NORTH CAROLINA WILD FLOWER

PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INCORPORATED

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NEWSLETTER

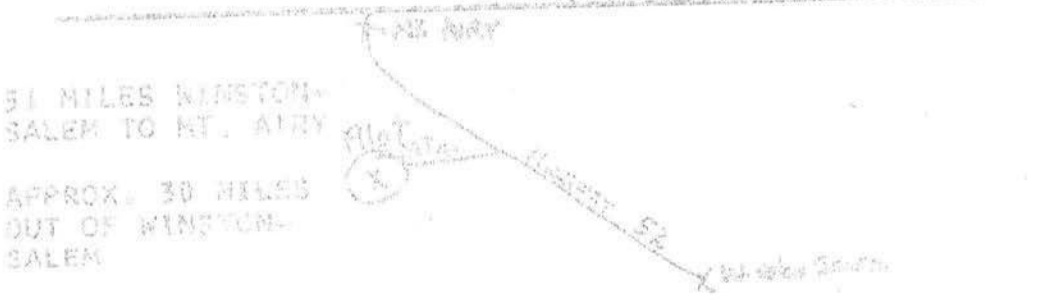
VOL. VIII NO. 1 OCTOBER 1966

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IN STARTING IN AS PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA WILD FLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY, LET ME SAY THAT I WILL NEED THE HELP OF EVERY ONE OF THE MEMBERS. DO MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO GET TO THE MEETINGS, SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES WITH US, AND DO NOT HESITATE TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW YOU THINK WE CAN DO A BETTER JOB FOR MORE AND BETTER CONSERVATION. MRS. BRAXTON, OUR ABLE EDITOR HAS MADE OUR NEWS LETTER A PUBLICATION THAT WE ARE JUSTLY PROUD OF; BUT SHE TOO NEEDS OUR HELP.

PLAN NOW AND DO GET TO THE FALL MEETING AT THE PILOT MOUNTAIN KNOB ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1966 AT 10:30. THIS KNOB IS PRIVATELY OWNED AND MANAGED BY MRS. J.W. BEASLEY. THERE IS A CHARGE OF FIFTY-CENTS PER PERSON FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF GOING ON THE MOUNTAIN. PILOT MOUNTAIN HAS NO RUNNING WATER SO IF YOU PLAN ON HAVING DRINKING WATER TAKE IT WITH YOU. THE ACCOMODATIONS ARE RATHER PRIMITIVE BUT WE HOPE THEY WILL BE ADEQUATE FOR THE OCASSION. THE BUSINESS MEETING WILL BE AT 10:30 WITH A PICNIC AT NOON AND A FIELD TRIP IN THE AFTERNOON. SOFT DRINKS CAN BE BOUGHT AT THE PARKING AREA. HOPE TO SEE YOU AT OUR FALL MEETING.

H.R. TOTTEN, PRESIDENT.



PAST PRESIDENTS OF N.C.W.F.P.S.

1951 - 1952	MRS. HERBERT P. SMITH
1952 - 1954	MR. J.A. WARREN
1954 - 1956	MRS. PAUL SPENCER
1956 - 1958	MR. LIONEL MELVIN
1958 - 1960	MRS. CARL PEGG
1960 - 1962	MR. WALTER BRAXTON
1962 - 1964	MR. W. GORDON BUTLER

THE BOARD MEETING OF THE WILD FLOWER SOCIETY WAS HELD AT THE HOME OF MRS. WALTER BRAXTON, SUNDAY AUGUST 14, 1966 AT 2:30 P.M.

THE PRESIDENT, DR. ROLAND TOTTEN, CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AND OUTLINED THE ORDER OF BUSINESS.

MISS BESSIE POPE GAVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT OF $179.96 ON BALANCE.

MRS. BRAXTON REPORTED THAT THE NEW STATIONERY HAD ARRIVED. SHE ALSO ASKED FOR ANY ARTICLES FOR THE NEWS LETTER.

THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORTED THAT LETTERS HAD BEEN SENT TO SECRETARY OF INTERIOR UDALL, AND SENATORS ERVIN AND JORDON REGARDING THE WILDERNESS ROAD THROUGH THE SMOKIES. REPLIES TO THESE LETTERS WERE PASSED AROUND FOR THE BOARD MEMBERS TO READ.

A DISCUSSION WAS HELD CONCERNING THE FALL MEETING PLACE. MRS. J.A. WARREN MADE THE MOTION THAT THE SOCIETY MEET AT PILOT MOUNTAIN. MRS. SMITH SECONDED THE MOTION; THE VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS. HANGING ROCK WAS CHOSEN AS THE ALTERNATE MEETING PLACE.

MR. MELVIN WAS CHOSEN TO INVESTIGATE AND REPORT ON THE FACILITIES OF PILOT MOUNTAIN. MRS. SMITH MADE THE MOTION THE MEETING BE HELD OCTOBER 2. MRS. HARPER SECONDED THE MOTION.

