

S H O R T H I S T O R Y
OF THE
GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

Prepared by

H. W. Lix

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CONTENTS

Statement of Significance	1
What People Have Said	2
Geographical Setting	8
Prehistoric & Aboriginal History of the Area	11
Explorers	15
Early Travelers	21
Early Settlers	23
The National Park Movement	27
Acquisition	62
Financial	71
Administration	74
Development	84
Administration	92
Protection	92
Forestry	97
Wildlife Management	98
Interpretation	102
Scientific Studies	106
Pioneer History	110
Museum	115
Lumbering	120
Friendly Organization Outside the Park	123

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE₁₆₆

Amidst the smokelike haze of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park is one of the oldest and most massive mountain uplifts in eastern United States. These mountains, covered from summit to base by dense vegetation, have peaks which rise higher above their base than some of the better known mountains of the West.

Above the reach of ancient seas and favored by a temperate climate for millions of years, this rugged area became the cradle of eastern American vegetation. All of Europe does not have many more kinds of native trees, a number of which attain their greatest dimensions here. Plants and animals characteristic of the Canadian Zone find their southernmost limit near the center of the Park. The finest examples in the Western Hemisphere of certain hardwoods are included in the 200,000 acres of virgin forests preserved in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Pioneers settled in the valleys and coves, usually near one of the many crystal-clear streams. For several generations, in almost complete isolation, they and their descendants wrested a livelihood from the rocky soil, dense forests, and turbulent waters. Many of the names, speech habits, folk songs and cultural aspects of English and Scottish colonists who settled here persist today, little changed in hundreds of years. Only recently they moved from their farmsteads to permit the National Park Service to show their cherished Smokies and the preserved evidence of mountain people's homes to millions of visitors. The story of these settlers is intimately interwoven with the

trees, tumbling streams, the wildlife, and the whole habitat of the misty wilderness.

WHAT PEOPLE HAVE SAID

Millions of people have come into the Great Smoky Mountains and found themselves suddenly touched by one or another inspirational feature of the mountains. Yet only a few of these people have taken the pains to write down their impressions. Libraries provide some excellent descriptions of the Smokies, mostly different from each other. Among the observers were some who saw in the area those very values which recommended it for a national park. Here are a few of their comments, listed chronologically:

1848. Charles Lanham, tourist, visited the Smokies in 1848. He climbed to Indian Gap by horse and continued on down the Tennessee side to Alum Cave on foot. He wrote: "The scenery upon which the Cave looks down interested me quite as much as the Cave itself. It was a glorious picture, indeed, and would have amply repaid one for a pilgrimage from the remotest corner of the earth..... I can conceive of nothing more grand and inspiring."⁹¹

1860. Professor Arnold Guyot, in his report on geographical studies of the Smokies about 1860, said: "This is the beginning of the Smoky Mountains chain proper, which by the general elevation both of its peaks and its crest, by its perfect continuity, its great roughness and difficulty of approach, may be called the

Master Chain of the Appalachian System. For over 50 miles it forms a high and almost impervious barrier between Tennessee and the inside basins of North Carolina." ⁸⁷

1901. "The area is pre-eminently a region of mountains. Probably no region in the United States is better watered or better drained."

Arthur Keith, U.S.G.S. ¹³⁴

1901. "This segment (Great Smoky Mountains) of the Unakas is the largest mountain mass in the Appalachians and contains the largest area of continuous forest with the smallest number of clearings."

H. B. Ayres & W. W. Ashe, U.S.F.S. ¹³⁵

1901. "This region in its mountain features, in its forests, and in its climate, stands grandly out as the greatest physiographic feature in the eastern half of our continent."

"These are the heaviest and most beautiful hardwood forests of the continent."

James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture ¹³⁶

1901. "These great mountains are old in the history of the continent which has grown up about them. The hard-wood forests were born on their slopes and have spread thence over the eastern half of the continent. More than once in the remote geologic past they have disappeared before the sea on the east, south, and west, and before the ice on the north; but here in this Southern Appalachian region they have lived on to the present day."

Theodore Roosevelt, President of the U. S. ¹³⁷

1910. "There are still other places where national parks are wanted.

There is a splendid region in the Alleghenies, a region of beautiful forests where the tulip trees grow to a hundred and fifty, two hundred feet, or more; a mountain land on the borders of North Carolina and Tennessee where there are romantic river valleys and hills covered with luxuriant woods, primitive forests standing as they stood before the white man drove the Indians away filled with flowers, and traversed with sparkling streams, containing everything to delight the heart of the lover of nature. It would be a fine thing to have a tract of three or four hundred thousand acres set apart here for the pleasure of the people of the South and middle Atlantic States for whom it is a far cry to the Rockies."

Hon. James Bryce, British Ambassador
to the U. S.₁₃₈

1925. "The Great Smokies are destined before long to add to our national gallery of scenic masterpieces its greatest eastern picture."

"Mt. LeConte, a giant in the Smokies, is one of the greatest mountain personalities of the country."

Robert Sterling Yard, National Parks
Association₁₃₉

1924. "After all these experiences (seeing mountains from Japan to Greece) I looked down from the top of Mt. LeConte. It was wholly unique. In its blending of color, its multiplicity of outline, enveloped into its fairy, ghost-like veil of haze, there is nothing else like it on the face of the earth."

Prof. H. C. Longwell, Head,
Geology Dept., Princeton₁₄₀

1925. "I believe these parks (Great Smoky Mountains and Shenandoah) will do more to advance those regions than any single thing that has happened since the Civil War."

Hon. Hubert Work, Secretary of the
Interior₁₄₁

1924. "We have found many areas which could well be chosen, but the committee was charged with the responsibility of selecting the best, all things considered. Of these several possible sites, the Great Smoky Mountains easily stands first because of height of mountains, depth of valleys, ruggedness of the area, and the unexampled variety of its trees, shrubs, and plants."

Southern Appalachian National
Park Committee₁₄₂

ca. 1926. "When I first came into the Smokies, the whole region was one superb forest primeval. I lived for several years in the heart of it. My sylvan studio spread over mountain

after mountain seemingly without end and it was always clean and fragrant, always vital, growing new shapes of beauty from day to day. The vast trees met overhead like cathedral roofs. I am not a very religious man; but often, when standing alone before my Maker in this house not made with hands, I bowed my head in reverence, and thanked God for his gift of the great forest to one who loved it. Not long ago I went to that same place again. It was wrecked, ruined, desecrated, turned into a thousand rubbish heaps, utterly vile and mean. But they call this sentiment, and they say the word with a sneer, as if sentiment were something for a real man to be ashamed of! 'There is no sentiment in business.' and that is that."

Horace Kephart, author₁₄₃

"The wildest and most picturesque highland east of the Rockies. Nearly always there hovers over the high tops and around them, a tenuous mist, a dreamy blue haze, like that of Indian Summer, or deeper. Often it grows so dense as almost to shut out the distant view, as smoke does that has spread from a far-off forest fire. Then it is a 'great smoke' that covers all the outlying world; the rim of the earth is but a few miles away; beyond is mystery, enchantment."

Horace Kephart₁₄₄

"The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is the greatest conservation project the country, and possibly the world, has ever known....."

"....I heard Director Albright tell an appropriations committee in Washington only last week that he expected the attendance in the Great Smokies park to be as great as that in all the other National Parks combined."

A. E. Demaray, Associate Director,
National Park Service 145

1941. "It is generally recognized that this mountain area is much more than that (wildlife and plant sanctuary). The Great Smoky area is one of our most important depositories of native culture. It seems to me that the government has a very definite obligation to make as complete and accurate a record as possible of this culture without delay, and before intrusive influences have been exercised in any considerable degree."

Dr. Waldo Leland, Chairman,
National Park Service Advisory
Committee 107

GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING

The Great Smoky Mountains are situated in the physiographic division called the Appalachian Highlands, which extend from the Gulf Coastal Plain to the St. Lawrence.¹⁶⁷ A Southern section of the Appalachian Highlands including northeastern Alabama, northern Georgia, eastern Tennessee, eastern Kentucky, western North Carolina, northwestern South Carolina, West Virginia, Virginia, and western Maryland, is widely known as the Southern Highlands, usually in connection with southern mountain culture.¹⁵³

More specifically, the Smokies are part of the Blue Ridge Province of the Appalachian Highlands. The Blue Ridge Province extends from northern Georgia to the Susquehanna River. The Roanoke River divides the province into northern and southern sections. West of the Blue Ridge Province is the Great Valley, and still farther west the Cumberland Mountains.¹⁶⁷

In Virginia the Blue Ridge expands and divides into two separate parallel systems, the Blue Ridge proper on the southeast and the Unakas on the northwest. Between the Blue Ridge and Unakas, and connecting them, is a series of interrupted chains having essentially northwest-southeast trend.

The Unaka chain is cut by streams into five sections, one of which is the Great Smoky Mountains range. Beginning at the Big Pigeon River, the Great Smoky Mountains extend southwestward seventy miles to the Little Tennessee River. The most significant feature

of the Great Smoky Mountain range is its being the most rugged and massive mountain mass in eastern United States. Thirty-six continuous miles of it reach an altitude of more than 5,000 feet above sea level. Sixteen of its peaks rise up more than 6,000 feet above sea level; including Clingman's Dome, the second-highest elevation in the United States east of the Black Hills of South Dakota. 21

The 500,000-acre Great Smoky Mountains National Park includes essentially all of the area called the Great Smoky Mountains. The land is extremely rough in its entirety, with no low gaps in the whole length of its crest which forms the boundary between east Tennessee and west North Carolina. The physical character of the mountains, with their uninterrupted ruggedness and dense forest cover, imposed an extreme isolation which impressed a distinctive pattern upon the pioneer people who settled in them - an extreme segment of the Southern Highlander. 95

Although it is the highest chain in the Appalachians, its crest does not divide the waters flowing to the east and to the west of the Appalachians. The waters which fall on the east slopes of the Great Smoky Mountains begin as eastward-flowing streams which turn and pursue westward courses, as the Big Pigeon and Little Tennessee Rivers, whose valleys were cut across the Unaka Range. 167

The Great Smoky Mountains are among the oldest in the world, having been continuously above the sea since its emergence in the "Appalachian revolution" at the end of the Paleozoic era of geologic time. The core of the Smokies consists of a great thickness of 20,000 feet or more of originally sedimentary rocks of the Ocoee series, believed to be pre-Cambrian in age. In a few places in the park younger formations of limestone, Ordovician in age, occur. These sedimentary formations were altered extensively into metamorphic rocks by processes attending the mountain-making.

165

The Appalachian mountain country was repeatedly eroded down - sometimes leveled down to a flat peneplain - and then re-elevated since its original elevation at the end of Paleozoic time. The latest uplift probably occurred late in the Cenozoic period. Uplifts usher in periods of greatly accelerated erosion so that land forms are relatively stable during the greater part of their existence. The mountain-carving which produced the Smokies was largely completed by the end of the Tertiary period, just preceding the Pleistocene period or Ice Age. Since then the ridges and valleys of the Great Smoky Mountains have changed but little. The glaciers of the Ice Age did not move this far south. However, they brought a glacial climate which affected the weathering of the mountain slopes - particularly the higher ridges, which in that much colder era stood above timberline. Today the principal reminders of this ancient glacial chapter of the story of the origin of the

Smokies are the great numbers of huge boulders so conspicuous along the mountain streams and at the base of all the steepest slopes. These are boulders loosened by alternate freezing and heating in the more rigorous climate, with greater extremes of heat and cold, characteristic of bare exposed mountain heights above timberline. 165

With the return of a warmer climate the barren harsh country above timberline disappeared with a relentless invasion of plants of great variety - plants that had survived along the outer edges of the destroying glaciers. The unsurpassed continuity, variety, and luxuriance of its present hardwood forest cover, has greatly altered the superficial aspect of the mountains. The unusual vegetative cover is second only to the scenic mountains themselves as a park value. 165

PREHISTORIC AND ABORIGINAL HISTORY OF AREA

The Cherokees were one of the most powerful and important eastern Indian tribes during the Colonial period. Having migrated at an earlier time from lands along the upper Ohio River⁹⁴, they occupied a large mountainous area including most of the country now comprising the states of North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee. Through successive treaties, beginning in 1761, the Cherokees lost more and more of their territory to encroaching white settlers until they finally gave up their rights to all their remaining land east of the Mississippi River by the treaty of New Echota

with the United States government in 1335. The Great Smoky Mountains
94
lay right at the heart of the country of the Cherokees. This was, no
doubt, a powerful deterrent for early entries by white settlers.

The Cherokees were allies of the British during the Revolutionary War. Their depredations and attacks upon the settlements in this region caused the states of Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Georgia to send military expeditions against the Cherokees in 1776 in order to leave the people free to fight in the war. General Griffith Rutherford, with his North Carolina army destroyed 36 Cherokee towns, including a number along the Oconaluftee River within the park boundaries. Col. Williamson, with his South Carolina army, destroyed lower Cherokee towns about the head of the Savannah River and then joined General Rutherford on the Little Tennessee River. Col. Christian, with his Virginia army, traveled along the main warpath, across the Holston River and French Broad River, to the Cherokee towns on the Little Tennessee River, burning every town he came to, with the exception of the sacred peace town, Echota. The destruction of practically all of their towns paralyzed the Cherokee nation. Four years later, however, while the soldiers of the mountains of Virginia, Tennessee, and North Carolina were away fighting the battle of Kings Mountain, groups of Cherokees who had not yielded to the armies which had devastated their country, again made bloody forays against the scattered settlements. John Sevier of Tennessee and Campbell of Virginia returned along the main warpath,

destroying all towns to the Little Tennessee River, including Echota. John Sevier crossed the Great Smoky Mountains with 150 horsemen on trails never before attempted by white men and destroyed Tuckaseegee and other towns. The power of the Cherokees was this time permanently destroyed.

Settlement in the Great Smoky Mountains was affected by a number of treaties between the United States and the Cherokee nation, principally:

- (1) Treaty of Holston. July 2, 1791. Cherokees ceded large area including about one-half of northeastern part of park.
- (2) First Treaty of Tellico. October 2, 1793. Cherokees ceded large area including some land in south part of park.
- (3) Treaty of Washington. February 27, 1819. Cherokees ceded one-fourth of their nation, including all remaining land in present park.

By the treaty of New Echota, December 29, 1835, the Cherokees relinquished all claim to lands east of the Mississippi River, even though 16,000 of the 16,542 Cherokees protested the treaty, which was not made by their recognized chiefs.

The present Eastern Band of Cherokees in the Qualla Reservation remained in the east by right of purchase and not of occupation. They have never been classed as a nation, to be dealt with by treaty.

Cherokee village sites are located in various parts of the park, but principally along the Oconaluftee River; along the Little Tennessee River and its tributaries; and in Cades Cove. Their so-called capital, Echota, was situated on the Little Tennessee River near the park. Stone implements and chips are found on the ridges and along streams throughout the park area. However, the area probably possesses no archeological resources of primary significance.

An interesting episode in the history of the Cherokees is tied directly to a section of the park. A small band of Cherokees resented certain rough treatment by soldiers who were removing them from their homes for the long journey westward to their new lands. The Indians subdued the soldiers and fled into a remote inaccessible section of the Smokies - supposedly up into the headwaters of Deep Creek, and possibly at the place called "Charlies Rock", named for their chief "Tsali", or "Charlie". Through the efforts of their white chief and accepted leader, Col. W. H. Thomas, the band of Indians were permitted to purchase lands, and their descendants now make up the Eastern Band of Cherokees on the Qualla Reservation. But one insistent provision for the negotiations was that Tsali and his sons would be executed by some of his own people. This was done at the mouth of the Tuckaseegee River.

Four or five principal Indian trails crossed the park area. The most important one was probably the Indian Gap Trail across the

Smokies. This trail was followed rather closely by subsequent roads, including the present U. S. Highway 441. The Indian Gap Trail connected the Great Indian Warpath from the mouth of Dumplin Creek in the Great Tennessee Valley with Rutherford's War Trace near Whittier, North Carolina. From near Sevierville, the trail passed through the present Gatlinburg, on up the West Prong of Little Pigeon River, across Indian Gap, and down the West Fork of Oconaluftee River to its junction with the Rutherford Trace.

102

Apparently the Indians did very little traveling in the high Smokies, since R. J. Meigs and A. H. Guyot, in making their surveys in 1802 and 1856-1860, respectively, stated that Indians were not familiar with the country along the route of their surveys. Near Pigeon Forge the Tuckaleechee and Southeastern Trail branched off from the Indian Gap Trail, passed through Cades Cove, and crossed the Smokies into the villages along the Tuckaseegee and upper Little Tennessee River.

102, 103

The old Cataloochee Indian Trail connected the Rutherford War Trace in North Carolina with the Great Indian Warpath in Tennessee along the northeastern end of the Park.

103

EXPLORERS

The exploration chapter in Great Smoky Mountain history is short and unspectacular. One reason is probably that early travel followed the easier routes - around the Smokies. Another reason is probably related to the occupation of the region by the large and

powerful tribe of Cherokee Indians from a time before white men came into contact with them.

Exploration in the region of the Smokies was done by professional explorers, hunters and traders, scientists, travellers, surveyors, soldiers, and early settlers. Actually the era of recorded exploration extended past the middle of the 19th century because of the ruggedness and inaccessibility of the Smokies.

The Professionals

Statements that DeSoto passed through the Smokies are probably not correct. ⁸⁰ In 1540 DeSoto came into Cherokee country, across the Blue Ridge and down the headwaters of a stream - probably the French Broad River. ⁸¹

Captain DePardo retraced DeSoto's route in 1566. ⁸¹

Traders and Hunters

The first white people to enter the Smoky Mountain country came to trade with the Cherokees in their villages on the Little Tennessee River. Old Indian trails which they used are mentioned in the chapter on Indians.

James Needham and Gabriel Arthur went to the Overhill Settlements of the Cherokee in 1673. They are considered the first Englishmen to reach the Tennessee Valley. ⁸²

Col. George Chicken visited the Cherokees in 1725 as a representative of the Governor of South Carolina. He came up from

the south and crossed the Unicoi Mountains west of the Smokies.⁸²

Sir Alexander Cuming came by way of the same route in 1730.⁸²

The 1756 expedition which built the ill-fated Fort Loudon came by the same route.⁸²

In 1761 and 1762, Lieutenant Henry Timberlake of the Virginia militia spent several months with the Cherokees in the Overhill villages. While there he drew a map titled, "A Draught of the Cherokee Country, on the West Side of the Twenty-four Mountains."⁸³

A trader named Vaughan travelled along a route from the West Prong of Little Pigeon River at Wear's first settlement, up Walden Creek, Cove Creek, Wear Cove, Erikey Valley, and Little River in Tuckaleechee Cove, to Cherokee country, in 1740. The route was an old Indian trail.⁸⁴

Prospectors

Eobbie McCampbell was probably one of many prospectors who came to the Smokies to "strike it rich". About 1830 to 1838 he came to Blount County from Rockbridge County, Virginia, and entered much of the land later acquired by Little River Lumber Company. McCampbell found gold, sunk shafts, and built a smelter. The place is called El Dorado, and is situated on the lower slopes of Rich Mountain. However, there wasn't enough gold, and Eobbie moved across the mountains to Hazel Creek and Eagle Creek, where he reportedly discovered the copper ore. He later was connected with the opening of the copper mines at Copperhill, Tennessee.⁸⁶

William Bartram and Francois Michaux are often mentioned as explorer-scientists of the Smokies, but there are apparently no records that either actually got into the Smoky Mountains proper.

The botanist Dr. Rugel made an excursion into the Smokies in 1842. On Mt. Mingus he discovered the Smoky Mountain ragwort, named Senecio rugelia by Asa Gray. It is one of the few flowering plants found only in the Great Smokies.³³

Dr. Asa Gray, the eminent botanist, was interested in the botany of the region but, again, the records are not conclusive in showing he actually worked in the Smokies.³⁵

Explorers-Scientists

Dr. S. D. Duckley, state geologist of North Carolina, came to know the Smokies very well through the studies he made in the area in connection with his official duties. His visits to the Smokies go back to 1842. In 1858 Duckley spent the months of September and October in the Smokies, measuring altitudes and making a survey of the mountains. Dr. Duckley in 1867 made the statement that the Smoky Mountain region had long been a place of resort for botanists.³⁵

Mt. LeConte is the most distinctive and best-known peak of the Great Smoky Mountains. It rises more than a mile above Gatlinburg, the main Tennessee gateway to the park. Mt. LeConte was named after Joseph LeConte, professor of geology in a number of schools, including the Universities of South Carolina and California. It has been

said that LeConte never saw the Smoky Mountain peak which bears his name. The statement might be true but he came at least as close to the peak as Waynesville, North Carolina, where he made stationary barometer readings for Buckley in the fall of 1858, assisting the latter in a survey of most of the highest Smoky Mountains.

