



The Beauty of the Southland

A SCENIC, HISTORIC, BOTANIC DRIVETHRU

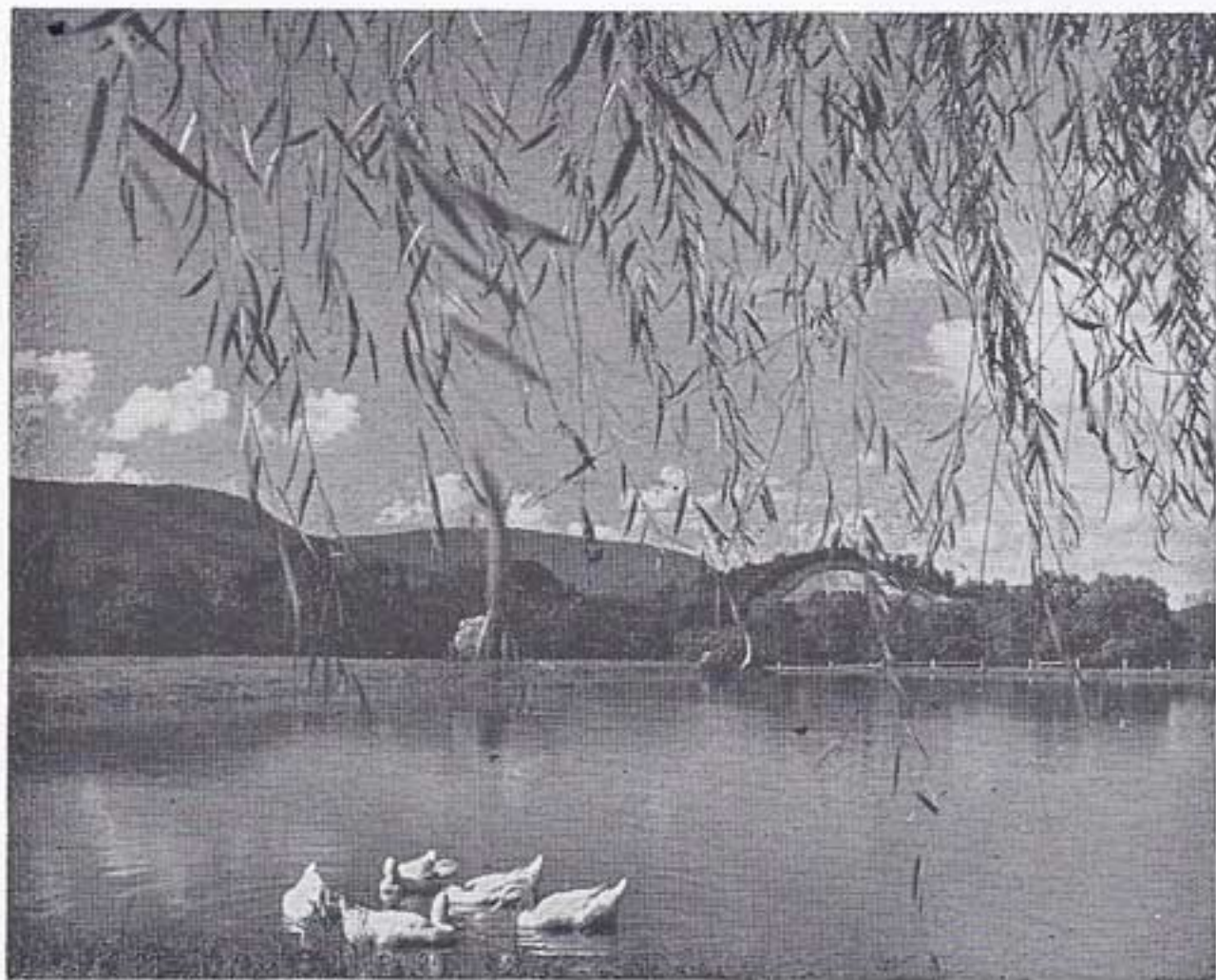


Photo by J. B. Collins

*Whoever loves beautiful
landscaping, a profusion
of wild flowers and a
pleasant glance at
history will enjoy
Reflection Riding . . .*

Signs near the **L&N Red Caboose on Scenic Highway** at junction with Cummings Highway, U.S. 11, 41, 64 will show you the way.

