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# OUACHITA

## NATIONAL FOREST

ARKANSAS



OKLAHOMA



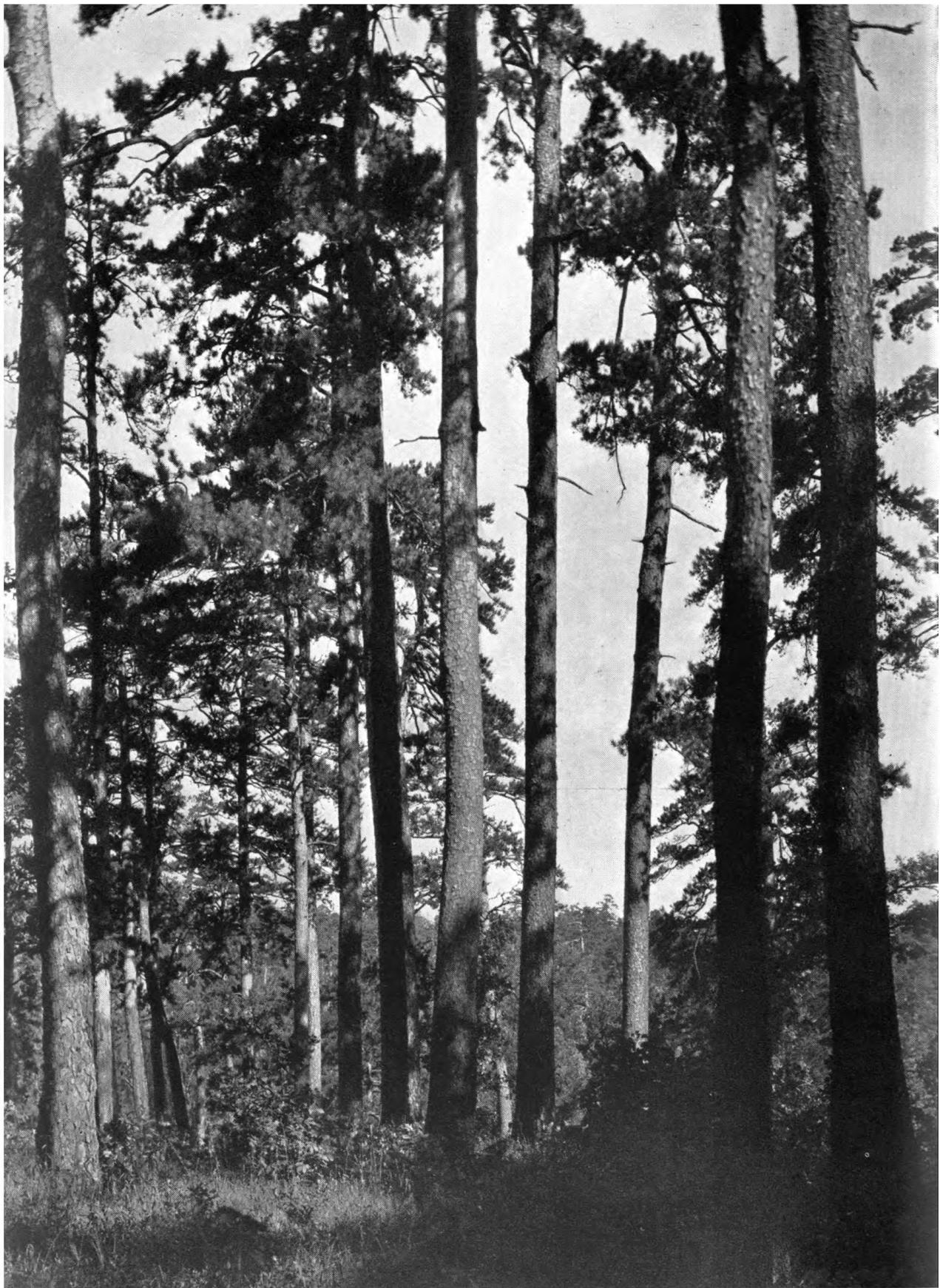
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE

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# OUACHITA

## *NATIONAL FOREST*

*Arkansas - Oklahoma*



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREST SERVICE • F. A. Silcox, Chief

SOUTHERN REGION • Joseph C. Kircher, Regional Forester

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

UNITED STATES

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## FOREWORD

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THE OUACHITA NATIONAL FOREST in the highlands of Arkansas and Oklahoma is a vast area of rugged mountains and rolling hills, sloping to deep-hewn valleys where flow clear, sparkling streams. The Ouachita is the largest forest in the southern region of the national forest system. It extends east into Arkansas about 100 miles from the Oklahoma State line and west into Oklahoma about 35 miles. Within its proclaimed boundaries of 2,423,816 acres are included most of the Ouachita and Kiamichi Mountains between the Arkansas River and the southern Coastal Plain.

The Ouachita Mountains have been classed by some geologists as a western extension of the ancient Appalachians. The range is formed in long, narrow plateaus with undulating summits rising in peaks 1,000 to 3,000 feet above sea level. The higher peaks afford magnificent views of mile on mile of rolling wooded hills.

Along the mountain tops and through the low gaps down into the deep gorges, the Forest Service has completed 1,500 miles of excellent roads, opening this superbly scenic area to the tourist and vacationist. The section is readily accessible to the great centers of population of the Southeast. It is a comfortable two days' drive from Jacksonville, Atlanta, Cincinnati, and Chicago by excellent roads, and but a day distant from Dallas, New Orleans, St. Louis, and Kansas City.

