

OHIO FORESTRY

ONE - HUNDRED YEARS



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OHIO FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

ORGANIZED IN 1903

An organization of citizens of Ohio pledged to the expansion, renewal, protection, and proper use of the forest resources of Ohio

Greetings my fellow OFA members and guests:

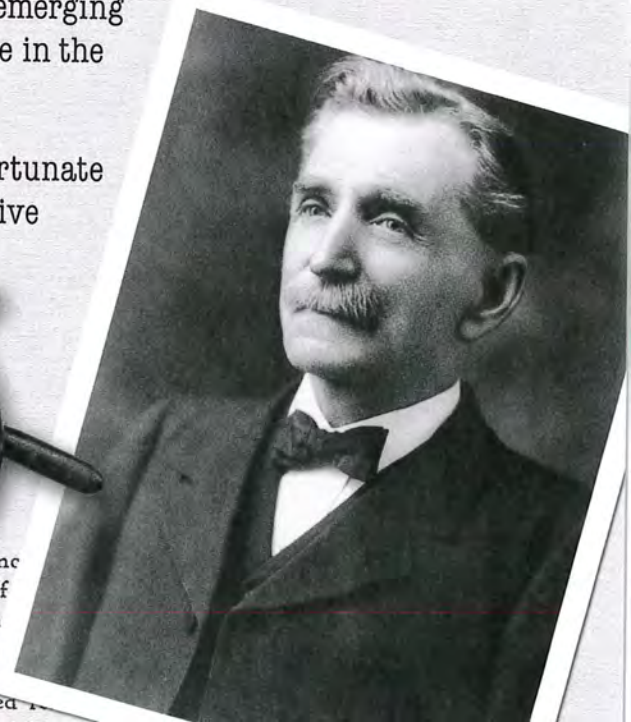
I am William Lazenby, first President of The Ohio State Forestry Society, later to be known as The Ohio Forestry Association. Some of you know me from my work with the Association, others from my responsibilities at The Ohio State University, while others may have crossed paths with me in the forest, mutually enjoying our natural heritage. It is a pleasure to have all of us gathered together in celebration of 100 years of hard work and dedication. This ceremony has been a long time coming for both myself and my colleagues. I hope everyone involved with the Association feels the same sense of pride and fulfillment that I am enjoying right now.

I wanted to share a brief sketch of all that I have witnessed during the past century. During my early career, the Association was but an idea. The colonization efforts of the 1800's had taken a toll on what was once a State filled with majestic trees and other pristine natural resources. It was not so long ago our forests were looked upon as the enemy of farmers trying to raise crops for food and cash. Forest trees were obstacles to be overcome, enemies to be annihilated. As the calendar flipped and the twentieth century began, there was a growing sense of urgency festering among those of us involved with the forests of this Great State. We realized that a change needed to be made in order to combat what I considered the destruction of our forests. And so it was on this belief that during the last month of 1903 we gathered together and officially created The Ohio State Forestry Society. Through this organization, we hoped to make a positive impact on the forests of Ohio including the waterways, the soil and the climate thereby improving all aspects of life for the citizens of this State. At the same time, improving the forests of Ohio would also boost the State's emerging timber industry and help maintain Ohio as a powerful state in the Union.

During the formative years of the Association, I was fortunate to work alongside some of the most intelligent and innovative intellectuals of the age. Included in this cast of scholars was Charles E. Thorne, W.J. Green, Edmund Secret, Horatio Markley, C.W. Wade, J.J. Crumley, and Eugene Mendenhall

PROGRAM

1. The enlargement and expansion of the State Forests and Forest Park System.
2. Extending State forest fire protection to all areas needing protection.
3. Encouragement of the practice of forestry on private lands.
4. Scientific development of wild life resources.
5. Better economic use of forest products.
6. Adequate fire protection.
7. Prevention of forest fires.
8. Flood control and watershed protection.
9. Flood control and watershed protection.
10. Coordinated management of forest resources.



James
Wells
Miss
Baird



George
Wells



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to mention a few. Together we strived to educate the public, especially the farmers and other large landowners regarding the most beneficial ways to manage their respective tracts of Ohio forests. Our earliest efforts included publications, such as *The Ohio Forester*, through which we sought to 'arouse interest in forestry, garner knowledge about trees and encourage cooperation between citizens and government agencies.' It was also at this time that Edmund Secrest directed an official forest land survey in the State with crews traveling the countryside visiting with landowners and offering advice when needed. He is responsible for many of the photographs in this publication.

The twenties and thirties saw continued growth as our Association worked together with other agencies to enhance Ohio's resources. For example, the Civilian Conservation Corps, which was active in Ohio from 1933-1943, helped expand public accessibility to the State's wildland areas by constructing roads and fire towers in many of the State Forests. This time period also produced critical information through research that was conducted at regional Experiment Stations throughout the State.

The late forties and fifties were an extremely exciting time for the Association. Since our organization was growing so rapidly, we decided to appoint William Laybourne as the first Executive Director of the Association. In 1946, the Ohio Tree Farm Program was started. This program encouraged land stewardship and the public's enthusiasm for such efforts. To support renewed interest by landowners and industry in forestry the Paul Bunyan Show was organized. These expositions brought together all those persons, whether they were professionals or just members of the forestry community, who were interested and/or concerned with Ohio's forests. The gatherings provided an open forum where new ideas and practices were discussed and the latest products could be showcased. The Paul Bunyan Show has always proven to be an excellent way of combining education with enjoyment. Similarly, forestry camp for girls and boys sprang up during this time. Once again combining fun with learning about natural resources, these camps proved to be an excellent way to reach future generations of caretakers of the State's valuable assets.

The most recent decades have seen the aforementioned programs and ideas expanded and developed to the point where every corner of Ohio has felt their effects. This was our intent when we set out on this journey and I am pleased to see how far we have come. When the

P R O G R A M

1. The enlargement and extension of the State Forests and Forest Park System.
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3. Encouragement of the practice of forestry on private lands.
4. Scientific development of wild life resources.
5. Preservation of areas of special scenic and scientific interest.
6. Better economic use of sub-marginal land areas.
7. Adequate forestry education.
8. Prevention and control of destructive soil erosion.
9. Flood control and water conservation through watershed protection.
10. Coordinated research in Forestry.
11. State-wide nut tree planting program.



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OHIO FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

ORGANIZED IN 1903

An organization of citizens of Ohio pledged to the expansion, renewal, protection, and proper use of the forest resources of Ohio

Association began, only about 13% of the State was forested and of that, only half could be considered valuable. Now as I look around the State, I see approximately one-third of the land supporting healthy forests and productive ecosystems. Without our time and effort such a vision likely could not be realized. I thank you all for everything you have done and wish you continued success in the future. I will be watching.

Sincerely,

William R. Lazenby

P.S.

Ohio Forestry - One Hundred Years is organized to reflect the social, ecological, and technological forces that influenced the Association and the forest resources. We begin with the decline in forest resources, we outline the recovery, and lastly address the current progress underway. Like our early efforts, this publication is intended to inspire, enlighten, and educate people about the resiliency and diversity of Ohio forests and individuals from the forestry community. This publication is a work in progress with additional installments planned for future issues of the "Ohio Woodlands Magazine".

Forest management requires a vision and dedication, likewise this publication is the result of many dedicated individuals who inspired each other with creativity and support: Contributing authors Ron Cornell, Betty Thornton, Jeff Bartz (who wrote my letter), Scott Broseus, Jacob Hahn, Tim Long, Carrie Mahl, Matt McQueen, Pat Migliozi, and Ray Williams; Interviews with: Harris Willis, Bob Nelson, Bill Cowen, Bob Touse and Wayne Lashbrook; Gina Whaley and Faith Wilson.

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1926. OFA Meeting at Waterloo.

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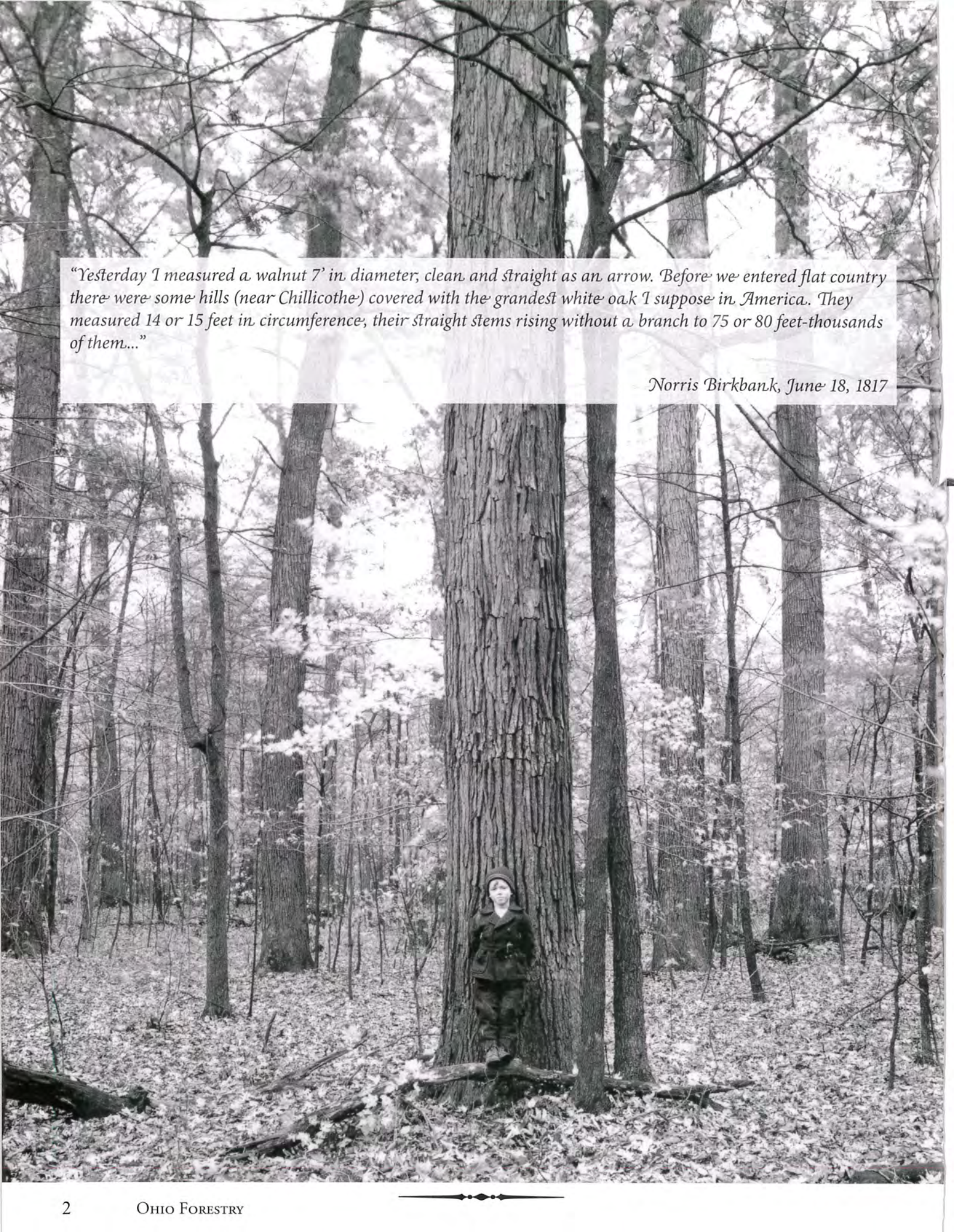
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A black and white photograph of a forest. In the center, a person wearing a dark coat and a hat stands next to a large, textured tree trunk, providing a sense of scale. The forest floor is covered in fallen leaves and branches. Other trees of varying heights and thicknesses are visible in the background.

