

RECOMMENDATIONS  
ON  
ADMINISTRATION, DEVELOPMENT, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
OF THE  
SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS

A CLASSIFIED REPORT

Prepared for  
The Park, Recreation and Tourism Commission  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

By  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
Southeast Region

April 1968




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## INTRODUCTION

This "classified" report, a part of a recommended plan for the development and improvement of the South Carolina State Park System has been prepared by the Southeast Regional Office of the National Park Service at the request of the Chairman of the South Carolina State Park Recreation and Tourism Commission. Assistance in developing this section of the study has been furnished from conferences with the chairman of the commission, staff members of the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, staff, and field personnel of the National Park Service.

Resource data used in this report is from the "Outdoor Recreation for South Carolina" December 1966; A Preliminary Study of Tourist Recreation Potentials in South Carolina; 1967; History, Attendance, Values, Needs, 1964 and previous reports of the National Park Service.

The recommendations in this report are based on resource data and from a personal-on-site assessment of 28 of the 29 existing areas presently comprising the state park system, 5 wayside areas operated by the Department of Highway and 1 operated by the Division of Parks and Recreation.

This report has been designated as "classified" in so far as the National Park Service is concerned. The commission in its discretion may release or withhold any portion of, or recommendation within the report.

Administration, development, maintenance and operation criteria have been developed and recommendations made for existing and proposed areas.

Recommendations for the consideration of the commission pertaining to the upgrading, development, administration, maintenance and operation of existing state parks and the acquisition of new areas are limited to the state park system only. The consideration of outdoor recreation facilities on the lands of Wildlife State Forestry Commission, Federal Agencies, counties and cities have not been considered as these areas are recognized in the State Outdoor Recreation Plan.

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From this study of the existing state park system it is apparent that some of its basic needs are:

1. Determination of purpose for the State Park System.
2. Development of Standards for State Parks which includes classification based on the resource itself.
3. Set standards for the development of the system as a whole and each area according to its resource base.
4. Activate as rapidly as possible the staffing of the central office and all field areas.
5. Establishment of personnel standards and realistic pay scales in line with present day conditions.
6. Seek realistic financing based on need and projected programs.
7. Develop and follow planning, programming and development techniques to accomplish the objectives as directed by the Act (No. 133-1967) creating the commission and department. Within this framework are the means of developing an outstanding state park system to serve the needs of South Carolinians and their visitors.
8. Additional recommendations pertaining to the system will be noted under appropriate headings and sections of this report.

Let it be one of the major goals of this commission to hold forth to every citizen of South Carolina the vision of the enrichment of their lives which will be achieved through far-sighted statewide development plans. We shall be held accountable not for being too visionary but for being too small-minded in our plans for South Carolina's future.



### SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ACTION PROGRAM

1. Adoption of standards proposed in the January 1968 report.
2. Master planning - statewide and individual areas.
3. Physical inventory of all areas to determine extent and cost of upgrading present facilities and determining the addition of new facilities.
4. Develop a comprehensive state-wide maintenance and operation plan with a detailed plan for each area according to its need. This should include adequate personnel to properly maintain and operate the areas.
5. Upgrade and add to existing facilities with area priorities; priorities by area and projects within the areas should be set.
6. Develop a state-wide interpretive program to include natural and historic interests.
7. Develop maximum day-use and camping facilities within the existing areas consistent with the resources of the areas themselves.
8. Temporarily delay the development of lodges and cabins.
9. In cooperation with the State Highway Department develop a sign program, to place signs on major routes to direct the visitors to the state parks using a radius of 20 miles.
10. New area studies in the three regions of the state as indicated in the state-wide plan should be instituted as soon as possible.



### ANTECEDENT DATA

In March of 1968 the South Carolina State Park System observed its 34th anniversary. In the 34 years of its existence, the Division of State Parks under the State Commission of Forestry administered the existing state park system and has endured the usual growing pains of acquisition, development, operation, maintenance, and the unusual experience of a complete closing, and reopening of its areas. On April 30, 1967, the Division of State Parks, and its properties were transferred (by Legislative Act No. 133-1967) to the new Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism where it is now the Division of Parks and Recreation.

This system now enters a new and challenging era, that of the major upgrading and expansion of its existing state park facilities and by acquiring and developing new recreational areas for the general health and welfare of the people of the state and their visitors.

The need for state parks in South Carolina was evident prior to 1934; discussions in school groups, women's organizations and local governmental circles resulted in the purchase of 707 acres of sand hill land south of Cheraw and marked the first step of citizen interest and participation in outdoor recreation.

This purchase, the result of a "grass root" movement was the beginning of the state park system with park lands being acquired with dollars, dimes, nickles and pennies of the people themselves, the men, women and children of the Cheraw community of Chesterfield County.

From this first positive step in March of 1934, with the purchase of the initial 706 acres of park land, the existing system has by purchase, conveyance from the Federal government, donations, licenses from the Corps of Engineers and other means been increased to a total landholding of over 50,750 acres with a conservative estimated valuation for lands and improvements in excess of \$15,000,000.

Throughout the past years development of these areas has been financed primarily from funds appropriated by the General Assembly and various





agencies of the Federal government either outright or on a matching fund basis with the State of South Carolina.

In September 1963, all state parks were completely closed for reasons which are known to the commission. This closed period materially affected the development and maintenance of all facilities within the areas. On July 1, 1964, a majority of the areas were opened on a restricted basis. In July of 1966 all areas were opened without restrictions.

Attendance during the calendar year July 1, 1962 to June 30, 1963 was in excess of 3,300,000 visitors with essentially the same facilities as now exist. The closed period adversely affected the attendance.

As of July 1966, when the state park system was opened to unrestricted use, the visitation for the calendar year ending June 30, 1967 reached 2,693,675.

Funding of the state park system for limited acquisition, development, administration, operation, and maintenance has been primarily from funds appropriated by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina. These appropriations have not been sufficient to keep up with the constantly increasing needs and demands. The present operating budget for 1967-68 is \$410,254, together with a deficiency appropriation of \$256,000 for permanent improvements in several state parks. This action has proved to be a mild catalyst to the state park program but is woefully inadequate for the present needs of the existing system. Under the Provisions of the Act of April 30, 1967, the Commission and its Division of Parks and Recreation is specifically directed to develop and expand new and existing recreational areas including the existing state park system.

In carrying out this directive of the General Assembly the Commission and all department personnel should consider the following:

"Make no little plans for they have no magic to stir the hearts of men"



S. C. DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND TOURISM  
DIVISION OF STATE PARKS  
SUMMARY OF STATE PARK USE - JULY 1, 1966 - JUNE 30, 1967

Name of Park	Museum Visitors	Community Building Users	Cabin Oc- cupants	Campers In Group Camps	Campers In Family Camp- ing Area	Other Campers	Boaters	Fisher- men	Pic- nickers	Swimmers	Total Vehicles	Out-of- State Visitors	Total Visitors
Aiken	-	-	-	-	805	231	873	1,985	11,240	2,966	9,940	2,566	35,582
Andrew Jackson	14,514	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,562	-	7,826	8,530	23,522
Barwell	-	4,867	-	-	501	59	16	-	12,470	1,596	8,606	542	37,442
Cheraw	-	3,995	270	10,503	3,419	1,387	538	820	39,723	26,278	26,901	35,221	105,075
Campbell Lake	-	-	-	-	-	-	58	222	1,961	1,965	2,782	1,355	11,689
Chester	-	-	-	-	645	-	54	124	9,368	-	7,281	770	29,124
Croft	-	-	-	-	891	-	211	961	1,063	-	3,858	232	7,631
Edisto	-	-	-	-	2,780	-	-	-	13,262	13,866	8,362	2,190	52,795
Givhans Ferry	-	1,336	830	-	11,606	-	-	-	12,450	2,964	8,733	3,868	34,281
Greenwood	-	-	-	-	-	440	6,426	13,241	39,248	1,733	43,145	2,215	176,883
Hunting Island	-	-	1,347	-	20,807	-	-	9,584	50,825	78,540	85,065	76,534	340,490
Huntington Beach	-	-	-	-	970	-	-	10,234	12,240	27,873	61,234	45,606	296,788
Kings Mountain	-	-	-	13,367	13,903	1,761	-	1,119	25,270	5,158	15,426	34,985	62,906
Lee	3,465	-	-	-	901	2,294	-	3,279	4,419	2,914	7,778	1,507	27,086
Little Pee Dee	-	-	-	-	4,130	-	-	1,279	11,535	3,284	10,376	5,770	29,228
Myrtle Beach	-	-	3,536	-	62,821	-	-	24,135	35,237	33,525	156,130	394,190	626,670
Oconee	-	-	4,823	-	2,987	-	3,119	209	24,905	8,116	13,833	4,393	51,217
Old Dorchester	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,105	-	6,105	1,751	24,524
Paris Mountain	-	-	-	2,511	2,301	1,907	2,711	150	66,328	12,569	43,703	5,422	185,423
Pleasant Ridge	-	-	9	-	67	72	316	175	4,963	39	2,846	799	9,858
Poinsett	3,825	-	613	2,752	2,343	1,530	3,120	355	16,215	8,869	9,255	2,145	37,020
Mill Creek	-	190	-	2,199	-	-	76	80	1,903	7,968	4,193	391	16,794
Rivers Bridge	4,063	2,040	-	5	2,177	-	-	118	3,395	1,596	5,597	3,465	20,051
Rose Hill	3,302	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	361	3,302
Santee	-	-	848	-	5,249	-	-	10,004	5,413	3,035	10,999	7,193	43,513
Seasickentennial	-	-	-	-	9,173	893	186	370	108,437	21,212	56,583	46,748	232,424
Table Rock	-	-	7,010	-	12,314	631	4,965	953	74,825	23,704	41,727	17,639	164,672
Colleton Wayside	-	-	-	-	751	-	-	-	3,620	-	3,185	5,969	9,685
TOTALS	25,704	15,893	19,286	31,337	161,557	11,205	22,669	79,417	594,879	289,770	661,489	712,357	2,693,675



The General Assembly in its wisdom, has set the objectives for the Commissions guidance in carrying out the provisions of the Act creating the department. Within the framework of the Act which sets these objectives, it becomes encumbent upon the Commission to establish policies and programs for the department who is to implement the means of achieving these objectives. Realistic goals to meet these objectives should be developed for the department and divisions approved by the director and submitted to the Commission for its concurrence.

Implementation of an action program to satisfy these objectives in the state park system is dependent upon prompt action in setting goals which are reasonably assured of accomplishment. These should be stated in measurable terms, such as 200 camping sites, 500 picnic tables and 500 new picnic sites.

Both objectives and goals for the Division of Parks and Recreation should be based on a 5-year cycle and subjected to a yearly review within the Division with a yearly progress report being submitted to the Commission.



## PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF REPORT

The following report is predicated from on-site inspections made by the writer. A total of 28 existing state parks and 5 state waysides have been viewed in 1967. Twenty-two of these state parks and two state waysides were visited in the period of November 1-9, 1967.

The purpose of the report is to:

Make recommendations for administration, development, operation, maintenance of the South Carolina State Park; make recommendations on programming the current improvement and operating funds.

This report has been prepared for the above purpose at the request of the Chairman of the South Carolina Park Recreation, and Tourism Commission to the Regional Director, Southeast Region, National Park Service, Richmond, Virginia, under the authority of the Park, Parkway and Recreation Study Act of 1936, Section 2, which authorizes the Service to cooperate with the state and political subdivisions in developing public parks and in compliance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and National Park Service dated September 2, 1964.

This time spent in field investigations was insufficient to permit giving to each of the areas visited the intensive study required for detailed specific recommendations in this report are therefore, necessarily somewhat general.





## BASIC NEEDS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARK SYSTEM

### General

Certain basic needs of the South Carolina State Park System as a whole must be met before the state parks can effectively discharge their highly important role in conserving and using South Carolina's human and natural resources.

Governor Robert E. McNair in his state of the union message to the General Assembly in January 1967 stated "our first responsibility as we see it, is to take care of the recreational needs of our own people."

From this statement came an Act (133-1967) which was signed by the Governor on March 30, creating a Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism to be governed by a citizen body which shall be known as the Park, Recreation and Tourism Commission. The Act specifically sets forth the powers and duties of the Commerce. These involve program and policy and such other duties, and responsibilities as may be assigned to it by legislative action or by the State Budget and Control Board. The Act provides for a "Division of Parks and Recreation which shall develop and promote state parks and provide recreational programs in such areas" to achieve this objective the Commission should take favorable action on the basic needs which are discussed in this section.

These basic needs are discussed in this section and some suggestions concerning them are offered.

### PURPOSE OF THE STATE PARK SYSTEM

An example of such a statement of purpose was included on page 17, of the report of January 1968. At its meeting of February 9, the Commission's attention was directed to this statement.

### STANDARDS

Pages 18-22 of the report of January 1968, inclusive suggested standards for:



- (1) Types of areas to be included in the state park system.
- (2) Standards for location and number.
- (3) Standards of development.