DR. HARPER BROUGHT TO THE GROUP'S ATTENTION A MAGAZINE ARTICLE BY BILL SHARP ADVERTISING VENUS FLY TRAP AND TELLING OF HOLLY SHELTER AREA AS A RICH AREA FOR THE PLANT. MR. MELVIN WAS DELEGATED TO ASK A FRIEND OF THE SOCIETY TO WRITE MR. SHARP A LETTER ASKING HIM TO RETRACT HIS ARTICLE AND WARNING OF THE DANGERS OF POSSIBLE DESTRUCTION OF THE PLANT.

THE PRESIDENT RAISED THE QUESTION OF THE PROPER MEETING TIME AND DUTIES OF THE TRUSTEES. MR. MELVIN SAID THAT PROPERTY SHOULD BE HANDLED ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLES IN THE CONSTITUTION LAID DOWN FOR THE TRUSTEES, BUT THAT BUSINESS COULD BE CONDUCTED BY THE BOARD. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES WAS DEFERRED TO THE SPRING MEETING.

MRS. SMITH SUGGESTED THAT MINUTES BE READ AT EVERY MEETING.

THE MINUTES OF THE SPRING MEETING, MAY 15, 1966 AT ROCKFISH METHODIST CAMP WERE READ BY MRS. ALLEN, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

A DISCUSSION WAS HELD IN REGARD TO PLANNING A PROGRAM OR TALK FOR THE FALL MEETING. MR. BUTLER SUGGESTED THAT MORE TIME BE DEVOTED TO A FIELD TRIP AND PLAN A TALK ONLY IN THE EVENT TO RAIN.

AFTER THE BUSINESS MEETING WAS ADJOURNED, MRS. BRAXTON INVITED THE GROUP TO TOUR HER GARDEN AND ENJOY REFRESHMENTS INSIDE HER HOME.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
MRS. O.G. ALLEN
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MINUTES OF THE NORTH CAROLINA WILD FLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC.

MEETING - SUNDAY, MAY 15, 1966

THE SPRING MEETING OF THE NORTH CAROLINA WILD FLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC. WAS HELD ON SUNDAY MAY 15, [illegible] SCOTTISH METHODIST CAMP NEAR FAYETTEVILLE.

THE BUSINESS MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 12:30 BY THE PRESIDENT, GORDON BUTLER. THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY REV. CHARLES C. LINDLEY. THE MINUTES OF THE FALL MEETING WERE NOT READ SINCE THESE WERE PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSLETTER. THEY WERE APPROVED AS PUBLISHED. THE TREASURER, MISS BESSIE POPE, REPORTED A BALANCE OF $114.93 (MAY 15, 1966). A CHECK FOR $20.00 IS TO BE GIVEN THE CAMP FOR THE USE OF ITS FACILITIES.

MR. WALTER BRAXTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE, PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 1966-68:

PRESIDENT:	HENRY ROLAND TOTTEN,	CHAPEL HILL
VICE-PRES:	THOMAS S. SHINN,	ASHEVILLE
CORRES. SEC'Y:	MRS. O.G. ALLEN,	WINSTON-SALEM

UPON A MOTION BY MRS. C.E. PRALL, THE ABOVE SLATE WAS ELECTED UNANIMOUSLY.

AT MRS. BRAXTON'S REQUEST FOR ACTION ON THE LETTER FROM MR. ROY DAVIS, MEMBER OF THE WILD AREAS AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE OF THE CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB IN ASHEVILLE ASKING FOR THE SUPPORT OF OUR CLUB AGAINST THE TRANS-MOUNTAIN HIGHWAY FROM BRYSON CITY, N.C. TO TOWNSEND, TENN. THE CLUB MEMBERS VOTED FOR THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION ON A MOTION BY MR. LIONEL MELVIN.

> WE ENDORSE THE VIEWS, AND SUPPORT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY IN ITS FIGHT TO PRESERVE THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE WILDERNESS ACT BY STOPPING THE HIGHLY DESTRUCTIVE SEALS-PARK ROAD WHILE SATISFYING THE BRYSON CITY COMMITMENT OF 1941 BY IMPROVING EXISTING ROADS AND POSSIBLY EXTENDING THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY ON INTO BRYSON CITY OR CONSTRUCTING A SCENIC ROAD ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF FONTANA RESERVOIR.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS TO BE SENT TO THE [illegible] GATLINBURG, TENN. WITH COPIES TO SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR STEWART UDALL, AND SENATORS SAM ERVIN AND B. EVERETT JORDAN.

MEMBERS WERE URGED TO WRITE LETTERS IMMEDIATELY AND ALSO TO ATTEND THE HEARINGS EITHER IN GATLINBURG OR BRYSON CITY ON JUNE 15 AND 16 RESPECTIVELY.

