is a natural unit.

There is urgent need for early action. The area is in the hands of a lumber company -- the Leatherwood Lumber Co., Daisy, Ky., of which Mr. Raymond Ellis is Superintendent -- and cutting is now in progress in Clover Fork, the next tributary of Leatherwood Creek (see map).

I would appreciate it if this letter can be submitted to the proper authorities.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "E. Lucy Braun". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

E. Lucy Braun,
Associate Professor of Botany

2702 May Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio

Please return these reports to
the National Park Service when
they have served their purpose.

THE PRESENT EMERGENCY

O-35

Leatherwood

A NATIONAL MONUMENT
OF

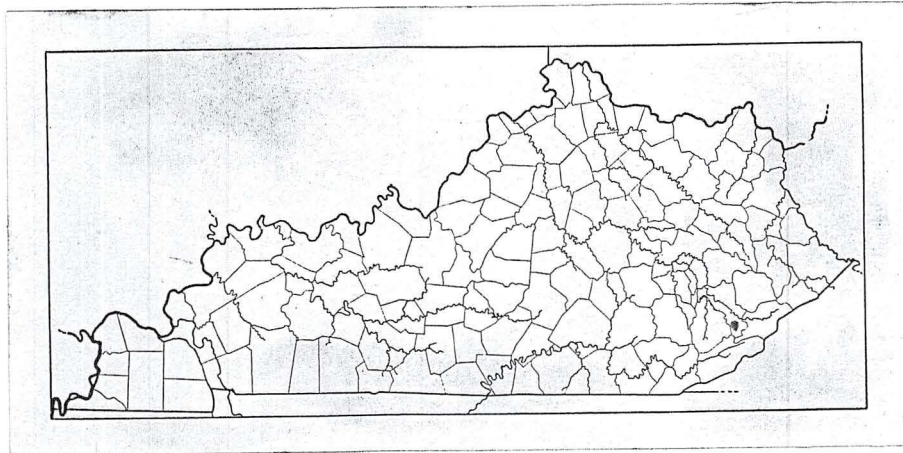
EVERY TYPE OF NATIVE VEGETATION

THE PRESENT EMERGENCY

The Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League, organized in Lexington, Ky., on December 4, 1935, is raising money to purchase the forest of Lynn Fork of Leatherwood. It is the intention of this League to give this tract into the care of the National Park Service to be maintained as a National Primeval Monument, to be kept for all time as an inviolate preserve, forever untouched, forever unmodified by man, a true monument of primeval forest.

THE PRESENT EMERGENCY

An area of deciduous forest on Lynn Fork of Leatherwood in Perry County, Kentucky, has been located which is a superlative example of America's virgin hardwood forest. It is this tract of virgin forest which presents an emergency demanding immediate action.



This Lynn Fork forest is one of the finest, if not the finest forest tract remaining in the deciduous forest area of the United States. It lies at an elevation lower than any of the virgin forest of the Great Smoky Mountains. It represents, as does no area yet saved for posterity, the forests of the great dissected plateau region to the west of the Appalachians.

Well up toward the head of one of the ravines, at an elevation of about 1800 to 2000 feet, is a remarkable grove of tulip trees where hundreds of towering columns 10 to 24 feet in circumference rise above the crowns of other trees.

In the midst of this, and giant of them all, is America's largest tulip tree, 38 feet around at its base, 24 feet around breast high, and towering 80 feet to its first branch.

The tract as a whole is a mixed hardwood forest in which, in addition to tulip, are white oak, sugar maple, beech, basswood, red oak, chestnut oak, cucumber, and many other species of lesser importance. According to timber cruising figures, tulip poplar constitutes nearly thirty percent of the total stand. In certain parts of the tract it forms sixty percent of the stand -- huge towering columns, a truly magnificent sight.

In ravines and on sheltered rocky slopes a large admixture of hemlock introduces a different aspect, enhancing the variety of the forest, increasing its density. Here the forest is unbelievably dense, and the lighter, summer-green undergrowth gives way to Rhododendron. On drier slopes chestnut oak prevails, its columnar trunks and arching branches recalling that the forest primeval was the inspiration for Gothic architecture.

At lower elevations in the forest white oaks, reaching a diameter of 4 feet, assume great importance, lending an aspect not represented in any permanent reservation in the deciduous forest area of America.

Another unusual feature is the wealth and beauty of the herbaceous vegetation which is exceedingly luxuriant; it would be difficult to find its equal. So many forests

in the eastern mountains have hogs and cattle running through them; if this ever has, it certainly does not show for it now. It is beautiful -- ferns and orchids and a wealth of wild flowers.

While classed as mixed hardwood forest, the composition varies with the site. The area includes slopes of all exposure, and "bottoms." Hence it offers an unexcelled demonstration of the interrelations of slope exposure and forest composition.

The area is located some fifteen miles (on an air-line) southeast of Hazard in Perry County on Lynn Fork, a tributary of Leatherwood Creek, which enters North Fork Kentucky River at Cornettsville. The tracing (from the Cornettsville Topographic Sheet, U.S. Geol. Survey) shows the extent of the proposed inviolate preserve, an area of approximately 2500 acres. The boundaries shown here are for the most part natural ones -- ridge tops forming the divides between the drainage of Lynn Fork and adjacent creeks.

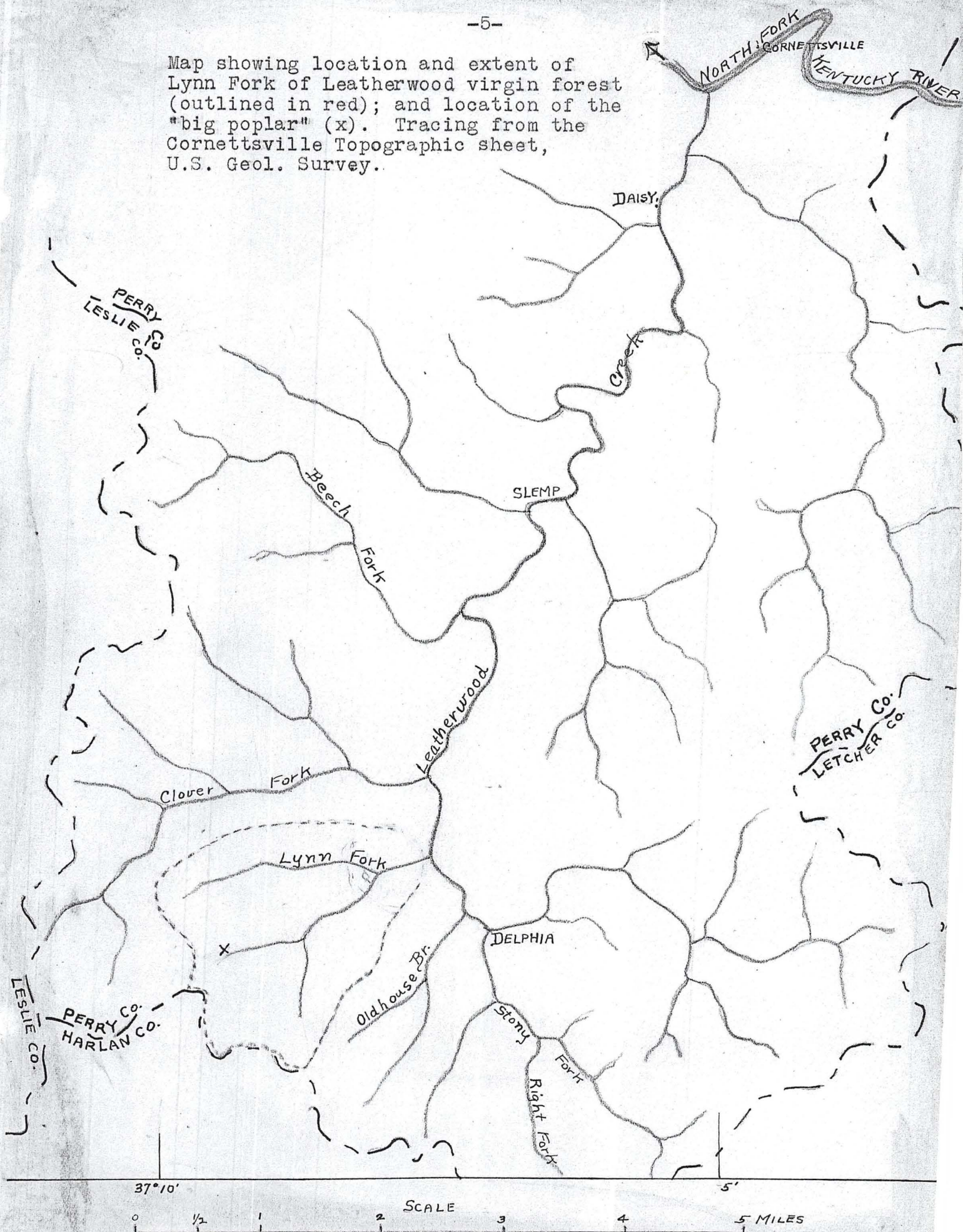
The timber rights are owned by the Leatherwood Lumber Company, with offices at Daisy, Ky. The land and mineral rights are owned by the Kentucky River Coal Company and Kentucky-West Virginia Gas Company.

Only immediate action can save this remarkable area from destruction, for it is included in the 1936 lumbering program of the Leatherwood Lumber Company.

So little remains of virgin hardwood forest that few people have any conception of what it is. The forests of the Smokies are, by most people, believed to be something apart, something different, something to be expected only in the mountain fastnesses of this rugged mountain mass. This Kentucky area lies in the Cumberland Plateau, that great barrier to pioneer migrations from Virginia to the Middle West. It shows, as the Smokies do not, what the nature of the forest was through which those hardy pioneers of Daniel Boone's day pushed their way, and in which many stopped and established their modest homes. Lynn Fork is the finest remaining low altitude forest in the mixed deciduous forest region of America.

Historically, aesthetically, scientifically, the Lynn Fork of Leatherwood forest is deserving of recognition as a worthy member of the National Primeval Monuments of the United States.

Map showing location and extent of
Lynn Fork of Leatherwood virgin forest
(outlined in red); and location of the
"big poplar" (x). Tracing from the
Cornettsville Topographic sheet,
U.S. Geol. Survey.



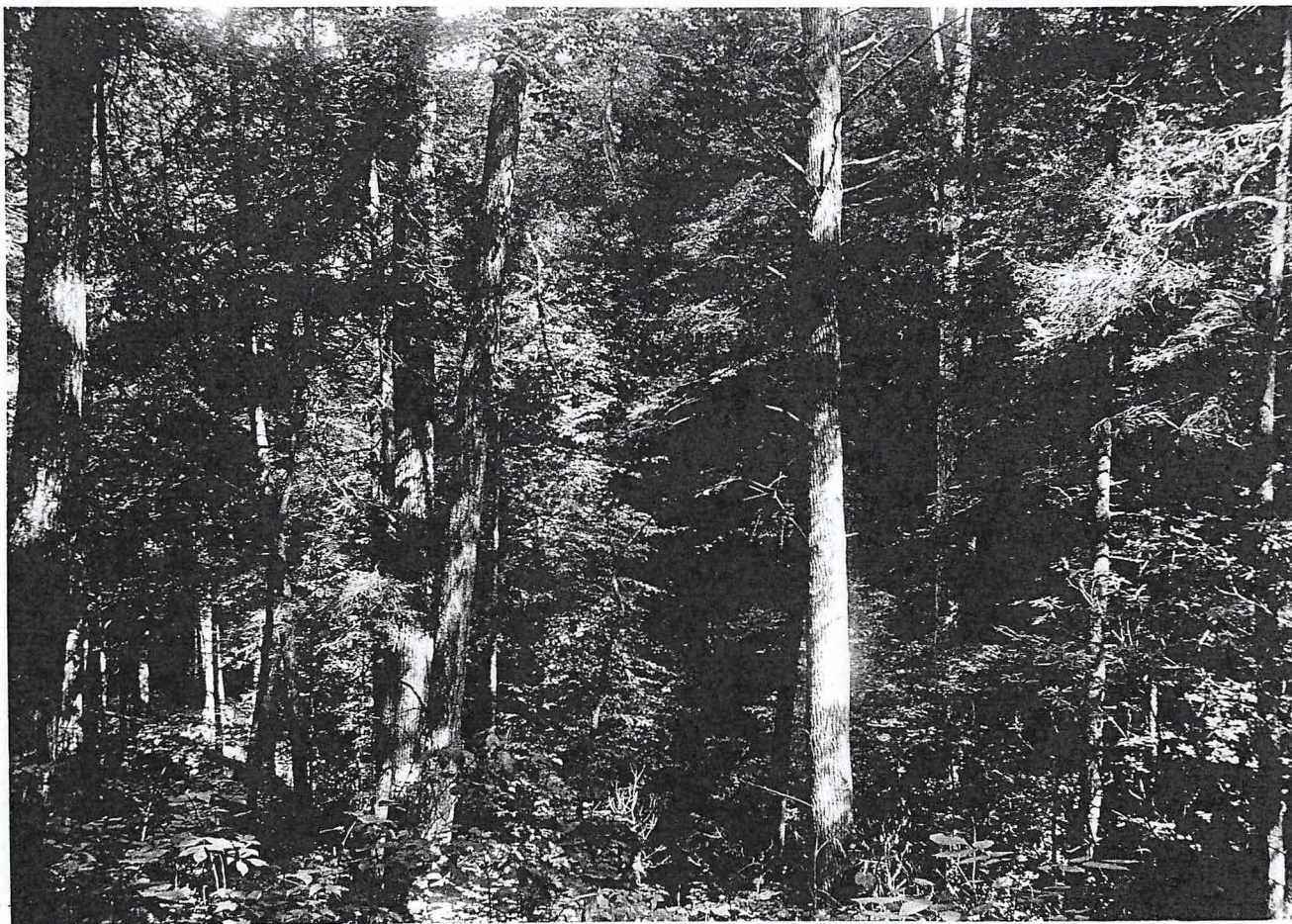


The big poplar.

The largest tree in the Lynn Fork tract and
probably the largest living tulip tree in North America.



A forest of incomparable grandeur, among eastern deciduous forests. Tulip and beech here the most abundant species. The figure in center of picture gives scale.



The forest is in places unbelievably dense. Here,
near a ravine, hemlock mingles with the deciduous species.



Big trees and small, and abundant undergrowth;
features of an undisturbed forest. The trees here
are beech, tulip and sugar maple.



Huge towering columns, a truly magnificent sight.



A wealth of ferns in the undergrowth lends untold charm to this forest. Forested areas of "bottoms" such as this are rare, indeed.



Higher slopes facing southwest support magnificent stands of chestnut oak, The ever-green mountain laurel prevails in the undergrowth.

Wildlife Div.
Washington

Filed
10/25/35

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

REPORT ON PRELIMINARY SURVEY
of the
LEATHERWOOD FOREST TRACT
Perry County, Kentucky

~~8~~
0-35-Pat
Leatherwood

Submitted: October 23, 1935.

H. M. Jennison
H. M. Jennison,
Associate Wildlife Technician.

Willis King
Willis King,
Assistant Wildlife Technician.

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK
Gatlinburg, Tennessee

REPORT ON PRELIMINARY SURVEY
of the
LEATHERWOOD FOREST TRACT,
Perry County, Kentucky,
by

H. M. Jemison and Willis King

* * *

GENERAL COMMENTS

Upon the request of Mr. George Wright, Chief, Wildlife Division, the writers made a joint investigation of the Leatherwood Forest Tract, in Southeastern Kentucky, on September 29, 30 and October 1. The investigation was made with special reference to the question of making recommendations for or against the acquisition of this forest by the Federal Government as a National Monument or other reserve.

The Leatherwood Forest is in the Southern end of Perry County, Kentucky, nearly thirty miles by road, southwest of Whitesburg, and about the same distance southeast of Hazard, Kentucky. The earlier report of William J. Howard, Regional Wildlife Technician, and Fred M. Mutchler, Assistant Wildlife Technician, and including a copy of Dr. A. Lucy Braun's address to the Garden Club of Kentucky, at Millersburg, March 29, 1935, with additional letters and maps, was available and proved very helpful in our survey. This report is comprehensive and covers the several phases of the subject as fully as possible in a brief survey of this type. Data on the history, accessibility, and major characteristics of the area are sufficiently well covered in the report of Howard and Mutchler, so that a repetition herein seems unnecessary.

The desirability of preserving unaltered a boundary of the virgin Kentucky forest, as it existed when Daniel Boone and his contemporaries first penetrated the area cannot be questioned. It is not known by us whether a larger or more representative tract of virgin hardwood forest exists in Kentucky or in other parts of the Cumberlands. Such information would have an important bearing on the disposition towards this particular tract. Some provision for adequate preservation and protection of such an area is urgent if this type of wilderness is to continue a part of our national heritage.

There is a limit to what should be paid as a price for such a tract as the Leatherwood Forest, but if some two thousand acres in this region can be acquired for a total expenditure of \$50,000 to \$75,000, it would, taking all things and the future into consideration, be well worth the price. It would seem to us that the acquisition of this tract might well come within the bounds of ECW appropriations and since to delay further consideration and purchase by the State of Kentucky would probably not check lumbering operations in the vicinity in time to prevent the logging of this tract, it is hoped that the Federal Government can make funds available for such a purchase.

Because of the fact that the area is not particularly outstanding and does not measure up to National Park standards, it seems sensible to suggest that this tract, if acquired, be designated as a National Monument.

ITINERARY

We left Knoxville, Tennessee, September 29, at 10 A. M., arriving Whitesburg, Kentucky, at 6:30 P.M. Leaving Whitesburg the following morning, we went by way of Kentucky No. 15 twelve miles, to the junction of Kentucky No. 7; thence to Blackey and Cornettsville along the North Fork of the Kentucky River. The river, which was very low, together with the brown parched fields, indicated a long dry period. At Leatherwood Creek, approximately 29 miles from Whitesburg, we turned left and proceeded up the creek, on a rough and crooked county road, past Daisy, where the Leatherwood Lumber Company operates a sawmill. This county road, 8 miles long, crosses and follows the creek bed in many places.

The narrow gauge tracks of the Lumbering Company's railroad are laid in the creek bed for considerable of the distance. It appeared that the road would be impassable for a good part of the year. The road ends approximately one-half mile from the boundary of virgin timber.

The writers spent eight hours on the tract, covering between nine and ten miles by foot. We left the tract at 6:00 P.M., just as darkness descended, and returned to Whitesburg, arriving at 8:00 P.M.

