Ozark Mountain State Park

“our get acquainted year”
Natural Resource Inventories

- Plant Survey
- Natural Community Map
- Breeding Bird Monitoring Plots
- Native Bee Survey
- Native Plant monitoring Plots
Natural Resource Inventories

- Water quality monitoring
- Aquatic survey
- Detailed geology survey
- Plant Survey
- Natural Community Map
- Breeding Bird Monitoring Plots
- Native Bee Survey
- Native Plant monitoring Plots
Highlights

- **742 plant species**
  (7 rare species)
  (18% are exotic weeds)

- **53 breeding bird species**
  (eg roadrunner, prairie warbler, wood pewee, fish crow and kestrel)

- **400 acres of glade**

- **2.2 miles of Roark Creek**

- **5 tributary streams**
Natural Resource Purpose ...

“protect and improve quality and aquatic resources in Roark Creek, by preserving a signature natural glade-woodland environment in its watershed”
Natural Resource Purpose ...

“protect and improve quality and aquatic resources in Roark Creek, by preserving a signature natural glade-woodland environment in its watershed”

Objectives ...

- Protect water quality and aquatic life in Roark Creek
- Preserve the birds, wildlife and plants
- Rehabilitate the woodlands and glades
Resource Management Plan ... being written now

- glade clearing
- reducing exotic weeds
- prescribed burns
- water studies and monitoring
- volunteer stream monitoring and glade restoration
Restoration begins this fall ... !!

- Americorps NCCC crew grant – they start in November
- Bids pending – contract
  - Prescribed burn
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Cultural Resources Research at Ozark Mountain State Park

Amanda Pesce, Archaeologist
Methodology

1. Archival Research Including:
   • Archaeological Survey Reports
   • BLM GLO Patents
   • *The Taney County Republican*
   • 1930s Plat Maps
   • 1982 Atlas of Taney County
   • *White River Valley Historical Quarterly* and other online accounts of Garber Residents or their descendants

2. Creation of Maps to establish boundaries within which certain activities may have occurred.

3. Field confirmation as necessary

Homestead adjacent to Roark Creek built approximately 1924
Maps

1873-1910
- The earliest homesteaders:
  - William G Kiethley (1873)
  - Mary A Parker (1879)
    - Within 5 years, Mrs. Parker transferred her land to the Keithley family
- The last homesteader: John T. Gilleland
- The most popular year to homestead in Garber was 1903, during which 4 land claims were established.
Garber History Highlights

Joel Garber:
• Patent in 1895
• Moved to Colorado in 1904
• Did not own land within State Park Boundaries

Town moved three times.
• Final location (approximately 1904) not within State Park Boundaries

Life in Garber:
• Railroad completed in 1905
• Primary Crops – Fruit trees (peach and pear), tomatoes, strawberries, alfalfa, potatoes, corn, wheat, and lumber.
• Primary Livestock: goats (for mohair), cattle, pigs and chickens
  • Free Range
Archaeology at Ozark Mountain State Park

Limited Survey
9 Recorded Prehistoric Sites
• Date as far back as the Archaic Period (6000 B.C.)
• As recent the Late Prehistoric Period (A.D. 1450-1650).

Previous Archaeological Survey of the “Bass House” - 1993

• Chronological ownership with some data missing
• Described multiple stages of construction/modification
• Speculation as to why Frank Bush built the home

• Root Cellar
• Smokehouse
• Outhouse
• Chicken Coops
• Well – 1950s modified into well house
• 2 Barns
Frank Bush built the home in 1913 after purchasing the land from C.O. Bass (Charlie) and lived there for less than a year.

Charlie bought back the property from Frank and remodeled the home in 1914.

January of 1915 He built a new barn and drilled the well near the home.


June 1917 – Charlie Bass is cutting his rye and decides he needs to build more barn room.

CO Bass Vacated the home in 1919.
WF Fronabarger donated the land for the school house

January 1903 – School commences in Garber (the most popular year for homestead patents)

Called the “Fronaberger School District” as late as 1907

1909 – Land sold to Calvin Jones

1915 - Leonard Jones married Pearl Fronaberger and were said to live near the school
Fronabarger/Garber School House

Condition of the School and Interpretation

Historical Events:
- Spelling Bees
- Literacy Society Meetings
- Sunday School (since 1914)
- Pie Suppers
- Kandy Kangaroo Kourt
Contact Information

Feel free to contact me regarding any information you would like to share about the history of Ozark Mountain State Park:

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CONCEPTUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN is one piece of the GMP
CONCEPTUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

SIGNIFICANCE

• Long-term plan (20 Year)
• Produced by a team of specialists
• Represents the views of various disciplines, stakeholder interests and public input

PURPOSE

• Sets achievable goals
• 20 Year outlook
• Addresses public use
• Facility renovation and development
• Natural & Cultural resource protection
• Interpretation & Recreation Uses
CONCEPTUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PROCESS

• Team Formation
• On-Site Meeting
• Mission Statement & Preamble Creation
• Data Collection and Public Input
• Plan Formation with alternatives & maps
• Plan Review – executive staff, division comments
• Plan Approval – share with public and implement
• Amendable as Needed
CONCEPTUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

CDP’s TYPICALLY INCLUDE

- Mission Statement
- Introduction
- Development Goals and Objectives
- Planning and Research Goals
- Contextual Planning Information
- Possible Acquisition Units
- Accompanying Map with Use Diagram (“Bubbles”)

Combined Options
OZARK MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

PROCESS

- Team Formation
- On-Site Meeting
- Mission Statement & Preamble Creation
- **Data Collection and Public Input**
- Plan Formation with alternatives & maps
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Questions??

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