



FOREST OWNER

the VOICE of 255,000 forest owners in New York
— representing an ownership of 11 million acres

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Editorial Committee

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Index

Article	Page
President's Message.....	2
Minutes of the Annual Meeting	2
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting	3
NYFOA Woods Walks	4
Exerpts from Letter of Alfred Najer	4
Pile O' Chips - Ed Moot	5
Letter from Howard o. Ward	6
Pinewald Society Meets	7
Letters to and from Lloyd G. Strombeck	9
1974 Cornell Forest Owner's School	10
The Land Use Planning Act	12
Tug Hill Study	13

The opinions stated in this periodical are expressly the views of the writer but not necessarily the opinions or policies of the New York Forest Owners Association nor of the Forest Owner.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Wm. Lubinec

Your organization has started working toward another year of progress. Some of our aims are;

1. Increase our membership.
2. Encourage and participate in more woods walks.
3. Make our members mindful of the tremendous responsibility facing them as stewards of their woods and lands.
4. Enhance our image through publicity, personal contact, and our publication.
5. Get more members involved in our organization, be they directors or not.

So get behind us and help us, this is not a job we can do alone.

I'm glad to report that we have been declared a non-profit organization by the postal authorities so our postage bill will be less, but some of our other costs have increased.

We are currently looking for a general chairman to head up our fall meeting to be held in the Norwich, Sherburne area. How about a volunteer?

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

Minutes of the ANNUAL MEETING - NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION
Northway Inn, Syracuse, New York
April 6, 1974

William Lubinec, President, presided.

After welcoming remarks by the President the minutes of the 1973 Annual Meeting were read by the Secretary and upon motion approved.

Treasurer, Emiel Palmer, gave his report showing receipts for the year of \$3733.60, expenditures of \$2671.11, and total assets at the present time of \$5480.89. Upon motion this report was approved and filed with the minutes.

The Secretary announced that the following had been elected to the Board of Directors:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Harold Tyler | Robert M. Sand |
| David H. Hanaburgh | Miss Jane Barton |
| Archie Koon | Mrs. Lucille Betts |
| William M. Roden | |

David H. Hanaburgh gave a report on trespassing and condemnation. He stated that there is an article in the Forest Owner as to what trespassing is and what can be done to control it. As for comdenation he stated that there must be public action. At the present time a public agency has only to draw a map and file it with the authorities to show what they want. He said the Forpack committee is watching legislation for bills which are being introduced.

Archie Koon stated that the archives are kept in the Moon Memorial Library. In reporting on Woods Walks he stated that one had been definitely scheduled for June 1, at Henry Kernan's.

President Lubinec at this point read a letter he had written to Gov. Wilson requesting that the wood lands be saved in public planning. He suggested that on maps they be designated as forest lands and not V for vacant.

Lloyd Strombeck in making his report for the Editorial board of the Forest Owner said that it is now possible to have pictures.

President Lubinec reported on the membership stating that at the present time it is as follows:

Single	192	Sustaining	11
Family	106	Supporting	3
Contributing	9	Junior	5
Total Membership	326		

The death of Mr. Hanlon of Cotton-Hanlon was announced.

Robert Sand reported on a NYFOA school which is to be held on September 14, 1974 in cooperation with Alex Dixon. The hours are to be from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. He stated that the value of timber is increasing and that a sellers market is developing.

Lloyd Strombeck introduced Dan Hudon of the Hudon Equipment Company who gave a demonstration of his equipment.

There was a coffee break.

Miss Jane Barton gave her report for the Publicity committee stressing the resolutions from last year's meeting and the publicity for this meeting.

There was no old business.

Francis Demeree spoke on Forest Taxation. He stated that the lumber need from the year 2000 on will be critical. The needed lumber can only be produced by private owners as individuals own the major portion of the forests. The price of land is rising fast as well as the assessments and the taxes, with the result that the forests are being butchered and sold. He stated that if the forests were assessed at \$30.00 per acre the cost to all the people of the state would be 75¢ per person. Four or five years ago the Forest Practice Board started working on the problem. The Governor was petitioned to set up a special study commission but he did nothing. Now Ronald Peterson has been assigned by the Environmental and Conservation Commission to evolve anew beneficial taxation law for New York.