Few sections surpass the Ouachita Mountains in beauty of landscape the year around. In the spring and summer, the forest and stream banks are carpeted with shrubs and wild flowers. Azaleas, wild roses, violets, hydrangeas, the shooting-star, wild hyacinths, blueberries, wild plums, dogwood, and redbud add touches of yellow, purple, white, pink, and blue to the color pattern of the landscape. In the fall, the turning leaves set the forested slopes ablaze with scarlet, orange, and gold.

The climate combines with the scenery in attracting visitors to the land of the Ouachitas. The winters are short and definitely mild. Freedom from humidity unites with the altitude to create a pleasant climate through-

*Ouachita National Forest . Arkansas - Oklahoma*

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out the summer, and to the cool, verdant hills come the people of Arkansas and nearby States when the lowlands swelter. The city of Hot Springs is a year long resort, where hundreds of thousands of persons each year visit the famous springs, the only Government owned and operated hot springs in the United States. Great numbers of these visitors fish, hike, study plants or geological features, or travel the highways and byways of the Ouachita National Forest to its numerous points of interest.



TYPICAL MOUNTAIN SCENE IN THE OUACHITAS

F-192113

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## EARLY HISTORY OF THE OUACHITA



**T**HE OUACHITA NATIONAL FOREST has a colorful and picturesque history. The first inhabitants that can be traced in this section were the Rock Shelter people or Bluff Dwellers. Still later came the Mound Builders, and then, of course, the Red Men.

The crafty Osage Indians lived north of the Arkansas River, while the fearless, happy Quapaws lived south of the river. Tradition has it that this tribe called itself "Ug-a-pah". White people who came later and could not quite understand the word called it "Quapaw" and then "Accau-paw". It was next written "Ar-kan-sa" and thus the land of the Arkansas had its name. There are other interesting legends as to how the State got its name, but all seem to agree that the name is of Indian origin.

Hernando De Soto was the first white man to penetrate the mountain vastness of the Quapaw Indians. He crossed the Mississippi into Arkansas in 1541 with a small band of explorers and traveled up the Arkansas River Valley, turning southward and crossing the Fourche Mountains through

*Ouachita National Forest . Arkansas - Oklahoma*

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country that is now the Ouachita National Forest. The Spaniards discovered Hot Springs and wondered if they had indeed found the Fountain of Youth for which Ponce de Leon had searched. They stopped to refresh their sick with the healing waters, and, true to the law of the Valley of Vapors, the hostile Indians allowed them to rest there.

It is not definitely known whether La Salle or De Tonti, who is often called the father of Arkansas, visited this locality first. Undoubtedly the



F-314335

HEWING TIMBERS AND RIVING SHAKES WAS COMMON WITH EARLY SETTLERS

*This practice still exists in many rural sections of the forest*

## *Ouachita National Forest . Arkansas - Oklahoma*

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early French exploring parties did pass through the region, which accounts for the many French names found here, such as Fourche La Flave River, Ouachita River, Petit Jean Mountain. "Ouachita" is the French way of spelling the sound of the Indian word "Washita", which means "good hunting grounds".

After the purchase of the Louisiana Territory in 1803, English-speaking settlers from Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Virginia, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Missouri began to come in. In 1819 there were large settlements near what is now Dardanelle and at Hot Springs, Fort Smith, and Boston. The main agricultural valleys were largely settled by the close of the Civil War.

The settlers learned many crafts from the Indians. And, like the Indians, they took from the forests most of the necessities of life. They hewed logs for their homes and farm buildings. The trees furnished lumber for furniture, wagons, and farming tools. Their food consisted largely of game which the forests supplied.

The industrial expansion of the Nation during the nineteenth century was the most amazing in the history of the world and imposed great demands on every forest resource. Forest lands were laid bare to make way for towns and farms. The products of the forest were largely the sinews of early trade and development. Boats and schooners were made of wood and the railroads were laid on wooden ties.

Heavy expenditures for building railroads into Arkansas were largely justified by the vast timber resources of the State. Development of the country went hand in hand with the development of its timber resources. The lumber industry is now, and has been for many years, one of the leading industries in the State.

Many communities were maintained largely by this utilization of the forests. Unfortunately, however, this necessary forest use was attended by avoidable and disastrous waste. Lumbering expanded into large scale operations and the timber crops from whole watersheds were harvested ruthlessly. Many large logging operations were followed by fire which completely destroyed the young growth.

### ACQUISITION AND RESTORATION

IN 1907 President Theodore Roosevelt, by proclamation, set aside from the unreserved and unappropriated public lands of Arkansas, 1,663,300 acres to be known and administered as the Arkansas National Forest. In 1926 President Calvin Coolidge renamed this forest Ouachita for the mountains which it embraces and for the principal river which drains it.

## *Ouachita National Forest · Arkansas - Oklahoma*

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F-209376

### A FOREST-COVERED WATERSHED

*The forests of this region play an important part in watershed protection*

Soon after its establishment as a national forest, the area was greatly reduced in size by a proclamation providing for the homesteading of lands which were considered more suitable for agriculture than for forestry purposes.

The Weeks law, which was passed by Congress in 1911, provided for Federal acquisition of forest lands for the protection of the headwaters of navigable streams. By the terms of the Clarke-McNary law, enacted in 1924, the original authority was broadened to include purchase of land for timber production as well as stream-flow protection. This enabled the Forest Service to acquire and put under administration large areas of cut-over timber lands and submarginal farm lands. Today the gross area of the Ouachita National Forest is 2,476,576 acres within the purchase unit boundaries. Many submarginal farms, best suited to growing trees, have been purchased and planted or allowed to reseed to pine trees.