For their work at Reflection Riding Mr. and Mrs. John A. Chambliss were awarded the 1967 Margaret Douglas Medal by the Garden Clubs of America and one of the 1968 Holiday Awards for a Beautiful America. Reflection Riding is listed in the Brooklyn Botanic Garden "Handbook on American Gardens" as "a wildflower preserve to be viewed by car."

Reflection Riding has a few lakes which, like mirrors, reflect the beauty of the mountain's trees and cliffs that rise above them. Many of the trees and shrubs along the trails and roads have been properly labeled.

This historic, scenic, geological, and botanical drivethru delights people of all ages, captivating the imagination and interests of young and old alike. Reflection Riding coordinates various natural and historic features such as simple, factual 18th Century Indian history and tradition, the dramatic Civil War conflict of the "Battle Above the Clouds," a tree and shrub sanctuary. On rainy, foggy days when driving on Lookout is difficult, the easy, clear drivethru shows the growing things enjoying the wetness, and you are secure in your car.

Trees make a dazzling display in October—leaves of maple, hickory, sourwood, black gum, sweet gum, tulip poplar—with colors of scarlet, gold, purple, and wine red. In winter there is the green of pines and hemlocks.

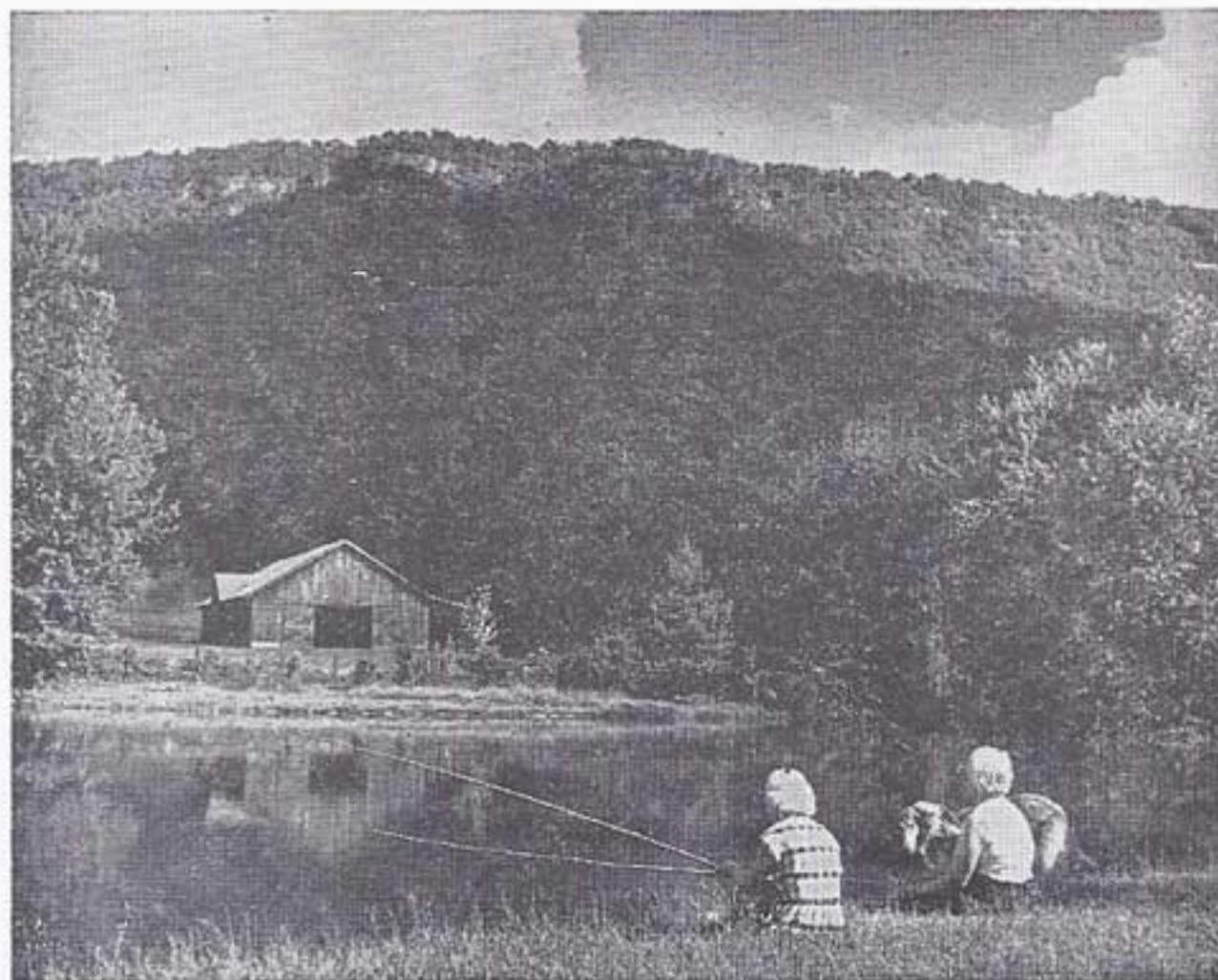


Photo by J. B. Collins

One of the many peaceful scenes that make Reflection Riding a beauty spot, and Lookout towers 1500 feet above.

DRAGGING CANOE—FIGHTING CHIEF . . . Dragging Canoe broke away from the peaceful Cherokee living on the Little Tennessee River and established his "Five Lower Towns" in this general area. From these towns he sent out war parties to harass the young United States, fighting to gain back the lands of his ancestors, taken from his Nation by land hungry whites. At last Dragging Canoe's war parties no longer used the Indian War Path across REFLECTION RIDING, and peaceful Cherokees moved into Lookout Valley to live. The TVA now controls the water level in Lookout Creek; the Indian fishing and Civil War Picket line is long gone.

Weathered Wooden Markers add to the Natural Gardens Beauty

The Reflection Riding Lectures at the Royal Society of Arts and Commerce (London) are in memory of landscape architects. The first was entitled Civilization and the Landscape by Sylvia Crowe, an internationally recognized authority. It is included in the 1962 Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institute. This report is available at many public libraries. It contains eight striking photos taken at Reflecton Riding.

The New York Botanic Garden Journal for March-April, 1966, contains an illustrated article on Reflection Riding by the Editor, Dorothy E. Hansell.

"The Mystery of the Mountain Face," a delight by Govan - West, is grounded here, and also Ambrose Bierce's striking story "A Horseman in the Sky" probably suggested by **The Face**.