Upon motion of Lloyd Strombeck, seconded by Henry Kernan, the proposed amendment to the by-laws setting up a Board of Trustees consisting of five members to administer land which may be bequeathed to the Association.

Dr. Richard Mark spoke concerning the Tughill Commission. He said that the purpose of the Commission is to study and to make recommendations to the Legislature for this area which is one and a half times the size of Long Island. He stated that it can be beneficial to the area and to the State as a whole. He requested viewpoints of citizens and organizations as they want it to be a model to be copied. The Commission is interested in forest taxation with the possibility of forming forest districts. They are looking into all aspects of benefits to the area. They have requested funds for a clean air reservoir, and for investigating wind energy.

Upon motion of Jane Barton it was requested that the Board requested the Tughill Commission to keep them informed. The Board is to submit a resolution at the Fall meeting.

Upon motion of Jane Barton, seconded by Lloyd Strombeck, it was voted that NYFOA go on record favoring the Assembly and Senate bills (No. S.9881, and No. A.11823) and that the proper persons in the legislature be informed immediately.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
J. Lewis DuMond, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes of the 75th Meeting - Board of Directors
NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION
Northway Inn, Syracuse, New York
April 6, 1974

William Lubinec, President, presiding.

The following directors were present:

William Lubinec
David H. Hanaburgh
Robert M. Sand
J. Lewis DuMond
Archie Koon
Helen Varian

Henry Kernan
Lucille Betts
Francis Ross
Lloyd Strombeck
Jane Barton
John Ridings

Reporting for the nominating committee John Ridings presented the following for officers:

President	William Lubinec
1st V. President	Lloyd Strombeck
2nd V. President	D. John Ridings
3rd V. President	Robert M. Sand
Secretary	J. Lewis DuMond
Treasurer	Emiel D. Palmer

The following were appointed to the Board to fill vacancies: Verner C. Hudson and Francis Ross.

The next meeting is to be in about six weeks.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
J. Lewis DuMond, Secretary

N.Y.F.O.A. WOODS WALK

We were sorry to hear at our June board meeting that Archie Koon was very ill. We hope he has an early recovery. In the meantime President Lubinec has asked me to take over the Woods Walks.

On August 17 there will be a WOODS WALK at Alfred Najers Panther Mountain Tree Farm in Chestertown, N. Y. with a barbeque lunch for all who make reservation before August 10th. Fred has several types of woodland to show us plus a fine selection of nursery stock. This is one you won't want to miss, so get your reservation in to Alfred Najer, Chestertown, N.Y. 12817.

Anyone who would like to have a WOODS WALK please contact me so we can make arrangements and get it announced in time in the FOREST OWNER.

Hope to see you at one or both of the above Walks.

Jens U. Hansen
Star Route Box 141-El
Hadley, N. Y. 12835

EXERPTS FROM LETTER OF ALFRED NAJER
June 15, 1974

Other announcement for the next issue of the Forest Owner: August 9, 10, & 11 we will have an Educational Exhibit under the theme "Money Grows on Trees" at the Warren Hamilton County Youth Fair in Warrensburg.

There should be a member in attendance all the time; and I would like to hear from anybody who would like to take a shift. The hours are from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. The day watch will be from 10 to 4; the night watch from 4 to 10. It would be even nicer if we could get several people at a time to make our Exhibit more impressive.

On August 17th I shall have a woods walk on my Panther Mountain Tree Farm, at 11 a.m. with a Barbecue Luncheon for all who make a reservation by August 10th. Besides the latest advances in Forest management it will be shown that you can make money with a hobby and how you can save taxes at the same time.

Sincerely,
Alfred Najer

"PILE O' CHIPS" -- Ed Moot

Isn't it about time that all forces in the United States, involved in our ecology and economy, get together? The Daily Star, published in Oneonta, which by the way is one of the best rural dailies in the United States, published a story June 22, 1974 which should raise the hackles of all private forest owners as well as the millions of acres of state and federally controlled forest managers. It seems a large reputable concern is building a two million dollar saw mill near Oneonta.

