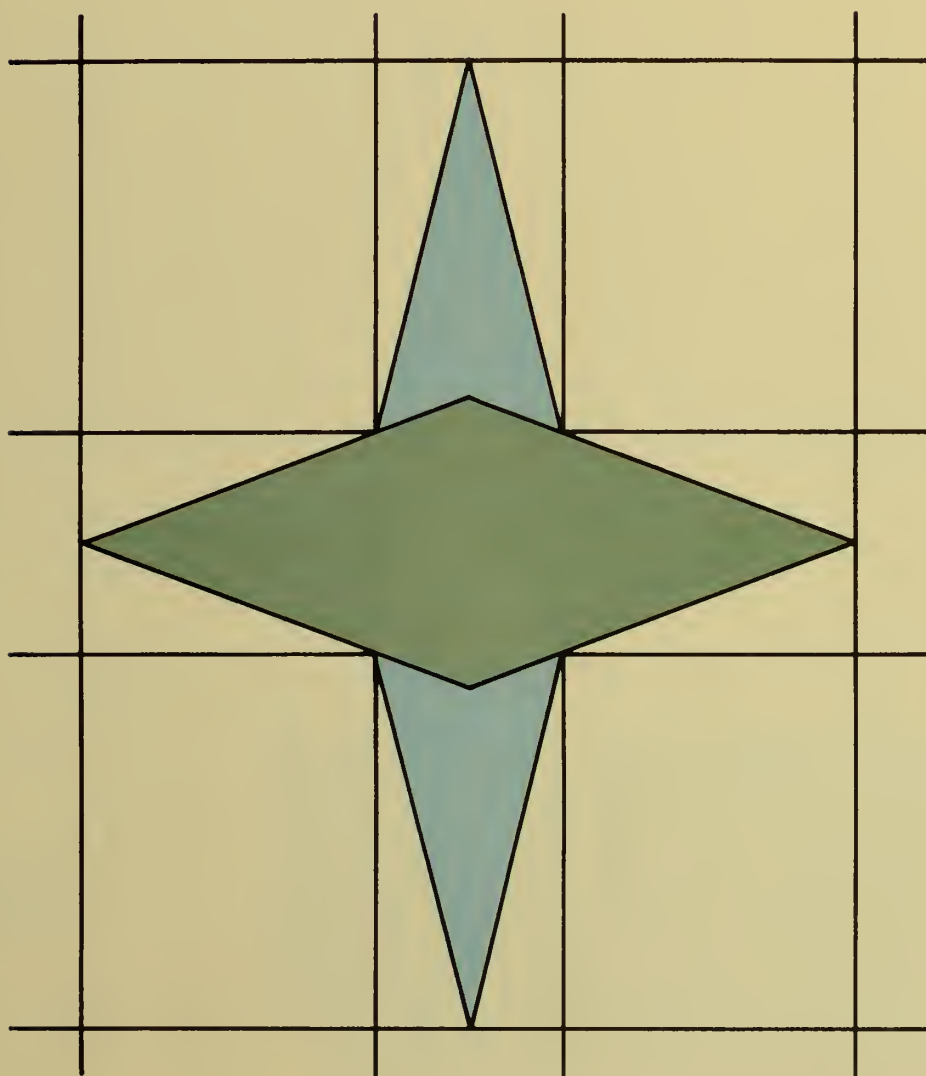



NORTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS



AT THE CROSSROADS



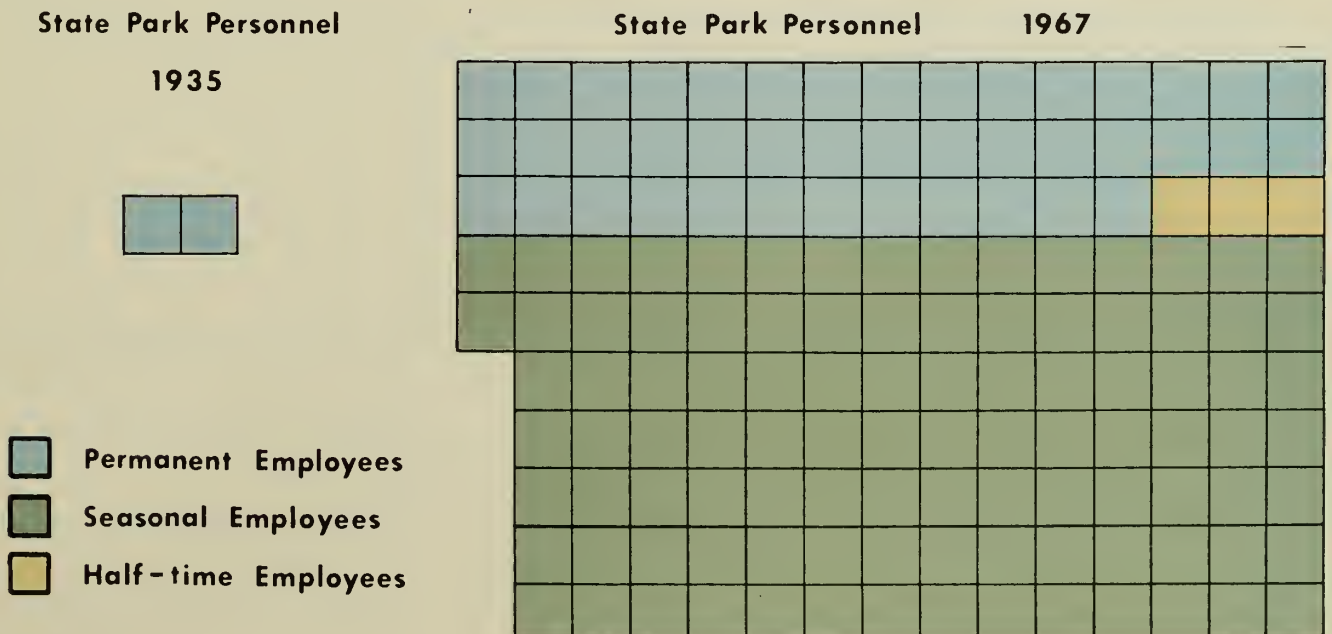
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BRIEF HISTORY OF DIVISION OF STATE PARKS