### CONCEPTS

If the state park system of South Carolina is to render maximum high quality outdoor recreation experiences to its citizens and its guests, those in charge of the system and their subordinates must discharge their duties and responsibilities on the basis of certain concepts some of which are discussed below:

1. The State Park Program is a State-Wide Program

The establishment, development, administration, operation maintenance, interpretation, both natural and historic of a system of state parks is a state government function, state-wide in scope.

All decisions made and all actions taken should be based on the concept and should be those that contribute the most service for the most people. Individual parks should not be treated independently of the park system as a whole.

The Commission as a whole should act as a buffer between the public and the Department. It should also determine the policy and program, for the system as a whole rather than by individual areas. Commission members should refrain from taking proprietary attitude toward the park or parks in the district from which they are appointed. In other words, a commission member should not "take charge" of the park or parks in his district; neither should he give orders to park personnel or direct their work--their orders and direction should come from the commission through the Columbia Director of the Department in the office. By the same token no commission member should take it upon himself to issue orders direct to the Columbia office personnel--their suggestion should come from the commission as a whole, or its chairman, and through such other channels as the commission may direct.



## 2. The State Park Program is a Long Range Program

The state park program should not be static--it should be a dynamic program evolving with the needs of the people. Planning must be not just for present needs, but also for foreseeable future needs. The state park program should not be blighted by small plans hastily made, nor by on-the-spot decisions made without due regard for the future. It is just as important in state park work as in any other endeavor to consider both the short range and the long range consequences of a proposed course of action. A problem at one state park is not isolated from other problems at that state park, nor from the problems at other state parks.

### FINANCING THE STATE PARK PROGRAM

Financing, developing, and operating state park systems is as varied as the states themselves. One state affixes a set fee on drivers license, some use windshield stickers; and parking meters or collect single admissions at the gate. Many make annual appropriations, while some attempt to support their maintenance and operation with receipts from operated facilities. The latter is not recommended. In recent years there has been a trend toward the issuance of revenue bonds for development, but not for operation and maintenance.

### AREA CHARGES

Section 4, of the Act authorizes the commission to make a reasonable charge for admission to park and recreational facilities which funds will be used for park and recreational purposes. These funds do not become part of the general fund and remain indefinitely available for park and recreational operations.

### LEGISLATIVE FUNDING

General funding for the maintenance and operation of the state park system in addition to the income received from fee and charges should be sought from the General Assembly and the Budget and Control Board. The Commission should submit for legislative consideration a realistic request for adequate funds for maintenance of the existing system and for acquisition and development of new areas. This should be based on defensible needs and well documented.



It is recommended that the commission seek an appropriation of \$1,500,000 for maintenance and operation of the existing state park system for the next fiscal year.

It should also request funding for immediate land acquisition and development of new facilities in an amount of 13.5 million dollars for the next two fiscal years.

### ORGANIZATION

A suggested organization chart for the Division of Parks and Recreation including the Columbia office, its branches and field areas, together with recommendations for staffing is included in the January 1968 report.

#### PERSONNEL - Central Office and Area.

The goal of creating an adequate high quality system of state parks efficiently administered to render more than adequate service to the people of South Carolina and their visitors cannot be achieved unless there is a sufficient number of trained, experienced, and efficient state park personnel in the state park organization. With few exceptions this is not the case. The present number of employees of the South Carolina State Park System are too few to ever achieve this goal for the commission and the state. Additional properly trained and experienced employees are desperately needed.

#### TECHNICAL PERSONNEL

An essential parallel need is the employment of qualified individuals in the design professions (Landscape Architecture, Architecture, Engineering, and Recreation Planners) as required to plan, design and supervise construction of improvements and development.

Personnel recommendations will be discussed in more detail under the Division of Parks and Recreation.

#### 1. Professional and Technical Skills are required to Carry on the State Park Program

All phases of state park work require trained technical skills or professional, or both. Each phase of work requires different skills.





No one person can possibly possess all of the training and skills required. The job of those in charge of the state parks is to employ the needed technical and professional skills and direct and coordinate the activities of those possessing these skills to assure the achievement of the desired results. Lack of professional skills has been particularly noticeable in the field of park development and this will be commented on in more detail under the section on the Division of Parks and Recreation.

#### ADMINISTRATION

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism is governed by the State Parks, Recreation and Tourism Commission. This body has been given broad powers within the provision of the Act No. 133-1967. The powers and duties of the commission are set forth in section 2, 4, 5 and 6 of the Act. These powers and duties are clearly defined and are broad in scope and intent.

#### DEPARTMENTAL ORGANIZATION

A suggested departmental organization which has been adopted is shown on page 8, of the January report. This is a line and staff organization which implements the commission policies and programs as directed. The Director of the Department is the executive officer of the commission and is responsible for the proper conduct of his office, the offices of planning and development and outdoor recreation, liaison, the divisions of parks and recreation, travel and tourism and administration and personnel.

#### OFFICE AND DIVISION

The office of planning and development is responsible for initiating, developing, coordinating, and providing staff direction for all planning and development activities. It is essential that this office closely coordinate its activities with those of the Division of Parks and Recreation. The office of outdoor recreation is responsible for advising the director on all matters pertaining to the statewide outdoor recreation plan which will include the state park system. Divisions of Travel and Tourism, Administration and Personnel provide support services to the commission, and to all offices and divisions of the department.



## DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION

This division administers and operates the state park system; recommends the selection, acquisition and development of state parks, state historic and scientific sites to assure the establishment of a coordinated system of state parks adequate to meet the needs of the people of South Carolina. Organization of this division is delineated in more detail on pages 23 thru 30 of the January 1968 report.

### A SUGGESTED ACTION PROGRAM FOR THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PARK SYSTEM

If South Carolina is to take full advantage of the benefits that can be realized from its recreation resources a sound mechanism must be established to staff, plan, develop, operate, maintain and finance the park system and its facilities on a continuing basis. Some suggestions for implementation of the action program are cited below:

Personnel Administration - The success of the South Carolina State Park System depends upon the people who manage it. Park personnel especially in the Central Office must possess a variety of skills and abilities to perform the many varied tasks incident to their field. All must be park oriented either by interest, experience or education and ideally by all three. Field men required to meet and deal with the public should be in uniform while on duty, efficient and well informed, not only as to their immediate assignment but all programs of the commission and other areas within and without the system. High personnel standards must be set and maintained if program objectives are met. Quality in the selection of persons is of major importance. Adequate staffing within the limits of existing funds of the central office is essential. The initial step in the Central Office has been taken with the appointment of the Director of the Division, and an Historian. An assistant to the director should be selected as soon as possible, early consideration should be given to this need. The selection of the Chiefs of the Branch of Operation and Protection, and the Branch of Maintenance, Activation of the Branch of Interpretation and History should be consummated at an early date.

Field - All field areas are woefully understaffed. Present field area staffing is insufficient to operate and maintain existing facilities let alone to handle upgrading of areas and increased usage, brought about by the lure of added facilities and publicity.



It is suggested that an immediate inventory of existing park personnel be made to determine their qualifications, background education experience and other personal data, such as hobbies, skills and career objectives.

Job Specifications - Job specifications and salary scales for all state park personnel should be prepared as soon as possible. Upon adoption of these job specification and salary scales only those persons fully meeting or exceeding the job specifications for the position they are being considered for -- should be hired. Present employees should receive due consideration based on their performance, records, and experience.

Area Park Managers - The park manager is the key man essential to the success of the state park program. To him is delegated authority from the Director of Division of Parks and Recreation, the responsibility to all programs in his area. He is the individual who has the contact with the visitor in the area for which he is responsible and creates either a favorable or unfavorable impression upon the visitor. Area managers can be developed but the process is one of training and experience. Basically each area park manager should be held wholly and completely responsible for his entire park, all developments in it and the entire state park program as it relates to his park. He should be responsible for all administration, operation, maintenance, protection, law enforcement, fiscal, personnel and other matters pertaining to the state park to which he is assigned. The only exception should be those relatively rare instances when he may be specifically relieved of responsibility for work items such as responsibility for a complicated major maintenance project. Job description for area park managers should be carefully prepared to specify these duties and responsibilities. Sample job descriptions follows:

Grade, pay level, area pay levels or grades should be based on size of area, responsibility, visitation and other factors.

In-Service-Training- Training courses for area park personnel should be developed to acquaint these key individuals with policies, programs, and other facets of the departmental and division function and responsibilities.



## ASSISTANT PARK SUPERINTENDENT

### DEFINITION

This is responsible work serving as assistant to the superintendent of a large State park.

Employees in positions allocated to this class assist superintendents of large State parks in planning, assigning, and directing the activities of a moderate size staff engaged in the operation of the park. Work includes participating in and supervising subordinates in the performance of a wide variety of tasks connected with the maintenance, development, and protection of park lands, water areas, buildings, and equipment. Other duties include meeting the public and informing and assisting them in understanding and enjoying all facilities of the area and the regulations governing their use, and the performance of any administrative tasks as may be assigned by the Park Superintendent. Work at this level requires the use of initiative and judgment in the solution of operational and maintenance problems. Assignments are received from a superior who checks work through personal inspections.

Certain positions which are allocated to this class require incumbent employees to reside in the park. These positions involve the performance of normally assigned duties in excess of the regular forty-four hour work week as the need arises and include the requirement that employees be available 24 hours a day on a standby basis to handle any emergencies that might arise, provide security of park property and visitors, guard against vandalism, patrol the park, and protect game against poachers and illegal hunters. These positions are designated as "Resident Assistant Park Superintendent" in the Pay Plan which indicates the rate of compensation for these extra required duties.

### EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Assists in the supervision of employees engaged in and participates in the construction, maintenance, and repair of park facilities and equipment; inspects completed work assignments.

Assists in the preparation of time, attendance, receipt of revenue, and other operational reports and records.

Assists in instruction of work methods to employees.

Assists in planning park operations and future development.

Purchases, requisitions, and obtains bids for park materials, supplies, and construction.

Meets the public and provides information and services necessary.

Patrols and supervises patrolling of park to provide protection for game and other natural resources.

Performs related work as required.

### REQUIRED KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

Working knowledge of the principles and practices of park management.

Working knowledge of the methods, practices, tools, and materials used in the maintenance and repair of buildings, equipment, and outdoor facilities.

Working knowledge of fire fighting, first aid, and water safety, and skill in their application.

Ability to supervise subordinate employees.

Ability to make public appearances.

Ability to maintain required records and to prepare reports from these records.





Ability to understand oral and written instructions, and to explain instructions to other employees.

Ability to perform and supervise performance of maintenance and repair work on park facilities and equipment.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with subordinates, superiors, and the general public.

General knowledge of the park flora and fauna.

#### MINIMUM TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

(The following represents the minimum training and experience standards which will be used to admit or reject applicants for examinations.)

✓ Graduation from a standard high school and two years of experience in park work at the Park Ranger level; or

Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major course work in forestry, biology, zoology, botany, geology, or a related field.

An equivalency diploma issued by a state department of education or by the United States Armed Forces Institute, or a qualifying score on the Merit System Educational Attainment Comparison Test may be substituted in lieu of high school graduation.



## PARK SUPERINTENDENT I

### DEFINITION

This is responsible supervisory work in directing the operation and maintenance of a small State park, museum, or memorial.

Employees in this class are responsible for planning and directing the work of a small staff in the operation, maintenance, and improvement of a small State park, museum, or memorial. Work involves considerable contact with the general public and requires the use of tact in applying and interpreting park rules and regulations. The use of initiative and independent judgment in the solution of operational and maintenance problems is a requirement of positions at this level. Work is evaluated by an administrative superior through inspections of the park for adherence to operational procedures and through regularly written activity reports.

Positions in this class differ from those at the second level of this series in that Park Superintendents I are responsible for the operation and maintenance of a small State park, museum, or memorial; whereas, Park Superintendents II have the responsibility for the operation of a large State park with supervision of a moderate work force.

Certain positions which are allocated to this class require incumbent employees to reside in the park. These positions involve the performance of normally assigned duties in excess of the regular forty-four hour work week as the need arises and include the requirement that employees be available 24 hours a day on a standby basis to handle any emergencies that might arise, provide security of park property and visitors, guard against vandalism, patrol the park, and protect game against poachers and illegal hunters. These positions are designated as "Resident Park Superintendent" in the Pay Plan which indicates the rate of compensation for these extra required duties.

### EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Plans and participates in park construction, maintenance, and required service work; instructs employees in proper work methods and inspects work for proper results.

Prepares required financial and administrative reports.

Checks fees collected by employees and keeps required records of income and expenditures. Expenditures are reviewed in relation to the park budget.

Purchases, requisitions, and obtains bids for park materials, supplies, and construction.

Makes public appearances and contacts to promote the park and build good community relations.

Inspects park facilities and grounds for hazards and either recommends or installs safety measures.

Directs protection of the park against fire, vandalism, and other damage.

Researches and interprets the flora, fauna, and history of the park and immediate vicinity for presentation to the public.

Distributes informative literature to park users by personal contact and by written correspondence.

Plans and directs the park's landscaping, reforestation, and erosion programs.

Performs related work as required.



#### REQUIRED KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of the principles and practices of park management.

Knowledge of the methods, practices, tools, and materials used in the operation and maintenance of State parks.

Working knowledge of fire fighting, first aid, and water safety, and skill in their application.