The company is Aero Timber of Perkasie, Penn. The building is 150 by 300 feet and ENTIRELY automated. That is NOT the issue with which we are concerned here. We admire private enterprise. We do feel that all folks who are interested in private and public ownership of forest land should become immediately interested in the plans for the expansive enterprise.

The original virgin forest and later woods growth of Otsego, Chenango, Delaware and Schoharie Counties, as well as all forests close to the Catskill Mountain region, have been decimated twice in the last 200 years. A cooperative mill near Cooperstown failed after an operation of a couple of decades. This terrible period of inflation, in which we now try to exist, means that owners of forest land will now look to this new lumber mill for an outlet for almost "clear cutting" of many thousands of acres of rather poor quality timber now on the stump in the area mentioned above. Is there any reason why the New York Forest Owners Association should NOT investigate the future plans of this company and ask for a representation on its management board to insure that the forest cover of Glimmerglass Country is not again torn assunder?

We have endless forces, today, which stand ready to use up the natural resources of this country as we near the 200th anniversary of our birth. Tight money, inflation and carefree "use up" of what nature has endowed us, can further diminish the natural wealth of our own nation.

The news release indicates that surplus lumber from the Adirondack Forest Preserve will be shipped by rail, via the Delaware and Hudson or trucked to the new plant in Oneonta for processing. There have been well established mills within the Adirondack preserve for many years. What economic theory indicates this mill, some distance from the Adirondacks, can efficiently process timber with the added transportation costs of the raw logs?

NOTE TO THE EDITOR

Mr. Wilson:

This is HOT news- we believe that the Forest Owner should get folks of NYFOA to write in, in regard to this situation - should NYFOA not be in an advisory capacity on a venture like this - I can imagine a lot of land owners, not members of NYFOA, who want to glean some money in this awful inflation period from over taxed idle land just to bail themselves out financially. I can see more and more wooded uplands where free lance loggers will go in to cut everything in sight - bring this to attention of POWERS that be to see if it can not see daylight in the Forest Owner.

***** Ed *****

Hot off the press-news flash. Skywindows forest of about 170 acres, will soon be declared a TREE FARM. The process has taken nearly a decade. Our procedures should be much faster. Somehow, there has arisen a feeling, that unless a private land owner plants conifer seedling trees in a straight line on barren acres the result should not have the designation of tree farm. Now that the bars have been let down on natural forest growth over the millions of acres of marginal land in this state we will begin to realize how IMPORTANT it is to create intensive interest, on the part of such land owners, in the cultivation, care and maintenance of a future forest where there is cover which has grown up "NATURALLY". The forest of Dr. and Mrs. Murray Kwit, in West Shokan, high on the northeast west hill overlooking the famous Shokan Dam, has vast potential. Woods walks are a way of interesting the GENERAL public in the many facets of private forest ownership. Thursday, September 13, 1973 a woods walk was conducted under the leadership of Bruce Burton, forester with the New Paltz district office of the state conservation department.

The Kwits began their trek-search in 1936 in the hills around the megopolis which borders New York Harbor. Murray and Audrey Kwit were highly respected teachers in the New York City education system. Nearly forty years, to the date of first purchase, they enjoy, in happy retirement, the challenge of forest ownership and management. After the woods walk, the Kwits and Florence and I enjoyed a cook out, with Dr. Kwit as chef. As we sat on the new deck he has erected over his garage, attached to the main SKYWINDOWS House structure, deer gambled around the four acre pond close to the homestead area.

Your humble servant and PINEWALD PENNER constantly urges our NYFOA membership to hold woods walks on their own forest property to interest local folks in the terrific possibilities if every abandoned acre in this state could be considered a possible future forest. The naturally developed forest is as important, if NOT more important, than the well planned seedling planted forest. It was noticeable how well the black birch, whit birch, maple, ash, red oak and a scattering of beech were thriving in the Kwit forest. There were many trees, in shallow moist glens which would soon support marketable timber which would produce at least three well developed sixteen foot logs. This sort of forest management will NOT NEED the recent \$25,000,000 appropriation passed by Congress and signed by the president.

Many present marginal land owners, whose acres support what seems to be extensive scrub growth, can, over the long haul, develop and support a promising forest. These are the FOLKS we need in NYFOA. Our present members, most of whom have been in deep involvement with a growing forest, have a fault of seeing THE WOODS and ignoring the TREES of non-member potential all of whom should be involved with NYFOA membership.