AFTER DR. TOTTEN'S ARRIVAL AT [illegible] THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT GORDON BUTLER EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF SERVING AS PRESIDENT AND PRESENTED THE INCOMING PRESIDENT WITH A NEW FILE CASE.

A PICNIC LUNCH WAS SPREAD OUT AT [illegible] THE PROPOSED NATURE TRAIL AS A FIELD TRIP. AFTER THE TRIP DR. TOTTEN SLIDES OF [illegible] ENDANGERING RATTLESNAKES, COTTONMOUTHS [illegible] WHICH WERE SHOWN AT THE MEETING. A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE [illegible] MEETING WILL BE GIVEN IN THE NEWSLETTER. [illegible] CHAPEL HILL AND FARTHER NORTH.

THE FOLLOWING SHRUBS, FERN AND TREES WERE LABELLED:

1. VACCINIUM ARBOREUM	SPARKLEBERRY
2. PINUS SEROTINA	POND PINE
3. QUERCUS MARGARETTA	SCRUBBY POST OAK, ASHE'S OAK
4. RHODODENDRON ATLANTICUM	(AZALEA ATLANTICA)
5. LEIOPHYLLUM BUXIFOLIUM	SAND MYRTLE
6. LYONIA LUCIDA	FETTERBUSH, HOORAH BUSH
7. PERSEA BORBONIA	RED BAY
8. MAGNOLIA VIRGINIANA	SWEET BAY
9. VACCINIUM CORYMBOSUM	STAGGERBUSH
10. OSMUNDA CINNAMOMEA	CINNAMON FERN
11. KALMIA LATIFOLIA	MOUNTAIN LAUREL, IVY
12. SASSAFRAS ALBIDUM	SASSAFRAS
13. NYSSA AQUATICA	TUPELO GUM, WATER GUM
14. CLETHRA ALNIFOLIA	SWEET PERPERBUSH
15. WISTERIA FRUTESCENS	WISTERIA
16. QUERCUS INCANA	UPLAND WILLOW OAK, BLUEJACK OAK
17. QUERCUS LAEVIS	TURKEY OAK
18. LEMNA PERPUSILLA	DUCKWEED - (NOT LABELED)
19. CRATAEGUS UNIFLORA	RED HAW
20. VACCINIUM CRASSIFOLIUM	CREEPING BLUEBERRY, HAIRY JOHN
21. AMELANCHIER --?--	JUNEBERRY, SHADBUSH, SERVICEBERRY
22. SYMPLOCOS TINCTORIA	HORSE-SUGAR, SWEET LEAF
23. CORYLUS AMERICANA	HAZEL-NUT
24. MYRICA CERIFERA	WAX MYRTLE
25. GELSEMIUM SEMPERVIRENS	YELLOW JESSAMINE
26. ZENOBIA PULVERULENTA	HONEY-CUP
27. LYONIA LIGUSTRINA	MALEBERRY
28. MYRICA HETEROPHYLLA	BIG-LEAVED BAYBERRY
29 SORBUS ARBUTIFOLIA	RED CHOKEBERRY
30. CYRILLA RACEMIFLORA	TITI
31. RHUS VERNIX	POISON SUMAC

THE SECRETARY LEFT AT 4:15

MRS. PEARSON H. STEWART, REC.

YEARS OF HARD WORK AND PATIENCE PRODUCE A LOVELY WILDFLOWER GARDEN IN A WOODLAND:

BY

JULIE LAMBETH

EDITORIAL NOTE:

JULIE LAMBETH, GARDEN EDITOR, WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL- SENTINEL DID A FEATURED ARTICLE ON MRS. JAMES PLASTER'S GARDEN AT 1875 MEADOW BROOK DRIVE, WINSTON SALEM, N.C. FOR THE SUNDAY MORNING EDITION, MAY 9, 1965. MRS. PLASTER IS A MEMBER OF N.C.W.F.G.C., INC. HAVING SERVED AS OUR RECORDING SECRETARY FOR TWO YEARS. WE APPRECIATE THE WAY JULIE LAMBETH HAS WRITTEN AN ESPECIALLY NICE, GENEROUS AND TRUE [illegible]

YEARS OF HARD WORK AND PATIENCE PRODUCE A LOVELY WILDFLOWER GARDEN:

BY JULIE LAMBETH

A GARDEN IS ONLY AS GOOD AS THE GARDENER MAKES IT. SOIL IS ENRICHED YEAR AFTER YEAR, AND PLANTINGS PROGRESS FROM SIMPLE ANNUALS TO MORE DEMANDING VARIETIES.

MRS. JAMES PLASTER OF 1875 MEADOWBROOK DRIVE HAS SELECTED THE MOST DIFFICULT OF ALL GARDENS TO ESTABLISH, AND SHE HAS SPENT A GOOD PORTION OF HER LIFE DEVELOPING HER RARE AND ARTFULLY DESIGNED WILD FLOWER GARDEN.

WITH INFINITE PATIENCE AND TEDIOUS LABOR, MRS. PLASTER HAS MADE A HARDWOOD FOREST FLOOR WHERE A BARREN PINE-COVERED GULLEY ONCE EXISTED.