"Yesterday I measured a walnut 7' in diameter, clean and straight as an arrow. Before we entered flat country there were some hills (near Chillicothe) covered with the grandest white oak I suppose in America. They measured 14 or 15 feet in circumference, their straight stems rising without a branch to 75 or 80 feet-thousands of them..."

Norris Birkbank, June 18, 1817

100 Years of Ohio Forestry

A CENTENNIAL PUBLICATION

Ohio Forests: The Decline

As the early settlers of the 1800's traveled west into the unknown expanse referred to as the Northwest Territory, they encountered a setting the likes of which they had never before witnessed. 'Wilderness', as it was fearfully called, extended thick and overbearing in all directions. So thick, in fact, that game trails were the only means by which to navigate the landscape. These trails brought the settlers into a world of overwhelming richness, complete with sparkling streams, lush, green undergrowth and majestic trees that were taller and thicker than previously thought possible. Ashes and elms, buckeyes, walnuts and chestnuts, oaks and hickories all covered the land, growing straight and tall into the sky. It has been said that the gray squirrel, which thrived under such conditions, could leave from the banks of the Ohio River and, hopping from limb to limb, make it all the way to the Mighty Mississippi without ever once treading on the ground. The settlers, however, were treading on the ground, as they sought to 'tame' this new territory and extend the colonization efforts that had proved so successful along the east coast. As they progressed into the area now known as Ohio, the settlers sought out those parcels that included the largest, most healthy-looking trees, figuring this to be a strong indication of land fertility. Their first order of business then was to cut down the mighty trees in order to utilize the lumber for their shelters, fence posts and fuel. Also, this helped clear the land for crop production. This arduous task demanded strength and time, but the men proved to be determined. Between 1815 and 1840, land clearing for the purpose of settlement drastically reduced the amount of forested land in the state. Such rapid removal brought about secondary problems as the environment reacted to the changes. For example, those gray squirrels, which previously had been hopping about freely, now found themselves scurrying through fields of corn. Here, they began feeding on this new delicacy, and in turn irritated the farmers. Squirrels were such a problem, that one of the first acts passed by the Ohio legislature required each man in the state to annually present 100 squirrel scalps to the township trustee, with bonuses for exceeding the requirement or sanctions for failing to meet it. Clearly, during the 1800's, man was determined to show his dominance over nature, and would proceed to do so even into the early parts of the following century.



1941. Portable mill, Holmes County. Cut 260MBF., chiefly car blocking. Sells for \$26.00 delivered to a steel mill in Massillon.

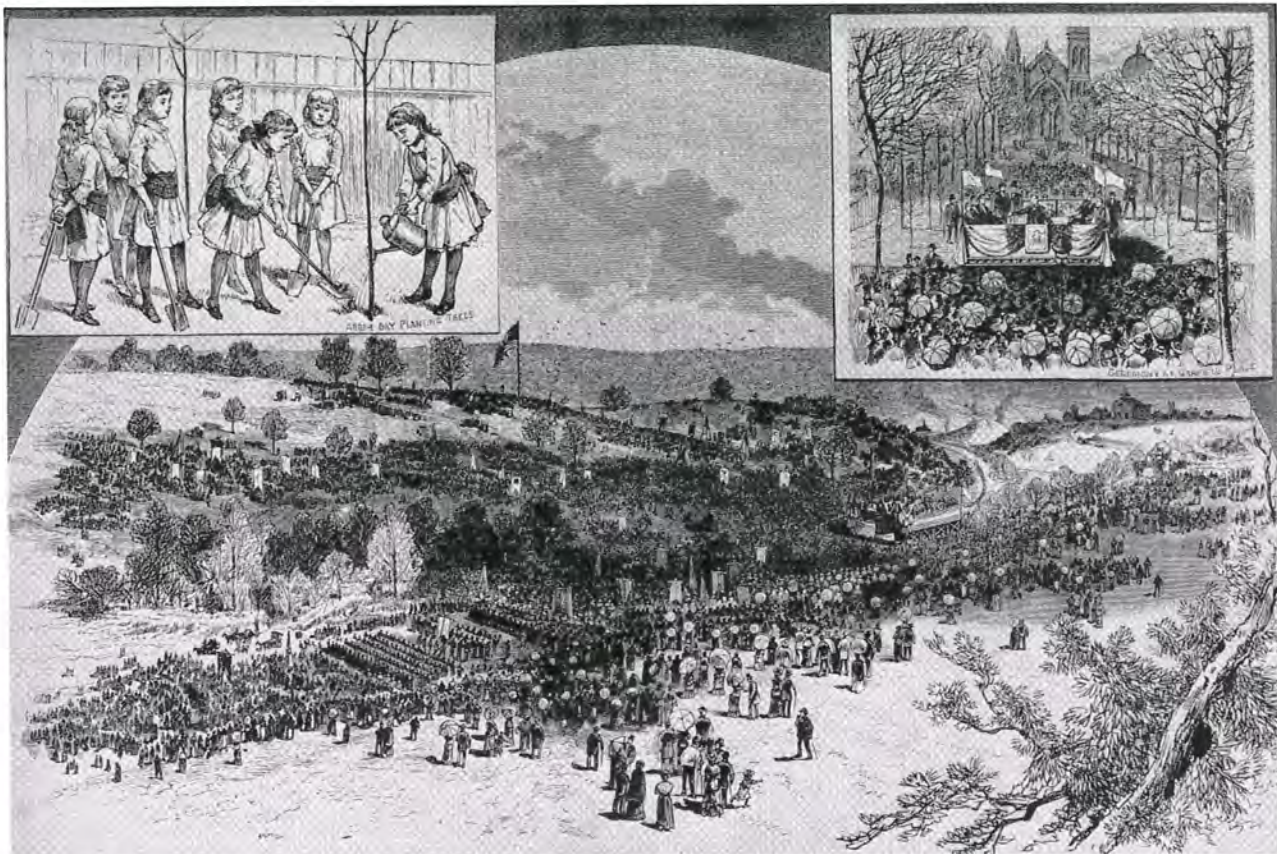


While clearing the land for agricultural purposes was a common practice for the majority of the Midwest, there was another factor specific to the state of Ohio that greatly increased the numbers of trees felled within her boundaries. The burning of logs to fuel iron furnaces was one of the main causes for deforestation in Ohio between 1818 and 1875. These furnaces, which were more or less congregated in the southeastern section of the state, required immense amounts of heat to operate efficiently. The production of charcoal as a fuel source for these iron furnaces intensified the already aggressive assault on Ohio's vegetative resources. Together, settlement efforts and charcoal production combined to reduce the state's woodlands to around 10% of the total land cover by the turn of the century.



Loaded charcoal wagon, Jefferson furnace, Jackson, OH.

One of the first individuals to campaign for forest conservation in the United States was Dr. John Warder. In the mid 1800's he established a crude experimental station in Northbend, Ohio that would serve as his base of operations for the next 30 years. From this field laboratory, Dr. Warder produced revolutionary findings concerning agriculture and forest techniques. It was on these findings that America's first organized forestry association, the American Forestry Association, was based. Under Dr. Warder's guidance, the AFA attempted to solve the current problems facing the Nation's forests at this time. Their efforts led to the First American Forestry Congress, held in Cincinnati, Ohio on April 25, 1882. This session brought key forestry figures from throughout the country, as well as a few international guests, into the state of Ohio. The goal of this and subsequent sessions was to heighten public consciousness as to the need for forest conservation.



Planting memorial trees in Eden park, Cincinnati, at the Forestry Congress of 1882. Leslie's Illustrated Weekly Newspaper.

Encouraged by the activities of the AFA, it was around this time that the forest community in Ohio first began to truly become established. This union came about as a result of growing concern for the rapid disappearance of the area's natural resources and out of frustration with the failings of previous attempts to become organized. While previous groups had operated around the state since about the 1880's, they lacked cohesion and were insufficiently guided. In contrast, the Ohio State Forestry Society, which would come to be known as the Ohio Forestry Association, was officially created on December 11, 1903 and quickly developed into a reputable presence throughout the state. Fulfilling the role of the first president for the organization was William R. Lazenby, who was also serving as a professor of Horticulture at the Ohio State University. The early partnership between the OFA and OSU demonstrates the two most significant tenets upon which the organization prides itself: education and cooperation. The OFA felt that the most important tool they had was their knowledge of forest ecology and the role it played in creating healthy forest ecosystems. The members also felt that Ohio was still capable of producing and sustaining such environments. Therefore, they believed the best way to save the state's forests was to educate its caretakers. Through communication and cooperation, the OFA sought to reach all landowners in the state and talk with them about the best manner to manage their respective plots of land. It was under Lazenby's guidance that support and membership in the OFA grew and significant changes were made with respect to how Ohio's resources were viewed and utilized.



To a Walnut Tree

*The old walnut tree is doomed to go,
Passing years have made it so.
Fear of war and brooding gloom
Bring need of walnut timber soon.*

*The tree that gave Walnut Lawn its name,
That welcomed everyone who came,
Yes, the family heirloom must die
No more to cheer the passersby.*

*No more bird nests in the bough
No more farmer's rest from the plow
At noon to recline under the shade
The dear old walnut tree has made.*

*No more will children jump around
To gather walnuts from the ground.
No more the family dinners here
To enjoy the cooling shade and cheer.*

*No more their laughter will resound
As they gather from the country around.
The old lawn swing its part has played,
It's no use now without the shade.*

*On winter nights no more we'll see
The moon and stars peep through the tree.
No more it'll stand a watch on time
To bravely face each storm and clime.*

*A sentinel on guard and seasons through
To watch the things a family will do,
Of births, weddings, death it can tell
Could we but linger near a spell.*

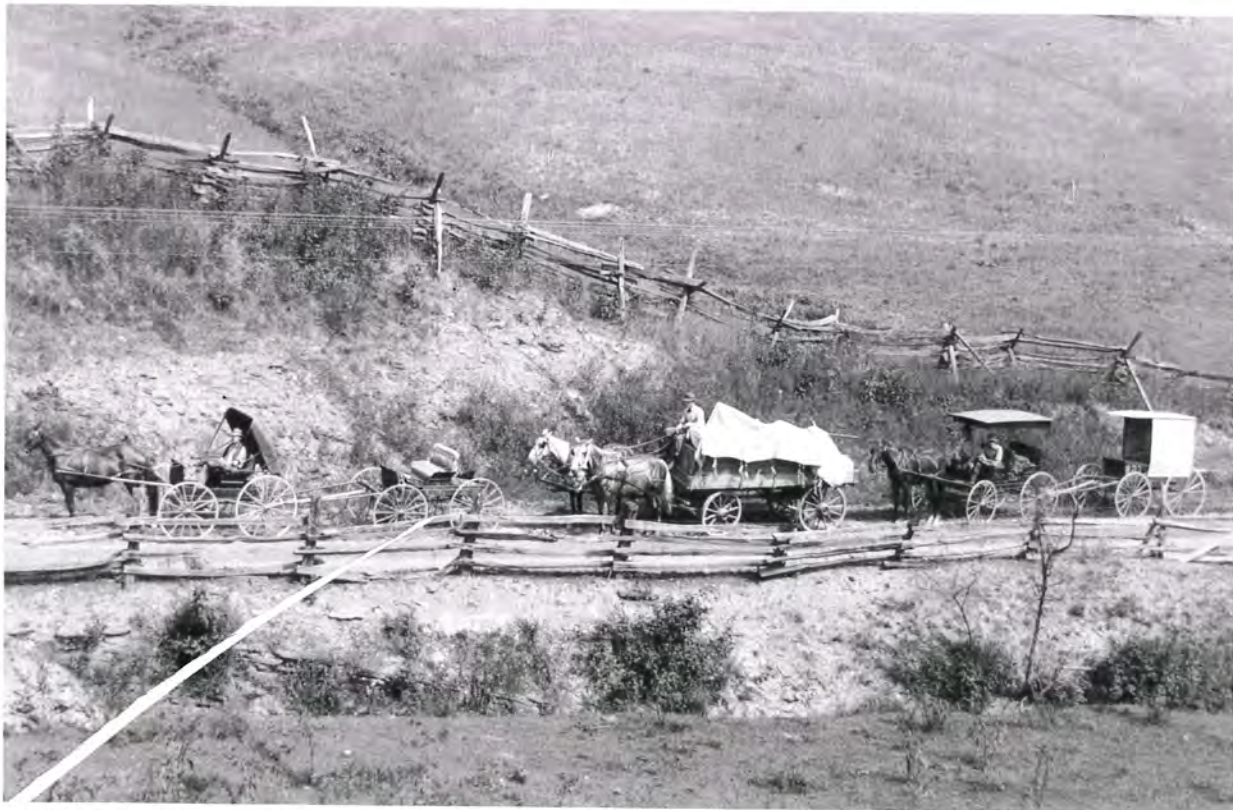
*Of children small who now are grown
Who left the farm to make a home.
But memories still will linger there...
To kill the old tree doesn't seem fair.*