SUMMARY AND FINDINGS

The boundary of virgin forest under consideration occupies the water shed of Lynn Fork of Leatherwood Creek, plus the Lick Fork drainage of Clover Creek. It is a remnant of the once vast and magnificent forests of the dissected Cumberland Plateau. The heart of the tract appears to be in much the condition in which white man found it. This primitive portion probably does not cover more than 1200 acres. However, it is surrounded by forest which has been altered only a little by very selective lumbering so as to make a boundary of desirable forest of approximately 2000 acres. The forest is typical of that which formerly clothed this entire portion of Central Eastern United States. The forest is chiefly mixed mesophytic, with a dominance of hardwoods, with pines and hemlocks occurring on the drier ridges and in the damper coves, respectively. Chestnut occurs only sparingly and in no place in sufficient quantities to constitute a fire hazard. There is evidence of fire having occurred over the tract in times past, but no serious damage or alteration resulted. Fires have at one time or another entered practically every bit of forest land in the east, so that this is not a discrediting feature.

The dominant trees of the slopes are beech and maple, with a good representation of yellow poplar and hemlock. On the ridges oak and sour gum assume dominance, with pine and other moisture tolerant species entering irregularly. Visitors come to the tract principally to see a large yellow poplar which is growing on the head of Youngs Branch, in approximately the center of the tract. This tree measures 23 feet in circumference, breast high. It is solid and in good condition. The trunk reaches approximately sixty feet to the first limb of size. Several other nice poplars up to five feet in diameter are found nearby and in similar east and north facing hollows. In addition to the poplar, the tract contains outstanding specimens of white oak. Many of these trees are from three to four feet in diameter, and the finest of the species to be found. Many of these are outside the boundary of the purely virgin forest.

The understory is fairly open, except along the streams, where Rhododendron maximum and Kalmia are dominant. The greatest luxuriance of herbaceous understory ground cover occurs on east facing slopes and coves. Here two species of ferns, Asplenium angustifolium and Aspidium Goldianum, occur in relative abundance.

The streams are unusually small considering the character of the forest and fact that the area is credited with some fortyfive inches of rainfall annually. At the time of the survey none were flowing. Thus no development of the streams is possible. The area is practically devoid of springs.

From the faunal aspect, the area offers less than it does from the vegetational. Probably white-tailed deer and eastern black bear are extinct, as well as the timber wolf and cougar. A local resident reported that wild turkeys were still found "back on the mountain", but were too wild to be approached within gunshot, and that red foxes were fairly common. We flushed five ruffed grouse and saw signs of racoon and opossum. Gray squirrels, chickarees and eastern chipmunks were seen in satisfactory numbers.

The following birds were recorded: Carolina wren, Carolina chickadee, tufted titmouse, Kentucky warbler, pleated woodpecker, hermit thrush, downy woodpecker, towhee, blue jay, white-breasted nuthatch. These are species typical of the Southern Appalachians.

Some damage to the forest has resulted from hogs, which have roamed over the entire tract. Excluding these beasts is a necessity, if the original cover of the forest floor is to be maintained.

Certain of the higher ridgetops are approximately 2500 feet above sea level. The creek bottoms are from 500 to 750 feet lower. Except for the presence of a greater or lesser amount of humus in the surface layers, the soil is of a sandy-gravelly nature, composed largely of decrepitated sandstone.

COMPARISON WITH THE FORESTS OF GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

A direct comparison cannot and should not be made between these areas, any more than between Sequoia and General Grant National Parks in California, where a somewhat similar situation exists.

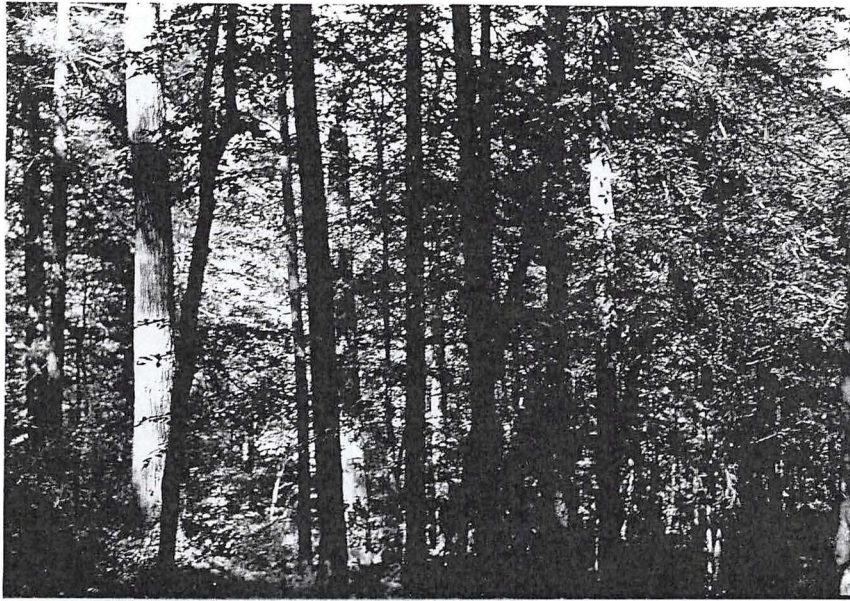
There are many coves in the Great Smokies which have essentially the plant species found in this part of the Cumberlands. There are yellow poplar trees approximately as large and in greater numbers. There are, however, notable differences in the composition and arrangement of the flora. Possibly the Leatherwood Tract offers better examples of the beech-maple climax than does the Smokies. The white oaks in this part of the Cumberlands are more magnificent than those in the Smokies, while birches are practically absent from the flora. Spruce and fir are, of course, absent. The area is valuable by way of comparison, but its preservation should not depend on apparent differences or similarities to the Great Smokies.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUMMARY

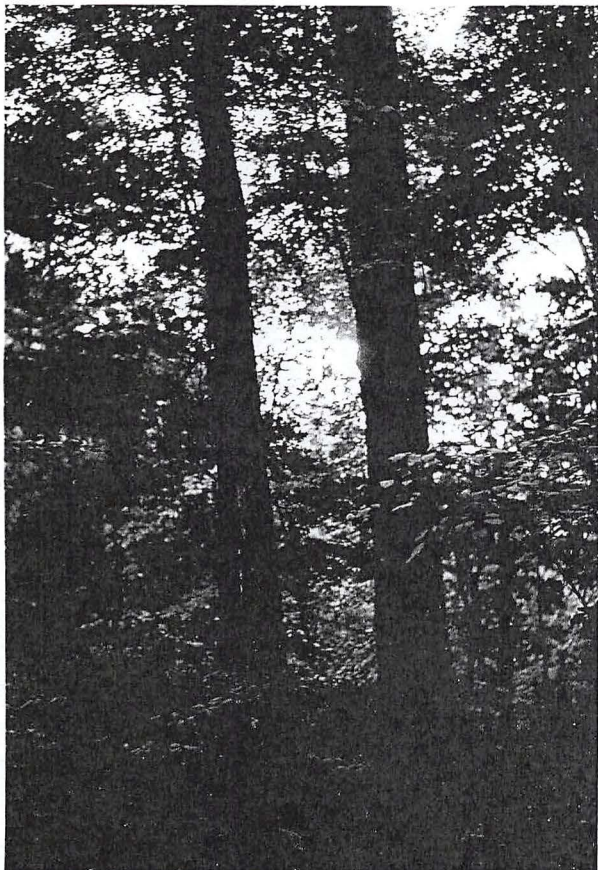
1. If anything is to be done toward the acquisition of this tract, it must be done promptly. Lumbering operations are now in progress in watersheds on either side. A narrow gauge railroad is now laid to within one mile of the tract. It is reported that the company holding the timber rights expects to carry its operations to completion. We were unable to contact the company's Vice President, Mr. R. L. Ellis.
2. An investigation as to the coal mining possibilities and interests should be made by someone capable of judging these resources in the field, in so far as that is possible.
3. Land in addition to that covered with the purely virgin forest should be acquired in order to furnish adequate protection to the valuable nucleus. While it is impossible to make final recommendations at this time, it is our opinion that ridgetops rather than streams should serve as boundaries whenever possible. This is especially true since the streams are so small, and because lumbering operations usually occupy an entire drainage, if at all. We believe that the divide between Old House Branch and the Left Fork of Lynn Fork should be the east boundary; the county line the boundary on the south; the western boundary should include the upper drainage of Lick Fork, at least all the portions which are virgin; thence the line to follow across to and north and east on the Lynn Fork-Clover Fork Divide. Although uncertainly determined, a logical north-east line is one taken across country joining the highest points on the Old House - Left Lynn Fork Divide, and the Lynn Fork-Clover Fork Divide. This extension of the boundaries, as proposed by Howard and Mutchler, includes only two small mountain farms, both of which are barely enabling their tenants to make a living. Otherwise, only near-virgin forest is included. Some additional field work should be done before boundary lines are definitely drawn.
4. If acquired, no development should be planned. It will probably be necessary to improve the old county road, in some places to put it on a new location, in order to provide a means of getting to the forest. No truck or horse trails should be built inside the boundary. A number of old foot trails now penetrate the forest. A reasonable amount of protection only is necessary:

REFERENCES:

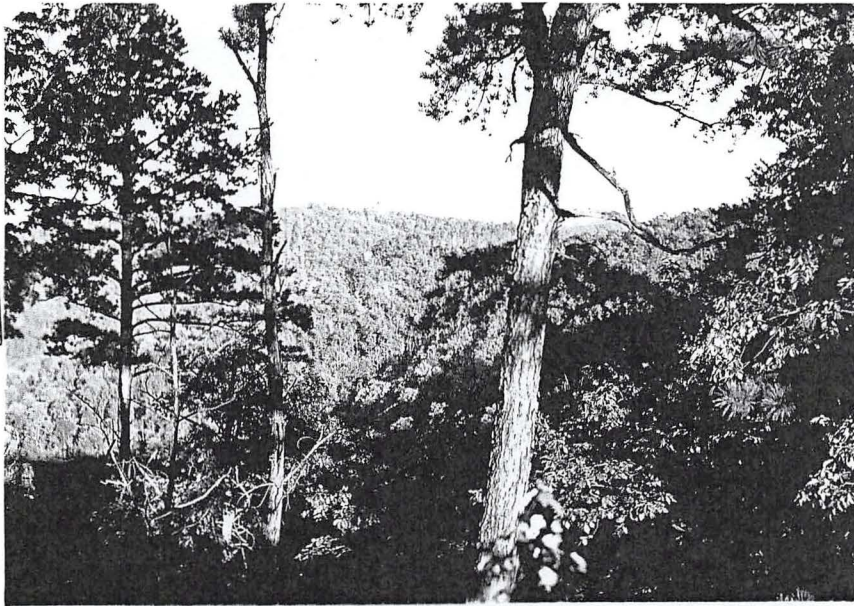
- Braun, E. Lucy: The Vegetation of Pine Mountain, Kentucky, July, 1935, The Midland Naturalist.
- Report of Howard and Mutchler, Wildlife Technicians, State Park Conservation Work.
- Copy of a talk given at the spring meeting of the Garden Club of Kentucky, at Millersburg, March 29, 1935, by Dr. E. Lucy Braun, University of Cincinnati, with accompanying photographs.



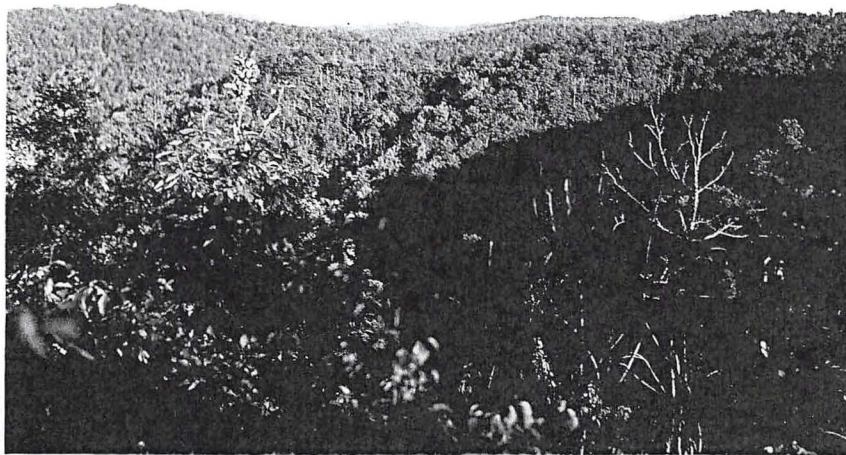
A good example of the cove hardwood forests on this tract. Beech and maple are dominants, with a good representation of yellow poplar, oaks, maples and hemlock.



The large yellow poplar. This tree is over 23 feet DBH, and reaches 60 feet or more to the first limb.



View East from the ridge between Lynn Fork and Youngs Branch.



View of the Left Lynn Fork drainage. The ridge to the left is proposed for the east boundary.

New York, November 19th, 1935.

Mr. George M. Wright,
Chief of Wildlife Division,
National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Wright:

The idea that at least a small portion of the money available for acquiring historical sites ought to be expended for some samples of the primeval forests with which the pioneers of this country had to deal, is one that I have held for a long time. As I understand it, you hold somewhat similar views.

Is there any present possibility of carrying out such a plan?

We are confronted with a very urgent and important problem in eastern Kentucky, that of saving what is perhaps the most outstanding tract of primeval forest left in the eastern United States, as yet entirely unspoiled and containing the largest and finest tulip poplars in existence.

Surely this forest, as the last example of the conditions which Daniel Boone and other pioneers had to deal with, is a historical site of the first importance. The tract in question is situated on Leatherwood Creek, Perry County, Kentucky. It is privately owned, and is menaced by immediate destruction by a lumber company, so that the matter is urgent. There are people in Kentucky interested in saving it, but I fear there is no hope without federal aid.

Can you offer me any suggestions regarding the possibility of acquiring it as a historical monument? What should be done to bring that about?

Sincerely yours,

Willard G. Van Name

Willard G. Van Name.

American Museum of Natural History,
77th Street and Central Park West,
New York, N. Y.

PROPOSED LEATHERWOOD FOREST NATIONAL MONUMENT, KY.

REVIEW:

This area in Perry County was first brought to the attention of the National Park Service by Mrs. Edge of the Emergency Conservation Commission, who submitted a paper by Miss Katherine Pettit. Mr. Ben Thompson believed the area worthy of preservation and an investigation.

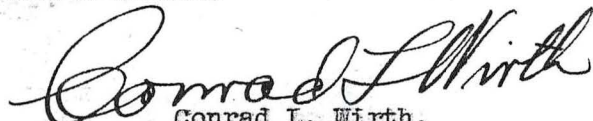
The report of the 5th Regional Officer, dated August 6, 1935, recommended an area of approximately 1400 acres as a monument, containing a heavy cover of a mixed deciduous and coniferous virgin forest, one of the few remaining stands in the East.

Desiring a comparison with the Great Smokies, Wildlife Technician Willis King, investigated and reported on October 23, 1935, that the area should not be compared with the Great Smoky Mountains, though similar. He recommended a larger area of 2000 acres as a monument.

Upon further study of the reports, Mr. Thompson deemed the area more appropriate for a State Monument. Director Cammerer states there is "nothing in the area we do not already have in the Smokies or Mammoth Cave National Park projects."

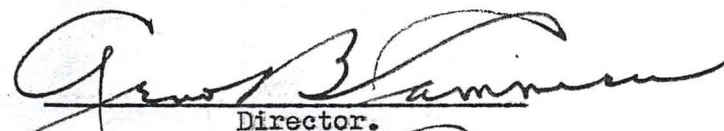
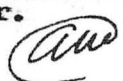
RECOMMENDATION:

As there are no funds in any event for acquisition, and as the area does not justify national park or monument status, it is recommended that the area be disapproved and that the Service favor state park or monument status.


Conrad L. Wirth.
Assistant Director.

APPROVED:

NOV 20 1935


Director.


NOV 26 1935

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Lexington

DEPARTMENT OF UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

November 21, 1935

Miss Harlean James,
Union Trust Building,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Miss James:

I want to thank you for the most interesting copy of the American Planning and Civic Annual which has just reached my desk. You have no idea how valuable these reports are to me or how often I use them in my work for women's clubs and in co-operation with our Kentucky Park Commission. I can scarcely thank you enough.

President McVey of this University is a member of the Kentucky Planning Board which has just completed the far-sighted plan for Kentucky.

[The thing I am most anxious to tell you about is a conservation project in which all the women's organizations in Kentucky have joined. We need advice from such sources as the National Conference on State Parks. In the mountains of Perry County, Kentucky, there is a 3,000 acre tract of tulip poplars, which is said to be the finest east of the Rockies. These trees tower from 90 to 100 feet high without branching. Many of them measure from 18 feet to 25 feet-four inches in circumference, 3 feet from the ground. Beneath them is a tangle of rare ferns, vines and wild flowers. A lumber company, known as The Leatherwood Lumber Company, has already moved its machinery in and is cutting around the fringe of this forest. The choicest part of the tract is on Linn Fork of Leatherwood Creek. This tract of 200 acres is majestic beyond description. We have done all we know how to do to arouse public sentiment. The Federal Government has completed a Federal Forest Reserve in Kentucky of a million acres and this magnificent tract reaches within thirty miles of the Leatherwood forest. I realize that the Government is buying cheap land and that this is very expensive, nevertheless, I see no way to save it unless the Government can take it over as a National Park or condemn it or pass some sort of legislation to protect it. Surely, you people out of the fullness of your experience can advise us what to do. Mr. Evison, and Col. Lieber, Dean Coulter and Will Welch, know Kentucky well, have visited us frequently and inspired us to carry on. The chairman of Conservation in Kentucky for the Garden Club of America is Miss Daisy Hume of Lexington, Ky. Co-operating with her are conservation chairmen for the Kentucky women's clubs, including Mrs. Bailey Wooten, who is chairman for the Kentucky Federation of Garden Clubs and whose husband is our Attorney-General. Other women who are leading in the work are: Miss Katherine Petit, Lexington, Ky. and Mrs. J. K. Grannis, Flemingsburg, Ky. I am merely helping whenever and wherever I can. We would appreciate advice from you and if publicity would be advisable, we can furnish pictures of these magnificent trees.]

Again thanking you for the Planning Annual, I am, Very truly yours,
Mrs. W. T. Lafferty, Secretary,
Woman's Club Service

Maude Ward Lafferty

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

WASHINGTON

November 22, 1935

Memorandum for

MR. WRIGHT:

Re: Leatherwood Forest Tract,
Perry County, Kentucky.