85

As part of a ten-year survey of the Appalachian Mountains, Prof. Arnold Guyot, head of Geography Department of Princeton University, visited the Great Smoky Mountains in 1856, 1858, 1859, and 1860. This was the first thorough geographical survey of the Great Smokies. His report was not published and became lost for many years in the files of the Coast and Geodetic Survey. Some of his data, however, had been used in other publications.

87

General Thomas L. Clingman - statesman, soldier, mountain climber, geologist - has a permanent monument to his interest in the Smokies. The highest peak in the range was named Clingman's Dome in his honor by Professor Arnold Guyot about 1860. He is well-known for his controversy in the middle 1800's with Dr. Elisha Mitchell disputing the latter's finding that Mt. Mitchell is higher than Clingman's Dome. Clingman, Dr. R. G. A. Love, and Prof. S. E. Buckley had Robert Collins cut the first trail to Clingman's Dome to assist Professor Guyot in his work.

90

The first survey to be made through the Great Smoky Mountains was the one known as the Hawkins line, made following the 1791 Holston treaty with the Cherokees. This line was not completed across the Smokies.⁸²

Following the treaty of 1793 with the Cherokee Indians, Return J. Meigs was appointed commissioner by the Secretary of War to see that the boundary line was surveyed across the Smokies. His survey was made in 1802. Meigs stated, "the backwoodsmen or Indians could give us but little information, for neither had ever explored the great Iron Mountain anywhere near that part where the direction of our line would carry us." One historic survey marker established by Meigs and his party is the point where his line crossed the crest of the Great Smoky Mountains. It is known as "Meigs' Post". The "dedication" of this marker is quoted, merely because of its interesting style: "Erected by the order of Thomas Jefferson the Supreme Executive of the United States, the man who in Eloquent Stile and firmly collected attitude in the Face of the Universe announced the Independence of the United States of America. The undulations of his Voice made Tyrants tremble; and revived the Hopes of Oppressed Humanity in distant Regions. August 17, 1802." This was erected out in the wilderness where even surveyors had not been able to penetrate before.⁸³

Some of the important old surveys are those of the North Carolina-Tennessee state line. In an old surveyor's notebook an entry reads: "(1821, July 19) Began at the Cattalucha track" "Runs with the line that J. M. Dowel, M. Matthews, & D. Vance run in the year 1799 & runs with said line about 2 miles and a half to where they stopped."
89

The survey of J. McDowel and party in 1799 got only about two and a half miles beyond (west) the "Cattalucha track" (present Davenport Gap). In 1821 the so-called Davenport-Armstrong survey began at the "track" and completed the survey to the Little Tennessee River.

Some of the cryptic descriptions of the early surveyors and scientists indicated clearly the great difficulty of forcing through the densely-forested mountains.

Soldiers;

John Sevier, about 1781, was engaged in warfare against the Cherokees. On one of his whirlwind campaigns he swept across the Smokies and through the surprised Cherokee villages along the Little Tennessee River valley.

Early Travellers

There was extremely little travel into the Smokies before the twentieth century. Or even before 1820, or 1830.

Charles Lanham was one of the first bona fide Great Smoky Mountain tourists. In May, 1848, he made a journey that took him

through Dahlonega, Georgia; Murphy, Franklin, and Qualla Town, North Carolina. While staying in Qualla Town as the guest of Col. W. H. Thomas, Lanham took a four-day trip to Alum Cave and back with a surveyor. He called Alum Cave "the chief attraction of the Smoky Mountain." It belonged to a company of North Carolinians. The party met two Indians hunting near Alum Cave.

91

Wilbur Cleason Zeigler in his book published in 1883 mentions a bear hunt across "Grassy Gap" down to the Pigeon River. He says of the grassy balds: "Every spring thousands of cattle, branded, and sometimes with bells, are turned out on these upland pastures." He also mentions a hunt which took him up Eagle Creek. For ten miles from the Little Tennessee River there was not a house. At ten miles they came to the isolated cabin of Jake and Quill Rose, who served fine \$1.00-per-gallon mountain dew before breakfast.

92

Another early sightseer who left a report of his experience travelling in the Smokies in November, 1889, was Frank O. Carpenter. He came as far as Maryville by railroad, which, he mentioned, was also the favorite stopping place of Mary W. Murfree, famed author of "In the Clouds", "The Prophet of the Great Smoky Mountains", and other Smoky Mountain stories. The trip to Thunderhead Peak continued by horse through Tuckaleechee Cove there they had lodging and breakfast at a Mr. Myer's for 25 cents each. The second night was spent at the cabin of Black Bill Walker, the big

bear hunter. At 3:00 p.m. of the third day the party arrived at a pasture on the top of the ridge where hundreds of cattle, hogs, sheep, roam at will (Spence Field). The hikers continued on to the top of the peak and then made their return trip down the mountain, being caught in a severe thunderstorm about midnight.

93

EARLY SETTLERS

Earliest settlement in the Great Smoky Mountains was influenced principally by the Cherokee Indians and the numerous treaties made with them. Another important factor was the political history of the region - the change in North Carolina from colony to state; the formation of the "rebel" state of Franklin in the Tennessee country in 1784; the cession by North Carolina of its western land (Tennessee) to the federal government to form the "Territory of the United States South of the Ohio River" in 1790; and, finally, the admission of Tennessee into the Union as a state in 1796.

95

Some white settlers came into Cherokee lands before a treaty made settlement legal. Some grants were apparently made in lands prohibited by treaty. The long war with the Cherokees was not ended until 1794. It was not until the post-Revolution wave of migration spread westward with great momentum that white settlers found a solid foothold in the area. The westward emigration after the war reached a pitch resembling a sort of mania. Pioneers crowded the main trails and passes across the mountains - Watauga Pass to the

100

94

Holston to the French Broad to spread out beyond.

92

One major segment of the restless hordes that moved westward into the Alleghenies, and particularly the Southern Appalachians, were Scotch-Irish. They were descendants of people who moved from the Scottish highlands to several Irish counties around 1607. Many of them found legal restrictions intolerable and they moved to America. Taxation on distilled liquor was especially odious. In this country they had the same ideas of individual freedom; they arose in rebellion in North Carolina but were defeated. They went west, into Tennessee, to establish the first Republic in America with a written constitution, at Watauga. Born to the highlands, they continued to live the rugged self-sufficient highland way - including the generations-old knack of changing grain into whiskey, usually without being able to pay the enormous tax required. Like that of their forbears, their attitude was well expressed by the observation: "Taxes cost mebbe three cents on the dollar; and that's all right. But Revenue costs a dollar and ten cents on twenty cents worth o' liquor, and that's robbin' the people with a gun to their faces."

96

Scotch-Irish were not predominant in all parts of the Southern Appalachians and were doubtless entirely absent in a great many communities, where in their stead were found English, Irish, German, or Scotch. These people had similar traits in which freedom, impatience with restraint, and hardy self-sufficiency were dominant.

Most of the settlers in the Smoky Mountains came from North Carolina, with the remainder mostly from South Carolina, Virginia, and Georgia. The Oconaluftee area was settled about 1795 or 1797 by John Jacob Kingus. Other early names in this area were: Enloe, Sherrill (1810), Robert Collins (1807), John Beck.

Deep Creek was settled by 1830.

Cataloochee was settled by 1838, some of the early families were: Caldwell, Woody, Bennett, and Messer.

There was a record of a John Beck in the Big Creek area in 1862.

Daniel W. Reagan was born in Catlinburg in 1802. Some of the older families are the Ogles, Huskeys, Whaleys, Maples, and Owenbys. William Trentham was Postmaster in 1840.

Early names in the Dudley Creek-Webb Creek-Greenbrier area were Philip Shults, John Owenby, Frederick Emert, and Jackson Proffitt.

According to 1821 records, William Tipton was the first settler in Cades Cove. Although John Oliver is said to be the oldest permanent settler in the Cove, there is no record of his being there until 1830. Joshua Job had property there in 1821. Other early families in the Cove were Peter Cable, Robert Dorchfield, and Robert Shields. When the Cherokees were taken out of Georgia to their new land in Oklahoma, in the late 1830's, many families left Cades Cove to occupy the former Indian lands.

The largest farms were in the Oconaluftee and Cades Cove valleys. The size of farms became smaller with succeeding generations, who normally moved up the valley. The most common crop was corn, which the mountain land produced at the rate of from five to ten bushels per acre. Some wheat was raised in the larger valleys. Hay was important in Cades Cove and Oconaluftee. Rye and oats were raised but mostly in North Carolina, which was also true of tobacco and cotton. Other produce having a commercial value was sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, peas, beans, honey, sorghum, and apples.

97

Cattle were important in the larger valleys like Cades Cove and Oconaluftee.

92, 93, 107

Hogs were the most common animals on farms, with sheep second. There was one horse or more on every farm. A few families had negro slaves.

97

Documented history of the Smoky Mountain pioneers is difficult because many of the settlers had no title to their land.

97

It is of some interest in this handicraft center that in 1869 the Cataloochee area turned out products of the loom, spinning wheel, and beehive valued at \$772.00.

97

Generally speaking, settlement in all of the major valleys was rapid after the Indian menace stopped, when lands were opened for legal entry by treaties, and when the great post-Revolution westward emigration push struck the region. Most of the land in the larger valleys was occupied by 1825.

The Great Smoky Mountains were first called "The Great Iron Mountain". This seems strange when we consider the small amount of iron present in the range. The application of the word "iron" is indicative of the great value of usable iron to the Southern Highlander. Scattered residual masses of iron oxide occur in the foothills between the Smoky Mountains proper and the Great Tennessee Valley. The pioneer people of the region mixed the iron ore with limestone and charcoal and produced some of the iron that was essential for making a living. The people called these forges "bloomery forges", and the chunks of iron produced, "blooms".

Daniel Foute built a forge on Forge Creek in Cades Cove near the present Cable Mill about 1827. Carson's Iron Works on Abrams Creek was also established sometime before 1833.

THE NATIONAL PARK MOVEMENT

Whose imaginative mind first conceived a Great Smoky Mountains National Park? We shall probably never find a conclusive answer to the question. The very beginning of the Great Smoky Mountains park idea appears to be as tenuous and vague as the rugged Smokies floating in a sea of shifting mist. Not one person, but a number of people, share the credit for originating kindred ideas separately.

The dreams were all of recreational pleasuring grounds located in the largest virgin forest wilderness remaining in eastern United States. The mechanics of management aspects of the different proposals did not agree so closely. It was of no great importance

in those times whether an area were called a park, forest, or reserve. It was the result that interested the sponsors. And at that time, detailed functional responsibilities of parks, forests, and reserves had not been clearly developed. The political maneuvering which passed the park movements through the necessary legislative mills occasionally built up something much greater than the original proposals asked for. The effect of Great Smoky Mountains National Park political campaigns on national park and national forest policy is an intriguing facet of the story of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

They asked for a national park and they got a system of eastern Forest Reserves, the American Forestry Association, and eventually a National Park.

They asked for an entrance parkway to the Smokies, and they got the Blue Ridge Parkway, Foothills Parkway, and proposals for a parkway to Mammoth Cave from the Great Smokies.

There was more than one active campaign to make a public park of the Great Smoky Mountains. The movements were apparently separate. However, a widespread general idea about a park in the Southern Appalachians had existed for more than twenty-five years before the successful project was started in Knoxville in 1923. The growing feeling for the need of a national park in the region expressed and promoted by various individuals and groups played a large, if not clearly defined, part towards the success of the concentrated successful drive.

The Rev. C. D. Smith of Franklin, N. C., supposedly appealed for a National Park in Western North Carolina in a Waynesville, N. C., newspaper sometime in the early 1880's. This could be the earliest public suggestion that a national park be created in the Great Smoky Mountains region. If such an article appeared, it was apparently unrelated to the significant chain of events which began in Boston, Mass., in 1885.

Dr. Henry O. Marsh of Boston, Massachusetts, read a paper on "Climatic Treatment of Diseases" before the American Academy of Medicine in New York City, October 29, 1885. In the paper he advocated "securing under state control a large reservation of the higher ranges (of the Southern Appalachian Mountains) as a park." A Dr. Chase P. Ambler of Ohio heard the address and was deeply impressed by the idea.

Dr. Ambler (whether on account of the park idea or for other reasons is not known) moved to Asheville in 1889 and was immediately captivated by the charm of the Southern Appalachian Mountains. He worked tirelessly for the establishment of a park for the next seven years, conducting personally an amazing well-organized campaign which reached national proportions.

The Hon. William R. Day, Secretary of State under President McKinley, and member of the Paris Peace Commission, joined Dr. Ambler

on a North Carolina fishing trip in June, 1899. Dr. Ambler talked about the national park idea and asked Judge Day for his opinions and suggestions on how it could best be accomplished. Judge Day bluntly stated that he thought such an idea could never succeed. But a few days later he handed Dr. Ambler an outline on how he would proceed. On the basis of this advice Dr. Ambler plunged into what was undoubtedly one of the best-organized and intensive campaigns ever conducted for the establishment of a national park.

A. H. McQuilkin, publisher of Southern Pictures and Pencilings, joined Dr. Ambler with much enthusiasm. The two men flooded Asheville, the southern states, and Washington with publicity for "The Movement for a Southern National Park". They secured the aid of politicians. They formed a "Parks and Forestry Committee" on the Asheville Board of Trade. They circulated thousands of petitions and magazine and newspaper articles. They contacted a thousand newspapers. They sent letters to Governors, Senators, and Representatives of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and Virginia. The result was a giant mass meeting held in Asheville November 22, 1899. The meeting was attended by important people from all over the South.

Out of this meeting came a dynamic permanent organization called the Appalachian National Park Association. Under the leadership of its Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Ambler, a vigorous campaign was launched to create an immense National Park - 12,000 square miles in

North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, and Virginia.

A memorial urging the establishment of the park described by a specific map was prepared by Chas. McNamee and presented to Congress on December 19. On April 21, 1900, Senator Pritchard introduced a bill in Congress asking for \$5,000 for preliminary investigations. Upon passage of the bill, the U. S. Forestry Bureau and the U. S. Geological Survey started a thorough investigation of the Southern Appalachian Mountains from Virginia to Alabama in the summer of 1900. A preliminary Report of the Secretary of Agriculture was transmitted to the Congress by President McKinley on January 1, 1901. Senator Pritchard introduced a bill on January 10 asking for \$5,000,000 to purchase 2,000,000 acres of forest land. President McKinley sent a special message to Congress January 18 urging favorable consideration of the bill. The Senate passed the bill but the House did not, reportedly because of the objections of one man - Speaker Joe Cannon.

When the investigation of the Southern Appalachian Mountains was completed, the report of the Secretary of Agriculture was transmitted to Congress by President Theodore Roosevelt with strong endorsement.

4

Time after time Congressional legislation for the Park would be defeated although everybody agreed that it should be passed. Dr. Ambler came to the conclusion that the park idea was doomed because it was a southern project and the Administration was northern. He

pointed out to the Association that success could be achieved only by enlisting the aid of powerful northern people. A policy had developed against purchase of lands by the government for national parks. When it became apparent that funds could not be secured for a national park, the objective was changed from a national park to a national forest, and the name of the Southern Appalachian National Park Association was changed to the Appalachian National Forest Reserve Association. The task then became too large for the small Asheville group to handle. The Association was dissolved December 2, 1905, turning over its membership to the American Forestry Association. Work on the project continued with ultimate success achieved with passage of the far-reaching Weeks Bill by Congress in 1911. The Weeks Bill authorized the selection and purchase of forest lands by a National Forest Reservation Commission for establishment of National Forest Reserves. Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests in North Carolina and the Cherokee National Forest in eastern Tennessee were among those quickly established.

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The Weeks Act did not quite end the national park possibilities for that segment of the proposed Southern Appalachian National Park called "The Great Smoky Mountains", even though active plans were laid for its becoming a national forest. It was immediately selected as one of the original thirteen Purchase Units by the National Forest Reservation Committee, and was called the Smoky Mountain Purchase Unit (in North Carolina and Tennessee).

It took in the unequalled forests lying between the Nantahala Forest Reserve on the Little Tennessee River to the Cherokee National Forest Reserve on the Big Pigeon. It was a logical and highly desirable forestry plan.

A large area of forest land, including 61,350 acres belonging to Little River Lumber Company, was optioned by the National Forest Reservation Committee in the period 1911-1916. Mr. Verne C. Rhoades of Asheville, North Carolina, was employed as Land Examiner and Project Chief. Mr. Walter Damtoft of the Champion Fibre and Lumber Company, Canton, North Carolina, was employed from 1913 to 1916 as Assistant Project Chief and Project Chief. There were other employees - rangers, fire fighters, trail builders. Over \$90,000 was spent by the Purchase Unit for preliminary fire control and organizational work. Before any land was purchased, the Great Smoky Mountain Purchase Unit was abandoned about 1916 because of defective titles and because of World War I.

From the time Mary N. Murfree (Charles Egbert Craddock) gave to the world her unique novels woven around the Great Smoky Mountains and its picturesque mountain people, a few people were attracted to the area. In the early 1920's interest in the Great Smoky Mountains increased notably. The writings of Horace Kephart were becoming well-known. Members and friends of the Appalachian Mountain Club were beginning to get results in getting people interested in the urgency

of conserving some of the finest recreational resources of the incomparable Southern Appalachian Mountains. The East Tennessee Automobile Club of Knoxville was vigorously pushing projects of building hard-surfaced roads into the Smokies. It was a period of awakening to the great values of natural recreational resources. The Great Smokies were a "natural", but with a complexity of obstacles that continued a struggle begun more than a quarter century earlier.

W. M. Goodman, publisher of Farming, made a number of attempts to have Congress establish a national park following the National Conservation Exposition held in Knoxville in 1913 after the Appalachian Exposition was successfully sponsored by the Knoxville Commercial Club in 1910. Of the former Exposition Gifford Pinchot said, "Unquestionably the best exhibition I have seen of the needs, possibilities, and accomplishments of the movement for the conservation of our natural resources and the only exhibition I know of devoted primarily to this movement."

25

The Smoky Mountain Purchase Unit of the National Forest Reservation Committee was not yet dead. It was to come to life and almost snatch away the Great Smoky Mountains before the ultimately successful national park movement got well under way. In fact there is a story that the Knoxville committee that went to Washington to see about getting a "park" in the Smokies started out to keep an appointment in an office of the Department of Agriculture, but by mistake got into the office of the National Park Service of the

Department of the Interior - and thereby got a national park instead of a national forest.

15

Regardless of previous significant events, the successful drive to create Great Smoky Mountains National Park began in 1923. Mr. and Mrs. Willis P. Davis and daughters Jane and Barbara made a western trip in June, 1923, on which they visited Yellowstone National Park. When the family returned to Knoxville, Mrs. Davis gave her opinion that the Great Smoky Mountains would make a finer national park than Yellowstone. Mr. Davis agreed and said he would see what could be done about it. From that day until he died in 1931, Mr. Davis's main job was seeing what could be done about establishing Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

16

Mr. Willis P. Davis was President of the Knoxville Iron Company in 1923. He was a very busy, successful business man, and a leader in promoting the great industrial potential of East Tennessee. It was important that he had talent for organizing, that he had civic ambition, that he had faith and determination.

Davis was a member of the executive board of the East Tennessee Automobile Club of Knoxville which was already vigorously promoting the improvement of roads out of Knoxville. The Club had already (in 1922) acted as chief sponsor of a \$75,000,000 road bond program. It had already started publicity for good roads through Cades Cove and across the Smokies at Newfound Gap. It was already

saying in the Knoxville newspapers: "Auto Club recommends jaunt to Gatlinburg for weekends"; "Road to the Smokies Lends Lure to Those who Would Escape City"; "Lost Highway to Tarheel State No Myth".

13

It was possibly natural that we find Davis launching his promotion scheme for a national park at an Auto Club board meeting on October 22, 1923. Again on November 5, Mr. Davis reported on the progress of his park project at a meeting of the Board of the Auto Club. He had conferred with Congressman J. Will Taylor. Following the above two meetings Mr. Davis arranged a meeting of Knoxville leaders in the office of Judge H. B. Lindsay, December 21. They organized the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association with election of W. P. Davis as President, and D. C. Chapman as Chairman of the Board of Directors. At this meeting was vigorous David C. Chapman, who was destined to become known to many as "Father of the Smokies National Park". At the meeting, also, was James E. Wright, attorney for Little River Lumber Company, who later became one of the most powerful opponents of the park movement. Mr. J. W. Brownlee was another member of the group. It was Brownlee who took Mr. Davis on his first trip into the Smokies in 1921 or 1922 where inspiring views of the mountains from a clearing 6500 feet or more above sea level made the lasting, profound impression that moved the man to begin and lead the all but insurmountable project of establishing the Park.