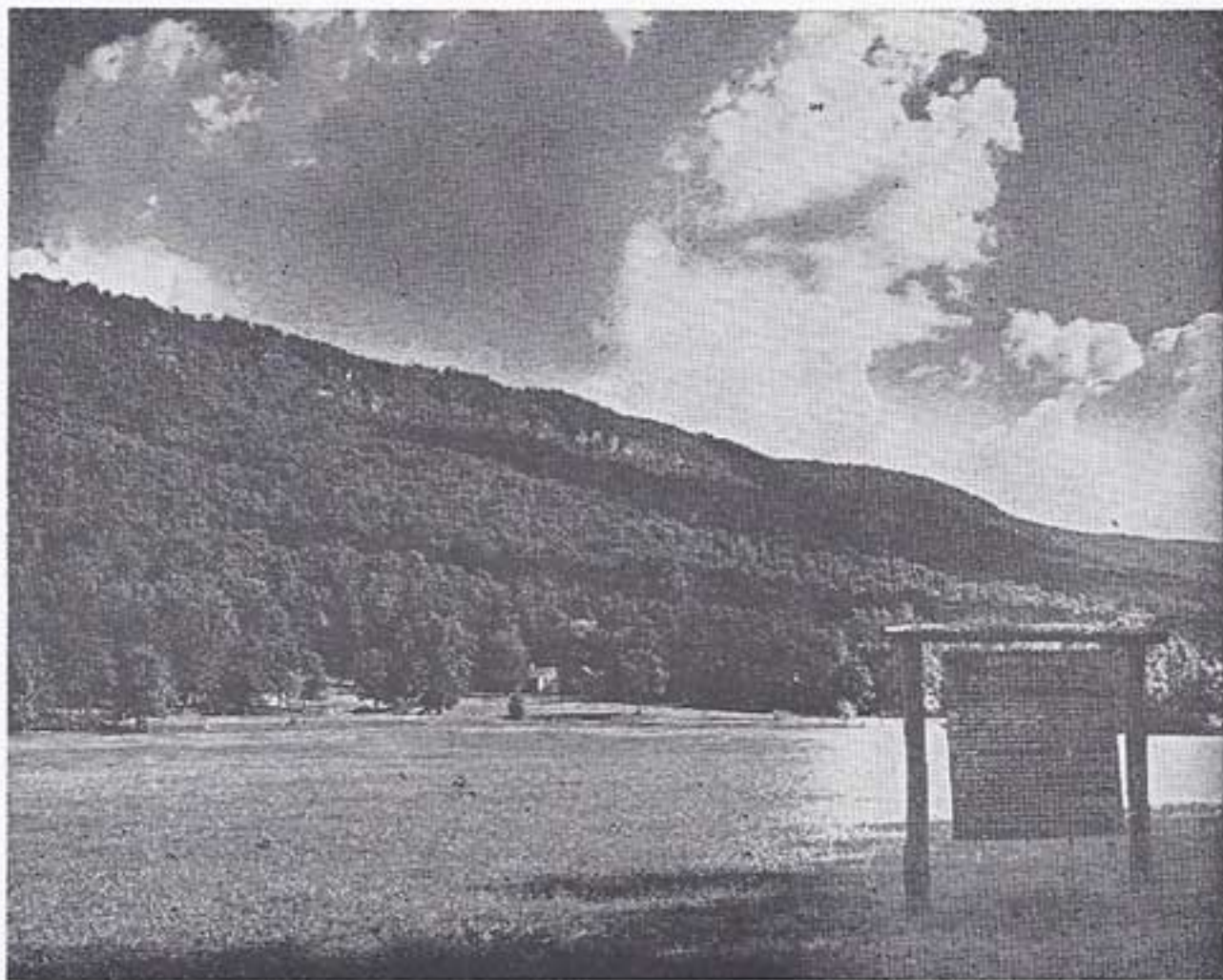


Photo by J. B. Collins

Ready-made pictures like this attract many artists and photographers.

