

10-23  
(May 1929)

6-7410

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
INDIAN MOUNDS..... NATIONAL ~~PARK~~ MONUMENT

FILE NO. 0-35

PART 1

PROPOSED MONUMENT  
INDIAN MOUNDS, TENN  

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LAST DATE ON TOP  

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IMPORTANT

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ARNO B. CAMMERER,  
*Director.*



423 Wisdom St.,  
Jackson, Tenn.  
5/19/34.

Dear Senator:

Some of our folks are about to wake up to the fact that located in Madison County, near the village of Pinson, are some of the most interesting and famous Indian Mounds on this continent. They have recently been the subject of investigation and exploration by the Smithsonian Institute. It seems the mounds cover a very considerable territory and were once fortified by breast works etc. The breast works are rapidly being destroyed: The Tennessee Indian Mound Association, a non-profit historical organization with headquarters at Nashville, composed of influential people throughout the State have become very much interested in the matter and are very anxious that some way be found whereby the mounds could be preserved: They consider them of highest importance and have interested local people in the matter. I have been requested to write you about it with a view of ascertaining what step are necessary to get the government to take the area over and preserve it as a small park. I am informed that the importance of the Mounds from historical and archaeological standpoint would justify this course. It has been suggested that the President or Mrs. Roosevelt, might become interested and persuaded to visit this section when they come to Tennessee to inspect Morris dam. Is there a fund with which such a park could be established or would it require additional legislation?

Please give us any advice or assistance possible about the matter.

I want to take advantage of this opportunity to tell you how happy I am that you will be returned to Senate without opposition. As I have said publicly many times, I hope you are allowed to serve in that capacity as long as you desire. Aside from my personal feelings, or rather feelings arising from personal considerations, I feel that your eminent record of service in behalf of the people of this State, entitles you to this consideration. No man stands higher in the esteem or affection of our people. Such is my sincere conviction.

With highest regards,

Sincerely,

s/ Hu C. Anderson.

UNITED STATES SENATE

May 22, 1934.

Hon. John Collier,  
Bureau of Indian Affairs,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Commissioner:

Enclosed please find a letter from Judge Hu C.  
Anderson of Jackson, Tennessee, relative to Indian mounds,  
which explains itself.

Will you be good enough to have the matter examined  
into and advise me.

Very sincerely yours,

s/ Kenneth McKellar

REFER IN REPLY TO THE FOLLOWING:

ADDRESS ONLY THE  
COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Misc.  
25061-34

OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS  
BUILDINGS AND RESERVATIONS

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

RECEIVED

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

MAY 29 1934

WASHINGTON

DIRECTOR

*Mr. McMillan*  
*Chalcraft*  
*Rec.*

MAY 28 1934

Hon. Arno B. Cammerer,

Director, National Park Service.

My dear Mr. Cammerer:

We are enclosing herewith copy of a letter dated May 22, from Hon. Kenneth McKellar, United States Senate, relative to Indian mounds located near Jackson, Tennessee. A copy of the communication from Judge Hu C. Anderson, transmitted with Senator McKellar's letter is also enclosed.

Inasmuch as these mounds do not come under the jurisdiction of the Indian Service, we are referring the matter to you for such attention as you may be able to give.

Sincerely yours,

*John Collier*  
Commissioner

Enclosure 318047

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON

June 7, 1934.

Hon. Kenneth McKellar, ✓  
United States Senate.

My dear Senator McKellar:

The National Park Service has received your letter of May 22 by reference from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, together with a copy of a communication from Judge Hu C. Anderson, dealing with the Indian Mounds near Pinson, Tennessee.

In this connection we shall be glad to study the proposal of Judge Anderson for the establishment of a National Park or Monument. The Federal Government has no funds, however, for the purchase of lands for this purpose, and it is likely that special legislation would be required if it appears, upon investigation, that the area should be given recognition as a National Park or Monument.

Sincerely yours,

(SGB:) ARNO B. CAMMERER

Arno B. Cammerer.  
Director.