18

After the meeting in Judge Lindsay's office, James B. Wright went to Washington to confer with U. S. Forestry officials concerning the possibilities of reactivating the Smoky Mountain Reserve. They were definitely interested and asked Mr. Wright to get the Little River Lumber Company (whom Wright represented as attorney) to offer thdir land again. This was done. Plans called for the Great Smoky Mountains unit to be administered as the Cherokee National Forest located both south and north of the Smokies. Headquarters for the Forest was moved to Knoxville.⁹

A second meeting of the park group was held December 26, 1923. Formation of a National Forest Reserve was discussed. Senator Shields was present to explain Forest Reserve establishment. He agreed to introduce a bill in Congress. Thinking of the Association on parks and forests does not appear to have been well-defined, since the name of the organization was changed to Great Smoky Mountains Forest Reserve Association.

Senator Shields introduced his bill in Congress April 4, 1924, but it did not become law. It provided for the establishment of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, but would be acquired under the Weeks Act and administered by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.⁹

To enable the federal government to establish national forests in the Smokies, the Tennessee legislature in 1919 passed an act to grant to the United States of America all title to lands within twenty miles of the Tennessee-North Carolina boundary.¹⁹

Mr. Davis pushed the park project hard after the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association was organized. He went to Washington and conferred with Secretary of Interior Work in February, 1924. He wrote letters profusely to everyone who might be interested. He conferred with state and national politicians. He talked to Knoxville civic groups and to anyone who would listen to his story of a national park in East Tennessee.

An event of the utmost importance to the successful establishment of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park occurred on April 20, 1924. On that day Secretary of the Interior Hubert S. Work, appointed a Southern Appalachian National Park Commission composed of five members ²³ for the purpose of investigating the Southern Appalachian region to find an area most suitable for a national park. Messrs. Kelsey and Gregg visited the area August 10. Congressman Temple and Col. Glenn S. Smith inspected the Smokies November 19.

Probably many people and events encouraged Stephen T. Mather to persuade Secretary Work to appoint the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission and thereby actively set machinery in motion to secure another national park in eastern United States. Former Director A. E. Demaray, when he was Associate Director, stated in 1945 that his interest in the establishment of Great Smoky Mountains National Park was aroused by a speech "National Parks - The Need of the Future" delivered by Hon. James Bryce, British Ambassador to

the United States, November 20, 1912. Mr. Demaray at that time recommended to Director Mather that he set up a special Southern Appalachian Park Committee to study possibilities for other eastern national parks.

24

In his annual reports of 1923 and earlier, the Director had commented favorably toward establishment of additional eastern national parks, but private ownership of prospective park lands always constituted a discouraging obstacle.

Thinking about the conservation of natural resources of the nation was gaining momentum. And the public was beginning to recognize the increasing importance of the recreational value of national parks when the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission began its task of finding a suitable area for a new eastern national park.

Acting quickly, North Carolinians formed Great Smoky Mountains, Incorporated, in Bryson City, North Carolina, May 23, 1924, in order to secure a national park for their state. North Carolina could boast of a number of nationally famous natural features. And for a few years it was difficult for North Carolinians to settle on one particular area for a national park.

Later in 1924 the legislature of North Carolina in special session passed an act establishing a North Carolina Park Commission to provide for the Acquisition of Parks and Recreational Facilities in the Great Smoky Mountains of North Carolina.

26

1924 was a year of great activity towards realizing a national park. On May 23 nine Tennessee men representing the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association, Knoxville Auto Club, and the State Road Commission made a three-day tour from Knoxville through Gatlinburg, across Luffy Gap, to Bryson City, and return. The purpose was to meet with North Carolina park people on the occasion of the establishment of Great Smoky Mountains, Inc.

16

It was a busy summer for members of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission. A Smoky Mountain group was named on June 8 to gather data for the National Park Committee. Secretary of the Interior Work and the Committee members made inspection trips to Gainesville, Georgia; Highlands, North Carolina (where they left Dr. Work); Whiteside Mountain, Brevard, Asheville (met by W. P. Davis and the Tennessee committee), Mt. Mitchell, Blowing Rock, Grandfather Mountain, Linville Gorge, and Roan Mountain, in North Carolina. On August 10 Kelsey and Gregg were conducted to the top of Mt. LeConte on their inspection of the Smokies. They were met in Gatlinburg by Professors H. C. Longwell of Yale University, A. C. Kendall of Washington University and W. Trelease of the University of Illinois. Congressman Temple and Col. Glenn Smithe came to see the Smokies November 19. Mountain sections in Virginia and elsewhere were also visited by members of the Committee.

The Great Smoky Mountains were not on the original itinerary

of the Southern Appalachian National Park Committee. But a Tennessee delegation met the Committee at Asheville and induced Harlan P. Kelsey³³ and W. C. Gregg to visit the Smokies. The two committee men arrived August 9 to take trips to Mt. LeConte, Gregory Bald, and Clingmans Dome.

Willis P. Davis made another trip to Washington, D. C., for the purpose of conferring with Secretary of the Interior Work, and with Director Stephen Mather and Editor Sterling Yard of the National Park Service.¹⁶

Tennessee park enthusiasts had become so interested in the idea of a national park in the Smokies that they were determined to have a state park there if the national park plan failed. On September 28 Governor Peay publicly announced his endorsement of a proposition that the State create "a great park" by purchasing an 80,000-acre tract from the Little River Lumber Company as proposed by Col. Townsend, president of the company.²⁷

The Southern Appalachian National Park Commission sent its report to the Secretary of the Interior December 14. The Commission recommended first priority be given to Shenandoah National Park in Virginia because of its proximity to the nation's capitol. Because they agreed that the Smokies are superior in beauty and grandeur, they made recommendations for the Smokies as a second national park. A vigorous effort was made by supporters of the Smokies to get the Great

Smoky Mountains included in Secretary Work's recommendation. Senator McKellar and Congressmen Taylor and Reece worked hard for the project. Reece introduced a bill for the establishment of a Smoky Mountains Park in the House of Representatives.

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In January, Major Welch visited the park again. When he went home he wired \$1,000.00 to be used in buying Little River Lumber Company land. The Governor and legislators made an inspection of the park area on January 24, accompanied by Major Welch. The visitors were all impressed with the magnificence of the Smoky Mountain scenery.

16

Congress on February 21 authorized the Secretary of the Interior to appoint a Commission to carry out provisions of an act to acquire lands in the Southern Appalachians and the Mammoth Cave region of Kentucky for preservation as national parks. Secretary Work reappointed the members of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission February 27.

29

Securing the funds required for purchasing the land was the greatest obstacle to overcome in establishing a national park where the land was privately owned. It was something new in creating national parks. Secretary of the Interior Work told the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association on March 18 that he was very anxious for the State of Tennessee to purchase the 80,000-acre tract available from the Little River Lumber Company to form a substantial beginning in the large acquisition program.

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Things were definitely moving forward when, on April 10, the Tennessee state legislature passed a bill authorizing purchase of 76,500 acres of land from the Little River Lumber Company at a cost of \$400,000, provided a national park were established., and also provided that the City of Knoxville assume one-third of the cost. On the same day the Tennessee legislature passed another act providing for the acquisition of land for park and forestry purposes, and the establishment of a committee to be known as the Tennessee State Park and Forestry Commission to administer the park and forestry activities. Apparently the committee, composed of David C. Chapman, A. E. Markham, Henry Gotham, and Governor Austin Peay acting as Chairman, was not appointed until August 6.

Passage of the Tennessee Act of April 10 represented one of the first big steps toward buying the necessary land in Tennessee. A vigorous political fight was involved. Mrs. Willis P. Davis, who started the park drive, ran for the Knox County seat in the state legislature and was successful. She introduced the park bill.

Two telegrams from W. P. Davis to Mrs. Davis are interesting:

"1925 April 6"

"Mrs. W. P. Davis. Care Capital, Nashville, Tenn."

"Large crowd will reach Nashville Tuesday morning.

Urge Governor to have Park Bill brought up Tuesday. Love.

Willis"

"1925 April 9"

"Mrs. W. P. Davis, House of Representatives, Nashville, Tenn."

"Congratulations on passage of your Park Bill. Good
work. Love

Willis"

Stiff opposition had developed. The bill was defeated on the first vote, but passed when brought up the second time. Forestry interests who had always favored a Forest Reserve in the Smokies rather than a national park fought hard with varied arguments, including the provision permitting the Little River Lumber Company to continue cutting timber from certain sections of its remaining uncut forests. Possibly to counteract that argument, Major Welch of the National Park Commission in a press interview following a trip into the area on January 21, stated that "the Government intends to rehabilitate great herds of buffalo, deer, elk, and other native animals in the area, and cut-over lands are necessary for grazing lands to sustain the game."

Rivalry between Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains factions was developing when, January 20, Secretary Work asked the Virginia delegation not to fight the Smokies, with a threat to drop both plans if friction developed.

32

Many sighs of relief probably came with the announcement, May 25, that Secretary Work approved two national parks - Shenandoah in Virginia and Great Smoky Mountains in Tennessee and North Carolina.

The National Park Committee sent instructions May 27 to Shenandoah National Park Commission (Va.), Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association (Tenn.), Great Smoky Mountains, Incorporated (N. C.), and Mammoth Cave National Park Association (Ky.), suggesting how they should organize to accomplish their purpose.

W. C. Gregg, of the national park committee, stated July 17, 1925, that the Smoky Mountains Park was assured. "It may take three years or it may take five", he said. The park project was destined to have many subsequent crises - political and financial - before final success was really assured.

North Carolina had half a dozen or more areas which were recommended to the Committee for a national park. The Great Smoky Mountains were not included. They were reluctant to give up their favorites. However, on August 17 the Knoxville News-Sentinel carried an article with the heading: "Carolínians Abandon Their Own National Park Project and Join Tennessee in Great Smokies Drive". From that time on the state worked vigorously for the park. Horace Kephart became one of the leaders in the North Carolina park campaign. He loved the Smokies. He lived in the giant forests, along the streams, with the Smoky Mountain people. He probably was a significant influence in winning North Carolínians over to the Smokies.

The Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association had conducted an active campaign for the park and had held frequent meetings. But it had not been legally organized. On August 19 the organization was incorporated in order to conduct the campaigns which had to raise millions of dollars to purchase land. The incorporators³⁶ included most of the original members of the Association.

By November 1925 campaigns to raise funds by subscription were under way in both Tennessee and North Carolina. Each state had a tentative goal of \$500,000, which was reached in April, 1926. When the project was completed the people of each state had contributed at least \$560,000. The fact that many pledges could not be collected because of the depression prevented a much larger subscription total from being realized.

People in Tennessee and North Carolina were interested in roads when the park project started. The Sevier County court voted a \$100,000 bond issue for a road across the Smokies November 20, 1925. The State was to contribute an equal amount with North Carolina meeting at the State line. Good road boosters planned another road in the Smokies, extending from Maryville across Deal's Gap. Blount County Court voted a \$100,000 bond issue for that purpose January 5, 1926. Four days later Col. Townsend presented the Little River Lumber Company's railroad bed and bridges to the state as a route for a hard-surfaced road from terminus above Elkmont to within a mile from Townsend.²⁹

The Southern Appalachian National Park Commission reported to the Secretary of the Interior in April, 1926. They reaffirmed the worthiness of Shenandoah National Park, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and also favored Mammoth Cave. The Secretary of the Interior made his recommendation to Congress on April 14. A congressional act "to provide for the establishment of Shenandoah National Park in Virginia and Great Smoky Mountains National Park in the States of North Carolina and Tennessee" was approved May 22, 1926, signed by President Coolidge. 150,000 acres was set as the minimum for protection and administration. 704,000 acres was the minimum for complete national park status. \$1,066,693 had been subscribed by North Carolina and Tennessee. A major milestone was passed.

Boosters of the park staged their first big celebration with a Victory Dinner May 28, 1926, following passage of the Congressional Act authorizing the establishment of a park May 22. Two thousand invitations were sent out for the banquet at which Governor Peay was the principal speaker. Willis P. Davis and Mrs. Davis, and others were praised for their efforts. But David C. Chapman was especially honored and presented with a loving cup for recognition of his untiring efforts in securing the passage of the bill authorizing the creation of the Park.

Difficulties were continually arising in the efforts to acquire land for the park. The Little River Lumber Company purchase was not completed immediately and officials of the company were negotiating with other parties for disposal of the tract. However, on November 13, Colonel Townsend agreed to sell to the state at the option price of a year earlier. Arrangements were made whereby the state could obtain possession within thirty days, and the contract was completed early in 1927. Difficulties arose almost immediately, for on March 9 the Knoxville News-Sentinel carried an article stating "government will not take cut-over park land. Secretary Work objects to contract entered into by State with Little River Lumber Company. Director Mather and Assistant Director Cammerer of the National Park Service and Major Welch of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission conferred with local officials on May 16 about problems of the project and to begin a survey of the park area."

The North Carolina state legislature took action towards raising the required funds when it passed an Act on February 25, 1927, to authorize a \$2,000,000 bond issue provided that Tennessee would appropriate a like amount. ³⁷ Opponents of the park protested the legality of the Act. Litigation was carried to the Supreme Court of the United States. On January 18, 1929, Chief Justice William H. Taft held that the Park Bond Act was valid. ¹⁶ The Act also cautioned the North Carolina Park Commission to administer the provisions of the Act. The Commission was instructed to take over the monies and

properties of Great Smoky Mountains, Inc. It was vested with power of eminent domain, and it was given the duty to acquire approximately 214,000 acres of North Carolina land within the park boundaries when designated by the Secretary of the Interior. The letter of designation was dated July 8, 1927.

On April 27, 1927, the Tennessee legislature passed an Act similar to the North Carolina Act of February 25.³⁹ The Act authorized a \$1,500,000 bond issue, which, added to the tract valued at \$500,000 obtained previously by the State from Little River Lumber Company, equals the \$2,000,000 appropriated by North Carolina. The Act also substituted a Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission for the Tennessee Park and Forestry Commission appointed August 6, 1925. The Commission was vested with power of eminent domain for a five-year period. It was also to receive the properties and monies of the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association, which the latter organization refused to do.

At the insistence of representatives of the states of North Carolina, Virginia, and Tennessee, Arno B. Cammerer, Associate Director of the National Park Service, was given permission to undertake the collection of funds outside the three states in his personal capacity. As a result of this arrangement, Mr. Cammerer announced on March 6, 1928, a \$5,000,000 gift from the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial Foundation, represented chiefly by John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

The donation was to be made for the purchase of land for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park provided the states of North Carolina and Tennessee contributed an equal amount. The reason given for making the gift was for the preservation of some of the unsurpassed virgin forest remaining in the Great Smoky Mountains. Park boosters were jubilant over this, the greatest single financial stimulus of the campaign. It was hailed as a guarantee of the success of the park project. Success was not as sure as it seemed. The Knoxville News-Sentinel carried an item on December 6 stating that "Rockefeller Memorial is greatly disturbed by timbering in Park Area". It represented a crisis. The Rockefeller interests were concerned with preserving a large area of unexcelled virgin timber. The cutting permitted by the contract between the Little River Lumber Company and the State of Tennessee was contrary to the idea of preservation of primeval forests. The National Park Service attempted to have the cutting stopped, without success. On January 7, 1929, a court decision upheld the Little River Lumber Company contract, which was questioned because of the terms permitting timber cutting for about fifteen years.

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The Rockefeller Foundation sent a representative to the Smokies January 29 to check on the timber cutting and why it didn't cease. In February, officials of the park project and the lumber firm met, and in a week's time worked out a satisfactory solution to the timber cutting problem. By means of changing the park boundary lines, an acceptable tract of virgin forest could be preserved while permitting some timber

to be cut to satisfy the contract with the lumber company. To cease cutting immediately the company had asked \$1,250,000. Associate Director Cammerer personally conducted the negotiations which averted what could have been a disastrous blow to the park project.

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About this same time the park project was also endangered and harrassed by the development of personal and political opposition, particularly to David C. Chapman, who had vigorously led the project's backers from the beginning of the movement. About the beginning of February a state move was started to remove Chapman from the Park Commission. The Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association met infrequently after the Rockefeller donation in 1928. After several months of political maneuvering and probing of the Commission's conduct, Chapman and the Commission were cleared and the political opposition died down, permitting work towards acquisition of park land to continue.

Preliminary to tendering title to lands to the United States, the North Carolina legislature passed an act on March 28, 1929, ceding jurisdiction over land in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in the State of North Carolina to the United States. Tennessee passed a similar act April 12, 1929.

July 9, 1930, was one of the happiest days of all for friends of the Smoky Mountain Park project. On that day the Federal government accepted title to 158,876.5 acres of land. 150,000 acres was the minimum required for protection and administration of the

Park to begin. Delegations from North Carolina and Tennessee, headed by the governors, had called on Secretary of the Interior Ray Lyman Wilbur at his office in Washington, D. C., February 6 and presented to him the lands acquired as a nucleus for Great Smoky Mountains National Park.²⁹

Management of the park by the National Park Service began when the Federal government accepted title to more than the minimum stipulated acreage on July 9, 1930. Until 400,000 acres were accepted management could be for protection and administration only and not for development.

The Park Service announced on June 27, 1930, that J. R. Eakin, then superintendent of Glacier National Park, would be the first Superintendent of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, but would not arrive at the park until about the following January.⁶⁵ Assistant Chief Ranger Philip Hough entered on duty in the park in July. Assistant Chief Ranger (Acting Chief) John T. Needham arrived in March, 1931. Superintendent Eakin left Washington, D. C., for his duty station in Maryville on March 1, 1931. Park headquarters were moved from Maryville to Gatlinburg in quarters at Mountain View Hotel in June, 1932.²⁹

The legislature of both North Carolina and Tennessee vested their respective park commissions with the power of eminent domain.^{58,59} Without this power, the acquisition program could not have gone very far. The legality of condemnation for national park purposes was contested in state and federal courts, but was always upheld. Large-scale condemnations for public works were something new. People living in the

Southern Appalachian mountains were strongly attached to their lands. Some of the tracts were owned successively by three and probably four generations of the same family. Many of the landowners felt very bitter towards the government and the park for being forced to leave their homes. The first condemnation suit was that against John W. Oliver of Cades Cove, begun July 29, 1929. Mr. Oliver was the great-grandson of the original builder of the Oliver home on the same site. He fought the proceedings bitterly in the courts, including the Supreme Court of Tennessee. The case was not finally settled until October, 1935 - more than six years after the proceedings began.

The seven members of the Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission were appointed for a five-year term April 27, 1927. In five years' time the Commission had become a powerful and important organization handling millions of dollars. Its work became conspicuous from its widespread activities at all levels - local, county, state, and national. It was natural that the organization was noticed covetously by many politicians. When the terms of the Commission members expired in 1932, Col. David Chapman and John M. Clark were the only members reappointed. The Committee had become completely political with the appointment of five new members about August 25, 1932. Thus a new crisis developed for the park movement. The Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association was asked by the Tennessee Great

Smoky Mountains Park Committee to turn over its money and properties to the latter committee, but this was refused. The Committee failed to elect a permanent chairman in September and October. As early as August 21 the Knoxville News-Sentinel mentioned a plan was afoot to oust Chapman as chairman of the Park Committee. This had implications relating to the Rockefeller donation, since Chapman, Arno B. Cammerer and Mark Squires were trustees of the fund. Most of the regular work of the Park Committee, including purchase of land, was practically at a standstill during the time the committee was without permanent organization and was occupied with internal strife. It was during this time that the National Park Service started to purchase lands and added two land buyers to the park staff in October (1932).

The regular Park Commission meeting was scheduled for November 14. Arno B. Cammerer came down from Washington to attend the meeting. When the meeting was postponed, Cammerer released a statement as a representative of the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Foundation, he was displeased with the Commission's lack of progress. Temporary Chairman Trent issued a statement there would be no meeting until the regular December meeting. On November 19 a meeting was called for 9:00 a.m., November 22. The meeting was postponed to the afternoon of the same day, and then to 2:00 p.m., November 23. The new members held a majority and elected their slate of officers by a vote of 4 to 3. George Dempster was elected chairman and Garvin Secretary-Treasurer.

A giant mass meeting attended by 500 prominent Knoxville citizens was held November 23 to protest the committee action. They adopted a resolution to amend the Park Act in the State Legislature in January by adding four new members to put the political members in minority. On November 17 Governor Horton was quoted in the News-Sentinel as saying he hoped the Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission would quit their foolishness and elect a permanent chairman and go on with their business.

