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SUGGESTIONS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HISTORY OF THE REGION NOW EMBRACING SHENANDOAH NP

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By: Herbert S. Zim - January 1944

Shenandoah NP

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Suggestions on the Development of a History of the Region now embracing Shenandoah National Park

I. Nature of the Problem and Suggested Historical Periods to be studied.

II. Synopsis of Historical events.

III. Suggested procedures for continuation of this work.

Herbert S. Zim
January 1944.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION ONE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

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Memorandum

To: The Director

From: Assistant Regional Director, Region One

Subject: Interest of Potomac Appalachian Trail Club in Historical Research in Shenandoah National Park

The copies attached of memoranda of June 19 and June 18 from the Superintendent, Shenandoah National Park and Park Naturalist Favour to Superintendent Edwards, respectively, have reference to Mr. Lee's memorandum of April 30. We refer also to Mr. Herbert S. Zim's report of January 1944 entitled "Suggestions on the Development of a History of the Region Now Embracing Shenandoah National Park."

Miss Stephenson's own "Informal Notes" is a valuable preliminary basis for research. The tabulation on page 2 of Mr. Zim's report seems an excellent general and preliminary outline; from it Mr. Favour has selected those time periods which seem to be of most importance. Topics assigned for graduate papers could very well be more particularized. For example, the Blue Ridge Turnpike, Cellar Forts in Blue Ridge, the Mountain Hotel (Swift Run Gap), Pioneer Routes through the Blue Ridge, and Blue Ridge Folklore in the Late 19th Century.

We like the idea (as expressed in Mr. Zim's report) of spreading the research beyond the park boundaries — particularly to include the historical sites and regions that can be seen from park overlooks. At the same time all research should be related as closely as possible to park needs. Sketch maps, photographs, and diagrams could very well be used with accounts of Civil War happenings, for example, to illustrate what can be seen in and from the park.

We shall be very interested to hear of further developments in this matter.

(SIGNED)

Daniel J. Tobin
Assistant Regional Director

FBarnes:rnp

General
Daybook

Attachments

Copy to: Supt., Shenandoah NP
We return herewith the two reports (by Messrs. Zim and Steere, respectively) forwarded with your 6/19 memo.
DJT

I

Nature of the Problem and Suggested Historical Periods to be Studied

Historically, the Shenandoah National Park area is inseparable from the Great Valley of Virginia to the west and from the Piedmont to the east. Since the very physiographic nature of the Blue Ridge makes it a barrier between these two important socio-economic areas, its history stems largely from events of the lowlands. This is true from the earliest Indian occupation to the creation of the Park itself.

The nature of the region also accounts for the lack of crucial historical events within the Park boundries; especially in contrast to the historical richness of both the valley and piedmont. There is, however, a good deal of material of local significance, worth noting both for its "human interest" value and because it may be related to major historical events with which visitors are familiar.

Chronologically, the history of the Park region may be divided into periods of varying length and historical richness. The data now available offer some justification for these divisions, yet, ultimately, the entire story must come from historical research based on primary or reputable secondary sources. The data now in the files and in publications at headquarters are generally insufficient to develop the story of any historical period. Only on the most recent phases of the Park history (i.e. the development of the Park itself) is there any substantial documentation in the files and library.

The chronological historic periods of the region which are tentatively suggested include the following:

1. THE INDIAN OCCUPATION; their camps, settlements, wars, customs and early contacts with the whites. Both local tribes (Mannahoacs and Maffawomecs) are involved as well as the larger groups (Delawares, Catawbas and Powhatans) who entered this area. While development of this period should stress conditions previous to white contact, the period of Indian occupation overlaps and intermingles with the next four periods that follow.

2. THE PENETRATION OF THE BLUE RIDGE by John Lederer and his parties during 1669 and 1670. This involved three exploring trips of which only two seem to have entered the Park. Lederer's journal is the best source of data, but careful correlation with present-day place names is of utmost importance. There are suggestions of earlier white penetrations of the Shenandoah. These are vague but should be investigated.

3. THE EXPLORATIONS OF GOV. SPOTSWOOD and his Knights of the Golden Horseshoe who crossed through Swift Run Gap into the Shenandoah Valley in 1716. Journal of John Fontaine seems the best source here, but requires the same checking as Lederer's journal.

4. SURVEYS AND EARLY SETTLEMENTS on the land which was part of the "Northern Neck" inherited by Lord Fairfax. A survey was made (George Washington participating) and the boundry line ran through the Park. Later subdivisions were made as new settlers came up from the piedmont to the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

5. THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR and local engagements with the Indians during the decade beginning 1754. The construction and use of "cellar-forts" and the eventual destruction of indian power.

6. THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR seems scarcely to have touched the Blue Ridge. There is mention of Hessian prisoners being marched through the Gap, and British occupation of Charlottesville. Further research may disclose other data.

7. THE PERIOD OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT during which more gaps were opened, toll roads built, settlement of the coves completed and local industry developed. This is probably the period of most significance as far as the preserved buildings of the Park are concerned. It overlaps the preceding two periods.

8. THE CIVIL WAR PERIOD, marked here by two major campaigns. The Valley campaign of Stonewall Jackson (1862) involved troop movements in and through the Park area, as was the retreat of Gen. Early to Waynesboro in 1864-65.

9. THE DECADES OF RELAPSE AND DETERIORATION followed the Civil War and cut deeply into the economic life of the mountain people. The destruction of the chestnut trees by the blight added a final climax to the story. The role of moonshining increased during this era.

10. THE ORIGINS OF SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK including the work of Judd, Allen, and Pollock, the report of the Park committee in 1924, the local associations, the purchase of land and other actions leading to the acts of Congress of 1926, 1932, and 1936.

11. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PARK to date with emphasis on building of the Skyline Drive, resettlement of Park families, building of developed areas, trails, etc., and the program for further utilization of the Park.

Before the gathering of historical data can be seriously attempted, three questions should be answered. These answers will guide and shape the undertaking.

First: What is the purpose of obtaining these historical data? I have assumed it is to provide a basis for part of the interpretive program; for exhibits and lectures to Park visitors. Since such a program must be built on the high standards of the Park Service, the implication is that, eventually, a thorough piece of historical research should be done. Temporarily, secondary sources may be used but data so obtained should be used cautiously till checked by experts.

Second: How closely must historical events be confined within the Park boundries? Here I suggest a liberal attitude because of the peculiar geographic position of the Park. I feel that the history should include not only events which happened within the Park but also the major events that occurred within a range of 20 or 25 miles from the Park boundries, especially if the historical site or region can be viewed from the Park overlooks. It goes without saying that all this should be closely tied to those basic historic events or eras with which visitors may be familiar.

Third: To what extent are we interested in a complete chronological story? In contrast, to prepare a record of major historical trends illustrated by typical pictures of the life of the region at appropriate intervals? It seems to me that for a National Historical Park or Battlefield a detailed chronology is exceedingly important. For Shenandoah, I believe that the needs are different and that the cultural picture of life during the Indian wars, during the westward movement, during the Civil War, etc., is more important. Such a view would fall in better with the interpretive possibilities of the buildings now being preserved.

II

Synopsis of Historical Events

In this section I have attempted the "briefing" of the local history as suggested by Ranger Moore. The idea of bringing together in summary form all the data from files, bulletins, etc., seems sound. The actual work disclosed two inherent dangers that should be continually kept in mind when using this synopsis. First, the source material is incomplete so that events cannot be put in perspective nor treated in continuity. Second, there is reason to question the accuracy of the available data which includes local promotional material as well as popular magazine articles where the source in information is unknown.

The following data should be used with caution, in full knowledge of their limitations. Steps should be taken soon to replace these with more complete and more reliable data.

Period 1. THE INDIAN OCCUPATION

It is probable that within the Park boundries there have been no major aboriginal settlements. This assumption, based on physiography and climate, is substantiated by the superficial studies so far made in the area. On the other hand there is evidence of occupation in the Shenandoah Valley to the west and of the Piedmont to the east with a good deal of aboriginal movement through and in the Blue Ridge.

Two Indian confederacies occupied much of the Piedmont land to the east of the Park and extending to Tidewater. These were the Manahoac and Monacan confederations, both probably of Siouan stock. There were seven small tribes in this first group, but only one Manahoac village is recorded. The Manahoac

seem to have disintegrated by the late 17th century and were absorbed by the Monacans, the larger and more powerful of the two confederations.

The Monacans included at least five tribes, possibly more. Several villages have been reported as well as large burial mounds. One village was at Manakin (a corruption of Monacan) about 20 miles west of Richmond.