The old Geological and Economic Survey, established in 1891, predecessor of the Department of Conservation and Development, was promoting State Parks as early as the turn of the century. Through its Division of Forestry, the Survey began the State Park System in 1915-1916 with the acquisition of Mount Mitchell State Park. The Division of Forestry continued to be responsible for State Parks, both as a Division of the Geologic and Economic Survey and, from 1925 on, as a Division of the Department of Conservation and Development until October 1, 1948, when the Division of State Parks was created in recognition of the growing importance of the State Park program.

In August 1935, the first full-time Superintendent of State Parks was hired and was the first employee of the Division of Forestry employed specifically to devote full time to handling the Department's State Park Program. At the same time, the Branch of State Parks was set up within the Forestry Division. Before this, all State Park matters had been handled directly by the State Forestry along with his many other duties. At this time, the Superintendent of State Parks was hired, there was one State Park employee--the Warden at Mount Mitchell State Park. Today, there are 42 full time, 3 half-time, and 100 seasonal employees in the Division of State Parks.



The State Park System now includes fourteen State Parks having a total of 53,351 acres (land and water).

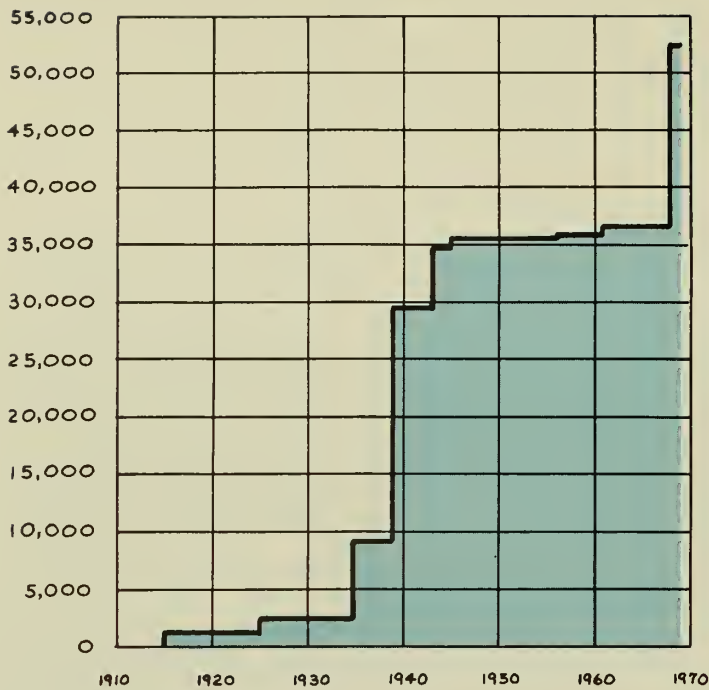
The growth of the State Park System since the establishment of Mount Mitchell State Park is shown below:

<u>State Parks</u>		
<u>Name</u>	<u>Acquired</u>	<u>How Acquired</u>
Mount Mitchell State Park	1915	Purchase by State
Fort Macon State Park	1925	Gift from Federal Government
(1)Rendezvous Mountain State Park	1926	Gift from private individuals
Morrow Mountain State Park	1935	Partly gift from private individuals and Stanly County, and partly State purchase
Hanging Rock State Park	1935	Gift from private individuals
(2)Cape Hatteras State Park	1935	Gift from private individuals
Jones Lake State Park	1938	First lease then deed from Federal Government
Singletary Lake Group Camp	1938	First lease then deed from Federal Government
(3)Pettigrew State Park	1939	First lease then deed from Federal Government
(4)Sandhills State Recreational Area	1939	Lease from Federal Government
(5)Crabtree Creek (William B. Umstead State Park)	1943	Gift from Federal Government
(5)Reedy Creek State Park	1943	Gift from Federal Government
Cliffs of the Neuse State Park	1945	Gift from private individuals
(6)Hiwassee Lake State Park	1948	Lease from Tennessee Valley Authority
Mount Jefferson State Park	1956	Gift from private individuals and Town of West Jefferson
Hammocks Beach State Park	1961	Gift from Hammocks Beach Corporation
Duke Power State Park	1962	Gift from private enterprise
Weymouth Woods - SNP	1963	Gift from private individuals