After about four months in which nothing constructive was done, the new Park Commission finally started making progress. Trouble was still erupting in the Committee, however. A Knoxville newspaper reported a fist fight between Chapman and Dempster at a Committee meeting. Another newspaper reported a plan to oust Dempster as chairman.

In April (1933) the State legislature abolished the Park Commission. Its duties were transferred to a State Park and Forestry Commission. Director Albright of the National Park Service in a news release stated that he "regrets failure to name Chapman but his department will cooperate closely with the new commission". This ended the internal troubles of the Commission and acquisition of land proceeded until completion.

The North Carolina Park Commission experienced a similar "revolution" in 1933, when the eleven-member commission was replaced by an entirely new five-member commission. The personnel of this new commission was described as being a deep disappointment to the friends of the Park. In North Carolina the change was effected without much fireworks, although progress was essentially suspended for over two months.

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Another important milestone was passed October 12, 1935, on which day 402,000 acres of land had been acquired for the park and accepted by the federal government. This exceeded the minimum acreage of 400,000 acres set by Congress as a requirement for full national park status. The Great Smoky Mountains area was now a full-fledged national park eligible for appropriations that could be spent on major development projects. For all practical purposes, the gigantic enterprise that mushroomed from more modest plans first discussed in Judge Lindsay's office in Knoxville twelve years earlier was now completed.

North Carolina completed its land acquisition in June, 1938. A total of 229,469.01 acres was added to the federal government at a total cost of \$5,154,951.75.

September 2 (Labor Day Monday), 1940, was selected as the date for the formal dedication ceremonies of Great Smoky Mountains National Park by President of the United States Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Previous tentative dates going back to almost a year earlier had to be postponed because of the critical international situation. Advice was received in June that the dedication might possibly have to be carried out on a few hours' notice.

Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes was master of ceremonies. President Roosevelt was principal speaker. Governor Hoey of North Carolina and Governor Cooper of Tennessee spoke. Director Drury of the National Park Service was there, also Cammerer, Demaray, Story, Wirth, Curradi, Kelly, Burns, and Bayliss of the Park Service Washington Office; Hawkins, Barrows and Ludgate of Region One Office; Jackson Price and M. Strauss of the Office of the Secretary of the Interior; and collaborator Dr. Hans Huth. Mrs. Willis P. Davis was also present. I don't know what she said or thought. It could have been her same words of almost two long decades before - "Our Great Smoky Mountains are as beautiful as anything in Yellowstone National Park or the west". Also in the crowd were David C. Chapman and the hundreds of loyal people who had worked so hard for the park, and the thousands of proud friends of the park. Willis P. Davis was not there. But he had been permitted to taste the sweetness of the major victories in his mission before death stopped his efforts.

As the sun's last rays dipped below the distant horizon of smoky ridges to the west, and Franklin Delano Roosevelt, from his platform astride the Tennessee and North Carolina boundary line at

Newfound Gap on top of the Smokies, dedicated the park "to the free people of America", it was a solemn declaration that success was a fact (no longer but a promise) that the beautiful dream (or dreams) had finally come true. Great Smoky Mountains was a national park!

The battle for the Blue Ridge National Parkway apparently started around 1929. Willis P. Davis, who started the successful movement for Smoky Mountains National Park, started a campaign for "The Most Beautiful Highway in America" about that time. The project gained impetus with the acquisition of the minimum acreage of 150,000 acres of land and the establishment of park management for protection and administration. Although the Park Service superficially approved the highway between Knoxville and the Park, Davis worked without the active support of the Park Service because of anticipated conflict with the Park acquisition program. It was a pretentious plan - a parkway with a separated six-lane highway in the middle. The entire length of approximately forty miles would be planted with all of the ornamental flowering trees and shrubs for which the Great Smoky Mountains are famous. With the optimism and placid determination characteristic of Willis P. Davis, he waged a lone intensive promotion campaign for a few years. He conferred with and corresponded with politicians at all levels. He wrote to all of the famous philanthropists of that time. He tried to get the support of the National Park Service. He made trips to Washington, D. C., and to Nashville,

Tennessee. It will probably never be fully known just how significant one little mistake of Davis's proved to be toward the ultimate failure of the immediate project of the "Most Beautiful Highway in America". That mistake was a letter to Congressman Maurice H. Thatcher of Kentucky, soliciting his aid in backing the bill being introduced in Congress. In the letter he made the mistake of stressing the unparalleled magnificence of the Great Smoky Mountains - not knowing, or forgetting, that Congressman Thatcher had been orating for years about the unsurpassed natural wonder of the world located in his home state of Kentucky; namely, Mammoth Cave. The reply from the Hon. Thatcher bluntly corrected Davis's impressions about the Great Smokies as compared with Mammoth Cave, and just as bluntly told him that he wouldn't help his project. Davis wrote a very polite letter of regrets. Then some time later Congressman Thatcher sent Davis a letter enclosing a copy of a bill he was introducing in Congress for a park-to-park highway from Shenandoah National Park to Mammoth Cave National Park, which would pass through the Great Smoky Mountains along the way. Down at the bottom of things it might be found that only the greater, more spectacular Park-to-Park highway was the only thing that prevented the success of the Davis plan. The governor of Tennessee, and many state politicians, and most east Tennesseans were for it. The judges of Blount, Sevier, and Cocke counties recommended road bond issues of \$1,000,000 each. The State was favorable towards appropriating

\$2,500,000 and Congress was expected to appropriate an equal amount.

Senators McKellar and Brock and Congressman J. Will Taylor were actively working for the highway. Senator McKellar and Congressman Taylor introduced bills in Congress. But nothing came of the plan directly. ¹⁷

The Park-to-Park Highway section between Shenandoah and the Smokies, however, moved along. Tennessee and North Carolina waged a heated battle in 1934 for locating this southern section of the highway, for which two alternate plans were made by engineers. The general consensus was that the two routes were almost equally picturesque; in fact, some technical opinions favored the Tennessee route. \$16,000,000 had already been allotted by the federal government for its construction. The battle of the highway in Washington was raging more and more fiercely and not making any progress when President Roosevelt stepped into the picture by telling Secretary Ickes that if he couldn't settle the problem, he (Roosevelt) would find someone who could. An immediate conference was called for November 12 in the Secretary's office. It was a long, active meeting, at the end of which the announcement was made that North Carolina got the "Blue Ridge National Parkway". The conflict had reached such powerful proportions that on the following day Secretary of the Interior Ickes announced that if the road were successful, another might be built in the area (in Tennessee). ⁶⁸ And Tennessee was appeased February 22, 1944, when the Foothills Parkway was authorized "to provide an appropriate view of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park from the Tennessee side".

So, whether or not threads of a web extend between Davis's "Most Beautiful Highway in America" and the Foothills Parkway, the woven pattern is interesting.

Tennessee Valley Authority donated 44,170 acres of land to the Park. The tract was located within the authorized boundaries of the Park. The proposition was begun as early as fiscal year 1944 and completed November 15, 1949, with certain conditions stipulated. An agreement was made between the State of North Carolina; Swain County, North Carolina; and the U. S. Department of the Interior whereby the lands were to be purchased by TVA and transferred to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The National Park Service was required to build a high standard road approximately 35 miles long in the Park above the lake from Fontana to Bryson City when funds are available.

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ACQUISITION

When the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission made its final report in April, 1926, a huge and complex program to acquire the recommended 700,000 acres of land was set into motion. Actually, buying had started earlier. By this time Tennessee had already purchased more than 76,000 acres of land, and the states of North Carolina and Tennessee had raised more than \$1,100,000 in private subscriptions.

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If the people who had to do the hard work had known all the details and complications involved, probably not one would have dared to tackle the job. Possibly it was largely the perseverance and great faith of Willis P. Davis who, refusing to recognize reverses, continued placidly to eke out progress until accomplishments were too great, and personal sacrifices by leaders of the movement had become so large that they had become "dedicated" to their task and could not quit.

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The task was great. Something like seven thousand separate privately owned tracts had to be purchased. More than one thousand families had to dispose of their property and move away. More than thirteen million dollars had to be raised in a region of not great wealth. Secretary of Agriculture Wilson in 1901 reported that "These are the heaviest and most beautiful hardwood forests of the continent. In them species from east and west, from north and south, mingle in

a growth of unparalleled richness and variety. They contain many species of the first commercial value, and furnish important supplies which cannot be obtained from any other region." Since the Great
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Smoky Mountains contain the finest development of forests in eastern North America, it was natural that powerful opposition was raised by the lumbermen who were eager to start cutting the ancient giant trees.

Legal aspects of creating the park were likewise complex. More than fifty Acts were passed by Congress and the two state legislatures in order to accomplish the establishment. Some of the legislative measures aroused bitter factional disputes which brought on lengthy debates, difficult compromises - and sometimes defeat.
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The old Southern Appalachian National Park organization had worked for years before they discovered that a policy had developed in Congress against appropriating money for national park purchases₁. Again, the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association worked for some time before they discovered the same policy.
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The Weeks Law passed by Congress in 1911 represents one of the most important pieces of conservation legislation for eastern United States. It was the result of a memorial urging the establishment of a national park. There was little chance for the national park after Congress authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to prepare a report on the subject. When the Secretary and Gifford Pinchot personally made more than one visit to the area being studied it was natural that the resulting report stressed forestry needs rather than park.

The Great Smokies missed becoming a National Forest Reserve through the Weeks Law by the narrowest of margins. A number of laws were contested but upheld by courts. For example, could a state appropriate public funds to purchase land for a federal park?²⁹ And, could a state condemn lands for donation to the federal government?²⁹

The acquisition program of the park project had wide social implications. It presented an example of individuals being required to give up treasured personal freedoms for benefits to be derived as citizens. It is reasonable to suppose that the people living in the Smoky Mountains chose to live there partly for the same reason that other people wanted their land for a national park. It was also entirely reasonable for them to resent being forced to sell their homes and move away to establish new homes. Land buyers were not always discreet and tactful. Possibly all of the former landowners in the area whose lands were condemned, and many of those who voluntarily entered contracts, entertained some degree of bitterness towards the park and "government". Personal freedoms were particularly important to the mountain people. To avoid being disturbed by the "law" was a chief reason for their being in the mountains. It was a deep bitterness that could not be completely erased in the contemporary generation.

The authorities concerned with establishment did what they could to minimize the hardships incurred. Congress passed an act in 1928 authorizing leases to former occupants up to their lifetimes.

Former owners were permitted to remain until planted crops were harvested, or until seriously ill individuals recovered sufficiently, or until infants of pregnant women were born. In 1932 a large sum of Emergency Unemployment Relief money was allotted to alleviate the hardship experienced by former occupants of park land due to having to move from their farms. But it was still a ponderous, deep-rooted problem to contend with. Park Service collaborator Dr. George Sexton worked as a consultant on the aspects of dispossessed landowners in the Smokies. We must remember that in 1925, more than a quarter century ago, acquisition by condemnation was not the common practice it is today.

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The first step in acquiring park land was the state purchase of Little River Lumber Company's tract of 76,507 acres in 1925.

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The first condemnation proceeding was that brought against John W. Oliver of Cades Cove July 29, 1929. The case remained in courts until finally settled by the Tennessee Supreme Court in October, 1935.

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Early in 1930 condemnation suits were filed in the courts at the rate of one a day. A Smoky Mountain delegation including the governors of the two states went to Washington, D. C. February 6, 1930, where they turned over deeds to the first 158,799.21 acres of land to Secretary of Interior Wilbur. On July 10, 1930, the

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federal government accepted deeds to 158,876.5 acres of land.

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This exceeded the established minimum of 150,000 acres required for protection and management. Partial management began immediately. 64 65

The second transfer of land to the federal government took place November 2, 1931, when deeds to 138,843.20 acres were presented to the Secretary of the Interior in his office. This acreage included the 93,000-acre Champion Fibre Company tract, generally considered the most essential part of the Smokies, purchased April 29, 1931. The price was not announced, but \$3,000,000.00 was spoken of. The court 66 in Sevierville received 441 claims by persons that they held title to Champion Fibre Company tracts because of their claims that they were heirs of Radford Gatlin - the man for whom Gatlinburg, Tennessee, was named. Not one of them could sustain his claim because not one could prove he was descended from Gatlin. These claims were typical of the many complications that came up in the hundreds of court cases. 29

Although there were more than 6,000 separate tracts in the park area, the greatest acreage was owned by a half dozen large lumber companies - Champion, Ravensford, Suncrest, Big Creek, Little River, and Morton Butler. These six companies owned 209,500 acres. 66 With Little River Lumber Company tract excepted, the large company holdings were among the last to be acquired. Big Creek Lumber Company's 25,000 acres were purchased in September 1932.

Ravensford and Suncrest lands were purchased in April, 1934 by special negotiations after appeals from court awards by both sides. Original award to Ravensford was \$1,057,000 for 27,000 acres plus

\$50,000 for a railroad. Suncrest was awarded \$522,034 for 63,000 acres. The actual purchase prices were not announced.⁶⁶

The Ravensford and Suncrest purchases completed the North Carolina land acquisition program.

The Morton Butler Company was awarded \$800,000 for 25,000 acres and \$32,000 for inholdings in May 1935. The award was appealed. On August 6 the earlier award was reduced by the District Court to \$483,500 and \$12,500 for inholdings. The company appealed the decision, which, however, was upheld by the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals in June 1937.⁶⁶

Completion of contract for the Bruce Keener, Sr., property in March, 1935, closed another acquisition case that was vigorously contested. Mr. Keener, who was president of C. M. McClung & Company of Knoxville, owned a summer home in Elkmont. When the property was acquired for the park, Mr. and Mrs. Keener purchased property and built a large beautiful house with extensive landscaping, including a swimming pool, just outside the park boundary at the junction of West Prong of Little Pigeon River and Fighting Creek. Mr. Keener made the mistake of selecting a homesite that was also to be selected by the National Park Service for its headquarters for Great Smoky Mountains National Park.⁶⁹ The house was used as a headquarters for the Park Naturalist for a time and then razed.

The goal of the acquisition program was the purchase of the last acre of land that had been selected. There were a few special achievements. One of these occurred October 12, 1935, when the proposed park achieved full national park status with the acceptance of land that raised the total to 402,000 acres, which exceeded the legal minimum of 400,000 acres.

On July 9, 1936, Director Cammerer stated that \$500,000.00 were still needed to complete land purchase for completion of the park. It was one of the last expressions of a large financial deficit on the horizon. Incidentally the need was taken care of by Congress February 2, 1938, with its \$743,265.29 appropriation.

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Title to Morton Butler holdings was vested in the federal government in June 1938, which completed the last large purchase. This also completed the North Carolina Park Commission's acquisition activities.

The Tennessee Park Commission still had over 20,000 acres of land to acquire.

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The case of the Whittle tract might be cited to illustrate the many unexpected things that were encountered in condemnation suits.

The condemnation petition was filed December 30, 1938. October 10, 1939 the case was tried before a Jury of View which awarded the defendants \$70,000.00. Both sides appealed. February 10, 1940 the case was to be tried in U. S. District Court. Defendants continued the trial to June session of court. Continued by Government

to December term, then set for trial February 3, 1941. Continued to April 14 on account of illness of Whittles. Continued to June for same reason. Continued to October 27 on account of accident to a witness. Continued to November on account of illness. Continued to February 9, 1942. Judge Gen. J. W. Cooper died. The case was turned over to J. G. McKenzie, Special Agent in Department of Justice. A government witness, W. B. Neff, real estate dealer, to be a star witness, died. S. T. Reagan, witness on land values, had a heart attack, and, on morning of the trial, he died. John R. Gilbert, land appraiser, had heart attacks. Andy Gregory, a previous star witness on land values, had a complete breakdown and couldn't testify. Mr. McKenzie had a heart attack while instructing the jury and had to be assisted from the room. The trial was held by Gen. John J. Courtney.

The defendants valued their land at \$210,000 to \$285,114. The Government valued the land at \$24,000 to \$27,000. On February 16 the jury awarded the defendants \$36,700 (\$32,500 for land and \$4,200 for nursery stock).

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The Superintendent's annual report at the end of June 1943 mentioned ten tracts unacquired - and seven under contract. At the end of June 1944 he reported five tracts acquired - five in condemnation. It is probable that the five tracts in condemnation were completed in 1944 or 1945.

No attempt has been made to make a complete study of land purchases. Since the above acquisition many small tracts have been acquired but only a few notable ones.

By letter from Secretary of the Interior Chapman to Governor Scott of North Carolina, approved by President Truman November 15, 1949, 44,170 acres within the authorized boundaries of Great Smoky Mountains National Park were transferred from Tennessee Valley Authority to the Department of the Interior. The United States accepted and assumed exclusive jurisdiction.

In the huge acquisition program, with extensive solicitation of donations, gifts, and subscriptions, it is somewhat surprising but perhaps quite natural that there was but one outright donation of real estate. That was the 102.3-acre Voorheis tract known as Twin Creek Orchard which was located between Gatlinburg and Cherokee Orchard on the slopes of Mt. LeConte. But even in this donation, made in 1933, Mr. Voorheis retained a permit for himself and Mrs. Voorheis to live there during their lifetimes. Mr. Voorheis died in 1934. In later years Mrs. Voorheis found it inconvenient to live at Twin Creek Orchard and on March 3, 1952 she sold her lifetime interest in the estate to the National Park Service for \$38,000.00. The tract had five houses and a large barn and a few lesser buildings. The use of the buildings was purchased for park personnel housing. In fact, all of the houses except the main residence were already rented by park employees. Shortly after the interest in the tract was purchased, the Superintendent moved there from the residential area near Park Headquarters.

A land acquisition project of considerable proportions began with the establishment of the Foothills Parkway February 22, 1944. It directly concerns the Great Smoky Mountains National Park since the Parkway will become an integral part of the Park. The first Parkway property accepted by the government was the section between Gatlinburg and Banner Bridge, which was transferred May 11, 1951. The parkway will extend approximately seventy miles between Chilhowee on the Little Tennessee River to the Cosby vicinity near the Big Pigeon River.

FINANCIAL

The idea for eastern national parks was old when the Knoxville park movement was initiated. The one great deterrent was always the question about how to raise the huge amount of money needed to buy privately owned immense wilderness areas. Congress had developed a policy to refrain from appropriating funds used to purchase lands for national park purposes. The land had to be acquired by states and turned over with good title to the federal government. It was a task for private individuals who could be moved to work and give for a civic project. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park project was in almost perpetual hot water, financially, from the time the drive was launched. That was due partially to the expanding size of the project. Originally the thinking was along the lines of the 76,000-acre Little River Lumber Company tract. Soon that was looked upon only as a nucleus for a

greater park. In 1926, the establishing Act of May 22 mentioned approximately 704,000 acres to be acquired. Also, prices of properties often skyrocketed after the buying got under way. The entire park drive was a long series of financial successes and crises.

The first great accomplishment was won with the recommendation of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission. Next came the victory of the April 10, 1925, Park Bill to purchase the Little River Lumber Company tract. By April 1, 1926, Tennessee and North Carolina had each raised over half a million dollars in subscriptions, thereby meeting requirements of the National Park Commission²⁹ resulting in the establishment act of May 22, 1926. But it was already estimated that something like ten million dollars would be needed. Millions were not easily found. The Little River Lumber Company land almost slipped away. The contract had never been carried out and Col. Townsend, the president, was negotiating with other buyers. Park interests, including the Governor, got busy and saved the infant park for the time being. Things looked good when North Carolina provided \$2,000,000.00 and Tennessee \$1,500,000.00 in addition to the estimated \$500,000.00 value of the Little River tract. But more millions were needed. They were more or less unexpectedly forthcoming in the \$5,000,000.00 Rockefeller gift. Then it suddenly became necessary, in order to save both the Little River land and the Rockefeller funds, to add for highest priority acquisition a large tract of valuable virgin timber land in the high Smokies to offset timber cutting

permitted by contract with Little River Lumber Company. More millions were needed. President Roosevelt allotted \$509,000 and \$1,550,000.00 and park people were sure the park was now assured. But much of the finest park land was also the finest forest land owned by large lumber companies. The prices determined by condemnation courts were high, and Congress had to appropriate a final \$743,265.29 the Tennessee Park Commission needed to complete its acquisitions. President Roosevelt's allotment of \$1,550,000 in December 1933 was to be all that was needed. \$743,265.29 of it was needed by Tennessee, but used by North Carolina when it was urgently required to pay for a large lumber company's property that was condemned. It was a good enough justification for Congress.

Money, money, money, to the extent of almost \$13,000,000.00 eventually turned up - and was used to buy the national park that now has more visitors each year than old Yellowstone or any other national park.

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Summary of Funds raised.