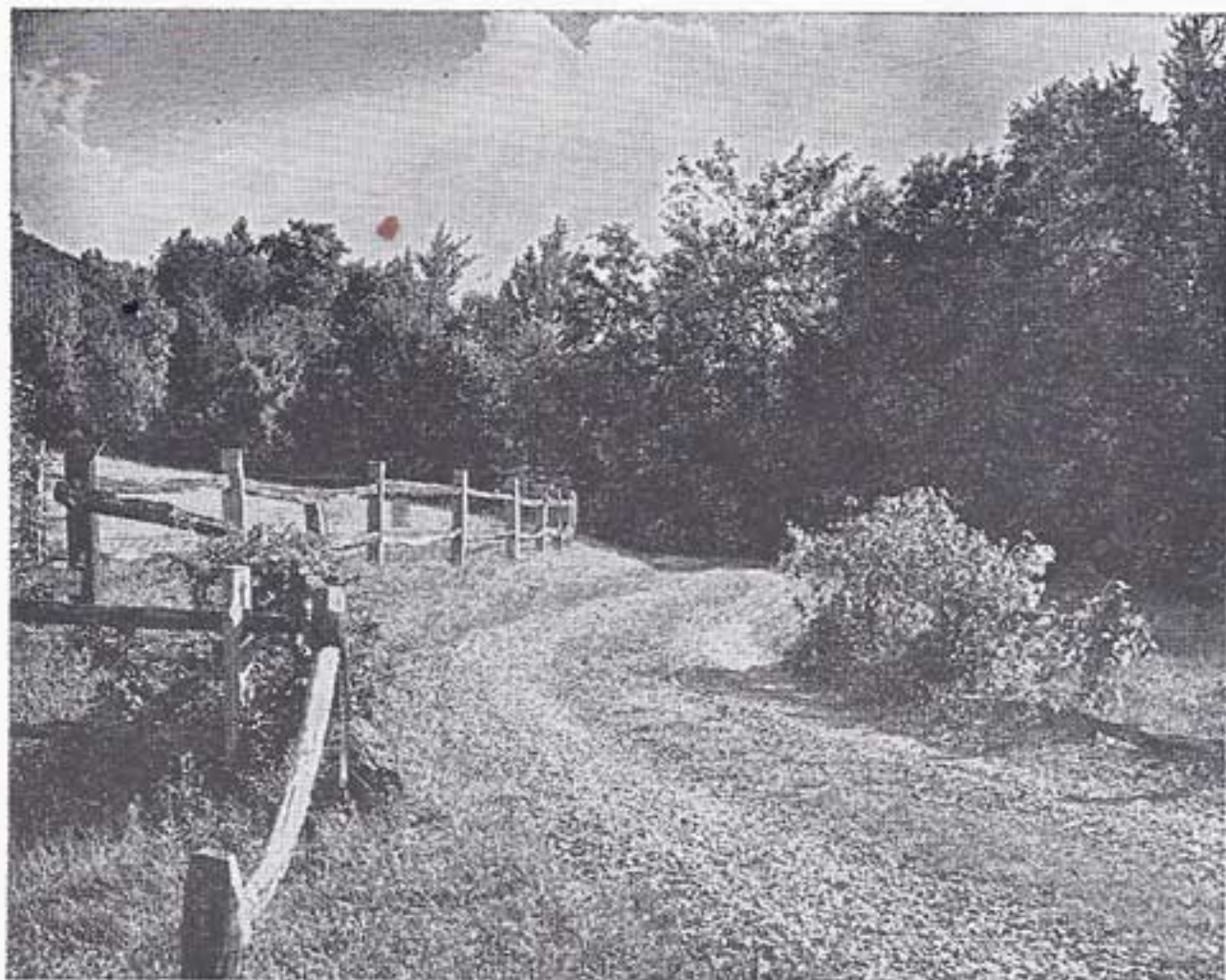


Photo by J. B. Collins

Now's the time to ride this winding road to view more than 45 varieties of trees, at least 60 different wild flowers.



Those who visit Point Park may get a "preview" of Reflection Riding 1500 feet below. Inquire of the Ranger where to look. Also you may enter the gate of Reflection Riding to get a close-up preview of the tour without obligation.

THE CRAVEN'S HOUSE . . . The Battle Above the Clouds began at Reflection Riding. It ended two miles away, and eight hundred feet up, at Craven's. This house is worth a visit as another shrine. The Tennessee Association for the Preservation of Antiquities has a long-term lease granted by the National Park Service. The vicinity has several imposing memorial shafts: New York, Ohio, Iowa, and many monuments. A visit will be amply rewarding. Markers at Reflection Riding indicate where troops from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania crossed Reflection Riding.

Both Craven's House and the N.P.S. Picnic Area are near Tenn. 148, the **Scenic Highway**. This is the road up Lookout Mountain that leads directly to the Town of Lookout Mountain. Street signs there provide full information.