Both the Monacans and the Manahoacs were bitter enemies of the Powhatans who lived in the eastern Tidewater and who were of Algonquin stock. The Powhatans were the stronger of the two groups and the eventual warfare seemed to go against the Piedmont Indians who joined with the Tuscarora when this latter tribe moved north to join the Six nations of the Iroquois in 1722.

In the Shenandoah Valley lived the Massawomees (Jefferson, Notes on Virginia, p. 132) an Algonquin affiliate (?) There is also a record of the Mahoc tribe living in the James River Gap near Glasgow, Virginia. Both Catawbas from the south and Delawares from the north passed through the Shenandoah Valley on raiding expeditions which carried each tribe almost 1,000 miles from tribal grounds. The accounts of Indian wars (Kercheval) are confined to those between the Catawbas and the Delawares and do not mention any of the local Indians. In fact there is a dearth of information on the local aborigines of the Shenandoah Valley.

The early contacts with the whites were friendly, especially in the Shenandoah Valley where Quaker settlers moving down from Pennsylvania paved the way by their kindly treatment of the natives. By 1750, the Indians were under heavy pressure and the crisis came with the French and Indian War of 1754-1763. Attacks were made on local settlements in the Valley and the

settlers built "cellar forts" (several near Luray) where they could retire safely during attacks. Local militia fought the Indians, and the whites were generally able to match the Indians for "savagery" in fighting. Virginia had a bounty on Indian scalps and there was no hesitation to kill Indian women and children. Continual Indian fighting marked the advance of settlers through the Blue Ridge on to the "western" territory of Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Data on local Indian tribal organization and customs is available in Bureau of Ethnology Bulletin 30 and similar publications. Culture should be generally typical of the northern woodland area. Simple agriculture and hunting formed the basis of livelihood. Shelters were of wood and bark: Implements of wood, bone, bark and shell stone.

A large number of arrowpoints, scrapers, hammerstones and other stone tools have been found in the Park. There is evidence of campsites at Big Meadows and Eaton Hollow though so far there is no indication of more permanent settlements or of burials. It is most likely that the mountain constituted hunting grounds for both Piedmont and Shenandoah Valley Indians and that the unfavorable winter climate limited occupation to temporary summer camps.

Sources: Judy, Frank. Indians of Shenandoah Nat. Park. Shen. Nat. Jour. 1936.
Wills, J. S. Indians of N. Piedmont Virginia. Shen. Nat. Jour. 1937.
Kercheval, S. A History of the Valley of Va. 4th Ed. 1925.
Shenandoah Valley Inc. Official Guidebook, 1938-39, Staunton, Va.

Period 2. THE PENETRATION OF THE BLUE RIDGE

It is a typical American custom to be interested in "firsts". The

The first white man to see the Blue Ridge Mountains was probably Captain John Smith (of Pocahontas fame) who brought an exploring party up the Rappahannock by boat in 1608. They continued by foot, coming to about 25 miles of the present Park borders. Abraham Wood explored the Piedmont region in 1650 but traveled towards the south and probably did not see the Shenandoah Valley at all. The next adventurer into this wild region was John Lederer.

John Lederer was a German physician, a scholar, and was apparently familiar with the Indian languages. He was "a modest, ingenious person, and a pretty scholar" (Gov. Talbot in introduction to Lederer's journal). Lederer began his first journey westward in 1669. At this time the settlement of Virginia was still largely confined to the Tidewater area. Lederer had a commission to explore from Governor Berkeley. He left an Indian village at the headwaters of the York river (at the present town of West Point) on March 9th, 1669, on horseback. With him were three Indians. Their route was generally north west to the junction of the North and South Anna rivers, and then probably following the north branch to the vicinity of Gordonsville. He found "isinglass" (mica) in sheets four inches square and on March 14 mounted an "eminent hill" (West Mountain?) and saw the "Apalataeans" for the first time. He proceeded toward the mountains crossing the Rapidan R. (?) at a place where he encountered dangerous quicksand.

On the 17th, Lederer reached the foot of the mountains. The next day "after I had in vain assayed to ride up", Lederer climbed the mountains. The climb took him all day. He slept at the top and claimed that, the next morning, he had "a beautifull prospect of the Atlantic Ocean washing the Virginia shore". Lederer wandered in the snow for five days seeing nothing

to the west but "mountains higher than I stood upon" but failing to find a passage through, he returned down the mountain, found his horse and his Indians and "returned back the way I went". The journal indicates that Lederer climbed at least one high peak (possibly Hawksbill). He may have looked over the Valley to the Massanutten Mountains--but this must remain conjecture pending detailed expert analysis of original sources.

The next year (on May 20, 1670) Lederer was off on a second and more ambitious undertaking. With him were a Major Harris, "twenty Christian horse and five Indians". Two days later they reached the Indian village of Manakin (about 20 miles above Richmond on the James). Here an old Indian whom they consulted indicated two routes one to the country of the Mahoc Indians (living in the James River Gap) and the other to the Mahyssans who lived in the Roanoke River Gap. Major Harris apparently decided to head due west and the party finally crossed the south fork of the James on June 3 (near Glasgow). Lederer resented the leadership of the Major and things came to a head the next day. Lederer (who had a private commission) parted from the company. Apparently the Major returned to the Tidewater, gave his own version of the affair and his own account of his discoveries.

Lederer continued south toward Roanoke with an Indian guide. He explored along the Blue Ridge foothills till, passing the vicinity of Saltville where the Indians mined salt, he entered the Carolinas. He possibly progressed as far as Lake Lure near Chimney Rock before he started back. At no time on this trip was he within present Park boundries, though his account is too general that it seems impossible to locate his route accurately.

Lederer made a third trip to the Blue Ridge in August 1670 probably following the Rappahannock to its headwaters. He climbed a high mountain and named it after King Charles. Details of this third voyage are lacking in the material consulted. These articles hint that Lederer had trouble in Virginia and finally went to Maryland where Sir William Talbot translated and wrote an introduction to Lederer's Journal, which was printed (with maps) in London in 1672.

Our data on all these trips and on the purposes (apparently to find a gap through the mountains) is most incomplete. Research, using original or reliable secondary sources is essential. There might be good local color in the Lederer story if details are available.

Sources: Two articles by Harry M. Strickler: Shenandoah Mag. 2:2, 1938 and Travel Lore 3:4, 1939.
Two articles by Samuel V. Moore: Early Explorers of the Shenandoah Valley. Bull. PATC 10:4, 1941 and 11:2, 1942.

Period 3. THE EXPLORATIONS OF GOV. SPOTSWOOD

Here is the first historical period on which data is almost completely lacking in our files and available publications. It is interesting that Kercheval (A History of the Valley of Virginia) makes no mention at all of the Spotswood expedition.

The party which, with guides and servants, totalled about fifty, left Tidewater Virginia late in the summer of 1716. By September 2 they had reached the base of the Blue Ridge. They climbed "through thickets so tightly laced together that we had a great deal of trouble to get through." The party reached the summit of the pass (Swift Run Gap) on September 5 and from there descended into the Shenandoah Valley. The map indicates they returned by the same route.

The "Knights of the Golden Horseshoe" do not turn out to be as romantic a group as their name might indicate. Apparently Gov. Spotswood gave each member of the party a small golden horseshoe as a memento after their return since the men had to have their horses shod because of the rocky mountain trails.

A monument to the party has been erected at Swift Run Gap by the Colonial Dames of America. John Fontaine, a member of the party kept a journal which has been quoted.

Undoubtedly there is more information on this exploring party, its purposes and achievements. Material should be gathered to supplement our limited data.

Sources: Shenandoah Valley Inc. Official Guidebook 1938-39, Staunton, Va.
Bull. PATC, Historical Ramblings by Jean Stephenson, 5:2, pp. 36-37, 1938.

Period 4. SURVEYS AND EARLY SETTLEMENTS

The colonization of Virginia was furbered by royal grants of land to nobles who either sold their holdings or planned their development. One such grant made by James II to Lord Culpeper included all the land lying between the Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers. This grant later passed into the hands of Lord Fairfax (by marriage to Culpeper's daughter?). Fairfax in turn sold warrants for tracts of thousands of acres to colonists. At the same time (roughly from 1732 to 1735) settlers moved down the Shenandoah Valley from the north. These included Quakers who purchased land from the Indians, Mennonites, Germans and Dutch.

Conflict arose between the claims of these settlers and those who had obtained warrants from Fairfax, and since no one had defined which river really was the Potomac, a commission was set up in 1733 to survey a boundry line between the Headwaters of the Potomac and the Rappahannock. George Washington served as surveyor for this commission and the line of survey is reported to have run through the Park.