On the basis of the reports submitted by Howard and Mutchler, State Parks Division, and by Jennison and myself of your Division, it was decided that the Federal Government should abandon efforts toward the acquisition of the tract in question. This was not because those investigating the area reported that the forests were not worthy of preservation, but because the Director felt the tract contained nothing of outstanding interest which is not included in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park or Mammoth Cave.

The 1200 acres of virgin hardwood trees, surrounded by some 800 additional acres near virgin forest, are well worth preserving irrespective of whether the Federal Government or the State of Kentucky is the one to do it. There is no doubt but that logging operations will begin in the area within a few months. This is not just a far cry. The situation is further complicated by mineral holdings of a coal company, which promises to exploit its holdings eventually.

Mr. Van Name is incorrect in stating that this "is perhaps the most outstanding tract of primeval forest left in the Eastern United States, as yet unspoiled and containing the largest and finest tulip poplars in existence". The Great Smokies has at least a dozen coves equally as good and as large as the Leatherwood Tract, where the plant and animal species are much greater in number. The one big yellow poplar is a little larger than any known tree in the Smokies, but in the latter place there are scores compared to the few in the Kentucky tract.

The Leatherwood Forest is worth saving as an example of the virgin hardwood forests, which formerly clothed the Cumberland Mountains. Its streams and wildlife are insignificant. If the State of Kentucky is willing to shoulder the responsibility of preserving it, it is there to do it. The Federal Government might take an active hand only if necessary to insure its preservation. It would be valuable to know if there are other areas in Eastern United States that are more deserving of federal recognition than is this one.

cc: Wildlife Division, Washington,
Wildlife Division, San Francisco.

Willis King,
Acting Assistant Chief,
Wildlife Division.

WK:lc

~~Cahalane~~ VHC
~~Wright~~ gmu
JW ~~LEE B~~
B

Flemingsburg, Ky. Nov. 23, 1935.

Mr. Victor H. Cahalane, Acting Chief,
Wild Life Division,
National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

Der Mr. Cahalane:-

Owing to illness Miss Katherine Pettit of
Lexington, Kentucky has asked me to take over her work in
connection with saving the virgin tract of timber in Perry
County Kentucky.

In the correspondence file I find record of
E. Lucy Braun\$ (Associate Professor of Botany, Cincinnati, O.)
letter of August 5th to you relative to this work.

May I ask for whatever assistance and co-oper-
ation your Department may be able to render and I assure you
any suggestions will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours.

Harriet W. Grannis

Mrs. J. Kidwell Grannis.

10-39

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

~~Mr. Linnight~~ Jmr
VHC
~~Mr. Thompson~~ BTL
~~Dr. Bryant Hess~~
~~Mr. Tolson~~ at
~~Mr. Demas~~ for
Schott
J. L.
Jm

American Planning and Civic Association

FORMERLY AMERICAN CIVIC ASSOCIATION AND NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CITY PLANNING

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

901 UNION TRUST BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C. November 25, 1935

Memorandum for Mr. ~~Wirth~~:

Should this tract be preserved? If so, in what category and
is there any way of doing it?

Envision
Better and for
a field investigation local
However, State or local let
part in the only out HJ
see. Please check
L M

ms

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

December 6, 1935.

*0-35
Letcherwood*

MEMORANDUM for: Miss Harlean James,
901 Union Trust Building,
Washington, D. C.

This refers to your note of November 23, with which you transmitted a copy of a letter received from Mrs. W. T. Lafferty at the University of Kentucky. This note asks should this tract be preserved, if so in what category, and is there any way of doing it?

Offhand I should say that it should be preserved as a State park. Just how it can be done, however, I haven't the remotest idea, except that the people of Kentucky might wish to put up the necessary cash to buy it. It is not an area which would come within any of the present purchase categories of the United States Government, except possibly national forests. This apparently lies outside of any of the Forest Service's authorized purchase areas.

I am asking Paul Brown to have one of his inspectors call on Mrs. Lafferty, discuss the matter with her, and then visit the area itself, reporting on it to this office through the regional office.

HERBERT EVISON

Herbert Evison,
Acting Assistant Director.

CC: Maloney

HE:hc

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

WASHINGTON

December 9, 1935.

Dr. Willard G. Van Name,
American Museum of Natural History,
77th Street and Central Park West,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Van Name:

I wish to acknowledge and to thank you for your letter of November 19 regarding the desirability of acquiring certain tracts of primeval forest lands as areas of historic significance, and having particular reference to the Leatherwood Forest tract in Kentucky.

Please be assured that your letter has received the earnest consideration of Mr. Ben Thompson and myself, as well as of other members of the Park Service staff. However, as I know that you discussed this important matter with Mr. Thompson on the occasion of your last visit, I shall not burden you here with repetition of our comments and conclusions on this subject.

Sincerely yours,

George M. Wright,
Chief,
Wildlife Division.

cc - Wildlife Division, Washington ✓
cc - Wildlife Division, San Francisco

bn

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK
GATLINBURG, TENNESSEE

National Park Service Wildlife Division	
Date: DEC 19 1935	
Wright	
Thompson	
Cahalane	VHC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newcomer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mammoth Cave, Kentucky.	
File:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Mr. Victor H. Cahalane,
assistant chief,
Wildlife Division

Mammoth Cave, Kentucky.

December 16, 1935.

Dear Victor:

We arrived here at 2 P.M. this afternoon and have outlined my program for the time of my stay.

Sibbards specimens and books are being used by Dr. Poll, geologist, and by other members of the ECW personnel. I believe that the material should be left here. There is more space than the laboratory at Elkmont affords and things seem to be well cared for.

There is another reason for my going to Cincinnati. I know Dr. Lucy Braum very well, and feel that she is due some explanation from the Park Service concerning our action on the Leatherwood Tract. She is very much interested in it, and ^{since} her support of the Service has been excellent in the past, we should endeavor to keep her good will.

Might my leave terminate ~~terminate~~ on Saturday, December 28, at midnight, so that I could receive per diem and mileage for the return trip from Cincinnati to Elkmont Dec. 29

plea don't think I am being
overly persistent about this thing, but such
items mean considerable. I have a con-
science about these matters and would not
ask for something which I felt would be of
no value to the Division, or is unreasonable.

Sincerely yours,

Willis King
Assistant Wildlife Technician

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Washington

JAN 6 1936

✓
Mrs. J. Kidwell Grannis,

Flemingsburg, Kentucky.

My dear Mrs. Grannis:

This is in reply to your letter of November 23 to Mr. Victor H. Cahalane, of the National Park Service, regarding the virgin tract of timber in Perry County, Kentucky, known as Leatherwood Forest

This tract has been investigated recently by representatives of this Service who reported the timber to be worthy of preservation. However, due to high timber and mineral values, and to the fact that this is not considered the best existing example of this particular type of forest, it has been found inadvisable to recommend it for administration by this Service.

It is hoped, however, that this virgin forest can be preserved through other channels.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) O.L. Wirth

Conrad L. Wirth.
Assistant Director.

CC: Mr. Cahalane
5th Reg. Officer

JLE-fnd

*Erison
Walter*

*6-35
Leatherwood
Forest*

Jan. 10th
11

Senator Mr. H. Logan

My dear Mr. Senator -

I am writing
to ask you to express to the
National Park Service your
approval of the plan for
a national ^{monument} ~~Preserve~~ of
every type of native vegetation
to be kept as an inviolate
preserve, and to urge that
the Lynx Fork of Leatherwood
be the first of these

MISS ISABEL CLAY - 644 NORTH BROADWAY - LEXINGTON - KENTUCKY

National Primaval Mon-
uments. Hoping that you
favor the project which
means so much to all inter-
ested in preserving the
beauty of Kentucky I am

Yours sincerely
Isabel Clay -

FRANCES SETTLE, CLERK

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
RECEIVED
JAN 14 1936
★
DIRECTOR
JANUARY 13
1936

COMMITTEE ON MINES AND MINING

MML:FS

NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

STATE COLLEGE STATION
FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

January 13, 1936.

Honorable Lynn J. Frazier,
United States Senator,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

to respectfully request
I am writing you to use your influence to secure the approval of the National Park Service of the plan for a National Primeval Monument for every type of native vegetation in the United States, and to urge that the Lynn Fork of Leatherwood tract in Kentucky be the first of these National Primeval Monuments. These Primeval monuments will help round out a national land utilization plan. These areas are of tremendous historical, literary, artistic and scientific value. They are needed for study and for recreation particularly at this time when so much attention is being given to proper use of leisure time.

Various scientific organizations, as the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Ecological Society of America, have indorsed this plan.

Thanking you very much for your assistance, I am

Respectfully yours,

Herbert C. Hanson
Herbert C. Hanson, Member
National Research Council Committee
on the Grasslands of North America.

HCH:G

139 MASON STREET
MOUNT AUBURN
CINCINNATI, OHIO

file

Jan. 17. 1936.

Hon. V. Donahay,
U. S. Senate.

Dear Sir:-

The Ohio Chapter of the
Wild Flower Preservation Society urges you
to express to the National Park Service,
approval of a plan to form a National
Primeval Monument of all types of
native vegetation, to be held as an
inviolate, unmodified preserve, for coming
generations, that they may see what is
rapidly disappearing irrevocably, unless
can be taken at once

Steps

The Society urges that the Lynn Fork of
Leatherwood Creek, be the first of these
in Kentucky.

Trimeval Monuments. otherwise it is to
fall to the lumberman's tender mercies
no later than this next summer.

It is hoped to raise the sum necessary
for the purchase of this tract.

No money is asked from the Gov.
We earnestly hope for your coöperation.

Sincerely,

Margaret S. Turner.

139 MASON STREET
MOUNT AUBURN
CINCINNATI, OHIO

Jan. 17. 1936.

Hon. Robert Bulkeley
U. S. Senate.

Dear Sir:—

The Ohio Chapter of the Wild Flower
Preservation Society urges you to express
to the National Park Service, approval
of a plan to form a National Primeval
Monument of all types of native
* vegetation, to be held as an inviolate
unmodified preserve, for coming generations,
that they may see what is rapidly
disappearing irrevocably unless steps
can be taken at once.

The Society urges that the Tynn Fork of
Leatherwood Creek ^{in Kentucky} be the first of these
Primeval Monuments. Otherwise it is to

far to the tender merc. of the lumberman
no later than this next summer.

It is hoped to raise the sum necessary
for the purchase of this tract.

No money is asked from the Govt.

We earnestly hope for your coöperation.

Sincerely,

Margaret S. Tunne

ELLISON D. SMITH, S.C., CHAIRMAN
BURTON K. WHEELER, MONT.
ELMER THOMAS, OKLA.
GEORGE MCGILL, KANS.
JOHN H. BANKHEAD, ALA.
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HATTIE W. CARAWAY, ARK.
HOMER T. BONE, WASH.
LOUIS MURPHY, IOWA
JAMES P. POPE, IDAHO
CARL A. HATCH, N.MEX.
HENRIK SHIPSTEAD, MINN.

C. A. LAWTON, CLERK

Mr. Cammerer
Mr. Frazier
Mr. Hanson
Mr. Thompson
United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

January 18,

1936.



Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, Director,
National Park Service
Department of Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

I am enclosing letter
from Herbert C. Hanson, State College Station,
Fargo, North Dakota, urging approval of a plan
for National Primeval Monuments, for types of
native vegetation in the United States.

Kindly give this matter
careful consideration.

Yours respectfully,

Lynd J. Frazier

9848 to Pleasant. Mr. Demersa and I agreed that
1939. The Mrs. Vera interestingly proposed and
to Mr. Demersa and Ben Thompson on January 24.
Mr. Tracy Brown of Cincinnati, Ohio, talked
Note for the files:

1/24/38

10-39

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

1/18/38

OKJ
Mr. Ben Thompson:

Is there any particular reason
why this was routed to you for reply?
If not, will be glad to handle it.

J
J. Lee Brown.

*Q.K. Also, Dr. Tracy Brown
of Cincinnati. This will be
in the office Dec. 27 to
discuss this. B/K*

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE - Kentucky's - Primeval - Forest League

Lexington, Kentucky

MISS DAISY HUME, CHAIRMAN
WINCHESTER PIKE, LEXINGTON, KY.

JAN 24 1936

BRANCH OF CLARK COUNTY

MRS. BAILEY P. WOOTTON, SEC.-TREAS.
818 SHELBY STREET, FRANKFORT, KY.

*pl. please
RW*
Flemingsburg, Kentucky,
January 20th, 1936.

Mr. CONRAD L. WIRTH.
Assistant Director,
National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

My dear MR, Wirth:-

I am in receipt of your letter of January 16th, and note with regret that the Leatherwood tract does not now meet the requirements of the National Park Service.

The scope of the League is National in purposes, and Leatherwood is put forward at this time because of its fine character, and also because of its great value of being popular with the public through the Middlewest. It is our purpose to somehow establish a really permanent preservation for all time.

If it be in order, I would appreciate all possible detail information which your representative reports; particularly as to its being a fit example of primeval growth, and also I would like to inquire what other area of deciduous growth you regard as a better example, as this too is of immediate interest to the League in pursuance of its program,

Your assistance in this will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours

Harriet W. Grannis

Mrs. J. Kidwell Grannis, Chairman,
Leatherwood Conservation Committee,
Flemingsburg, Kentucky.

DUNCAN U. FLETCHER, FLA., CHAIRMAN
CARTER GLASS, VA.
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ALBEN W. BARKLEY, KY.
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PETER NORBECK, S. DAK.
JOHN G. TOWNSEND, JR., DEL.
ROBERT D. CAREY, WYO.
JAMES COUZENS, MICH.
FREDERICK STEIWER, OREG.

WILLIAM L. HILL, CLERK



Mr. Parnass
Mr. Wicks
Mr.
United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY

January 20th, 1936

Mr. Arno B. Cammerer,
National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

I am attaching hereto a self-explanatory
letter from Margaret S. Tinne and I shall appreciate
such information as you may be able to give me with
reference to the legislation mentioned.

Sincerely yours,

Robert J. Bulkley

EC

WILLIAM E. HESS
2d DISTRICT OHIO

PHONES:
WASHINGTON—NATIONAL 3120
BRANCH 293
CINCINNATI—MAIN 1226

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C.

SECRETARIES:
PAULINE B. WERNER
WASHINGTON, D.C.

EUGENE HEIM
CINCINNATI, OHIO



Wm. With
File 7

January Twentieth,
1 9 3 6.

Director,
National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing for your consideration two letters which I have received, endorsing a plan for a National Primeval Monument, of every type of native vegetation, the first of these to be established at the Lynn Fork of the Leatherwood Tract in Kentucky.

Will you be good enough to let me have your comments on this proposal? Kindly return the enclosures to me, together with two copies of your reply.

Very truly yours,

Wm. E. Hess

JOHN ZETTEL
3303 MENLO AVENUE
CINCINNATI, O.

File
January 20th. 1936.

Hon. Vic. Donahey,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

The establishment of National Primeval Monuments for the purpose of preserving every important and interesting type of American vegetation such as deciduous forests, cypress swamps, grass prairies, spagnum bogs and bog forests is becoming more and more important in view of the rapid destruction of these areas.

They are of scientific as well as of historical literary and artistic value and should be preserved while there is still time.

We respectfully ask your support of the bill for the establishment of National Primeval Monuments which will come up in Washington early in February.

Very truly,

John Zettel
Vice-Pres. Wild Flower Preservation
Society of Cincinnati, O.

East Woodstock, Conn.,

Jan. 20, 1936.

File

Hon. Francis T. Maloney,
Washington, D. C.,

JAN 22 1936

Dear Mr. Maloney:

I am interested in the plan to create "National Primeval Monuments", in order to preserve in their natural state tracts of original vegetation in our country.

Will you not express to the National Park Service your approval of such a plan, and will you not use your influence in starting the good work by favoring the preservation of the Lynn Fork of Leatherwood tract, in Kentucky, as the first of these National Primeval Monuments?

We have wasted too many of our precious heritages in the past, and it is time to pay more attention to preserving them instead.

Sincerely yours,

Ethel E. Upham

GARDEN CLUB OF CINCINNATI
MEMBER
GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA

January 20, 1936

Senator Robert J. Buckley
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

At a recent meeting of the Cincinnati Garden Club, a resolution was adopted urging our Senators and Representatives to express to the National Park Service their approval of the plan of a National Primeval Monument of every type of native vegetation to be kept as an inviolate preserve, and to urge that the Lynn Fork of Leatherwood tract be the first of these National Primeval Monuments.

Would appreciate your cooperation on this.

THE CINCINNATI GARDEN CLUB

Mrs. Stuart B. Surphise
Corresponding Secretary.

JNCAN U. FLETCHER, FLA., CHAIRMAN

CARTER GLASS, VA.

ROBERT F. WAGNER, N. Y.

ALBEN W. BARKLEY, KY.

ROBERT J. BULKLEY, OHIO

THOMAS P. GORE, OKLA.

EDWARD P. COSTIGAN, COLO.

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JAMES F. BYRNES, S. C.

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WILLIAM GIBBS MC ADOO, CALIF.

ALVA B. ADAMS, COLO.

FRANCIS T. MALONEY, CONN.

GEORGE L. RADCLIFFE, MD.

PETER NORBECK, S. DAK.

JOHN G. TOWNSEND, JR., DEL.

ROBERT D. CAREY, WYO.

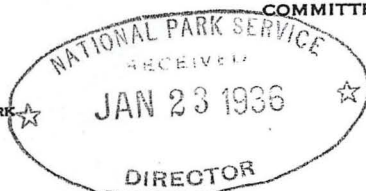
JAMES COUZENS, MICH.

FREDERICK STEIWER, OREG.

WILLIAM L. HILL, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY



January 22, 1936

Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Cammerer:

I am enclosing a self-explanatory communication which I have received from Miss Ethel E. Upham of East Woodstock, Connecticut, which makes a reference to the plan to create "National Primeval Monuments."

I am forwarding this letter to you for your information and such attention as you feel it deserves.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Francis T. Maloney".

FTM:AMG

Enc.

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

GEORGE W. RIGHTMIRE, *President*

COLUMBUS

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

E. N. TRANSEAU	LOIS LAMPE
J. H. SCHAFFNER	R. B. GORDON
W. G. STOVER	R. O. FREELAND
H. C. SAMPSON	F. G. LIMING
L. H. TIFFANY	S. S. HUMPHREY
A. E. WALLER	B. H. DAVIS
B. S. MEYER	C. E. TAFT
G. W. BLAYDES	

January 22, 1936

The Honorable Vic Donahey
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator:

Whereas it has been a policy for the National Park Service to administer National Monuments of various types, including the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River, the Yellowstone Geyser Basin, Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico, and even fossil forests of petrified trees, there is no particular reason why these scenic features should not be extended to include remnants of primeval vegetation, such as prairies, primeval forests, and treeless bogs.