As soon as this area was put under the administration of the United States Forest Service, work was begun on a system for the development of this great natural resource in the public interest. Organized effort was directed toward the protection of these mountain watersheds against timber waste, burning, and soil erosion, and for the perpetuation of the valuable

## *Ouachita National Forest . Arkansas - Oklahoma*

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timber stands by the application of fire control and proper cutting methods. Careful planning was required to offset the damage done by repeated forest fires and the removal of timber without protection to the young growth and to provide for the restoration of the forest.

The national forests were created to insure a perpetual supply of timber for industrial and commercial use; to preserve the forest cover which regulates the flow of streams for irrigation, domestic use, and water-power development; and to provide for the use of all forest resources in ways which will make them of greatest ultimate service. This means the utilization through multiple-use management of all the resources of national forest lands as a means of assuring social advantages and stable livelihood to the greatest possible number of people.

The preservation and wise use of all resources in the national forests are absolutely dependent on adequate fire prevention. Without fire prevention much timber would be destroyed, stream flow would be diminished by the destruction of the timber and ground cover which protects valuable watersheds, productivity of lands would be lessened by erosion of soil, fish would be destroyed by lack of water, and game animals would be injured or killed. Fire prevention is, therefore, one of the prime concerns of the conservation



F-258877

FOREST FIRES ARE BEING PREVENTED

*This is the first step toward increasing forest land productivity*

program of the Forest Service. It is the most important part of fire control.

The majority of fires in the South are man-caused—usually through carelessness. The Forest Service has struggled for years with the task of arousing the public consciousness to fire danger and damage. The hunter, the fisherman, the tourist, the camper, the lumberman—in fact, all persons who for any reason are in or near the forests—are urged to exercise the same degree of caution with matches, smokes, and fires that they would use in a powder or gasoline storage plant. The suppression of fire is vital to our continued forest prosperity.



## PHYSIOGRAPHY OF THE AREA



THE SEDIMENTARY ROCKS which form the Ouachita Mountains are among the oldest rock formations in the United States. Geologists claim that these ancient rocks, which have been folded into anticlines and synclines, were formed millions of years ago in the geological period called Paleozoic.

A striking feature of the Ouachitas is the regular development of ridges and valleys. Exceptions to this are found in places only along the border, where faults with vertical displacements of several thousand feet have combined with the overturning of the folds to make the relief more irregular.

Another interesting geological feature is that many mountain ridges are produced by the Novaculite, a massive white, flinty rock, occurring in a bed several hundred feet in thickness. The only occurrences of real novaculite in the United States are in the Ouachita Mountains.

Mining is confined to very limited areas. Some mining of ore, chiefly manganese, has been carried on, but with little success. Slate mining has been slightly more successful. Crystals are mined and sold locally to tourists (mostly in Hot Springs National Park).

### TREES AND FLOWERS

THERE are over 60 native species of trees found growing within this forest. Shortleaf pine and certain hardwoods predominate. Among the more common hardwoods are: white and red oak, sweetgum, blackgum, hickory, locust, basswood, cucumber, dogwood, maple, ash, beech, birch, cherry, walnut, holly, and magnolia.<sup>1</sup>



The student of botany or the nature lover find unlimited material of interest within the forest bounds. It is claimed that more different species of plants are found on Rich Mountain, the highest mountain in the forest, than any other place in the State. In the early spring the forested slopes and adjacent valleys and floodplains are a mass of bloom—dogwood, azalea, service berry, redbud, and wild plum all contributing to the picture.

During the flowering seasons of spring, summer, and fall, the common and attractive flowers of all colors bloom in abundance.

### TIMBER RESOURCES

THE Ouachita National Forest is in the heart of a timber-producing region of recognized value, and in this resource is one of the most profitable areas in the Federal forest system. It has contributed largely to the lumber business of the Central Southern States for a generation, and, if properly managed, will continue to be a source of wealth for generations to come.

Shortleaf pine is the primary species but there are also excellent stands of mixed hardwoods. Surveys show that there are 1,500,000,000 board feet of merchantable pine timber left on the forest, and nearly 4,000,000 board feet of good hardwoods.

Timber from the Ouachita is put on the market under carefully prepared management plans. The amount cut annually is not allowed to exceed the growth, which is estimated to be 70,000,000 board feet. Following this practice, the forest will furnish a perpetual source of timber for industry and stable employment for local labor. Receipts for the past 10 years from the forest have averaged slightly more than \$75,000 annually. Receipts from timber sales in the year ending June 30, 1936, were \$163,355.63.

<sup>1</sup>A more complete list is given in the back of this booklet.