The Kwits, after nearly forty years, thirty-five of which was in the classroom, or in administration, have now spent six years in retirement and the improvements and changes in the forest around SKYWINDOWS is an ideal example of what retired professionals in ALL fields can do with marginal land which supports a NATURAL forest growth. The KWITS are deeply involved in the woof and warp of their 150 year old Town of OLIVE in Ulster County.

Dr. Kwit is a trustee of the new and modernly functional library recently built on the grounds of the old West Shokan one-room school. The Tongore Garden Club meets in this functional library where Audrey Kwit is this year's garden club president. The warmth of that amazing community, toward the KWITS, is one of the sound foundations on which NYFOA membership must rest.

Why not have EVERY NYFOA member organize his or her own WOODS WALK, invite community folks and spread the word of the Forest Owner and the pioneer work of the New York Forest Owners Assn.?
Ed Moot

LETTER FROM HOWARD O. WARD

Forest Owner Magazine
c/o Lloyd Strombeck
57 Main St.
Owego, N. Y.

This a comment on "Pile-O-Chips" by Ed Moot appearing on page 8 of the Feb. 1 issue of Forest Owner.

Taking Ed's remarks paragraph by paragraph, line by line, I start with the 1st paragraph which states that NY State is selling wood for \$3 a cord, and he asks whether this is a Farmer's cord, or regular pulp cord.

It is probably a Farmer's cord, a fireplace cord or a face cord, all of which would be 1 stick long, 4 ft. high in a pile by 8 ft long, and of course stove wood is one length, and fireplace wood as another. There is about 4" difference in length. The \$3 dollars just covers the cost of the material, all harvesting is done by the person buying the wood.

In his next paragraph he says it is time to inaugurate a cleanup drive for our forests after each logging operation. It seems to me that price of the wood that he talks about in his first paragraph is a way to accomplish the cleanup he asks for in the 2nd paragraph, because if the wood is sold cheaply enough, it would make it worthwhile for people to go into the forest and cut the fallen timber, branches etc. This ia a way to get the forest cleanup at no cost to the State.

Then he goes on with land misuse items from a EPA release, and each of these are given a letter.

Paragraph A - 4 billion tons of sediment wash into streams annually. This is probably true, but much of that sediment is from the wash along the highways, It is not a loss to agriculture lands, Consequently, while it poses a problem, it is a problem of proper highway constuction, more than it is of land use or of agricultural practices or anything of that nature.

Paragraph B - He is concerned about destroying wildlife habitat by surface mining and I would counter by saying that there are probably more acres returning to wildlife from abandoned farm lands than are being destroyed by surface mining. Consequently, I am not going to worry about that.

Paragraph C - He complains about surface mining despoiling over 3 million acres. This may be true, but our soil conservation service has developed and is continuing to develop means whereby these stripped areas of surface mining can be put back into production, and by production I mean something more than brush land which much of it was to begin with, so that it's a matter of control, rather than just throwing up your hands and saying what are we going to do about it.

Paragraph D - 1 million acres of forest are clear cut annually. I think this is fine, provided the areas are also reforested. Our large lumbering companies are doing exactly that and they together with our forest service, have proven that not only is this the most economical way to harvest timber, but it produces more timber over, let's say 50 years, than selective cutting.

Paragraph E - He complains about 3 1/2 million acres being paved over by highways and airports, he doesn't say how many we have right now, and I suspect that the increase in the amount of paving will slow down considerably, inasmuch as our federal and interstate highway system is nearly complete.

Paragraph F - Power stations will require 2000 acre ponds each. I see nothing wrong with that, because water in the form of ponds, lakes, streams, is a tremendous asset. There would be no reason that I could see why these 2000 acre ponds could not be used for recreation, to the considerable advantage to the surrounding populace.

Paragraph G - 19 million acres plus will be consumed by urban sprawl. How many acres are consumed by urban sprawl right now? I am not saying that I am in favor of it, but I don't think that the growth pattern is going to be all that bad. Further as land values increase, this puts more and more emphasis on concentrating living quarters in a smaller ground area. By this I mean high rise apts, condominiums, etc.