Ability to plan and direct the work of subordinate employees.

Ability to make public appearances.

Ability to keep and prepare required financial and administrative records and reports.

Ability to interpret and apply operating policies and to explain these policies to subordinate employees.

Ability to meet the public tactfully and to give information regarding park facilities, flora, fauna, history, rules and regulations, and to discriminate information pertaining to the entire park system.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with subordinates, superiors, and the general public.

#### MINIMUM TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

(The following represents the minimum training and experience standards which will be used to admit or reject applicants for examinations.)

Graduation from a standard high school and three years of experience in park work at the park Ranger level or higher; or

Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major course work in forestry, biology, zoology, botany, geology, or related field, and one year of experience as an Assistant Park Superintendent.

An equivalency diploma issued by a state department of education or by the United States Armed Forces Institute, or a qualifying score on the National System Educational Attainment Comparison Test may be substituted in lieu of high school graduation.



## PARK SUPERINTENDENT II

### DEFINITION

This is responsible supervisory work in directing the operation and maintenance of a large State park.

Employees in this class are responsible for planning and directing the work of a moderate size staff in the operation, maintenance, improvement, and development of a large State park. Work involves considerable contact with the general public and requires considerable tact in applying and interpreting park rules and regulations. Work also requires the use of initiative and judgment in solution of operational and maintenance problems. Work is evaluated by an administrative superior through inspections of the park for adherence to established operational procedures and is also reviewed through regularly written activity reports.

This class differs from the first level of this series in that Park Superintendents I are responsible for the operation, maintenance, and development of a small State park, museum, or memorial; whereas, Park Superintendents II have the responsibility for the operation of a large State park with supervision of a moderate work force.

Certain positions which are allocated to this class require incumbent employees to reside in the park. These positions involve the performance of normally assigned duties in excess of the regular forty-four hour work week as the need arises and include the requirement that employees be available 24 hours a day on a standby basis to handle any emergencies that might arise, provide security of park property and visitors, guard against vandalism, patrol the park, and protect game against poachers and illegal hunters. These positions are designated as "Resident Park Superintendent II" in the Pay Plan which indicates the rate of compensation for these extra required duties.

### EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Makes local public appearances and contacts for purposes of promoting the park and building good community relations.

Plans, schedules, and participates in park construction, maintenance, and required service work. Instructs employees in proper work methods and inspects work for proper results.

Supervises and participates in the preparation of required financial reports and administrative reports.

Checks fees collected by employees and keeps or directs the keeping of required records of income and expenditures. Expenditures are reviewed in relation to the park budget.

Plans the purchasing and requisitioning of park materials, supplies, equipment, and construction.

Plans and directs the protection of the park against vandalism, forest fires, and other damage.

Inspects park facilities and grounds for hazards and either recommends or installs safety measures.

Supervises the distribution of and distributes informative literature and information to park guests by personal contact and by written correspondence. Inspects building projects under construction by contractors.

Plans and directs the park's landscaping, reforestation, and erosion programs.

Researches and interprets the flora, fauna, and history of the park and vicinity for presentation to the public.





Works with local schools and fairs concerning Park Service exhibits and programs of an educational and recreational nature.  
Performs related work as required.

#### REQUIRED KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

Considerable knowledge of the principles and practices of park management.  
Considerable knowledge of the methods, practices, tools, and materials used in the operation and maintenance of State parks.

Knowledge of fire fighting, first aid, and water safety, and skill in their application.

Ability to make public appearances.

Ability to plan and direct the work of subordinate employees.

Ability to keep and prepare required financial and administrative records and reports.

Ability to devise, apply, and interpret operating policies and to explain these policies to subordinate employees.

Ability to meet the public tactfully and to give information regarding park facilities, flora, fauna, history, rules and regulations, and disseminate information pertaining to the entire park system.

Ability to supervise and perform maintenance on assigned facilities, equipment, and grounds.

Ability to express ideas clearly and concisely, orally and in writing.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with subordinates, superiors, and the general public.

#### MINIMUM TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

(The following represents the minimum training and experience standards which will be used to admit or reject applicants for examinations.)

Graduation from a standard high school and four years of experience in park work; one year of which must have been as an Assistant Park Superintendent or Park Superintendent I; or

Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major course work in forestry, biology, zoology, botany, geology, or related field; and two years of experience at the Assistant Park Superintendent level or higher.

An equivalency diploma issued by a state department of education or by the United States Armed Forces Institute, or a qualifying score on the Merit System Educational Attainment Comparison Test may be substituted in lieu of high school graduation.



## PARK DISTRICT SUPERVISOR

### DEFINITION

This is responsible administrative work as the supervisor of all parks, museums, and memorials within an assigned area of the State.

Employees in positions allocated to this class are responsible for inspecting all parks within the assigned district and for instructing, supervising, and assisting park superintendents in all phases of park operation and in the solution of administrative, financial, development, and maintenance problems. Work also involves inspection of proposed sites for new parks and reporting on the advisability or unadvisability of developing these areas. Work requires a high level of initiative and judgment in the solution of operational and maintenance problems and involves considerable contact with the general public and State and local governmental officials. General instructions are received from the Park Director and work is reviewed through conferences, written reports, and occasional inspections.

Certain positions which are allocated to this class require incumbent employees to reside in the park. These positions involve the performance of normally assigned duties in excess of the regular forty-four hour work week as the need arises and include the requirement that the employees be available 24 hours a day on a standby basis to handle any emergencies that might arise, provide security of park property and visitors, guard against vandalism, patrol the park, and protect game against poachers and illegal hunters. These positions are designated as "Resident Park District Supervisor" in the Pay Plan which indicates the rate of compensation for these extra required duties.

### EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

At the direction of the Park Director and/or Board, investigates existing or possible problems and/or prevailing conditions and makes recommendations relative to their solution to include directing and supervising the corrective actions.

Inspects parks in the assigned district checking equipment, personnel, construction, grounds, general condition of parks, and possible hazards; instructs, supervises, and assists park superintendents in solving administrative, financial, construction, publicity, and maintenance problems.

Prepares required financial reports, administrative reports, and budget requests.

Inspects proposed new park sites and reports on whether or not development is feasible or practical.

Initiates and directs district personnel training meetings.

Confers with churches, civic groups, local governmental groups, and recreation departments, promoting good park relations and stimulating interest in and use of the State parks. Maintains good relationships with all officials and citizens within the district.

Assists in the formulation of new park policies as they pertain to park development and operation.

Performs related work as required.

### REQUIRED KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

Thorough knowledge of the principles and practices of park management to include conservation practices.

Thorough knowledge of the distinctive flora, fauna, and history.



thorough knowledge of the methods, practices, tools, and materials used in the operation and maintenance of State parks.

Complete knowledge of fire fighting, first aid, and water safety, and skill in their application.

Ability to arrange for and make speaking engagements.

Ability to plan and direct the work of subordinate employees.

Ability to prepare and maintain required financial and administrative records and reports.

Ability to devise, interpret, and apply operating policies and to explain these policies to subordinate employees.

Ability to express ideas clearly and concisely, orally and in writing.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with subordinates, superiors, and the general public.

#### MINIMUM TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

(The following represents the minimum training and experience standards which will be used to admit or reject applicants for examinations.)

Graduation from a standard high school and five years of experience in park work, two years of which must have been at the Park Superintendent I level or higher; or

Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major course work in forestry, biology, zoology, botany, geology, or a related field, and three years of experience at the Park Superintendent I level or higher.

An equivalency diploma issued by a state department of education or by the United States Armed Forces Institute, or a qualifying score on the Merit System Educational Attainment Comparison Test may be substituted in lieu of high school graduation.



## PARK RANGER

### DEFINITION

This is semi-skilled, skilled, and/or public contact work in the maintenance and repair of State park or memorial facilities and in rendering services to the public.

Employees in this class perform a wide variety of skilled and semi-skilled tasks in the construction, maintenance, and/or repair of buildings, tables, fireplaces, water lines, docks, boats, tools, and equipment utilized in an assigned area. Duties also include the protection of all park land and water areas, buildings, and equipment. Work typically involves meeting the public and informing and assisting them in understanding and enjoying all facilities of the area and the regulations governing their use. Duties assigned to positions in this class may also include being assigned the responsibility for the operation of one of the smaller museums or memorials, or for the operation of a park not fully developed.

Certain positions which are allocated to this class require incumbent employees to reside in the park. These positions involve the performance of normally assigned duties in excess of the regular forty-four hour work week as the need arises and include the requirement that employees be available 24 hours a day on a standby basis to handle any emergencies that might arise, provide security of park property and visitors, guard against vandalism, patrol the park, and protect game against poachers and illegal hunters. These positions are designated as "Resident Park Ranger" in the Pay Plan which indicates the rate of compensation for these extra required duties.

### EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Builds simple structures such as small buildings, picnic shelters, and tables; performs electrical and plumbing work; repairs machinery; constructs foundations; and pours sidewalks, curbing, and steps.

Performs maintenance and repair work on buildings, tables, fireplaces, water lines, docks, boats, tools, equipment, and grounds.

Meets the public and gives information concerning park flora, fauna, facilities, rules and regulations, and park and local history.

Collects fees, assigns camp areas, distributes park literature, and provides other services as required.

Patrols park areas and enforces rules and regulations.

Assists with general clerical work such as preparing attendance and revenue reports, taking inventory, and maintaining other clerical records.

Conducts tours through museums or other park attractions, giving talks about various exhibits and the history connected with the attractions.

Plants trees and shrubs in landscaping, reforestation, and erosion programs.

Performs related work as required.

### REQUIRED KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

Working knowledge of the operation, care, and repair of park facilities, equipment, and grounds.

Working knowledge of plant, animal, and fish life found in the assigned area for purposes of protection and of giving factual information to park guests.

Knowledge of firefighting, first-aid, and water safety, and skill in their





Familiarity with the construction trades and the ability to use a variety of tools and equipment in the maintenance and repair of park facilities, grounds, and buildings.

Ability to follow oral and written instructions and to maintain written records.

Working knowledge of the park and area history.

Ability to conduct tours of museums and other public attractions when assigned.

Ability to enforce park rules and regulations with firmness and tact.

#### MINIMUM TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

(The following represents the minimum training and experience standards which will be used to admit or reject the applicants for examinations.)

✓ Graduation from a standard high school and one year of experience in park work; or

✓ Graduation from a standard high school and two years of experience in a skilled trade; or

✓ The successful completion of two years of college (60 semester hours).

An equivalency diploma issued by a state department of education or by the United States Armed Forces Institute, or a qualifying score on the Merit System Educational Attainment Comparison Test may be substituted in lieu of high school graduation.



## PARK ATTENDANT

### DEFINITION

This is manual work of a routine and unskilled nature performed in connection with the operation of a State park or memorial.

Employees in positions allocated to this class are responsible for the prompt and efficient performance of assignments as directed by a supervisor. Work includes both heavy and light physical labor in a wide range of activities and may occasionally include the performance of semi-skilled tasks learned on the job. In the course of work performance, occasional contacts with the general public may be involved; however, such contacts do not constitute a regularly assigned duty or responsibility of positions allocated to this class. Assignments are made by a Park Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent and work is subject to constant supervision and inspection.

Certain positions which are allocated to this class require incumbent employees to reside in the park. These positions involve the performance of normally assigned duties in excess of the regular forty-four hour work week as the need arises and include the requirement that employees be available 24 hours a day on a standby basis to handle any emergencies that might arise, provide security of park property and visitors, guard against vandalism, patrol the park, and protect game against poachers and illegal hunters. These positions are designated as "Resident Park Attendant" in the Pay Plan which indicates the rate of compensation for these extra required duties.

### EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Cleans restrooms, picnic areas, and camp areas; cuts grass, weeds, and brush; fills washouts; picks up trash and garbage.

Digs ditches and fire lines, mows lawns and trims trees and shrubs, patches park road shoulders, prepares for painting and paints small equipment and structures.

Removes dead limbs and other debris from rights-of-way, picnic areas, and camp areas.

Operates mowing machines, tractors, trucks, chain saws, and similar equipment.

Assists in performance of park maintenance and repair work.

Assists in the suppression of fires.

May meet the public in the course of work performance and, occasionally, on a substitute basis.

Performs related work as required.

### REQUIRED KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

Working knowledge of the use of common tools, machinery, and vehicles.

Good physical condition and sufficient strength to do heavy lifting and carrying, and to work outdoors under adverse weather conditions.

Ability to understand and carry out oral and written instructions.

Some knowledge of water safety and fire prevention practice.

### MINIMUM TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

(The following represents the minimum training and experience standards which will be used to admit or reject applicants for examinations.)

Graduation from a standard high school; or

Completion of the 10th grade and two years of work experience.



the United States Armed Forces Institute, or a qualifying score on the Merit System Educational Attainment Comparison Test may be substituted in lieu of high school graduation.

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Test consists of three sections

1. Basic machines and figure associations
2. Basic park maintenance. Tool use and recognition and care of tools
3. Basic park operations. Safety, first aid, and public contact.



Professional Personnel - A Landscape Architect and Engineer from the office of planning and development should be assigned on a full time basis to the Division of Parks and Recreation to coordinate planning proposals within the office and division objectives and field requirements.