*For God made it as he made me
To live and grow from danger free;
To lift its boughs as I lift my hand
To praise the Lord for all we stand.*

*To grow and rise to heights unknown
Till God sees fit to call us home.
And may our lives be a living light
To help guide others to do what's right.*

—OLO ROHRER LINGENFELTER

As stated earlier, an initial goal of the OFA was to communicate one on one with the state's landowners. To this point, a crew led by Edmond Secrest set out in the fall of 1906 to survey not only the people but the land as well. Secrest and his party traveled extensively throughout the state and accomplished two major acts. First, they conversed with the landowners and gained a sense of how these individuals viewed the woodland areas. Secondly, the survey crews were able to get an accurate assessment concerning the current condition of the state's trees. Their efforts generated a new train of thought that dictated the efforts of the OFA for the next 40 years. Namely, since Secrest's data showed the majority of timber in the state was located on farmer's woodlots, the "forestry work in Ohio should be done not in the reforestation of large areas of state-owned land but in the improvement of the woodlot of the small farm." To do this, it was crucial that the farmer realize the monetary potential of his timber. Otherwise, he likely would not show interest and continue to mismanage his land. So it was, that some of the earliest forestry programs of the OFA focused on communicating with and educating the farmers of the state as to the benefits of healthy forests.



1908. Forest Survey Party on the move.



A principal method of communication employed by the OFA involved a quarterly publication entitled, *The Ohio Forester*. The periodical, which was funded by the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station in Wooster, was in publication from 1909 until 1919. During its ten-year history, *The Ohio Forester* sought to generate public interest for forestry related causes and to educate its readers about preserving and improving Ohio's woodlands. The pages also served as a format to display the latest research findings generated at the various research stations located throughout the state. *The Ohio Forester* was the first in a successful series of magazines to be turned out by the OFA. As we will see in the coming pages, these publications are extremely valuable to the OFA as both educational and promotional vehicles.



VOL. I

APRIL, 1909

No. I

FOREST SONG

Read at the first meeting of the American Forestry Congress
in Music Hall, Cincinnati April 19, 1882.

A song for the beautiful trees!
A song for the forest grand,
The Garden of God's own hand,
The pride of His centuries.
Hurrah! for the kingly oak,
For the maple, the sylvan queen,
For the lords of the emerald cloak,
For the ladies in golden green.

For the beautiful trees a song!
The peers of a glorious realm,
The linden, the ash, and the elm,
The poplar stately and strong,—
For the birch and the hemlock trim,
For the hickory staunch at core,
For the locust thorny and grim,
For the silvery sycamore.



A song for the palm,—the pine,
And for every tree that grows,
From the desolate zone of snows
To the zone of the burning line;
Hurrah! for the warders proud
Of the mountainside and the vale,
That challenge the thunder-cloud,
And buffet the stormy gale.

A song for the forest, aisled,
With its Gothic roof sublime,
The solemn temple of Time,
Where man becometh a child.
As he listens the anthem-roll
Of the voiceful winds that call,
In the solitude of his soul,
On the name of All-in-All.

So long as the rivers flow,
So long as the mountains rise,
May the foliage drink of the skies
And shelter the flowers below;
Hurrah! for the beautiful trees!
Hurrah! for the forest grand,
The pride of His centuries,
The Garden of God's own hand.
W. H. Venable.

1927. D.H. Jeffers' portable steam sawmill operating in the woods, Vinton County, OH.



OLD SAWMILL PRAYER!

Three sawmill men once hid themselves
Behind a slab conveyer
And kneeling on their patched-up pants
One offered up this prayer:

“Dear Lord, I know we’re crazy
But we’ve always been that way
And if it’s not against the law
There’s some things we would like to say

All through the winter we have had
The weather has been swell,
But we’ve made too many boards
And the market’s gone to hell

Oh can’t you bring a snow storm on?
Or just a little flood?
Or can’t you touch an earthquake off?
‘Twould do us so much good

The order file hangs like a shroud
Upon the office wall
The side track’s getting rusty
And the piles are getting tall

And we are growing older
As the years slip quickly by
All we ask is to break even
Just a while before we die

Oh, give us trees with a lot of clear
And heavy to the acre
Oh, fill our sheds with high priced stock
And then send on a taker

Oh give us belts that don’t wear out
And boilers full of steam
And give us men that crave to work
And are not what they seem

Oh fill our banker’s heart with love
And school team in affection
And keep the sheriff and his gang
From coming this direction

Now we’re not asking very much
We’re used to being busted
But Lady Luck has left us cold
She’s no more to be trusted

And if you can’t do all these things
Why, please don’t fool around’
But give us courage in our hearts
And guts to shut’er down.”

Around this time, the OFA activities were lessened as the country turned its attention to the conflict with Germany. Activities in Ohio's forests however continued substantially. The first World War drew heavily on the resources of the United States and Ohio was no exception. The armies needed guns and rifles while the navy needed ships. All of these products relied on wood products for construction. Black locust was the wood of choice due to its resistance to cracking, swelling, warping and shrinking. Oak, ash and black walnut were also heavily harvested during this time period to make products ranging from wagons and crates for shipping to hoes and shovels for trench digging. Charcoal production in the state's remaining furnaces again saw an increase as the demand for iron



1959. Emptying Charcoal kiln. Tri-State Charcoal Co., Mr. Dave Adkins right, Oak Hill.

products increased. This meant that the already depleted forests of the state were again subjected to intense cuttings. One difference however, was that this time around the foresters were better informed and had more of an influence when it came to what and where trees were harvested. For instance, only black walnut greater than 12 inches in diameter were allowed to be cut, thereby ensuring a future crop for this valuable species. This action, albeit a slight one, demonstrated a concern for the future and for the first time displayed a sense of conservation with respect to the natural world. It also displayed a national sentiment centering on the importance of productive natural resources as being fundamental to the overall success as a nation. Ohio's natural resources were anything but productive at this point in time and as the War drew to a close, Ohioans were faced with the significant challenge of trying to ameliorate the damage.

Near the close of the 1920's, the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station initiated the publication of a quarterly magazine devoted to the forestry program in Ohio. *Ohio Forest News* was similar to *The Ohio Forester* in that it concentrated on education and stewardship for the state's natural resources. This periodical, however, did not directly involve the OFA. It was edited though by Robert R. Paton, an individual who, as we will see later, would go on to be a major contributor to the OFA during the nineteen fifties and sixties.

The late nineteen twenties and early thirties were bleak times for the nation as the fall of the stock market led to political instability and ultimately, the Great Depression. Ohio was especially hard pressed during this time period as the state also had to deal with the most severe drought in its history. The drought devastated the farmer's crops and added many more individuals to the already significant numbers of unemployed in the state. The lack of significant rainfall also led to the worst fire season the state had ever seen. An estimated 15,000 acres were lost to the powerful blazes that included crown fires, a forest fire phenomenon otherwise unheard of for eastern deciduous regions such as Ohio.



1928. D. Jewett using DB Smith knapsack spray tank on burning swag-cut.





1917. Loading a log wagon. Lodi Lumber Co., Lodi, OH.

A significant setback occurred around this time that left a profound impact on the Ohio landscape. The fungal disease chestnut blight effectively eliminated the American chestnut from Ohio's forests. This tree had once comprised nearly fifty percent of all forest trees for the state. Its durable wood was highly valued by the timber industry and had been used over the years to produce telephone poles, railroad ties and fence posts. Many area sawmills relied solely upon the chestnut tree for business. As a result of the disease, many of these operations were forced to shut down. The impact of chestnut blight demonstrated how sensitive the environment is to outside influences. As a result of the devastation, area research stations increased their efforts focusing on plant disease and resistance.



1916. Chestnut posts ready for shipment, Campbell, OH., Lawrence County.

In response to the struggles, numerous federal programs were created as a way of helping citizens to regroup and states to rebuild. President Franklin D. Roosevelt's landmark program 'The New Deal' provided relief by creating jobs in various agencies such as Works Progress Administration (WPA) and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Of these programs, it was the CCC that proved to have the most lasting effect on Ohio's natural resources. The CCC was established in Ohio in 1933 and remained active until 1942. Within two years of its inception, the program had established about 13 camps throughout the state putting an estimated 2,600 individuals to work. The CCC initially focused on soil erosion issues for the state. Later, they began focusing their efforts on fire protection and prevention, which led to an extensive forest fire control network to be used when battling flare-ups. During their nine-year existence, the CCC constructed steel lookout towers within all state forests. They also constructed over 200 miles of roads in and around the state forest lands, increasing accessibility and recreational opportunities for visitors. The building of other recreational facilities, such as picnic shelters and public restrooms, along with the planting of millions of trees can also be listed as significant contributions that the CCC made to the state. In fact, some of the older tree plantings currently located in southern Ohio can be traced back to CCC origins.



1934. CCC, Shawnee Camp No. 1

Another noteworthy federal program that left its mark on Ohio forestry was the Land Utilization Program (LUP). The appointed manager for the program, Rex Tugwell, proposed buying large blocks of marginal farms that would then be converted to forestland for wildlife, timber and recreational purposes. As a result of these undertakings, three state parks were created. Tar Hollow State Forest in Ross County, Zaleski State Forest in Vinton County and Blue Rock State Forest in Muskingum County all came to be as a result of the LUP. Together, these parks account for nearly 40,000 acres and offer access to some of the state's most historic recreational areas.

The aforementioned federal programs greatly helped pull the nation out of its slump as new jobs raised spirits in anticipation of a brighter future. Although the country would again be involved in a global conflict and suffer immeasurable losses, the war effort once again drew upon the state's resources, thereby revitalizing the state's stagnant timber industry. It was a new beginning of sorts as the state was finally poised and ready to focus on the future. ■



1947. O. A. Alderman, John H. Byrne, and Horatio Ford tree farm dedication.

Ohio Forests: The Recovery

The late 1940's could arguably be considered the most crucial time period in American history. With the war coming to an end and thousands of citizens returning to their homesteads, the nation was energized in such a manner that it had not been since the turn of the century. Families were together again and neighborhoods felt complete as all thoughts focused on the future. As these families and these neighborhoods concentrated on the coming years, the inevitable byproduct was growth; growth in family size, growth in house size and growth in needs.