Paragraph H - 4 billion tons of raw material are consumed annually, most of which is disposed as waste on the land. Nature is pretty bountiful, and nature will make use of that waste if it is spread on the land and not really buried in the land, by converting the waste biologically into food for new growth. Even if it is put in landfill, this has in many cases resulted in the conversion of marshland which is often mosquito-infested, into areas of public parks, industrial parks or similar areas of useful land.

On the next page of that same issue - no author given - is a complaint about the export of American timber, and the writer says all timber should enter the American lumber market and not be scrounged by high bidders from other countries. Earn a few dollars here and then lose millions in our own economy. I don't agree. I am very much in favor of the free market. If er can get more for our lumber, whether it is sold locally or overseas, that same dollar which we receive is spent in America, so where is the loss? If we hold down the price of lumber because we want to sell it here, we haven't gained anything. True, perhaps the ultimate users pay less for their lumber, but the turnover of dollars is greater if we have a greater income from the lumber we sell. Again, I am in favor of the free market. This is the basis on which this country was founded, and that basis on which it has attained its present status in the free world.

PINEWALD SOCIETY MEETS

The Pinewald Society met June 1, 1974 for the tenth time, in their annual event, on each first Saturday in June. This group of folks, interested in the total ecology of this wonderful country of ours, has no officers, there are no annual dues and membership is open to all people interested in the recovery of our most valued natural resource, forest cover, More than a total of five hundred people have enjoyed the quiet, casual social exchange and

and slow woods walks over the "hog back, tree farm" now owned and managed by The Pinewald Seven, which is composed of three generations of the Moot family.

Two of the regular attendants, Mrs. Audrey Kwit and Miss Sarah Beard, whose father and grandfather were country doctors, will edit a final report of the ten years of ecological interest developed at Pinewald. Mrs. Kwit is co-owner of Sky Windows, a 200 acre farm which should be declared a TREE FARM very soon, with her husband Dr. Murray Kwit. Both have deep interest in the Tongore Garden Club of which Mrs. Kwit is president, Dr. Kwit is a director of the West Shokan library, a very modern library and cultural center erected on the site of an old one room school in West Shokan, N. Y. Miss Beard, a retired librarian with many years of service in the New York City Library now resides in the Beard family home on East Main St. Cobleskill, N. Y.

The Pinewald Society is really a "rural private Forest Think Tank" where ideas, related to human survival, are freely discussed. Several up to the minute problems of modern tree farm owners, and agricultural in general, will have free airing in the final report of the ten year experience of discovery related to the hope for recovery of the forest mantle which covered this state prior to 1700. Land taxes have skyrocketed. Social norms have radically changed, not for the good of the future of this country. False economic theories have thrown "monkey wrenches" in the national economy. Respect for country living has dwindled. False guide-marks of proper affluence have been established. This and many more theories for the betterment of life in general will be a part of the Pinewald Society statement of principles.



Stephen Cole demonstrates the use of the FROE in shingle making to Homer Neville of Manor Farm, Hyndsville and Dr. Murray Kwit of West Shokan.

Stephan Cole, a writer for IBM at Kingston, N. Y. pulls one end of the cross cut saw while Mr. Norman Olsen watches and "hangs on the long end of the log". Mr. Henry Hoyenga, a retired contractor of Duanesburg keeps the saw moving.





The Pinewald Society meets for the tenth annual get together of folks interested in our total ecology, in New York State. Mr. and Mrs. H. Irving Chase of Cobleskill are the only folks to attend every year since 1964. New comers this year include Mr. and Mrs. Homer Neville of Manor Farm, Hyndsville, N. Y., Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hoyenga of Duanesberg, (Mrs. Hoyenga is a descendant of the Terpening family which settled high on the the hill above Pinewald in the eary part of the nineteenth century), Mr. and Mrs. Norman Olsen, retired department store owner of Cobleskill, N. Y.

LETTERS TO AND FROM LLOYD G. STROMBECK

Dear Lloyd,

Have been planning to write you since our Forest Owners Spring Meeting which I hoped to attend but couldn't make it.

The program looked very interesting and disliked to miss it. It appeared to be down to earth and up to date as well.

In my opinion our news letter has been getting better in the last few issues. Sure you can take some of the credit for the improvement.