Planning Process - The Office of Planning and Development, the Division of Parks and Recreation should jointly perform the following functions:

Park Planning and Programming

This action requires a plan and program for a logical course of action so a balance of areas will evolve. The State Park System should attempt to achieve both geographic and functional balance. A variety of recreation opportunities should be offered to satisfy different interest groups and to represent the full range of values which the state has to offer. Recreation areas should be established to satisfy the demands of all residents, both urban and rural. Other parks should be established to serve a special smaller segment of the population such as water based activities or those who are interested in historic natural scenic or scientific features. The commission has this authority under the Act.

Planning can develop a program designed to meet the varied recreation needs of the state and makes possible the scheduling (or programming), of sequential steps of the overall program to coincide with funds available. Many states programs on either a five or ten year period to insure continuity and flexibility needed to keep pace with increasing demands. Systemic and area master plans are essential in planning, programming, budgeting, and financing.

Master Plan - In the January report on "Suggestions on Organization, Purpose and Standards" prepared for the South Carolina State Parks, Recreation and Tourism Commission the need of master planning was mentioned. It is essential that immediate attention be given to this subject. Master plans are control and guidance documents for areas subject to change and development or perhaps only pressure for change and development. This plan may cover any area small or large.





Master plans are of necessity generalized and diagrammatic. They must be specific enough to establish a policy and a direction; flexible enough to adjust to new ideas, demands or problems. They may be graphic or verbal, usually both. They must not only preserve existing beauty but they must protect and encourage the possibility of greater beauty resulting from the recreation between preservation and development.

Master planning should also indicate the classification of the areas.

## OPERATION

### General

Under the South Carolina State Forestry Commission the existing areas have been developed for public use with limited essential facilities such as roads, parking, picnicking, camping sites, cabins, beaches, recreation buildings, and other items essential to outdoor recreation activities. These developments have to a degree defined and limited the uses of the sites, protected them from over use, and have provided physical and sanitary facilities for the public.

### Rules and Regulations

The South Carolina State Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Commission in Section 6, of the Act has the power to "make and adopt rules and regulations which when duly promulgated shall have full force of law."

This authority does not include promulgation of rules or regulations pertaining to hunting and fishing. These regulatory powers, controlling vandalism for instance are an essential part of operating and maintaining the park system. Without the authority to establish and enforce park rules and regulations within the parks the values of the areas developed will soon become depreciated.

### Facilities

Hotels, lodges, cabins are generally desirable to enable visitors to obtain full and satisfactory enjoyment of the parks. Only selected areas should be considered for hotels and lodges. This type of



development should be considered in areas close to population centers where consideration can be given to scenic quality with location, access, adaptability and water based recreation are paramount. This type of area should be designated as a state recreation area, and not a natural or historic park. Recommendation of Economic Research Associates should be considered on this phase of the program.

#### Concessionaires

Operation of hotels, lodges, and related cabin developments are best handled by a concessioner under contract to the agency. The most successful concession operation usually results when the facilities and equipment therein are state owned and when the contract provides a high degree of state control. Other facilities such as bathhouses, marinas, . snack bars, saddle horses, are also successfully handled by concessioners. However, the operation of an entire park by a concessioner or permitting the concessioner to dominate the park operation should be avoided.

#### Resale Merchandise - State or Concessioner

The sale of souvenirs, post cards, books, handicraft and other items related to or indigenous to the locale is appropriate and should be encouraged. It must be recognized that the concessioner should have items on which he can make a reasonable profit. This should be closely supervised by the state. Good taste should indicate the item offered for resale, there should be no attempt to sell miscellaneous items having no relation to the areas simply because they will sell or because the operation will result in additional profit.

#### Exclusive Use

Permitting exclusive use of state park and recreational land or facilities except for limited periods of time and for certain uses (either by individuals or groups) is poor practice and should not be permitted or encouraged.

#### Maintenance and Development

Maintenance and development will be treated in more detail than the foregoing and are discussed separately under maintenance, major



alteration and new construction. The state of maintenance and operational deficiencies of the individual parks varies from good to excellent. Generally the maintenance of the existing areas visited would qualify as good. From field observations it is clear that an accelerated, well-conceived maintenance program will do much toward making existing areas more attractive to the visitor. Bringing the existing areas in the present system up to good standards should be a substitute for meeting the states need for new areas.

### Interpretive Programs

There is no sustained interpretive program without interpretation some parks such as Huntington, Sesquicentennial, Kings Mountain, Rivers Bridge, Lee, Givhans Ferry, Old Dorchester, and others are almost meaningless. Self-guiding nature and historical trails, trails for the blind and handicapped, historical plaques, wayside exhibits, and in the larger parks, the services of park guides and ranger naturalists must be considered as essential elements of park master plans. It is recommended that this program be activated as soon as possible.



## EXISTING OUTDOOR RECREATION RESOURCES OF SOUTH CAROLINA

### General

A complete inventory of outdoor recreation areas and facilities is included in South Carolina Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan which was prepared and submitted to the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Washington, D. C. in December 1966. On the basis of this updated and refined plan, and the states proposed future outdoor recreation planning program, South Carolina is found eligible for continued participation in the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant program for acquisition and development projects through February 1969.

Statistical data included in this plan on pages 21 to 36 has been reviewed and should be considered a part of this report and utilized as a companion document. Recommendations of this report are based on this data from "Outdoor Recreation for South Carolina, A Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan."

The recommended Outdoor Recreation Action Program pages 69 - 77 outlines a 5-year action program for the state of South Carolina. These recommendations should be considered by the Commission and the department in its program for developing the outdoor recreation resources of the state of South Carolina and as having a bearing on this report.

The report "A Preliminary Study of Tourist Recreation Potentials in South Carolina" by Economic Research Associates, also contains recommendations for the state park system on its tourism potential and lodge operation all of which should be considered by the commission and the department as it moves ahead in the development of the state park system.

### Field Survey

An extensive field survey and limited field analysis of selected state parks was made in November 1967 by the writer of this report. This survey plus the writers knowledge gained from previous visits to other state parks during the preceeding twelve months revealed general deficiencies common to any state park system which has never had adequate funds for maintenance and development of existing areas,





and facilities, suffered a lack of maintenance during a major shutdown and further handicapped by low salary scales for park personnel.

#### Present Facilities

Public use facilities, such as camping sites, tables, grills and stoves are in most areas inadequate to meet present day needs and usage. There is a significant need as shown in the statewide outdoor recreation plan for improved and expanded facilities in most of the existing state parks. There is also need to acquire and develop lands for new state parks and add to existing holding areas near several of the urban centers. Design and construction standards for picnicking, camping and sanitary facilities are compatible and blend into the landscape creating an attractiveness which invites the visitor to enjoy their use.

#### Location

Existing state parks have a favorable geographic and functional balance. Seven of the state parks are within the Piedmont Region, fifteen are in the Midlands Region and six are in the Coastal Region. By improving and expanding the facilities in most of the existing state parks they will become more attractive to South Carolinians and their visitors. There is also a need for acquisition and development of lands for new state parks near several of the larger urban areas.



## MAINTENANCE, NEW CONSTRUCTION AND MAJOR ALTERATIONS

### General

There is a significant need in all areas for (1) immediate action for intensive maintenance to catch up with delayed maintenance of facilities which have deteriorated, due to the lack of funds (2) some facilities at all existing areas (3) the acquisition and development of new state parks near the larger urban areas and expansion of existing areas.

### Classification of Areas

All areas, with one exception Colleton Wayside are designated as state parks without regard to their resource base. There should be a redesignation of all areas consistent with their character, use, and resources, this might be natural, historic, or recreational. For administrative purposes of staffing and operation the areas should be classified in groups according to size responsibility, attendance, facilities, and other rating factors, when the responsibility for the operation of Cheraw State Park is compared to that of Colleton Wayside is apparent.

This type of classification is also a guide to the degree and grade of area staffing. In Cheraw and areas of similar importance, a Park Manager or Superintendent would be needed. In Colleton Wayside a park attendant would be sufficient.

The statewide outdoor recreation plan indicates need for eight additional areas at the state level exclusive of county and local requirements; one for the Piedmont Region, five for the Midlands and one in the Coastal Region. These will be considered later in the report. Although on-site observation indicates an acceptable degree of maintenance in most areas there is much that needs to be done to increase the attractiveness of the area and further prolong the life and use of existing facilities. It is recommended that highest priority be given to bringing the entire state park system up to a high degree of maintenance. This program should be developed on a system wide basis and should be well planned with priorities of work indicated before instigating the action program. This will have to be accomplished within the limits of existing funds and personnel.



Some of the major work items required to do this are discussed below:

1. System-wide Projects

There are several types of facilities and improvements on which maintenance work can be done more economically and efficiently on a system-wide rather than an individual or a park basis.

Dams	Parking Areas
Water Systems	Boats, Equipment and Furnishings
Sewage Disposal Systems	Park Signs
Other Utility Systems	Surveying and Marking Park Boundaries
Roads	Structures

Dams, water systems, sewage disposal systems, other utility systems, roads and parking areas can be handled as one package. It is, therefore, strongly recommended that a qualified engineer be sent to each state park to: (a) make a careful detailed study of these items; (b) prepare a detailed list of the work required to put them in a good state of maintenance; (c) list the maintenance projects in order of their priority within each park and again in the order of their priority within the entire park system; (d) decide which projects should be done under force account and which under contract; (e) prepare detailed bills of materials, labor schedules and cost estimates for the projects to be done under force account. He should then have drawings prepared as required for all maintenance projects, together with specifications and invitations to bid for those to be done under contract. He should, of course, closely supervise the actual maintenance work.

Some of these facilities are at the stage where repair work done now will save much more expensive work later. It is possible that some water and sewer systems are in such condition as to be a hazard to public health. If so, they should be put in proper shape at the earliest possible moment.

Structures

All structures should be checked to determine the extent of maintenance and the same procedure be followed as for other categories as stated in the foregoing group.



Boats, mattresses and other furnishings and equipment should be checked to determine present condition and the need for replacement. It is possible that many of the items in this group need immediate replacement and action should be instigated for their purchase. Buying a similar set of items for all the state parks at one time will result in considerable savings. It is therefore recommended that there be prepared a master list of these items for the entire state park system and that they be advertised for bids under appropriate specifications. It is imperative that each area using these items should have a desirable place of storage.

### Park Signs

Park signs are an essential part of the State Park Master Plan. From the time the visitor enters the area until he departs his activities and informing him of points of interest with the area. Few things "snap up" state parks more than park signs provided they are well designed; well made, suitably placed, uniform throughout the system and well maintained. The signs in the South Carolina Parks are well designed and made. In some instances adequate directional signs are needed. It is possible that a change in color of signs should be considered. It is recommended that a landscape architect review the signing program within the system for need, location, text of signs and develop a master sign program on a state-wide basis. It is recommended that a standard uniform alphabet style be selected for use in the state parks and that a sign handbook and program be prepared for the system as a whole and for each state park. Signs required for each state park in its sign plan and program should be carefully designed and made in a central shop. When these signs are delivered to the parks, they should be erected by area personnel under supervision of the Landscape Architect.

It is further recommended that the Department in cooperation with the State Department of Highways develop a suitable signing program for signs to be used on the South Carolina highways to direct visitors to the respective areas. These signs need to be developed in accordance with highway standards and should be placed at intervals of 5 miles beginning at the entrance to the state park and extended a distance of 20 miles in all directions from the state park. The





details of the highway signing program should be developed jointly between park and highway personnel. A distinctive eye appealing sign should be developed.

#### Park Boundaries

Unless it has clearly marked park boundaries it is impossible to properly protect a state park, especially from encroachment and enforce park rules and regulations. It is, therefore recommended that the Department immediately launch a program to survey and clearly mark and post all park boundaries with appropriate signs, markers, or other distinctive means. It is suggested that a yellow paint strip, 4 feet from the ground be placed on boundary trees.

#### Projects at Individual State Parks

The Division of Parks and Recreation has prepared "A permanent improvement schedule" for each of the state parks under its administration, designed to upgrade facilities in the 28 existing areas and for the minimum added facilities required to develop the park system to necessary standards, to more adequately serve South Carolinians and their visitors recreational needs, to attract tourists and industry and bolster the state economy. Implementation of this extensive program of improvements is dependent upon legislative action. Pending the availability of funds for these improvements it is suggested that the state of the Division of Parks and Recreation review this schedule and establish an area and project priority program as a guide to proper implementation of this extensive undertaking. When this schedule has been established it is suggested that a Landscape Architect review the schedule to determine location and compatability with the limits of the proposed master plan for the area.

#### NEW CONSTRUCTION AND MAJOR ALTERATIONS

##### 1. First Things First!

It is strongly recommended that before any new facilities of any kind are constructed in any South Carolina state park, that the



Commission of Parks, Recreation and Tourism retain competent professional individuals or firms to prepare:

A comprehensive master plan for each park. (Master plan guidelines have been previously furnished to the commission).

Note: (A National Park Master Plan Manual has been furnished to the chairman of the commission).

Designs, plans, working drawings and specifications for each structure or facility to be built.