With the economy going well, people wanted places to relax and enjoy themselves in the outdoors. This led to the acquisition of new lands and state parks. By the end of the nineteen forties, 136,628 acres had been set-aside for this purpose. It was around this time that the Ohio Division of Forestry published Forestry Publication #75, entitled "A Twenty Year Plan for Establishing a More Adequate System of State Forest and Forest Parks in Ohio." The plan called for the creation of seven new forests or forest-parks and additional land purchases on all established forests in an attempt to block in existing ownership. One of the resulting purchases of the plan was the Shawnee State Forest, considered to be "the largest consolidated block of wild land in the state."

A major project that was created during this time period focused on generating interest in the state's forestry program. The Ohio Tree Farm System, initially developed in 1946, was an offshoot of a successful nationwide program entitled the American Tree Farm System. This system was designed to accomplish a variety of objectives. Recent research had proven that the overall benefit of trees went well beyond the value of timber to include improved waterways and soil conditions. Therefore, the initial goal of the system was to improve resource quality in the state through an increased number of trees. Also, in what has been and will continue to be a recurring theme in Ohio policy, the Ohio Tree Farm System sought to educate the state's private landowners as to the most efficient methods to manage their respective trees. As is consistent with Ohio history, most of the state's majority landowners at this time were farmers. Therefore, management efforts of this kind tended to focus on woodlot management. Two simple principles, initially introduced around the 1920's, were again being preached to the farmers: Replant trees in your woodlot and keep your animals out. By doing so, these landowners would be practicing a more sustainable way of management, one that would help ensure healthy ecosystems and productive harvests for the future. The Ohio Tree Farm System was an innovative undertaking that has proven to be effective for the state's resources. The system continues today and serves as one of the best examples of cooperation between private landowners and professional officials.



1946. Louis Bromfield's (left) tree farm dedication.

CONSERVATION & HUMAN WELFARE

Unquestionably the most important event in American history since the founding of the Republic and the preservation of the Union is the great conservation program now in steady progress. As a means of preserving and creating wealth, its possibilities are limitless. But that is only the material side of the program; there are as well many other sides contributing to the beauty of the country and the well-being of the citizens.

The United States of America has suffered from too much natural wealth and too much land. That condition has steadily contributed toward making a naturally careless and wasteful people infinitely more careless and wasteful, until a few farseeing individuals who will go down in history as great men, saw danger signals ahead and began working to conserve instead of wasting the incalculable wealth bestowed by God and nature upon the citizens of our rich and wasteful Democracy.

Louis Bromfield

Another important development that affected the OFA in 1949 involved the creation of a state governmental agency known as the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. ODNR and its major Divisions would now be headquartered in the state capital of Columbus. This included the Division of Forestry, which had previously been based out of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station in Wooster. However, legislature at the time of ODNR's inception stated that forest research would be allowed to continue at the Wooster facilities under the supervision of Oliver Diller.



1928. Association of State Foresters, Wooster Arboretum.

Up until this point, the Ohio Forestry Association had functioned under competent, yet unchanneled management. The growth of the OFA and the increase in governmental activity called for a more permanent leadership role to be created. Accordingly motivated, the OFA began searching for a candidate worthy of the title, Executive Director. And so it was, that on July 1, 1948, William Laybourne became the first to serve in this capacity. Laybourne has been described by colleagues as being a “public relations wizard” whose strengths as a fundraiser lay within his professionalism and strong devotion to organization. Laybourne would serve as Executive Director for 15 years, carrying the organization into 1963 and setting the standard for all future men and women who would stand in this position.



1960. William Laybourne, OFA Executive Director, driving a Go Kart on Perry Co. Fairgrounds during Paul Bunyan Forestry Exposition.

It was during Laybourne's tenure that another key player was inserted into a leadership position within the OFA. In 1950, Robert Paton was hired to serve as the organization's head forester. Paton would fulfill these duties until Laybourne's retirement in 1963, upon which he was appointed the second Executive Director of the OFA. Both men worked tirelessly to promote forestry within the state of Ohio and through these efforts, helped take the OFA to new levels of achievement. The combination of William Laybourne and Bob Paton proved to be exactly what the OFA needed in its quest to take the OFA philosophy to the citizens of Ohio. Under their period of influence, several groundbreaking programs were initiated including educational short courses, publications and promotional expositions.

As stated earlier, the combination of Laybourne and Paton was extremely effective at educating the citizens of Ohio. It was in Paton's first year as association forester that perhaps the most significant program of the age was developed. The OFA's Forestry Camp, first held in 1950, was a week long camp devoted to the future generations of land stewards in the state, i.e. high school boys and girls. The program sought to "enhance the youth's understanding and respect for the environment and to ensure the wise use of the state's natural resources." Campers learn these principles in four primary areas. The first topic emphasizes forest ecology, or the relationship of plants and animals to the environment. A second subject is dendrology. Dendrology is essentially tree identification and can be an extremely valuable skill to possess as it allows for a deeper understanding of the natural world. Following this lesson, campers are now able to differentiate between white oak and red oak, or sugar maple from red maple. A third area in which campers receive instruction centers on silviculture. This scientific discipline deals with proper harvesting techniques and other methods of forest cultivation. Wise-use principles and sustainable forestry options are introduced while learning about silviculture. Finally, students at the OFA's Forestry Camp are introduced to the many different forest products that can be derived from the state's timber resources. During this portion of the camp, the ins and outs of the timber industry are broken down for the students, including an inside look at a functioning sawmill. Other fun



1963. Forestry Camp- Classes. Utilization demonstration by Robert Paton.



1996. Sawmill demonstration during Forestry Camp, Carrollton, OH.

and exciting aspects of the weeklong event include hands-on learning courses in areas such as chainsaw operation and soil conservation. For many of the campers, this can be a very influential week. The friends made and lessons learned tend to stick with the young adults as they mature into responsible landowners. Sometimes, as was the case with Irving Dickman, Robert Redett and David Bergman, young foresters will serve as camp counselors before moving on in their respective careers. Each of these three gentlemen were involved with the OFA Forestry Camp



1963. Training Camp Class Work. Robert Redett addressing group class in recreation. Camp Wesley.

early in their careers and later went on to serve as directors within the ODNR Division of Forestry. These counselors fulfill a vital role as both educators and leaders. The experience of serving as an OFA camp counselor benefits the young men and women attending the camp as well as the instructor. With the exception of 1952 and 1956, the OFA Forestry Camp has been held every year since its inception and continues to be an exciting and fun way to educate young people.

In 1952, Governor Frank J. Lausche signed a proclamation designating April as conservation month. The promotion of this event was to plant ten million trees across the state. Sixteen million trees were actually planted. The "Plant Ohio" program contributed to the acquisition of the nursery near Zanesville. Although the plantings under this program helped to reforest Ohio, the conversion of abandoned agricultural land through natural succession was also significant.



During this time period, the wood products industry in Ohio experienced substantial growth as a direct result of increased technology in harvesting equipment and sawmill machinery. Logging is an extremely labor intensive process that has always required strength and maximum effort from its participants. The advent of the mechanized hand saw, also known as the chainsaw, not only made felling trees easier, but it also enabled loggers to produce twice as many logs in half the time. Just as the tractor replaced the mule, the chainsaw quickly replaced the handsaw and soon became a staple among logging crews throughout the state. Stakebed trucks also gained popularity around this time as a more efficient method for transporting large quantities of sawlogs. In comparison to railroads, these vehicles gave loggers more options as to where they were able to ship their harvest. The most significant advancement of the age, however, involved the rubber tired log skidder and front-end loader. These machines enabled loggers



1962. Fork Lift Truck, Howdyshell Lumber Company, John Deere Tractor.

to reach terrain that previously was impossible to access. As a result, timber quantities increased significantly. Mechanized technology such as the chainsaw and the advent of heavy equipment like the rubber tire skidder, the forklift and the bulldozer revolutionized harvesting techniques and signified a new age in timber harvesting.

Perhaps just as revolutionary, were the developments associated with the sawmill industry. In the 1900's, the portable steam powered engine enabled lumbering to be done in the woods. Using horses, loggers would drag the



1958. Portable mill, Homer Chambers, Port Washington.



mills into the forest, harvest those trees that were nearby and then proceed onward to the next stand. They would live in makeshift “shantytowns” as they spent months at a time traveling through the woods. This method, though difficult, proved to be quite popular as an estimated 1,400 portable sawmills were functioning during the late nineteen forties. However, in the coming decade, two new timber markets were opened up that led to sawmills favoring more permanent sites to serve as their base of operation. First of all, slabs, which previously were treated as waste products, became valuable as fuel sources. Also, the wooden pallet became a valuable product. Pallets could be constructed out of low-grade lumber that previously had been considered useless. Since sawmills now were essentially utilizing all components of the tree, it made more sense for the companies to settle down in one location, easing the burden of the loggers and increasing efficiency.



1960. Paul Bunyan Sign at New Lexington.

The OFA was a strong supporter of the technological advancements that were taking place in the timber industry. In an attempt to boost the industry even more, the organization set out to create an event that would spotlight such achievements. On the weekend of September 25&26, 1957 in McArthur, Ohio, the state’s first ever Paul Bunyan Show was held. Emmett A. Conway, Sr. was the general chairman and prime motivator of the industry exposition. Mr. Conway was superintendent of the D.B. Frampton plant of the Baker Wood Preserving

Company in McArthur. Mr. Frampton provided much of the financing for the exposition. Initially hailed as a Forestry Exposition, the weekend was a tribute to the efforts of those involved with the forestry profession. The Paul Bunyan Show served as a stage where new forestry technology could be presented to the public. It also created an open forum where current ideas could be discussed and opinions could be shared. An open dialogue such as this had never before been available for those in the timber industry. Now an entire weekend was being set-aside solely for such a purpose. Likewise, new forest products could be showcased by those in the industry trying to make a name for themselves or by those who wanted to introduce their product into the market. Display areas were set up as platforms for the latest machinery. Also, in attempt to keep the weekend entertaining, competitions between loggers