NOTES:

- (1) Rendezvous Mountain State Park eliminated from State Park System in 1956 because it did not meet minimum State Park standards.
- (2) Cape Hatteras State Park deeded to the United States of America, December 22, 1952 for inclusion in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area as required by Act of General Assembly.
- (3) The Somerset Place in Pettigrew State Park was transferred to the Department of Archives and History in 1965. Recreational facilities and Natural resources management remains under the administration of State Parks.
- (4) Sandhills State Recreational Area was a part of the Sandhills Cooperative land use area which was later designated as North Carolina Wildlife Management Area and, on October 3, 1941, turned over to the Division of Game and Inland Fisheries (now Wildlife Resources Commission.)
- (5) Divided into two State Parks April 24, 1950; Crabtree Creek State Park for white use and Reedy Creek State Park for Negro use. Name of Crabtree Creek State Park changed to William B. Umstead State Park by Board of Conservation and Development in resolution of January 26, 1955. These areas were recombined into a single unit on February 8, 1966.
- (6) Lease with TVA for Hiwassee State Park was terminated December 31, 1952.

Total Acreage



State Lakes

White Lake, Black Lake, Singletary Lake, Jones Lake, Salters Lake (all in Bladen County), Lake Waccamaw (in Columbus County) and Lake Phelps (Washington and Tyrrell Counties) have always been state-owned and remain so by Acts of the General Assembly. With the exception of .6 acres on the shore of White Lake which is devoted entirely to administration, no land bordering White Lake, Black Lake or Lake Waccamaw is state-owned. Seven hundred and three acres of land on Lake Phelps constitutes Pettigrew State Park. Jones, Salters, and Singletary Lakes are within the boundaries of Jones Lake State Park and Singletary Lake Group Camp. The State Lakes are administered by the Division of State Parks.

State History Sites

All State Historic Sites were transferred to the Department of Archives and History in 1955 in accordance with an Act of the 1955 General Assembly.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Acquired</u>	<u>How Acquired</u>
Town Creek Indian Mound	1937	Gift from private individuals
Charles B. Aycock Birthplace	1951	Gift

<u>Name</u>	<u>Acquired</u>	<u>How Acquired</u>
James Iredell House	1951	State Purchase
Tryon Palace	1952	State purchase with state and private funds
Brunswick Town	1952	Gift from private individuals
Battle of Alamance	1953	Gift from Alamance County

The Objectives of the Division of State Parks

The work the Division of State Parks does to carry out its purpose, objectives and functions, and to achieve its goals, is complex and varied and requires the organization, utilization, direction and coordination of a variety of professions, skills and services. To assure its accomplishment in an orderly, efficient and economical manner, this work is organized into nine major phases:

1. Personnel Administration
2. Protection and Law Enforcement
3. Operation for Public Use
4. Maintenance
5. Business Management
6. Interpretive and Public use Programs
7. Planning, Development and Construction
8. Information and Education
9. Cooperation with and services to Other Agencies

On January 26, 1955, the Board of Conservation and Development adopted "Principles Governing the Establishment, Extension and Development of the State Park System of the State of North Carolina". This forward step has provided much needed frame work under which the Division can more orderly function in the expansion and development of urgently needed additional State Parks.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

To assure the accomplishment of this basic purpose in accordance with the best standards, State Park sites of the North Carolina State Park System shall be limited to:

1
Types of
State
Park
Sites

1. Scenic and Recreational State Parks.

- a. State parks which evaluated on a state-wide basis, possess unique or exceptional scenic value.

By exceptional scenic value is meant rare natural scenery, which is unlikely to be preserved for the benefit and enjoyment of the public in this and future generations if the property remains in private ownership, and which is sufficiently distinctive to attract and interest people from distant parts of the State as well as local people.

- b. State parks which possess distinctive scenic values and excellent opportunities for the development of facilities for active recreational use of natural resources and excellent opportunities for the study of natural history. It is highly important that these areas have distinctive scenic character because the final test of such areas is the possession of a natural appeal which will make park users eager to return. Areas lacking such natural appeal are not justifiable as units of the State Park System.

2. State Scientific Sites.

- a. State scientific sites which, evaluated on a state-wide basis, have unique natural scientific features.

A state park site (other than scientific sites) should possess both scenic and recreational values. In some sites exceptional

scenic values may be sufficient to overcome the lack of recreational possibilities, and in other sites unusual recreational possibilities may make up for a lack of scenic values. By unusual recreational value is meant features such as topography, trees, vegetation, streams, lakes or ocean shore offering recreational possibilities which would attract and interest people of a wide surrounding area and would not be available to the public if the property remained in private ownership.

An even geographical distribution of state parks at arbitrary distances, for example every fifty miles, or state parks for every county, is manifestly impossible on any reasonable theory of scenic and recreational standards, because it is fundamentally unscientific, and because it would be unnecessary and prohibitively expensive.

2

State
Parks
Required

The state parks should be sufficient in number, size, development, operation and maintenance to adequately serve the needs of all of the people of the State over and above the facilities which are or should be provided by local city, town and county parks.