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ADMINISTRATION

Many ideas were expressed by park people and others in connection with the establishment and development of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Often they were ideas not based on knowledge of the plans that existed. At other times they were ideas of policy-making officials made before plans for this particular park had crystallized. Some plans that were made but did not materialize are included in this chapter on general administration.

One type of thinking relative to the development of the park is exemplified by a newspaper article which appeared October 29, 1923, at a time when the park movement was being promoted: "A system of hotels located on a government boulevard winding through the Smokies by beautiful scenery, historic spots and other interesting points. This is only one of the dreams that would become a reality with the establishment of the park." The dream never did come true.
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But the policy not to have concessioners operating within the Park so long as adequate services and goods could be obtained immediately outside the area was not formulated until years later. The Park Service went so far as to state that a chalet type architecture would be preferred to that of modern metropolitan hotels.

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In one of Horace Kephart's articles promoting the park, he stated, "One of the National Park Commissioners recently told me that the Federal Government, if it took over the park, would have to build not less than three hard surfaced highways about 50 feet wide across

the Smokies in order to accommodate the millions of tourists who would flock here as soon as the park was opened. These would be linked together by a skyline highway running along the very crest of the Smoky divide for 40 or 50 miles. This road would cross the capital peaks of the Smokies: Mt. Guyot, Mt. Collins, Clingmans Dome, Siler's Bald, Briar Knob, Thunderhead, Gregory Bald, and other lookout points from which the vistas are sublime." This grand scheme was never carried out. But Clingmans Dome road was only the first part of the proposed 50-mile Skyline Highway. And plans for a second road across the Smokies from Cades Cove through Ekaneetlee Gap are probably not permanently quiet.

During the height of publicity concerned with the cut-over Little River Lumber Company land in 1925, a Southern Appalachian National Park Commissioner was quoted in a newspaper as saying: "The government intends to rehabilitate great herds of buffalo, deer, and elk, and other native animals in the area, and cut-over lands are necessary for grazing lands to sustain the game." Out of a giant cauldron of pot-pourri of incomplete knowledge, local pressures, ethmological inertia, and new unique circumstances, the National Park Service had to produce an organized plan.

When the Park was established on July 9, 1930 for protection and administration, plans had already been made for the Park Service to assemble a local staff. In June the National Park Service had announced that J. Ross Eakin would be the first superintendent, but would not arrive until after the first of the year. Rangers Hough and Needham would arrive in July. Assistant Chief Ranger Philip Hough did arrive in July, but Assistant Chief Ranger John R. Needham did not get here until March 1931. Superintendent Eakin left Washington March 1, 1931, for his duty station in Maryville.

The Headquarters of the Park were moved from Maryville to Gatlinburg in May 1932, occupying quarters behind the Mountain View Hotel.

Associate Director Cammerer had lunch at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Voorheis in May 1932. In 1933 Mr. Voorheis donated his 103-acre tract, Twin Creek Orchard, to the park. The Voorheis tract was the only donation of more than 700 separate tracts acquired.

By 1932 a plan had been launched to create a large lake out of Cades Cove. Many Park Service people favored it and worked for the plan on the incorrect theory that an ancient lake had existed there and a new lake would be only a restoration of a natural condition. Superintendent Eakin was for it. So was Director Cammerer in the

beginning, and Associate Director A. E. Demaray. Then the
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plan was abandoned accompanied with blunt instructions from the
Washington Office that there be no further discussion of the Cades
Cove Lake plan among Park Service employees.

The Park received its first construction money in July 1932,
when \$509,000 were allotted from Emergency Unemployment Relief Funds.
Unemployment was acute in and in the vicinity of the Park. Persons
inside the Park were given preference.
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A 'basic outline for park development' was published in an
Asheville newspaper in August 1932. Five points in the plan were:
(1) 230 miles of highways; (2) Four major tourist camps; (3) Large
lake in Cades Cove; (4) Twelve tunnels between Newfound Gap and Deal's
Gap; (5) Educational program.
116

Emergency Relief Program

The emergency relief program was invaluable to the new park.
The program in the Smokies began in May, 1933, and continued with
E.C.W., C.C.C., C.W.A. and P.W.A. projects until the C.C.C. was
abolished and all programs abandoned July 9, 1942. 5 E.C.W. camps
of 200 men each were set up in May, 1933. The number of units of the
different kinds fluctuated. In January 1934 there were located in
the Park 15 CCC camps, 7 CWA camps, and 2 PWA units.
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Superintendent Eakin said the work accomplished by this
emergency personnel in the first two years was at least comparable
to ten years of normal operation.
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The men prepared building stone, did landscaping, gardening, building comfort stations, sewer systems, water systems, telephone lines, fire towers, trail shelters, trails, roads, kept nursery, marked boundaries, and bridges.⁶⁶

One CPS camp was activated and located in the Sugarlands. The camp moved to Maryland in December 1946, which left the Park without auxiliary help for the first time in its history.⁶⁶

Roadside cleanup became a major activity in 1933. One hundred men were engaged in cleanup along the roads from Sugarlands to Newfound Gap and Smokemont in March of that year. Thousands of cords of chestnut timber were cut for construction. Dead trees were felled along contours and limbs cut off to speed decay.⁶⁶

The President signed a bill February 17, 1933 authorizing the building of roads and trails before the park was established for development, provided the improvements did not increase the price of lands still unpurchased.⁶⁶

On October 12, 1935 the federal government accepted deeds to land which brought the total acreage to 402,000. This brought the acreage above the minimum prescribed by Congress for complete national park status.

A 19,640-acre Wilderness Area, or Permanent Research Area was proposed October 1934. It was incorporated in the Park's Master Plan in 1936. 7,000 acres of the total are in Tennessee. The area is drained by

Eagle Rock, Chapman, and Buck Forks. It contains fine tulip, buckeye, hemlock, cherry, and red maple trees. North Carolina has 12,640 acres on Raven Fork and Three Forks. This area probably contains the finest red spruce in existence. The reason for setting up the area is to protect the wilderness section and establish a code of administration designed to protect it from all but the very simplest maintenance activities. "Trail Riders of the Wilderness" went into the area on their first trip in the Smokies in 1936. Banning of future trips into the area evoked strong protests by Trail Riders Tom Alexander, Ovid Butler, and others in issues of American Forests.

The Park Committee of the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club proposed similar permanent wilderness status for the Greenbrier Cove in recommendations made September 17, 1951. The cove contains 46 square miles. The committee contended that it is the most accessible genuine wilderness area in the Park, and that only as a wilderness is the Greenbrier unique in the Park.

Included in the Interior Department Appropriation Act for fiscal year ending June 30, 1938 was an item appropriating \$76,500 for administration and protection and development of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This was the Park's first fiscal appropriation.

Studies were made of sites for permanent headquarters for the Park at Sugarlands in Tennessee and Floyd Bottoms in North Carolina in July 1931. The Sugarlands site was later selected. Funds for the building were obtained July 1938. The building was completed

January 26, 1940, at a cost of over \$100,000.

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A regrettable episode in the Park's history concerns the probe of Superintendent Eakin and his park administration by Senator McKellar through a Senate investigating committee he was able to have appointed over strenuous opposition by other senators led by Robert A. Taft. Charges of maladministration presumably screened 118 political motives. McKellar is said to have admitted that he had been misinformed. Eakin brought countercharges that his enemies 120 had marked his secret ballots in their political persecution. The 121 Senate probers cleared Eakin of charges several times, and apparently concluded their investigation without finding anything that would justify formal charges. In March 1939 a news release indicated that Superintendent Eakin would exchange positions with Superintendent Lassiter of Shenandoah National Park. Again, November 6, 1941, 123 it was reported that Superintendent Eakin might transfer to Hot Springs National Park for health reasons, Superintendent Patraw of that park coming to the Smokies. But he remained as head of this park until 124 he retired April 24, 1945. 125

Travel to the Smokies was improved by the routing of commercial bus service through the park by way of the trans-mountain highway between Knoxville, Tennessee, and Asheville, North Carolina, in February 1940.

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In a newspaper interview October 27, 1940, Director Drury urged the development of the Smokies as a wilderness park.

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Visitors to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park who make trips to Cades Cove, the Oconaluftee Museum and Pioneer Farmstead, or to any of a number of isolated mountain valleys experience the discovery of picturesque historical pioneer relics in the midst of the luxurious natural setting that characterizes the Smokies.

It has been said that the Great Smoky Mountains was the largest pioneer community remaining in America when the park was established.

The significance of the Smoky Mountains culture lies in the fact that there has survived a manner of living, an entire cultural complex which almost everywhere else within the boundaries of the United States has disappeared entirely. A policy to preserve and interpret the mountain culture resources gradually developed. Although the value and appeal of the assets were recognized even when the park was created, many people were disappointed as late as 1941 in the lack of progress in exploiting the possibilities. Acting Regional Director, Region One, wrote a memorandum to the Director October 10, 1940, saying "we are taking this opportunity of expressing our concurrence in the policy that has thus far been formulated

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for its (Cades Cove) treatment and of the trend toward the establishment of an outdoor folk museum in the Cove. We are interested in the Cades Cove experiment, which is in many ways without precedent in the development of our national parks and we shall be happy to assist and contribute in every possible manner to its success."

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Development had practically been abandoned during World War II. Physical facilities were in dire need of maintenance and replacement by the end of the war. To properly prepare for the hoped-for construction revival, a "post-war Planning Conference" was held in the Park July 16-19, 1946.

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The fiscal appropriation of July 1, 1948 provided the first funds for construction since before the war.

Many new inspiring vistas were opened to view by the construction of the Newfound Gap Road in the early 1930's. This experience might have inspired future purposeful vista-cutting on a modest scale along the mountain roads. In fiscal year 1950, \$7,900.00 was spent for vista-cutting along Newfound Gap and Little River Gorge roads.

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Disappointment by visitors who came back to find superlative river and mountain views obscured by encroaching forests was also a factor.

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Acceptance of the first deeds to Foothills Parkway right-of-way lands between Gatlinburg and Banner Bridge, 1951, was the first official acquisition of parkway land, which is administered as a part of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

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The federal government assumed exclusive jurisdiction of all park lands in the Tennessee part of the park on December 3, 1951; and on January 3, 1952, the government accepted exclusive jurisdiction of land in the North Carolina section, as provided by Congressional Act of September 20, 1942.

"MISSION 66" is the most significant new plan for this Park. Perhaps the Plan did not develop any startling new idea; whether because the old plans had been excellently conceived or new thinking at this time is conservative, is immaterial. But "MISSION 66" revitalized the development program in this Park to a tempo unbelievable. Residences, administrative structures, Visitor Centers, interpretive devices, personnel increases, improved roads and trails, restorations, new campgrounds and picnic areas, campground stores - all these, and more, at a previously unknown rate.

Horace Albright was once quoted to have said that he believed some day more visitors would come to the Smokies than to all other national parks combined. While that day might never come, the conditions still exist for the possibility of it's happening. It can never happen without bold thinking in future planning.

DEVELOPMENT

Roads

The most important, as well as the most costly single item in the development of Great Smoky Mountains National Park was the construction of its system of roads. It is only because of roads that 3,000,000¹³⁰ visitors have used the area in a single year. The road system will be expanded to permit the tremendous crowds expected in the future to enjoy the Smokies.

Promotion of roads into and across the Smokies had been a factor in the success of the project to establish the Park¹⁶. Even before the Park was created, roads across the mountains at Deals Gap and Indian Gap were being promoted, and had been approved by the State of Tennessee by 1925.

While land was being acquired, leaders of the park movement did not favor immediate road improvement because improved roads would raise the cost of the land. This was the cause of strong opposition to the management of the park program.^{9,17,16}

Some of the major roads of the Park were originally aboriginal trails. The Indian Gap, Cataloochee, and Tuckaleechee and Southeastern trails are mentioned in the chapter on Indians.

Road-building of a sort began with the establishment of the first settlement. Assistance in maintaining roads was one of the first items of business by newly-formed county courts.¹⁰⁴ The 1831-1832 session of the North Carolina legislature authorized one of the

earliest major road projects in the Smokies. Abraham Enloe, Samuel Sherrill, John Carroll, Samuel Gibson were authorized to form the Oconalufy Turnpike Company. They were permitted to sell stock for building a road from the top of the Smoky Mountains down the Oconalufy River to John Beck's Place (below Smokemont). And they had the right to collect toll for the use of the road. Some of the established prices were: 75 cents for a 4-wheel carriage of pleasure or a six-horse wagon; 25 cents for a one-horse wagon; 2 cents per head of cattle; 1 cent for a hog or sheep. A traveller on horseback paid 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents. The turnpike was completed in 1839, with Robert Collins appointed to receive toll and keep the road in repair. In 1862 Col. W. H. Thomas used a battalion he was ordered to raise in Tennessee and North Carolina for improving the Turnpike. They started but did not complete a road up Walker Prong to Alum Cave and Newfound Gap. A detachment of Union Soldiers from Knoxville attacked the road camp and chased the men across the mountain. In one other Civil War skirmish in the Smokies, General R. B. Vance was ordered to go across the mountain from Quallatown into East Tennessee. At Indian Gap the wagons and artillery had to be dismantled, the wagon parts carried down and the cannon dragged over bare rocks to the bottom, where they were reassembled.

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A Knoxville newspaper published an item favoring "a good Turnpike road from Sevierville to Quallatown and other points in Western North Carolina" as early as 1872.

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Col. Townsend, president of the Little River Lumber Company, donated the railroad bed and bridges to the State January 9, 1926, as a route for a hard-surfaced highway from its terminus above Elizabethton, along the Little River to within a mile of Townsend. About 1932 the railroad tracks were removed and the road widened.

Plans were started early in 1926 to hard-surface the Maryville to Deals Gap, and Deals Gap to Bryson City, road just outside the park. The road was essentially completed by 1932.

The Gatlinburg-Newfound Gap-Cherokee road has been the most important in the Park. A survey for the road from Gatlinburg to Newfound Gap was completed about July 1923, and a contract let August 12, 1927. The road was completed to the North Carolina line September 6, 1930, at a cost of \$315,000. The North Carolina part of the road, connecting with the Tennessee section at Newfound Gap was completed April 6, 1932, with several cars going across on that day. On April 9 an official Park Service inspection committee made the trip. The party included nineteen prominent Park Service officials of that time.¹³¹ They brought the automobile into the very heart of the Smoky Mountain wilderness. Since then millions of people have crossed the Smokies along the road opened on that day where only a few thousands had ventured in all the vast ages before. It was really a revolutionary day for the nostalgic Smoky Mountain region.

The Bureau of Public Roads started a resurvey of the Gatlinburg-Newfound Gap road in December of the same year, 1932.⁶⁶ The new road was completed April 15, 1933 at a cost of \$1,250,000 for the fifteen miles. Resurfacing was completed July 1938.

Parts of the North Carolina section of the road were also re-worked after the April 8, 1932, opening. The section from the Boundary to Towstring Road was completed November 1933, and from Towstring Road to Newfound Gap was surfaced by June 1933.

A major road job was started August 31, 1932, when two engineers arrived to begin surveying for the road to Clingman's Dome. The survey was completed December 15, and a contract let for the road October 23, 1933, for \$670,396. The roadway was completed December 1935. Paving of the road was accomplished in July and August 1951. At the time the road was built it was said to be the highest public road east of the Rockies.⁶⁶

On November 12, 1934, the Blue Ridge National Parkway was located in North Carolina after an all-out North Carolina-Tennessee political battle to get the \$16,000,000 road for their respective states.¹³² The following day Secretary of the Interior Ickes announced that if the road is successful, another may be built in the area.¹³³ Early in 1940 plans for a Foothills Parkway were being developed. David C. Chapman and Frank Maloney of the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association were leaders for this project.

The plan found favor and was successful in 1944 when the Parkway was authorized by Congress. First right-of-way lands on the Parkway were accepted by the federal government. Construction and further right-of-way purchase are in progress at the present time - March, 1958.

Since June 1940 all roads in the Park have been maintained by the Park.

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The Soco Gap to Cherokee entrance road was surfaced with black top in 1946.

The first construction project after the war was building the Park Headquarters to Fighting Creek Gap Road beginning August 1947 with the section at the Gap. In 1952 the road was completed to the Park Headquarters at a total cost of \$396,537.

The Fontana Dam-Bryson City road was started August 28, 1947. Almost a mile has been constructed at a cost of \$239,912.50. An agreement was made between TVA, North Carolina, and the National Park Service to complete the road when funds are made available.

The Cades Cove loop road was worked over by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930's. In 1949 and 1950 some improvements were made. The loop road was surfaced with black top in 1956.

The Haintooga Ridge Road started in 1950 was completed (5.3 miles) October 4, 1952, at a cost of \$333,000. The Blue Ridge Parkway connecting link from Soco Gap was finished October 19, 1951 at a cost of \$336,405.

The Cades Cove Entrance Road, 9.7 miles long, was completed November 10 and cost \$116,900. Two hundred and sixty cars went into the Cove opening day, which was a Sunday.

The Townsend Entrance to Tremont Junction section of road was built in 1952.

Occasional floods do costly damage to roads. Two damaging floods occurred in 1951. The Little River Gorge Road was closed to traffic for 48 hours March 28-30 on account of a flood. It caused an estimated damage to the road of \$24,355. Old residents of Cades Cove had never seen so much of the Cove flooded.

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On the evening of September 1 a cloudburst fell on Mt. LeConte and produced flooded streams, principally on the West Prong of Little Pigeon drainage. Four inches of rain fell in less than an hour on Mt. LeConte. The raging West Prong of Little Pigeon River washed out highway 441 in five places. Alum Cave Trail was almost completely obliterated by Alum Cave Branch.

Restored Jim Carr Grist Mill located on West Prong Little Pigeon River was completely washed away. Flood waters swept across the lower streets in Gatlinburg.

Repairs of storm damage to the Gatlinburg-Newfound Gap road alone cost \$158,508.

Present road plans (March 1953) include completion of the Foothills Parkway, relocation of the upper part of highway 441 between Kephart Prong and the crest of the Smokies, possible completion

of the Fontana Dam to Bryson City Road, and possible construction of a road connecting the McIntooa Ridge Road with North Carolina highways by way of Cataloochee Creek.

Trails

Beginning in the Public Works era of the 1930's, an extensive trail system was built in the Smokies. The task consisted mostly of improving old existing trails. The pattern of the trail system used by the former owners of the land coincided pretty well with the park's requirements - trails along the main valleys and ridges. Originally park trails were located in all of the fifteen or more major valleys, the ridges between and many connecting trails along tributaries extending across the headward ridges. Since the system was built, many miles of trails have been abandoned.

As early as December 1932, 7.5 miles of trail had been built on Deep Creek, 3 miles of the Appalachian Trail, 13.5 miles on Thomas Ridge, 3.25 miles to Rainbow Falls, and 5.7 miles of the Boulevard Trail.

With the coming of the CCC camps, trail building was accelerated. One hundred men were employed building trails in March 1933. By October 1935 the thirty-five miles of Appalachian Trail between Newfound Gap and Davenport Gap had been completed.

Mount LeConte was one of the few pre-park tourist hiking attractions. It has retained its popularity through the years. Two trails were built up to Mt. LeConte in 1932, in addition to the Boulevard Trail along the crest. One went up Bear Pen Creek (off West Prong of Little Pigeon) and the other up Mill Creek (LeConte Creek).

In 1958 the Park trails were used by 7,462 visitors on conducted interpretive hikes. The trail system is essential for administrative functions as well - protection of park assets from fire, vandalism, poaching, and protection of the visitors.

The trail running the length of the crest of the Smokies is different from other trails in the Park in that it is a part of the Appalachian Trail extending from Mount Katahdin, Maine, southward over 2,000 miles to Mount Oglethorpe, Georgia. Some supervision of the entire trail is provided by the Appalachian Trail Conference. The chief utilitarian difference consists of the presence of trail shelters located at approximately an average hiking day apart. Each shelter has a conveniently located water supply and a constructed outdoor fireplace. The first shelters were built in 1936 or 1939. By June 1940, eight had been completed and a ninth one started.

ADMINISTRATION

Protection

It should probably be normal to expect almost anything to happen when millions of people come into a half million acre wilderness area to come and go where and when they please without guidance unless they should ask for it. Examination of the monthly reports of the Superintendent of this park from 1931 to 1951 showed that is about what actually did happen to some people while they were in the Park.

In the earliest years of administration one unusual task was the disposal of the buildings that were left by former owners. Hundreds of houses were reported as being sold, razed, or destroyed. The best buildings were sold for a few dollars and were removed by the buyers. A larger number were given away to persons who removed the materials. Many houses were razed and some of the material used. Perhaps most of the houses were not worth the cost of removal and were destroyed.

The automobile accident rate in the Park is not high, but these accidents do constitute one of the major protection problems of the Park. Motor vehicle accidents ranged all the way from dented fenders to violent plunges down deep ravines, and even the explosion of a bus.