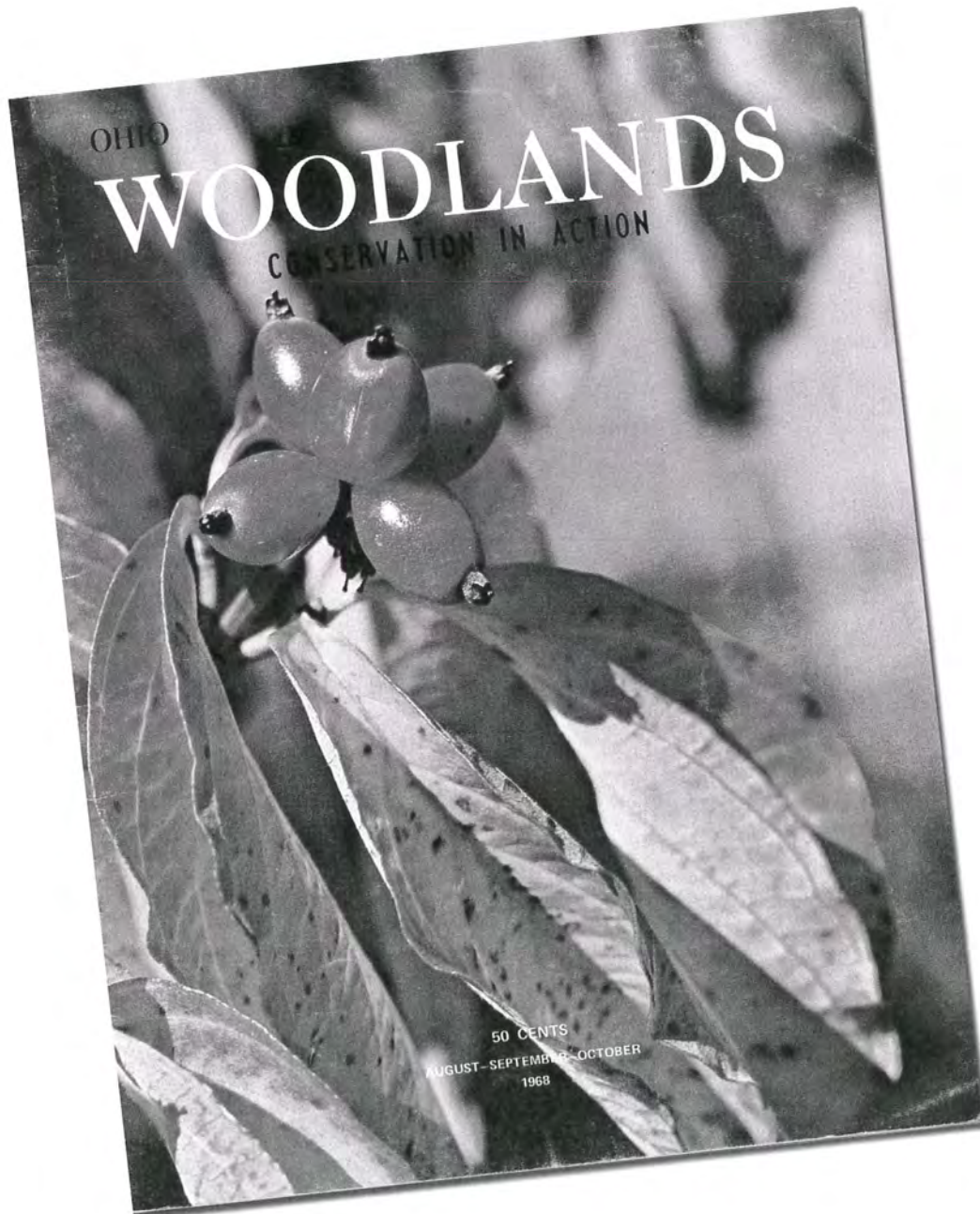
1960. Paul Bunyan Show. Forrest Edwards, competing in chain saw contest.

were held with events ranging from logrolling to axe tosses. Vendors occupied booths and sold whatever they could to both fellow professionals and interested members of the public. All in all, it was a grand success for both the forest industry and the citizens of the state. The cooperative nature of the event clearly demonstrated OFA philosophy. It is no surprise then that the Paul Bunyan Show became a fixture on the OFA's yearly schedule of events. Clearly these weekend spectacles do an excellent job of providing a stimulating atmosphere in which everyday citizens can enjoy the world of forestry.



1960. Overall view of Paul Bunyan Forestry Exposition, Perry County Fairgrounds, New Lexington, OH.

In 1963, when Robert Paton succeeded William Laybourne as Executive Director of the OFA, the state of Ohio and the nation as a whole was struggling with the difficulties of the era. There were so many large-scale emotional issues being discussed and fought over that drumming up support for local forestry initiatives often proved to be a fruitless endeavor. The OFA had limited funds as most of the fund-raising activities during this time period drew limited support. In response to the sagging interest, Paton and his staff, which at the time included persons such as William Cowan, James Meter and Fred Brokaw, sought to rekindle awareness for forestry related issues in the state. They decided that an effective way to accomplish this goal was through a resource-related publication. So it was that in 1963 the first issue of *Ohio Woodlands* was produced. This quarterly magazine strived to discuss the



issues related to natural resources in and around the state. *Ohio Woodlands* has also served as a promotional tool for the OFA that enables supporters to have a tangible source documenting any current OFA activity. Similarly, it serves as a promotional tool for the vast array of natural wonders located throughout the state with feature articles that highlight different state and city parks. Around 1965, the magazine began carrying the independent publication *Conservation in Action* which had been circulating on its own throughout the state since 1962. Both periodicals, especially *Conservation in Action*, stressed popular philosophies that had been gaining popularity in recent years. Namely, conservation and wise-use practices were addressed. While these were in no way 'new' concepts, the sixties definitely were a time when their messages were brought to center stage. Articles found within the pages of *Conservation in Action* often focused on ways to conserve resources, with topics that ranged from such issues as soil erosion and runoff to coal mine reclamation projects. Only three years after its inception, a program that would effectively place the *Ohio Woodlands* magazine and accompanying insert *Conservation in Action* into every school and library of the state was initiated. *Ohio Woodlands* is still in circulation today and continues to be a strong voice for the OFA.



Volume 2, Number 9 OHIO FORESTRY ASSOCIATION, INC., COLUMBUS 15, OHIO November, 1963

TALKING IN THEIR SLEEP

"You think I am dead,"
The apple tree said,
"Because I have never a leaf to show—
Because I stoop,
And my branches droop,
And the dull grey mosses over me grow!
But I'm alive in trunk and shoot,
The buds of May
I fold away—
But I pity the withered grass at my root!"

"You think I am dead,"
The quick grass said,
"Because I have parted with stem and blade,
But under the ground
I am safe and sound
With the snow's thick blanket over me laid.
I'm all alive and ready to shoot,
Should the spring of the year
Come dancing here—
But I pity the flower without branch or root!"

"You think I am dead,"
A soft voice said,
"Because not a branch or root I own!
I never have died
But close I hide,
In a plummy seed that the wind has sown,
Patient I wait through the long winter hours;
You will see me again—
I shall laugh at you then,
Out of the eyes of a hundred flowers!"
—EDITH M. THOMAS

TRANSFORMED

Black now the fields, once lush and green
Where pheasants hatched their young unseen,
Where mouse and cricket could safely crawl
Unnoticed and undisturbed, till Fall.
And bare now the trees whose wealth of shade
The summer's sun and rain had made
Inhabited now by squirrels who store
Gold ears of corn, and nuts galore.
Quiet the frog and the noisy cricket,
And dry the gentian in grassy thicket,
Scarlet now is the thorn-apple tree
In autumn a handsome sight to see.
But this is merely a change of scene;
What now is bare will again be green.
We take new hope and again we plan
And so together, work Nature and Man.
—ANONYMOUS

Creative Writing from
SCHOOL CAMPERS

GOD'S KINGDOM
As I walk through God's kingdom
I see his forests, valleys, and hills.
The masses of orange, red, yellow
colored trees.
Wild animal friends, scampering
and scatterings at their feet.
The lake is a mirror of blue,
shimmering in the sunlight.
The sky o'er our head is soft and
hazy in the Autumn months.
It is a picture for an artist to
paint.

—STEVE GILMORE
6th Grade
Woodland School
Canton, Ohio

More important than the valuable information which these publications contained was what these publications symbolized. Works such as these demonstrated a significant change in the way the public was looking at the natural world. The "interconnectedness" of the environment was for the first time given serious consideration. More importantly, it was awarded credibility as article after article was written with facts that supported this theory. It was on this premise that the radical rethinking associated with the environmental movement of the nineteen seventies was based.

It should be noted that Robert Paton retired as Executive Director of the OFA in 1966. To replace him, the organization selected Tom M. Higgins, who proved to be an excellent promoter for the OFA and its undertakings. Tom Higgins would serve as Executive Director until 1976. During his tenure, the organization remained dedicated to its most recent successes, namely the production of *Ohio Woodlands* and the promotion of fund-raising events such as the Paul Bunyan Show. In fact, it was in 1974 that Higgins moved the Paul Bunyan Show to its current host city, Nelsonville, Ohio on the campus of Hocking College. At that time Hocking College and the Ohio Forestry Association became co-sponsors of the Paul Bunyan Show. Higgins was also responsible for organizing other such expositions that put the latest in forestry technology on display. These meetings are a critical component to Ohio forestry as the latest and most up to date products help timber companies operate safely and efficiently.

Ohio timber industry shows important changes

A new technological development that will probably affect pulpwood production in the future is total-tree harvesting, according to the Forest Service report. The system is especially well suited for hardwood stands, allowing more complete utilization with higher yields, while avoiding logging residues.

The Forest Service conducts continuing forest surveys of all states to provide up-to-date information about the timber resources of the Nation. Ohio's first survey was completed in 1953, and the second gave statistics for 1968. A third statewide survey of the state's forest resources is still several years away. Because reports from forest surveys are many years apart, information about the state's timber industries and the output of industrial wood is needed for intervening years. F. Bryan Clark, Director of the Northeastern Station explained. Industry surveys such as this one are made possible by assistance from the states between regular forest resource reports. Bones is a Research Forester with the Northeastern Station, and Redett is Assistant Chief of the Division of Forestry in the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

The new report is the result of a 100-per-cent canvass of primary wood manufacturers in Ohio by the Northeastern Station's Forest Survey project and the Ohio Division of Forestry. Copies are available from the Northeastern Station, 6816 Market St., Upper Darby, Pa. 19082.

Important changes have occurred in the Ohio timber industry since the last statewide timber survey in 1966, according to a report recently published by the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station of the USDA Forest Service.

A 25-per cent drop in the total number of sawmills and a shift in the source of pulpwood procured by Ohio pulp mills are only two indications of these

changes described in Resource Bulletin NE-40. The Timber Industries of Ohio by James T. Bones and Robert B. Redett.

Since a similar survey in 1966, sawlog production has declined 10 per cent to 351 million board feet. Veneer-and-cooperage — log production has declined 37 per cent to 122 million board feet. Total roundwood output has declined 14 per cent to 83.2 million

cubic feet, and the number of sawmills is down from 411 to 310. However, use of manufacturing residues has increased from 58 per cent of the total available in 1966 to 79 per cent in 1973.

The daily capacity of Ohio pulp mills has grown from 635 tons in 1959 to 1,280 tons in 1973. Pulp chips, recovered from sawmill and other primary manufacturing residues, have become an important source of wood for Ohio pulp mills.

1976. Geneva Free Press, Geneva, OH.

VIEWPOINT

Clear cut decision

When Paul Bunyan had ripped through a forest in Michigan or Minnesota, you knew it. Not a tree was left standing and the slashings were piled to the sky.

It was to protect the nation's forests from the kind of exploitation that left mile after mile of cut-over land like a scar on the American landscape that Congress in 1897 passed the Organic Act, under which the national forests are administered.

Selective logging was the watchword for decades after that. Foresters marched through the timber selecting tree by tree the mature forest giants ready for logging.

But about 10 years ago the Forest Service changed its forest management policies and began permitting "clear-cutting" on certain federal lands.

In some settings, it was argued, less damage was done to the land and the streams by clear-cutting than by selective logging. And in some forests, a better grade of timber and more of it would be produced on logged-over land than in tracts where most of the trees were left standing.

But all the casual observer saw was the gross effect of clear-cutting

— the scars left on hillsides like blazes on a tree trunk. Many were outraged.

Had Paul Bunyan returned to life? It appeared so, and the greed of the timber barons was blamed.

Sincere defenders of the forest rose up in righteous indignation. Law suits were filed, and last August the forces opposed to clear-cutting won a victory in the U.S. Circuit Court in Richmond, Va. The court held that clear-cutting violates the Organic Act of 1897. A similar ruling followed in U.S. District Court in Alaska.

Now legislation is pending in Congress to amend the Organic Act to permit clear-cutting when it is recommended by the principles of modern forestry.

It would be unfortunate if the public debate on this measure is dogmatic and close-minded. The vast virgin forests that remain standing on public land in California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska must be protected. They can also be harvested wisely for the good of all Americans, those living now and generations to come.