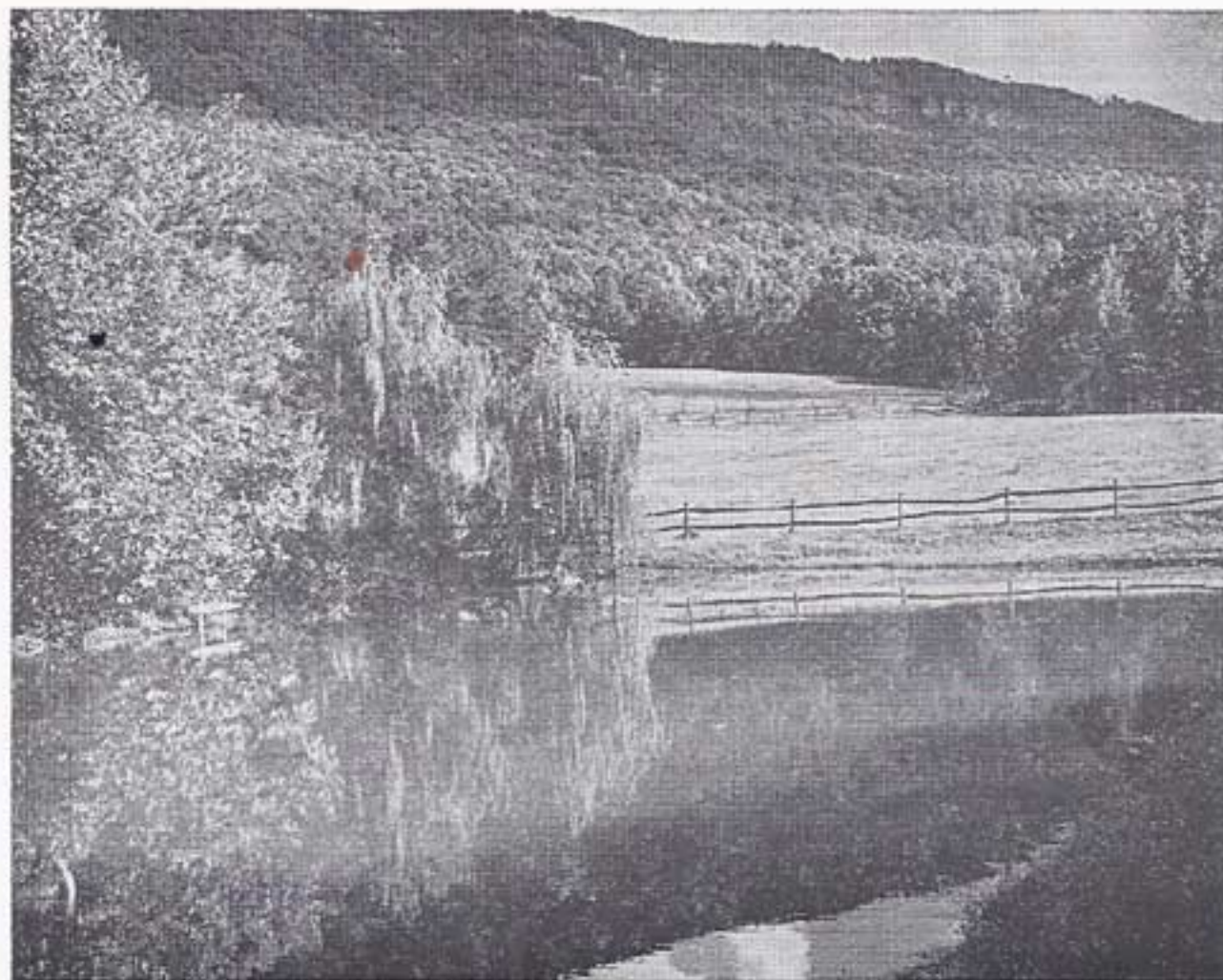


Photo by J. B. Collins

Lookout and trees mirrored in the quiet water give the preserve its name.

Three Historic Highways

If fame has not come to the INDIAN PROFILE, history surely has. Beneath this stone face wood buffaloes once wandered, eating the cane along Lookout Creek and stamping out trails. Later Indians came to use these buffalo paths as highways and two of these ancient trails crossed REFLECTION RIDING.