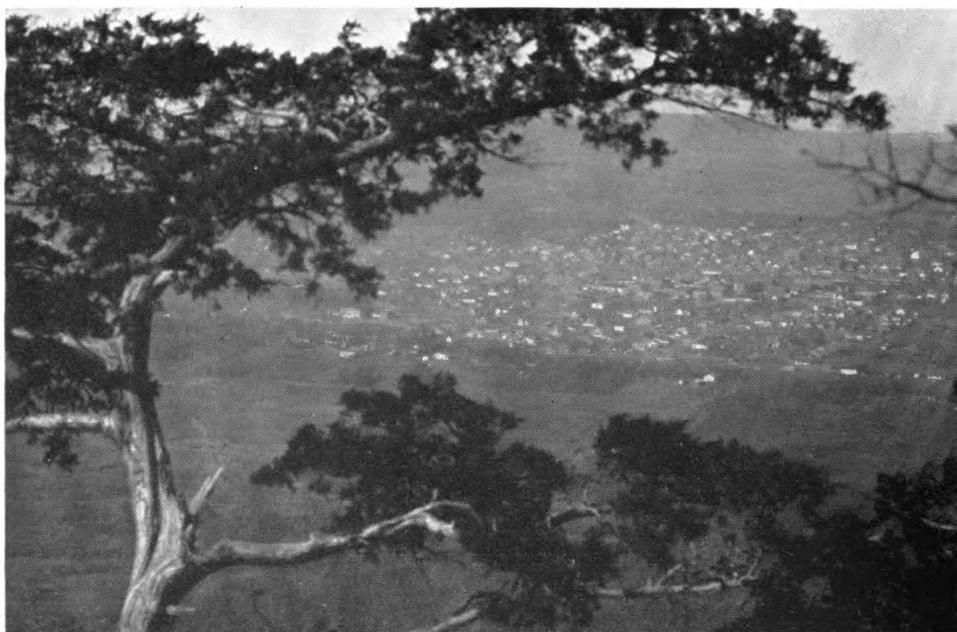
*Ouachita National Forest . Arkansas - Oklahoma*



A STAND OF MATURE SHORTLEAF PINES

F-192192

*There are 1,500,000,000 board feet of mature pine timber on the forest*



A FOREST-SUPPORTED TOWN OF THE OUACHITAS

F-254399

## *Ouachita National Forest . Arkansas - Oklahoma*

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Growing, harvesting, manufacturing, and marketing of forest crops are outstanding industries in this region. More than 150 towns and communities, having a population of 60,000 people, are wholly or partly dependent upon the forest for their existence.

The oldest stands of mature and overmature timber are selected to be cut first. Only ripe or defective trees are removed. Each tree to be harvested is marked by a forest officer with a special marking axe. Each contract provides for the protection of the young growth which is left. Heavy penalties are imposed upon operators who injure unnecessarily any young timber in their logging operations.

Timber is sold by the Government to the highest bidder, thus assuring the public the greatest return for its timber. The money from the sale of timber and from all other sources is paid into the United States Treasury, but 25 percent of the gross receipts is returned to the counties in which the forest is located, to be used for the benefit of schools and the improvement of county roads. An additional 10 percent is used within the forest boundaries for improvement of the road and trail system. In this way, 35 percent of the gross receipts of the Ouachita National Forest is spent in the localities where the revenue is produced.



F-261577

LOGGING WITH MULE TEAMS IS CUSTOMARY ON THE SMALLER OPERATIONS

*Ouachita National Forest · Arkansas - Oklahoma*

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F-261711

SHORTLEAF PINE GOING TO MARKET  
*Railroad logging is practical on the very large operations*



F-261569

WHEN TIMBER IS HARVESTED UNDER GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS THE  
AREAS CUT ARE QUICKLY RESEED BY THE THRIFTY TREES LEFT

## WATERSHEDS AND DRAINAGE AREAS

THE forested watersheds of the Ouachita National Forest exercise a highly beneficial influence on the flow of many important streams. Navigation on the lower Arkansas, and industrial power and domestic water use along the Fourche, Ouachita, Little Missouri, Poteau, Cassatot, Little, Kiamicchi, Caddo, and the two Saline Rivers, as well as other smaller streams, are directly affected by the action of the forest cover and soil in receiving and absorbing the heavy annual rainfall and feeding it steadily into the springs and channels. Without this retarding influence the annual precipitation of 40 to 50 inches could only result in frequent damaging floods, excessive silting of channels and bottom-lands, and damage to property and improvements.



Forests of the area render an invaluable service in the protection of watersheds affecting the flood plains of the lower Mississippi Valley, and are minimizing agents against the recurrence of floods that menace the welfare and happiness of thousands of persons each year.

## HUNTING AND FISHING



CONTINUED ravages of fire previous to Federal control of the forest, the wasteful destruction of game animals, and the lack of regulation or planning in the past have caused the supply of game to be seriously depleted. Destruction of the forest watersheds has decreased the stream flow and accounts in part for the disappearance of fish in large numbers.



F-314396

**STREAM IMPROVEMENT DAM**

*Such dams should double the carrying capacity of streams for fish*

Much has been done to improve the fish and game conditions. Federal refuges for wild game, embracing nearly 40,000 acres have been set aside by Presidential proclamation. These sites were selected principally because the areas in which they are located contain the various species of game. It is planned that the overflows from the areas will eventually restock the surrounding nonprotected territory, thus assuring a continuous supply of game for sportsmen. Such efforts on the part of the Federal Government should bring back the deer, bear, beaver, and other species of game which were once abundant in the forest.

Four game refuges have been established in the Ouachita National Forest. They are Oak Mountain in Saline and Perry Counties, Muddy Creek in Montgomery and Yell Counties, Pigeon Creek in Scott and Logan Counties, and Caney Creek in Polk County. All are in Arkansas.

Stream improvement work has been done mainly within the limits of the game refuges with the view of utilizing the waters to maintain the maximum of fish population for propagation. One hundred and fifty small dams have been constructed to increase the feeding places in the pools created.

Hunting and fishing within the forest limits, is governed by State and county laws. No Federal regulations have been imposed, except in the game refuges, where no form of hunting, fishing, or trapping is allowed.