IN THE BEGINNING, PINES WERE REMOVED LEAV'NG DOGWOOD AND A FEW SHADE TREES. EACH FALL LOADS OF LEAVES WERE (AND ARE) DROPPED ON A CORNER OF THE YARD BY CITY TRUCKS, AND THESE HAVE BEEN SPREAD, YEAR AFTER YEAR, TO FORM A RICH ACID COMPOST.

DECOMPOSITION OF THIS MATERIAL IS SLOW, HOWEVER, SO IT TAKES FROM 3 TO 5 YEARS TO GET AN AREA READY TO PLANT. THEN COMES THE TASK OF PLANNING AND COLONIZING VARIOUS WILD FLOWERS. MRS. PLASTER CONTINUES TO LEARN WHICH VARIETIES SOCIALIZE, BECAUSE A SOUND KNOWLEDGE OF PLANT ECOLOGY IS THE BASIS OF SUCCESS WITH WILD FLOWERS.

ONE OF THE GREAT ATTRACTIONS OF THIS GARDEN IS THE WAY FOLIAGE TEXTURE CONTRAST IS DEVELOPED ALONG WITH SUCCESSIVE BLOOM FOR COLOR THROUGHOUT THE GROWING SEASON.

NATIVE TREES AND SHRUBS ARE INTERMINGLED WITH APPLE AND QUINCE. THEA, FRANKLINIA, MAGNOLIA FRASERI, SWEET BAY, FLAME AZALEA, STEWARTIA, DEWBERRY, WITCH HAZEL AND EUONYMOUS ARE ONLY A FEW OF THE SPECIMENS.

AS A ROCK PATH LEADS FROM A CONVENTIONAL STREET FRONT, A MAGIC WOODLAND SCENE GREETS THE EYES. MASSES OF LEUCOTHOE CASCADE -OWN A BANK, AND BRILLIANT YELLOW AZALEA IS COVERED WITH ENORMOUS BLOOMS. WOOD-BINE, WITH ITS DAINTY ROSE FLOWERS, CLIMBS A SUPPORT GRACEFULLY.

IN THE ROCK POOL, FAT FROGS SUN ON LEAVES OF PICKEREL WEED AND WATCH WILD COLUMBINE, GROWING NEARBY, NOD IN THE BREEZE. MAY-APPLE COVERS A SLOPE WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY SHOW SUMMER COLOR OF LOBELIA AND MONARDA.

ALONG THE PATH, WILD IRIS, PINK, WHITE AND CINNAMON TRILLIUM AND A FEW BIRD'S FOOT VIOLETS ARE IN BLOOM AMONG VARIETIES OF FERNS. PROGRESSING TO THE BROOK, WHICH BOUNDS THE END OF THE GARDEN, YOU FIND CLUMPS OF RARE BLUE DOGBANE. FERN ALLIES, RAINBOW MOSS AND SKULLCAP, CREEP NEAR TURKEY BEARD GRASS, WHICH RISES AMONG NEW YORK FERN AND CLIMBING FERN.

RETURNING UP AN ALTERNATE PATH, YOU SEE MASSES OF DAY LILY FOLIAGE WHICH FILL THE GLEN, AND A HUGE RED AZALEA STANDS OUT MID THE GREEN FOLIAGE OF WILD FLOWERS YET TO BLOOM.

THERE IS A PLATFORM OF LEAVES WHICH IS SPRINGY UNDERFOOT, BUT THIS WILL TAKE ANOTHER YEAR OR TWO TO DECOMPOSE ENOUGH TO DEVELOP.

THIS DESCRIPTION OF THE WOODLAND GARDEN HAS INCLUDED ONLY A FEW OF THE SPECIMENS IT CONTAINS. EACH WEEK HERALDS THE ARRIVAL OF NEW BLOSSOMS, FOR WILD FLOWERS VARY AS THE SEASONS CHANGE. MRS. PLASTER HAS A LOG RECORDING THE COLORS AND FLOWERS AS THEY SHOW EACH WEEK.

CONSERVATION PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THIS GARDEN. PLANTS ARE PURCHASED FROM COMMERCIAL SOURCES OR GROWN FROM SEEDS AND SLIPS. WILD FLOWERS SHOULD NEVER BE TRANSPLANTED FROM THEIR NATURAL SETTING

UNLESS BUILDING OR HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION THREATENS THEIR DESTRUCTION.

ONLY CAREFUL PLANNING AND PREPARATION, SUCH AS THIS GARDEN CONTAINS, IS SUITABLE FOR NATURALIZING.

IT IS RARE TO COME UPON A WORK OF ART SUCH AS THIS MAN-MADE WOODLAND GLADE, AND IT IS STAGGERING TO THINK OF THE LABOR AND PATIENCE THAT HAVE GONE INTO ITS CREATION.