Conflicts over land titles led to extensive lawsuits, often settled after the death of the litigants. The "northern neck", as the Fairfax tract was called, was gradually broken down and sold. These subdivisions, still plots of thousands of acres, were largely controlled by wealthier families who resided in the Piedmont or Tidewater sections. The land was valued for its timber and for cattle grazing. Both industries did not require the presence of the land owner and absentee landlordism was common. The revolutionary war brought a new flood of settlers, including deserters from the British army. These men and their families established themselves as squatters or tenants on the large mountain tracts. This condition once established persisted for a hundred years or more and at the time of the creation of the Park, many families living here for generations did not have title to their land.

There were other warrants for land further south that did not involve the Fairfax holdings. Benj. Brown (Brown's Gap) entered patents for over 6,000 acres from 1747 to 1760. Charles and Thomas Moorman (Moorman's River) obtained land in the Park soon after 1740. The Woods, Jarmans and Wallaces pioneered also and further search of records should give more details of the settlers who came up from the Piedmont.

Settlers from the Shenandoah generally came from the north. Joist Hite established large claims in 1732. His claims conflicted with those of Fairfax and a long lawsuit resulted. Again detailed data are lacking and indicate that more research is needed to clarify the period of settlement that roughly ran from 1730 to 1760.

Sources: Kercheval: a history of the Valley of Virginia, Chap. 3 and 13.
Steere, E., A Historical study of Shen. N. P. Our file 101-03.3
Stephenson, Jean, Historical Ramblings, Bull. PATC 5:4, 1936.

Period 5. THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR

While the focus of this war was along the Ohio River, to the north and west, its effects were keenly felt in the Shenandoah Valley (though not in the Park itself). With the defeat of Braddock in 1755 the entire area west of the Blue Ridge was left with scant protection. Washington built Ft. Loudoun at Winchester but this did not deter Indian attacks in the valley to the south.

Kercheval records that all the local Indians left the Shenandoah Valley in 1754 and retired west to the Alleghanys. They returned as raiding parties two years later and for the next eight years kept up a running war with the settlers. Kercheval, who is the only authority we have available, does not consider the causes or effects of this war but only chronicles the events. This phase should be looked up elsewhere.

Indian attacks began along the Capon river and extended eastward to Opequon. There were many attacks on isolated farms and some battles, like that at "The Trough" where the Indians outflanked a band of pursuing settlers and practically destroyed them. There are indications that the

British were not always anxious to protect the settlers. No troops were sent out from Ft. Pleasant to help in a battle that could be heard at the Fort, nor were civilians there permitted to go to the aid of their neighbors.

A local Indian chief (Kill-buck) led bands on daring attacks. The settlers were forced to band together and flee to protective shelters as soon as Indians were observed. The local "cellar-forts" of this period were built of stone, usually around a spring to supply water. The structure was supposed to be safe even if the building above (of wood) was fired.

There were attacks on settlers in Page County, at New Market and at Woodstock in Shenandoah County. Many settlers returned over the Blue Ridge to the safer eastern part of Virginia. Hostilities continued till 1766. Beside the English treaty of peace with the French, there were also treaties with the Indians. The Valley then enjoyed peace till Dunmore's war in 1774. This involved territory that is now West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Ohio.

As a sidelight to this period it should be mentioned that a good deal of robbery was accomplished by whites disguised as Indians who took advantage of the war for their own gain. Further research should disclose more details of the Indian raids in the more immediate vicinity of the Park and a more complete picture of pioneer life during that period. I feel that these era will prove rich in local incidents once the data are available.

Sources: Kercheval: A history of the Valley of Virginia, Chap. 7 to 10.
Shenandoah Valley Inc.: Official Guidebook, 1936-39.

Period 6. THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

Our available sources give little information on this period. Certainly the Shenandoah Valley and the Park area were out of the main currents of the war. There is nothing in the data available to show that the war touched the Park region at all. There are a few incidents worth noting and possibly further investigation will disclose others.

In 1777 it was reported that some wealthy Quakers "manifested a disposition highly inimical to the cause of America". Under charges of Gen. Sullivan twelve Quakers and a dancing master were imprisoned at Winchester and remained in custody eight or nine months. They were not brought to trial. Two died in jail and the rest arranged to return home.

At this time about 300 Hessian prisoners had been sent to Winchester, and later (1781) the number was increased to about 1600. There is a hint in other sources that Hessian Prisoners marched through one of the Park gaps. This might be checked further.

There were a goodly number of Tories in the Shenandoah Valley and when Cornwallis entered Virginia in 1781 a group planned an insurrection. This group (which centered in what is now Hardy County, West Virginia) refused to pay taxes or support the colonial militia. A captain of Virginia militia and thirty men were sent to restore order. They met a group of fifty armed Tories; after a conference both parties returned without bloodshed. Later 400 volunteers under Gen. Morgan went through the Torie country. A number of arrests were made and one man was killed. The "army" returned to Winchester in three days--the insurrection at an end.

At the other end of the Park area, General Tarleton's British army approached and entered Charlottesville--the Assembly fled to Staunton in the Valley and a volunteer army gathered in Rockfish Gap to see that the British did not get through. Apparently no attempt was made, and the Americans later left the gap and joined Washington's army which was by that time forcing Cornwallis back toward Yorktown.

Sources: Stevenson, Jean, Historical Ramblings, Bull. PATC 5:4, 1936.
Kercheval, A History of the Valley of Virginia. Chapter 11.

Period 7. THE PERIOD OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

This entire period is ill defined, yet the evidence at hand points to more accelerated development of the Park area during the period between the revolutionary and civil wars than at either earlier or later times. Population movements were restricted to the lowlands in the earlier days, but after the revolution more tenant and squatter families entered into the mountain coves. The actual holding of the land still remained in the hands of wel-to-do valley and Piedmont families who had received grants from either the Crown or from Virginia. These families seldom lived in the mountains.

For some time cattle grazing remained the basic industry. Related to this was the tanning of hides, since the chestnut and oak of the mountains provided tanbark. Other local industries included curing of meat, weaving, shingle cutting, lumbering, basketry and some agriculture. At best these were subsistence industries and did not permit the mountaineers to develop any secure economy.

During this period three cross mountain roads were developed. The first ran through Thornton Gap. This was built with slave labor at about

1785. With these toll roads, inns were erected (Hawsburry Inn on the Luray Road). These roads aided movement across the mountains but did not materially effect the mountain cultures except as providing easier transportation for a few mountain products.

Fisher's Gap and Swift Run Gap were the others used during this period. At Swift Run Gap, the mountain hotel catered to travelers. This inn functioned from 1832 till about 1870.

Kercheval (A History of the Valley of Virginia) gives a good picture of the clothing, houses, industries, customs, etc., of settlers at about this period. These details will be of value in making exhibits, etc., and should be considered, though there is no need to transcribe them here at this time.

Steere's report does justice to this period also. The details of such simple industries as the making of hand-made shingles might be well illustrated by exhibits---so might spinning and weaving, though this latter was not widely developed as an industry. The up-and-down sawmills, built in the 1830 decade were another mainstay in the mountain economy.

This era, unmarked by any specific events of importance produced the flowering of what in the lowland was an 18th century economy. Its late introduction and persistance in the mountains is a matter of local interest that can find ready use in the interpretive program of the Park.

Sources: Kercheval: A History of the Valley of Virginia, 12, 17, 20, 21, 22.
Steere: A Historical Study of Shenandoah Park. File 101-03.3

Period 8. THE CIVIL WAR PERIOD

As with the Revolutionary war, the Blue Ridge region was not directly involved, but in this latter catastrophe two new factors entered that

made effects more noticeable. First, by the 1860's the area was well settled and the population was an inherent part of the State of Virginia as compared to the isolated pioneers of revolutionary days who felt more or less on their own. Second, the physiography of western Virginia with the broad north-south avenue of the Shenandoah marked the region as one in which conflict was found to occur during the Civil War. The Shenandoah was recognized by both Confederate and Federal generals as a back door to the Capitol and the industrial regions of the east. The fighting in the Valley was long and bloody but centered largely a hundred miles north of the Park region.

The Valley campaign of Stonewall Jackson has been recognized as an almost perfect example of military strategy. This campaign brought troops within the Park boundaries and nearly all the action took place within twenty miles of them. Jackson's campaign took place in the Spring of 1862. Jackson marched his troops south from Elkton, Virginia, to Port Republic, then, in a feint move, headed east through Brown's Gap as if going to Richmond. After crossing the mountains, Jackson's men (numbering about 15,000) were quickly loaded on trains and shipped back into the Valley through Rockfish Gap. Passing through Waynesboro and Staunton, Jackson pushed west to make an unexpected juncture with Gen. Milroy's forces at McDowell, Virginia. This action brought on the defeat of the Union army which retreated northward. Jackson then turned and retreated back into the Valley. He turned north and marched to New Market, through New Market Gap to Luray and hence up to Front Royal. Here he met Union troops and defeated them, and, continuing north he was able to attack the army of General Banks

from the rear thus winning the first battle of Winchester (May 25, 1862) and capturing huge war supplies.