The importance for advance planning for the South Carolina State Parks cannot be overstressed. Many of the problems and difficulties that confront the state parks today can be traced to lack of planning. In the past planning has been mostly limited to the needs of the time. To avoid loss of time pending the employment of sufficient professional personnel on a full time salary basis the services of competent professional persons or firms should be retained on a fee basis to prepare the area master and other plans which are an essential prerequisite to construction. If the commission and department so desires the National Park Service will make available upon request the consultant services of a qualified park planner for review, discussion and recommendations of preliminary and final plans prepared by persons or firms engaged by the commission.

## 2. Lodges

It is recommended that the Commission build lodges, inns and cabins at the proper time in the following state parks in the order of priorities as shown:

Sadlers Creek on Hartwell Reservoir  
Santee on Lake Marion of the Santee Cooper Reservoir  
Bakers Creek on Clark Hill Reservoir

At Bakers Creek, it is recommended that the plans of South Carolina be coordinated with the Georgia State Park Director who administers Elijah State Park on the west shore of Clark Hill Reservoir to avoid duplication of facilities within a radius of six miles apart.



It is also recommended the section on lodges as outlined in the Economic Research Associates report be given full consideration.

### 3. Priorities

#### A Model State Park

It is recommended that the Commission give first priority to developing one state park as a model for the state park as a whole. The park selected for model development should be located near major concentrations of population so that it will serve many people, it should have outstanding, or at least very good, natural attributes, and it should be of such character as to present no unusually expensive construction problems. Of all South Carolina state parks, Croft State Park appears best to meet these criteria. It will be very easily accessible to South Carolinians and tourists by way of Interstate 95-26 and S.C. 56. Whatever park is selected as the model, at least \$300,000 should be set aside for its development, and that development should be of the very highest quality.

#### Picnicking, Swimming, and other Day-Use and Camping Facilities

Throughout the state park system the highest priority should be given to the provision of well planned and adequate facilities for family camping and for picnicking, swimming and other day use activities.

It must be admitted that most of the present facilities for these activities are of a make-shift character. It is recommended that day-use facilities such as camping, picnicking, swimming etc., receive priority over cabins, lodges and inns.

### 4. Recommendations - Selected Area Projects

The present outdoor recreation plan for South Carolina has divided the state into three recreation regions, the Piedmont, Midlands and Coastal. Background data on these regions as shown in that plan is not included in this report as it would be repetitious. However, the plan and its recommendations should be considered a part of this report.



In submitting the recommendations for the individual parks, the accepted state plan recreation regions will be followed. The projects most urgently needed at selected state parks are listed park by park in the respective regions. Not all state parks visited by the writer of this report are included in this listing. Only those, which in his judgment will contribute to supplying immediate and significant visitor service to meet demands and needs with the additional facilities as suggested in the Division of Parks and Recreation permanent improvement schedule are included.

#### Wayside Parks

In June 1944, 6 wayside areas totaling 239 acres (former Recreation Demonstration Areas) were transferred to the State of South Carolina, State Forestry Commission under deed LD-LP-SC 6/9/44 by the Department of the Interior with the deed restriction that these areas must be used for "public parks, recreation and conservation." Most of the areas were developed by NPS with facilities for highway traveler use.

In 1951 the State Forestry Commission transferred five wayside areas as shown below to the State Highway Department for roadside parks. The sixth area, Colleton Wayside was retained by the Forestry Commission and operated and maintained by the Division of Parks. All of the five highway waysides are located on main routes, travel highways, and have acreages which if properly developed and maintained might be developed for limited overnite camping and minor tourist information stations in addition to serving the highway users.

It is suggested that the department discuss the use and further development and the attractiveness of these areas to the tourist with the highway department to work out some kind of an arrangement which will compliment the objectives of this commission.

These areas are:                      State Highway Administration

Aiken Wayside - 35 acres - U.S. 1, 4 miles west on Moneta, Aiken County  
Georgetown Wayside - 31.74 acres - U.S. 71, 11 miles northeast of Georgetown, Georgetown County  
Greenwood Wayside - 29.70 acres - U.S. 178 at Shoal Junction in Greenwood County  
Greenville Wayside - 62.90 acres - U.S. 276, 2 miles east of South Carolina 11 in Greenville County





Kershaw Wayside - 32.92 acres - U.S. 1, 3 miles west of Cassett, Kershaw County

Division of Parks and Recreation

Colleton Wayside - 35.0 acres - U.S. 15,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile east on S.C. 61  
Dorchester County, 6 areas totaling 239 acres

## COASTAL RECREATION REGION

### General Observations

The coastal region of 11 counties has an area of 9,263 square miles of which 342 square miles are water and 6,104 square miles are forest. It consists of the lower coastal plains and has 190 miles of Atlantic seashore. Its climate varies from a mean temperature in January of 48° to 51° and in July to 81°. It has a sunshine average of 65%. Its population is estimated at 628,000 according to the 1966 estimate. Population concentrations are in Charleston County, 258,660 and Harry County 77,000. Major resort centers are Charleston, Myrtle Beach, Grand Strand area, Beaufort Sea Islands area. Its principal economic activities are agriculture, manufacturing and shipping at Beaufort, Charleston, and Georgetown. Thru this region parts of Interstate 95 are under construction. Interstate 95 where it enters South Carolina from the northeast closely parallels the northwest boundary on the region and enters the region at the north corner of Dorchester County where it crosses Interstate 20, it then continues southwest to Savannah. Numerous U.S. and state routes throughout the region facilitate tourist travel to the ocean. This region has a significant attraction in its seashore and historic interest, in addition to its economic activities as previously noted. The presence of these freeways will stimulate recreation travel to all seashore areas.

The areas selected for recommendation in this region in the order of their priority are Huntington Beach, Hunting Island, Edisto Beach and Myrtle Beach state parks.

HUNTINGTON BEACH STATE PARK is located midway between Georgetown and Myrtle beach on U. S. 17. It is a magnificent seaside area lush with marsh growth which attracts a variety of shore birds and stands of pine and live oaks. "Atalya Castle" the former home of Mrs. Ann Huntington is near the seaside. This seaside park of 2,500 acres came as a leased



gift to the state from Mrs. Huntington and the Brookgreen Trustees, in May of 1960 and was opened for limited public use in June of 1962.

One of the greatest recreation assets and one in short supply is seashore. The Huntington Beach Seashore area represents a remaining potential land and water resource relatively undeveloped and highly adaptable for preservation and development as a major state park. This 2,500 acre ocean front property contains a favorable combination of natural elements of high park value including 3 miles of fine sand beach, picturesque sand dunes, protected inlets, marshlands, fresh water ponds and extensive forested areas. The property is characterized by both scenic and wildlife values.

Population and economic trends in South Carolina together with increasing recreation demands indicate the need and importance of making this seashore property available to the public.

It is believed that the adjacent Brookgreen Garden estate will serve as a valuable complementary educational recreational and wildlife resource.

A general development plan prepared by K. B. Simmon in January 1960 represents a logical well balanced design which with necessary refinements will serve as an important guide in development.

The former beach residence, "Atalaya" will create interest as an exhibit. It is believed that the adjacent Brookgreen Garden estate will serve as a valuable educational, recreational and wildlife reserve.

Recommendations: 1. It is recommended that this area be developed for maximum public use consistent with the resource. 2. Pending the completion of an updated master plan only essential utilities, such as housing and park service building should be undertaken. 3. Establish a full time coastal oriented interpretive program including a visitor center to interpret the resources of the area. Encourage visitors to Myrtle Beach to visit this area for the various activities of the interpretive program, exhibits, campfires etc. 4. Develop in cooperation with the University of South Carolina, a conservation education center with special emphasis on the resources of this area and the region.



Overnite accommodations, cabins or dormitories, dining hall, library, and crafts building should be limited to center activities. 5. Encourage private enterprise to provide overnite facilities such as motels and restaurants outside the area for general public use.

HUNTING ISLAND STATE PARK 16 miles southeast of Beaufort at the end of U.S. 21 is a barrier island of unusual beauty within its virgin growth of live oaks, palmettos and pines in a semi-tropical setting, an old lighthouse, and a beach village.

This seashore area of 5,000 acres of land and marsh was acquired in July 1938 and opened to the public in June 1941.

Some of the Beaufort sea islands were called fishing islands, some were hunting islands. One of these large barrier islands heavily covered with profuse vegetation was called "Hunting Island" and possesses unusual wild beauty. Numerous deer, racoon and other small game inhabit the island along with flocks of local and migratory birds and waterfowl.

The palmetto lined paradise overlooks St. Helena Sound on the outer banks of the "Chain of 64 Golden Islands" which make-up Beaufort County.

An old 136 foot light now abandoned by the Federal Lighthouse Service still in good condition provides an interesting place for park visitors. Its observation platform affords a magnificent view up and down the coast in addition to the experience of climbing the stairs to the platform.

The beach plagued by constant erosion is still one of the finest on the Atlantic to the coast; hard and smooth at low tide with a width of four or five hundred feet. On Fripp Island to the south, private enterprise is providing overnite accommodations a golf course and cottage sites.

Existing facilities are: picnicking, swimming, fishing, family cabins, and camping, launching ramp.

Low cost minimum family vacation cabins, additional camping sites, a new bathhouse and workshop are needed in this area.



Despite the private enterprise facilities on Fripp Island it is recommended that the low cost minimum comfort cabins be constructed in the present cabin area to accommodate visitors, military personnel, and their families who are stationed at Paris Island and the Marine Air Base in Beaufort County.

Measures should be taken to control the shore erosion problem. The ocean has already claimed valuable park land and facilities in addition many palmetto trees.

EDISTO BEACH STATE PARK is located 20 miles south of Adams Run on South Carolina 174. It is an oceanfront recreational area with historical and scientific interests.

This ocean front area of 1,225 acres of land and water was acquired in February 1935, and opened to the public in June 1937 and closed in February 1956 and reopened in July 1, 1966.

Based on its recreation, historical and scientific interests Edisto is unlike any of the state parks. It is reported that some of the tallest palmettos in the state are found here. They rise majestically above the semi-tropical undergrowth and reach to the very edge of the ocean strand.

The beach, once confronted by the problem of erosion, now stretches white and smooth along  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles of Atlantic Coast line. A timber grain placed near the southern boundary of the park just off the main highway has trapped sand and continues to cause a build-up of shoreline.

Each changing tide brings another deposit of seashells to a beach which has long been noted for abundance of shells.

Indians, who once made their homes on the islands gave the island its name.

Existing facilities are picnicking, fishing, swimming and family cabins.

In the master plan study it is recommended that a major cabin area be developed together with a new camping area with modern up-to-date facilities be constructed. Additional picnic and parking areas should be added. A residence and park shop is essential for the park operations. Full time personnel on the area are necessary for the protection of the resources of the area.





A seasonal interpretive program is recommended with an appropriate combination of visitor center and marine oriented museum being included.

MYRTLE BEACH STATE PARK is located 3 miles south of Myrtle Beach on U. S. 17. It is a mile long quadrangle lying between U.S. 17 and the Atlantic ocean. Its 312 acres acquired by gift in 1934, and opened to the public in July 1936 is 70% developed for active recreation area.

On July 1, 1936 the first official state park visitor entered the gates of the park. On that day a new way of outdoor recreation was available to the South Carolinians.

When donated to the state in 1934 by the Beach Development Company for a state park, the area was somewhat remote, quiet and well forested. Today, although the fabulous "Grand Strand" borders it north and south with beach resort developments, private enterprise camping areas, restaurants, gift shops, and Myrtle Beach Air Base to the westward across U.S. 17, plus heavy usage, the area resources are being endangered by overuse and lack of space. Heavy usage is evidenced by an estimated 626,490 visitors from July 1, 1966 to June 30, 1967.

Although the area has accommodated this visitation the danger signs from overuse are apparent to the trained eye.

Existing facilities are picnicking, swimming, family cabins, camping, recreation building, fishing pier (740 feet long) and a modern fresh water swimming pool.

There are a reported 6,000 private camping sites available to the public in the "Grand Strand Area" and hundreds of private cabins, motels, hotels and numerous food service facilities available to the visitors in this area.

It is recommended that only additional day-use facilities should be added to this park such as parking, and picnicking areas. The present family cabins should be gradually phased out, with camping on the existing camp site be limited to two nights with the fee substantially



higher than those in the private enterprise area. Eventually all camping areas should be phased out and transferred to Huntington Beach State Park, 12 miles south where space is available without endangering the resources.

Note:

It is not in the interest of the state who is promoting travel, tourism and private enterprise to maintain or expand overnite facilities where private enterprise has demonstrated its capability to provide facilities at reasonable fees.

MIDLANDS REGION

General Observation

The Midlands Region of all counties has an area of 15,619 square miles with 402 square miles of water and 9,449 square miles of forests. It is located in the upper coastal plan and sand hills of the Piedmont plateau. The temperature in this region varies from 46° - 48° in January to 80° - 81° in July. There are 63-69% sunshine days in the region. Major resort centers both in the Sand Hill are Aiken and Camden. This area has a population of 1,186,000 (Est. 1966). Population concentrations are Columbia SMSA (Richland and Lexington counties) 324,000, Aiken County (portion of Augusta, Georgia SMSA) 94,700, Florence County, 87,500, Sumter County, 85,800, York County, 83,600.