EVEN MORE INTERESTING IS THE BEAUTIFUL EXECUTION OF THE OVER-ALL PLAN, LIFTING THIS GARDEN FROM THE AVERAGE INTO THE REALM OF PERFECTION.

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WILD FLOWERS AND THE NEUSE RIVER LAKE PROJECT.

BY
DR. B.W. WELLS

A FEW YEARS AGO THE SOCIETY MET ON MY TREE FARM LOCATED IN A LOOP OF THE NEUSE RIVER. MRS. BRAXTON HAS ASKED ME TO DISCUSS THE COMING LAKE PROJECT AND THE CHANGES WHICH IT WILL MAKE IN THE LOCAL FLORA.

THE DAM WILL BE BUILT SEVEN MILES DOWN RIVER FROM MY LAND, WHICH SITE IS ONLY ELEVEN MILES FROM DOWNTOWN RALEIGH. THIS SITE IS 200 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL AND THE DAM WILL BE HIGH ENOUGH TO RAISE THE WATER TO A MAXIMUM OF 77 FEE. THIS WILL CREATE BACKWATER FOR 16 MILES UP RIVER AND INTO THE NUMEROUS CREEK VALLEYS. ONE OF THESE VALLEYS WILL BRING THE LAKE WITHIN 2 MILES OF WAKE FOREST, ANOTHER WITHIN 3 MILES OF DURHAM, AND TWO CREEK BRANCHES WILL GIVE ACCESS TO THE LAKE A MILE EAST AND WEST OF CREEDMORE. THREE HEADWATER STREAMS, THE ENO, LITTLE AND FLAT RIVERS JOIN TO INITIATE THE NEUSE NEAR THE JUNCTION OF THE WAKE, GRANVILLE AND DURHAM COUNTY LINES. THE BACKWATER WILL EXTEND FOR A FEW MILES UP ALL THREE OF THESE RIVERS.

THE LAKE AREA IS ESTIMATED AT 11,000 ACRES. WHAT IS NOT GENERALLY KNOWN IS THAT THE LAKE WILL BE DIVIDED RATHER SHARPLY INTO TWO KINDS OF WATER BODIES; FOR SEVEN AND A HALF MILES ABOVE THE DAM THE WIDTH OF THE CENTRAL LAKE AND ITS BRANCHES WILL VARY UP TO AN AVERAGE OF ONE-HALF MILE ACROSS, WITH THE WATER RELATIVELY DEEP (67 FEET AT ZEAGLES ROCK)? BEYOND THE SEVEN AND A HALF MILE POINT, THE LAKE WILL SHARPLY BECOME MUCH WIDER, UP TO A MILE AND A HALF WITH SHALLOWER DEPTHS. THIS TRANSITION POINT MARKS THE EAST BOUNDARY OF THE TRIASSIC BASIN, A FILLED IN LAKE WHICH EXISTED THERE MANY MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO. ITS SOFT SEDIMENTARY ROCK STANDS IN STRONG CONTRAST TO THE BIOTITE GNEISS, REPRESENTED BY ZEAGLES ROCK, A DOMINANT TYPE OF THE PIEDMONT. THE GREATER EROSION OF THE SOFTER ROCK HAS RESULTED IN BORAD VALLEY BOTTOMS AND GENTLE SLOPPING HILLS, ACCOUNTING FOR THE WIDER SPREAD OF THE WATER IN THE TRIASSIC AREA.

FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THE SOCIETY MEMBERS IT WILL ALL AMOUNT TO NEAR-ELIMINATION OF OUR MOST ATTRACTIVE WILD FLOWERS. THESE, IN THE TRIASSIC BASIN AREA HAVE ALREADY BEEN LARGELY ELIMANATED SINCE THE HILLSIDES WERE NOT STEEP ENOUGH TO PREVENT CULTIVATION AND THE LOWER TERRACE OF THE VALLEYS ARE STILL SWAMPS, THE HIGHER IN MEADOWS AND FIELDS. SO THE NEW LOSS WILL BE IN THE COMPLETE OBLITERATION OF THE SPRING WILD FLOWERS IN THE REGION OF STEEPER SLOPES FOR IT IS IN THE LOWER LEVELS OF THE RAVINES WHERE THEY ARE PROFUSE UNDER THE OAKS AND BEECHES.

LET ME LIST A FEW OF THE COMMONER ONES. DOG-TOOTH VIOLET, WINDFLOWER, SPRING BEAUTY, GREEN AND GOLD, WILD OAT, GERANIUM, RATTLESNAKE PLANTIAN, SKULLCAPS, FOAM FLOWER, [illegible], WATERLEAF, BLOODROOT, BLUE-TONGUES, SNAKEROOT, [illegible], LADIES [illegible], SWEET WILLIAMS, FOX

MOCCASIN-FLOWER. SINCE OUR FERNS ARE LARGELY CONFINED TO THE LOWER SLOPES, THEY WILL COME CLOSE TO ELIMINATION. MY LARGE GRAVE OF MOUNTAIN LAUREL WILL GO. SOME ESPECIALLY RARE THINGS LIKE SEDUM, GLAUCOPLYLLUM, CAMPTOSORUS (WALKING FERN), CARDAMINE DOUGLASSII, I AM ARRANGING FOR THEIR TRANSPLANTION.