By this time the Union forces were preparing to attack Jackson from three sides so the General quickly retreated down the Valley again, back to Port Republic where he met and defeated the Union forces (Battle of Cross Keys, June 8, 1862). Then Jackson moved his army up into the mountains at Brown's Gap where the men rested for three days. The army then shifted to a more suitable camp near Grottoes and remained a week before crossing the mountains again to finally make contact with Lee at Richmond.

The remaining actions in this region were less spectacular. There was a movement of artillery (Chew's battery) through Brown's Gap in August, 1864, and a month later General Early, who had been defeated by Sheridan at the third battle of Winchester, encamped in Brown's Gap to refresh his men. The Union army pursued and some skirmishing resulted. Early moved on but left a brigade under Ferguson to guard the Gap and cover his retreat.

Of local interest are some "trenches" or "breastworks" in Brown's Gap reputedly built by the Confederate forces during their occupation of the mountain pass. There is no conclusive evidence, but it is more probable that they were built by Early during his retreat in 1864 than by Jackson two years earlier.

There are undoubtedly, other incidents, but available data are limited. The story of Belle Boyd, the Confederate spy, who operated out of Front Royal in 1862 is interesting, not so much for her military accomplishments but for her winning ways with the jailers who had her in charge on several occasions. She was made a captain in the Confederate army and was for a

time the heroine of the South.

A last minute reference (Semple, American History and its Geographic conditions) indicates that Generals Lee, Ewell, and other generals involved in the eastern campaign made more use of the mountain gaps than previous data had indicated. Chester, Thornton, Manassas and the gaps at the headwaters of the Rapidan and Rappahannock are mentioned by name. The significance of the Shenandoah Valley in the war is emphasized. Action at Harrisonburg, Sperryville, and other nearby places is mentioned. These should all be investigated further.

We have little data on the total effect of the war on the region; on its industries, life, etc., outside of the mention that families drove their cattle up into the mountains to keep them out of Union hands. This phase of the war might be investigated more fully. Our records and books do not mention the role of the Piedmont region just east of the Park in the war. This too might be investigated. The last battle of the war (?) was fought at Waynesboro on March 2, 1865.

Sources: State Historical Markers of Virginia. Virginia Conservation Commission, 1941.
Moon, Wm. Historical Significance of Brown's Gap. Waynesboro, 1937.
Anon. Belle Boyd, Southern Spy of Shenandoah. Pamphlet file.

Period 9. DECADES OF RELAPSE AND DETERIORATION

The mountain culture was always one of economic insecurity on marginal land. The simple subsistance occupations could not maintain the economy in competition with the lowlands. While our data are limited, it seems that even before the Civil War the decline had begun to set in and the

depression that followed the war merely accentuated the trend.

The completion of the railroad through the Valley and across the mountains through Rockfish Gap opened up new routes to the urban centers and influenced agriculture and other industries. The demand for commercial crops and products increased, putting the mountain folk at a handicap. At the same time, the invention of the portable rotary saw-mill brought a new type of lumbering into the mountains--one in which skilled help was needed. This again left the mountain folk out of the picture. New methods of tanning leather (using chrome salts) cut the demand for tanbark. In all these little ways the precarious mountain economy was undermined. Even the opening of a copper mine at Big Meadows (which soon failed) and the iron mines at Grottoes did not bring an upturn in conditions.

It is difficult to fix a chronology for this period. A final blow must have been the sweep of the chestnut blight through the region about 1914 (?) The chestnut tree not only furnished timber and tanbark, but also food for fattening hogs and nuts brought a small but steady cash crop in the fall.

Though there is no information now available, the role of the mountain "still" in the economy should be investigated. Treated as a cultural phenomenon engendered by the economic conditions and the isolation of the mountaineers, the story of moonshining should make an interesting story for visitors.

Without romanticising or depreciating the mountaineer's life, the facts of their existence should interest Park visitors. In many ways the mountain settlements were "rural slums" but because they maintained at least a few of the outward forms of 18th century pioneer life, they are

of interest. I am sure the records of the Virginia Welfare Department might yield the kind of data needed to round out this story.

Sources: Steere, A. Historical Study of Shenandoah Park. File 101-03.3
Gravant, G. Chestnut Blight. U. S. D. A. Yearbook, Sept. 1130.

Period 10. THE ORIGINS OF SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK

The recent history of the Park area brings us to a region of limited economic value whose few resources had been exploited by ruthless lumbering, fire and neglect. The one basic asset of the region, its scenic and recreational value, was untouched only because the area was inaccessible and because there was but a limited vision of these possibilities.

The only recreational use of the region was made by George F. Pollock who had inherited 4,000 acres of land from his father on the west side of the mountains at Skyland. Here he had camped and later developed a summer resort. Mr. Pollock was thus familiar with the area and aware of its recreational values.

In 1924, Dr. Mather, Director of the National Park Service, suggested the need for establishing a national park in the southern Appalachians. His suggestion led to the formation of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission which set out to investigate possible sites for such a park.

News of the commission reached Mr. Pollock, who with the help of local friends and friends in Washington, approached the commission which agreed to send representatives to view the region. Meanwhile local organizations joined the movement and began agitation for a national park in Virginia.

The visit of two commissioners and later of the rest of the committee was a success. Their decision to establish the park in the Blue Ridge was

carried out when Congress passed and President Coolidge approved a bill for this purpose in 1925. The commission report included the suggestion of a road along the mountain crest.

This bill provided that the Park be established when a minimum of 250,000 acres were given to the federal government for that purpose. The citizens of the Shenandoah Valley campaigned to raise the money to purchase the necessary land which consisted of over 4,000 separate tracts. The state legislature provided funds and passed a special law for the legal acquisition of the land. The task proved enormously complicated so Congress reduced the minimum acreage required for federal administration. By 1935 the deeds to the land were ready and the Commonwealth of Virginia turned over 176,500 acres to the Department of the Interior for the establishment of Shenandoah National Park. The Park was dedicated by President Roosevelt on July 3, 1936.

Even before the Park had been officially accepted, work was started on the Skyline Drive and soon after the dedication of the Park, 66 miles of mountain roadway were being used by visitors who came at the rate of about a million a year in over a quarter of a million automobiles.

The construction of the Skyline Drive was an outstanding engineering feat involving great skill and imagination. The road was developed in three sections, each slightly over 30 miles in length and each costing about a million and a half dollars to construct. The average cost has been close to $50,000 per mile. The 700 foot tunnel through Mary's Rock was completed in about three months and the actual road building was pushed at record speed. Thus, by the time the land for the Park had been acquired,

the road (constructed on a special 100 foot right of way) was almost ready for visitor traffic.

There were many problems in the early history of the Park solved only through the tireless efforts of local residents interested in the undertaking. The contribution of these men can be easily evaluated from the Headquarters files and needs no repetition in such a brief outline as this.

Sources: History of the establishment of the park. File No. 101-03.1
Amiss. Early History of the Park. File No. 101-03.2
Pollock, G. F. Beginnings of Shenandoah National Park. PATC Bulletin 1937-38.
Lassiter, J. R. Shenandoah National Park. Commonwealth, July 1936.
Skyland Prospectus Season 1934 and 1935.

Period II. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PARK

When Secretary of the Interior Ickes accepted the deeds to the Blue Ridge lands, the Park Service officially took over Shenandoah National Park. Actually much work had already been done, both in the construction of the Skyline Drive and in the planning for the Park itself. The period from 1935 to the present marks a time of continual development of Park resources. Though handicapped by the war, a modified program of expansion continues.

Greatest progress has been in developing the physical facilities of the Park, opening up the area to visitors and providing facilities for their comfort and recreation. Foremost of these undertakings has been the completion of the Skyline Drive which now totals 97 miles in length and includes 67 parking overlooks where visitors can enjoy views both to the east and the west. The continuation of the Skyline Drive into the Blue Ridge Parkway

provides a scenic connection to Great Smokies Mountains National Park.

The trail system of the Park includes a segment of the famed Appalachian Trail that runs 2,000 miles from Maine to Georgia. There are 96 miles of this trail in the Park with over-night accommodations for hikers in cabins and trailside shelters, of which there will be a total of 22 when the work is completed. Other trails bring the trail mileage in the Park up to 219 and plans are already made for 55 miles of additional trails.