A number of planes have crashed in the Smokies. The wilderness character of the Smoky Mountains is illustrated well by the circumstances of one such accident. A group of hikers found the

wreckage of a plane on Woolly Tops in the Greenbrier watershed January 19, 1947. It was discovered that it was a Beechcraft biplane assigned to an Oak Ridge project. Civilian pilot, co-pilot, and mechanic had taken off from the Knoxville airport for Pittsburg, August 12, 1944. The men had not been heard from since. There was no evidence of their bodies in the vicinity of the plane wreckage and it is assumed that they perished.

All of the crashes did not bring death to the pilots. On December 8, 1948 a Navy Corsair fighter plane crashed in the Abrams Creek district of the Park. The plane had run out of gas and the pilot bailed out successfully.

A pilot perished in the crash of a Mustang fighter plane on Hannah Mountain April 1, 1951. The plane and body were found April 4.

There have been a few cases of poisonous snake bite. The Superintendent reported August 10, 1948, "A 17-year-old Boy Scout was bitten by a poisonous snake - the first hiker in the history of the park (previously one fisherman and one berrypicker were bitten by rattlesnakes, and one hiker experimenting on the striking of rattlesnakes)." One other hiker was bitten by a rattlesnake in 1951. There were also only a few cases of copperhead bites.

A child was bitten by a mad dog in 1947 or 1948.

Almost every year Park Rangers are called on to find lost persons. From July 1, 1950, to June 30, 1951 six parties including 17 persons were searched for by request. The searches have always been successful.

One horse had to be rescued after falling from a cliff on Mount LeConte in 1948.

During the flood of September 1, 1951, Park Rangers rescued nine persons in very dangerous positions on Little River near Elkmont, and assisted many others to places of safety.

There have been a number of drownings in the Park. One visitor, a young lady from Maryland, was drowned in the streambed of West Prong of Little Pigeon River when a flash flood suddenly rushed upon her and three girl companions August 7, 1947. One of the others narrowly escaped by hanging on to trees.

An unusual fatality for this area occurred February 23, 1947, when a woman visitor died from exposure in a snowstorm on Little River Gorge Road. She and her sister, who survived, walked 7.5 miles from their stalled car toward Gatlinburg. The sister was alive when found by snowplow operators Ennis Ownby and John D. Ownby. The snowplow had not been able to operate and the roads in the park had been closed for almost three days. Eleven snowfalls in February totaled 60.7 inches.

In the era of park administration when a great many people still lived in the park, a number of abnormal protection problems arose. In March, 1931, the Superintendent reported: "Forney Creek. Two houses occupied. One by a squatter woman and grown daughter. These women bear a very bad reputation for peddling whiskey and loose morals, and they were told if they did not move in a reasonable length of time they would be forcibly ejected." In the same report we find: "Deep

Creek. Five women have moved into a house on park lands. They bear an exceedingly bad reputation and were ordered to move out." In February 1932 the Superintendent reported: "Since last fall 38 squatters have moved out."

Poaching on Park lands has always been a big problem. Many people living near the park have been accustomed to hunt, fish, and trap wherever they pleased. The attitude of unrestricted hunting privilege has been a relic of the pioneer era. Most of these people, however, have respect for the consequences of poaching in the Park.

A case of dynamiting the Oconalufy River for fish was reported in June 1932. Dynamite and other stolen articles were found in a cabin. Not sufficient evidence was found to prosecute the occupants of the cabin.

In May 1926 twenty-six persons were arrested for illegal fishing. They were assessed total fines of \$260. and twenty-seven fishing tackles were confiscated.

In fiscal year 1950 there were thirty fishing violations, which cost the fishermen \$916.00 and twelve tackles.

Confiscation of 231 steel traps was reported for the years 1932 to 1952. Some of these were bear traps but most of them for smaller game. As late as 1952 six bear traps were confiscated. Joshua Williams was caught setting a bear trap in the park December 1948 and was sentenced to \$250 fine and 60 days in jail - the jail sentence being suspended for 2-year probation.

During fiscal year 1949-1950, there were 15 hunting violations resulting in \$950 fines, 10 rifles, 1 pistol, and 2 bear traps.

The wild leek, known locally as "ramps", are quite generally eaten in localities adjacent to the high mountains. Since most of the ramps country around here lies in the Park there is some poaching done each spring for that item. In May 1943 three persons were reported arrested for digging ramps and fined \$5.

Some people probably think the stories of moonshine stills in the Smokies are but a myth. Others might think there is a still in every laurel clump and a fruit jar on every stump. The truth probably lies between those extremes.

Sixty-three stills with various quantities of whiskey, mash, and beer have been confiscated in the Park. These finds have been distributed rather evenly through the years. On January 27, 1952 a 60-gallon still and 2 barrels of "beer" were discovered in the Peachtree Creek section of the Park. And in October 1951 a 55-gallon still and 2 barrels of "beer" were destroyed on Cooper Creek. Moonshining apparently has not yet become a forgotten craft.

Forest Protection

Forestry in the National Park Service (where the use of trees is by enjoyment and not utilization by cutting) is a special kind of forestry. It consists of permitting the perpetual natural growth of trees. Park Service foresters prevent the destruction of trees and forests.

Fire is the great destroyer of Park forests where lumbering is not permitted. The Park spends more money for fire control than for its other forestry activities. Former Assistant Superintendent Robert P. White came to the Smokies as an engineer to supervise construction of fire towers in July 1932. Ten towers had been completed by July 1932. Two others were completed by June 30, 1941. Fire prevention cost the park approximately \$50,000 in fiscal year 1938.

At one time the Park maintained a nursery at Ravensford to raise seedlings to reforest cut-over and cultivated land. In 1940 the nursery produced over 500,000 seedlings. Trees grow and reproduce rapidly in the Smokies. The scarred areas disappeared rapidly and the nursery was abandoned shortly after 1941.

The white pine blister rust control program was started in 1933 by the Bureau of Plant Quarantine to protect more than 4,000 acres of white pines growing in the Park. Blister rust control cost \$26,000 in 1950.

The Park also controls the pine beetle infestations which reach the epidemic stage. In 1950 \$1,400 was spent on beetle control.

Chestnut blight wrought the greatest destruction of historic times to the Smokies forests. The fungus-produced disease struck the locally abundant chestnut suddenly and by 1939 all chestnut trees in the Park were reported affected. Within just a few years the "ghost forests" of leafless dead chestnut trees had replaced luxuriant chestnut orchards.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

The vast herds of buffalo, elk, deer and other game animals promised by a member of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission in 1925 or 1926 were never built up in the Park. But bears, wildcats, foxes, and deer had survived hunters and other destructive elements of civilization in the almost impenetrable mountain and forest fastnesses of the Smokies. With Park protection, they are thriving, especially bears and deer.

Hunters killed four deer and six bears on private land in the Park in December, 1931. Bear meat was served in Tremont Camp of the Little River Lumber Company. Three bears were observed in the Park in September.

Bears had become a problem at CCC camps by June 1935, after only four years of protection. By 1939 they had increased in numbers

and had lost enough of their native shyness to begin eating food from tourists. Several bears bit their first tourists in 1940, and five serious bear accidents occurred in 1941. Many bears are shot outside of the park boundaries during the open season for bear. Eighty-one were shot by hunters above Fontana Lake in November 1949.

"Roscoe" is an example of occasional bear brigands. He operated at Newfound Gap and earned a place on the unwanted list. Rangers trapped Roscoe and hauled him into the Greenbrier section more than ten airplane miles away on June 2. Roscoe was back June 6. He was trapped again on June 9 and given a ride to the old burn of the Shut In Creek fire. He was back again June 13. The report said Roscoe "could not be trapped again".

An unusual hunting violation occurred in April 1934 when a lessee shot a tame eagle that had been released. The hunter was ordered to move out of the park at once.

Fishing

Hundreds of miles of clear sparkling streams rush noisily down the steep slopes of the Smokies. The water is cold and pure. To many visitors this means good fishing. Regulated fishing is permitted in most of the streams in the Park. It is one of the most popular ways of enjoying the Park.

In April 1931 an arrangement was made with the Tennessee Department of Fish and Game to restock streams with rainbow and brook trout. In July of that year construction of a fish rearing pool was started at the old Bryson Place on Deep Creek.

The CCC built pools at Chimneys Campground in June 1934, and a large hatchery at Kephart Prong in 1935. Another pool was built at Cades Cove.

The first fishing survey of park streams was begun by five employees of the Bureau of Fisheries in October 1934.

The fish hatcheries in the Park produced millions of fish before they were closed. The Cades Cove and Chimneys Campground pools were abandoned with the closing of the CCC program in June 1942. The Kephart hatchery was continued until 1948 by the Fish and Wildlife Service. In 1949, the Fish and Wildlife Service Hatchery at Erwin, Tennessee, poured 355,690 trout into the Smokies fishing streams.

The hundreds and thousands, and even millions, of fingerling trout put into the park waters were given special protection to give them a better chance to grow up to legal size. War was declared on water snakes in 1933. Three .410 gauge shotguns, one .22 calibre rifle, and ammunition were purchased in March. In the month of May the surprising number of 429 snakes were killed. The snake control project was not continued long.

A top-level conference was held in the Park January 15, 1947 by representatives of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development, Tennessee Department of Conservation, U. S. Forest Service, Tennessee Valley Authority, and the National Park Service. They met to discuss the problem of improving fishing conditions in the Park, which were deplored by fishermen and sports writers of the region.

Opening day of the fishing season is always a big day in the Smokies. Two thousand fishermen tried their luck in Park streams on the first day of the season in 1950. One person broke an arm and another broke a leg while making their way over slippery boulders.

Another conference to improve fishing was held in April 1950 by representatives of the Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, the Tennessee Fish and Game Commission, and the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.

The Fish and Wildlife Service initiated a sports fisheries investigation of the Park streams in August 1953. The studies, under the direction of Dr. Robert Lennon, assisted by Philip Parker, are still in progress (1958).

Interpretation

From the beginning, in July 1930 to October 12, 1935, the area was managed as a limited park. Its functions were restricted to basic protection and administration until a minimum of 400,000 acres had been accepted by the federal government as prescribed by Congress. Visitors came in slowly at first, and they were not encouraged to come. Interpretive activities (educational activities they were called then) were confined to research and preparing for later public contact work until about 1940. Interpretation developed gradually up to the present - at least until MISSION 66 got rolling, and then all activities mushroomed.

According to the records the first interpretive event in the Smokies was a talk given by Forester Technician G. A. Schulze (E.C.W.) The talk was part of a CCC Educational Program given sometime early in July 1933.

Later in the month, from July 12 to 16, Mr. Earl A. Trager, Chief Naturalist of the National Park Service, visited the Park with Mrs. Trager and their two children. If he presented a public program while here it was not included in the report.

Following the visit of Chief Naturalist Trager, Dr. George Ruhle, Park Naturalist of Glacier National Park came to the Smokies in November on a three-month assignment. He conducted a series of classes for CCC enrollees and others as part of the regular CCC Educational Program. The instruction consisted of lantern slides, motion pictures: classes in engineering, forestry, and geology.

Naturalist Technician (E.C.W.) Willis King arrived in the Park in August 1934. During the years that he was stationed here he did a great deal of research and wrote many reports on herpetology, the park wilderness area, Cades Cove management and other natural history topics.

In September 1934 Charles J. Spiker, Senior Naturalist Technician (E.C.W.) spent a few weeks in the Park making a survey of educational possibilities. Assistant Naturalist Technician Fleetwood also arrived in September. Fleetwood made extensive ornithological observations in many sections of the Park. He reported seeing 114 species in one month.

The first permanent naturalist of the Smokies, Arthur Stupka, arrived for duty October 14, 1935, to fill the newly established Park Naturalist position. He has supervised and developed the interpretive program of the Park from that day to the present. That year E.C.W. Geologist Mackay, Associate Naturalist Jennison (E.C.W.), Naturalist Technician King (E.C.W.), and Naturalist Assistant (E.C.W.) Maurice Sullivan worked with Park Naturalist Stupka.

The first naturalist quarters were located in the old Pi Beta Phi House in the Sugarlands in April 1936. In June 1936 the Bruce Keener house near the mouth of Fighting Creek was acquired by the Park, and, beginning in December was used as Park Naturalist offices and temporary museum until the present Park Headquarters Building was

completed in 1940. While in the Keener House the first storage equipment consisting of steel museum cabinets were obtained with Region One funds. The Pepon botanical index was received in December 1936.

Dr. Stanley A. Cain and Park Naturalist Stupka organized the first Nature Trail in the Smokies in June 1937. It was called the Greenbrier-Brushy Mountain Nature Trail.

June 1937 was an important date in Park interpretation because the first two ranger-naturalists entered on duty.

The Smokemont amphitheater was built during the fiscal year 1939 to be used in interpretation. Two ranger-naturalists were employed in June.

The first regular naturalist program in the Park was conducted during the period July 5 to October 30, 1939.

In fiscal year 1941, the second floor of the Administration Building was completed and was used to house a collection of mountain culture artifacts, herbarium, other collections, and office space for ranger-naturalists. Six steel herbarium cases were received.

Sixty collecting permits were issued.

A Preliminary List of Trees and shrubs was compiled in 1942.

Four ranger-naturalists were employed in 1941, and none after August 1942 until after World War II.

Dr. Baldwin was employed as the first seasonal naturalist after the war in August 1946.

John R. McCamey was employed April 1947. He became the first permanent assistant Park Naturalist.

The Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association donated \$850.00 to the interpretive division in 1947 for materials including scientific reference books and printed naturalist programs.

The Pioneer Museum was opened to the public June 1, 1948 with two rooms of exhibits. It was the first museum in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

SCIENTIFIC STUDIES

The Great Smoky Mountains have attracted scientists at least as early as 1842 when S. B. Buckley, geologist of North Carolina, and the botanist Prof. Rugel were in the area.⁸⁵ The Southern Appalachian National Park Commission, in recommending the Smokies for a national park, reported that "the Great Smoky Mountains easily stands first because of height of mountains, depth of valleys, ruggedness of the area, and the unexampled variety of its trees, shrubs, and plants".¹⁴²

Numerous scientific study projects and plans have been in progress from the time the Park was established. Studies and collections in the area are made by park personnel and also by outside scientists in cooperation with the Park. Many persons have contributed to the large mass of data collected for the benefit of visitors who want to enjoy the area through a greater understanding of its various features.

1927. The U.S.G.S. surveyed the park area in the years 1927 to 1931 and produced a topographic map of the park and vicinity.⁶⁶

1931. Father George Matthew Link visited the Park for a week in April 1931 and compiled a list of 85 species of birds observed.⁶⁶

1931. Dr. Herman S. Peppoon, botanist of the Chicago Academy of Science, arrived in the Park in April for a plant survey taking about two months.⁶⁰

1932. Mrs. Charles D. Walcott spent several weeks of April in the Park painting wild flowers for a volume of flower pictures published in 1955.

E. V. Komarek arrived in the Park in July to begin a survey of the wildlife of the area. Dr. Komarek represented the Chicago Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Charles R. Hirsch, of the Appalachian Forest Experiment Station, spent the week of July 6 on Upper Forney Creek studying the severely burned-over area.

1933. E. V. Komarek returned in April to continue mammal study.

Roy Pierce of the Bureau of Plant Industry came to the Park in June to begin a Blister Rust Survey of the whole Park.

1934. Dr. N. S. Davis of the Chicago Academy of Sciences made an application to establish a Biological Field Station in the Park.

American Forestry Association made a trip up to Newfound Gap in October with a caravan of 85 cars while on their 20th annual convention.

1935. Dr. W. H. Camp of the New York Botanical Gardens was in the Park in June studying the Ericaceae.

Dr. Barrows was also in the Park in June studying spiders, of which he collected more than one hundred species.

1937. Dr. Carl Hubbs arrived in the area in September. He made an extensive survey of fishes.

Joseph S. Hall spent the summer studying mountain speech.

1941. Dr. H. R. Mesler of the University of Tennessee prepared a list of Fungi August 21, including 1200 species.

Herman Alva, of the University of Tennessee, made a study of Algae in the Park.

Gunnar Digelius collected 206 species of lichens in the area.

1942. A Preliminary List of Trees and Shrubs was prepared.

Seventy-four species of Fish were recorded.

Seventy-four species of Reptiles and Amphibians were recorded.

1946. The first fossils were discovered in the Park by U.S.G.S. Geologist Neumann. The fossils were brachiopods, gastropods, cephalopods, and trilobites.

In September the United States Geological Survey began work on the preparation of a geological map of the Park and vicinity.

1951. November. R. R. Dreisback, Midland, Michigan, presented 100 Insect specimens to the Park.

Fred Calle started a study of azaleas on Gregory Bald.

R. B. Neumann published an account of "The Great Smokies Fault".¹⁵⁵

1952. R. H. Whittaker donated 150 determined insects.

American Museum of Natural History technicians were in the Park getting information and materials of a section of Smoky Mountain forest to be reproduced in the Hall of American Forests.

Topographic Map of Park and Vicinity was published. The reverse side contains "The Great Smoky Mountains, Their Geology and Natural History" by Philip B. King and Arthur Stupka.

1953. January. A. C. Cole, University of Tennessee, published a
checklist of Ants of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. 156

INTERPRETATION

Pioneer History

Mary N. Murfree of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, probably did more than anyone else to personally make the Great Smoky Mountains known to the world. This little woman who wrote under the pseudonym "Charles Egbert Craddock" climbed to the top level of her profession by writing about the Smoky Mountains, beginning with her story "The Dancin' Party at Harrison's Cove" written in 1878. Her stories of the Smokies earned for her the enviable reputation as the pioneer in the field of regional literature. Charles Egbert Craddock's stories were equally stories of mountains and of the people who lived in the mountains. The picturesque mountain people became as fascinating as the picturesque smoky rugged mountains themselves. They actually grew in human appeal as pioneer conditions disappeared.

The National Park Service recognized the pioneer history of the area as a major resource, second only to its unexcelled natural history.

The unusual speech of the mountaineer excited great interest among the readers of Craddock and also among the people who came to visit the Smokies. Much has been written about Southern Highlander speech, which has been called one of America's most interesting vernaculars.¹⁴⁶ In 1930 the Great Smoky Mountain area was visited by Mellinger E. Henry who had one of the best collections of Southern ballads in this country.¹⁴⁷

A Park Service memorandum in 1937 stated, "the significance of the Smoky Mountain culture lies in the fact that there has survived a manner of living, an entire cultural complex, which almost everywhere else within the boundaries of the United States has disappeared entirely" 148

The Secretary of the Interior wrote in 1939: "Attention has been given to the unique opportunity presented in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park to preserve frontier conditions of a century ago, which have vanished elsewhere." 149

Charles S. Grossman, Architect Foreman (E.C.W.) started a Pioneer Cabin Survey in July 1935. Upon completion of the survey in November, Mr. Grossman supervised work on cabin preservation in Cades Cove. CCC Camp Number 11 was assigned the project of restoring an old cabin group and mill in Cades Cove in December 1935. Reconstruction of Cable Mill was completed May 1936. Jim Carr Mill and other buildings were restored in 1936. Mingus Mill and Floyd barn were restored in 1937.

A booklet on Mountain Culture was prepared in 1939 by members of the Park Service staff. 150 Joseph S. Hall made a study of Smoky Mountain Speech and Ballads in the summer of 1939. 146

Mr. Grossman made his first extensive Pioneer Structure rehabilitation report April 1943. He reported that he had inspected more than 1700 buildings in the Park and made recommendations for

their preservation. The Director of the National Park Service announced a new policy: "It shall be the policy of the National Park Service that Special Use permits for conforming agricultural uses may be issued for the maintenance of certain portions of historical, military, parkway and other like areas where it is desired to perpetuate or restore man-made conditions."

151

In 1948 and 1949 forty-eight structures received preservative treatment. Work was done in Cosby, Webb Creek, Cataloochee, Indian Camp Creek, Cades Cove and Oconalufy.

In the spring of 1940 a new kind of program had been set up for the maintenance of meadow lands in Cades Cove by issuing Special Use permits for a five-year period ending December 31, 1944. There were thirteen farmers paying a total of \$724.00 for 1,400 acres of land.

153

Plans for Natural History and Pioneer History Museums were begun in 1944. A Museum Prospectus was prepared and approved by the Director in 1946. A major event in the development of the Pioneer History Program occurred early in 1948 when plans were rushed to open a temporary Pioneer History Museum in part of the Oconalufy Ranger Station. The exhibits were opened to the public June 1, 1948. Previously, the Park Naturalist had prepared four exhibit cases in the building (1945).