3

Priority
of
Development

Generally speaking, existing state parks should be adequately developed before additional state parks are acquired, but it is recognized that the state park system is far from complete and opportunities to overcome deficiencies should not be neglected.

PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE
ESTABLISHMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
OF
ADDITIONAL STATE PARKS
AND
EXTENSION AND DEVELOPMENT
OF
EXISTING STATE PARKS

So that establishment of new state parks will not retard the proper development of existing state parks and to maintain the North Carolina State Park System at a high standard, the following principles and requirements must be strictly adhered to:

1

Types of
and
Inherent
Qualities
of State
Park Sites

Acquisition of new state park sites shall be limited to those types described under "GENERAL PRINCIPLES - Types of State Park Sites" and possessing the values and qualities described therein.

2

Minimum
Size

Every state park site (except state scientific sites) shall be of sufficient size to:

1. In the case of State Parks possessing unique or exceptional scenic value:

(a) completely include the scenic or natural features the area is established to protect and preserve; (b) provide sufficient buffer area to protect the scenic or natural features from outside influences or encroachments; (c) provide a reasonably satisfactory habitat for indigenous wildlife; and (d) permit the development of recreational and public use areas if these can be provided without damage to or impairment of the primary purpose of preserving the scenic or natural features, and if geographic location or public need justify development of such area. Under normal conditions, 400 acres of land well adapted to state park use and development shall be considered as a minimum size for each state park site.

2. In the case of state parks possessing distinctive scenic values and

excellent recreational opportunities:

(a) completely include the distinctive scenic features of the area and if possible, one or more complete landscape units; (b) provide sufficient buffer area to protect the distinctive scenic features from outside influences or encroachments; (c) provide a reasonably satisfactory habitat for indigenous wildlife; (d) amply accommodate the recreational and public use developments required to meet present and future public needs and to accommodate these developments in such a way that various types of public use will not interfere with each other or destroy the effect of a natural environment; and (e) provide extensive use amid unspoiled and relatively unmodified natural surroundings. Under normal conditions, 400 acres of land well adapted to state park use and development shall be considered as a minimum size for each state park site.

3. In the case of state scientific sites:

(a) completely include the scientific feature or features the area is established to protect and preserve; (b) permit development of facilities for public access, sanitation, maintenance and adequate interpretive facilities without damage to or impairment of the scientific feature or features; and (c) provide sufficient buffer area to protect the scientific feature or features from outside influence or encroachments.

Existing state parks should be extended to meet this minimum size.

3
The Large
Park Compared to
Smaller Parks

It is better to concentrate on one large fine park than to scatter efforts over a number of smaller parks.

4
Cost of
Land

The cost of land should be reasonable considering values in the section of the State in which the state park

site is located. Other things being equal, a site involving a small number of present owners is to be preferred. No property should be accepted as a gift unless it meets all the requirements herein set forth for establishing new state parks and involves no commitments, privileges or conditions except a condition requiring that the property be used only for state park purposes.

5

Location
of State
Park Sites

State Parks which possess unique or exceptional scenic value and state scientific sites must be located where the values justifying their acquisition exist regardless of geographic location in relation to population and existing and proposed public and private parks and recreation areas.

State Park sites possessing distinctive scenic value and excellent opportunities for recreational development should be geographically located so as to be readily accessible to as large a population as possible while still meeting the required standards of distinctive scenic value. State Parks sites of this type which duplicate existing or proposed parks and recreational programs in the general vicinity, or which have inherent characteristics or development possibilities of only local interest, or which serve only local need shall not be added to the State Park System.

6

Standards
of
Development

State Parks possessing unique or exceptional scenic value shall receive only such development as is necessary to protect and preserve the scenic and natural values, provide public access, protect public health and provide adequate interpretive programs, and the development of such other recreational and public use facilities as can be provided to meet justifiable public needs without damage to or impairment of the scenic and natural values. All developments shall be planned and executed so as to in no way impair, damage or detract from the scenic or natural values which the areas were established

to preserve and protect.

State Parks possessing distinctive scenic values and excellent opportunities for the development of facilities for active recreational use of natural resources shall receive all development required to protect and preserve the distinctive scenic values, provide public access, protect public health, provide recreational use of natural resources and provide adequate interpretive programs. Development for public use of natural resources shall primarily include facilities for such outdoor activities as picnicking, swimming, boating, fishing, hiking, nature study and camping, and for vacation use. Facilities for such recreational activities as organized sports, playgrounds and athletic contests are better suited to municipal and other parks and shall not be provided in state park areas except for simple playfields incident to picnicking and organized camping. All development shall be so planned and constructed as to keep disturbance of natural conditions at a minimum and to leave a liberal portion of each State Park completely undisturbed and completely free from all man-made improvements and structures, except trails, so as to permit maximum preservation of natural conditions.

State scientific sites shall receive only such development as is necessary for protection and preservation of the scientific feature or features of scientific sites, provide public access, protect public health and provide adequate interpretive programs. All such development shall be planned and executed so as to in no way impair, damage or detract from the scientific feature or features and values which the areas were established to preserve and protect.

7
Quality
of
Development

A State Park should be developed in a dignified and substantial manner and all development and construction should be carefully planned in advance. Construction should be with durable materials and shall be of a

type that will require minimum maintenance and operating costs.