For the comfort and convenience of the visitors, there are three developed areas with cabins, restaurants and sport facilities, operated under Park Service supervision. Five more developed areas are planned including two for negroes. Seven picnic grounds have been built with open fireplaces, drinking water and comfort stations. Five more picnic grounds are planned.

For those who desire to camp out, two campgrounds are now ready and four more are planned. There are now five roadside stations with three more contemplated.

Another phase of the program provides instruction and entertainment for the visitor. The Park Service provides rangers to lead hikes, auto caravan trips and to give lectures. Campfire programs include talks on the natural features of the region. A museum is planned at Big Meadows and points of interest along the Drive will be marked by smaller exhibits.

These two phases of the present Park program will be most obvious to the visitor. He may not be aware of other phases that are just as important if not as conspicuous. The fire protection program combines patrols, watch-

towers, observations and automatic protection measures when fire threatens. Another phase of the program is concerned with the protection and study of the wildlife within the Park. Shenandoah National Park is a long range project and the Service looks ahead to the time when the scrubby woods will be replaced with mature forests in which deer, bear, wildcat and many smaller animals will hold their proper place.

A last phase of the program involves the planning necessary for all that has been mentioned and the administration of Park business. With this goes the maintenance of facilities, repair and construction. Also the protection and control of visitors and the maintenance of order.

This work of developing the Park has involved many serious problems. The resettlement of over 500 families from Park land was one of these. Some were able to make this transition without difficulty. Others needed State and Federal aid. A series of homesteads have been set up for the mountaineers. Because of the Park project being a continual process, this chapter cannot be finished. It can end at this point today, but there will be more to add next year and next and next.

Sources; Benson, H. The Skyline Drive. Regional Review, 4:2, 1940.
Shenandoah National Park. Master Plan. 1940.
Lassiter, J. Shenandoah National Park. Commonwealth Mag. July 1936.

III

Suggested Procedure for Continuation of this work.

My contact with the problem to date is more towards seeing what is to be done than towards doing it. Limitations of date and experience have made my overview quite superficial. The value of what I have done will be most evident in the next steps taken as I have done little more than open up the problem.

The next steps should include:

1. Contact with local authorities familiar with the region for unpublished data they may have and for their further cooperation and assistance. i.e.

June Stephenson — William Moon
Harry M. Strickler — Samuel V. Moore

2. Obtain for temporary study or for permanent collection primary and secondary source publications. i.e.

Wayland. History of Shenandoah County.
Fountaine. Memoirs of a Huguenot Family (Spotswood's party)
Jefferson. Notes on Virginia.
Lederer. Journal of John Lederer.

and consult such references as those on attached list.

3. Check available material in local libraries, museums, etc., i.e.

Luray — Waynesboro — Front Royal
Harrisonburg — Charlottesville

4. Check National Park Service Chicago Office and Richmond Office for historical reports and related material that may be in their files. Our files indicate that such material exists. i.e.

On the movement of Hessian troops through Park.
On the Convention Army.
On the Fairfax line survey.

5. Begin to collect historical relics, specimen, photographs, etc., as a basis for interpretive exhibits on local history. i.e.

Copy of Lederer's journal. London, 1672.
Facsimile of Golden Horseshoe Insignia.
Pictures of early stage coaches, toll houses, etc., on roads through gaps.
Guns, spinning wheels andother utensils as used by early settlers.
Stills and moonshine apparatus.

References on history of the region that might be worth seeing.

(These have been selected from footnotes, etc., and are not now available so there is no way of judging how good the source material is)

Morrison, A. J. The Virginia Indian Trade in 1763. William and Mary Historical Magazine, 1; 217-236, 1921.

Fiske, J. Old Virginia and Her Neighbors. Boston, 1897.

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Bruce, P. A. Economic History of Virginia in the 17th Century. New York, 1907.

Becker, C. L. Beginnings of the American People. Boston, 1915.

Paxson, F. L. History of the American Frontier. Boston, 1924.

Henderson, A. Forces in Western Expansion. American Historical Review. 20: 90-97, 1914.

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Emerson, F. V. The Shenandoah Valley and the Civil War. Journal of School Geography. 5: 208-214, June, 1901.

Rhodes, J. F. History of the Civil War. New York, 1917.

Lewis, V. A. History of West Virginia. 1889.

Semple, E. C. Mountain Passes. Bulletin American Geographic Society, 33: 2 and 3, 1901.

- - -. Virginia Historical Magazine. Volume 13, No. 3, (on road through Thornton Gap.)

Volm, M. H. Hessian Prisoners in the American War of Independance. University of Virginia.

5. Securing a permit from a park ranger before building fires or making camp, except in designated picnic and campground areas where fireplaces are provided.

6. Walking on designated trails and paths, since short cuts destroy the plant life and cause erosion. Signs have been placed at intersections on established trails to indicate directions.

7. Protecting all wildlife, since the park is an absolute sanctuary. Unless adequately sealed, cased, broken down, or otherwise packed to prevent their use while in the park, firearms are prohibited, except upon written permission from the superintendent.

8. Consulting a park ranger at any of the entrances for the special regulations governing fishing, if you plan to fish in park waters.

9. Keeping dogs and cats on leash, or otherwise under restrictive physical control, at all times while in the park.

What To Do

Motoring.—The Drive, a scenic highway, traverses the entire length of the park along the crest of the mountains for a distance of 105 miles. This park highway intersects U S 211 at Thornton Gap, U S 33 at Swift Run Gap, and U S 250 at Rockfish Gap.

Parking overlooks, at intervals along the Drive, afford the motorist an opportunity to stop and enjoy the breath-taking panoramas. To the west lies the eastern section of the historic Shenandoah Valley, with the meandering South Fork of the Shenandoah River, its green and brown patchwork fields, and small woodlands. The Massanutten Range is immediately beyond and the main Allegheny Range melts into the far horizon. To the east lies the Piedmont Plateau with numerous forested foothills becoming ever smaller in the distance.

During heavy storms and fog, the Drive may be closed to motor traffic for short periods. Signs are posted at park entrances when hazardous driving conditions prevail.

The lodges, waysides, campgrounds, picnic grounds, and trails, provided for the convenience of visitors, may all be reached from the Drive.

Hiking.—Shenandoah's trail system leads to streams and waterfalls, along ridges into hollows, to cliffs and mountain tops where some of the most beautiful scenery is to be found.

Following the crest of the Blue Ridge through the park is a 94-mile graded trail. This main trail is a designated section of the Appalachian Trail, a marked pathway extending 2,050 miles from Maine to Georgia. The trail crosses the Drive at several points and is accessible from many of the parking overlooks. Short side trail trips may be taken to more remote sections of the park.

Maps of the trails are available from the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, Inc., Washington, D. C. There is a separate one for each of the park sections; namely, north, central, and south. Detailed trail data and much useful information for hikers and campers in the park are also published by the Trail Club.

For overnight hikers there are several shelters (locked cabins), provided with bunks, mattresses, blankets, cooking utensils, and other necessities. They are operated by the Trail Club, and reservations are required in advance. A small charge is made.

Open shelters (three-sided structures containing bunks, with an outdoor fireplace for heating and cooking), for the benefit of hikers only, are located at convenient intervals along the Appalachian Trail and at other points in the park. There is no charge for their use: first come, first served. Shelters must be shared with other parties. The usual rules of trail etiquette are observed by occupants of the shelters in caring for the structures and surroundings. A supply of dry wood should always be left inside.

Permits must be obtained in person from a park ranger if fires are to be built in other than the fireplaces provided in the established camp and picnic areas. Campfire permits are not issued during fire season.

Saddle horses may be rented at Skyland in summer and early fall. Overnight pack trips or short rides by the hour or day may be arranged.

Naturalist Service.—During the summer season a varied program of nature walks and other guided trips is offered. From May through October illustrated evening talks on natural or human history are given at frequent intervals. These activities, directed by the park naturalist, originate at both Skyland and Big Meadows areas and are free to the public. Complete information on naturalist schedules is available at the checking stations, concession units, and other public places.

Photographing.—Though haze sometimes makes special equipment necessary to secure clear landscapes, interesting pictures of mountain peaks, ridges, hollows, and other natural features may be obtained. Pictures and film are on sale at the various gift shops in the park.

Picnicking.—The six free picnic grounds are complete with parking space, tables, fireplaces, water, and comfort stations.

Camping.—The fine campground located at Big Meadows has all the facilities of the picnic grounds, plus individual campsites for tent and trailer campers, and a combined laundry and shower building. Electricity is not available. At Lewis Mountain there are similar camping facilities. Camping is free with use limited to 30 days during the heavy travel season from May 15 to Labor Day.