May I urge that you express to the National Park Service your approval of the plan of a National Primeval Monument of every type of native vegetation to be kept as an inviolate preserve and that the Lynn Fork of Leatherwood tract in Kentucky be the first of these National Primeval Monuments.

Very sincerely yours,



Robert B. Gordon

RBG:RMc

file

GRINNELL COLLEGE

Grinnell, Iowa.

Jan. 22, 1936.

Hon. L. K. Murphy,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Murphy:

I beg to call your attention to the movement to establish under the National Park Service a series of National Primeval Monuments, for the preservation of some remaining perfect examples of America's native vegetation. Such "museum pieces" out of doors, kept essentially in their natural primeval condition, would be of the greatest value scientifically, as well as for historical, literary and artistic material. It is time to act.

I beg your immediate favorable action on the preservation of the forest of Lynn Fork of Leatherwood in Perry County, Ky. I have the best authority for believing very heartily in this particular project.

Respectfully,

Henry S. Conard.

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

GEORGE W. RIGHTMIRE, *President*

COLUMBUS

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

E. N. TRANSEAU
J. H. SCHAFFNER
W. G. STOVER
H. C. SAMPSON
L. H. TIFFANY
A. E. WALLER
B. S. MEYER
G. W. BLAYDES

LOIS LAMPE
R. B. GORDON
R. O. FREELAND
F. G. LIMING
S. S. HUMPHREY
B. H. DAVIS
C. E. TAFT

January 22, 1936

The Honorable Arthur P. Lamneck
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Whereas it has been a policy for the National Park Service to administer National Monuments of various types, including the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River, the Yellowstone Geyser Basin, Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico, and even fossil forests of petrified trees, there is no particular reason why these scenic features should not be extended to include remnants of primeval vegetation, such as prairies, primeval forests, and treeless bogs.

May I urge that you express to the National Park Service your approval of the plan of a National Primeval Monument of every type of native vegetation to be kept as an inviolate preserve and that the Lynn Fork of Leatherwood tract in Kentucky be the first of the National Primeval Monuments.

Very sincerely yours,



Robert B. Gordon

RBG:RMc

Mr. Bulkley
Wm. With

DUNCAN U. FLETCHER, FLA., CHAIRMAN
CARTER GLASS, VA.
ROBERT F. WAGNER, N. Y.
ALBEN W. BARKLEY, KY.
ROBERT J. BULKLEY, OHIO
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EDWARD P. COSTIGAN, COLO.
ROBERT R. REYNOLDS, N. C.
JAMES F. BYRNES, S. C.
JOHN H. BANKHEAD, ALA.
WILLIAM GIBBS MC ADAMS, CALIF.
ALVA B. ADAMS, COLO.
FRANCIS T. MALONEY, CONN.
GEORGE L. RADCLIFFE, MD.

PETER NORBECK, S. C.
JOHN G. TOWNSEND, JR., DEL.
ROBERT D. CAREY, WYO.
JAMES COUZENS, MICH.
FREDERICK STEIWER, OREG.

United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY

WILLIAM L. HILL, CLERK



January 23, 1936.

Mr. Arno B. Cammerer,
National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

The enclosed letter has just come
to me from the Garden Club of Cincinnati
urging a National Primeval Monument and I
shall appreciate any information and advice
you can furnish in the matter.

Sincerely yours,

Robert J. Bulkley

HP

COPY

January 24, 1936.

File

Mrs. Margaret S. Timme,
139 Mason Street,
Mount Auburn,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Mrs. Timme:

Your letter of January 17th regarding
National Primeval Monuments is being referred to
the National Park Service where I believe the
matter will be given careful consideration.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

VD:C

Vic Donahey

M. R. ...
M. W. ...

United States Senate

Washington, D.C., January 24., 1936



Mr. Arno B. Cammerer,
Director,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

Respectfully,

W. D. ...
U.S.S.



CONCORD STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

ATHENS, WEST VIRGINIA

January 24th 1936

INTERIOR DEPT
RECEIVED
JAN 31 1936
IF
SECRETARY

President Franklin D. Roosevelt
Washington D. C.
Dear Mr. President,

W. H. H. H.
3/12
ack'd
1/29/36
W. H. H. H.
W. H. H. H.

I wish to express to you my deep interest in the present movements to establish National Primeval Monuments. This is certainly a wonderful movement.

To establish National Monuments of every important or interesting type of America's native vegetation as cypress swamp, tall-grass prairie, northern bog etc. certainly meets with the approval of the botanists nation wide.

The existing classification of national monuments makes no provision for areas secured solely as "museum pieces" of America's vegetation and hence interposes an obstacle in the way of their preservation.

I sincerely hope that the National Park Service will approve the plan of a National Primeval Monument which is to be presented at the Wild Life Conference during the first of February.

Wishing you continued success in your administration I am,

Yours truly,

E. Meade Merrill
Dep't of Botany



RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR CONSIDERATION

Louis Mackay Howe

Secy. to President.

ARTHUR P. LAMNECK
12TH DIST. OHIO

HOME ADDRESS:
COLUMBUS, OHIO

COMMITTEE:
WAYS AND MEANS

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. Wright
7

January 24, 1936



The Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

I am in receipt of a letter, which I enclose, from Robert B. Gordon of the Ohio State University. It is self-explanatory.

Will you kindly consider this matter and let me have a reply so that I may communicate with my constituent intelligently?

Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

A. P. Lamneck
A. P. Lamneck, M. C.

C
O
P
Y

KANSAS STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AND APPLIED SCIENCE

Manhattan, Kansas.

January 24, 1936.

File

The Honorable George McGill,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In view of the fact that people who are interested in preserving a few National Primeval Monuments of every type of vegetation are not prone to inform you of this fact, we members of the Botany Department of Kansas State College wish to call your attention to the desirability of having National Primeval Monuments of the important types of native vegetation kept as inviolate preserves. This means that such areas will not be developed as park areas are by building roads and paths, but only the necessary fencing and guarding to allow nature to take her course.

The principal advantages of such areas are that it enables those who can do that type of work to get acquainted with the way in which nature works. This, in turn, because of experience in the ways of nature, makes possible a wiser regulation or method of procedure in new situations that continually come up.

One of the first of these areas which ought to be made a National Primeval Monument is the Lynn Fork area of the Leatherwood Tract in Kentucky.

Any support which you may be able to give such a movement will be appreciated by us.

Very truly yours,

FRANK C. GATES
H. H. HAYMAKER
C. L. LIFEBORE
W. E. DAVIS
HANLEY FELLOWS

EUNICE L. KINGSLEY
EDWIN C. MILLER
MARGARET NEWCOMB
L. E. MELCHERS
C. H. FICKE

12-30
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

1/27/36.

Note for the Files:

OK
Mr. Ben Thompson

Is there any
why this was routed
If not, will be glad

Mrs. Lucy Brown of Cincinnati, Ohio, talked to Mr. Demaray and Ben Thompson on January 27, 1936. She had very interesting photographs and data to present. Mr. Demaray suggested that she write to the Secretary asking for a statement as to the attitude of the Department provided the local organization secures the necessary funds for purchase of the area through private subscription.

J. Lee Brown.

*Q.K. A
of Cincinnati
in the of
discuss*

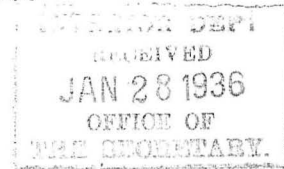
J. Lee Brown.

GEORGE MCGILL, KANS., CHAIRMAN.
BURTON K. WHEELER, MONT. THOMAS D. SCHALL, MINN.
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HENRIK SHIPSTEAD, MINN.
RICHARD M. LONG, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON PENSIONS

File
25082



January 27th, 1936



Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am enclosing a copy of a communication just received from Miss Eunice L. Kingsley and other students of Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kansas, urging the setting aside of the territory known as the Lynn Fork area of the Leatherwood Tract in Kentucky as a National Park.

May I express the hope that you will give this proposal sympathetic consideration.

Please acknowledge receipt and advise me status.

Very sincerely yours,

Hon. Harold Ickes,
Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

Enclosure

GEORGE MCGILL, KANS., CHAIRMAN
BURTON K. WHEELER, MONT. THOMAS D. SCHALL, MINN.
DAVID I. WALSH, MASS. LYNN J. FRAZIER, N. DAK.
ROBERT J. BULKLEY, OHIO
AUGUSTINE LONERGAN, CONN.
ELBERT D. THOMAS, UTAH
SHERMAN MINTON, IND.
HENRIK SHIPSTEAD, MINN.
RICHARD M. LONG, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON PENSIONS

January 27th, 1936



The National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:-

I am enclosing a communication from Miss Eunice L. Kingsley and other students of Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kansas, urging the setting aside of the territory known as the Lynn Fork area of the Leatherwood Tract in Kentucky as a National Park.

May I express the hope that you will give this proposal sympathetic consideration.

Please acknowledge receipt and advise me status.

Very sincerely yours,

Enclosure

A large, stylized handwritten signature that reads "Geo. McGill". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the "Very sincerely yours," text.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Chapel Hill, N. C.

Dept. of Botany

January 28, 1936.

Senator Robert Reynolds,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

As you probably know, there is now a movement to establish what are called National Primeval Monuments in order to preserve important or interesting types of the native vegetation of America, such, for example, as some of our "cypress swamps", "savannas", "hammocks", etc. This movement has the peculiar merit, in these times, of calling for no special expense, actually none, I believe, since the necessary areas are intended to be derived by gift. These areas will be of real scientific use, but they must also continually be of great public interest for their historical and geographic values. One that is now immediately available is what is called the forest of Lynn Fork of Leatherwood in Perry County, Kentucky, which has been carefully studied by many competent people, including some for whose judgment and character I can personally vouch. It is said to be the finest remaining area of mixed forest, not on the mountains and not mainly carnivorous, in eastern North America. This tract is being offered as a gift to the National Park Service.

There are certainly some areas in this State which should likewise be preserved and which may become available at some early time.

I know that this sort of movement does not excite very general public interest, but I feel sure that you will appreciate its importance. The idea is, so I understand it, to give the National Park Service authority to accept such gifts.

Very sincerely yours,

(Sgd) R. E. COKER.

Acknowledged
by JV 2/5/36

File
Primeval Monuments
Leatherwood

6-55
Leatherwood

ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C., CHAIRMAN
BURTON K. WHEELER, MONT.
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CARL A. HATCH, N. MEX.
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GEORGE W. NORRIS, NEBR.
CHARLES L. MC NARY, OREG.
ARTHUR CAPPER, KANS.
PETER NORBECK, S. DAK.
LYNN J. FRAZIER, N. DAK.

C. A. LAWTON, CLERK

Mr. Demaree
W.D. Smith

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY



File

January 28, 1936.

Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, Director,
National Park Service,
Department of Interior,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

I am transmitting herewith, for your attention,
letter from Professor Henry S. Conard, Grinnell College,
Grinnell, Iowa, which is self-explanatory.

Kindly return Professor Conard's letter, with
your comments.

Very truly yours,

Louis Murphy
Louis Murphy

BYRON B. HARLAN
3D DISTRICT OHIO

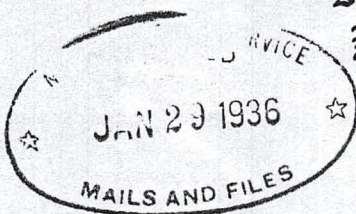
COMMITTEE ON RULES

NICK M. CAREY
SECRETARY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

January 28, 1936.



National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

Mr. G. ...
Mr. ...
Feb 1/30
Mr. ...
File

Gentlemen:

The matter has been brought to my attention concerning a movement for the establishment of National Primeval Monuments wherein the various types of our native vegetation are to be preserved. This appeals to me as a very desirable objective, and if not already provided for in our National Park Service, I would recommend that steps be taken to accomplish this purpose.

Some constituents of my district who are greatly interested in this work have requested me to urge your acceptance of the Lynn Ford of Leatherwood tract as the first of these national monoments. Of course, I am in no position to know the facts concerning this particular tract, or the desirability of other places, but I have a great deal of confidence in the people who have recommended this to me and should, therefore, be very pleased to see this tract used.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Byron B. Harlan".

Byron B. Harlan.

BBH/en



THE FRIENDS OF OUR NATIVE LANDSCAPE



MR. JENS JENSEN, PRESIDENT
THE CLEARING
RAVINIA, ILLINOIS

DR. HENRY C. COWLES
1ST VICE-PRESIDENT

MRS. HAZEL BUCK EWING
2ND VICE-PRESIDENT

MR. C. B. ANDREWS
SECRETARY
8 EAST HURON STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

MR. H. W. AUSTIN
TREASURER
1044 LAKE STREET
OAK PARK, ILLINOIS

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MR. JOHN S. VAN BERGEN
MR. EDISON L. WHEELER

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
RECEIVED

JAN 30 1936

MAILS AND FILES

January 28th, 1936.

Director of the National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir;

Whereas America's native vegetation is rapidly disappearing and as virgin areas of such vegetation of really superior quality should be preserved on account of their historical, aesthetic, literary, and scientific value, and as the existing classification of our National Monuments does not seem to make provision for the acquisition and administration of such areas:

Resolved that the Friends of Our Native Landscape of Chicago, Illinois, approves of the movement to establish National Primeval Monuments to consist of areas of important types of America's vegetation which are to be held and administered by the National Park Service as inviolate preserves in which there shall be no disturbance of plant or animal life.

Resolved also that the Friends of Our Native Landscape approves and endorses the efforts of the recently organized "Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League" to acquire the area of deciduous forest of Lynn Fork of Leatherwood, Perry County, Kentucky, to be set aside as a permanent inviolate preserve.

Yours truly,

C. B. Andrews
Secretary.

Mr. Cameron
Mr. Ramsey
1/31/36
Mr. Smith
File

M. M. NEELY, W. VA., CHAIRMAN
JOSEPH T. ROBINSON, ARK.
ROYAL S. COPELAND, N. Y.
PAT HARRISON, MISS.
KENNETH MCKELLAR, TENN.
HUGO L. BLACK, ALA.
ALVA B. ADAMS, COLO.
HARRY FLOOD BYRD, VA.
J. HAMILTON LEWIS, ILL.
FREDERICK HALE, MAINE
FREDERICK STEIWER, OREG.
L. J. DICKINSON, IOWA
ARTHUR H. VANDENBERG, MICH.

A. R. HUYETT, CLERK

Mr. Neely
Mr. Hale
File

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON RULES



January 28, 1936.

Honorable Arno B. Cammerer,
Director,
National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Cammerer:

Please send me detailed information concerning a nation-wide movement to have set aside national primeval monuments in connection with your service. If a project is pending will you not kindly supply me with identifying numbers and all other details in connection with the matter.

With the best of wishes and the kindest of regards, I am, always,

Faithfully yours,

M M Neely

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

*Wirth
Jolson*

Hon. William E. Hess,

House of Representatives.

My dear Mr. Hess:

Your letter of January 20, enclosing letters from two constituents endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the country, with special reference to the Leatherwood Tract at the Lynn Fork in Kentucky, has been received.

It is the policy of this Service to administer, as national parks or monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Mount Olympus National Monument for the typical timber of the Northwest, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus species of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many others.

Reports on recent investigations by various field officers of this Service suggested that the forest of the Leatherwood Tract is somewhat similar to that within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The question as to whether or not a sufficient area of this particular type is preserved, from the viewpoint of national scientific interest, will be given further study.

It is agreed that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation by some agency and the efforts of various supporters of this plan have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any further information or suggestions you may have regarding the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract.

The enclosures submitted with your letter are returned, together with two copies of this reply, as requested.

Cordially yours,

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

Encl. 893721
JLB-fmd

~~11-11-11~~ ~~Let Brown~~

See, I changed
this to try to
make it a little
more encouraging.
BHG

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

Thompson
Smith
Jolson

January 29, 1936.

✓
Hon. William E. Hess,

House of Representatives.

My dear Mr. Hess:

Your letter of January 20, enclosing letters from two constituents endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the country, with special reference to the Leatherwood Tract at the Lynn Fork in Kentucky, has been received.

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It is agreed that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation and the efforts of various supporters of this plan have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any further information or suggestions you may have regarding the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract.

The enclosures submitted with your letter are returned, together with two copies of this reply, as requested.

Cordially yours,

(SPP) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray,
Acting Director.

Enclosure 893721.

jlb:bht:mmm

Files
0-35
Lynn Fork

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

~~Canine~~ *Co*
Do Day Brown of
Christminster, talked to
Mr. Dismar and Mr.
Thompson at this the other
day. They were favorably
impressed by his proposal
to secure private subscriptions
to purchase the tract.
E

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

*Return to Lee Brown
after mailing*

25181

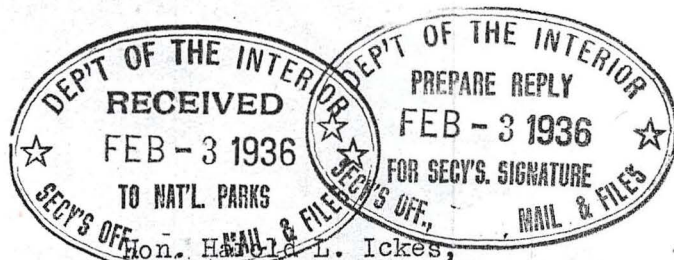
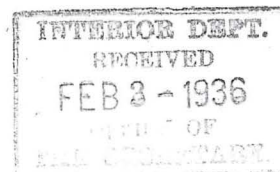
WILLIAM H. KING, UTAH, CHAIRMAN
 CARTER GLASS, VA. ARTHUR CAPPER, KANS.
 ROYAL S. COPELAND, N.Y. HAMILTON F. KEAN, N.J.
 MILLARD E. TYDINGS, MD. ROBERT D. CAREY, WYO.
 THOMAS P. GORE, OKLA. WARREN R. AUSTIN, VT.
 J. HAMILTON LEWIS, ILL. JAMES J. DAVIS, PA.
 JOHN H. BANKHEAD, ALA. JAMES COUZENS, MICH.
 PATRICK MCCARRAN, NEV.
 ROBERT R. REYNOLDS, N.C.

JAMES P. MCCENEY, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
 THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

January 31, 1936



Mon. Harold L. Ickes,
 Secretary of Interior,
 Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Attached hereto I send you a self-explanatory communication which I have received today from Mr. R. E. Coker of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, N. C.