8

Cost of
Development

Each State Park must eventually have, as a bare minimum of development, access and other roads, parking areas, safe drinking water, sanitary facilities, employee housing, maintenance buildings and other fundamentals. A site which necessitates unusually large expenditures to provide for basic developments should ordinarily be avoided.

ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
JANUARY 26, 1955

On April 23, 1963, the Governor and Council of State approved the gift of Weymouth woods in Moore County from Mrs. James Boyd to the State of North Carolina as a Nature Preserve. Located in Southern Pines, North Carolina, the Weymouth Woods - Sandhills Nature Preserve is a typical example of the unique sandhill vegetation, topography, and geology. This area is set aside for preservation and protection in its natural condition without development other than an Interpretive Center, hiking and nature trails area. The Nature Preserve will be beneficial to schools and universities throughout the state for various types of natural history study and research, as well as, the enjoyment of the public. This area maintained and operated as a Nature Preserve is the first preserve of this type to be added to the State Park System.

Because of the growing importance of Preserves, the Board of Conservation and Development adopted PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT, EXTENSION AND DEVELOPMENT OF STATE PARK NATURAL AREAS OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA on April 23, 1963.

Purpose

The Purpose of the North Carolina State Parks Natural Areas System shall be:

TO SERVE THE PEOPLE OF NORTH CAROLINA AND THEIR VISITORS BY:

1. Preserving and protecting natural areas of scientific, aesthetic, or geologic value not only for the knowledge and inspiration of the present generation; but, also for generations to come.
2. Portraying and interpreting plant and animal life, geology, and all other natural features and processes in the various Natural Areas.

Quality

Sites selected as Natural Areas shall be those which (1) best portray the natural processes that have formed the earth and its plant and animal life; (2) portray some specific natural process so dramatically and arrestingly as to be unique and of sufficient importance to be worthy of statewide interest; (3) contain some outstanding examples of native plant and animal communities or other outstanding significant natural objects, conditions, and phenomena.

Maintenance and Protection

In order to protect the quality of Natural Areas, the basic principle of maintenance will be to preserve the area in its natural condition.

Paths or trails will be opened only in a manner compatible with the basic principle of maintenance.

No roads will be constructed, opened, or maintained except those required for protection and minimum maintenance.

No buildings of any sort will be erected except those required for interpretation, protection, and minimum maintenance.

Agricultural operations of any kind will not be permitted.

Natural Areas, being units of the Division of State Parks, will be subject to State Park Regulations as authorized and directed by Chapter 113, Section 35, of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

Size

Sites selected as Natural Areas shall be large enough to (1) completely include the natural features the area is established to preserve and protect; (2) provide sufficient buffer area to protect the natural features from outside influences or encroachments; (3) permit the development of interpretive devices if these can be provided without damage or impairment of the primary purpose of preserving the natural features.

Location

Intrinsic values will determine the location of Natural Areas and they must be located where existing values justify their acquisition regardless of geographic location in relation to population.

Access

The boundaries of all Natural Areas should be accessible over public roads or byways.

Cost

The cost of land should be reasonable, considering values in the section of the State in which the Natural Area site is located. No property shall be purchased or accepted as a gift unless it meets all the requirements herein set forth for establishing Natural Areas and involves no commitments, privileges, or conditions except a condition requiring that the property be used only as a Natural Area.

Development

Natural Areas shall receive only such development as is necessary to preserve and protect their natural values, protect public health, and provide adequate interpretive programs. All Developments shall be planned and executed so as to in no way impair, damage, or detract from the natural values for which the areas were established to preserve and protect. Development of recreational and public use facilities which provide for

organized sports or contests, swimming, camping, picnicking, and the like shall not be provided in Natural Areas.

Adopted by the
Board of Conservation and Development
April 23, 1963

BARE FACTS OF THE CRYING NEED

For nearly half a century North Carolinians and their guests have been blessed with the opportunity of enjoying increasing portions of the best scenic and recreational areas of the State which have been set aside for the enjoyment and use of all the people.

The fact that these areas which have permanently been added to the Division are of exceptional quality is indisputable.

Today the enormous interest focused on outdoor recreation is requiring much study both by public and private agencies. We are faced by what is called "The Crises in Outdoor Recreation". Each study in turn reveals one glaring and indisputable fact.

There are not nearly enough existing areas to meet the current demand and the shortage will become increasingly acute unless acreages devoted to State Parks and other outdoor recreation areas is radically increased.

What caused this overwhelming demand for outdoor recreation resources?