### SOCIAL VALUE OF RECREATION

WHILE the national forests are administered primarily to produce timber and protect watersheds because of the vital importance of these resources in the economic life of the Nation, they also contribute to the prosperity and welfare of the Nation through their social values. Recreation contributes largely to the health, happiness, and welfare of our people. The pace and strain of present-day living make especially desirable that form of recreation to be found along quiet, cool streams, on mountain tops and among green trees.



The Ouachita National Forest offers varied opportunities for pleasure and recreation for both young and old. It furnishes playgrounds and shaded resorts for picnics and excursions; it affords an opportunity for camping; its streams and lakes are the delight of the fisherman; its cloistered recesses are a laboratory for the naturalist. The beauty and splendor



A QUIET POOL IN A FOREST-SHADED STREAM .

F-261600

*Ouachita National Forest . Arkansas - Oklahoma*

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of the forest, its atmosphere of peace and quiet, and the glimpses of wildlife with its irresistible appeal may be enjoyed without any conflict with the growing and protection of timber.

The value of recreational development has not been overlooked. The outstanding feature which the forest offers to the ever increasing number of recreationists is mountain scenery. The Forest Service has made available pleasant places in the woods among the craggy mountains and along the roaring streams where enjoyment may be found and health restored. Through the Civilian Conservation Corps program much has been done in opening up new scenic wonders and developing recreation areas where special facilities are available for the use of the public.

CAMPGROUNDS AND PICNIC AREAS

INNUMERABLE springs and clear, cold mountain streams make motoring and camping in the Ouachitas ideal. Camp and picnic grounds have been developed in suitable locations and include shelters, tables, benches, fireplaces, and drinking water and sanitary facilities. Efforts have been made to keep the natural beauty unspoiled and all work has been done in a way to harmonize with natural surroundings.



SWIMMING POOL—JACK'S CREEK, RECREATION AREA

F-314435

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The only condition imposed upon the users of these facilities is that they abide by the camp regulations posted in each spot. It is expected that visitors will always leave their campgrounds as they would like to find them.

*Ouachita Camp.*—United States Highway 270, near Hot Springs. Picnic and swimming use.

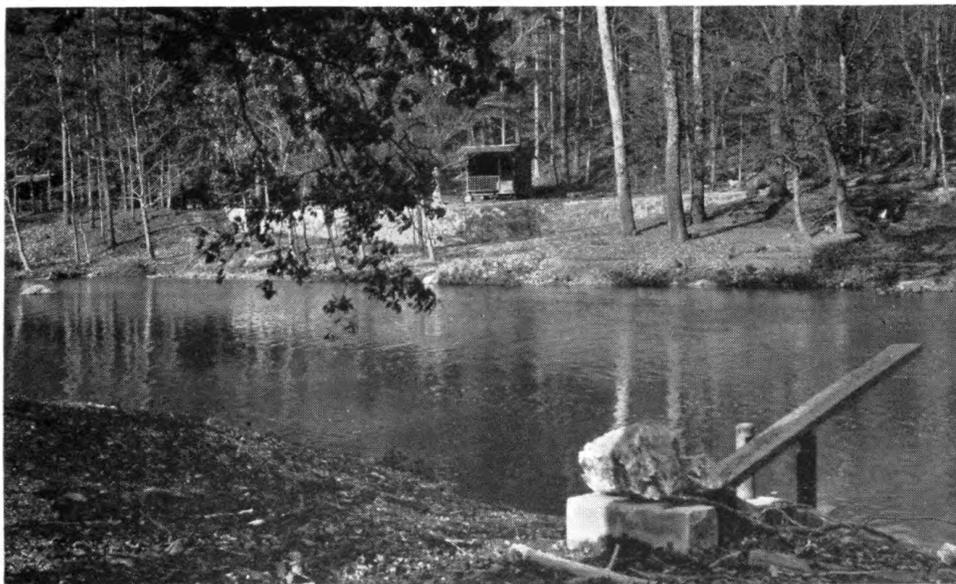
*Charlton Camp.*—United States Highway 270. About 20 miles from Hot Springs, Ark. Swimming and picnicking.

*Crystal Camp.*—Womble—Silver Road, near Norman. Picnicking and swimming.

*Albert Pike.*—Blaylock and Polk Creek Roads near Norman. Picnicking, camping, and swimming. Of historical interest as the site of the mountain retreat of Albert Pike, the master genius of Masonry. It was here that Pike wrote the well known “Morals and Dogma”, famous compilation of Masonic philosophy. The swimming hole here is a natural pool in a setting of cool shade and attractive rock outcroppings.

*Mine Creek.*—Shady-Mena Road, near Mena. Swimming, picnicking, and camping.

*Bard Springs.*—Blaylock Road, near Mena. Swimming, picnicking, and camping. The natural attraction here is the reputedly medicinal waters to which the mountain folk have made pilgrimages for generations. The



ALBERT PIKE CAMP ON LITTLE MISSOURI RIVER

F-314344

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F-338028

REGISTRY PORTAL—HORSETHIEF SPRINGS

area nestles in a rugged forest region near Buckeye and Blaylock mountains, Fodderstack and Raspberry Peaks standing like silent sentinels on guard.

*Iron Springs.*—State Highway 7. About 20 miles from Hot Springs. Picnicking, swimming, and camping.

*South Fourche.*—State Highway 7. About 30 miles from Hot Springs. Picnicking, swimming, and camping.

*Knopper's Ford.*—Freedom Gap Road, near Waldron. Swimming, picnicking, and camping.

*Sugar Creek.*—Freedom Gap Road, near Waldron. Picnicking only.

*Shady Lake.*—Big Fork-Athens Road, near Mena. Swimming, boating, camping, and picnicking. A 21-acre lake of sparkling clearness in the heart of the mountains. An ideal spot for a picnic or for pitching a tent.