Campers and picnickers should bring camp stoves or fuel for fireplaces since wood is not always available. Camp stoves, charcoal burners, and fuel may be obtained at all service stations.

Fishing.—Excellent fishing for brook trout is to be found in many of the streams of the park. A Virginia State fishing license is required. Fishermen should secure a copy of the special regulations governing fishing in park waters from a park ranger or at the superintendent's office. Generally, the season extends from April 20 to July 10.

Skiing.—From January to mid-March, snow conditions are sometimes ideal for skiing. The area east of Pinnacles Picnic Grounds offers steep downhill runs as well as gentle slopes for novices.

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Points of Interest Along Skyline Drive

Numbered mileposts along the Drive will help you locate the points of interest below. Each mile is numbered progressively southward beginning with the zero marker at the northern (Front Royal) entrance to the park.

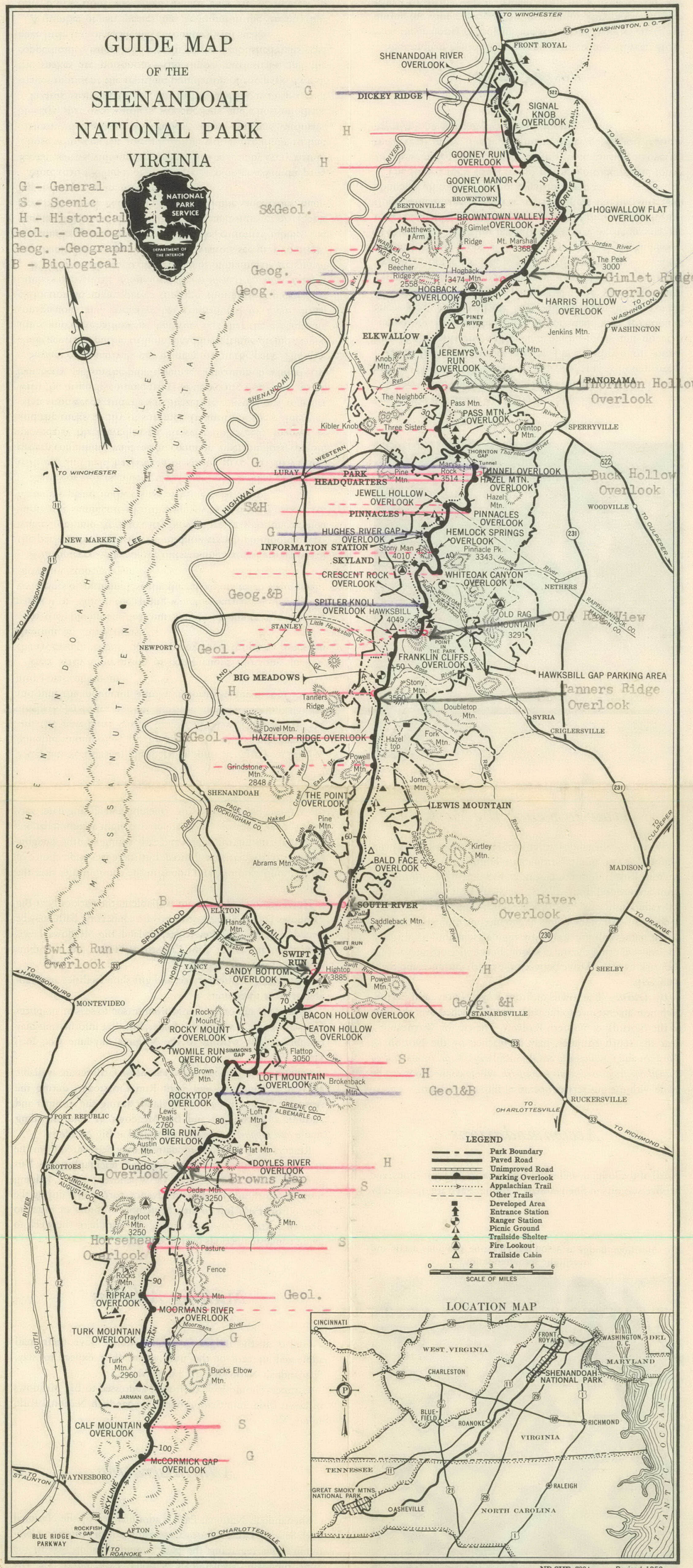
Miles	Place	Elevation, feet
0.0	**Junction Va. Route 12 and the Drive**	595
0.5	**North Entrance Station**—Information	705
4.5	**Dickey Ridge**—Meals, souvenirs, gas and oil, lodging; free picnic grounds, water, comfort station	1,940
20.9	**Hogback Overlook**—Highest point on Drive in north section. 7 bends in Shenandoah River visible on clear day	3,385
22.1	**Piney River Ranger Station**—Information	3,000
24.0	**Elkwallow**—Light lunch, souvenirs, gas and oil; free picnic grounds, tables, fireplaces, water, comfort station	2,445
31.4	**Thornton Gap (north) Entrance Station**—Information	2,300
31.5	**Panorama Crossroads**—Intersection with US 211 (Lee Highway). **Panorama**—Meals, souvenirs, gas and oil, comfort station.	2,300
31.6	**Thornton Gap (south) Entrance Station**—Information	2,304
32.3	**Marys Rock Tunnel** and Tunnel Overlook	2,510
36.7	**Pinnacles**—Free picnic grounds, tables, fireplaces, water, comfort station	3,350
37.3	**Pinnacles Ranger Station**—Information	3,230
38.6	**Hughes River Gap Overlook**—Information station; water, comfort station	3,100
41.7	**Entrance Skyland**—Highest point on the Drive	3,680
	Skyland—Meals, lodging, souvenirs, comfort station, saddle horses. Stony Man Nature Trail.	
42.5	**Whiteoak Canyon Trail Parking Area.**	
45.6	**Hawksbill Gap Parking Area**—Trail to summit of Hawksbill Mountain, highest point in park.	
50.5	**Dark Hollow Falls Trail.**	
51.1	**Entrance Big Meadows**—Lunches, souvenirs, gas and oil, comfort station	3,500
	Big Meadows—Meals, lodging, souvenirs; free picnic grounds, tables, fireplaces, water, comfort station; free campground for tents and trailers, tables, fireplaces, water, comfort station, laundry, and shower.	
	Ranger Station—Information.	
57.5	**Lewis Mountain**—Lodging, meals; free picnic grounds, tables, fireplaces, water, comfort station; free campground for tents and trailers, tables, fireplaces, water, comfort station	3,390
62.8	**South River**—Free picnic grounds, tables, fireplaces, water, comfort station. Start of trail to South River Falls	2,940
64.4	**Swift Run Gap (north) Entrance Station**—Information	2,680
65.5	**Swift Run Crossroads**—Intersection with US 33 (Spotswood Trail)	2,365
	Swift Run—Meals, lodging, souvenirs, gas and oil, comfort station.	
65.6	**Swift Run Gap (south) Entrance Station**—Information	2,380
73.2	**Simmons Gap Ranger Station**—Information	2,245
81.1	**Big Run Overlook**—View of large watershed in park. Entrance foot trail to Big Run open shelter	2,860
83.7	**Dundo**—Free picnic grounds, tables, fireplaces, water, toilets	2,785
90.0	**Calvary Rocks Parking Area**—Entrance foot trail to Rocks Mountain and Rip Rap open shelter	2,730
92.0	**Moormans River Overlook**—View city of Charlottesville reservoir	2,975
96.8	**Jarman Gap**—Informal picnicking, tables	2,175
104.7	**South Entrance Station**—Information	2,070
105.5	**Rockfish Gap**—Intersection with US 250 (Jefferson Highway). Blue Ridge Parkway continues south from this point. Parkway Information Station located 3 miles south of this point	1,910

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Overlook Marker
Overlook Marker(added after R.F. Lee's listing)

GUIDE MAP
OF THE
SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK
VIRGINIA

G - General
S - Scenic
H - Historical
Geol. - Geologi
Geog. -Geographi
B - Biological



U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1952 O-F—989749

NP-SHE 7004 Revised 1952

Shenandoah
NATIONAL PARK

The Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia are famed for their scenic loveliness, romantic setting, and historical association. In the heart of these lofty mountains is the Shenandoah National Park. Its majestic tree-covered peaks reach elevations of more than 4,000 feet above the sea. Much of the time these peaks are softened by a faint blue haze from which the mountains get their name. From the highway and trails which closely follow the crest of the ridge, unforgettable panoramas spread out in every direction. Shenandoah, an Indian name, is reputed to mean "Daughter of the Stars."

