Northwest Missouri State Park Committee Developmental Proposal (C4321)

Collection Number: C4321

Collection Title: Northwest Missouri State Park Committee Developmental Proposal

Dates: 1925

Creator: Northwest Missouri State Park Committee

Abstract: Promotional book of letters, descriptions, blueprint, and photographs presenting the merits of Lanowa Park in Buchanan and Andrew Counties in order to petition the Missouri State Park Commission to establish it as a Missouri State Park.

Collection Size: 0.3 cubic feet
(1 oversize volume)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia. If you would like more information, please contact us at columbia@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: Materials in this collection are in the public domain.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Northwest Missouri State Park Committee Developmental Proposal* (C4321); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

Donor Information: The volume was donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by an unknown donor on an unknown date. The volume was transferred from the Reference Collection to the Manuscript Collection on May 18, 1984 (Accession No. CA2525).

Processed by: Processed by John Konzal, April 25, 2017. Finding aid revised by Autumn Cuddy on January 3, 2024.

Historical Note:

In 1925, the St. Joseph Ad Club created a proposal to secure the area known as Lanowa as a Missouri State Park. Lanowa begins in the extreme northwestern corner of Buchanan County and extends along river bluffs through Andrew and Holt Counties, Missouri.

Several Ad Club members were appointed to form a special State Park Committee to submit the proposal. The committee was composed of Chairman Dr. B.W. Murphy, R.M. Soper, L.J. Morgan, William L. Goetz, Orville L. Moffet, C.E. Busch, along with other individuals.

The proposal was submitted to the Missouri State Park Commission with the following recommendations: that immediate steps be taken to secure Lanowa as a State Park so as to put a stop to any further destruction of its rare primitive beauty and objects of interest and that the club take prompt measures to present the subject matter of this report to all other clubs of this city and vicinity together with an invitation to co-operate with the committee.

The natural wonders of Lanowa were emphasized, along with its historical significance to Native American people, who consider the area sacred. Other aspects such as topography, flora and fauna, accessibility, and serviceability were also emphasized.

The area known as Lanowa was eventually made into an area known as Sunbridge Hills, and is part of the Buchanan County, Missouri, conservation areas.

Arrangement:

The collection has been maintained in its original order.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection contains materials related to the effort to establish Lanowa Park in Buchanan and Andrew Counties as a Missouri State Park, 1925.

Container List:

v. 1	Lanowa State Park Proposal Book. Lanowa, from “Wawa-Lano-Wa,” meaning, “land of the road to paradise,” located in Buchanan and Andrew Counties, Missouri. The book contains a letter from the Mayor of St. Joseph, Missouri, Henry E. Grosser, to the State Historical Society of Missouri, asking the Society to take the book into their archives after the State Park Commission is through with it; letter from Mayor Henry Grosser to Mr. Harry Becker, President of the St. Joseph Ad Club, thanking Becker for the good work he did in presenting the merits of Lanowa. The remainder of material includes a promotional pamphlet *La-No-Wa, A State Park for Northwest Missouri*; reports to the Missouri State Park Commission, providing information on Lanowa, including land boundaries; a blueprint map of Lanowa Park; photographs of various points of interest in the park, accompanied with references to Native Americans, folklore, topography and potential uses; signed petition by leaders of various civic groups and other citizens endorsing the establishment of Lanowa as a Missouri State Park, 1925.

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Lanowa Park (Mo.)	v. 1	Yes
Northwest Missouri State Park Committee	v. 1	Yes

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Index Terms	Volume	Image
Parks, Missouri, 1920s	v. 1	

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