Principal economic activities are agriculture, government and manufacturing. Thru this area Interstate Routes 26 which is complete I. 20 under construction and numerous Federal and state roads which provide access to existing state parks in this area and for possible new sites to be determined at a later date. Fort Jackson and Lake Murray are tourist attractions. All traffic from the northwest to historic Charleston will pass through this area and should be encouraged to spend time in the Columbia, SMSA.

The areas selected for recommendations in this region in priority order are: Cheraw, Baker Creek, Santee, Kings Mountain, Aiken, Sesquicentennial, Poinsett, Lee and Rivers Bridge State Parks.



CHERAW STATE PARK four miles southwest of Cheraw on U.S. 1 and U.S. 52 is the largest and oldest state park in South Carolina. Here in 1934 the first land was acquired for development of a state park. Citizens of the area purchased 706 acres with donation monies raised by citizens in the community. This tract is incorporated adjacent to and nearly surrounded by a large area of 6,832 acres purchased by the Federal Government in the 1930's as a part of a Federal Aid Program in cooperation with states and their subdivisions in which recreational areas were acquired and developed with the cooperation of two Federal agencies, the National Park Service and the Department of Agriculture. These areas were known as Recreational Demonstration Areas, development was by the National Park Service in 1944. This area was conveyed to the state with the deed restriction that they be used for "public park, recreation and conservation" failure to comply with these conditions within a three year period could result in return of the property to the United States.

This section of sand hills near the fall line where vegetation is sparse is a good example where conversion of depressed agriculturally unproductive lands has been revegetated, reforested and converted to public use.

Note:

(Adjoining this area is the Sand Hills State Forest, the National Fish Hatchery, and Campbell State Park where title to the area is in the Division of Forestry and is operated and is maintained by the Division of Parks and Recreation).

This park required more than five years construction by the civilian conservation corps an organization similar to today's Job Corps. Here hundreds of youthful enrollees unable to obtain gainful employment must use most of the recreation facilities that exist in this area. Under the supervision of a professional staff of skilled workman beset by the effects of the depression of the 30's, trained these unskilled youth in skills, and taught enrollee classes in their



trades after work hours all of which contributed toward these youths obtaining gainful employment upon leaving the Corps. This park required more than five years to complete the fact that their works exist today attest to their efforts. Though they are in need of major repairs they are still being used and with major updating they will serve the needs of groups until funds are available to replace them. The name Cheraw is of Indian origin and means Fire Town. The town of Cheraw, 4 miles north of the park is said to be the site of an old Indian Village.

Existing facilities are picnicking, swimming, boating, fishing, family camping, vacation cabins, recreation building. It is recommended that this area undergo a complete upgrading of all facilities and the additions of new facilities as recommended by the Division of Parks and Recreation.

BAKER CREEK STATE PARK is located on the east embayment of Corps of Engineer Clark Hill Reservoir off of U.S. 378 approximately 6 miles west of McCormick. Was acquired in 1952 by license from the Corps of Engineers and is an area of 1,305 acres of well forested, rolling land which is undeveloped, across the reservoir on the embayment north of the bridge crossing the reservoir. The State of Georgia has developed Elijah Clark State Park for day and overnite use. The entrance to this area is approximately six miles west of the Baker Creek State Park. It is recommended that the Division of Parks and Recreation coordinate their plans for the development of Baker Creek with the Georgia State Park personnel to eliminate duplication of facilities.

It is also recommended that Bakers Creek be initially developed with minimum day-use facilities until a master plan is completed. An economic study of the areas success as potential lodge and cabin complex area should be made before construction is started. A master development plan has been prepared by Kenneth Simmons, Landscape Architect Engineer.

SANTEE STATE PARK is located 5 miles west of Santee via S.C. 6 located on the west shore of Lake Marion of the Santee-Cooper impoundment.





Acquired in 1942 this area of 2,354 acres of land was opened to the public in June 1949. The rolling pine forested area offers the visitor access to the waters of Lake Marion from land based recreation facilities. Across the lake is Fort Watson, an old Indian Mound Site of a Revolutionary War battle which is also under the state park system. Interstate 95, under construction, crosses Lake Marion a short distance below the park and will generally increase use of park facilities in the area when completed. Present facilities consist of picnicking, swimming, boating, fishing, family cabins and camping, and boat launching ramps.

It is recommended that this area be developed with a major lodge complex with all attendant facilities. An outside consultant should be retained for design of this area. It is recommended that an economic study be made to determine the potential of this area.

KINGS MOUNTAIN STATE PARK is located 12 miles from York on South Carolina 161. This is an area of rolling woods adjoining Kings Mountain National Military Park. Acquired by the Federal government in the 30's and developed by the National Park Service as a recreational demonstration area under the same guidelines as Cheraw and transferred in LD-LP-SC June 9, 1944, to the State of South Carolina under the same conditions as Cheraw State Park, at that time, 6,141 acres of the 8,882 were transferred to the state and the balance transferred to Kings Mountain National Military Park. This area was developed in accordance with an area development plan prepared by the National Park Service and constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps, in the same manner and condition as detailed for Cheraw. The area was opened to the public in June 1940.

This is a historic land administered by the National Park Service telling the story of the Revolutionary War History by museum exhibits and on-site visitations. The state park provides the outdoor recreation facilities. Spring comes late here, the woods blossom with dogwood, and the judas tree, yellow jasmine, later the wild azales, violets of many kinds, and other plants of interest. In May, the mountain laurel blooms, and until the winter comes there are always many flowering plants among the oaks, pines, poplars and cedars.



The existing facilities in this area are picnicking, swimming, fishing, boating and camping and group camping. The two group camps, York and Cherokee attract youth groups throughout the summer season.

It is recommended that all facilities be updated and additional new facilities be such as crafts building, two new dining halls, a water system in the day-use area, employee housing, and additional day-use facilities.

AIKEN STATE PARK 18 miles east of Aiken off S.C. 215 on U.S. 78 is an area of 1,067 acres on the South Edisto River with three lakes in the park, pine clad sand hills and historical interests.

Water of the South Fork of the Edisto River and three spring fed lakes offer a variety of sports, including fishing, boating and swimming. Winding stabilized sand drives lead from pine clad sand hills in and out through woodlands to the low banks of the river. Due to the diversity of the soils there is a wide variety of plant life along the route.

Indians, Spanish explorers, Whig and Tory battles and fighting in the war of the states, all contributed to the history of this section of South Carolina.

Aiken County which includes a portion of Augusta, Georgia has a population of 94,700, which is a factor in the use of the area and its facilities. This area has always been popular for picnicking parties and family annual reunions.

The Savannah River project of the Atomic Energy Commission is nearby. Also, this area can be easily reached off Interstate 20 which is under construction. Development of additional attractive facilities, proper signing and publicity will increase visitation.

Present facilities are picnicking, swimming, boating, fishing, camping and nature trails.

It is recommended that this area be more intensively developed by increasing all facilities to accommodate the urban population in this area.



Further, it is recommended that a major family camping area be developed and publicized for travelers entering and leaving South Carolina on U. S. 1 and Interstate 20.

Additional day-use facilities such as picnic areas, tables, grills, employee housing and a work shop.

SESQUICENTENNIAL STATE PARK 13 miles northeast of Columbia on U.S. 1 was acquired in August 1937 and opened to the public in June 1940. Purchased with money obtained from the sale of half dollar commemorative coins specially minted and sold at a premium to celebrate the city of Columbia's Sesquicentennial. The Sesquicentennial Commission determined that the balance left at the close of the celebration should be used for an enduring monument. Their decision was to acquire lands for a state park, hence the name. The area consists of 1,995 acres of sand hill land and serves the metropolitan area of Columbia (population 324,000) as an urban park. The park has heavy use not only from Columbia families of central South Carolina but from military personnel stationed at nearby Fort Jackson. To the east, Camden a major sand hill resort center will benefit from this area. Existing facilities are picnicking, boating, fishing, camping, swimming and nature trails, an amphitheatre is presently under construction.

It is recommended that this area be more intensively developed for metropolitan use, also that its master plan recognize the need for such use. A transient family camping area with modern facilities should be provided for tourists using U.S. 1 and Interstate 20, who wish to spend several days in the capital city. Interpretive programs and day nature schools for children and other activities of interest should be considered. The present family camping area should be used as a model for other camping areas in the state. With new industries in the area there is need for additional day-use development to accommodate the increased use of this park.

POINSETT STATE PARK 18 miles southwest of Sumter on S.C. 261 has 1,000 acres within the Manchester State Forest acquired in August 1934, the area was opened to public use in August 1936.

The terrain of this area is unique. The coastal plain below the fall line is generally flat, yet here are the geological famous High Hills



of the Santee. It has an interesting mountain growth of laurel, galax, and hill flowers mingling with the great trees of the Wateree Swamp, where ancient marine deposits are found.

Park visitors may in a few steps move from a hill zone where laurel and galax are found to a contrasting belt of deep swamp growth of huge cypress and gray spanish moss.

Coquina formations laid down during the Eocene Age some fifty million years ago are exposed in various locations throughout the park. The whole area abounds with dogwood and yellow jasmine.

The area is named for Joel R. Poinsett, traveler, soldier, diplomat, educator and naturalist. He was a native of South Carolina whose final resting place is in nearby Stateburg. Existing facilities are picnicking, swimming, boating, fishing, grill, family cabins and camping, museum and nature trails.

It is recommended that the state extend the boundaries of the state forest southwesterly to Lake Marion to obtain access to its waterfront.

That this area be kept in a natural state, establish in cooperation with the University of South Carolina, a year around conservation education center for persons of all ages. A year around interpretive program should be established and maintained. In cooperation with the Division of Forestry develop extensive bicycling, hiking and horse trails.

Additional immediate facilities as recommended by the Division of Parks and Recreation should be provided after the master plan study has been approved.

LEE STATE PARK is located 6 miles northeast of Bishopville via U.S. 15 and S.C. 156, it is an attractive area with winding roads and wooded trails which enable the visitor to enjoy the beauty of dense swamp growth along the Lynches River and marvel at its flowing wells. Its 2,839 acres of land and water was acquired in June 1935 and opened to the public in 1941. The flowing wells, the deep dark swamp growth and the winding trails connecting the river with the rising sand hills contribute to the attractiveness of Lee State Park. Lynches River





which forms the southeast border of the park has been noted since Indian days for the quality of clay on its banks. The red man used it in their pottery making. It has been reported that Josiah Wedgewood of England had wagon loads of clay shipped to his factories before the Revolutionary War. Other notable china makers came to this region of South Carolina to settle, hoping to establish potteries like those in England.

Proposed Interstate 20 will pass close to the park being the first state park close to the freeway as it enters South Carolina, places this area in a significant situation to cater to travelers on the interstate. Facilities are picnicking, swimming, boating, fishing, recreation building, and fishing cabins.

It is recommended that this area be fully developed as a major natural state park with camping and vacation facilities, a group camp, picnic area, hiking, bicycling and horse trails, interpretive programs, visitor center, and other structures essential to the parks' maintenance and operation.

RIVERS BRIDGE CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL STATE PARK is located 6 miles west of Ehrhardt on S.C. 64, marks the site of the Salkehatchie River Crossing by Union troops during the War between the states.

Acquired in May of 1945 the area was opened to the public in July 1945. Its 390 acres of land and water on the Salkehatchie River was prior to becoming a state memorial park, maintained by the Rivers Bridge Confederate Memorial Association as an historical site of the river crossing, where a handful of confederate soldiers fought a delaying action. Breastworks, cemetery, memorial tablet and auditorium are located in this area.

Existing facilities are picnicking, swimming, fishing, camping, recreation building.

It is recommended that an in-depth master plan study be made of this area before any additional facilities are constructed.

#### Note:

Historical interest and day-use should be separated in the auditorium and museum area, history and picnicking are combined. All picnic



facilities in this area should be removed. The two uses are not compatible. The dominant interest here should be memorial and historic without distraction of picnickers. Concentrate on historic values alone. Develop a new picnic area in a central location in the park away from both the memorial and breastworks area. The breastworks area should be interpreted with suitable signs and walkways. Recognize the history of this area by means of trail side exhibits. An historian should be the keyman in this master plan study. The study and recommendations for the development of the area should be coordinated with the Director of the State Department of Archives and History.

## PIEDMONT REGION

### General Observation

The Piedmont Region consists of 10 counties with an area at 6,173 square miles with 75 square miles of water and 3,642 square miles of forest. It is composed of approximately 500 square miles of the Blue Ridge Mountains in the northwestern part of the state and the upper Piedmont Plateau. The temperature varies from a mean low of 41-42 in January to 72-79 in July. It has 64 sunshine days throughout the year. The population is estimated at 777,000 (1966) with population concentrations in Greenville County - 241,000, Spartanburg 160,900 and Anderson County 103,800. Its principal economic activities are agriculture and manufacturing.