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### IN THE OKLAHOMA DISTRICT

*Billy Creek.*—Twenty miles off United States Highway 270, near Pine Valley. Picnicking and swimming.

*Horse thief.*—Winding stairs truck trail. Picnicking only. This unit is located near the top of Winding Stair Mountain, about an hour's drive from Heavener. The area centers about Horse thief Springs, famous in the almost forgotten days of traffic in horses stolen in Texas and driven north through the Missouri mountains for sale.

*Bear Caves.*—Winding stairs truck trail. Picnicking only.

### SCENIC TRAILS FOR THE HIKER

THROUGHOUT the forest there are numerous foot trails leading into primitive regions and scenes of rugged forest beauty. No artificial development of any sort will be attempted in these stretches of solitude, where the lover of the great outdoors can find seclusion in districts rarely trodden by the foot of man.

*Crystal Mines.*—In the Crystal Mountain region, near Norman, reached by a trail leading from the Womble-Silver road. This mountain receives its name from the abundance of rock crystals found in veins in the quartzose sandstone of which the mountains are composed.

*Little Missouri Area.*—With its rugged picturesqueness, affords unlimited possibilities for the student and lover of nature. The Little Missouri Falls may be reached by a foot trail from the Mena-Shady Road.

Standing Rock, a spectacular rocky formation, is reached by trail from the Mena-Shady Road.

Nearly all of the campgrounds have trails leading to various points of interest or to panoramic views. At Camp Ouachita a foot bridge over a small inlet in the Ouachita River connects the camp with forest trails which will lead hikers into beautiful territory. Petit Jean Trail along the top of the Petit Jean Mountains offers a delightful trip for those who travel afoot or horseback.

The lookout towers, built for forest fire detection, are all reached by road or trail. The locations of these towers usually afford exceptional vistas of the forest-clad hills, rugged gorges, and high peaks that form an unforgettable picture.

### ROUTES FOR THE MOTORIST

THE Ouachita National Forest is accessible by a network of Forest Service roads, connecting with State and Federal highways. United States Highway 270 runs almost through the center of the forest, from east to

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west, going into the Oklahoma section of the forest. Ouachita, Charlton, and Crystal Camps are all just off of this route. Collier Springs is reached by a Forest Service road from this highway. Near the Oklahoma State line, a Forest Service road branches off from the highway up Rich Mountain, on the north slope of which may be found more species of wild flowers than in any other area of like size in the State.

United States Highway 70 traverses the eastern boundary of the forest and connects Hot Springs and Little Rock. Roads 7 and 9 both branch off from this highway.

State Highway 8 runs from Norman to Mena. Off from this road are Albert Pike, Mine Creek, and Bard Springs campgrounds. The Forest Service roads connecting with this route afford some of the most picturesque scenery of the forest. Mena, attractive to the tourist and vacationist seeking recreation in the mountains, is popular because of its unexcelled climate. It is noted for its cool summer nights.

State Highway 7 leads to the northern part of the forest. Iron Springs and South Fourche campgrounds are on this road which borders Oak Mountain Game Refuge. Several lookout towers are accessible by Forest Service roads, leading off from this route.

State Highway 9 also leads to the northern part of the forest. From this road North Fork Pinnacle can be reached.

### ROADS OF THE FOREST SERVICE

THE Forest Service has developed and maintains over 1,500 miles of good roads within the forest. They make the most remote parts of the forest accessible. Many of them lead through interesting Arkansas mountain-life settings.

Many of these roads were constructed by the CCC and have opened up rugged areas which until recent years were enjoyed by only a few hardy hikers or horseback riders who pushed their way into these remote places. They were constructed primarily as a means of fire control, but are open to the public and offer opportunity for enjoying the scenic beauty of the forest.

*The Womble-Silver Road* leaves United States Highway 270, two and one-half miles west of Crystal Springs and leads to Norman through beautiful Crystal Mountain, opening up vast scenic panoramas. On this road a few miles from Norman, Ark., is Collier Springs, with shelter and trails. Here water gushes from the ground at the rate of 3,000 gallons per hour. Farther along is Crystal campground, where swimming and picnicking facilities are to be found.

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*The Shady-Mena Road*, which branches from State Highway 8, about 20 miles from Mena, passes Mine Creek camp site. The Big Fork Athens Road branches from this road and leads to Bard Springs campground and Saline Lake, where camping, swimming, and picnicking are available.

*The Gladstone Road* leaves Highway 7 and leads through a most picturesque section of the forest. It passes through Aly and the Dutch Creek Mountain region.

*The Petit-Jean Road*, a scenic mountain drive, is reached from Waldron by way of United States Highway 71, Girard Road, and Freedom Gap Road. On Freedom Gap Road is Knopper's Ford campground, where there are facilities for camping, picnicking, and swimming.

*The Winding Stair Road* in Oklahoma, leads from the United States Highway 270 up the Winding Stair Mountain. It passes Horse Thief and Bear Caves camp sites and opens up a beautiful scenic section of the forest.

*The Rich Mountain Top Road*, which should be completed in 1937, will be one of the most picturesque of all scenic drives on the forest. It begins at the city limits of Mena and climbs the range to the top of Rich Mountain,



F-261599

GLADSTONE FOREST ROAD ALONG NORTH FORK CREEK

*Roads have been carefully located to preserve landscape beauty*

## *Ouachita National Forest . Arkansas - Oklahoma*

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the highest mountain in the forest, with an elevation of 2,800 feet above sea level. It follows along the top of the mountain, a distance of 18 miles to the Oklahoma State line, then swings south down the ridge to intersect the Talihina Highway 88 near Commonwealth College. A spur from this road leads north down the mountain to Highway 270 at the town of Rich Mountain. This road traverses a rugged scenic section, and at the north and south are opened up beautiful vistas revealing the majestic sweep of mile upon mile of forested mountains.