Will you please look into the matter about which Mr. Coker has addressed me and advise me regarding the same at an early date?

I shall appreciate your returning the enclosed correspondence with your reply for my files.

Sincerely yours,

Robert R. Reynolds
 Robert R. Reynolds, U.S.S.

1-flh

P. S. - PLEASE ENCLOSE CARBON COPY OF
 REPLY FOR MY FILES.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ZOOLOGICAL LABORATORY
ITHACA, N. Y.

File

January 27, 1936.

Hon. Royal Copeland,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I received from Professor E. Lucy Braun, of the University of Cincinnati. She is Professor of Botany at that institution, was Vice-president this past year of the Ecological Society of America. This society for 20 years has been trying to have saved in each state certain primitive areas or distinctive specimens of vegetation for scientific purposes, these to be left inviolate, status quo, with no lawn makers, monument erectors, public building programs, or anything else modifying one iota. Many biologists, botanists, zoologists, scientists, are asking this for the whole country. Not parks, playgrounds, but specimens of different vegetational types for future generations, e.g. a few prairie original types, a cypress swamp so untouched. Who in New York now knows what the oak plains of Caledonia, N.Y. or pine plains of Rome, N.Y. meant? Yet segments of some of these we might eventually save. To our state planning board some day I'll present a corridor of areas (from Buffalo ~~to~~ to Albany) to be preserved, or from Chautauqua Lake to Orange Co.

I heartily endorse this plan because I know Dr. Braun. The area she wants is a gem. There is no Appalachian forest in the Smokies any better. She told me about it a month ago.

I have travelled on expeditions in these U. S. A. for 25 years, my last trip of 20,000 miles about a year ago. As a zoologist here of a third of a century standing, as a citizen of your state, as zoological adviser for New York State for the Ecological Society of America, as a member of a national committee

Hon. Royal Copeland

-2-

Jan. 27, 1936

of four for that society to secure preservation of natural areas, I endorse for your consideration this project of Dr. Braun.

I have no personal fish to fry, no tigers to comb, no birds to bag. Neither do I feel I nullify in any way my quasi-judicial position as a member at large for U. S. A. on the Division of Biology and Agriculture, National Research Council. I am for it because future generations will surely bless anyone who sought it.

From 25 years of sleeping in southern swamps, western mountains, prairie lands, I know our people have largely interpreted conservation as immediate utilization, the immediate personal game bag, my or my corporation's returns, with little thought for our future resources, future generations. Ours is not a mere sentimental movement. It is more than horse sense or common sense. Usually in the past, common sense has been common habit. We must anticipate, and this proposition hurts none, occasionally local shortsighted obstinates. In the end a fine effect is attained.

I hope that you can endorse this proposition and so state to the National Park Service as Dr. Braun suggests to me when she asks me to write you re this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Albert Hazen Wright

AHW:EB

Albert Hazen Wright
Prof. of Zoology
Cornell University

COPY

Dr. Albert H. Wright,
Ithaca, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Wright:

I am writing to get your support and the support of your state for the movement to establish National Primeval Monuments. The first of February the perfected plan is to be presented in Washington. Before that time, senators and representatives of every state must be told by their constituents that they are to support the movement. Briefly, the plan is:

To establish National Monuments of every important or interesting type of America's native vegetation-- as cypress swamp, tall-grass prairie, desert grassland, northern sphagnum bog and bog forest, eastern deciduous forest, etc. Such areas should be virgin areas of really superior quality. They are to be known as National Primeval Monuments. The existing classification of national monuments makes no provision for areas secured solely as "museum pieces" of America's vegetation, and hence interposes an obstacle in the way of their preservation. Such areas are not only of scientific value, but are also of historical, literary and artistic value. It is these values rather than the scientific ones which need to be stressed if the plan is to receive public support.

As a definite and concrete instance of intention to establish such a national primeval monument, let me cite the efforts of the recently organized "Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League". This League is raising funds (can you help?) to purchase the finest remaining area of low altitude mixed deciduous forest in eastern North America, the forest of Lynn Fork of Leatherwood in Perry Co., Ky. (I am personally familiar with the tract and can vouch for its quality). When acquired, the League wishes to give this tract into the care of the National Park Service to be held as an inviolate preserve, in which there shall be no disturbance, no human modification. I have been told that there is no precedent and no classification for such areas. Let us make one. We need to acquire and set aside samples of our native vegetation (together with the animals as far as that is now possible) before it is too late. The plan of National Primeval Monuments is designed to meet the need. The plan has the written endorsement of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Botanical Society of America, the Ecological Society of America, as well as of many other non-scientific nature and out-door organizations and of many prominent individuals. What it needs now is a country-wide shove. Get behind it.

I must depend on you for the necessary state-wide endorsement of this plan. However busy you may be, you must not fail; there is not time for me to get someone in your place, and I have endless other details to attend to. "Do it now". There is no time to lose. For your convenience I enclose a few mimeographed

COPY

2.

slips giving directions as to just what to do. Please write yourself, then pass on this request to ten more people in your state who can ⁱⁿ turn pass it on to others so as to cover the entire state. ^ In this way we can apprise the senators and representatives from all over the country that there is a movement on foot that must be ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ supported.

Please send me a post card saying that you have done your part.

Yours sincerely,

Signed (E. Lucy Braun)

2702 May St., Cincinnati, Ohio.

ROYAL S. COPELAND, N. Y., CHAIRMAN

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Mr. Thompson
24
W. H. L.

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

February 1, 1936



Dear Mr. Director:

I am enclosing a letter I have received from Professor
Albert H. Wright, of Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y. Will you
please let me have your comments.

Cordially yours,

Royal S. Copeland
Royal S. Copeland

Honorable Arno B. Cammerer
National Park Service
Washington, D. C.

PRS 25082

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON



FEB - 4 1936

0-25

Trailway

YELLOWIS NOTED

Hon. George McGill,

United States Senate.

My dear Senator McGill:

Secretary Ickes has asked me to reply to your letter of January 27 with which you enclosed a copy of a letter signed by Miss Eunice L. Kingsley and other students of the Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kansas, urging the setting aside of the territory known as the Lynn Fork area of the Leatherwood Tract in Kentucky.

Authority has been delegated to the National Park Service of this Department to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Mount Olympus National Monument for the typical timber of the Northwest, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus species of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many others.

It is agreed that the Lynn Fork area is worthy of preservation, but it is now in private ownership and could not be established as a national monument unless the lands were donated to the Federal Government.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) HARRY SLATTERY

HARRY SLATTERY
Personal Assistant
To the Secretary.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

17 letters

Salmon
File

February 5, 1936.

Mr. Wirth:

Attached are a number of replies to letters from botanists, ecologists, and conservation organizations, urging the establishment of primeval monuments to preserve various vegetative formations, with particular reference to the Leatherwood Tract in Kentucky.

This seems to be a concentrated movement on the part of botanists along the same lines as a proposal which I presented to you in report form about a year ago, recommending a survey of plant formations, geological, phenomena, scenic types, and phases of American history which may be of national interest.

I hope to bring this matter to you in a more tangible form within the next month or two, so I wanted to call this correspondence to your attention while it is going through.

Brown
J. Lee Brown.

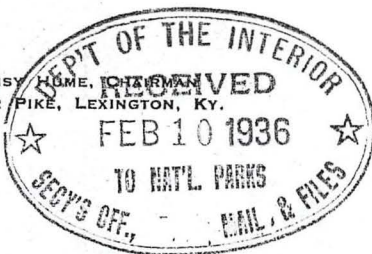
I think the letter
ought to be taken
over with Ben Thompson

Brown tells me that you
have gone into some detail in the
matter and that this is the thought
you and Ben have on it. ~~That~~ I
don't believe it is a national monument
from the reports I have gone over.
Don't you believe we should go into
it a little further before we go as far
as we do in these letters? C.H.W.

Demaray
The Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League
Lexington, Kentucky

*file
BKO*

MISS DAISY HUME, CHAIRMAN
WINCHESTER PIKE, LEXINGTON, KY.

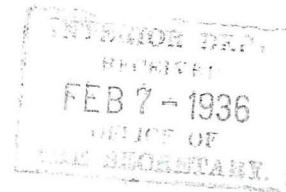


DR. E. LUCY BRAUN, EXEC.-SEC.
2702 MAY STREET, CINCINNATI, OHIO

MRS. BAILEY P. WOOTTON, SEC.-TREAS.
818 SHELBY STREET, FRANKFORT, KY.

February 5, 1936.

Hon. Harold L. Ickes,
Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.



Dear Mr. Ickes:

At recent conferences in Washington with Mr. Demaray and Mr. Ben H. Thompson of the National Park Service, it was suggested that I write to you concerning the Lynn Fork of Leatherwood forest.

The Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League is raising money to purchase a superlative tract of virgin forest on the Lynn Fork of Leatherwood in Perry County, Kentucky. This tract is one of the best remaining examples, if not the best, of eastern America's low altitude mixed hardwood forest. We wish, when this land is acquired, to donate it to the United States to be kept as an inviolate preserve and administered by the National Park Service as a National Monument -- a National Primeval Monument. We wish to have it proclaimed a national monument as was Muir Woods National Monument, -- by Proclamation of President Theodore Roosevelt on the 9th day of January, 1908, -- following the purchase of the forest by William Kent and his wife.

Those who are supporting our efforts to acquire the forest wish to be assured of the disposition to be made of the tract. The assurance that it will become a National Monument will be a great stimulus to many interested persons and will speed the raising of funds for the purchase of the forest. Can you let me have a statement that the Lynn Fork of Leatherwood forest will (when purchased and offered to the United States) be accepted as a National Monument administered by the National Park Service.

Yours respectfully,

E. Lucy Braun
E. Lucy Braun,
Executive Secretary

ELB/AF

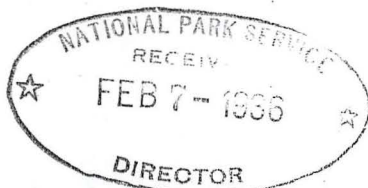
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C. A. LAWTON, CLERK

Mr. McNary
Mr. Wood
United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY



February 6, 1936.

Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, Director,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

I am transmitting herewith letter from Mr. C. W. Lantz, Professor of Biology, Iowa State Teachers College, Cedar Falls, Iowa, expressing approval of the plan to establish National Primeval Monuments of types of native vegetation, and urging particularly that the Lynn Fork of Leatherwood Tract in Perry County, Kentucky, be made a preserve.

Please give Mr. Lantz's letter your serious consideration, returning it with your advice.

Very truly yours,

Louis Murphy
Louis Murphy

ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C., CHAIRMAN
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M. DeMunnigan
Wm. L. Smith

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

Feb 8

February 6, 1936

C. A. LAWTON, CLERK



Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, Director,
National Park Service,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:-

I am transmitting herewith letter from
Mr. J. M. Hitchings, Senior High School, Davenport,
Iowa, expressing approval of the plan to
establish National Primeval Monuments of types
of native vegetation, and urging particularly that the
Lynn Fork of Leatherwood Tract in Perry County,
Kentucky, be made a preserve.

Please give Mr. Hitchings' letter your serious
consideration returning it with your advice.

Sincerely yours,

Louis Murphy
Louis Murphy

DUNCAN U. FLETCHER, FLA., CHAIRMAN
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WILLIAM L. HILL, CLERK



Mr. Demaray
Mr. Wirth

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY

Feb 15

February 6, 1936

Mr. Arno B. Cammerer,
National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:--

Under date of January 20th and January 23d,
I wrote you with reference to a National Primeval
Monument and to date I have not received a reply.
I shall appreciate any information you can furnish
in the matter.

I am attaching hereto a number of letters which
have come to me on the subject.

Sincerely yours,

Robert J. Bulkley

EC

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Wirth
Thompson
Folsom

File

✓
Mr. C. B. Andrews,
Secretary, The Friends of our
Native Landscape,
8 East Huron Street,
Chicago, Ill.

FEB - 8 1936

0-35
Leatherwood

My dear Mr. Andrews:

Your letter of January 28 endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the United States, with special reference to the Leatherwood Tract of the Lynn Fork in Perry County, Kentucky, has been received.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

It is thought that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation and the efforts of its various supporters throughout the country have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any further information or suggestions that the Friends of our Native Landscape Society may have regarding either the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract, or in general regarding the establishment of primeval monuments.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

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JVW-fmd
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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

Worth
Thompson
Salmon
File

FEB - 8 1936

Hon. Royal S. Copeland,
United States Senate.

My dear Senator Copeland:

Your letter of February 1, enclosing a letter from one of your constituents endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the United States, has been received.

Although there has been no definite action on the general proposal to date, several proposals have been received, with particular reference to the Leatherwood Forest Tract at the Lynn Fork in Perry County, Kentucky.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

It is thought that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation, and the efforts of its various supporters throughout the country have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any further suggestions you may have regarding either the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract, or in general regarding the establishment of primeval monuments.

Cordially yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

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JVW-fmd

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Worth
Thompson
Johnson

✓
Hon. Vic Donahey,
United States Senate.

My dear Senator Donahey:

The copy of your letter of January 24 to Mrs. Margaret
S. Tinne, and enclosures of letters from two constituents
endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout
the country, has been received.

For your information, enclosed are copies of our replies
to your constituents relative to proposed primeval monuments.

Cordially yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

Enclosures 893747
JVW-fmd

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FEB - 8 1936
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Pearlman

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

Wm H
Thompson
Tolson

FEB - 8 1936

Hon. Lynn J. Frazier,

United States Senate.

My dear Senator Frazier:

Your letter of January 18, enclosing a letter from one of your constituents endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the country, with special reference to the Leatherwood Forest Tract at the Lynn Fork in Perry County, Kentucky, has been received.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

It is agreed that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation, and the efforts of various supporters of this plan have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any further information or suggestions you may have regarding the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract.

Cordially yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

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JVW-fmd

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Worth
Thompson
Folsom
File

✓
Mr. Robert B. Gordon,
Ohio State University,
Department of Botany,
Columbus, Ohio.

FEB - 8 1936
0-35
Leatherwood

My dear Mr. Gordon:

Your letter of January 22 to Senator Donahay, endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the United States, with special reference to the Leatherwood Tract of the Lynn Fork in Perry County, Kentucky, has been referred to this Service for reply.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

It is agreed that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation, and the efforts of the various supporters of this plan have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any further information or suggestions that you may have regarding the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract, or in general regarding the establishment of primeval monuments.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

CC: Senator Donahay
JVW-fmd
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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Wirth
Thompson
Falcon
File

FEB - 8 1936

V
Hon. Byron B. Harlan,

House of Representatives.

My dear Mr. Harlan:

Your letter of January 28 relative to the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the United States, has been received.

Although there has been no action on this general proposal to date, several proposals have been received, with particular reference to the Leatherwood Tract of the Lynn Fork in Perry County, Kentucky.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

It is thought that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation and the efforts of its various supporters throughout the United States have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any suggestions that you may have regarding either the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract, or in general regarding the establishment of primeval monuments.

If there is any further information that you may require, please let us know.

Cordially yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Worth
Thompson
Johnson

Hon. A. P. Lamneck,

House of Representatives.

0-35
Leatherwood
FEB - 8 1936

My dear Mr. Lamneck:

Your letter of January 24, enclosing a letter from one of your constituents endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the country, with special reference to the Leatherwood Forest Tract at the Lynn Fork in Perry County, Kentucky, has been received.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

It is thought that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation, and the efforts of various supporters of this plan have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any suggestions you may have regarding either the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract, or in general regarding the establishment of primeval monuments.

If there is any further information that will be of help to you, please let us know.

Cordially yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

JVW-fmd
B

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Worth
Thompson
Jalson

Hon. M. M. Logan, ✓

SEP - 8 1936

United States Senate.

My dear Senator Logan:

Your letter of January 13, enclosing a letter from one of your constituents endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the country, with special reference to the Leatherwood Tract of the Lynn Fork in Kentucky, has been received.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

It is agreed that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation, and the efforts of its various supporters have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any further information or suggestions you may have regarding the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract.

Cordially yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

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JVW-fmd
b

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Worth
Thompson
Folsom

FEB -8 1936

Hon. Francis T. Maloney,
United States Senate.

My dear Senator Maloney:

Your letter of January 22, enclosing a letter from one of your constituents endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the United States, with special reference to the Leatherwood Tract at the Lynn Fork in Kentucky, has been received.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

It is thought that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation and the efforts of its various supporters have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any information or suggestions you may have regarding either the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract, or in general regarding the establishment of primeval monuments.

If there is any further information that you may require, please let us know.

Cordially yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

JVW-fmd

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Worth
Thompson
Falcon

File

FEB - 8 1936

Hon. George McGill,

United States Senate.

My dear Senator McGill:

Your letter of January 27, enclosing a letter from several of your constituents endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the United States, with special reference to the Leatherwood Tract at the Lynn Fork in Kentucky, has been received.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

It is agreed that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation, and the efforts of various supporters of this plan have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any further information or suggestions that you may have regarding the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract.

The enclosure submitted with your letter is being returned.

If there is any further information that you may require, please let us know.

Cordially yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

Encl. 893748

JVW-fmd

E

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Wirth
Thompson
Folsom
File

Mr. E. McNeill,
Department of Botany,
Concord State Teachers College,
Athens, West Virginia.

FEB - 8 1936

0-35
Leatherwood

My dear Mr. McNeill:

Your letter of January 24 to the White House, endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the United States, has been referred to this Service for reply.

Although there has been no action on the general proposal to date, several proposals have been received, with particular reference to the Leatherwood Tract at the Lynn Fork in Perry County, Kentucky.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

It is thought that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation, and the efforts of its various supporters throughout the country have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any suggestions you may have regarding either the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract, or in general regarding the establishment of primeval monuments.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

✓
JWV-fmd
B

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Wirth
Thompson
Golson

File

Hon. Louis Murphy,
United States Senate.

FEB -8 1936

My dear Senator Murphy:

Your letter of January 28, enclosing a letter from one of your constituents endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the United States, with special reference to the Leatherwood Forest Tract at the Lynn Fork in Perry County, Kentucky, has been received.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

It is agreed that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation, and the efforts of its various supporters have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any information or suggestions you may have regarding the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract.

The enclosure submitted with your letter is returned as requested.

Cordially yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

Encl. 893749

JVW-fmd

B

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

*Worth
Thompson*

Hon. M. M. Neely,

United States Senate.

My dear Mr. Neely:

Your letter of January 28 relative to the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the country, has been received.

Although there has been no action on this general proposal to date, several proposals have been received, with particular reference to the Leatherwood Forest Tract at the Lynn Fork in Perry County, Kentucky.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range and many other similar areas.