Beginning August 10, 1952, Mr. Crossman supervised moving selected buildings called the Pioneer Farmstead and re-erecting them at a site adjacent to the Oconaluftee Pioneer Museum. The Farmstead was essentially completed by February 27, 1953.

Demonstrations of pioneer handicrafts and skills have always been considered desirable adjuncts to buildings, museum and restored fields in the interpretation of the pioneer story. The idea of a "living museum" has always been attractive to planners of the pioneer program. Miss Lucy Morgan, Director of Penland School of Handicrafts, with four assistants demonstrated the skills of spinning, carding, and weaving at the Pioneer Farmstead in October 1953. The following year the Great Smoky Mountains Natural History Association provided a demonstration of shake-making in the same location. In 1956 the Association put the Cable Mill in Cades Cove back into operation grinding corn meal as a pioneer demonstration for visitors during summer months.

A prophecy of John C. Campbell made in 1921 has largely come true - he said: "In time the isolation of the Highlands will be overcome by railroads and good thoroughfares -- while the Highlander himself will become no better, no worse, but quite as uninteresting as other men."

153

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is guilty of hastening the rapid loss of the Highlander's character. But the Park has also gone a long way towards preserving a small section of our pioneer past for the present and all future generations to see and enjoy.

INTERPRETATION

Museum

Actually, Great Smoky Mountains National Park is itself a great natural museum - a museum where exhibits of mountains, forests, flowers, streams, and wildlife interpret the inspirational meanings of primeval wilderness relationships. Because it is difficult and time-consuming to explore all of the interesting features of the area, the Park Service has planned one or more constructed museums designed to show the visitor what there is in the Park for him to see, and to show him how to find the attractions which seem most interesting. Museums are built to enable visitors to experience a maximum of pleasure from a visit to the Park.

The two stories of the Park are those of its natural history and history, and two separate museums are planned to explain them.

An item occurring in a March 1931 report mentioned that "Assistant Chief Ranger Hough took a load of objects to Maryville".⁶⁶ The objects referred to were pioneer culture artifacts - spinning wheels, split bottom chairs, bull-tongue plows - that were being saved to form a nucleus for a future museum of mountain culture. Among them were artifacts that would please many thousands of visitors for untold future generations, and instill in them a surge of pride in kinship brought close for a moment to the primitive ruggedness of remote pioneer ancestors.

The first museum plan for Great Smoky Mountains National Park was prepared by Alden B. Stevens in 1935, while Dr. H. C. Bryant was chief of the Branch of Research and Education. The Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association in Tennessee and the Great Smoky Mountains, Incorporated, in North Carolina, appointed Museum Committees at the request of Dr. Bryant. The committees were urged to gather 158 specimens for a museum. They were enthusiastic collectors and obtained many items, some of which were assembled as a Park museum collection, but many were to be turned over to the collection when the museum was built. The museum, however, was quite nebulous, and the spirit of most of the collectors waned. H. C. Wilburn and C. S. Grossman, E.C.W. 159 foremen, maintained a great interest in the Pioneer Museum development. It was due largely to the efforts of these two men, encouraged by Park Naturalist Stupka, that the museum finally became an actuality.

Dr. Arthur I. Kendall, of Northwestern University, donated his entire collection of Kentucky rifles, rifle-making machines and tools to the Park Museum, July 1937.

Relief models of the Park area were made in the Fort Hunt Museum Laboratory and sent to the Park in October 1936 and September 1937.

A report on the Mountain Culture Program of the Park was prepared in 1938. 168 A part of the report was submitted and approved as a museum prospectus in 1940.

Harry T. Thompson prepared a record of Smoky Mountains Museum Plans in 1941. Mr. Hans Huth as a collaborator in the National Park Service made a survey of the whole idea of Pioneer Culture Preservation in the park, and prepared a report on his findings in 1941. Dr. Huth believed that pioneer culture was a major asset of the Park and that further delay in acting to preserve what was left would be regrettable and disastrous to the program.

An example of the heterogeneous mass of items collected for the museum, often unrelated to the park area, was the "Caleb Crosby Collection" received in December 1941. The "collection" was principally a threshing machine built integrally into a log barn.

Chief of the Museum Division of the National Park Service Ned J. Burns prepared a summary of museum problems in the area in 1941.

O. B. Taylor, Soil Conservationist, wrote an interesting report on the management of the Cades Cove exhibit in 1945.

Mountain culture artifacts were cleaned, fumigated, and stored in cabinets and on shelves on the second floor of the Administration Building in fiscal year 1942. Some large items were taken to the old Pi Beta Phi house in the Sugarlands to make room for the Bureau of Public Roads.

The Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association donated its scrapbooks and other significant historical material relating to the national park movement to the Park in fiscal year 1944. In 1947 the East Tennessee Automobile Club donated its scrapbooks containing more than a thousand clippings relating to the establishment of the Park.

The Park Naturalist prepared four exhibit cases of Pioneer History materials in the lobby of the Oconalufy Ranger Station in 1945. This was the forerunner of a larger exhibit occupying two rooms of the Oconalufy Ranger Station which was opened to the public June 1, 1948. This was the first museum in the Park.

A comprehensive Museum Prospectus was prepared in 1946 by Park Naturalist Stupka, and Museum Planner Ralph Lewis. The prospectus recommended plans for natural history and history museums, and also the outdoor historical developments in Cades Cove and other sections of the Park. The approved prospectus was revised in 1957 by bringing certain aspects up to date.

Artist Rudolf Ingerle donated one of his many Smoky Mountain paintings, "Aunt Winchester" to the Park in 1950. The painting, valued at \$1,500, is a popular item on exhibit in the Pioneer Museum.

The Park obtained the extensive collection of Horace Kephart, author of the Smokies, April 9, 1948.

The University of Tennessee Botany Department assisted the Park Museum with a donation of six herbarium cases in fiscal year 1941.

Miss Lucy Morgan, Director of the Penland School of Handicrafts, furnished a pioneer period room in the Pioneer Museum April 3, 1950. The exhibit material is from the Penland, Goodrich, and Park collections.

Workmen under Charles S. Grossman started moving a group of pioneer buildings from various sections of the Park and rebuilding them as a "Pioneer Farmstead" near the Pioneer Museum August 12, 1952.

The American Museum of Natural History in New York City reconstructed two bits of Smoky Mountains wilderness in their Hall of North American Forests and Hall of North American Mammals and opened them to the public in the spring of 1954.

MISSION 66 has hastened completion of many much-needed facilities construction projects. It now (1958) seems as if the museum plans, as old as the Park itself, might become museums within a year or so - two museums that will help people understand the rugged Smoky Mountain wilderness and the Smoky Mountain people who were held captive by the surrounding mountains for several generations.

FRIENDLY ORGANIZATIONS OUTSIDE THE PARK

Many organizations worked actively in the promotion of national park campaigns before the successful movement started. Some of them have been mentioned in other parts of this history. The work of some organizations was vital to the successful conclusion of the Knoxville movement.

After Willis P. Davis initiated the plan, much of the work was done by various organizations under the direction of Mr. Davis, and later on mostly under the aggressive leadership of Mr. David C. Chapman. One of the early press accounts of the movement informed the public that "Civic bodies lining up for effort to found large national park in Appalachian Range. Committees appointed by the Knoxville Automobile Association and the Knoxville Board of Commerce. Important influence will be brought to bear upon a project for a national park in the region, which, if successful, will bring millions of extra dollars annually to the Southland."

164

The Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association must necessarily be considered the most important of all organizations that took an active part in the creation of the Park. Members of the original Board of Directors are given in Appendix 1. Membership on this Board was initially almost identical with the Board of Directors of the Automobile Club of Knoxville. The Association refused to dissolve and give up its assets to the Tennessee Great Smoky Mountain Park

Committee as requested. It continued to function actively according to its stated purpose "to establish a National Park in the Great Smoky Mountains and to protect and promote its interest before and after its completion". It is still an active organization today with an active membership of about twenty-five enthusiastic park boosters. The name of the treasurer, Forrest Andrews, is interesting in that Forrest Andrews met in Judge Lindsay's office for the Association's first meeting. Carlos C. Campbell, James E. Thompson, E. Guy Frizzell, Brockway Crouch and Mildred E. Query, of the Board, were all active in the park movement, and they, as well as many other members, deserve appreciation by the park for their long-continued loyalty.

The Western North Carolina Associated Communities was organized in 1946 to exploit the recreational facilities of that region. Committees of the organization, separately and jointly with committees of the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association, continue to exert influence in securing as much aid as possible for the national park.

The official State Park Commissions created by the legislatures of Tennessee and North Carolina were vitally concerned with the park movement after the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission recommended the area as a national park.

There are National Forests to the east, south, and west of the Park. They were important in that they represented a rival Smoky Mountains National Forest plan before the Great Smoky Mountains National Park idea gained the most influential backing. Forestry people were among the

most important opposition to the Park. The opposition ceased even before the park was created. The Forest Service has provided many valuable cooperative services for the Park.

TVA property adjoins the Park on the south at Fontana Lake. The agency has cooperated generously with the Park in many ways. It even gave more than 44,000 acres to the Park.

The University of Tennessee, in particular, has extended many services of a technical and administrative advisory nature. The University has maintained a keen interest in scientific research in the area from the inception of the park movement.

The Smoky Mountain Hiking Club has long been an important promoter of the recreational resources of the Smoky Mountains. An outgrowth of local interest in the Appalachian Mountain Club, activities of some of its members go back farther than the park movement itself. The Club is still active in Park management and has influential committees.

The Southern Highlands Handicrafts Guild has been an influential friendly organization in its promotion of native mountain handicrafts. Their work has a direct connection with the Pioneer History program of the Park.

The Great Smoky Mountains Natural History Association was organized in 1953 with a Tennessee state charter and official designation as a cooperative society by the Department of the Interior. The body operates as an educational non-profit-distributing corporation for the benefit of the interpretive program in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Many other organizations contributed more or less importantly to the successful development of Great Smoky Mountains National Park to the present time. It is possible to mention only the most important ones in this history.

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APPENDIX 1 - Original Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association

W. P. Davis, Judge H. B. Lindsay, Forrest Andrews, Judge D. C.
Webb, David C. Chapman, Cowan Rodgers, James B. Wright, J. W.
Brownlee.

Met in Judge Lindsay's office December 21, 1923; 10:00 a.m.

APPENDIX 2. Southern Appalachian National Park Committee

Dr. H. W. Temple, Congressman from Pennsylvania

Maj. W. A. Welch, General Manager, Palisades Interstate
Park, Commission of New York

Harlan P. Kelsey, Salem, Massachusetts. Former President
Appalachian Mountain Club

W. C. Gregg, National Arts Club, New York

Glenn S. Smith, U. S. Geological Survey

Appointed by Secretary of the Interior Work

April 20, 1924

Temple, Chairman; Smith, Secretary-Treasurer

APPENDIX 3. North Carolina Park Commission

Public Laws of 1924 (Special Session)

Resolutions 16, 29

Eugene C. Brooks, Raleigh

D. M. Duck, Bald Mountain

H. W. Chase, Chapel Hill

John G. Dawson, Kingston

J. H. Dillard, Murphy

Plato Ebbs, Asheville

A. M. Kistler, Morganton

Frank Linney, Boone

Harry Nettles, Biltmore

E. S. Parker, Jr., Greensboro

Mark Squires, Lenoir

First meeting October 8, 1924; Mark Squires, Chairman,

E. C. Brooks, Secretary

APPENDIX 4. Congressional National Park Commission

Same as Appendix 2.

Appointed by Secretary Work February 27, 1925.

APPENDIX 5. Tennessee State Park and Forestry Committee

David C. Chapman

A. E. Marckham

Henry E. Colton

Governor Austin Peay, Chairman

Appointed August 6, 1925 pursuant to Park Act of April 10.

APPENDIX 6. Tennessee Committee that met the Southern Appalachian

National Park Commission at Asheville, North Carolina

W. P. Davis

D. C. Chapman

Congressman J. Will Taylor

Paul Fink

APPENDIX 7. Incorporators of Great Smoky Mountains Conservation

Association

W. P. Davis

D. C. Chapman

J. W. Brown

W. M. Clemens

Caroy F. Spence

Wiley L. Morgan

Russell W. Hanlon

R. M. Kesterson

H. E. Lindsay

Herbert Acuff

Forrest Andrews

President - Davis

Chairman - Chapman

Secretary - Hanlon

Treasurer - Rodgers

Incorporated August 10, 1923.

APPENDIX 3. North Carolina Park Commission

February 25, 1927

E. C. Brooks, Raleigh

J. A. Hardison

D. M. Buck, Bald Mountain

Frank Linney, Boone

J. G. Dawson, Kinston

E. Lang

Plato Ebbs, Asheville

Harry Nettles

R. T. Fountain

E. E. Parker, Jr., Greensboro

Mark Squires, Lenoir

Mark Squires, Attorney and State Senator, Chairman

Dr. E. C. Brooks, Raleigh, Secretary

Plato Ebbs, Asheville, Treasurer

Stuart W. Cramer, of Cramerton, succeeded Linney in 1928

Frank L. Dunlap, Wadesboro, succeeded Hardison in 1930

Dr. Fred M. Hanes, Winston-Salem, succeeded Parker in 1931

Verne Rhoades of Asheville was appointed Executive Secretary

Mark Squires was appointed Special Attorney in charge of

legal department.

APPENDIX 9. Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission

Act of April 27, 1927

David C. Chapman

A. E. Markham

Henry E. Colton

(Above 3 members from Tennessee Park & Forestry
Commission)

Ben A. Morton

L. S. Allen

E. E. Connor

John M. Clark

(Appointed by Governor Penz)

At October 7 meeting, David C. Chapman was elected Chairman.

APPENDIX 10. Louisa Walker's poem "My Mountain Home" (sic)

There is an old weather beaten house

That stands near a wood

With an orchard near by it

For all most one hundred years it has stood.

It was my home in infancy

It sheltered me in youth

When I tell you I love it

I tell you the truth.

For years it has sheltered

By day and night

From the summer sun's heat

And the Cold Winter blight.

But now the park Commosser

Comes all dressed up so gay

Saying this old home of yours

We must now take away.

They coax they wheedle

They fret and bark

Saying we have have this place

For a national park.

For us poor mountain people

They don't have a care

But must a home for

The wolf, the lion and the bear.

But many of us have a title

That is sure and will hold

To the City of peace

Where the streets are pure gold.

There no lion in its fury

Those paths ever trod

It is the home of the soul

In the presence of God.

When we reach the portals

Of glory so fair

The Wolf cannot enter

Neither the lion or bear.

And no park Commissioner

Will ever dare

To disturb or molest

Or take our home from us there.

By Louisa Walker, Sevierville, Tenn. Rout 7"

APPENDIX 11. Legislation

General Assembly, North Carolina

House Resolution

"A Resolution of instruction to our Senators and Representatives in Congress in Relation to the Establishment of a national park in western North Carolina."

2

Rep. Earlow, Edgecombe County, North Carolina

January 24, 1893.

General Assembly, North Carolina

House Resolution

"To put on its immediate passage the Resolution of Instruction concerning the Establishment of a National Park in Western North Carolina."

2

The Bill was amended so the place for the park would not be placed at Grandfather Mountain but would be left to the discretion of the national committee.

The Bill as amended passed the third reading.

Rep. (Robert) Vance, Buncombe County, North Carolina

February 3, 1893

General Assembly, North Carolina

Senate Resolution

"Requesting our Senators and Representatives in Congress to use their influence for the establishment of a

national park in Western North Carolina,"₂ etc.

February 7, 1893 (passed).

Public Laws of North Carolina, Session 1893

"A Resolution requesting our Senators and Representatives in Congress to use their influence for the establishment of a national park in Western North Carolina," etc.

₂

Ratified the 9th day of February, 1893.

North Carolina Press Association

Resolution

"Whereas, There is no National Park east of the Mississippi River, and, whereas, this state possesses the most beautiful and grandest scenery in this part of the United States, and also the advantages of fine climate and accessibility, therefore, be it

"Resolved, that the Congress of the United States be requested to give this matter their consideration, (etc.)"₂

W. F. Durbank, Winston-Salem, North Carolina

April 27, 1893

House of Representatives (U. S.) 1894

Memorial of the North Carolina Press Association introduced into the House of Representatives.

John S. Henderson, Member of Congress from North Carolina

March 27, 1894

Department of Agriculture Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year
ending June 30, 1901

Provided: "a sum not to exceed \$5,000 may be used to investigate the forest conditions of the Southern Appalachian Mountains region of Western North Carolina and adjacent states."

(Result of Memorial presented to Congress in January 1900 by the Appalachian National Park Association of the South Atlantic States.)

A very important comprehensive report resulted from this expenditure, through the generous cooperation of the U. S. Geological Survey and U. S. Department of Agriculture Agencies in their official capacities.⁵⁰

Weeks Law

Statutes at Large of the United States

Chapter 186

Volume 36; Part I, Page 961

"An Act to enable any State to cooperate with any other State, or States, or with the United States for the protection of the watersheds of the navigable streams and to appoint a commission for the acquisition of lands for the purpose of conserving the navigability of navigable rivers."

Approved March 1, 1911.

This Act provided:

- a. \$200,000 for protection of forests from fire when requested by states.
- b. \$11,000,000 for surveys and acquisition of lands located on headwaters of navigable streams.
- c. Establishment of the National Forest Reservation Commission, and \$25,000 for its use.
- d. Authorization for Secretary of Agriculture to purchase lands recommended by the National Forest Reservation Commission, with approval of the states.

Public Acts of 1919 (Tennessee)

Chapter 103

"An Act granting to the United States of America all right, title, and interest in and to all lands of the State lying within 20 miles of the Tennessee and North Carolina boundary line for the creation of National Forests and the preservation and protection of the navigability of navigable streams."

Approved April 4, 1919.

Probably the result of efforts motivated by Forest Reserve Commission and the Knoxville National Conservation Exposition.

Introduced in U. S. Senate, April 4, 1934

Senator John K. Shields of Tennessee

"A Bill to establish the Smoky Mountain National Park,
and for other Purposes."

To dedicate and set apart as a public park for the benefit
and enjoyment of the people of the United States under the name of
Smoky Mountain National Park

All lands acquired under the Weeks Act situated (1) in
Johnson, Carter, Unicoi, Washington, Greene, Cocke, Sevier, Blount,
Monroe, McMinn, and Polk Counties in Tennessee, and (2) in Cherokee,
Graham, Swain, Haywood, Madison, Yancey, Mitchell, Watauga, and Ashe
Counties in North Carolina.

The administration of the Park shall be under the direction
of the Secretary of Agriculture.

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and
Forestry.

Public Laws of 1924 (North Carolina) Special Session

Resolutions 16, 29

To establish a North Carolina Park Commission to
provide for the acquisition of Parks and Recreation Facilities in the
Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Approved 1924.

Commission appointed:

Eugene C. Brooks, Raleigh

D. M. Buck, Bald Mountain

H. W. Chase, Chapel Hill

John G. Dawson, Kinston

J. H. Dillard, Murphy

Plato Ebbs, Asheville

A. H. Kistler, Morganton

Frank Linney, Boone

Harry Nettles, Biltmore

E. S. Parker, Jr., Greensboro

Mark Squires, Lenoir

Public Acts 1925 (Tennessee)

64th General Assembly

House Resolution 3 (Senate concurring)

To appoint a Committee to make a report on the Great Smoky Mountains and other areas for a national park.

Committee of eight appointed by speakers of each body. ⁵¹

43 Statutes 958. 68th Congress, 2nd Session

H. R. 11930

"An Act to provide for the securing of lands in the Southern Appalachian Mountains and in the Mammoth Cave region of Kentucky for perpetual preservation as national parks."

Approved February 21, 1925.

1. Secretary of the Interior authorized to establish boundaries and to appoint a Commission of 5 members to carry out the provisions of this Act.
2. A sum not to exceed \$20,000 authorized for expenses of the Commission.

Public Acts of 1925 (Tennessee)

Chapter 55 - Acts of the 64th General Assembly

Senate Bill 522

"An Act to provide for the acquisition by gift, purchase, or otherwise, and the control and regulation of properties for park and forestry purposes; to create and establish a commission to be

known as the Tennessee State Park and Forestry Commission. To define its powers, rights, and duties."

Approved April 10, 1925.

Public Acts of 1925

Chapter 57

"An Act authorizing the purchase of Lands of the Little River Lumber Company."

Approved April 10, 1925.

1. Applied to approximately 78,507 acres.
2. Appropriated \$22,500 cash and \$22,500 per year for 19 years (including Knoxville's 1/3 share)
3. Effective if Knoxville assumed 1/3 of cost.

44 Statutes 616

Public No. 268. 69th Congress.