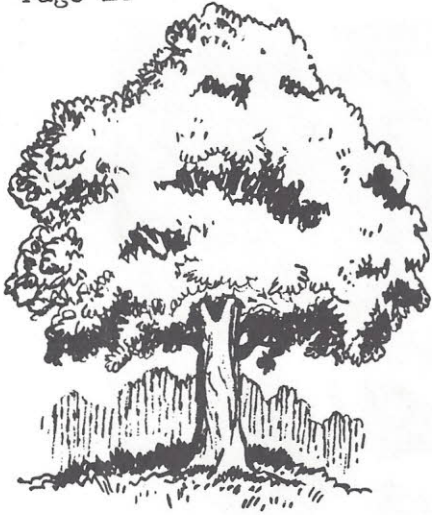
Believe we were almost charter members in the Association. Was sure then it could fulfil a need among forest owners and still do. However we still don't seem to be getting across to some forest owners.

I was director on one Forest Practice Board for some years and the same problem existed now and then. Our district foresters are busy but locally several of my neighbors sold woodlots without forestry advice. One has a lawsuit for death of a worker, didn't check on insurance. Another didn't get all his pay and another didn't receive near full value for his timber. I had talked with all of these people about the value of our Forest Service and the advantage of our Forest Owners Assoc. No results.

One letter in last news letter noted this same problem. Am afraid to many farmers only consider as valuable any something that comes from an open field.

Guess I haven't the answer so guess I'm not much help.

Sincerely,
Hoyt Ackles



Now is the time to be thinking about the

1974

CORNELL

FOREST OWNERS' SCHOOL

N. Y. S. College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

Saturday, September 14, Morrison Hall

- 8:30 a. m. - Registration
- 9:45 a. m. - Coffee and doughnuts
- 10:15 a. m. - Welcome from Cornell
- 10:30 a. m. - Forest Land Taxation
- 11:15 a. m. - Forestry Research from Here and There
- 12:00 noon - Fried chicken lunch (Dairy Bar Cafeteria)
- 1:30 p. m. - Clearcutting: A Popular View
- 2:15 p. m. - Clearcutting: A Technical View
- 3:00 p. m. - Coffee and doughnuts
- 3:30 p. m. - Aesthetic Logging from a Logger's Standpoint
- 4:15 p. m. - The Forestry Incentives Program
- 5:00 p. m. - Closing Statement from NYFOA

Registration Fee: \$5.00 per person or \$7.50 per couple.

Note: Registration fee does not cover lunch.

Dear Bill,

Congress is considering an expanded Forestry-Wildlife Extension Program - a \$20 million increase to Section 3 (D) of the Smith - Lever Act, the backbone of the Federal, State and County Extension Service Programs in this country.

Fred E. Winch, Jr., N. Y. State Extension Forester asks us as a Board of Directors and as an Association to give our support to this legislation. This state stands to gain \$813,000, the most of any state, which will enable the N. Y. State Extension Service to expand its minimal work in forestry and wildlife. Forestry extension in New York State has been funded since 1921 and still has only two full-time forestry extension men, one of whom is Dave Taber, funded by Cornell and operating co-operatively with the College of Forestry.

The new funds would enable this state to strengthen its work in forest resources management, processing, utilization and marketing forest products and urban and environmental forestry. We have the most acres of private forest land; the most owners of private forest lands and the next largest population of any state.

The N. Y. Forest Owners Association and other such volunteer organizations will have the most to gain in educational services in forestry and wildlife extension. College forestry specialists have been invaluable to us in the planning and development of NYFOA programs.

I am sending copies to Lewis DuMond, of statements from Land-Grant College Committee on Extension Organization and Policy (EOOP), the American Forestry Association and the North Carolina State Extension Service supporting the proposed Federal legislation.

New York members of Congressional Committees may be contacted by letter or telegram by our Directors and Association members.

Their names and committees are:

House of Representatives
McEwen, Addabbo and Robison, Appropriations

Senate
Buckley, Interior and Related Agencies

Also, I am sending Lewis DuMond complete lists of the members of standing committees of the U. S. Senate and House of Representatives concerned with legislation in question.