THE NEUSE SOON LEAVES THE HILL COUNTRY AND ENTERS THE COASTAL PLAIN WINDING ITS WAY THROUGH NEARLY LEVEL LAND, WHERE FIELDS. SWAMPS PINE WOODS LARGELY PREVAIL. SO THE LOSSES ABOVE ARE VERY GENUINE ONES FOR THE NEUSE RIVER NATURALIST. HOWEVER, IF HE WILL SEARCH FOR THEM, THERE STILL EXIST MANY LOCAL AREAS ALONG OUR OTHER PIEDMONT RIVERS WHERE HE CAN ENJOY AGAIN THESE BITS OF UNDISTURBED NATURE.

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LANDSCAPE DESIGN WITH NATIVE PLANTS
BY - GORDON BUTLER

I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO PREDICT HOW HELPFUL AN ARTICLE OF THIS KIND MAY BE TO MEMBERS OF THE NCWFPS, BUT AT THE VERY LEAST IT MAY CAUSE US TO THINK A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY FROM WHAT WE ARE ACCOSTOMED TO WITH RELATION TO THE USE OF WILD PLANT LIFE IN OUR GARDENS.

LET ME SAY TO BEGIN WITH, THAT THE PROBLEMS IN LANDSCAPE DESIGN COVERS A MULTITUDE OF SUBJECTS THAT REACH FAR OUT BEYOND WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE HANDLING OF WILD PLANT LIFE. WE OBSERVE THAT NATURE HERSELF DOES A VERY FINE JOB OF DESIGN FOR BEAUTY.

LET US BEGIN BY SAYING THAT WE SHOULD STICK TO THE RULE BOOK TO SOME EXTENT AND CARRY OUT THOSE PRINCIPLES TO PRODUCE HARMONY IN THE LOCATION OF TREES, SHRUBS AND HERBS TAKEN FROM THE FOREST. PLANTS TO BE RELOCATED SHOULD HAVE AN ENVIROMENT OF SOIL AND SHADE CONDITIONS AS NEARLY AS POSSIBLE TO THE ONE FROM WHICH THEY WERE TAKEN. YOU MAY BE ABLE TO CREATE THOSE CONDITIONS ON YOUR GROUNDS BY ARRANGING THE PATHS, NOOKS, CORNERS AND VIEWS. ACTUALLY, YOU CAN IMPROVE ON NATURE BY PRUNING AND SHAPING, ROGUEING OF OBNOXIOUS WEEDS, THUS HELPING THE PLANTS YOU WANT TO GROW, SURVIVE.

I HAVE OFTEN THOUGHT HOW MUCH OF A MESS WE MAKE OF THE GROUNDS AROUND OUR HOMES BY THE STILTED USE OF FOREIGN PLANT MATERIAL, THESE PLANTS ARE SOMETIMES LEFT TO COVER UP THE BUILDING, OR MORE OFTEN, THEY ARE KEPT SHEARED TO A ROUND OR BOX-LIKE SHAPE THAT IS UNPLEASANT TO LOOK AT. I THINK THAT THE PROPER USE AND SELECTION OF GOOD GROUND COVERS WITH THE OCCASIONAL USE OF A FEW SELECTED SHRUBS WOULD GREATLY IMPROVE THESE AREAS. IF YOJ ARE GOING TO BE SUCCESSFUL WITH GROWING PLANTS OF ANY KIND, STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH SELECTION OF PLANTS AS TO THEIR REQUIR-MENTS OF SUN OR SHADE CONDITIONS, MAKE THE DIFFERENCE.

NOW, LET US GO BACK TOWARD THE BEGINNING OF THIS PIECE AND TALK ABOUT PLANT TOLERANCES. WE HAVE FOUND THAT PLANTS, ASSISTED BY THE HUMAN ELEMENT, WILL THRIVE AND GROW IN MANY DIFFERENT LOCATIONS OF SOIL AND CLIMATE THAN THEIR NATURAL HABITAT. FOR EXAMPLE: I HAVE SEEN THE CAROLINA SILVERBELL GROWING IN THE SANDY, PINE-BARRENS NEAR THE COAST. I KNOW OF MANY PLANTS THAT HAVE BEEN TAKEN UP NEAR THE COAST AND CARRIED TO THE MOUNTAINS AND THEY ARE GROWING NICELY. MANY PLANTS ARE GROWING WELL HERE THAT HAVE BEEN BROUGHT FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE EQUATOR ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE WORLD IN A DIFFERENT TIME ZONE AND THEY SEEM TO DO WELL.