Other factors influencing the attractiveness of this region are Interstate 85, Hartwell Reservoir, the proposed Duke Power Project, Keowee Taxaway project and the close proximity of the proposed south extension of the Blue Ridge Park in North Carolina in the vicinity of the towns of Cashiers, and Highland. It is estimated that in the first year that the extension of the parkway is open, it will accommodate 3½ million people. Some of whom will visit South Carolina. Further a sizeable portion of this region Anderson, Cherokee, a part of Greenville, Oconee and Pickens counties are included in Appalachia. For those individuals not interested in the seashore this is an ideal region to spend their leisure time at any season of the year, this is truly resort country.



The areas selected for recommendation in this region in priority order are Sadlers Creek, Table Rock, Oconee, Paris Mountain and Craft State Parks.

Sadlers Creek State Park on Hartwell Reservoir has 625 acres of forested land surrounded on two sides by the waters of Hartwell Reservoir. This peninsula surrounded by water is easily accessible by road via U. S. 29 and S. R. 187, west of Anderson. This area is under development, roads have been constructed and are ready for surface treatment in the spring. A superintendent's residence and workshop have been built. A boat launching ramp is available. A camping area with comfort facilities is under construction. It is recommended (1) that approximately 25 acres on the highest point in the area be reserved and developed as the lodge and cabin area (2) that additional buffer lands be acquired on both sides of the entrance road from the junction of S. R. 187 to the present boundary (3) retain an outside consultant to develop site plans for the lodge complex.

Note: The present Corps of Engineers Plan should be revised to meet contemplated plans.

Table Rock State Park located 16 miles north of Pickens via U. S. 178 or S. C. 8, S. C. 288 and S. C. 11. This consists of three high granite appalachian peaks. The park land stream cut offers a great variety of hill and valley trails.

At the foot of the rock, there is a covering of green, trees of pine, hemlock, magnolia and gum. It is one of the older parks having been acquired in May 1935 and opened to the public in 1940. Facilities in this park are picnicking, swimming, boating, fishing, family camping, family cabins, grills, museum, nature trail, recreation building. It is recommended additional facilities be added to this area as rapidly as possible, such as:

- A camping area with modern up-to-date facilities,
- Family vacation cabins,
- Family picnic shelters, tables and grills,
- Extension of utilities for new construction,
- Residences for ranger and foreman,
- and remodeling the recreation building for snack shop.



Note: This area is in a short distance from U. S. 178 and is in a position to attract visitors from southern North Carolina and tourists from out of state.

Oconee State Park 8 miles northeast of Walhala via S. C. 28 and S. C. 107. This area is a restful retreat on a high mountain plateau between Station Mountain and Stumphouse Mountain near the historic Stumphouse Tunnel. It is one of the early acquisitions having been acquired in 1935 and opened to the public in June 1937, and has long been a gathering place for South Carolina families on vacation. Facilities are picnicking, swimming, boating, fishing, family camping, vacation cabins, restaurant, recreation building, nature trail. It is recommended a new family camping area with modern facilities, be developed, additional family cabins, new sewer and water system, a new kitchen for restaurant, employee housing, and picnic areas, tables and grills.

Note: With construction of the southwest extension of the Blue Ridge Parkway it can be anticipated that many parkway visitors will find this area most attractive and convenient.

Paris Mountain State Park 7 miles north of Greenville via U. S. 25 and S. C. 253. This area is of beautiful mountain terrain, well forested, and has extensive use. It serves the people of Greenville, one of the larger industrial cities of the state. It was acquired in April 1935 and opened to the public in July 1937. Available facilities are picnicking, swimming, boating, family camping, group camping and an amphitheater. The following improvements are recommended:

- Acquisition of 100 acres of land,
- Family camping area with modern up-to-date facilities,
- New picnic area,
- New group camp unit,
- and a new employee residence.

Note: This area should be properly signed off of U. S. 25 to the park to enable visitors traveling from the north to make their way





to the park. Early attention should be given to a new master plan for this area. Also it should be considered as serving the needs of the metropolitan Greenville as well as other visitors. Additional facilities should be added as soon as possible.

Croft State Park 5 miles south of Spartanburg between county road 34 and S. C. 56 is a portion of the old Camp Croft Military area of World War II. Through the efforts of an alert local citizen at the close of World War II arrangements were made for transfer of 7,088 acres from the Federal Government to the state for 50% of fair value with the deed restriction that use be limited to "public park recreational facilities and forestry purposes."

The area acquires embraces rolling hills, rocky streams, and a mixture of pine and hardwood forests. Especially picturesque are the enormous oaks on the knolls marking the sites of former old homesteads which provide practically ready-made desirable picnic areas, all along a winding loop road.

Existing facilities are water impoundment of 150 acres on Kelso Creek, picnic areas and superintendents residence. Under construction is a new camping complete with modern facilities, a new entrance road and realignment of the existing road leading to camp area, a new bathhouse is in process. It is recommended that additional facilities, such as, parking for bathhouse and swimming area, nature trails, signing of area, ranger residence, and an area service building be added to this area which serves Spartanburg, and the surrounding area. Develop and operate a day nature school for children.



FORESTRY PROGRAM IN STATE PARKS (Cheraw and Kings Mountain)

Section 6, e of Act. #133, 1967 creating the State Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism provides "that the State Forestry Commission shall continue the Forestry program authorized under the provisions of Act #382 of 1965." The National Park Service by letter dated November 9, 1967 advised the State Forester of the State Forestry Commission that former recreation demonstration areas - Cheraw and Kings Mountain State Parks could be managed under a limited forest management plan as long as they were managed in a manner that would not detract from the recreational interests and in accordance with accepted forest management practices. (Copy of letter follows--next page).

As a result of on-site inspections and conferences with forestry personnel and representatives of the National Park Service, the original proposed forest management methods at Cheraw and Kings Mountain State Parks were modified to become compatible with state park purposes.

It is recommended that all proposals for forest management of state park lands be coordinated with State Commission of Forestry and that programs now underway be held in abeyance pending a joint master plan by the Department and the State Forestry Commission.



C O P Y

November 9, 1967

L7019-C

Mr. John R. Tiller  
State Forester  
South Carolina State Commission  
of Forestry  
P.O. Box 287  
Columbia, South Carolina

Dear Mr. Tiller:

We appreciate the concern expressed in your letter of October 18 concerning the undue delay in securing our approval for a forestry program on Cheraw and Kings Mountain State Parks. Please accept our apologies.

Recreation Demonstration Areas acquired by the Federal Government to demonstrate that recreational use of the land could be of primary importance were deeded to the States by authority of the Act of June 6, 1942 (56 Stat. 326) to be managed as part of the States' park and recreation area system. Many of the areas have since been redesignated as State parks.

The Congress intended these lands to be managed and used to supplement the total park and recreation program of the States. Thus, the development and management of the resources should be planned and carried out under this objective.

In the development and management of National Recreation Areas, our policy concerning the management of natural resources, which is supported by recent acts of Congress, is as follows:

Outdoor recreation shall be recognized as the dominant or primary resource management objective. Natural resources within the area may be utilized and managed for additional purposes where such additional uses are compatible with fulfilling the recreation mission of the area. Scenic, historical, scientific, and scarce or disappearing resources within recreation areas shall be managed compatible with the primary recreation mission of the area.



We believe these guides are applicable to the State park program and would, therefore, not have any objection to your proposed timber management operations at Cheraw and Kings Mountain State Parks if carried out in accordance with such guides.

We are currently working up a compilation of policies for our recreational areas, including a policy statement on timber management, and we will send you a copy for your information when it becomes available.

Sincerely yours,

/s Theodor R. Swem

Assistant Director

cc:  
Regional Director, Southeast w/c inc.





### New Areas

The South Carolina Outdoor Recreation Plan indicates the need of acquisition and development of lands for new state parks near several of the larger urban areas.

In the summary of new multiple purpose areas in the plan, regional parks are suggested in the three regions of the state, Coastal 3, Midlands 4, Piedmont 1. To accomplish this objective, it is recommended that the planning and development office and the Division of Parks and Recreation seek out suitable sites in each region and make studies of their feasibility and submit their recommendations for Commission consideration.

### Potential Areas By Regions

#### COASTAL REGION

Seashore - in 1955 the National Park Service released its Seashore Recreation Survey of the Atlantic Gulf Coasts. Seven areas along the South Carolina coastline were recommended for consideration. These were Waiter, Debidue, North Island, Morris, Kiawah, Fripp and Hilton Head Island were listed as potentials.

Hilton Head Island which was critical in 1955 can be eliminated from consideration as it now has an extensive private development on it. Fripp Island is under private development and no longer available. Kiawah and Morse Islands are not suitable for development. Neither are North Morris and Debidue. Waiter which is too far north for state consideration, has been subdivided and would be difficult to acquire within a reasonable cost limit. A vicinity map showing underdeveloped seashore areas together with descriptions follows.

### Inland Areas

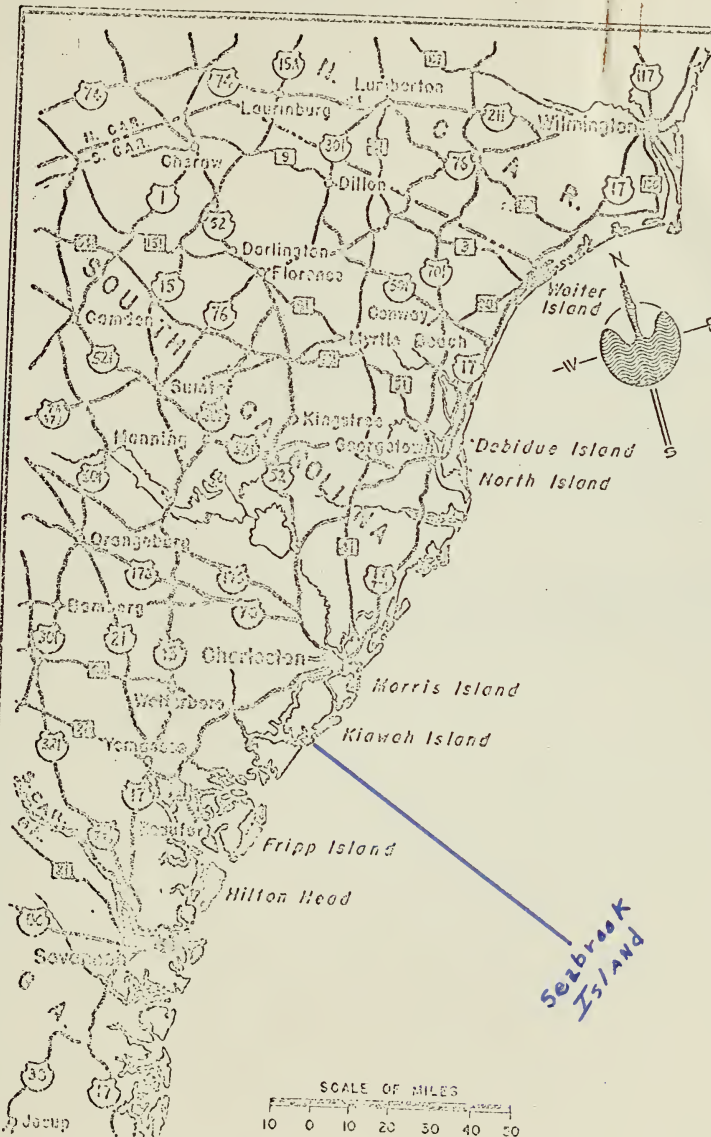
Two inland areas, one existing and one to be selected, merit consideration for development as major areas near an urban center.

### Existing Area

The existing area is Givhan Ferry State Park, 30 miles northwest of Charleston on South Carolina 61. This area on a high bluff overlooking



A T L A N T I C O C E A N



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
 SEASHORE RECREATION AREA SURVEY  
 WASHINGTON OFFICE  
 VICINITY MAP SHOWING  
 UNDEVELOPED SEASHORE AREAS  
 SOUTH CAROLINA

DWG. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

FEB. 1955



Debidue Island

South Carolina

Location: Southeast of Myrtle Beach about 25 miles.

Accessibility: By road.

Description of Area: The island has a wide and appealing beach, a large variety of both plants and animals in the hinterland, and marshes which attract many waterfowl during the migratory season, and is easily accessible from a main tourist highway. It is about 5 miles in length with an average width of 3 miles and contains about 8,400 acres of land and marsh.

Present Use: All but 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> acres (owned by Bernard Baruch) is privately owned and used by Mrs. Anne Preston Emerson and her two grandsons, George W. Vanderbilt and Alfred Gwyne Vanderbilt.

Analysis: It offers one of the few remaining opportunities in South Carolina for a public seashore recreation area with an excellent beach and interesting biological features.



Kiawah Island

South Carolina

Location: Southeast of Charleston about 25 miles.

Accessibility: By road.

Description of Area: A 9-mile-long island with an average width of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles and containing about 7,300 acres of land and marsh; it has an excellent beach and good vegetative cover. More than half of the island is covered with a mixed forest of live oak, loblolly pine, southern magnolia, and cabbage palmetto. The dunes rise to a height of 20 feet and are stable. The beach slopes gradually to the surf with varying widths of from 50 to 150 feet between high and low tides. It is easily accessible by road from Charleston, South Carolina.