I will be out of the state on May 26 when the Board is expected to meet but I urge active support from the Directors and the Association membership. Each may write to or send telegrams to members of the congressional standing committees urging their support and/or to their congressman and senators. I think telegrams and even post-cards are very effective.

Sincerely yours,
Lloyd G. Strombeck, 1st V. P., NYFOA

LETTER TO SENATOR JACKSON

Dear Senator;

The New York Forest Owners Association has been circularized, concerning the Land Use Policy and Planning Assistance Act of 1973, proposed by you and Rep. Maurice Udall, passed by the Senate but defeated in the House. Mostly, these comments urged us to ask our congressmen to vote against it.

We publish The Forest Owner, sent to our membership. Please send me some information about the origin and purpose of the bill for publication in The Forest Owner.

The summary of the bill taken from LUP Reports/July 16, 1973 recommends the development of land use planning methods by local government to protect the public interests from exploitation by private interests from the I interpret it.

Local editorial comment suggests that the bill is communistic but it does not appear that way to me.

Sincerely yours,
Lloyd G. Strombeck, 1st Vice Pres., NYFOA

THE LAND USE PLANNING ACT - Lloyd G. Strombeck

This Act co-sponsored by Senator Henry Jackson of Washington and Rep. Morris Udall of Arizona, passed earlier by the U. S. Senate, originally had the support of the National Association of Realtors, the National League of Cities, the U. S. Conference of Mayors, the National Governors' Conference, the AFL-CIO, the National Parking Lot Operators, the Mortgage Bankers Association, the American Retail Federation and the International Council of Shopping Centers.

The Act would make available about \$100 million a year to states interested in drawing up statewide land use plans that might restrict the exploitation of wet lands or covering our countryside with "slurbs". As usual, in these programs certain guidelines are established for the states that accept the Federal largesse. The states themselves would have to pass legislation to impose meaningful sanctions on the despoilers and the desecrators. Already, according to report Hawaii, Vermont, Florida and Oregon have land use acts 10 times tougher than this Act.

Funds would be available for the interstate co-ordination of land use policies and their implementation through existing or new agencies. Grants would be available to colleges and universities for theoretical or practical research and related student training. Annual grants would be made to Indian tribes to cover 100% of the costs of developing land use programs for reservation and other tribal lands.

In three years, the co-operating states would be required to develop a land use planning process including a land use planning agency; inventories of land and natural resources, data on population, economic and environmental conditions and growth trends and provision for public participation and education; and a program to regulate land sales and development projects of 50 or more units located more than 10 miles from a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area or a state approved regulatory agency. Each proposed project must be evaluated with respect to consistency with state programs and existing or planned public service; effects on open space, natural beauty and soil erosion; and financial capability of the developer. Comment on local and regional need for the project and specific "yes or no" recommendations must be made.

Within five years states must develop a land use program, including:

1. The process provided above.
2. A statement of land use policies and objectives.
3. Methods to control use and development of land in areas of critical environmental concern. These areas include historical or ecologically fragile lands, lands subject to flooding or other natural disasters, and regionally significant agricultural and watershed lands "where uncontrolled or incompatible development could result in damage to the environment, life or property or the long term public interest which is more than local significance."
4. Methods to control the use of land which is or may be impacted by key facilities -- public facilities that tend to induce development or urbanization of more than local impact, including airports, highway interchanges, recreational areas and energy facilities.
5. Methods to control private large-scale development of more than local significance due to its size, environmental impact, or potential to generate traffic or further growth.
6. Methods to assure that local regulations do not "arbitrarily or capriciously" exclude development of public facilities, housing, or utilities of regional benefit.
7. Methods to influence the location of new communities and control surrounding land use.
8. Methods to assure that none of the above activities violate or will stimulate violations of the goals, policies, or standards of Federal, state or local pollution laws.

9. Participation by local officials, property owners, users of the land and the public in developing, implementing and revision the program.
10. Coordination where applicable with Federal agencies, state agencies, Indian tribes and other states.

After five years a state must "demonstrate good faith efforts" to implement its land use program in order to receive further grants. In addition, the governor must approve the land use program, the state must participate in the HUD "701" comprehensive planning grant program, and coastal states must participate in the Commerce Department coastal zone management grant program.