IT WOULD TAKE THOUSANDS OF PAGES AND YEARS OF TIME TO LEARN EVEN PART OF THE PROBLEMS OF THE USE OF ALL KINDS OF PLANT MATERIAL AND THE WORK OF DESIGN CONNECTED WITH IT. I HOPE THIS MAY BE OF SOME LITTLE HELP TO THOSE WHO MAY BE INTERESTED.

THIS INFORMATION IS MOST INTERESTING AND INFORMATIVE AND INSTEAD OF TRYING TO PICK OUT PARTS OF THE INFORMATION WE PRESENT IT TO YOU IN ITS ENTIRETY. ED:

DEAR MRS. BRAXTON:

I HAVE JUST RUN ACROSS AN OLD COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM OF THE ATLANTIC CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, WILSON, N.C. OF JUNE 3, 1956, INCLUDING THE PROGRAM FOR THE DEDICATION OF THEIR NEW SCIENCE BUILDING. A NUMBER OF SCIENTESTS WERE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A FEW REMARKS, AMONG THEM: DR. CLAUDE E. SPENCER, CURATOR, DESCIPLES OF CHRIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY; DR. N.E. BINGHAM, PROFESSOR OF SCIENCE EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA; DR. IVEY C. GENTRY, PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS, WAKE FOREST COLLEGE; PROFESSOR R. MARSHALLS HELMS, PROFESSOR OF PHYSICS, EAST CAROLINA COLLEGE; DR. H.R. TOTTEN, PROFESSOR OF BOTANY, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA; DR. C.G. BOOKHOUT, DIRECTOR, DUKE UNIVERSITY MARINE LABORATORY; DR. WALTER J. PETERSON, HEAD, DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY, NORTH CAROLINA STATE COLLEGE; DR. C.C. CARPENTER, DEAN, BOWMAN GRAY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, WAKE FOREST. MY REMARKS ON THE PART OF THE STUDY OF BOTANY APPLY JUST AS WELL TO THE WORK OF THE WILD FLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY. IF AT SOMETIME YOU NEED A FILLER FOR THE NEWSLETTER, YOU HAVE MY PERMISSION TO QU@TE FROM IT.

REMARKS OFH.R. TOTTEN AT THE DEDICATION OF THE SCIENCE BUILDING AT ATLANTIC CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, JUNE 3, 1956.

"BOTANY HAS AN IMPORTANT PLACE IN A LIBERAL ARTS PROGRAM. THE BOTANY LABORATORY IS A ROOM WHERE TEACHER AND PUPILS CAN WORK TOGETHER STUDYING PLANT LIFE - THE SIMPLER GROUPS OF LIVING THINGS. IT IS THE CENTER FROM WHICH STUDENTS (TEACHER AND PUPILS) CAN GO OUT INTO THE WOODS FEELDS, AND GARDENS FOR STUDY AND TO WHICH THEY CAN RETURN FOR FURTHER STUDY. IT IS WHERE THE STUDENT LEARNS METHODS FOR DETERMIN@NG TRUTH; WHERE HE LEARNS TO APPRECIATE THE ORDER AND BEAUTY OF NATURE. IN A FEW A SPARK OF ENTHUSIASTIC ZEAL WILL BE KINDLED HERE THAT WILL LEAD TO A LIFE OF DEDICATED RESEARCH. FOR MOST THAT SPARK WILL NEVER GLOW BRIGHTLY BUT EVEN WITH THESE THERE WILL BE LEFT AN APPRECIATION OF NATURE, AN AWARENESS OF ITS BEAUTY AND IMPORTANCE; AN ABILITY TO WITHDRAW INTELLIGENTLY INTO ITS RESTFULNESS. THIS SUBJECT WILL ADD IMMEASURABLY TO THAT SOMETHING CALLED CULTURE, SO MUCH NEEDED AND SO EASILY MISSED WITHIN THESE WALLS AND FROM THESE DOORS THE GENERAL STUDENT AND FUTURE SPECIALIST CAN BOTH WALK INTO THE UNKNOWN WITH EYES OPEN AND UNAFRAID."

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H.R. TOTTEN

THE BRAXTON'S CONSIDERED IT A PRIVILEGE TO HAVE THE FALL BOARD MEETING. WE WISH THAT WE COULD HAVE HAD MORE TIME WITH EACH PERSON PRESENT. WE WERE ESPECIALLY PLEASED THAT DR. & MRS. FRANCIS HARPER COULD BE WITH US. THE HARPER'S HAVE A SPECIAL PLACE IN MY HEART. WE HAVE FUN. I STARTED THE BALL ROLLING AT LAKE WACCAMAW AND DR. HARPER HELPS ME KEEP IT ROLLING.