More People

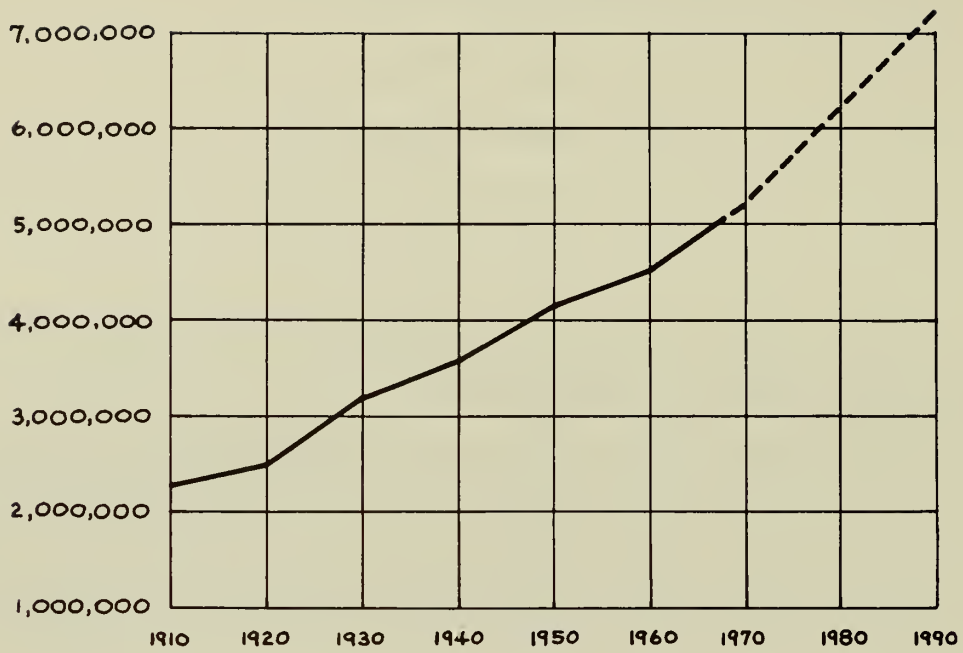
More Income

More Leisure

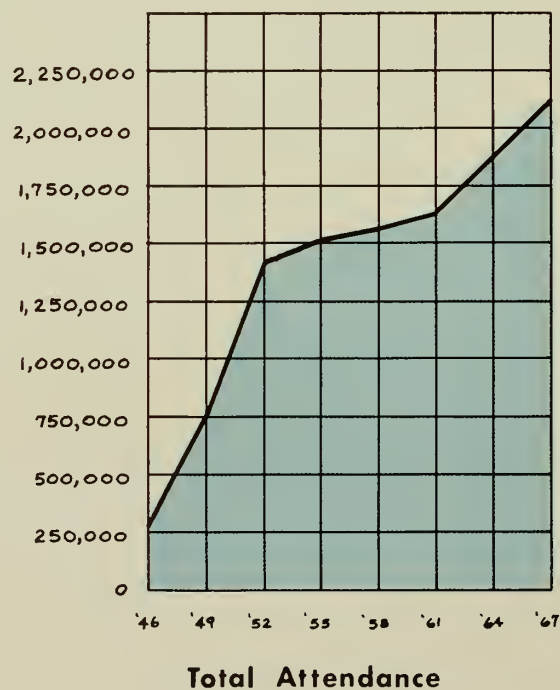
More Mobility

The population of North Carolina has continued to increase; comprehensive studies indicate that this trend will continue. No one can question that a great economic development has taken place in North Carolina during the last twenty-five years. Even the least generous opinions are that this growth will continue even at an accelerated rate.