From LUP Reports/July 16, 1973

The Land Use Planning bill stirred opposition from the U. S. Chamber of Commerce which saw the bill as a "foot in the door", "the tip of the iceberg", "the camel's nose under the tent" or the "calm before the storm". Other lobby groups including the Liberty Lobby, the American Conservative Union and the American Farm Bureau joined forces with the United States Chamber of Commerce to lobby against the bill.

By a vote of 211 to 204 the House voted it was not necessary to give the Land Use Act a hearing. They voted against holding a debate on this measure the Administration once declared the nation's "greatest (domestic) need."

The material for this article was taken from an item "Visigoths Plunder and Pillage the House" by James M. Perry in the June 29, 1974 issue of the National Observer and the LUP Reports/July 16, 1973.

Land use planning has long been a concern of the NYFOA. Write to your congressman for more background on this Act or to give your opinion.

Mr. Lloyd G. Strombeck, Chairman
Editorial Committee, NYFOA
57 Main St., Owego, N. Y.

Dear Lloyd,

I am enclosing some things I thin will be of interest to NYFOA members. These are:

- a) A notice from the Commission on the current public forums
- b) Information about a preparatory meeting of organizations in the Central New York area getting ready for the forums.
- c) An article about the report on Tug Hill resources done by the College of Environmental Science & Forestry for the Commission. This appeared in the Syracuse Herald-American.

Regarding the last item, I have wanted for some time to write an article on the work of the Commission for the Newsletter (Mrs. Varian asked me to do so) but have been absolutely swamped with work. Perhaps there is some material here that you or she might wish to use.. I thought the single-page flyer you sent out recently was excellent.

Best regards,
Dick Mark

TUG HILL STUDIED - Commission cataloging features
(A Digest of a Newspaper Article)

Tug Hill, a country within a state, is being carefully studied for the first time. The study area includes 1,340,000 acres of land in Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida and Oswego

Counties with 84,000 people and a core of wilderness mysterious to many who live around it.

It is being examined by a temporary state commission which aims to catalog the region's features and, perhaps, set a course for future development.

Last week, the nine commissioners, all Tug Hillians, got their first text in what is expected to be a series of reports profiling everything about the area from what people do for a living (dairy and lumber) to what plants (duckweed, horsetail, lopseed) and animals (eastern coyote, ruffled grouse, varying hare) are found.

They were delivered a four-and-a-half pound, 700 page loose-leaf report, "Resources of the Tug Hill Region" prepared for the commission by the State College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse.

Benjamin Coe of Watertown, a professional engineer who is executive director of the commission, described the document as a "collection of facts." He views the thick study, its minutely detailed appendix, 109 maps and an atlas supplement as working texts from which the panel's final recommendations could be drawn.

Although the report makes a few general recommendations about Tug Hill, Coe cautioned that it is just one aspect of a broad study which includes input from residents of the region as a "vital part" of any decisions the commissioners make in a year or so.

"At this point," he explained, "the report represents only the views of the experts at the college. Our approach to the job is to involve people in the process from the beginning. We want this to be a citizens' commission in the true sense of the words."

Any study of Tug Hill invites comparison to the Adirondacks in other ways, too, and Coe and the commissioners must take this flatly that Tug Hill represents an "entirely different situation," the end results - possible land use controls and zoning - could be similar to those eventually proposed by the Adirondacks commission.

Beyond this, however, Coe insists Tug Hill and the Adirondacks differ. For one thing, only 12 per cent of the land is in state hands, compared to the giant part "blue lines" north of Tug Hill.

The college research team, headed by Ralph Nyland and Jean Fisher, found, as other students have, that Tug Hill is a place of contradictions, including the name.

The "hill" from which the name is taken - an upland plateau rising from the Black River Valley - actually is only one feature which helps to compose six distinct subregions between Sandy Creek and Boonville, from Oneida Lake north to Watertown.

"Tug Hill Country," author Harold Samson once wrote, "embraces not only the plateau itself, but all the vast regions that are watered by and drained by the tumultuous streams that come down from its flinty slopes and through its rocky gorges."

Benjamin Coe, for his part, sees some forms of land use control and zoning in Tug Hill's future. But he thinks these will be oriented to local government rather than the state.

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