Only an enlightened and flexible management policy can achieve that result.

1976. Wilmington News-Journal, Wilmington, OH.

It was around this time that various other clubs and organizations that focused on natural resource issues gained popularity. Garden clubs, neighborhood and county watchdog groups and school organizations saw increased membership as the public was becoming more and more concerned with the environment. Spurred on by national catastrophes, the push for reform in how the world's assets were being handled reached never seen before heights. Universities and other instructional bodies, like the OFA, were forced to rethink their teaching philosophies. A common tenet that made itself evident during this time stressed communication between opposing interest groups. The OFA, as it has from the beginning, stressed cooperation. The organization encouraged its friends in the timber industry to listen to what environmentalist groups had to say concerning the forests. No longer were forests to be viewed strictly on the amount of timber they contained. Rather, the forests were to be looked at as complete, beneficial ecosystems. Thinking in this manner called for a deeper understanding of all the forest components, not just the trees. As we will see in the following pages, the philosophies and attitudes of the environmental movement of the nineteen seventies dictated where the OFA directed its efforts in the coming decades. ■



1960. Summer Tour. William F. Cowen Jr., Extension Forester, Ohio State University.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dec. 22, 1992

Dear Ron,

The last issue of "Ohio Woodlands" brought back some fond memories for me. I noted that Woodlands is going into its thirtieth year of publication. It might be interesting for you to know that "Woodlands" was born in a restaurant in Wooster, OH, during a meeting of one of OFA's committees. The original founders (as I recall) were Jim Meteer, at that time a consulting forester in Ohio; Fred Brokaw of Coshocton. I think he was with Stone Container Corp. at the time; Bob Paton, then OFA Director and myself, Bill Cowen in my capacity of extension forester.

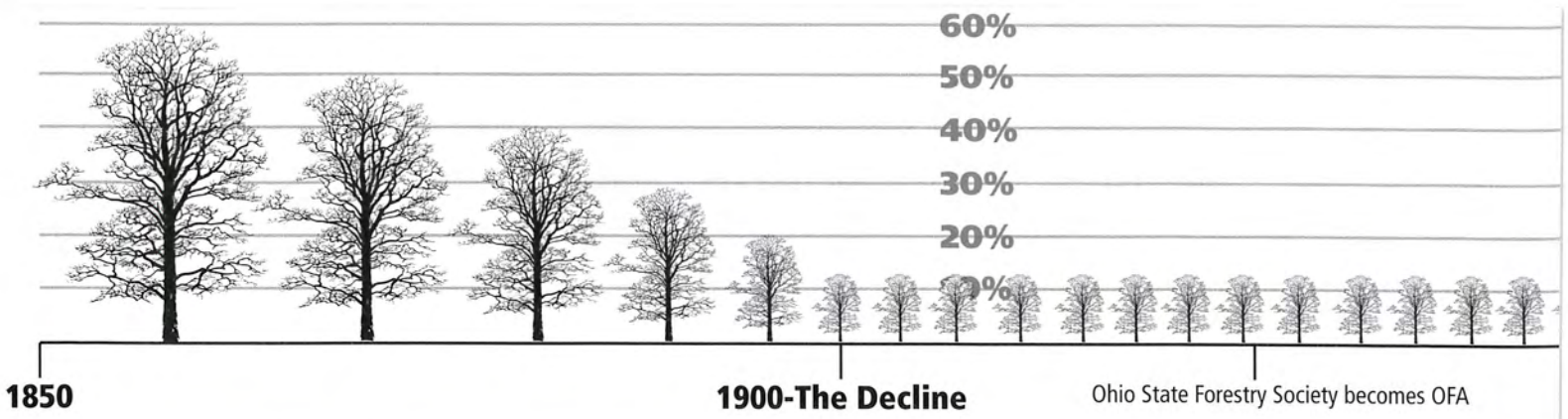
For many years, Bob Paton and I served as publishers, editorial committee, news gatherers etc. I'm probably wrong after 30 years, but I think that the first issue (or one of the early issues) had a photograph of an elm cross-section on the cover, Bob Touse took over my responsibilities for the magazine and also handled it for many years.

I was delighted to read about Kenny Adkins "Ohio's 1992 Logger of the Year". That award had its inception when Jim Eberhart and I were serving an OFA's award committee, At that time, Jim was with Container Corporation of America—a really fine man and forester.

We felt that there were awards for almost everyone except the most important people in Ohio's timber industry thus the "Outstanding Loggers award" was born. Jim was a strong supporter of OFA and just an outstanding person.

I don't ordinarily look back on things (or write letters) but it was really a privilege for me to be associated with such fine people.

*Best regards
Bill Cowen
Prof. Emeritus OSU and
Extension Forester Retired*



Ohio's foresters would like to share some facts with you about Ohio's forests and forest industries. Good forest management makes Ohio's forests more productive. For instance, Ohio is growing two and one half times as much forest fiber as it is harvesting each year.

Basic Facts

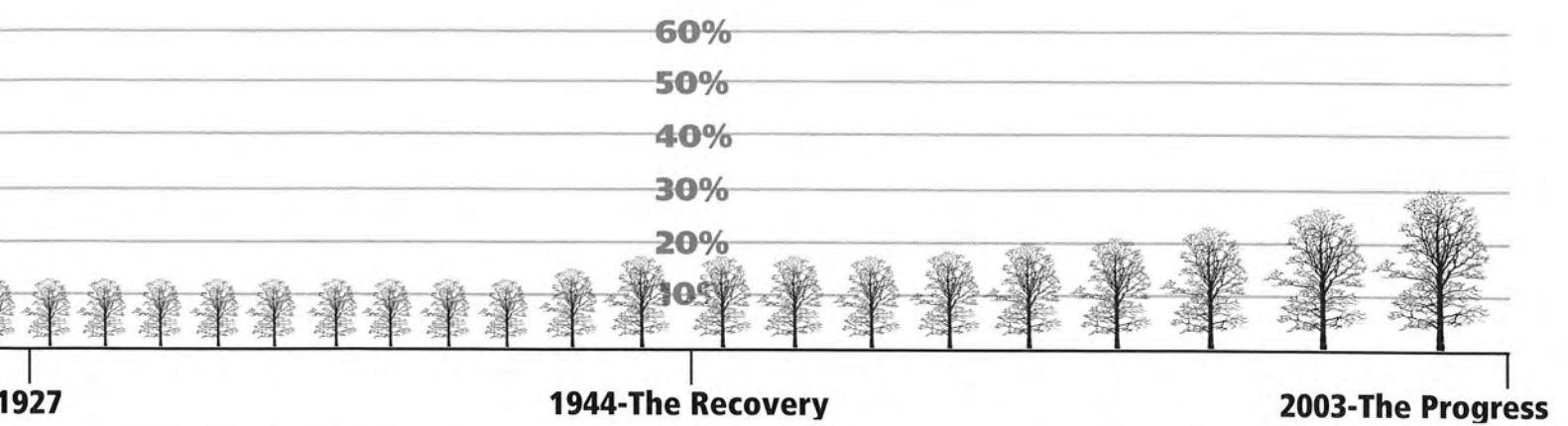
- Some of the finest hardwoods in the world grow in Ohio.
- One walnut tree sold for \$35,000 in 1975, from Pioneer, Ohio.
- Ohio has seven national champion big trees growing in its soil.
- Ohio's Urban Forestry program is one of the best in the nation.
- 220 Ohio communities are certified Tree City USAs, as of 2001.
- Ohio has led the nation in Tree City USAs for the past 19 years.
- Ohio's only state designated wilderness area is located on Shawnee State Forest (8,000 acres).
- Hiking, camping, climbing, hunting and many more recreational activities are abundant in Ohio's forests.
- The Buckeye Trail and North Country Trail both travel through state forest and federal forest lands in Ohio.

Forest Area Facts

- 30 percent of Ohio is forested.
- 7.6 million acres in Ohio are in tree cover.
- 97 percent of Ohio's forests are hardwood trees (deciduous).
- 3 percent of Ohio's forests are conifers (evergreens).
- Two Ohio counties are more than 70 percent forested (Lawrence and Vinton).
- There are over 100 different hardwood tree species growing in Ohio.
- There are over 25 different softwood tree species growing in Ohio.
- There are 43 different forest types in Ohio (such as oak-hickory, beech-maple, oak-gum).

Government Ownership Facts

- Ohio has 20 state forests, exceeding 183,000 acres spanning 21 counties.
- Ohio has two state forest nurseries.
- Between 5 and 7 million tree seedlings are produced, sold and planted each year from these nurseries for reforestation in Ohio.
- The Wayne National Forest is located in Ohio (211,707 acres and growing).



Private Ownership Facts

- 94 percent of Ohio's forests are owned by private woodland owners.
- There are 332,600 private woodland owners in Ohio.
- 1,850 woodland owners are Tree Farmers.
- Tree farmers manage 383,647 acres of Ohio woodlands.
- Ohio ranks fourth nationally in maple syrup production, averaging 100,000 gallons annually.
- Ohio maple syrup producers gather about 4,200,000 gallons of sap each year.
- Ohioans produce about 750,000 Christmas trees each year.
- Since 1977, the Division of Forestry has planted over 757 row miles of windbreaks in northwest Ohio on nearly 1,248 separate sites.

Forest Industry Facts

- The value of Ohio's wood products industry is in excess of \$7 billion annually.
- Ohio harvests 300–400 million board feet of timber each year.
- Ohio grows one billion board feet of wood fiber each year. This is two and one half to three times as much timber as Ohio harvests annually.
- There are over 200 sawmills in Ohio.
- There are nearly 2,000 secondary wood products industries in Ohio.
- About 70,000 Ohioans are employed in the wood products industry.
- Direct payroll for Ohio's forest industry is in excess of \$1 billion per year.
- Ohio reports approximately \$100–\$150 million in revenue annually for forest-related products.
- Approximately 8 percent of all Ohio manufacturing is wood based.

Forest Fire Facts

- Within the forest fire protection area (the unglaciated hill country):
- 1,000 forest and grass fires burn in Ohio each year (average).
- 5,000 acres of forest and grass lands are consumed in these fires each year (average).





Ron Cornell-OFA Executive Director, Nancy Hollister-Lieutenant Governor, Gary Kaster-AEP



The Ohio Forestry Association, Inc.



Ohio Forests: The Progress

The progress that the Association and the forest products community have made in the last 100 years is a result, in part, of the partnerships that have developed with universities, government, landowners, and industry. Throughout the last 100 years, each of these groups have played a significant role with The Ohio Forestry Association, Inc. in advancing sound forest management for the forests of Ohio. Early in the Association's history, it was individuals from the universities that played an important role to focus attention on the need for action to work with farmers/landowners in rehabilitating the forest land. During The Recovery, government and industry began to exert influence with the addition of state parks and forests. Industry led many reforms regarding tree planting, forest management initiatives and technological advances to improve utilization of our important resource. Large landowners such as the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District, Mead Corporation (MeadWestvaco Corporation) and Ohio Power (American Electric Power) led the way with aggressive tree planting efforts and implementation of long range forest management plans.



Bob Nelson at Mead Experimental Forest, Northeastern Forest Experiment Station.

Collective action and a gathering of prominent members of the forest products industry for planning and discussions have been a trademark of the forestry community in Ohio. In March, 1986, the Governor's Conference on Ohio's Forest Products Industry was convened to address a number of concerns facing the industry. One of the many recommendations from the Conference was: "Funding must be acquired for support of a full-time Director of The Ohio Forestry Association, Inc." Resulting from this recommendation was the hiring of Ron Cornell as Executive Director in 1987. Cornell served in this capacity until 1998. Significant events during this time included creation of the Loggers Standards Council, participation in the Workers Compensation Group Rating Program, involvement with the Log-A-Load Program to benefit the Children's Miracle Network, and the Association's legal support of the Wayne National Forest Plan.