N. C. Population

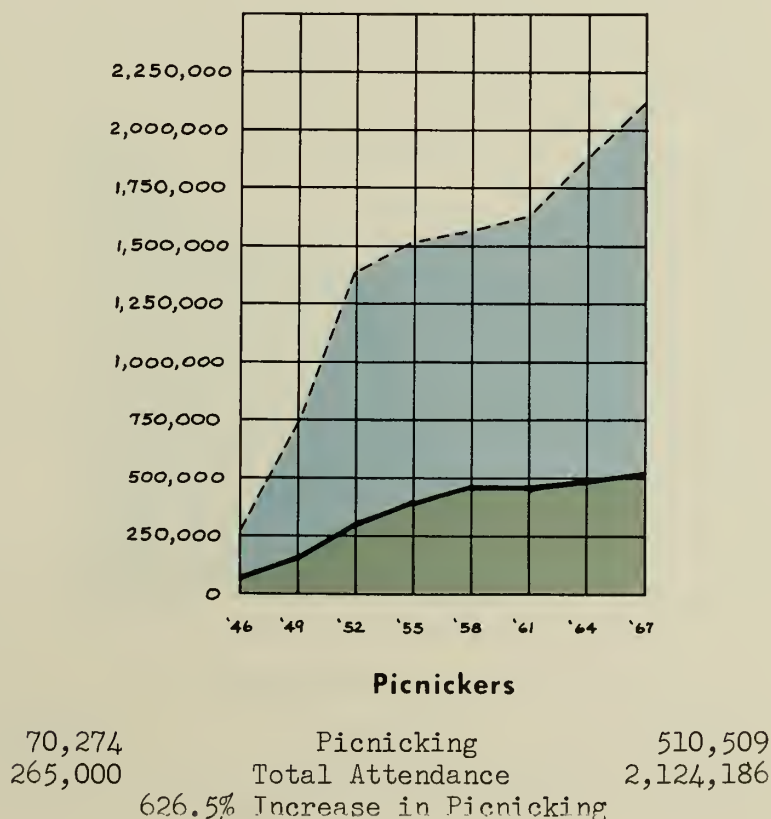


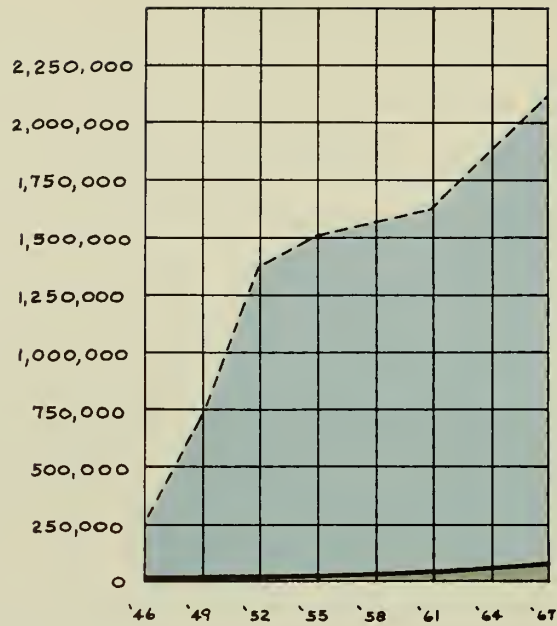
The attendance at state parks has increased rapidly during their brief existence from a few thousand to 4,332,613 visitors of the biennium ending June 30, 1968. The percentage increase over the biennium ending June 30, 1960 was 39.9%.



Not only has total attendance increased, but more significantly there has been a change of the type of park use. In the past, especially in the early days, it seems that to visit and see the area was of primary importance. Indeed, it may be said that the lack of developed facilities may have perforced necessitated such use. During the period from 1935 to 1942 all construction of the North Carolina State Parks was done by the Civilian Conservation Corps, Works Progress Administration and other federal agencies under joint supervision of the Department and the National Park Service. The 1947 Legislature provided the State Parks with the first appropriation for Capital Improvements. These much needed funds were augmented by the 1949, 1957, 1959, 1963, 1965 and 1967 Legislatures.

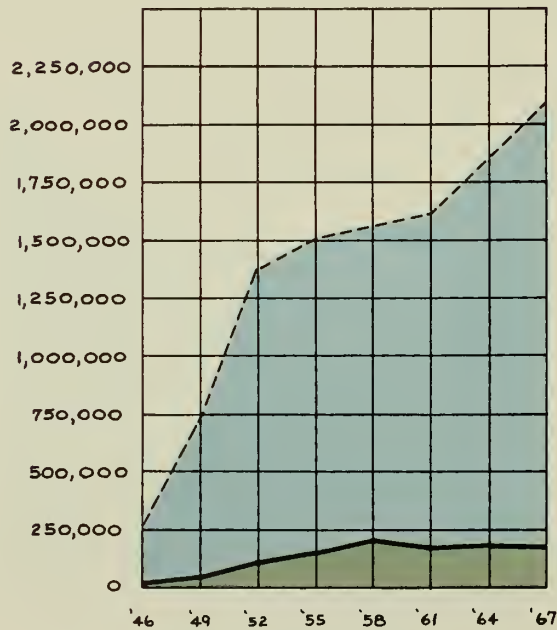
The park visitors are in almost every sense park users. Whether they come to relax in natural surroundings, to picnic, camp, swim, fish, hike or enjoy the per-suits of nature study, they are park users. The people not only expect but demand the necessary facilities for an increased scope of park use. Picnic areas, camp grounds and swimming areas are wanted. They expect facilities for interpreting and explaining natural pehnomena and trails for hiking.





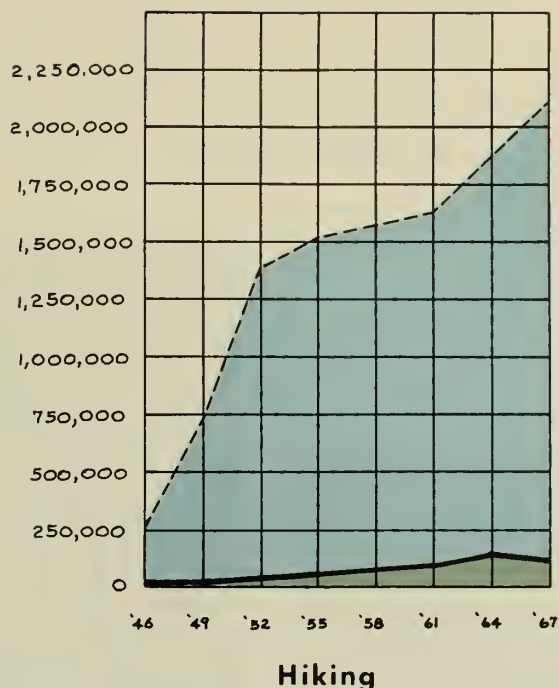
Family Camping

362	Camping	68,682
265,000	Total Attendance	2,124,186
18,872.9% Increase in Camping		



Swimming

38,547	Swimming	193,489
265,000	Total Attendance	2,124,186
402.0% Increase in Swimming		