Present Use: Title to the island is in the names of Eugenia M. Royal and A. C. Wingo, Trustees. The Kiawah Development Company (C. C. Royal, president, and wife, Eugenia M. Royal, secretary) purchased 110 acres on the island for development purposes, of which 70 acres have been subdivided.

Analysis: The area is being logged and developed for residential purposes. It would require quick action to save sufficient acreage for public recreation purposes. Five years ago it was unspoiled and very desirable but now the feasibility of its acquisition is questionable.





## South Carolina

### North Island

An island off the mainland, southeast of Georgetown and directly south of Debidue Island, which contains a 7-mile strand of good beach in front of dunes that reach heights of about 25 feet. It has a fine, deep tree cover near the beach composed of pine, oak, palm, magnolia and wax myrtle. It possesses the resources necessary for a public seashore recreation area to a greater degree than Debidue Island but is inaccessible and the building of a causeway or bridge to the island would be excessively costly. Debidue Island would be preferable to North Island as a public use area because it is more easily accessible.

### Morris Island

Lying about 7 miles southeast of Charleston across the mouth of the harbor from Moultrieville, this area has a beach of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles in extent. It is low and marshy with scattered clumps of trees in back of medium-sized dunes. The island is undeveloped but lacks road access. The advantage of this island is its proximity to a large population center. Because of its location and present value this island should be given consideration as a possible public seashore recreation area.



## South Carolina

### Fripp Island

This island is about 16 miles southeast of Beaufort, off the mainland, and adjacent to Hunting Island State Park. It has a little over 3 miles of firm, sandy beach. The forest area consists of pine, oak, and palmetto. The dunes are of medium height and stabilized. The area would serve in an excellent capacity as an overflow for the existing State park to the north as the demand increases. The island is inaccessible at the present but could be bridged from Hunting Island State Park.

### Hilton Head

The largest of the islands off the coast of South Carolina is located east of Fluffton, in the mouth of the Broad River. It contains some cottage developments and portions of its inland areas have been cultivated. Signs of active logging and development are apparent on the island. At present, it has dense cover, a good, firm beach of about 11 miles extent, and a gently sloping fore-shore. The island is accessible by ferry. It possesses good resources for public seashore recreation but the major portion of the island has been acquired for subdivision. Acquisition of the area for public use seems out of the question.



Waiter Island

South Carolina

Location: At Little River Inlet, just below the North Carolina State line, offshore from mainland.

Accessibility: By boat only.

Description of Area: The island possesses a luxuriant natural growth on the back lands next to the marsh. In transition from the back lands to the ocean are medium dune formations held in a variety of patterns, sizes and forms by windswept trees and shrubs. Next to the beach the 6 to 8 feet high dunes are generally stabilized by grassy plants. The 3-mile beach is wide, gently sloping, and comparatively clean.

Present Use: The island appears to be completely undeveloped and unused except for occasional fishing parties.

Analysis: The area merits consideration as a possible seashore reserve to meet future needs.



the Edisto River was acquired in 1934 and opened to the public in June 1937. It has 1,235 acres of land with only 30% of the total area being in active recreation area.

This area has an historic interest. In the early days there was a fort here on the famous Charles Town, Savannah Town, Augusta Indian Path along which traders went into the creek territory in Georgia. Later a ferry was built here which was the chief crossing of the Edisto River between the upper western part of the state, and the city of Charleston, from this ferry came the name of the park.

The high bluffs overlooking the river are covered with great trees many of which are draped with gray spanish moss.

In the swift dark waters of the Edisto are the finest game fish, black bass, red breast and the bluegill breem. The spring run of shad has been famous for generations.

Existing facilities are picnicking, swimming, boating, fishing, family camping and recreation building.

This area could be more intensively developed to serve the urban needs of Charleston; the nearby Charleston Air Base and Walterboro, 24 miles to the west.

Additional land acquisition should be considered if this area is to serve in an urban capacity. This action at an early date will avoid escalating land values and will be available for development when needed. Enroute to Givhans Ferry is Old Dorchester State Park an historic site, which with some attention and publicity would attract many visitors.

#### New Area - Lynches River

Based on the geographic distribution of state park areas in the state, it appears that a site on the Lynches River between U. S. 371 and S. C. 41, significant historic site in Marion should be considered. This area would serve the urban Conway, Florence and Georgetown areas' needs.





The Division of Parks and Recreation should evaluate the area and consider the water quality of this river.

Consideration should be given to a cooperative agreement and coordination with U. S. Forest Service in working out recreation facilities in the Forest Service holdings.

## MIDLANDS REGION

### General

The State Outdoor Recreation Plan recommends four multi-purpose areas in this region. Sites suggested for consideration in this region are Lake Murray, Congaree Swamp and Wateree Pond. Two existing sites in this region can be expanded to serve the urban needs of the Columbia area and the Augusta, Aiken urban needs, these are Sesquicentennial and Aiken State Parks (SMSA).

It is recommended that the Division of Parks and Recreation study each of these areas excepting the Congaree Swamp in detail and submit their recommendations for Commission consideration.

In 1963, the National Park Service made a Specific Area Report for a Proposed Congaree Swamp National Monument of approximately 21,000 acres. A copy of this report is on file in the Southeast Regional Office of the National Park Service and can be made available to the Division of Parks and Recreation upon request.

## PIEDMONT REGION

### General

The State Outdoor Recreation Plan recommends one additional area in this region. It is recommended that Lakes Keowee and Jocassee reservoirs now under construction be considered as potential locations for future recreational developments. These two lakes are in an area of outstanding scenic and natural beauty which will make them most attractive to those who prefer the mountains to the seashore. Early studies of possible recreation sites on these lakes should be made by staff members of the Department and submitted to the Commission for consideration. Further the Duke Power Company should be contacted at an early date to determine their receptiveness to the state's proposal.



### Seashore Areas

One possible area within this region merits consideration for inclusion in the South Carolina State Park System, this is Seabrook Island.

Seabrook Island located approximately 25 miles southeast of Charleston beyond the end of S.C. Route 700. From recent surveys made by National Park Service personnel, this appears to be the only possible remaining site that is considered desirable for another major state beach park,

In March 1967, at the request of the Hon. L. Mendel Rivers, South Carolina representative in Congress, personnel of the National Park Service made a field study and analysis of this area. Excerpts from this follow:

### Regional Analysis

Seabrook Island is typical of, but smaller than, the many beautiful and famous sea islands extending along the lower coast of South Carolina and Georgia. Like most of the South Carolina sea islands, Seabrook Island is accessible by vehicle whereas most of those in Georgia are accessible only by boat or airplane.

The beads of this archipelago are separated from one another by deep inlets and from the mainland by a maze of tidal rivers and vast marshes. Forming a barrier reef against the Atlantic, most of the islands are low lying and marshy.

A good paved road extends to the island and connects easily with major arterial highways further inland.

Four state seashore areas--Edisto, Myrtle Beach, Huntington Beach, and Hunting Island State Parks--are scattered along the South Carolina coast. Important regional historical resources include Middleton Plantation, Fort Sumter National Monument, the historic district of Charleston, and Brookgreen Gardens.



### Physical Features

Seabrook Island is separated from another island by a short, bridged creek. That island is, in turn, connected to the mainland and is traversed by a major paved highway, which terminates at the bridge to Seabrook. Seabrook Island in total is over four miles long by about two miles wide, but the portion of interest to conservation is that two-mile long by one-mile wide portion, most of which is forested and faces the ocean.

The balance of the island is equally divided between farmland and marshland. A clean sand beach extends this full two-mile length and turns up North Edisto River until replaced abruptly by marsh. The beach is hardpacked and allows easy vehicular travel. It slopes gradually to the surf with varying widths from 50 to 500 feet. Bordering the beach are medium-sized, well stabilized dunes, reaching a height of 15 feet. Erosion is not a serious problem except along a one-half mile section of the island facing North Edisto River.

The dunes illustrate well nature's transition from a raw, wind-thrown dune to one heavily forested, almost jungled and ancient. Foredunes are vegetated with pioneer species such as sea oats, beach grass, and others. Live oak, myrtle and yucca speckle intermediate dunes. Even further back the dunes become more permanently forested with palmetto, pine, and climax hardwoods.

### Flora

Forests of Seabrook Island are indeed remarkable as little grazing or cutting has taken place here. The woods are thick--even jungle-like, nature and impressive. Two particularly unusual displays were noted, one an almost pure stand of cabbage palm, and the other a grove of mature, towering loblolly pine. Elsewhere a mixed forest of oak, pine, magnolia, and palm clothes the upland portion of the island. Understory species include jasmine, hercules-club, palmetto, suilax, youpon, and other species typical of this southern coastal plain location.



#### Fauna

Quite naturally the island abounds in wildlife, including bobcat, raccoon, deer, opossum, squirrel, and marsh rabbit. Porpoise, an interesting marine mammal frequents offshore areas.

Common birds associated with shore and salt marshes are black skimmers, royal terns, brown pelicans, willets, plovers, oyster catchers, clapper rails, least terns, egrets, mergansers, ducks, and herons. Logger-head turtles waddle ashore and bury their eggs in the sands of Seabrook, while crabs, shrimps, and oysters are common in adjacent waters.

At least 20 species of edible fish are caught in nearby waters, including spanish mackerel, channel bass, shad, bluefish, spotted bass, and croaker.

#### Present Use and Development

The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina owns about 1,200 acres of Seabrook Island. A youth camp and conference center there actually uses but a small portion of the total land and water resources of the island. The camp caretaker and his family are the only full-time residents on this property. On the contiguous parcel to the northwest is situated a seasonal house. Ownership of this property is unknown and disputed. (The Diocese, however, does not claim this land.) There are no agricultural, logging, or grazing activities on any portion of the island under examination as a possible conservation preserve. Some specimen palmettos have been removed for horticultural purposes. Except during camping sessions, there is little recreation use, other than limited hunting by permittees.

#### Ownership and Costs

The 1,200-acre portion owned by the Diocese of South Carolina is valued at \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000 (reportedly, the Diocese refused an offer of some \$1,000,000 two years ago). The Diocese is now interested in disposing of the island because of its real estate value, lack of full utilization of the site, interest in development of another area, and expensive maintenance problems inherent in any seashore area.





#### Resource Evaluation

Seabrook Island has those fundamental qualities that attract people to the seashore for swimming, fishing, boating, sunbathing, or simply enjoying the out-of-doors. Its long stretch of clean beach and its mature forest provide an ideal and interesting environment for activities related to seashore use, such as camping, picnicking, and hiking--all in an area of considerable biological interest.

Geological values are limited primarily to the formation of dunes and littoral sand deposition. Biological values are interesting, particularly the abundant wildlife, mature forests, and varied marine life. Interpretive nature trails could be developed readily without doing violence to natural features.

History of Seabrook Island is not of major significance and is probably associated with that of Kiawah Island. Kiawah is closely associated with the Indian tribe for whom that island was named. This small, now extinct, tribe presumably lived on these islands. Because of the urging of the Kiawah chieftain, the first English settlement in South Carolina, later to become the city of Charleston, was located in Kiawah country along the Ashley River, and the generosity of the Indians sharing their food with the white settlers was largely instrumental in saving this early colony from disaster.

Seabrook Island, because of its limited size, ready access by automobile, and proximity to population and overnight accommodations, should be considered primarily as a potential day-use area to serve people living within a few hours driving distance. Simple and basic outdoor facilities to serve the visitors should be grouped at the southern tip of the island reserving much of the strand for leisurely walking and the woods for nature study. Appropriate development might include change stalls, water and sanitary facilities, a protected small boat harbor on Privateer Creek, concession building, picnic tables, modest sized tent camping areas, parking, and foot trails.

In 1955 the National Park Service identified Kiawah Island as one of the outstanding remaining seashore recreation opportunities on the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts. At that time about ten summer cottages existed on Kiawah. Since then nine more have been added and roads



are under construction. No doubt many lots have been sold to individuals, but have not as yet been built upon. Kiawah may thus be no longer feasible as a national seashore.

Seabrook Island, on the other hand, has not been subjected to such development. It is not, however, a suitable national seashore substitute for Kiawah Island, being too small to withstand the hordes of visitors normally expected at a national area. If Seabrook were combined with Kiawah into a single conservation area, the result would be a seashore resource of probably national significance. In fact, for full protection and utilization of Kiawah Island as a national seashore, Seabrook Island should be considered an integral part of Kiawah.

Considered alone, Seabrook's natural values are indeed outstanding, but are not so unique and significant to be of interest to the entire Nation. We cannot, therefore, recommend that the island be given further consideration for addition to the National Park System.

Seabrook Island can, however, help meet the recreation and conservation needs of the State and the nation. Each of South Carolina's four seashore state parks are already heavily used and, in many cases, overused. Seabrook should thus be preserved in some form of public ownership for its exceptional recreation and natural values. In addition, it would supplement other state seashore areas. Also, there is public recreation demand for more areas of this type, and it is one of a few remaining undeveloped stretches of coast readily accessible by car.

#### Study Recommendation

It is highly recommended that the Commission, assign a high priority for consideration and acquisition of this island. Unless early action is promptly taken, it may be too late. We strongly recommend that the Commission contact the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina in Columbia for further information.