Shenandoah is one of a group of areas in the National Park System known simply as national parks. These areas of outstanding scenic, scientific, or historical character are set aside for preservation in their natural state and for the inspiration and enjoyment of the people.

The park comprises a gross area of 211,614.97 acres of the highest and most scenic section of the Blue Ridge Range. It extends from Front Royal on the north to the vicinity of Waynesboro on the south, a distance of 75 miles.

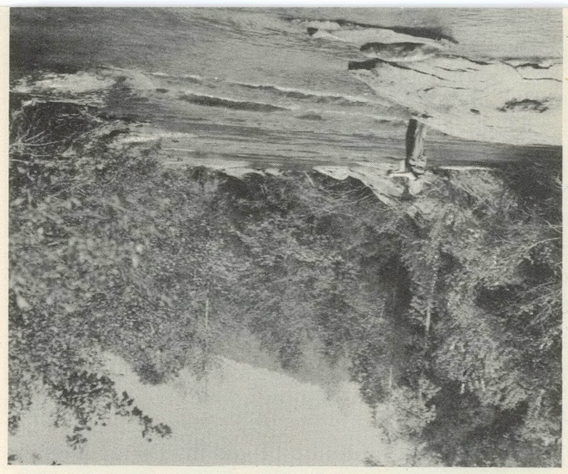
The Blue Ridge Mountains, running generally in a northeast-southwesterly direction, rise abruptly from the Shenandoah Valley floor, forming a western escarpment and reaching a maximum elevation of 4,049 feet at Hawksbill Mountain. The rise on the Piedmont, or eastern side, is more gradual, and numerous spur ridges and foothills extend eastward from the crest of the range. Between these spur ridges, deep forested hollows are drained by turbulent mountain streams which form waterfalls of varying heights. Many of the hollows and ridges may be reached by trail.

The profusion of wildflowers and plants in spring and summer and the autumn color display of unsurpassed beauty and vividness are outstanding natural attractions.

Historical Background

The Shenandoah region is rich in historical lore, some of which predates the founding of the United States.

The first record of exploration tells of the westward journey of John Lederer in 1669. In 1716, Governor Spotswood and his Knights of the Golden Horseshoe, seeking an answer to the mystery of the great western lands, penetrated the Blue Ridge and crossed through the park, probably at Swift Run Gap. Soon afterward the mountain hollows on the east side of the ridge were settled, mostly by pioneers from the seaboard. Similarly, emigrants from the north filtered southward through the Great Valley of Virginia, and many of them carved out homesites on the western slopes.



Trout fishing in many of the park streams is especially good

The Shenandoah Valley became an arrery of critical importance during the War between the States. General Jackson's valley campaign is recognized as a superb example of military tactics. The mountain gaps within the park were strategically important and were used frequently during these campaigns.

The idea for a national park in the Southern Appalachian Mountains originated in the early 1920's. In succeeding years, the State and people of Virginia, together with public-spirited conservationists from other parts of the United States, purchased 176,430 acres of Blue Ridge Mountain lands. This area was deeded to the Federal Government for administration and development as a national park in 1935. President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated Shenandoah National Park at Big Meadows on July 3, 1936. Since then, additions of other lands, purchased partly with Federal funds, bring the total to nearly 194,000 acres now in Federal ownership.

Natural Features

Forests.—Eighty-five percent of the park supports a forest cover which is predominantly oak. Most of the remaining area is meadowland.

In addition to several kinds of oaks, there are hickories, black locusts, black gums, American chestnuts, maples, American lindens, and walnuts. Along stream courses may be found birches, tuliptrees, American sycamores, and elms. There are a number of evergreens, including pine, red spruce, Canada hemlock, eastern redcedar, Canada yew, and bracted balsam fir.

The Skyline Drive, for the most part, passes through forests which prefer moist soil. The most notable exception is the dry-soil forest in the south section of the park. The characteristically dwarfed appearance of the deciduous trees overtopped by pine serves to distinguish the dry-soil forest from the moist-soil forest which predominates in the park.

Wildflowers.—One of the outstanding natural attractions of the park is the profusion of wildflowers which bloom everywhere from mid-April to early November. It is not uncommon during the summer to identify as many as 80 different species of blooming plants in the course of a single day's trip.

Masses of violets, bluets, marshmarigold, golden groundsel, trillium, and field hawkweed of spring give way to yarrow, eastern columbine, wild carrot, common viperbugloss, cohosh, oxeyedaisy, black-eyed-susan, fireweed, milkweeds, snapweeds, and the turkscap lily of summer. In autumn, the goldenrod, asters, ironweeds, and the witchhazel are conspicuous, together with the brightly colored fruits of flowering dogwood, white baneberry, jack-in-the-pulpit, sumac, and common winterberry.

Several comparatively rare plants grow in the park. These include gentians, purple trillium, beadlilies, fringe-orchids, woodlilies, and cardinalflowers. The very fact that these plants are conspicuous and attractive has contributed to their virtual extinction in many places through thoughtless picking by careless individuals. *Please leave the wildflowers for others to enjoy.*

Wildlife.—About 40 different kinds of mammals are known to inhabit Shenandoah. Frequently visitors see gray squirrels, chipmunks, groundhogs or woodchucks, cottontail rabbits, and skunks. White-tail deer are increasing, and signs of black bear have been noted. National parks are wildlife sanctuaries; hunting and trapping are prohibited.

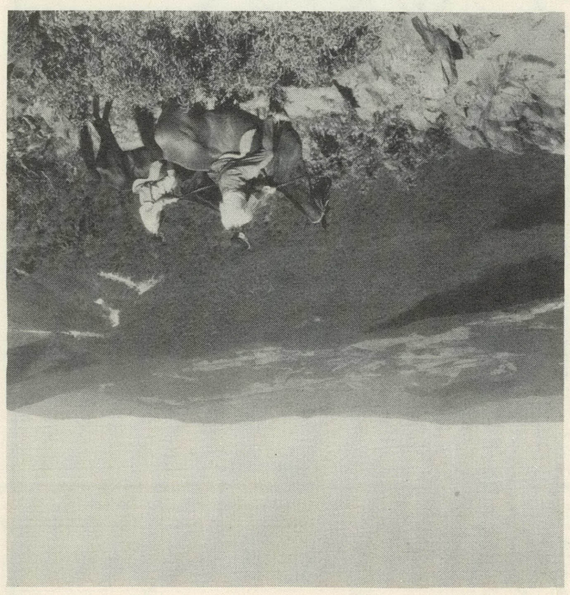
More than 190 kinds of birds have been observed in the park. Ravens, crows, vultures, and hawks will be seen by every visitor. Those who seek the solitude of the woods are likely to find eastern ruffed grouse, wild turkey, scarlet tanagers, cardinals, bluejays, sparrows, warblers, woodpeckers, and a host of others.

Lizards, snapping turtles, box turtles, and about 15 species of snakes represent the reptilian population of the park. Two of the snakes are poisonous—the timber rattlesnake and the copperhead. Visitors who remain on the established trails need have little fear of accidental encounters with snakes.

A number of fish species may be found in the streams, but only brook trout and small mouth bass are of interest to fishermen.

There is a wealth of butterflies and moths, beetles, and other insects, but the area is singularly free of mosquitoes.

Seeing the park from the trails



Certain sections of the park support a variety of shrubs. Notable among these are the azalea, the wild sweet crabapple, and the hawthorn which bloom in May, followed by the ninebark, Jersey-tea, and the sumac of summer. During late May and June the mountain-laurel transforms whole mountainsides into a mass of bloom.

Trees with a profusion of conspicuous blossoms include cherry, eastern redbud, flowering dogwood, tuliptree, American chestnut, and black locust.

As they bloom and leaf out, the deciduous trees produce a pageant of color in the spring which is surpassed only by the vivid tints of autumn. Usually the fall colors reach their height between October 10 and 20.

Information concerning checklists of flora and fauna of the park may be secured from park rangers or at park headquarters.

Earth History.—Persons interested in the story of the formation of the hills and valleys and of the rocks and minerals composing them will find much to command their attention in Shenandoah National Park. They will recognize the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains as a remnant of a once vast plain which extended from the mountain ridges to the west toward the strand line of the sea. The carving of the mountains and valleys out of this plain is one of the later chapters in the earth history of this area. The visitor may also recognize in the greenstone rocks of these mountains the great age of these earlier formations, which have been so changed by heat and pressure as to obliterate all trace of their original appearance.

The folded rock strata reveal the magnitude of the forces which wrinkled and broke the earth's crust, causing an overlap for several miles. These and many other geological features reveal a long and complex record of earth events.