The drive will lead by the old town site of Mount Mena where the ruins of the old Wilhelmina Hotel still stand as a monument to the gay nineties, when this popular summer resort was built. The once spacious hotel took its name from one of its first distinguished guests, Queen Wilhelmina of Holland.

### ADMINISTRATION

THE keynote of national forest administration is service. The permanency of the work of the national forest system destines it to play an important part as a social and economic stabilizer. It does this through the promo-



KEEPING WATCH FOR FIRES ON OAK MOUNTAIN  
*These "eyes" of the protective organization are scattered throughout the forest*

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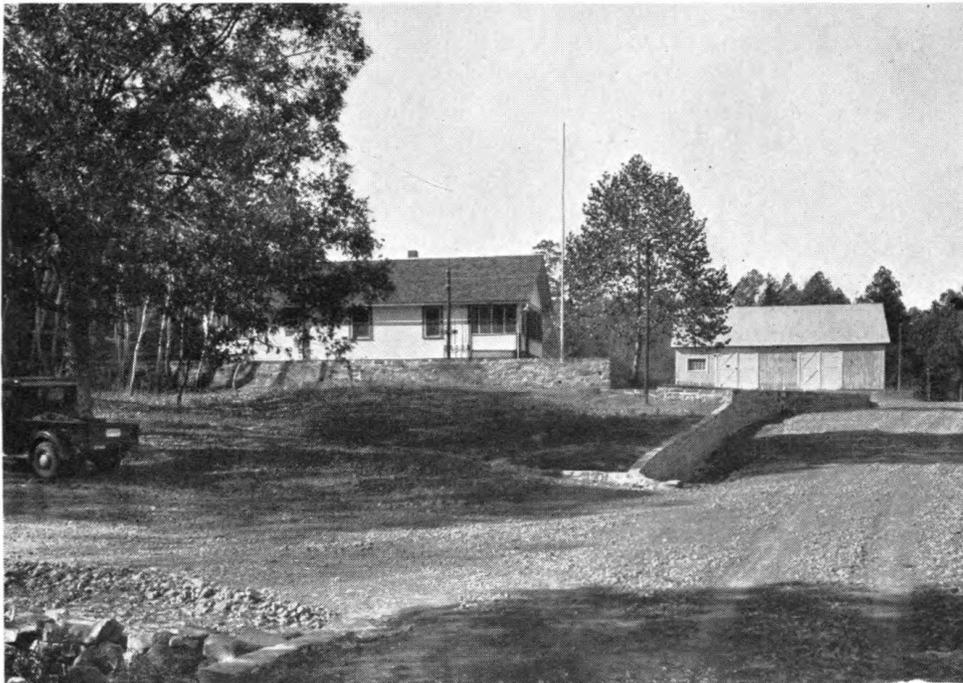
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tion of good land use, the production of timber, the provision of steady seasonal employment year by year, and by contributing in other ways to the development of the country and the welfare of the people.

These forests are the properties of the people of the United States, and the national forest officials are the guardians or managers of these properties. Every effort is made to perpetuate these resources and to coordinate the uses so that each may go on and none interfere with the other.

As has been mentioned, timber is harvested in such a way as to provide for growing a new crop and for producing as much timber as possible, of the best quality. When timber is cut in the Ouachita Forest according to Government practices, it is not necessary to replant the cut-over areas. The shortleaf pine, which predominates, quickly re-seeds the cut-over areas, making artificial planting unnecessary. Forage in the open is grazed by cattle and sheep under permit, and water-power development is permitted under proper regulations.

For the purpose of administering the forest and protecting it from fire, lookout, guard, and ranger stations have been built. These are connected by a telephone, road, and trail system. Other roads and trails are con-



COLD SPRINGS GUARD STATION NEAR WALDRON

F-314374

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structed and maintained to make the forest more accessible, thus making it easy to reach any forest fires which occur.

The United States Forest Service is making every effort to bring the newest scientific developments into forest fire control in the national forests, and to coordinate the results of the past years of experience and fire control research to effect the desired fire control objectives. The Division of Fire Control of the Forest Service estimates that of the total amount expended annually for administration of the national forests, 37 percent is required for their protection from fire. Without successful protection, forestry cannot restore the American heritage of timber lands, nor can these lands fulfill their role in the control of floods, maintenance of water supplies, and outdoor recreation.

The Arkansas State Forest Service is protecting from fire lands which adjoin the national forest. State and Federal lookout towers are connected by telephone and the two agencies cooperate in detecting and locating fires. The State forester is located at Little Rock.

The forest supervisor, with headquarters at Hot Springs, has direct charge of the administration of the Ouachita National Forest. He is assisted by a staff and clerical assistants, as well as six district rangers, each of whom is responsible for operation of affairs in his district. These district rangers are located at Oden, Norman, Waldron, and Mena, Ark.; and Heavener, Okla. The Jessieville ranger has offices in Hot Springs, Ark.

All forest officers will gladly give visitors information on the resources and attractions of the forest. This national forest belongs to the public to use and enjoy—and to protect.

Additional information regarding the Ouachita National Forest, or other national forests in the southern region, is always available at the regional office, Atlanta, Ga., or at the office of the supervisor at Hot Springs.