1994. Pete Woyar, Safety Trainer.

The formation of the Loggers Standards Council, under the leadership of Mike Long, Ohio Division of Forestry, led to the development of the Master Logging Company Program sponsored by the Association. This voluntary program supports training and certification through a variety of criteria of Logging Companies in Ohio. The Workers Compensation Program enables companies to benefit from lower rates as a member of the Group. Many of the Loggers Chapters have embraced the Log-A-Load Program and provide substantial support to Hospitals in



their respective communities. Despite ruling in favor of the Association by the U.S. Supreme Court, there have been many delays in implementing the Wayne National Forest Plan.

Contributions to our forestry heritage in the State by individuals in industry and landowners represent the commitment of our Association. Following are but a few of these dedicated individuals:

A.R. Dille and Sons—“Goods of the Woods”

Back in the 1930's, Art Dille was making 25 cents a day harvesting corn behind a horse and plow. When he was given the opportunity to cut timber using a crosscut saw for two dollars a day, he jumped at the chance. He continued logging for four years, and then he bought one-half interest in a portable sawmill. He was now earning eight to ten dollars per thousand board feet; sawing on a contract basis.

In 1950, Art bought his own mill for 700 dollars. Fourteen years later, Art moved the operation to Route 60, south of McConnelsville. Art upgraded the mill with the purchase of the first Frick automatic to be sold in Ohio. He also added a resaw and a second automatic mill.

In 1987, the operation included seven of Art's grandsons working full time and three more helping out during the summers.

Currently, A.R. Dille and Sons is still a family operation. Art passed away in February of 1999 and his oldest son, Carlos, now runs the company. Three of Carlos' brothers, William, Roger and Danny continue to work for the company. Brad and Ronnie, who are two of Art's grandsons, also work for the company.



On The Cover



1920. Summer Meeting Ohio Forestry Association Carbondale, OH.



1917. Hauling elm for Michigan Headliner Co. Oak Harbor, OH.



1933. Peter McClaren, World Champion wood chopper.

AEP Tree Farm Tour

Early in 2000 American Electric Power (AEP), one of the United States' largest investor-owned utilities, was recognized as one of the nation's first companies to receive certification for practicing sustainable forestry by the American Tree Farm System. Currently, more than 120,000 acres in the AEP System have been certified. The Ohio Tree Farm Committee also honored the company Ohio's 2000 Tree Farm of the Year.

As a global energy company, AEP provides energy to three million customers in Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. It has holdings in the United States, the United Kingdom, China and Australia. Wholly owned subsidiaries provide power engineering, energy consulting and energy management services around the world. Because of these activities, the company owns land for right of way and transmission facilities, plant sites and future plant sites and coal-fields. A total of 311,000 acres is owned by AEP. Of these lands, 200,000 acres are forested.



1963. Strip mine- board of review, Division of Reclamation, tour the strip mines of the Ohio Power Company.

Reforestation

AEP's initial forest stewardship program began in 1944 with a reforestation effort on mined land south of Zanesville, Ohio. It became one of the first companies to plant trees on mined lands prior to any law requiring it to do so. It was the start of AEP's continuing commitment to environmental excellence and a reflection of its willingness to be held accountable for environmental performance.

In 1995, AEP committed to plant 15 million trees on 20,000 acres of company land between the years 1996 and 2000. This was part of the Department of Energy's Climate Challenge Program. These trees will create a new "carbon sink," which is intended to sequester the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide. The Climate Challenge Program, which AEP joined in 1993, is a voluntary, cooperative effort between utilities and the government to limit greenhouse gases.

Biodiversity is a major focus in AEP's program, which develops site-specific management, plans for each forest district of company lands and uses a wide range of tree species in the reforestation program. Since the first efforts in 1944, a mixture of 64 tree species have been planted on company lands. Forty species have been used under the Climate Challenge Tree Planting Project alone. To date, over 54 million trees have been planted on lands owned by the company.



OSAF Tree Planting, AEP - Ohio power lands.

Forest Management Program

In the 1960's, the scope of AEP's forest policy reached beyond forest establishment and focused on managing the natural forestland that it owned. From the foresight and guidance of AEP's early foresters, a highly disciplined and intensive Forest Management Program has evolved.

AEP's forest management philosophy is one of Long Term Sustained Yield; balancing harvest with growth. The majority of harvesting on AEP lands is done by selective harvesting through removal of mature, over-mature, diseased and damaged trees. This improves species composition, growing space relationships, stocking and overall health of the stands.

In addition, AEP recognizes forest aesthetics and sensitive harvesting areas by designating "No Harvesting Zones." Harvesting activities are also restricted or prohibited where known endangered or rare species of plants, shrubs and trees or historical/archeological sites exist.

Recreation

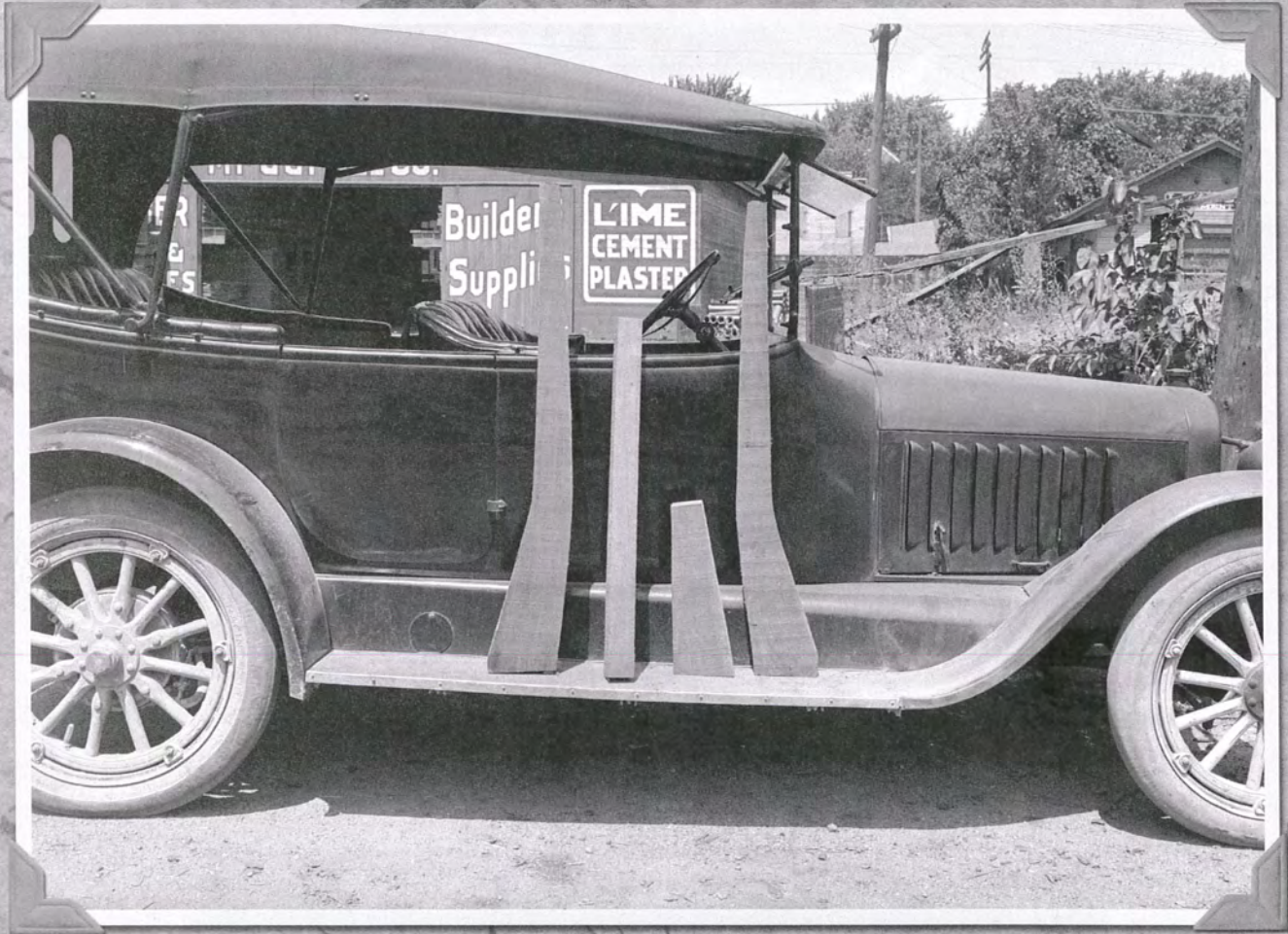
One of AEP's best known symbols of environmental stewardship is its Recreation Lands, which consist of 50,000 acres of reclaimed land. This land is located near Cambridge in southeastern Ohio. Since the mid-1940's, this area has been surface mined for coal and later reclaimed through the planting of more than 50 million trees. The area offers 500 lakes and ponds and over 360 campsites free of charge. In 1998, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) recognized AEP's Recreation Lands as the largest single outdoor recreation area in Ohio.

Wildlife Habitat Programs

One of the longest and most rewarding partnerships AEP has been involved in has been with the ODNR Division of Wildlife. That relationship started in 1957 with the dedication of the 4,919 acres of the Avondale Wildlife Area south of Zanesville as a public wildlife area. The Forest Management Plan for the Avondale Wildlife Area incorporated specific wildlife enhancement guidelines recommended by the Division. These include creating small patch clearcuts, leaving den and perch trees and 6 to 7 mast trees per acre.



1918



1918. Walnut gunstock Blanks. Wilmington, OH.

Bob Redett—Still Serving Forestry

Christmas tree sales were good during late November and December of 2002 on the small acreage that is owned by Bob and Dorothy Redett. Sales included mostly Scotch pine, white pine and a few spruce.

Bob began his professional career in forestry in 1946 as an acquisition forester for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry. Most of the land he purchased was abandoned farm land.

From 1950 to 1953, Bob was a district forester in New Philadelphia. Then, in 1953, he became a staff forester, settling with his wife in Amlin, Ohio.

Bob recalled how the timber industry has changed, especially since the 1950's. "It was hard to sell timber in Ohio because the prices were low," he said. "In the mid-50's, the pallet industry came into its own and Mead Corporation began to use hardwood for pulpwood and soon the other paper industries followed. Prior to this time, most of the sawmills were portable. But as the pallet industry grew, stationary mills became more plentiful."

In 1967 and 1968, Bob authored the Ohio Division of Forestry's "Birth of a Tree Program." This was a kit that included soil blocks, tree seeds and a tray. If the instructions were followed, you could grow about a dozen tree seedlings. Bob has also coauthored two other publications: *Ohio's Forest Heritage* and *The Handbook of Forest Fire Law Enforcement*. He was also responsible for initiating lumber schools within the state and supported early efforts for industry training.

Bob gained experience in reforestation, utilization marketing and financial management. He has helped the forest products industry work with environmentalists, regulations, and public and consumer demands. Bob became the chief of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry in 1982. He has also been involved with The Ohio Forestry Association for many years.



1919. Norway Spruce Christmas tree plot, planted in the spring. 4 yr. transplants. Billy Dean, Age 4.



Dale W. Riddle Forest Products, Inc.

Since 1976, Dale and Jackie Riddle, their sons Rod, Craig and Chris, other family members and Richard Harwood have created and worked in several companies.