It is thought that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation and the efforts of its various supporters throughout the United States have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any suggestions that you may have regarding either the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract, or in general regarding the establishment of primeval monuments.

If there is any further information that you may require, please let us know.

Cordially yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

✓
JVW-fmd
B

6-35
Leatherwood
FEB - 8 1936

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

Worth
Thompson
Jolson

File

Hon. Gerald P. Nye,

United States Senate.

My dear Senator Nye:

Your letter of January 16, enclosing a letter from one of your constituents endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the United States, with special reference to the Leatherwood Forest Tract at the Lynn Fork in Kentucky, has been received.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

It is agreed that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation, and the efforts of various supporters of this plan have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any further information or suggestions you may have regarding the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract.

The enclosure submitted with your letter is being returned for your files, as requested.

Cordially yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

Encl. 893751
JVW-fmd

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Wirth
Thompson
Jolson

✓
Mrs. Margaret S. Tinne,
139 Mason Street,
Mount Auburn,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

U-35
Leatherwood
FEB - 8 1936

My dear Mrs. Tinne:

Your letter of January 17 to Senator Donahey, endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the United States, with special reference to the Leatherwood Tract at the Lynn Fork in Kentucky, has been referred to this Service for reply.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

It is agreed that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation and the efforts of its various supporters throughout the country have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any further information or suggestions that you may have regarding the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract, or the establishment of primeval monuments in general.

If we can be of further help to your Wild Flower Preservation Society, please let us know.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

CC: Senator Donahey
JVW-fmd

B

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

With
Thompson
Jolson

Mr. John Zettel,
3303 North Menlo Avenue,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

FEB - 8 1936

My dear Mr. Zettel:

Your letter of January 20 to Senator Donahey, endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the United States, has been referred to this Service for reply.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

Although there has been no definite action to date on this general proposal of establishing primeval monuments, the efforts of its various supporters throughout the country have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any information or suggestions that you may have regarding the establishment of primeval monuments.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

CC: Senator Donahey
JVW-fmd

B

ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
COMMITTEE ON THE PRESERVATION OF NATURAL CONDITIONS
FOR THE UNITED STATES
ESTABLISHED IN 1917

FRANCIS RAMALEY, BIOECOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO,
BOULDER, COLO.

C. JUDAY, AQUATIC ECOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN,
MADISON, WIS.

ROBERT F. GRIGGS, PLANT ECOLOGY
GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

V. E. SHELFORD, CHAIRMAN
VIVARIUM BUILDING
WRIGHT AND HEALEY STREETS
CHAMPAIGN, ILL.
ANIMAL ECOLOGY



R. E. YEATTER, SECRETARY
VIVARIUM BUILDING
WRIGHT AND HEALEY STREETS
CHAMPAIGN, ILL.
BIRDS AND MAMMALS

OFFICE OF

BHS
file
Washington Dc
Hotel Powhatan
- just leaving
Feb. 9, 1936

Mr Arthur Demaray
National Park Service

Dear Mr. M. Demaray:—

Will you please write me
as to the status of Dr Huey Brauner's
National Primeval Monument project
in Eastern Kentucky? A subcommittee
(larger)
of this group was appointed at St.
Louis to visit the area and report
back. The committee has not been
instructed and of course cannot
visit the area for some weeks
but needless to say the project is
directly in line with the policies
of Ecological Society. Miss Brauner
has suggested the necessity of
Congressional action. I had not
supposed that that was necessary
Yours V. E. Shelford

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

PRS 25181

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

FEB 10 1936



Hon. Robert H. Reynolds,

United States Senate.

My dear Senator Reynolds:

Secretary Ickes has asked me to reply to your letter of January 31 with which you enclosed a letter from Mr. E. E. Coker, endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the United States, with special reference to the Leatherwood Forest Tract at the Lynn Fork in Perry County, Kentucky.

It is agreed that the Lynn Fork area is worthy of preservation, but it is now in private ownership and could not be established as a national monument unless the lands were donated to the Federal Government.

It is the policy of the National Park Service of this Department to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

We shall be glad to receive and consider any suggestions that you may have regarding the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract or, in general, the establishment of primeval monuments.

The letter from Mr. Coker is returned, in accordance with your request.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) HARRY SLATTERY

HARRY SLATTERY
Personal Assistant
to the Secretary.

Enclosure 893750

Thelma
Thelma

Johnny
Johnson

File

YELLOW NOTED

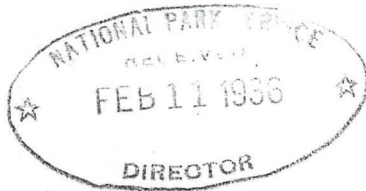
6-35
Leatherwood

M. M. NEELY, W. VA., CHAIRMAN
JOSEPH T. ROBINSON, ARK.
ROYAL S. COPELAND, N. Y.
PAT HARRISON, MISS.
KENNETH MCKELLAR, TENN.
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FREDERICK HALE, MAINE
FREDERICK STEIWER, OREG.
L. J. DICKINSON, IOWA
ARTHUR H. VANDENBERG, MICH.

A. R. HUYETT, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON RULES



February 11, 1936.

Honorable Arno B. Cammerer,
Director,
National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Cammerer:

Supplementing my recent letter to you concerning the Primeval Monuments project I am taking the liberty of enclosing herewith several communications which I have received from constituents for your consideration.

I shall appreciate your further report relative to the project mentioned and the return of the enclosed correspondence when it has served your purpose.

With the best of wishes and the kindest of regards, I am, always,

Faithfully yours,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "M. M. Neely".

File
Enclosures accompanying Senator Neely's letter of February 11, 1936.

Letters from:

Mr. J. B. McLaughlin,
Commissioner of Agriculture,
Department of Agriculture,
Charleston, West Virginia.

Mr. Frank A. Gilbert, Prof. of Botany
Alfred T. Navome, Prof. of Geology
W. I. Utterback, Prof of Zoology,
Marshall College,
Huntington, West Virginia.

B. R. Weimer,
Department of Biology,
Bethany College,
Bethany, West Virginia.

Robert C. Patterson, PhD.,
Potomac State School of W. Va. University,
Keyser, West Virginia.

E. Meade M'Neill,
Department of Botany,
Concord State Teachers College, E. DEMARAY
Athens, W. Virginia.

P. D. Strausbaugh,
College of Agriculture,
West Virginia University,
Morgantown, W. Va.

J. F. Marsh, President,
Concord State Teachers College,
Athens, W. Va.

HN ZETTEL,
303 Menlo Ave.,
CINCINNATI, O.

Cincinnati, Ohio, February 12th. 1936.

Mr. A. E. Demaray, Acting Director,
National Park Service,
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.



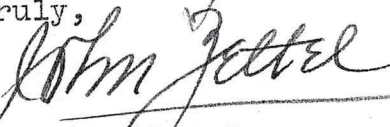
Dear Mr. Demaray,

Replying to your letter of Feb. 8th. 1936
referring to the proposed "National Primeval Monuments" movement
I wish to say that while recognizing the need of securing for
the use of posterity such areas as still remain in their primitive
state, we are particularly interested at this time in Lynn Fork
of Leatherwood in Perry County, Kentucky which is a very desirable
tract and represents an emergency requiring immediate action.

I enclose an appeal prepared by Dr. E. Lucy Braun of the
University of Cincinnati, who read this before the "Save Kentucky's
Primeval Forests League" at their meeting held in Lexington, Ky.
on December 4th. 1935.

I am forwarding to Dr. Braun your letter with a request that you
be kept informed as to any later developments of this movement.

Very truly,


Vice-Pres. Wild Flower
Preservatoin Society
of Cincinnati.

P.S.

We appreciate your prompt attention to our letter and
thank you for your willingness to give your consideration
to any suggestions or information that may be submitted
to you.

A NATIONAL MONUMENT OF EVERY TYPE OF NATIVE VEGETATION



America is unusually rich in variety of types of natural vegetation. The great range of latitude, of altitude, and the very unlike climates of different sections of our country favor the development of very unlike communities of plants. Among these are the luxuriant tropical hammocks of southern Florida; the beautiful though somber cypress swamps of the bayous of the Mississippi; the dark spruce and fir forests of the north woods of New England and the Adirondacks with here and there an open sunny bog; the mountain forests of the Rockies; the luxuriant conifer forests of the Pacific Northwest; the giant Sequoias of the Sierras and redwoods of the coastal region of California; the wierd though picturesque desert types of the hot sections of southern California and Arizona; the prairies of the Mississippi Valley; and the great deciduous forest of the east-central states. Even such a partial list as this makes evident the diversity of form with which Nature has endowed this country.

One by one these types of vegetation are being destroyed. It will not be long before some among them will be known only as things of the past. This should not be.

It is desirable, in fact it is our sacred duty, to save as "museum specimens" representative areas of natural or primitive vegetation, just as we save examples of man's handicraft, art, literature, the works of prehistoric peoples; just as we save historic sites, old buildings, groups of petrified trees, caverns, and what not.

There are very real values attached to our primitive vegetation: Historic values, for into each of these sorts of vegetation in turn the frontiers of American colonization and civilization moved, and the pioneers used or contended with surrounding nature, as the case might be. Literary values, for the literature of America reflects the inspirations gained from Nature. When we read,

"This is the forest primeval"

can we point to any area and say that there one can see something of the sort which gave Longfellow his inspiration? No. Could Bryant have written that beautiful poem, "The Prairies," "Without the inspiration of vast untouched prairie? No. Yet one by one we are letting these invaluable possessions of the nation slip away from us. Scientific values, for only by the study of primitive nature unmodified by man can we hope to understand the relation between environment and plant growth; and to be able to apply this information to the best uses in land utilization, in agriculture, in grazing problems, in forestry; can we hope to have an adequate record and knowledge of our rich and varied plant life. Aesthetic values, at the root of human happiness and fundamental to much of life's enjoyment and artistic accomplishment. In the progress of the world's history disregard of beauty, failure to appreciate beauty, has preceded national decline. Yet we are willing that one by one these different types of beauty be taken from us in a temporary quest for gain.

The danger of loss is real and obvious. Immediate action is necessary if the tide of destroying forces is to be stemmed and representative areas permanently saved. A few states have, independently, attempted to save areas in their commonwealth. Notable are the efforts of the "Save-the-Redwoods League" in California. But state interest is not enough.

We should establish, through force of public pressure in Washington, a policy whereby representative examples of natural primitive vegetation are set apart as National Monuments. There is precedent for such action. Papago Saguaro National Monument in Arizona and Palm Canyon National Monument in California have as their reason for establishment, the unusual vegetation which they preserve. Are these unusual sorts of vegetation any more valuable, any more beautiful than the deciduous forests of the East? We have National Monuments which have been established to preserve areas with interesting fossil plants -- Fossil Cycad National Monument in South Dakota, Petrified Forest National Monument in Arizona! Must our forests become fossilized before examples of them are worthy of a place in our system of National Monuments?

Areas of each and every sort of vegetation with which America is endowed should be set aside as National Primeval Monuments. The saving of these as National Monuments is especially desirable because the policy as regards National Monuments is no utilization and no "development," for no annual appropriations are made for this purpose. Only if these remain unmodified by man, with nothing added, nothing taken away, will they serve as monuments of America's natural vegetation. The ordinary forest utilization, "improvement," the establishment of C.C.C. camps and "cleaning up" would be ruinous.

The plea for the establishment of National Primeval Monuments is especially timely as natural areas are disappearing with appalling rapidity. The fact that there is no established policy of this sort is a handicap to those who wish to save some outstanding piece of natural vegetation.

Let us cite the efforts of groups of public spirited citizens and nature lovers in Kentucky. Realizing that in eastern Kentucky there still remain areas, one in particular, of deciduous forest as fine as any which ever existed on this continent, areas which may even be considered true wilderness, they are trying to find the ways and means of establishing at least one forest preserve. Let us all work together to help sway public opinion and federal authorities to the realization that these things must be saved.

The establishment of a national policy is essential to the preservation of remaining examples of America's originally varied vegetation. It will enable the Federal Government to accept from states or groups of citizens areas suitable for National Primeval Monuments. It will pave the way for the transfer from federal lands to National Primeval Monument status of suitable areas in these federal holdings. It will recognize and encourage efforts to save something of America's virgin vegetation before all is gone. Let us have a National Monument, a National Primeval Monument, of every type of America's native vegetation.

THE PRESENT EMERGENCY

An area of deciduous forest on Lynn Fork of Leatherwood in Perry County, Kentucky, has been located which is a superlative example of America's virgin hardwood forest. It is this tract of virgin forest which presents an emergency demanding immediate action.

This Lynn Fork forest is one of the finest, if not the finest forest tract remaining in the deciduous forest area of the United States. Well up toward the head of the left fork of Lynn is a most remarkable grove of tulip poplar, equalling or surpassing anything in the Great Smoky Mountains. Here are hundreds of giant tulip trees, ranging in size from 10 to 24 feet in circumference, breast high. The largest of these, while not as large as has been reported from the Smokies, is actually bigger than anyone seems now to be able to find there. It is probable that this tree is the largest living individual of its kind in North America.

The tract as a whole is a mixed hardwood forest in which, in addition to tulip, are sugar maple, beech, basswood, red oak, white oak, chestnut oak, cucumber and many other species of lesser importance. According to timber cruising figures, tulip poplar constitutes nearly 30 percent of the total stand. In certain parts of the tract it forms 60 percent of the stand -- huge towering columns, a truly magnificent sight.

The tulip poplar grove occupies the head of the valley at about 1800 to 2000 feet. Slightly lower there is less tulip and more white oak; still lower, there is considerable admixture of hemlock. The whole place is awe-inspiring; all the trees are large; the forest is in places unbelievably dense.

Another unusual feature is the wealth and beauty of the herbaceous vegetation which is exceedingly luxuriant; it would be difficult to find its equal. So many forests in the eastern mountains have had hogs and cattle running through them; if this ever has, it certainly does not show for it now. It is beautiful -- ferns and orchids and a wealth of wild flowers.

While classed as mixed hardwood forest, the composition varies with the site. The area includes slopes of all exposure, and "bottoms." Hence it offers an unexcelled demonstration of the interrelations of slope exposure and forest composition.

The area is located some fifteen miles (on an air-line) southeast of Hazard in Perry County on Lynn Fork, a tributary of Leatherwood Creek, which enters North Fork Kentucky River at Cornettsville. The tracing (from the Cornettsville Topographic Sheet, U.S. Geol. Survey) shows the extent of the proposed inviolate preserve. The boundaries shown here are for the most part natural ones -- ridge tops forming the divides between the drainage of Lynn Fork and adjacent creeks.

The land is owned by the Kentucky ^{River} Coal and Fuel Co.; the timber rights by the Leatherwood Lumber Co., with offices at Daisy, Ky.

Only immediate action can save this remarkable area from destruction.

So little remains of virgin hardwood forest that few people have any conception of what it is. The forests of the Smokies are, by most people, believed to be something apart, something different, something to be expected only in the mountain fastnesses of this rugged mountain mass. This Kentucky area lies in the Cumberland Plateau, that great barrier to pioneer migrations from Virginia to the middle west. It shows, as the Smokies do not, what the nature of the forest was through which those hardy pioneers of Daniel Boone's day pushed their way, and in which many stopped and established their modest homes.

Historically, aesthetically, scientifically, the Lynn Fork of Leatherwood forest is deserving of recognition as a worthy member of the National Primeval Monuments of the United States.

10-39

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

2/11/36

~~Mr. Wipac~~

Brown

The rest of the letters on Leatherwood
which you questioned, have gone out unchanged.
Ben Thompson suggested that this one be made a
little more encouraging.



J. Lee Brown.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

WASHINGTON

February 13, 1936.

Thompson
Jerkins
Smith
(after mailing)

File

0-35
Primer

Hon. M. M. Neely,

United States Senate.

My dear Senator Neely:

I have received your letter of February 11, with the enclosed letters from several of your constituents, urging the establishment of the Leatherwood tract as a national primeval monument. The correspondence is returned for your records as you requested.

Dr. Lucy Braun who, as you know, has been actively sponsoring this project, has recently written to the Secretary of the Interior requesting assurance from him that the area would be acceptable as a national monument if it were purchased and tendered to the Federal Government. The National Park Service is recommending to the Secretary that such assurance be given, provided an area large enough to be maintained in primeval condition can be secured. It is believed that a precedent for such action was established by the acceptance of Muir Woods in California as a national monument.

Your interest and cooperation in this matter are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray,
Acting Director.

bht:mmm
Enclosure 754298.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FEB 14 1936

Mrs. J. Kidwell Grannis,
Chairman, Leatherwood Conservation
Committee,
Flemingsburg, Kentucky.

ms
D-35
Leatherwood

My dear Mrs. Grannis:

Reference is made to your letter of January 20 regarding the Leatherwood Tract in Perry County, Kentucky.

It has been recently suggested to this Service that there is a possibility of securing this tract through public subscription. Should this proposal be realized, further consideration may be given to the possibility of its administration by the National Park Service.

Portions of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park have always been regarded by this Service as a typical example of deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range. The advisability of administering another example for purely scientific purposes will be given consideration.

We shall be glad to receive and consider any further information or suggestions you may have regarding the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) O.L. Wirth
Conrad L. Wirth.
Assistant Director.

✓
JVM:md
B

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

*With
Johnson*

FEB 15 1936

✓
Hon. Louis Murphy,

United States Senate.

My dear Senator Murphy:

*0-35
Leahwood*

Your letter of February 6, enclosing a letter from one of your constituents relative to the establishment of primeval monuments, has been received.

Our reply to you under date of February 8 will give you sufficient information to answer Mr. Lantz's letter.

The enclosure submitted with your letter is being returned as requested.

Cordially yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

Encl. 893781
JVM-fmd

E. M. M. M.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

*Worth
Folsom*

FEB 15 1936

Hon. Robert J. Bulkley,

United States Senate.

My dear Senator Bulkley:

Your letters of January 20 and 23, enclosing letters from two of your constituents endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments throughout the United States, with specific reference to the Leatherwood Forest Tract at the Lynn Fork in Perry County, Kentucky, have been received.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

It is agreed that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation, and the efforts of various supporters of this plan have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any further information or suggestions you may have regarding the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract.

Cordially yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

✓
JWV-fmd

B. Russell

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

February 17, 1936.

Dr. V. E. Shelford,
Ecological Society of America,
Vivarium Building,
Wright and Kealey Streets,
Champaign, Illinois.