"The Great Indian War Path" came from New York State to Long Island, near Bridgeport, Alabama, where it joined other Indian trails. The other historic trail was "The St. Augustine and Cisca Trail." It began at St. Augustine, Florida, and ran to the ancient Indian village of Cisca, near present day Manchester, Tennessee.

Both of these trails went over the northern talus of Lookout Mountain and headed southwest across REFLECTION RIDING to ford Lookout Creek at what was later the site of Light's Mill.

In 1807 "The Georgia, or Old Federal Road" from Augusta, Georgia, to Nashville, Tennessee, was completed. It was the first road through the Cherokee Nation. It also moved across REFLECTION RIDING, using the ancient Indian trails. Today the traces of these three different forest highways are marked at REFLECTION RIDING.

HERNANDO DE SOTO . . . In 1540 Hernando De Soto and his Spaniards clanked along "The Great Indian War Path" in their heavy armor, searching for gold. They crossed what is now REFLECTION RIDING and forded Lookout Creek, guarding chained Indian slaves with crossbows and arquebuses. Frightened Indians, hiding in cane brakes, got their first glimpse of strange new animals—pigs and horses—as they drank from the creek waters.

A Cure for What Ails You

When the pioneers came into Lookout Valley, they found a variety of huge trees. Although the sawmiller has left only a few of these old giants, still today at REFLECTION RIDING can be found the same kind of trees and the same traditions attached to them.

Here is found the wild cherry, whose bark is used in cough syrup. Sassafras furnished a tonic which was a cure for all diseases. The oil of the black walnut was used for the toothache and D. Boone used the wood for gunstocks because it has less recoil than other woods. The dogwood furnished a scarlet dye as well as a remedy for malaria.

There was no ache or pain for which the pioneers could not find a tree or plant to cure such maladies. Some of this folk medicine has proven to be beneficial by modern tests, but most of it is worthless.

This is a miniature Smoky Mountains drive, and probably near your home there could be a similar drivethru.



Photo by J. B. Collins

"Drivethru" and see this.

MILLSTONES ON A FLATBOAT . . . In 1803 Caspar Vaught was sent here by the Federal Government to build a mill for the Cherokee Indians as part of a treaty payment to them. The mill was located on Lookout Creek where ancient trails crossed. The millstones found at REFLECTION RIDING are thought to be the ones brought by Vaught from Blount County down the Tennessee River by a flatboat in 1803. Later the Cherokees were ousted from this section and sent west along "The Trail of Tears." The millstones however stayed in place to grind grain for the white settlers. And these same stones were in use in Light's Mill when the Federals crossed the milldam to begin "The Battle of Lookout Mountain." These are very rare and unusual stones, as are the cabins at Reflection Riding.

Reflection Riding

" . . . elegance is the peculiar excellence of a garden; greatness of a park; simplicity of a farm; and pleasantness of a riding . . . planted with properly chosen and grouped trees . . . the main route should wind along in a pleasant and varied way . . . the scenes . . . through which it proceeds without stopping . . . as natural as possible." Thomas Whately (1770) quoted by
—SIREN in Gardens of Europe (1950) p. 51.

FOOTPRINTS OF HISTORY . . . Still across REFLECTION RIDING today may be found the footprints of history, the traces of events and people long gone. Beside the quiet waters of Lookout Creek, under the canopy of trees, among the flowers and shrubs we may still find signs that a great people passed this way.

A Unique Place to Drive

Leave Interstate 24 at Tiftonia exit and go toward Lookout Mountain. **Unique** because probably the first in the U. S. where the tour is by car. This riding is an instance of happy motoring. Here your car is a real delight. You are free of the handicaps of weather and/or physique.

Six miles from downtown Chattanooga. Signs near the **L&N Red Caboose on Scenic Highway** (Tennessee 148) at junction with Cummings Highway, U. S. 11, 41, 64. There are no billboards. Take Garden Road into National Park.

PLEASE DO NOT PICK, PULL, OR DAMAGE SHRUBS OR FLOWERS