VEC-rms

*Alexander  
Whitely  
Hamm*

*0-35  
Indian Mounds  
Tennessee*

Miss S  
See Mr  
Mr. Chaplain to note before mailing.  
about this -  
His change is not acceptable -  
true - this is  
wrong - this is  
psychological  
structural  
material



OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS  
BUILDINGS AND RESERVATIONS  
RECEIVED  
INDIAN MOUND ASSOCIATION  
2712 1/2 WEST END AVENUE  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

JUL 21 1934

Lake Junaluska, North Carolina  
June 18, 1934

DIRECTOR

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

My dear Mr. Cammerer:

A letter from you to Senator McKellar, dated June 7, has been referred to me by Judge Hu C. Anderson, of Jackson Tennessee, who had written Mr. McKellar concerning the Indian Mounds near Pinson, with the suggestion that you be given more information concerning these mounds, which we hope may be made into a National Park.

The site containing these mounds is said to have been originally a Chickasaw Indian village, and is about "250 yards square," to quote from an article in the Commercial Appeal, "while its outer defenses, now almost extinct, measure fully six miles in circumference and enclose one-time elaborate citadels of various sizes. It once extended for a distance of two and one half miles along the south fork of the Forked Deer river.

Ozier Mound is possibly the best known of the group. It is located immediately south of a hard surface road out of Pinson, eleven miles south east of Jackson on the Roy Ozier farm. Traveling east along the palisades a few smaller mounds are noticeable before reaching a shallow branch. On the other side of the creek, a short distance to the east, rises the Great Mound, 65 feet higher than the plateau on which it stands, the highest mound in the South, and the sixth highest in America. Directly south are the twin mounds."

The Smithsonian Institution reports are not of recent date concerning any of the mounds of Tennessee, so far as I could find, though Major W.S. Webb, of the T.V.A., says in a recent letter, that Tennessee contains the most important prehistoric remains of any state in the Union, though very poorly cared for. The Tennessee Indian Mound Association, recently organized, is attempting to remedy that condition.

The Smithsonian notice, according to Mr. M.W. Stirling, Chief of the American Bureau of Ethnology, given on page 208 of Catalogue of Prehistoric Works, by Cyrus

TENNESSEE INDIAN MOUND ASSOCIATION  
2712½ WEST END AVENUE  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Thomas, Bulletin I2 of the Bureau, reads as follows:-  
MADISON COUNTY.

"Pierson mounds" and inclosure near the village of Pinson, in the southeast corner of the county, 2 miles from the Mobile and Ohio Railroad.

Described by J.G. Cisco, Am. Antiq., vol. I (1879), pp. 259, 260. Also reported by Wiley Britton. A mound near Jackson, known as Mount Pinson."

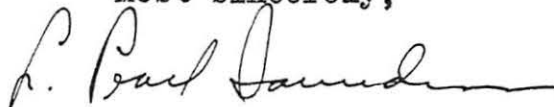
Reported by J.D. Middleton.

We are hoping, if the Government should take it over, that the old breastworks might be restored, together with the most important of the smaller mounds. (Mr. Ozier, the owner, told me there were originally about two hundred of these,) and as far as practical, the appearance of an Indian Village given to the group. This would have educational value, and would, at the same time protect and preserve these valuable relics of our pre-history.

I know so well that this should be done that I <sup>hope</sup> you will see it as I do.

I regret very much that I had not arrived at Lake Junaluska when your party was here, and should appreciate the opportunity of talking with you concerning this matter, should you return this summer.

Most sincerely,



Miss L. Pearl Saunders, Pres.  
Tennessee Indian Mound Association



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON

*W. J. Winter*  
*Chetlain*  
*Jimmy*  
*Golson*

July 28, 1934.

*8-35*  
*Indian Mound*  
*(Tennessee)*

Miss L. Pearl Saunders, President,  
Tennessee Indiana Mound Association,  
Lake Junaluska, North Carolina.

Dear Miss Saunders:

I have received your letter of June 18 addressed to  
Mr. Cammerer, in regard to Indian Mounds near Pinson,  
Tennessee.

The information which you have given us has been  
carefully noted, and we have taken the matter up with  
the Smithsonian Institution in order that our investigation  
may be as complete as possible.

Sincerely yours,  
(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

A. E. Demaray  
Acting Director

WJW:CT