### THE FOREST AND THE COMMUNITY

IN the Ouachita National Forest there is being developed a public property which should steadily become of greater service to the surrounding region and to each local community within its zone of service.

When the force of the depression struck and the CCC movement was initiated, the national forests offered opportunity for emergency employment on a national scale. The man power and emergency funds available made possible a start in putting our forests in order. A vast amount of public work of lasting benefit has been accomplished. Losses from forest fires have been greatly reduced through the erection of lookout towers and the construction of roads to inaccessible timber tracts.

## *Ouachita National Forest . Arkansas - Oklahoma*

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Work toward rebuilding forests is more than an emergency measure; it is permanently constructive in its value because it helps to lay foundations for lasting economic prosperity and to add continuously to the welfare of families and communities. In addition to its economic features, this program of work is an investment not only in the saving of trees and soil but in its contribution to human welfare through rebuilding men.

The value of the work accomplished during the past few years will be better realized as time goes on and conservation assumes a larger and more important aspect in our national life.

Many forces are working to favor forest management in the South. New methods of using raw products are being developed rapidly and the possibilities of pine appear numerous. New pulpwood and lumber-using industries are moving in. The Forest Service is slowly and carefully working out a conservation program aimed at assisting Federal, State, and private agencies in developing and sustaining a supply of necessary raw materials to support these new industries.

The suppression of fire is vital to our continued forest prosperity and any constructive plan must have the support of the public as a whole in the prevention of woods fires. The vast extent of its forests has helped to make the United States the great industrial nation it is today.



ABANDONED FIELD RESTOCKING

F-261819

*Abandoned fields on submarginal farm land are being purchased by the Forest Service. Unless they reseed naturally, as most of them do, they are planted artificially to pine*

*Ouachita National Forest . Arkansas-Oklahoma*

Forests are a source of prosperity and it is essential that adequate portions of this national wealth be preserved for all time. It is safe to assume that providing markets for pine wood is going to do a lot to save pine forests from fires. Ready markets and cash for trees will do more than any amount of preaching to secure the cooperation of owners to prevent carelessness with fires.

The rapid growth of trees and the natural advantage of climate in the southern pine belt enhance the position of the Ouachita National Forest as a region of rich timber resources for supplying industrial needs. These resources, if properly managed, offer possibilities of providing material for great operations which will mean employment for workers at good wages and prosperity for the region on a sound basis that will be lasting.

TREES COMMONLY FOUND  
IN THE OUACHITA NATIONAL FOREST

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Black oak . . . . .	<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Silver poplar . . . . .	<i>Populus alba</i>
Blackjack oak . . . . .	<i>Quercus marilandica</i>	Black willow . . . . .	<i>Salix nigra</i>
Water oak . . . . .	<i>Quercus nigra</i>	Black walnut . . . . .	<i>Juglans nigra</i>
Willow oak . . . . .	<i>Quercus phellos</i>	White hickory . . . . .	<i>Hicoria alba</i>
White elm . . . . .	<i>Ulmus americana</i>	Pignut hickory . . . . .	<i>Hicoria glabra</i>
Winged elm . . . . .	<i>Ulmus alata</i>	Water hickory . . . . .	<i>Hicoria aquatica</i>
Slippery elm . . . . .	<i>Ulmus fulva</i>	Pecan . . . . .	<i>Hicoria pecan</i>
Hackberry . . . . .	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Blue beech . . . . .	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>
Red mulberry . . . . .	<i>Morus rubra</i>	Hop-hornbeam or ironwood.	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>
Osage orange . . . . .	<i>Toxylon pomiferum</i>	River birch . . . . .	<i>Betula nigra</i>
Cucumber tree . . . . .	<i>Magnolia acuminata</i>	Alder . . . . .	<i>Alnus</i>
Umbrella magno- lia.	<i>Magnolia tripetala</i>	Beech . . . . .	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>
Papaw . . . . .	<i>Asimina triloba</i>	Chinquapin . . . . .	<i>Castanea pumila</i>
Sassafras . . . . .	<i>Sassafras variifolium</i>	White oak . . . . .	<i>Quercus alba</i>
Sweet gum or red gum.	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Post oak . . . . .	<i>Quercus stellata</i>
Witch-hazel . . . . .	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	Cow oak . . . . .	<i>Quercus prinus</i>
Sycamore . . . . .	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Red oak . . . . .	<i>Quercus borealis</i>
Serviceberry . . . . .	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	Hercules club . . . . .	<i>Aralia spinosa</i>
Hawthorn . . . . .	<i>Crataegus</i>	Sumach . . . . .	<i>Rhus</i>
Black cherry . . . . .	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Holly . . . . .	<i>Ilex opaca</i>
Wild plum . . . . .	<i>Prunus americana</i>	Red maple . . . . .	<i>Acer rubrum</i>
Redbud . . . . .	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Silver maple . . . . .	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>
Honey locust . . . . .	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	Boxelder . . . . .	<i>Acer negundo</i>
Black locust . . . . .	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Basswood . . . . .	<i>Tilia heterophylla</i>
Shortleaf pine . . . . .	<i>Pinus echinata</i>	Black gum . . . . .	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>
Loblolly pine . . . . .	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	Dogwood . . . . .	<i>Cornus florida</i>
Bald cypress . . . . .	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Persimmon . . . . .	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>
Red cedar . . . . .	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	White ash . . . . .	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>
Cottonwood . . . . .	<i>Populus deltoides</i>	Catalpa . . . . .	<i>Catalpa</i>