Dear Doctor Shelford:

I have received your letter of February 9, concerning the national primeval monument proposed by Dr. Lucy Braun. It is encouraging to note that the Ecological Society has appointed a committee to investigate the Leatheswood tract. Would it be possible for the National Park Service to have a copy of this committee's report when it is rendered?

As you know, this tract is privately owned and this Service has no funds with which to purchase the area. If Doctor Braun is successful in raising sufficient funds so that the area can be turned over to the Federal Government, it is my belief that it could be preserved as a national monument under the precedent established by the creation of Muir Woods National Monument in California. To set up a national monument does not require Congressional action; a presidential proclamation is sufficient. Authority, however, to establish the new category of "National Primeval Monument," which Dr. Braun proposes, would require an act of Congress.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) ARNO B. CAMMERER

Arno B. Cammerer,
Director.

bht:mmm

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

Please
return to B.H.V.

2/18/36

Dr. E. Lucy Braun,
Executive Secretary,
The Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League,
2702 May Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Doctor Braun:

I have received your letter of February 8, concerning preservation of the primeval hardwood forest on the Lynn Fork of Leatherwood in Perry County, Kentucky.

It is recommended by the National Park Service that this area be given national monument status if, and when, it can be secured and tendered as a donation to the Federal Government, provided the area forms a suitable administrative unit so that it can be properly protected. I concur with this recommendation.

The activity of yourself and the other members of the League in this worthy conservation project is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary of the Interior.

bht:mmm

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Jolson

FEB 21 1936

✓
Hon. Louis Murphy,
United States Senate.

1-35
Leatherwood

My dear Senator Murphy:

With reference to your letter of February 6, and the enclosure from one of your constituents endorsing the establishment of National Primeval Monuments throughout the United States, our letter to you under date of February 8 will give you sufficient information for your reply to Mr. Hitchings.

Mr. Hitchings' letter is returned herewith.

Cordially yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

Encl. 892607
JVM-fmd
[Signature]

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Johnson

FEB 21 1938

Hon. Robert J. Bulkley,
United States Senate.

My dear Senator Bulkley:

Your letter of February 6 with enclosures from several of your constituents relative to the establishment of National Primeval Monuments throughout the United States, has been received.

Our letter to you under date of February 15 will give you sufficient information for replying to your constituents on the matter.

The enclosures submitted with your letter are herewith returned.

Cordially yours,

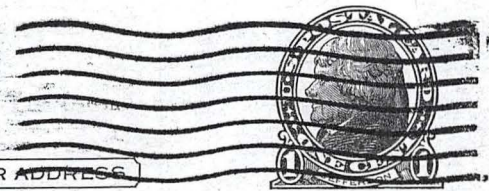
(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

Encl. 892608

JVM-fmd

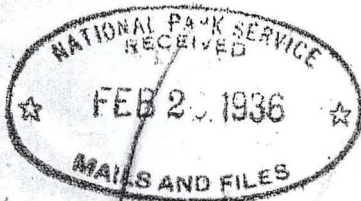
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THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Director, National Park Service
Dept. of the Interior
Washington
D. C.

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON



Dr. E. Lucy Braun,
Executive Secretary,
The Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League,
2702 May Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

FEB 28 1936
0-35
Leatherwood
YELLOW NOTES

My dear Doctor Braun:

I have received your letter of February 5, concerning preservation of the primeval hardwood forest on the Lynn Fork of Leatherwood in Perry County, Kentucky.

It is recommended by the National Park Service that this area be given national monument status if, and when, it can be secured and tendered as a donation to the Federal Government, provided the area forms a suitable administrative unit so that it can be properly protected. I concur with this recommendation.

The activity of yourself and the other members of the League in this worthy conservation project is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) CHARLES WEST
Acting Secretary of the Interior.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

Note to
Dr. Bryant:
Mr. Tolson:

Mr. Wirth has not expressed a favorable opinion of this proposed monument. However, if everyone else approves it, and if it can be acquired without cost to the Government, I don't think he will want to object.

Brown

Mr. Hinton
Dr. Bryant
Mr. Tolson ~~10/21~~

for comments.

This should
have been routed
to you first.
BHV

The Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League
Lexington, Kentucky

MISS DAISY HUME, CHAIRMAN
WINCHESTER PIKE, LEXINGTON, KY.

DR. E. LUCY BRAUN, EXEC.-SEC.
2702 MAY STREET, CINCINNATI, OHIO

MRS. BAILEY P. WOOTTON, SEC.-TREAS.
818 SHELBY STREET, FRANKFORT, KY.

February 29, 1936.

Mr. Ben H. Thompson,
National Park Service,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Thompson:


At an executive meeting of the Save-Kentucky's Primeval-Forest League which was held in Louisville on February 25, the suggestion was made by one of the men that a quotation or two from the report of the National Park Service men who visited the Lynn Fork of Leatherwood forest be included in the leaflets which we hope soon to have printed. I would greatly appreciate a copy of the report your men prepared. It will help us in our efforts to raise the funds for purchase of the forest.

In accordance with the suggestion made by you and Mr. Demaray, I wrote to Sec. Ickes on February 5, asking if the Lynn Fork of Leatherwood forest would be accepted as a national monument when purchased; I have not received a reply.

I have had many letters of inquiry from various parts of the country concerning the progress of the movement to establish national monuments of types of native vegetation, i.e., National Primeval Monuments. I would appreciate any information which you can give me from time to time as to any progress being made along these lines.

It was with deep regret that I read of the tragic death of Mr. Wright. The Service has indeed sustained a severe loss.

Yours sincerely,



E. Lucy Braun

E. LUCY BRAUN
2702 MAY ST.
CINCINNATI, O.



Mr. Ben H. Thompson,
National Park Service,
Washington, D.C.

The Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League
Lexington, Kentucky

MISS DAISY HUME, CHAIRMAN
WINCHESTER PIKE, LEXINGTON, KY.

DR. E. LUCY BRAUN, EXEC.-SEC.
2702 MAY STREET, CINCINNATI, OHIO

INTERIOR DEPT
RECEIVED
MAR 3 - 1936
MRS. BAILEY P. WOOTTON, SEC.-TREAS.
818 SHELBY STREET, FRANKFORT, KY.
THE SECRETARY.

DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR
RECEIVED
★ MAR - 3 1936 ★
TO NATIONAL PARKS
SECY'S. OFF. - DIV. OF MAIL & FILES

DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR
PREPARE REPLY
★ MAR - 3 1936 ★
FOR SECY'S. SIGNATURE
SECY'S. OFF. - DIV. OF MAIL & FILES

February 29, 1936.

25676

Hon. Harold L. Ickes,
Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Ickes:

As I have had no reply to my letter
of February 5, I fear that it may have gone astray.
I enclose herewith a copy of that letter. I would
greatly appreciate an early reply.

Yours respectfully,

E. Lucy Braun

E. Lucy Braun,
Executive Secretary.
2702 May Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

ELB/AF

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

*North
Solson*

Miss Dorothy Jewett,
434 RICHMOND AVENUE,
Maplewood, N. J.

MAR - 3 1937

*0-35
Leatherwood*

My dear Miss Jewett:

Your postal card of February 22, endorsing the establishment of primeval monuments, with special reference to the Leatherwood Forest Tract at the Lynn Fork in Kentucky, has been received.

It is the policy of the National Park Service to administer, as national parks and monuments, areas supporting outstanding examples of the major types of characteristic vegetation of the United States. There are already established such important reserves as the Muir Woods National Monument in California for the preservation of the Coastal Redwoods, Sequoia National Park for the preservation of the Giant Trees, Saguaro National Monument for the typical desert cactus of that name, the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks for the typical deciduous forests of the Appalachian Range, and many other similar areas.

It is agreed that the Leatherwood Tract is worthy of preservation, and the efforts of various supporters of this plan have our highest commendation. We shall be glad to receive and consider any further information or suggestions you may have regarding the preservation of the Leatherwood Tract.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray.
acting Director.

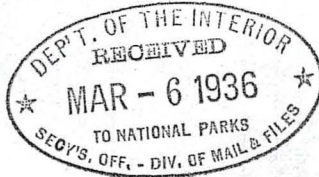
✓
JVM-fmd
62

Mr. Wm. Thompson
3/1/6
Mr. Thompson
The Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League
Lexington, Kentucky

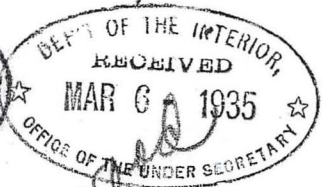
Carlin
MISS DAISY HUME, CHAIRMAN
WINCHESTER PIKE, LEXINGTON, KY.

DR. E. LUCY BRAUN, EXEC.-SEC.
2702 MAY STREET, CINCINNATI, OHIO

MRS. BAILEY P. WOOLTON, SEC.-TREAS.
818 SHELBY STREET, FRANKFORT, KY.



March 5, 1936.



Mr. Charles West,
Acting Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. West:

pc. 1-35 Leatherwood

Your letter concerning the Lynn Fork of
Leatherwood forest has been received, and the information
contained therein transmitted to the Executive Council
of the Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League.

We are glad to have this expression of
approval of the tract and of our efforts.

Yours sincerely,

E. Lucy Braun

E. Lucy Braun,
Executive Secretary

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

March 6, 1936.

Dr. E. Lucy Braun,
Executive Secretary,
The Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League,
2702 May Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Doctor Braun:

I hope that by this time you will have received the letter from the Acting Secretary of the Interior with reference to the Leatherwood tract. I understand that a copy of that letter has just been forwarded to you.

We all appreciate the efforts of yourself and those who are working with you for the protection of the area. Mr. Wright enjoyed meeting you and spoke of it on various occasions. Of course we all miss him.

If there is anything more which might be done to further this type of conservation project, I would appreciate your suggestions.

Sincerely yours,

A. E. Demaray,
Acting Director.

bht:mmm

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OFFICE COPY.

MAR 10 1936

W. H. Thompson
Salin

Dr. E. Lucy Braun,
Executive Secretary,
The Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League,
2702 May Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Doctor Braun:

Secretary Ickes has asked me to acknowledge your letter of February 29, with which you enclosed a copy of your letter of February 5 to him, regarding the Leatherwood forest tract in Kentucky.

There is enclosed a copy of Acting Secretary West's reply of February 28, which undoubtedly reached you soon after you mailed your letter of February 29.

Sincerely yours,

(SOD.) HARRY SLATTERY

Harry Slattery,
Personal Assistant
to the Secretary.

Enclosure 892657
JWV-fmd

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

March 20, 1936.

Memorandum for
THE DIRECTOR:

Among the subjects discussed at the conference of wildlife technicians held here this winter was the need for a class of National Park Service areas to be devoted to the preservation in a primitive condition of specific species of plants or animals, or of specific ecological communities. The results of the discussion were drafted as a recommendation to you regarding the establishment of National Primeval Monuments (see copy attached).

concur → If the thought behind this resolution -- that National Primeval Monuments are needed and advisable -- is considered favorably, it is recommended that at an auspicious time the appropriate legislation be drafted and submitted to the Secretary.

Victor H. Cahalane
Victor H. Cahalane,
Acting Chief,
Wildlife Division.

Enclosure 698164

Champion

See memo this file.
ark

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

CONFERENCE OF WILDLIFE TECHNICIANS
January 27 - February 11, 1936

Recommendation regarding
Establishment of National Primeval Monuments

WHEREAS, we, the wildlife technicians of the National Park Service, realize the great variety of unlike natural biotic areas which are to be found in the United States, and that only a part of these are represented within the boundaries of national parks and monuments;

WHEREAS, one by one these unlike types of natural areas are being destroyed, and before long will not be represented in this country;

WHEREAS, though some of these may appear today to be somewhat commonplace because more or less familiar, they will in fifty years be spectacular because unique;

WHEREAS, primeval areas, even though not large, have real values for the people of this country: (1) historic values, for the pioneers of America's advancing frontiers dealt with the primeval conditions of this country; (2) literary values, for many pieces of American literature found their inspiration in American nature, and can be correctly understood and interpreted only so long as the nature with which they deal is preserved (we cite as an example Bryant's poem, "The Prairies"); (3) scientific values, for only by a study of primeval areas can we gain adequate knowledge of the interrelations of the forces of the environment and the biota, and only by preserving primeval areas can we maintain a living record of our biota; (4) esthetic values, for primeval areas possess features which no man-modified area can have, and only in primeval areas can we avoid the imprint of "the conceit of man," and retain the exquisite beauty of the primitive;

BE IT RESOLVED, that we find it not only desirable but a duty to urge the establishment of a recognized class of national monuments administered by the National Park Service which will be retained unmodified by man-made changes; that these bear some distinctive term as "National Primeval Monument," which defines their status as natural areas to be kept as inviolate preserves.

(Signed) Victor H. Cahalane
Chairman, Wildlife Conference

Approved:

H. C. Bryant,
Assistant Director.

The Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League

OFFICERS

MISS DAISY HUME, PRESIDENT
WINCHESTER PIKE, LEXINGTON, KY.

L. H. STILES, VICE-PRES.
HAZARD, KY.

MRS. MARY BRECKINRIDGE, VICE-PRES.
WENDOVER, KY.

T. W. MCKINLEY, VICE-PRES.
SHEPHERDSVILLE, KY.

MRS. BAILEY P. WOOTTON, SECRETARY
FRANKFORT, KY.

HAROLD REDD, TREASURER
UNION BANK AND TRUST CO.,
LEXINGTON, KY.

DR. E. LUCY BRAUN, EXEC. SEC.
2702 MAY STREET, CINCINNATI, OHIO

Lexington, Kentucky

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

MISS DAISY HUME

L. H. STILES

T. W. MCKINLEY

MRS. BAILEY P. WOOTTON

HAROLD REDD

E. LUCY BRAUN

MRS. W. T. LAFFERTY

MRS. FREDERICK A. WALLIS

N. R. ELLIOTT

MRS. J. KIDWELL GRANNIS

Cincinnati, Ohio
March 27, 1936.



0-35
Leatherwood
Thompson
AM

Mr. A. E. Demaray, Acting Director,
National Park Service,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Demaray:

Your letter of March 6 was duly received. In this you state "If there is anything more which might be done to further this type of conservation project, I would appreciate your suggestions.

If primeval areas are to be saved, as national monuments or in any other manner, it would be wise to have their status thoroughly recognized and to have them safeguarded as completely as possible by laws. This entails, probably, a definite classification of areas, let us say of national monuments, in which primeval areas are one class. Regulations governing their administration should be definitely formulated as laws which emphasize lack of development, complete freedom from any form of commercialism, and from any form of human modification. (This should include of course the prohibition of any companies of CCC workers.) Regulations governing the quality of areas to be included in the primeval monument class should also be formulated definitely as laws, so as to define the kind of areas which can be so classed or which can be added to the system.

Many inquiries have come to me asking if primeval monuments, if established, will be adequately protected by laws. Now would be a propitious time to formulate such laws and have them passed for public interest is aroused and Congressmen have been made familiar with the idea.

The necessity for such laws is urgent.

First, as regards the administrative situation:- No matter how thoroughly one group of administrative officers may understand the purpose and features of primeval areas, there is always the possibility of administrative changes and changing policies. While laws will not prevent they will lessen the probability of changes in status and will give those interested in primeval areas a chance to support their defenders in office when and if the integrity of such areas is attacked by commercialism. When we see the threats of commercialism aimed at Glacier Bay National Monument and at Rocky Mountain National

Park we realize how necessary it is that every safeguard possible be given any area set aside for posterity.

Second, as regards the quality of areas to be made national primeval monuments:- Unless the primeval and virgin character of areas so to be preserved is definitely stated and defined by law there is danger of overwhelming the primeval group with a host of undesirable areas. I have heard that Mr. Wright feared that every Congressman would want one in his district. Just define the class carefully and make high standards for it and this becomes difficult or impossible for virgin primeval areas are all too few. Such laws would be your only safeguard against cluttering up the system and against the ultimate breaking down of the class and with it the safeguards which should surround true preserves kept inviolate and absolutely free from development and modification.

It is the generations to come that will profit by the foresight of the present administrators in the National Park Service if they will but make provision for keeping for all time representative examples of types of America's native vegetation.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "E. Lucy Braun". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial "E" and a long, sweeping underline.

E. Lucy Braun

10-39

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

Correspondence between Mr. George M.
Wright and Mr. John H. Baker, President,
National Association of Audubon Societies
in regard to the "Antiquities Act"

Leatherwood Forests - Leatherwood
Creek Tract in Perry Co., Kentucky.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

June 6, 1936.

Acting Regional Officer,
National Park Service, Region I.,
2100 Central Natl. Bank Building,
Richmond, Virginia.

*0.35-
Leatherwood*

Dear Sir:

Subject: Request for duplicate report.

Our file copy of the report made by Messrs. Howard and Mutchler on the proposed Leatherwood National Monument, Perry County, Kentucky, has been lost.

We would appreciate your sending us a duplicate copy of this report so that we may have our files complete. The report submitted by the above-mentioned men was prepared sometime in the spring or summer of 1935.

Sincerely yours,

Conrad L. Wirth.
Assistant Director.

by: *[Signature]*
Kenneth B. Simmons.
Deputy Assistant Director.

cc: Paul Brown
✓ Region I.

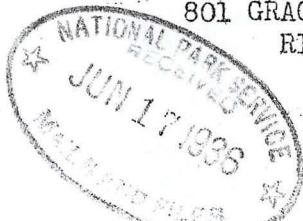
NAB-fmd
[Signature]

Simmons

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

BRANCH OF PLANNING AND STATE COOPERATION

FIRST REGIONAL OFFICE
801 GRACE SECURITIES BUILDING
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA



June 16, 1936

National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Kenneth B. Simmons

Subject: Request for Duplicate Report

Gentlemen:

In your letter of June 6th, written under the above subject, we were requested to furnish you with a copy of report made by Messrs. Howard and Mutchler of the proposed Leatherwood National Monument, Perry County, Kentucky.

We are pleased to enclose herewith copy of this Report and wish to advise that our District Office still retains a duplicate copy of this Report except for the map.

Very truly yours,

Herbert Evison
Regional Officer
Region One

By

C. C. Stutt
C. C. Stutt
Acting Chief Clerk



JUN 17 1936 AM

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

June 19, 1936

Regional Officer, Region I,
National Park Service,
801 Grace Secutitles Building,
Richmond, Virginia

Walter
D-35
Leatherwood

Attention: C.C. Stutts, Acting Chief Clerk

Subject: Duplicate Report - Leatherwood
National Monument, Kentucky

Dear Sir:

We wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 16 regarding transmission of a duplicate copy of report of the proposed Leatherwood National Monument in Kentucky. To our knowledge, a copy of this report was not attached to your letter, and the mail room personnel informs us it was not received there.