Senate Bill 4073

"An Act to provide for the establishment of Shenandoah National Park in the State of Virginia and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in the States of North Carolina and Tennessee, and for other purposes."

Approved May 22, 1926.

1. Great Smoky Mountains in North Carolina and Tennessee set apart as a national park when title to lands is

vested in the United States. Approximately 704,000 acres recommended by Secretary of the Interior in his report of April 14, 1926.

2. Minimum area for administration and protection shall be 150,000 acres.
3. Secretary of the Interior authorized to accept lands referred to, purchased with \$1,066,693 subscribed by State of Tennessee, Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association, Great Smoky Mountains, Inc., and with other contributions.

Public Laws of 1927 (North Carolina)

Chapter 48

"An Act to provide for the Acquisition of Parks and Recreational Facilities in the Great Smoky Mountains of North Carolina."

Ratified February 23, 1927.

1. The Commission appointed under provisions of Resolutions 16 and 29 of the General Assembly of North Carolina passed at its Special Session in 1924, continued in office under the name "North Carolina Park Commission (with 11 named members).

1. Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission substituted for Tennessee State Park and Forestry Commission.
 - a. 7 members (3 present members of Park and Forestry Commission). 3-year terms.
 - b. Vested with power of eminent domain for 5-year period.
2. \$1,500,000 Bond Issue authorized.
3. To receive properties and monies of Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association.
4. Congress authorized to pass laws needed for acquisition of lands and incorporation as national park.

45 Statutes 109

"An Act to establish a minimum area for a Shenandoah National Park, for administration, protection, and general development by the National Park Service, and for other purposes."

Approved February 16, 1923.

Authorized leases to former occupants of lands acquired for Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

U. S. Supreme Court Decision (Chief Justice William H. Taft)

North Carolina's Bond Act (Public Laws of 1927, Chapter 49) was declared valid.

January 19, 1926.

Public Laws of North Carolina: Session 1929

Chapter 220

"An Act to amend Chapter 48, Public Laws of North Carolina, Session 1927, known as 'the Great Smoky Mountains National Park Act'".

Ratified March 18, 1929.

Amendment of park boundary limits.

Public Acts of North Carolina: Session 1929

page 272

"An Act Ceding to the United States exclusive jurisdiction over Great Smoky Mountains National Park in the State of North Carolina."

Approved March 28, 1929.

Chapter 48, Public Laws of North Carolina, Session 1927, amended.

Public Acts of 1929: General Assembly of Tennessee

Chapter 99, p. 314.

"An Act Ceding to the United States exclusive jurisdiction over Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee."

Approved April 12, 1929.

1. Chapter 54, Public Acts of 1927, amended.
2. United States authorized to acquire by conveyance and the Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission authorized to convey all lands mentioned.

3. Exclusive jurisdiction ceded to the United States
(reserving certain rights), effective when the United
States notifies the governor, and be the state, that
the United States assumes police jurisdiction.

Public Acts of 1929 (Tennessee)

House Resolution 21, Senate concurring.

To appoint a Great Smoky Mountains National Park investi-
gating committee.

Appointed by 66th General Assembly, 1929:

Senators J. J. Dean

J. E. Adams

Clinton Rainey

Speaker Bratton, ex-officio

Representatives W. J. Latham

H. C. Brooks

T. H. Chapman

R. P. Overton

W. G. Begle

R. P. Huffman

J. T. McWhetter

Speaker Charles Love, ex officio

46 Statutes 225

"An Act to provide for the extension of the boundary limits of the proposed Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the establishment of which is authorized by the Act approved May 22, 1926".

Approved April 19, 1930

1. Boundaries extended to include lands adjacent to the east boundary - including 10,000 acres of Sunset Lumber Company land.

Public Acts of 1931, General Assembly of Tennessee

Chapter 2

Senate Bill No. 17

"An Act to amend an Act entitled: 'An Act to amend Chapter 55 of Public Acts for 1925, and also to amend Chapter 57 of Public Acts for 1925.'"

Approved December 16, 1931.

1. Section 20, Chapter 54, of Acts of 1927 amended to extend time of power of eminent domain until April 27, 1934.
2. Subsection 3, Section 20, amended by granting power of eminent domain over entire park area.
3. Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission empowered to sell any lands acquired by State lying outside the present or future boundaries of the Park.

By Special Session of Legislature

47 Statutes 37

"An Act to establish a minimum area for a Shenandoah National Park, for administration, protection, and general development by the National Park Service, and for other purposes."

Approved February 4, 1932.

1. Secretary of the Interior authorized to accept title to lands tendered without cost to the United States, subject to leases entered into and granted as part consideration in purchase of lands; also subject to reservations of rights-of-way and easements. (Authorized lifetime leases to former occupants.)

47 Statutes 702

"An Act to authorize the conveyance to the State of Tennessee of certain lands deeded to the United States for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and not needed therefor."

Approved July 19, 1932.

1. Affected 272.9 acres in Hapoy Valley, and 2,795.2 acres adjoining north boundary.
2. Proceeds from sale of land to be applied to purchase of land within park boundaries or exchanged for such unacquired land. (Land between Tuckaleechee and Miller Coves could be traded for property around Elkmont.)

Emergency Unemployment Relief Bill

July, 1932.

\$509,000 made available for Great Smoky Mountains
National Park.

Public Acts of North Carolina, Session 1933

Approved July 18, 1933.

New members appointed to the North Carolina Park
Commission. (Members of the Commission had been dismissed at
1932 Session.)

Will W. Neal (Chairman), Marion

Thos. W. Raoul, Asheville

C. A. Cannon, Concord

Foster Hawkins, Lexington

Public Acts of 1933 - Tennessee

Park Bill

Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission was
abolished and its duties transferred to the Tennessee Park and
Forestry Commission.

Approved April 6, 1933.

See APPENDIX 20 for members.

Executive Order

President Franklin D. Roosevelt

December 28, 1933

Allocated \$2,325,000 for purchase of land for Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Shenandoah National Park Project, Mammoth Cave National Park Project, and Colonial National Monument. (Great Smoky Mountains National Park received \$1,550,000.)

By authority of Public No. 5, 73rd Congress, March 31, 1933, and Public No. 77, 73rd Congress, June 16, 1933.

43 Statutes 964

73rd Congress, Second Session

H. R. 7360 (Report No. 982) Mr. Weaver.

"An Act to Establish a Minimum Area for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and for other purposes."

Approved June 15, 1934.

1. 400,000 acres acquired one-half by peoples of North Carolina and Tennessee and one-half by Laura Spellman Rockefeller Memorial established as a complete park for administration, protection, and development.

2. So much of Act of May 23, 1926, inconsistent with above is repealed.

3. Lands purchased with funds allocated by Executive Order or otherwise, or which may be allocated, made part of the park as fully as other parts acquired for that purpose.

Chapter 579

"An Act making Appropriations for the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, and for other purposes."

Approved August 9, 1937.

1. To Great Smoky Mountains National Park for administration, protection, and development - \$78,500. (First fiscal appropriation.)

Public No. 320

75th Congress. First Session.

H. R. 5472

Chapter 701

"An Act to authorize the exchange of certain lands within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park for lands within the Cherokee Indian Reservation, and for other purposes."

Approved August 19, 1937.

1. Secretary of the Interior authorized to exchange
Towstring tract of Cherokee Indian Reservation
(1,202 acres) for three tracts of land totaling about
1,547 acres near Ravensford, North Carolina, in Great
Smoky Mountains National Park.

Public Acts of North Carolina. Session 1937

1. Validated deeds to State and then to United States
2. Appropriated \$10,000 for Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial.
3. Approved bill in Congress authorizing exchange of lands within Cherokee Indian Reservation.

52 Statutes 29

Public No. 428

75th Congress - Third Session

Chapter 27

"An Act to provide for the Acquisition of certain lands for and the addition thereof to the Tahoe National Forest, in the State of Nevada, and the acquisition of certain other lands for the completion of the acquisition of the remaining lands within the limits of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in east Tennessee."

Approved February 12, 1938.

1. \$743,265.29 appropriated for purchase of land to complete the park project.

54 Stat. 300

"An Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the State of North Carolina for use in connection with the Blue Ridge Parkway certain lands within the Cherokee Indian Reservation in the State of North Carolina."

Approved June 11, 1940

1. Boundary Tree tract made available to Indians.

Authorized for exclusion from Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

2. An amount equal to fair market value made available by Secretary of the Treasury for use in park and monument uses including acquisition of lands for inclusion in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

56 Stat. 258

An Act to accept the cession by the State of North Carolina and Tennessee of exclusive jurisdiction over the lands embraced within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and for other purposes.

Approved April 29, 1942.

Provisions of Act of Legislature of North Carolina approved March 18, 1929.

Provisions of Act of Legislature of Tennessee approved

April 12, 1929.

Acceptance of cession for exclusive jurisdiction.

Rules and Regulations.

Appointment of U. S. Commissioner.

Tennessee Dec. (Special Session)

Act permitting condemnation of all land inside boundaries
and extended 2 years. Lands bought and not needed may be sold.

September 20, 1942. U. S. accepted exclusive jurisdiction
of park land.

Senate Bill No. 103 by Ballow

An Act to repeal Code Sections 98 and 99, the same being
general Acts of Cession, and to deny any further or future rights
under said statutes unless the said have been fully complied with
prior to the effective date of this act.

Purpose: to terminate further cession of jurisdiction
of property to the United States.

Approved: January 27, 1943.

Public Law 232 - 78th Congress

An Act to authorize the acceptance of donations of land for the construction of a scenic parkway to provide an appropriate view of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park from the Tennessee side of the park, and for other purposes.

Approved February 22, 1944.

Parallel to boundary of park and connected with it.

One hundred twenty-five acres per mile. All property acquired pursuant to this act shall become part of Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

1946, March 23

U. S. Supreme Court upheld right of Tennessee Valley Authority to condemn 6,000 acres (needed because of flooded road).

Public Acts of Tennessee, 1949

An Act to extend the cession of exclusive jurisdiction made by the Act of the General Assembly of Tennessee, approved April 12, 1929 (Chapter 99, Public Acts of Tennessee, 1929) in and over certain lands within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in the State of Tennessee, to all lands in said state heretofore acquired by the United States for the park; and to authorize the transfer to the United States of any and all state highways located in the park area.

Approved March 31, 1949.

SB 78, Chapter 312, 1947 Session - Laws of North Carolina

Page 353.

"An Act To complete the cession of jurisdiction by the State of North Carolina to the United States over lands of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park by extending the cession of exclusive jurisdiction made by the Act of the General Assembly of North Carolina approved March 1929 (Public Acts of North Carolina 1929, page 272) to all lands in said state which may be acquired by the United States for the park."

Ratified March 18, 1947.

President's Approval, November 15, 1949

Transfer of 44,170 acres within the authorized boundaries of Great Smoky Mountains National Park from Tennessee Valley Authority to the Department of Interior pursuant to authority in Section 4(K)(C) of the TVA Act of 1933 as amended.

Notice given in accordance with Section 10 of Act of April 29, 1942 (56 Stat. 259); United States accepts and assumes exclusive jurisdiction. (Authorized by Act of General Assembly of North Carolina, March 18, 1947 (Public Acts of North Carolina, 1947, page 353).

(Letter, Secretary of the Interior to Governor Scott.)

Public Law 622 - 81st Congress

64 Stat. 377

Chapter 492 - Second Session

H. R. 5888

An Act To adjust and define the boundary between Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the Cherokee-Pisgah-Wantahala National Forests, and for other purposes.

Approved July 29, 1950.

Extended boundary to include all of 25-acre tract donated by Carolina Aluminum Company.

Public Law 350

1950 Appropriation Act

"Secretary authorized to expend not to exceed \$60,000 of the unexpended balance of funds appropriated pursuant to the Act of February 12, 1938 (16 U. S. C. 403j), for acquisition on behalf of the United States of lands and interests in lands in order to carry out the purpose of the Act of February 22, 1944 (16 U. S. C. 403 h-11).

Public Law 622 - 81st Congress

(Exchange of lands)

1951 - February 23.

Legislature passed Senate Bill No. 404 which extends the cession of exclusive jurisdiction to all lands heretofore acquired by the United States for the park from sources other than the State of Tennessee or its agencies or authorities and directs the conveyance to the United States of all of the right, title and interest of the state in and to any and all state highways in the park, with the provisions however, that no toll or license fee shall ever be imposed by the United States for the use by the public of state highways Nos. 71 and 73, and the United States may regulate and restrict the highways by commercial vehicles of more than 1½ tons rated capacity between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

June 1. Deed transferring all "right, title, and interest of the state of Tennessee in and to any and all State Highways located on, over, or within any lands which are a part of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park".

1952 - July 9. A bill approved providing for 2 Commissioners for this park - one North Carolina and one Tennessee.

Public - Tennessee

Senate Bill No. 404 - by Butler

Chapter No. 57

An Act To extend the cession of exclusive jurisdiction made by Chap. 99, Public Acts of 1929, in and to certain lands in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park to all lands in this state heretofore acquired by the United States for such Park; and to authorize a transfer to the United States of any and all State Highways located within such park.

Authorizes Commissioner of Highways and Public Works to convey to the United States title to all State Highways in Park - provided: no toll or license fee shall be imposed by the United States or any agency thereof for the use by the public of State Highways 71 and 73. But the United States may regulate and restrict the use of said highways by commercial vehicles of more than 1½ tons between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Approved February 23, 1951.

December 3, 1951 - 12:00 M.

Secretary of the Interior notified the governor of Tennessee the Department assumed exclusive jurisdiction over all lands in Tennessee section of the park, including lands acquired by Federal funds and Tennessee highways 71 and 73.

1952 - January 3, 9:00 a.m.

Secretary of the Interior notified the governor of North Carolina of the assumption by the United States of exclusive jurisdiction over all lands in North Carolina - land acquired with Federal funds (particularly 44,170-acre T.V.A. tract), State Acts and Federal Act provided that cession of exclusive jurisdiction would not be accomplished unless and until the Secretary of the Interior notified in writing the governors of Tennessee and North Carolina of assumption of jurisdiction.

1952 - July 2

Congress passed Bill providing for 2 Commissioners for the Park - one in North Carolina and one in Tennessee.

APPENDIX 12. Park Investigating Committee appointed by General
Assembly (Tennessee) 1929:

Senators J. J. Bean
 J. E. Adams
 Clinton Rainey
 Speaker Eratton, ex officio

Representatives W. J. Latham
 H. C. Brooks
 T. H. Chapman
 R. P. Overton
 W. G. Eogle
 R. P. Huffman
 J. T. McWhirter
 Speaker Charles Love, ex officio

APPENDIX 13. North Carolina Park Commission in 1938 and 1940:

Will W. Neal, Marion, Chairman
Charles A. Webb, Asheville, Vice-chairman
Thomas W. Raoul, Biltmore Forest, Treasurer
C. A. Cannon, Kannapolis
Foster Hankins, Lexington

APPENDIX 14. Rockefeller Memorial

Stone terraced Memorial with bronze plaque:

"For the permanent enjoyment of the people, this park was given one-half by the peoples and states of North Carolina and Tennessee and the United States of America; one-half in memory of Laura Spelman Rockefeller by the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial founded by her husband John D. Rockefeller."

Built in 1939 at Newfound Gap on North Carolina-Tennessee state line with funds appropriated by the legislatures of the two states.

APPENDIX 15. Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial Trust Fund

donation of \$5,000,000.00.

Committee of three to administer funds:

Arno D. Cammerer, Chairman

Mark Squires, North Carolina Park Commission

David C. Chapman, Tennessee Park Commission

APPENDIX 16. North Carolina Park Commission of 1933:

Appointed by Governor J. C. B. Ehringhaus:

Will W. Neal, Marion, Chairman

Thomas W. Raoul, Biltmore Forest, Treasurer

C. A. Cannon, Kannapolis

John Aiken, Hickory

Col. Foster Hankins, Lexington

Charles A. Webb succeeded John Aiken in 1937 and became vice-president.

APPENDIX 17 - Summary of Funds Raised.

Private subscriptions - North Carolina	\$500,000.00
Tennessee	604,000.00
Appropriations, State - North Carolina 2/25/27	2,000,000.00
Tennessee 4/27/27	1,500,000.00
Appropriated previously - Tennessee (about)	500,000.00
Gift by Laura Spelman Rockefeller Trust Fund	5,000,000.00
Allotment, Executive Order President Roosevelt	1,550,000.00
Appropriation, Congress, 2/12/33	<u>743,265.29</u>
Total	12,397,265.29

In addition, 44,170 acres of land were transferred to the Park from T.V.A. by Order of the Secretary of the Interior, approved by the President of the United States November 15, 1949.

APPENDIX 18. Joint Committee of 64th General Assembly (Tennessee) 1925.

Eight members appointed by Speakers of both bodies.

Roy Wallace, Chairman

Report January 23, 1925: Recommended unanimously purchase of Little River Lumber Company property if Knoxville paid about one-third. To be turned over to a Park Commission with power to turn over to Federal government as (1) a national park or (2) if national park fails, for any other purpose. (3) Necessary bill for purchase be prepared and presented to General Assembly.

APPENDIX 21.

A. E. Demaray, Assistant Director

Nussbaum, Archeologist, Department of the Interior

Dixon, Wildlife Specialist

Tillotson, Superintendent, Grand Canyon NP

Rogers, Superintendent, Rocky Mountain NP

Freeland, Superintendent, Wind Cave NP

Hough, Superintendent, George Washington Birthplace NM

Finman, Superintendent, Mesa Verde NP

Robinson, Superintendent, Colonial NM

Edwards, Assistant Superintendent, Yellowstone NP

Hadley, Chief Ranger, Acadia NP

Smith, Chief Ranger, Petrified Forest NM

Dr. Sexton, NPS Collaborator

Chatelain, Chief Historian

Kittridge, Chief Engineer

O. G. Taylor, Assistant Chief Engineer

Belkfort, Chief of Control Section

Vint, Chief Landscape Architect

Coffman, Fire Control Expert

J. Will Taylor, Congressman

Carroll R. Reece, Congressman

APPENDIX 22. Park Superintendents

Eakin, J. R.	1931 - 1945
Needham, John - Acting Superintendent	
Ross, Elair	1945 - 1949
White, Robert P. - Acting Superintendent	
Preston, J. C.	1951 - 1952
Mummel, E. A.	1952 - 1958
Overly, Fred J.	1958 - 1963

APPENDIX 23. Museum Committee, Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Appointed in 1934 at request of Dr. H. C. Bryant

Tennessee: Karl E. Steinmetz, Chairman

Carlos C. Campbell, Secretary

Prof. T. M. N. Lewis, Archeological

S. A. Ogden, Biological

Dr. George M. Hall, Geological

Dr. L. R. Hesler, Botanical

Miss Helen Harris, Historical

Marshall Wilson, Pioneer History

North Carolina: Dr. W. E. Bird, Chairman

George W. McCoy, Secretary

Charles A. Webb, Historical & Literary

George Stephens, Special Collections

E. L. Withers, Photographs, Maps, Surveys

Mrs. John C. Campbell, Arts & Crafts

E. S. Rosser, Handmade Utensils, Furnishings

John Farris, Jr., Mountaineer Occupations

B. S. Colburn, Archeological

Thos. A. Cox, Geological

E. J. Rosser, Zoological

G. S. Tennent, Botanical

APPENDIX 24. Place Names Committees.

Appointed 1929.

Tennessee: Fink, Paul H., Johnson City; Chairman

Thompson, James E., Knoxville

Crouch, Brockway, Knoxville

Mathes, Hodge, Johnson City

Mason, Robert L., Knoxville

North Carolina: Eephart, Horace, Bryson City

Rhoades, Verno, Asheville

Masa, George, Asheville

APPENDIX 25. Early Park Personnel

1930, July	Hough, Philip, Assistant Chief Ranger
1931, February	Ray, Thomas J., Clerk-Stenographer
1931, March	Eakin, J. Ross, Superintendent
March	Needham, John T., Assistant Chief Ranger (Chief Ranger, 1935)
August	Dunn, Charles S., Assistant Chief Ranger (v. Hough) to May 1936
1932, March	Light, James E., Ranger
July	White, Robert P., Associate Engineer
1933, May	Wilholm, R. A., Landscape Architect
1934, May	Rader, J. W., Land Buyer
May	Dragg, R. C., Land Buyer
August	King, W., Naturalist Technician
1935, September	Sullivan, M., Junior Naturalist Technician
October	Stupka, A., Park Naturalist
November	Edwards, Harold O., Ranger (Assistant Chief Ranger December 1936)
1936 April	Morrell, John O., Ranger
December	Prichard, J. R., Clerk-Stenographer
1937 January	Davenport, T., Clerk
1940 May	Chiles, Mary Ruth, Assistant Clerk-Stenographer