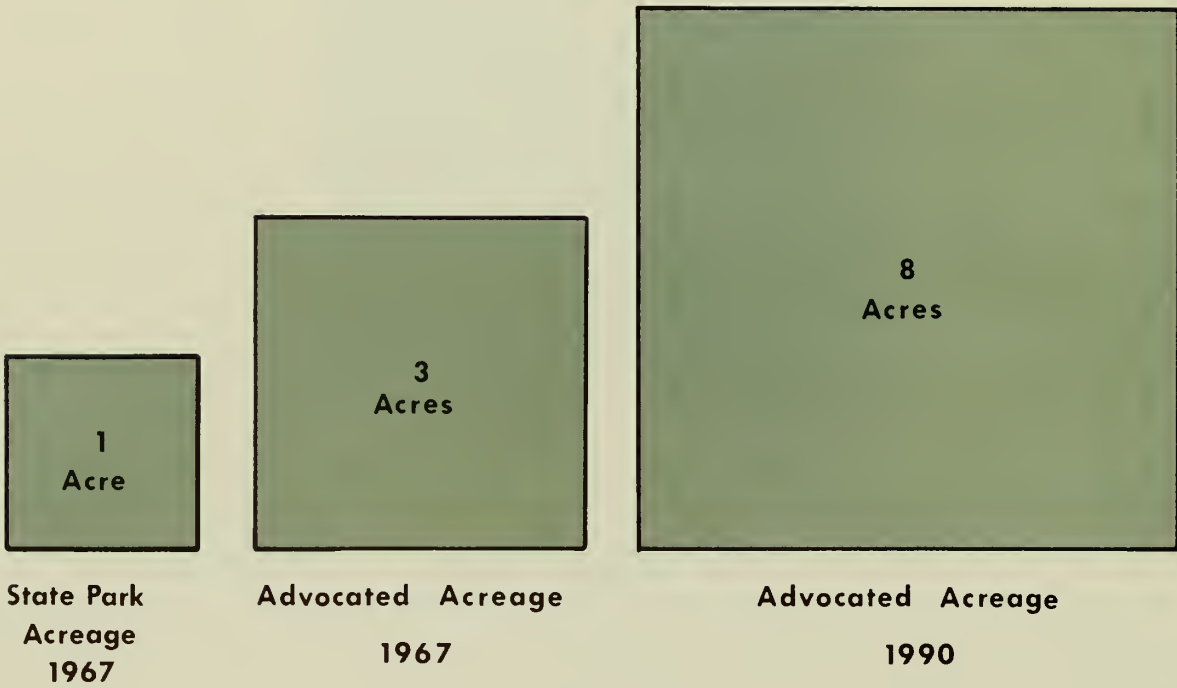


15,929	Hiking	138,782
265,000	Total Attendance	2,124,186
771.3% Increase in Hiking		

The mushrooming park use and the demand for outdoor recreational use indicate a critical need for additional state park areas and additions to existing state parks. Many authorities in the field of outdoor recreation resources advocate that three acres of state park land are necessary for each 100 persons just to meet to-days demands. It is believed that this acreage must be increased to 8 acres per 100 people within 23 years.

North Carolina's State Park acread falls far short of the standards. We have one third of this in State Park Acreage.

Acres Per One Hundred People



THE CHALLENGE MUST BE MET

The challenge has been made; the challenge to fulfill the one purpose of the Division of State Parks:

TO SERVE THE PEOPLE OF NORTH CAROLINA AND THEIR VISITORS

To meet such a challenge much work must be done:

- a. EXISTING STATE PARKS MUST BE PROTECTED, MAINTAINED AND OPERATED AT A HIGH STANDARD.

The preservation, protection, maintenance and operation of existing state parks are clouded by insufficient personnel and budgets to adequately maintain these areas for the volume of public use they receive. Many existing facilities date to pre war CCC and WPA construction, and these present increasing demands for replacement and major maintenance. Programs which provide for public use of the natural features of the State Parks and for interpreting these natural features must be augmented by both necessary facilities and trained personnel.

- b. LAND MUST BE ACQUIRED FOR ADDITIONAL STATE PARKS AND TO COMPLETE REQUIREMENTS OF EXISTING STATE PARKS.

Only by acquiring additional land for new state parks and to complete the land acquisition programs of existing state parks can the needs of the people be met. Many existing state parks present problems attributable to interior holdings, irregular boundaries or insufficient size. Such problems render protection of valuable state property from fire, vandalism and other damage almost impossible. Proper development for public use is handicapped if not completely nullified.

There are too few state parks to adequately render reasonable service to the people of North Carolina. Additional areas must be provided to:

1. Preserve certain areas of outstanding scenic or scientific quality.
2. To bring state park services to all sections of North Carolina.
3. To prevent the over use and irreparable destruction of certain areas.

There are many areas of exceptional quality which must be added to the State Park System.

- c. ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL PERSONNEL MUST BE PROVIDED FOR PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF THE STATE PARK SYSTEM.

An adequate staff of competent technical personnel is essential for sound planning and the economical development of the state park system

as well as for the operation of it.

Increased attention must be given to presenting and interpreting the natural resources of the State Parks.

d. ADDITIONAL STATE PARK AREAS MUST BE ADEQUATELY DEVELOPED.

New areas and additions to existing areas, once acquired must be provided with necessary facilities and developed in accordance with the PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT EXTENSION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE PARK SYSTEM OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