Sincerely yours,

Conrad L. Wirth
Assistant Director
By:

(Sgd) K. B. Simmons
Kenneth B. Simmons
Deputy Assistant Director

CC: Region I ~~REMOVED~~
Simmons ~~REMOVED~~

KBS:jw

Wooten
[Signature]

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
BRANCH OF PLANNING AND STATE COOPERATION
FIRST REGIONAL OFFICE
801 GRACE SECURITIES BUILDING
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

June 25, 1936

Mr. Kenneth B. Simmons,
Deputy Assistant Director,
National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

Subject: Duplicate Report - Leatherwood
National Monument, Kentucky.

Dear Sir:

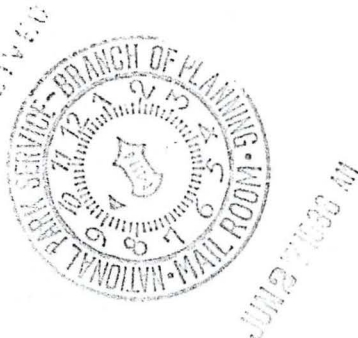
Receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated June 19th, regarding transmission of duplicate copy of report on the above subject with our letter of June 16th.

The mail room personnel in this Office informs us that the report in question was mailed from this Office. It is suggested that the mail room personnel of both our Office and your Office continue to try to locate this report. If it is found that it did not leave this Office, it will be transmitted to you immediately, and in the meantime, if your mail room personnel does find it, please advise us.

Very truly yours,

Herbert Evison
Regional Officer
Region One

By *C. C. Stutts*
C. C. Stutts
Acting Chief Clerk



allw

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

June 30, 1936

Regional Officer, Region One,
National Park Service,
801 Grace Securities Building,
Richmond, Virginia

*0-35
Leatherwood*

Subject: Duplicate Report - Leatherwood
National Monument, Kentucky

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 25 signed by C. C. Stutts, Acting Chief Clerk, in which you state that your mail room personnel is of the opinion that the report referred to above has been mailed to this office.

You are advised that a diligent search here in the Washington Office fails to reveal the missing report and that we would like to have a copy sent to us if available.

Sincerely yours,

Conrad L. Wirth
Assistant Director

By (Sgd) K. B. Simmons
Kenneth B. Simmons
Deputy Assistant Director

KBS:bw

cc: Region I
Simmons

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
BRANCH OF PLANNING AND STATE COOPERATION
District D - Region One
Mariemont, Cincinnati, Ohio

July 14, 1936

Regional Officer,
Region One,
National Park Service,
801 Grace Securities Bldg.,
Richmond, Virginia.

Subject: Report - Leatherwood National
Monument, Perry Co., Kentucky

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to your letter of July 6th requesting duplicate report of the Leatherwood National Monument, Perry County, Kentucky.

This report was made by Messrs. Howard and Mitchler. We are enclosing herewith copy of the report as we find it in the files. We understand, however, that the original which Mr. Ringo mailed you on June 12, and which was lost enroute to Washington, was in more complete form, as it contained maps, newspaper clippings, and other data. These are not available to accompany this duplicate report.

At the suggestion of Mr. Howard, the original report may be found in the Wildlife files in Washington. Perhaps Mr. Ben H. Thompson, now Assistant to the Director, could throw some light on this. Mr. Howard states that at the time the report was made Mr. Thompson was acting Chief of the Wildlife Division.

This suggestion is passed on in hopes that it will enable you to locate the original of this report.

Very truly yours,

W. Kent Ford

W. Kent Ford,
Assistant Regional Officer,
District D - Region One

WKF:avl

Simmons

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

801 Grace Securities Building
Richmond, Virginia

July 20, 1936

National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.



*File
wab*

*0-35
Leatherwood*

Attention: Mr. Kenneth B. Simmons

Subject: Report-Leatherwood National
Monument, Perry Co., Kentucky.

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to your letter dated June 30,
and previous correspondence concerning duplicate report of
Leatherwood National Monument, Kentucky.

We are enclosing herewith another copy of this
report and also a copy of letter dated July 14, addressed to this
office, over the signature of W. Kent Ford, Assistant Regional
Officer, transmitting this report to this office.

You will note that Mr. Howard has made one or two
suggestions regarding the possibility of locating the original
report, and it would seem desirable that this original report be
found if possible, since the original contained maps, newspaper
clippings and other data which the copy we are now sending you
does not.

Very truly yours,

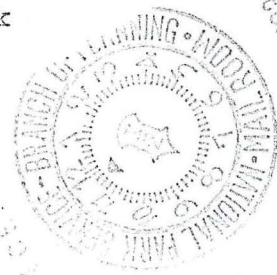
Herbert Evison
Regional Officer
Region One

By

C. C. Stults
C. C. Stults

Acting Chief Clerk

Enclosure 1020086



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

July 24, 1936.

0-35
Leatherwood

First Regional Office,
National Park Service,
801 Grace Securities Building,
Richmond, Virginia.

Dear Sir:

Subject: Report - Leatherwood Natl.
Monument, Perry Co., Ky.

This will acknowledge receipt of a letter of July 20, 1936, signed by C. C. Stutts, Acting Chief Clerk, submitting a copy of the report by Fred M. Mutchler and William J. Howard, regarding the proposed Leatherwood National Monument, Perry County, Kentucky.

We are herewith returning the copy of the report you transmitted to us as we have finally located through diligent search, a copy of the original report which contains maps but no newspaper clippings.

We sincerely appreciate your cooperation in sending this additional copy of the report.

Sincerely yours,

Conrad L. Wirth.
Assistant Director.

by:

Kenneth B. Simmons.
Deputy Assistant
Director.

Encl. 999121
cc: Region I
Br. of Planning
and State Cooperation
✓
NAB-fmd

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

November 17, 1936.

First Regional Office,
National Park Service,
801 Grace Securities Building,
Richmond, Virginia.

Dear Sir: Subject: Lumbering activities in the
proposed Leatherwood National
Monument, Perry County, Ky.

Several months ago there was a report that lumbering operations were to be started within the proposed Leatherwood National Monument area.

It is requested that you submit a report on the present lumbering activities and plans for such activities in the immediate future, being very careful not to stimulate any undue interest in or antagonism toward the proposed monument.

In the absence of further instructions it would be advisable for field men in that vicinity to visit the area about every six months to check up on developments and submit a brief report.

Sincerely yours,

Ben H. Thompson.
Deputy Assistant Director.

JW
JWV-fmd
cc: Region 1

*0-33
Leatherwood*

LUMBERING OPERATIONS
PROPOSED LEATHERWOOD NATIONAL MONUMENT
PERRY COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Introduction:

The proposed Leatherwood National Monument is located approximately 25 miles from Hazard, Kentucky in south eastern Perry County and consists of approximately 2000 acres in the immediate vicinity of Lynn Fork of Leatherwood Creek.

This report will be concerned with the lumbering operations which are being carried on in the vicinity of Leatherwood Creek and those which are entering the proposed National Monument. This report is prompted by a request from Regional Officer Evison in a letter dated November 20, 1936.

Inasmuch as the forest cover of this area, its physical characteristics, including exposure, drainage and accessibility have been discussed in previous reports, they will not be emphasized at this time.

Acknowledgements:

There was little information in this office concerning the area, the means of reaching it or the proper persons to contact and to secure this information Dr. Lucy E. Braun, Cincinnati University and Mr. L. H. Stiles of Hazard, Kentucky, were contacted. The courtesy and assistance rendered by the above mentioned parties is hereby acknowledged.

Lumbering Operations:

Lumbering rights in this area were until a short time ago controlled by the Leatherwood Lumber Company. Approximately two months ago these rights exchanged hands and they are now controlled by the W. M. Ritter Lumber Company of Columbus, Ohio.

Method of Logging:

Lumbering operation in the Leatherwood Creek area have been carried on over a period of nine years. For this

Method of Logging (continued)

a mill has been established at Daisy, Kentucky, having a capacity of 30,000 Bd. Ft. per day.

Narrow gauge logging trains are used in transporting the logs from the field to the saw mill. Tracks for the operation of these trains are laid following stream beds and usually extend as far toward the head of the coves as the grades will permit. From the end of the tracks main logging roads are laid out and then side roads are extended at right angles to the top of the ridges. One main road is usually sufficient for each cove and side roads are cut forty to fifty feet apart depending upon field conditions. Tractors and mules are used to haul the logs to the landings located along the railroad.

Present Operations:

At the present time the Lumber Company is operating two camps; one of 100 and one of 65 men respectively. The former is located at Daisy, Kentucky, and is concerned principally with the operation of the saw mill; the latter is located on Clover Fork and is used in felling, skidding and other woods work.

All cutting at the present is confined to Clover Fork. The writer was informed that cutting in Clover Fork on land controlled by the Lumber Company is practically exhausted and the next area of operation will be Lynn Fork.

Operations at the present time in Lynn Fork are confined to the laying of track for the logging trains. This track is being laid by a crew of twenty-two men and two foremen. Two men are engaged in clearing the stream bed of trees; ten men are grading and ten are laying ties and rails. This work is progressing at the approximate rate of one mile per month. At the present time track is laid within a half mile of the Big Poplar tree and progressing toward the head of the cove. It is estimated that two weeks will be required to lay track as far as grade will permit in the cove and this track will end about 300 feet from the Big Tree. It will require a very few days after the track is laid to cut roads and prepare the principal cove of the proposed National Monument for the cutting operation.

Present Operations (continued)

The Big Tree, which is a Yellow Poplar approximately 7 feet in diameter breast high and reported to be the largest of its species east of the Mississippi River, is located approximately in the center of the proposed National Monument, and it is understood that the preservation of this tree and the immediate surrounding trees and area, in its present virgin state, is the justification for considering this area as a Proposed National Monument.

Future Operations:

At the right of CloverFork there is an area of about 600 acres controlled by the Kentucky Coal Corporation. The writer was informed that the Ritter Lumber Company is attempting to obtain these rights. If rights to operate on this 600 acres are obtained, it is probable and seems reasonable, that operation will continue in Clover Fork for some period of time.

If rights to operate on these 600 acres are not obtained, the next operation will be Lynn Fork and the next logging camp site will probably be at the junction of Stony Fork and Leatherwood Creek. From Lynn Fork it is reasonable to assume that the lumbering will continue up the Leatherwood Creek in Oldhouse, Baker and Stony Fork.

Conclusion:

With a logging railroad already established in Lynn Fork, it would be possible to start cutting operations there in a very short time.

If this area is to be preserved in a virgin state, it is important that steps be taken to prevent further progress in the area by the Lumber Company.

It is possible that the Ritter Lumber Company may secure timber rights on six hundred additional acres adjoining Clover Fork, in which case operation in Lynn Fork might be delayed for some time. If timber rights on the six hundred acres mentioned above are not secured, it is possible that cutting will begin on Lynn Fork at the head of Youngs Branch in the vicinity of the Big Poplar at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

Wilbur L. Savage
Wilbur L. Savage
Assistant Forester

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ECW REGION ONE
801 GRACE SECURITIES BUILDING
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA



W. Wootch
7

December 29, 1936

National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

PC

Attention: Mr. Ben H. Thompson

Subject: Lumbering Activities in the
Proposed Leatherwood National
Monument, Perry County, Ky.

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to your letter dated November 17, requesting a report on the present lumbering activities and plans for activities in the immediate future, on the proposed Leatherwood National Monument area.

There is enclosed herewith a report on the lumbering operations in this area, the report having been submitted over the signature of Wilbur L. Savage, our Assistant Forester.

This report was received in our Office under yesterday's date and we hasten to forward it to you since it indicates that considerable operations are now in progress and that plans have been made for extensive operations in the future, and we feel that possibly your Office will wish to take some immediate action in connection with these operations.

Very truly yours,

H. K. Roberts
H. K. Roberts
Acting Regional Officer

Enclosure 1102694

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

1/5/37

BTH
~~Mr. Ben Thompson.~~

Can you suggest anything?

I note that the Forester talked to
Dr. Braun. I wonder if it would be
advisable to write to her.

J
→ J. Lee Brown.

Yes, I believe it would
square us with her, telling
her we regret but are unable
to acquire the lands. *BTH*

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

1/18/37

Lee-

It seems as though
we will not be able to locate
the General File on Leatherwood.

I borrowed Bens file which
has copies of letters to Dr. Braun,
if they will be of help to you.

Jim

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

*Sager
Thompson
Johnson*

January 21, 1937.

Dr. E. Lucy Braun,
Executive Secretary,
The Save-Kentucky's-Primaval-Forest League,
2702 May Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

*0-35
Leatherwood*

Dear Doctor Braun:

Reference is made to a letter of February 18, 1936, to you from the Secretary of the Interior, and to our letter of March 6, 1936, regarding the preservation of the Leatherwood tract of forest in Kentucky.

We have caused periodic inspections to be made of this area to determine the extent of lumbering activities there. A recent field report indicates that considerable lumbering operations are in progress and plans have been made for extensive operation in the future, with the possibility that they may extend into the Lynn Fork where a logging railroad is now being constructed.

We regret that we have been unable to obtain funds for the purchase of this forest land. It is still our hope that its acquisition may be effected by donation, or the use of donated funds. If you have heard of any new developments regarding this situation we shall be glad to hear from you.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY,

A. E. Demaray.
Acting Director.

cc: Region I

JEB-fmd

JAN

file

I am writing to get your support and the support of your state for the movement to establish National Primeval Monuments. The first of February the perfected plan is to be presented in Washington. Before that time, senators and representatives of every state must be told by their constituents that they are to support the movement. Briefly, the plan is:

To establish National Monuments of every important or interesting type of America's native vegetation -- as cypress swamp, tall-grass prairie, desert grassland, northern sphagnum bog and bog forest, eastern deciduous forest. etc. Such areas should be virgin areas of really superior quality. They are to be known as National Primeval Monuments. The existing classification of national monuments makes no provision for areas secured solely as "museum pieces" of America's vegetation, and hence interposes an obstacle in the way of their preservation. Such areas are not only of scientific value, but are also of historical, literary and artistic value. It is these values rather than the scientific ones which need to be stressed if the plan is to receive public support.

As a definite and concrete instance of intention to establish such a national primeval monument, let me cite the efforts of the recently organized "Save-Kentucky's-Primeval-Forest League." This League is raising funds (can you help?) to purchase the finest remaining area of low altitude mixed deciduous forest in eastern North America, the forest of Lynn Fork of Leatherwood in Perry Co., Ky. (I am personally familiar with the tract and can vouch for its quality. When acquired, the League wishes to give this tract into the care of the National Park Service to be held as an inviolate preserve, in which there shall be no disturbance, no human modification. I have been told that there is no precedent and no classification for such areas. Let us make one. We need to acquire and set aside samples of our native vegetation (together with the animals as far as that is now possible) before it is too late. The plan of National Primeval Monuments is designed to meet the need. The plan has the written endorsement of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Botanical Society of America, the Ecological Society of America, as well as of many other non-scientific nature and out-door organizations and of many prominent individuals. What it needs now is a country-wide shove. Get behind it.

I must depend on you for the necessary state-wide endorsement of this plan. However busy you may be, you must not fail; there is not time for me to get some one in your place, and I have endless other details to attend to. "Do it now." There is no time to lose. For your convenience I enclose a few mimeographed slips giving directions as to just what to do. Please write yourself, then pass on this request to ten more people in your state who can in turn pass it on to others so as to cover the entire state. In this way we can apprise the senators and representatives from all over the country that there is a movement on foot that must be supported.

Please send me a post card saying you have done your part.
Yours sincerely,

P. Lucy Braun

Mr. Cameron:

Do you know
this lady?

WKO

Nov. 4, 1950.

Mrs. Benson,

I do not know this lady. Won't you ask Brill
to check the files to see whether we have ever
before heard from her, - and then give Mr.
Drury the results.

A B/C

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Nov. 8, 1940. *file*

corr
Mr. Little:

Do you think that Miss Braun's
mimeograph statement needs any reply.

Mrs. Benson
n n benson

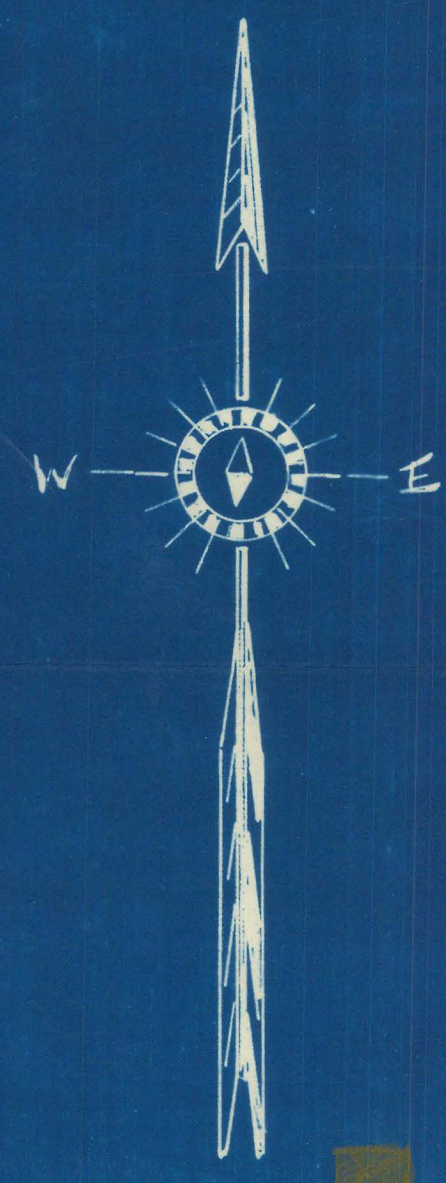
Our last information was
that the area was being
cut. This was in 1936.
The attached statement
seems to be rather old—
probably prior to 1936.
It would seem no reply
is necessary

with
11-8 -

WOLF MAGOFFIN
BREATHITT FLOYD
OWSLEY PERRY KNOTT PIKE
CLAY LESLIE LETCHER
KNOX HARRAN

BREATHITT
OWSLEY
LESLEI
SEE ABOVE
CLAY

SCALE
APPROX. 1 in. = 1 MILE



— Virgin Timber
— Recommended Boundaries

PERRY COUNTY KENTUCKY

Traced from Geological Quadrangles
Troublesome Hyden Buchhorn
Cornettsville Manchester

ARTHUR L. WARE
A.S.M.E.
HAZARD, KY.

1933