Park Season

Shenandoah National Park is open to visitors all year. However, the majority of lodging and restaurant facilities are closed during the winter and early spring months. Panorama and Swift Run Crossroads usually remain open on a reduced scale the year-round. All types of accommodations may be obtained in towns near the park.

How to Reach the Park

By Auto.—Shenandoah National Park is accessible via main highway at four points—from State Highways 12, 55, and 522 at Front Royal; from Lee Highway, U S 211, at Thornton Gap; from Spotswood Trail, U S 33, at Swift Run Gap; and from Jefferson Highway, U S 250, at Rockfish Gap.

By Bus.—All of the points of entrance mentioned in the foregoing paragraph are served by regular schedule of Virginia Trailways. During the travel season, bus service operates within the park over the Drive between the north entrance and Swift Run Gap.

By Train.—The towns of Front Royal, Luray, and Elkton, each near an entrance to the park, may be reached over the lines of the Norfolk & Western Railway. The city of Waynesboro, near the south entrance, may be reached by the Norfolk & Western and Chesapeake & Ohio Railways. *Local transportation is available from these points to the park,* where connections can be made with the bus service operating through the park.

Accommodations

All of the lodging and restaurant facilities, the gift shops, and service stations in Shenandoah National Park are operated by the Virginia Sky-Line Co., Inc. Opening and closing dates vary from season to season. There are no overnight accommodations in the park during the winter and early spring months. Lodging facilities in the park are limited, but there is a wide choice of cabins, tourist homes, and hotels in the communities near the park.

Hotel accommodations are available in the park only at Big Meadows Lodge. Rooms, with private connecting bath, may be rented in cabins at Dickey Ridge, Skyland, Big Meadows, Lewis Mountain, and Swift Run Crossroads. There are no cabins equipped for housekeeping.

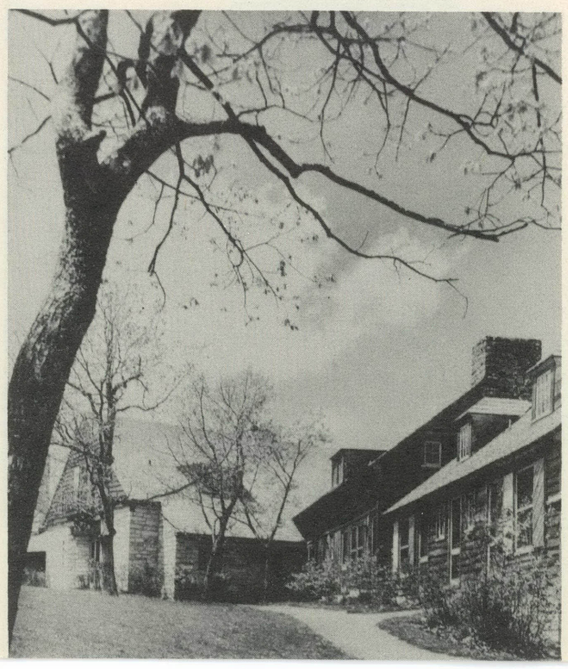
Restaurant, counter service, and gift shop facilities are available at all of these units.

As rates are subject to change from season to season, no prices for facilities are given in this folder, but that information may be obtained by writing to the Virginia Sky-Line Co., Inc., Luray, Va.

Counter service, gift shop, and *service station* facilities are available all year at Panorama and Swift Run Crossroads; during the season at Dickey Ridge and Skyland; during the summer and autumn at Elkwallow and Big Meadows. A *store* providing staple *food supplies for campers* is operated at Big Meadows.

Reservations for accommodations may be secured from the nearest concessioner unit or by writing or telegraphing the Virginia Sky-Line Co., Inc., Luray, Va. Whenever possible, lodging reservations should be made in advance, particularly during the period from early July to early September. Visitors are urged to plan their trips to the park during the middle of the week to avoid congested periods over week ends.

Big Meadows Lodge at 3,500 feet elevation provides meals and overnight accommodations



Mailing Address

Guests at the lodges or cabins should have their mail addressed in care of the unit where they expect to stay, Shenandoah National Park, Luray, Va.

Campers should have their mail addressed to Big Meadows or Lewis Mountain Campground, Shenandoah National Park, Luray, Va.

Administration

Shenandoah National Park is administered by the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior. Communications regarding the park should be addressed to the Superintendent, Shenandoah National Park, Luray, Va. The administrative offices are located at park headquarters on the Lee Highway (U S 211), 4 miles west of Thornton Gap.



The falls in White Oak Canyon may be reached by a well-graded foot trail

Welcome to Visitors

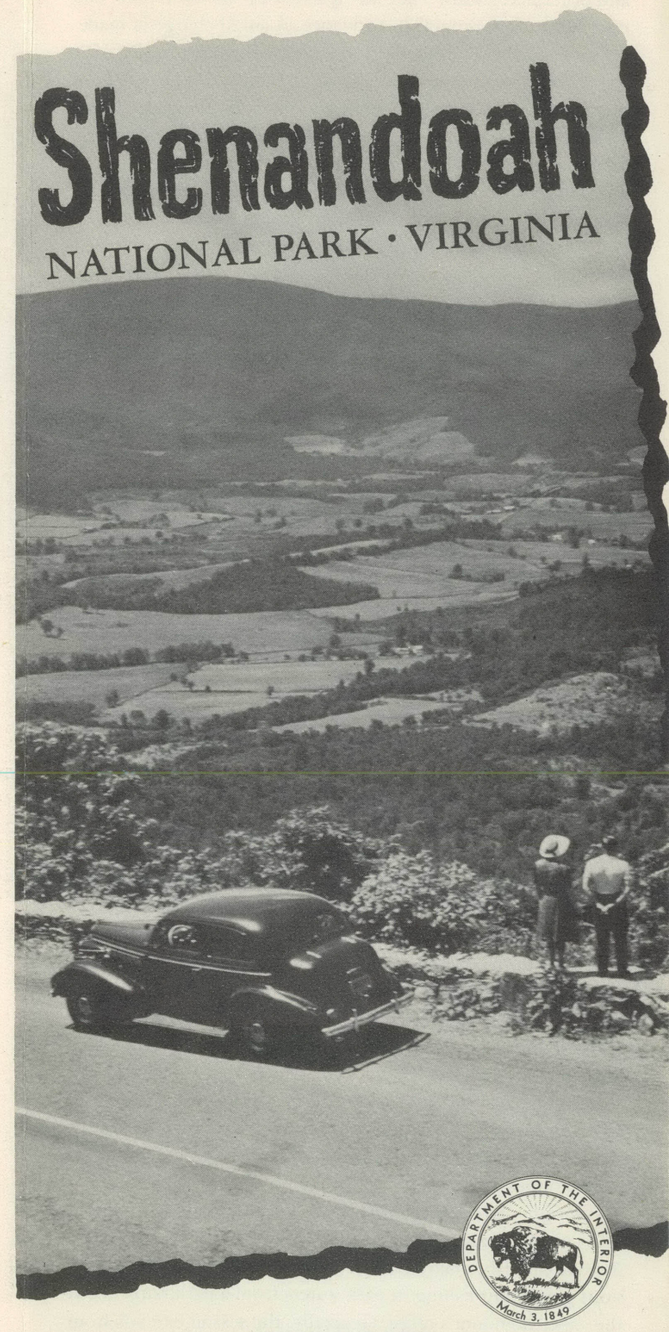
This is your park, and while we of the National Park Service have been commissioned to protect it in its natural state for all to enjoy, we ask you to assist us in fulfilling our duty of enforcing park regulations by:

1. Leaving everything as you find it. Wildflowers are one of our greatest attractions; it is unlawful to pick them.
2. Driving carefully. Traffic signs will aid you. If you have an accident, report it to a park ranger. Parking areas are placed at the most scenic spots. Maximum speed is 35 miles per hour.

For automobiles and motorcycles the entrance fee is 25 cents for a 1-day permit, or $1 for a calendar-year permit; for trailers, 25 cents additional for 1-day permit and $1 additional for calendar-year permit. The fee for commercial busses is $5 for a one-trip permit, plus the usual 25 cents entrance fee.

3. Using receptacles at all parking and picnic areas for paper and lunch refuse. Picnic grounds are equipped with fireplaces, tables, water, and comfort stations for your convenience. Please do not throw trash from your car while driving through the park.
4. Using the fireplaces in the campgrounds and picnic areas, since FIRE is the arch enemy of your park. Burning matches and tobacco will start fires too, so dispose of them safely by using the ash tray in your car; when hiking, grind them out on a rock or in wet soil.

Shenandoah
NATIONAL PARK · VIRGINIA



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Oscar L. Chapman, *Secretary*

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Conrad L. Wirth, *Director*