Dale's logging experience began in 1947 when he worked as a logger with his parents, Dick and Elva Riddle. In 1976, Dale and his wife, Jackie, founded Dale W. Riddle Forest Products, Inc. Later, they created C&L Erectors and Riggers, Inc. These first two companies enabled them to not only harvest timber with their own logging crews on their own woodlands, but also to market "value added" quality hardwood lumber to meet the public's needs.

Over the next 26 years, Dale and Jackie's companies grew. Dale died in 2000 and Jackie died in 1991, but their legacy continues to grow and live on through sons Rod, President, Craig and Chris, and other family members and dedicated employees.

Today, Dale W. Riddle Forest Products, Inc. owns 6,000 acres of woodlands in southern Ohio. Rod is proud of the quality staff working for the company. Their "right hand man" is Richard "Dick" Harwood who assists wherever and whenever needed. Some of his responsibilities are procuring timber and land and marketing logs for Dale W. Riddle Forest Products, Inc.

In June of 2002, members of The Ohio Forestry Association, Inc. toured a new showroom constructed at the Laurelville mill site that has 6,000 square feet of space for display to assist customers with selecting specialty hardwoods that can be custom designed and cut for their needs.

"Beyond 2002, we will be looking at diversifying and improving the technology of the equipment in the sawmill," said Rod. "This will enable us to continue to provide 'Quality First and Customer Satisfaction' for generations to come."

Harold Jeffers—1987 Ohio Tree Farmer of the Year

The year was 1946. Harold Jeffers was a new minister in Morgan County. Harold found his new parish poor because their fields were depleted.

“I tried to encourage them to go to conservation meetings, and I went with them,” said Harold. “We heard the experts say the best use of the land was to put it into permanent pasture or forest. The latter didn’t appeal to them, but I thought forestry was the way to go.”

Harold bought a small piece of land and planted tree seedlings in the worn out field. He continued to purchase more land and by 1987, he had about 1,800 acres. Some of his early tree plantings are 20 inches in diameter and will soon be able to be harvested.

“Anybody who plants a tree is thinking of the next generation,” said Harold. The man who plants a tree rarely harvests it, because it takes 50 years for trees to mature.

For his tireless work, Harold was honored with the 1987 Tree Farmer of the Year award.

Harold has served on the advisory committee of the School of Natural Resources at The Ohio State University. He was also the chair of the forestry committee for the Morgan County Soil and Water Conservation District for about 14 years.

Back in 1987, Harold and some other people created the Prime Pine Co-op, Inc., a white pine cooperative. The goal is to find value-added markets for white pine. They are even working with MeadWestvaco to develop a market for pulp.



2002. Harold Jeffers by the fire at the Woodland Owners Weekend.

1941



1941. Drag saw, horse power, in Everest Allyn's woods. Hiram Township, Portage County.



John V. Schmidt: 1989 National Tree Farmer of the Year

According to John and Mary Schmidt, meeting President George Bush was the highlight of their year. “The President is a really nice guy, was very at ease when we met him and is taller than we thought he was,” John said.

That was their response after meeting the President in the Oval Office in mid-November 1989 in honor of their being named the 1989 National Tree Farmer of the Year, sponsored by the American Tree Farm System. The Schmidt’s 700 acre “Overlook Hills Tree Farm” is located in Ross and Pike Counties just southwest of Chillicothe. It was the first Ohio Tree Farm to receive the national award. They qualified for the honor when they were chosen as the 1988 Ohio Tree Farm of the Year by the Ohio Tree Farm Committee. Lee Crocker, service forester of the Ohio Department of Natural Resource’s Division of Forestry in Waverly nominated them for the Ohio award.

The story of this tree farm began in 1893, when the Schmidt family purchased 1,500 acres in Ross and Pike Counties. In the early years, they attempted to clear the land for cattle pasture and farming, but the rapid growth of greenbriar and brush combined with severe erosion on the farm’s hilly slopes defeated that plan. Eventually, the family decided to help the land do what it did best - grow trees.

In 1955, the Overlook Hills Farm was certified as a tree farm by the American Tree Farm System. In 1965, John V. Schmidt took over management of the tree farm after his father’s death.

Multiple use has been very important to the tree farm. For 25 years, John and Mary have enjoyed producing some 50 gallons of maple syrup each year.

John served on the Ohio Forestry Association’s (OFA) Board of Trustees and was chairman in 1998. John said he was honored to be a part of the process and proud of the accomplishments made by OFA.



1989. Mary and John V. Schmidt meeting with the President of the United States, George Bush.

Kaple Lumber Company, Inc.

The Kaple Lumber Company of Shiloh was founded in 1896 by B.R. (Ben) Kaple. When Ben died in a logging accident in 1937, his sons Vincent and John took over the operation. Later, they were joined by brothers, James and Donald. In its early years, Kaple Lumber only sold logs. But by 1941, they began sawing logs into lumber for the furniture market and other hardwood lumber use.

In 1980, John retired. Bernard A. "Bud" Kaple took over management after his uncle retired. Bud had been born into a family of sawmill operators. His father Vincent and his uncles John, Donald and James were all involved in the forest industry. Bud's leadership and management of the company ended when he died suddenly one morning in November of 1987.

The company regrouped and the logging and milling continued. Ten years later, John A. Kaple, Bud's uncle and predecessor, passed away at age 78.

As of August of 2002, Kaple Lumber Company was managed by a son of each of the four previous owners. Recently, Kaple Lumber Company consolidated and added a line bar resaw to help in the production of more than five and one-half million board feet of lumber annually.

Kaple Lumber Company buys standing timber of the Appalachian hardwood family to produce grade lumber sold throughout the United States and Canada. They have one logging crew and subcontract to other logging companies to harvest timber, mainly from woodlots within a 60-mile radius of Shiloh. They specialize in red oak, white oak, ash, cherry, hard and soft maple, poplar, hickory and walnut.

While Kaple Lumber Company buys and sells logs and lumber to a wide variety of hardwood lumber customers, in 1993 the company began marketing a mulch product primarily used in landscaping. Marketed as N-ViroMulch, it is made from recycled pallets and sawmill scraps.

In October of 1997, Kaple Lumber Company purchased Crestline Wood Products. This division specializes in the making of pallets that are shipped to other business and used for packaging.

Today the company has 40 employees and is managed by cousins Paul, Steve, Randy and Andy; one son of each of four of the previous owners. The fifth Kaple, Bill, retired from the operation in August of 2002. Paul currently serves as president of the company.



Kaple Lumber Co. automatic slab saw.



1980's. Jack Marsh and son, Brian at Marsh Lumber Co., Dover, OH.

Marsh Lumber Company/Marsh Industries

When Catherine Marsh mortgaged the family home in 1914 to help her son finance a business venture, little did she know that decades later that same business would still be family owned and operated. This was the beginning of Marsh Lumber Co., Inc., a wood products industry in Dover, Ohio.

The company was founded by Alvin Marsh and partner John Garber and was known as Garber-Marsh Lumber Co. It was a small retail lumber yard that became involved in the manufacturing of native hardwoods and later perfected a cold wood air register that led to the founding of Dover Wood Face and Lumber Co.

Rapid growth following World War I enabled the Marsh brothers, Alvin, Wallace, Joe, John, Harry and Vic and a cousin Francis Huff, to buy Mr. Garber's interest in 1920 and then purchase an abandoned lumber yard in Dover. A factory was built to manufacture wood products including wood cold air registers, flooring, car decking, interior trim and other machined lumber products. The products were sold in the eastern United States.

Victor Marsh and Francis Huff established a hardwood lumber department that was responsible for buying timber, logging and sawmilling to provide raw materials for the lumber manufacturing plant.

In the late 1940's, Francis Huff passed away. John Marsh, Jr. (Jack) joined Marsh Lumber Co. in 1949 and became director and officer in 1956, manager in 1960 and president in 1970. Jack's son Brian joined in 1983.

"The wood products business as a whole has changed over the years but one thing has remained consistent; we serve our customers and we save our resources," Jack said in a 1990 interview. "The wood products industry is a good industry with a lot of good people involved."

Today, Brian Marsh, President, begins his twentieth year with the company.



1965. Harris D. Willis. President, OFA.

Willis Lumber Company—116 Years in Forestry

J.W. Willis started the J.W. Willis Lumber Company in 1887. The company's first sawmill was powered by steam and mainly cut quartered oak. The company used horses to move logs and lumber from one destination to another. In 1898, the company incorporated due to rapid growth. J.W. operated the mill until 1906 and about two years later it burned down. The mill was rebuilt and production returned to normal. And in 1909, J.W.'s son, Willard S. Willis, took over the company. Willard added electric motors to provide power and also added trucks, which replaced the horses.

In 1945, Willard's son, Harris D. Willis, took over the business and in the 1960's, Harris added dry kiln operations to the company. Since the timber base was declining in Fayette County and there was statewide demand for kiln dried furniture-grade hardwoods, the company evolved into a distribution yard for kiln dried hardwoods. Willis Lumber Company, Inc., as it is now known, offers approximately 26 different woods in stock for distribution, including red oak, white oak, yellow poplar, ash, walnut, pine, soft and hard maple and cherry.

In 1952, Harris and his wife, Ruth, bought their first farm and started growing trees. Over the years, they have purchased other timberlands, but it was the 295 acre Willis Tree Farm that was recognized in 1999 as the Ohio Tree Farm of the Year. Today, the Willis Tree Farm and other timberlands are owned and managed by Bruce, his brother and two sisters and their families.

Harris is the current chairman of Willis Lumber Company, Inc. and his son, Bruce Willis, is now the president of the operation. Both, Harris and Bruce have served on The Ohio Forestry Association Board of Trustees. Harris served on the board for over 25 years and was chairman from 1967 to 1970. And Bruce was chairman of the Association in 1996. ■



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1949. Emmett Conway, 20 year old shortleaf pine
plantation, Hocking County, OH.

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The Legacy of Dale and Jackie Riddle

Dale W. Riddle began his logging career in Vinton county in 1947 with a team of horses.

On August 30, 1950 he married Jackie Reynolds. That same year he also began a portable sawmill operation. Along with the new company came a new family. Dale and Jackie had five children, Rodney, Craig, Chris, Heidi and Holly. Following the birth of their last child, Dale set up a stationary sawmill, Ohio Valley Lumber Company.

In 1976 Dale and Jackie changed the name of their company and formed their first corporation, Dale W. Riddle Forest Products, Inc. The following year they purchased another corporation known as C & L Erectors & Riggers, Inc. C & L is a logging, chipping, and land clearing operation.

In 1992 the family became the new owners of an auto parts store and thus began Country Auto Parts. This was another avenue to serve the community while providing for the maintenance needs of company vehicles.

Timberwolf Specialty Hardwoods was formed in 1998. Timberwolf manufactures hardwood trims, mouldings, and flooring. They also offer a complete line of wood products, stair components, windows, doors and cabinetry. With the opening of this company, Dale and his sons could offer their customer quality throughout the entire process, from the logging of the timber to the finished hardwood product.

Jackie Riddle passed away July 1, 1991. Dale W. Riddle passed away November 27, 2000.

Their legacy continues to grow through their children. Rodney, Craig and Chris serve as officers and oversee the daily operation of these companies. Heidi and Holly have both been involved in the office. Craig's daughter, Bree, continues the tradition as the third generation participating in her affluent family heritage.

Who could have foreseen a little, 2-horse logging operation growing into a successful, family-oriented corporation? Perhaps at that time, Dale W. Riddle was the only one with a vision of what could be. He has passed that vision on to his children and grandchildren and they continue with the dream that has become a reality in the company which bears their father's name.

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