THE NATURALIST'S EDITION OF "BARTRAM TRAVELS," EDITED BY FRANCIS HARPER GIVES MUCH INSIGHT TO THE TREMENDOUS RESEARCH THAT DR. HARPER DOES FOR HIS WRITINGS. WE WERE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO HEAR DR. HARPER AT LAKE WACCAMAW TALK ON WILLIAM BARTRAM. I FOR ONE, AM ANXIOUS TO HEAR DR. HARPER FURTHER ON THE BARTRAMS OR ANY SUBJECT THAT HE CARE TO TALK ABOUT.

ED, NOTES, CONTINUED:

DR. WELL'S SENT ME A COPY OF HIS LETTER, AND I KEPT A COPY OF THE LETTER THAT WALTER AND I SENT, THEY ARE BOTH BEING USED IN OUR NEWS-LETTER. MR. LIONEL MELVIN SENT A NIGHT LETTER, ALSO INCLUDED. SEND ME COPIES OF YOUR WRITINGS, AS I SAY IN EACH EDITION, WE NEED MATERIAL FOR OUR NEWSLETTER. DR. TOTTEN, BLESS HIM, SENT ME HIS PART IN A PROGRAM GIVEN IN 1956, JUST READ HOW TIMELY IT STILL IS TEN YEARS LATER.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE PILOT MOUNTAIN KNOB SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1966. THE MOUNTAIN SPEAKS FOR ITSELF IT ITS SPECTACULAR BEAUTY AND IS SOME THIRTY MILES OUT OF WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. HIGHWAY 52., LEADING FROM WINSTON-SALEM TO MT. AIRY IS EAST OF THE PILOT KNOB - WATCH FOR THE SIGNS LEADING TO THE MOUNTAIN.

YOUR EDITOR, MRS. WALTER B. BRAXTON

HEARING OFFICER
C/O PARK SUPERINTENDENT,
GATLINBURG, TENN.

DEAR SIR:

AT THE INSTANCE OF DR. E.C. BROOKS, FORMER PRESIDENT OF STATE COLLEGE, THE UNDERSIGNED WROTE A BROCHURE ON THE FLORA OF THE SMOKY MOUNTAINS. THIS WAS A CONTRIBUTION TO HELP INFLUENCE THE N.C. LEGIS-LATURE TO VOTE THE PURCHASE MONEY THE STATE GAVE.

IN 1932 MY BOOK "THE NATURAL GARDENS OF NORTH CAROLINA" WAS PUBLISHED IN WHICH I DEALT WITH THE MOUNTAIN AREA IN TWO CHAPTERS ENTITLED "THE GREAT FOREST" AND "CHRISTMAS TREE LAND: THE BOREAL FOREST OF OUR HIGH MOUNTAINS."

AS ONE WHO IN 1922 HIKED UP THE OLD TRAIL TO INDIAN GAP (NEW FOUND GAP HAD NOT YET BEEN FOUND) AND THE CREST TRAIL TO CLINGMANS DOME, I AM IN POSITION TO KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE SCIENTIFIC AND SCENIC VALUE OF THE HIGH SMOKIES.

I AM GOING TO BE BLUNT. TO PUT ANY MORE ROADS ACROSS THIS SUR-VIVING WILDERNESS WILL BE A SOCIAL CRIME! IT WILL CHEAT THE COMING GENERATIONS OF SENSITIVE LOVERS OF THE NATURAL WORLD FROM EXPERIENCING THE UNDISTURBED GRANDEUR OF OUR LONGEST AND HIGHEST EASTERN MOUNTAIN RANGE.

THE PEOPLE WHO ARE REALLY INTERESTED IN AND APPRECIATIVE OF OUR MOUNTAIN PRESERVES ARE ALWAYS WILLING AND GLAD TO HIKE MANY MILES TO ENJOY THEM. TO OPEN UP THIS PROPOSED ROAD WILL BE A START ON THE WAY OF DEVELOPING ANOTHER MAGGIE VALLEY.

LET ME REPEAT, IT WILL BE A SOCIAL CRIME TO INITIATE ANY FURTHER INROADS ON THIS REMARKABLE WILDERNESS AREA.

SINCERELY YOURS,

B.W. WELLS
PROFESSOR EMERITUS

MAY 22, 1966

HEARINGS OFFICER:
GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK
GATLINBURG, TENN.

DEAR SIR:

WE, AS INDIVIDUALS, AS MEMBERS, OF THE GREENSBORO WILD FLOWER CLUB, AND THE NORTH CAROLINA WILD FLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC., ALSO THE NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE FEDERATION, URGE THE PRESERVATION OF THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK IN ITS ENTIRETY.

MAN'S DESIRE TO CONQUER THE EARTH, KNOWN AS CIVILIZATION, KEEPS PUSHING THE WILDERNESS BACK AS HE BUILDS ROADS, HOUSES, CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, AND ESTABLISHES BUSINESSES. TODAY SOME WILDERNESS AREA REMAINS, LETS KEEP IT FOR POSTERITY.

SINCERELY,

WALTER B. BRAXTON
VIOLA A. BRAXTON

COPIES TO:

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P.O. BOX 68, ASHEVILLE, N.C.

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