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A Conserved Natural Area in Warren County

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A Conserved Natural Area in Warren County

JACK L. CARTER¹

Abstract. Mr. Don L. Berry presented a heavily wooded area in Warren County to The Nature Conservancy. This woods is to be known as the Berry Woods and shall be maintained as a "Living Museum" for future generations.

During the past year Mr. Don L. Berry presented a heavily wooded area in Warren County to The Nature Conservancy. In honor of the Berry family who has owned and protected this property for over ninety years, this woods has been named Berry Woods.

Mr. Berry has long been a friend of the conservation movement, and it was his love for wildlife and nature that prompted him to present this property as a "Living Museum." For years Mr. Berry, as editor of the Warren County newspaper, *Record-Herald* and *Indianola Tribune*, has published editorials concerning the need to conserve not only our forests and agricultural lands, but prairies, streams, lakes, and rivers.

It is the function of The Nature Conservancy to preserve samples of the wild nature which still remain in the United States. This organization operates on the premise that every untouched, natural or wild area that can be saved from exploitation gives tomorrow's generations a link to America's past.

The Berry Woods is located 4 miles northwest of Indianola, Iowa, in Warren County. The area covered is approximately 42 acres, and is located in the east half of section 2 in Lincoln Township.

Drainage is to the north into the Middle River and this woods covers a portion of the bluffs which form the south bank of the river. The bluff along the south of the river in the area of the woods is cut by a branching ravine which runs into the uplands, and the main trench of this ravine originates at a small artificial pond, which was constructed in 1959.

This area might be considered a typical deciduous forest for south-central Iowa. The upland woods is an oak-hickory association, while the ravines seem to support a basswood-ash-black walnut association.

There has never been a complete check-list of the vascular flora of the area published, but on request of Dr. Don Berry,

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several students at Simpson College have expressed interest in working on such a survey during the present growing season.

The following species have been identified by the author following several visits to the area by staff members and students of Simpson College. The nomenclature used follows *Gray's Manual of Botany*, 8th Edition, and the *New Britton and Brown Illustrated Flora*. These habit lists are not complete, but will give an indication of the vascular flora of the area.

SPECIES OCCURRING ON THE WOODED SLOPES OF RAVINES

<i>Aesculus glabra</i>	<i>Erythronium albidum</i>	<i>Ranunculus abortivus</i>
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>	<i>Ranunculus septentrionalis</i>
<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	<i>Rhus radicans</i>
<i>Asarum canadense</i>	<i>Gladisia triacanthos</i>	<i>Rubus occidentalis</i>
<i>Botrychium virginianum</i>	<i>Hydrophyllum virginianum</i>	<i>Smilax herbacea</i>
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	<i>Smilax hispida</i>
<i>Claytonia virginica</i>	<i>Monotropa uniflora</i>	<i>Tilia americana</i>
<i>Cystopteris fragilis</i>	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	<i>Uvularia grandiflora</i>
<i>Delphinium tricorne</i>	<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	<i>Viola sororia</i>
<i>Dicentra cucullaria</i>	<i>Polemonium reptans</i>	<i>Xanthoxylum americanum</i> .

SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE UPLAND WOODS, FROM THE TO MORE PROTECTED AREAS WEEDY ROADSIDE WOODS

<i>Acalypha rhomboidea</i>	<i>Galium aparine</i>	<i>Quercus alba</i>
<i>Acer negundo</i>	<i>Galium concinnum</i>	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>
<i>Aesculus glabra</i>	<i>Geum canadense</i>	<i>Quercus velutina</i>
<i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i>	<i>Hystrix patula</i>	<i>Rhus typhina</i>
<i>Aster ontariensis</i>	<i>Melilotus alba</i>	<i>Rhus glabra</i>
<i>Aster sagittifolius</i>	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	<i>Rhus radicans</i>
<i>Aster shortii</i>	<i>Oxalis europaea</i>	<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>
<i>Carex rosea</i>	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>
<i>Carya ovata</i>	<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	<i>Sanicula canadensis</i>
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	<i>Phyrra leptostachya</i>	<i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatus</i>
<i>Claytonia virginica</i>	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>	<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>
<i>Cornus canadensis</i>	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	<i>Ulmus rubra</i>
<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	<i>Ulmus americana</i>
<i>Ellisia nyctelea</i>	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	<i>Urtica dioica</i>
<i>Eupatorium purpureum</i>	<i>Pyrus ioensis</i>	<i>Viola pubescens</i>
<i>Eupatorium rugosum</i>		

In keeping with the primary concern of The Nature Conservancy to preserve to the best of our ability and maintain the Berry Woods as a "Living Museum," the following rules have been suggested:

1. There shall be absolutely no trespassing without the permission of a member of the local committee.
2. Other activities which fall into the category of banned activities include fires (for any purpose), picnicking, camping, hunting, trapping, fishing, berrying, nut gathering, mushroom gathering, wild flower picking and horseback riding.
3. Feeding animals in this area shall not be permitted.
4. Research will be strongly encouraged as long as it can be done without exceeding reasonable limits of disturbance to natural processes.
5. Limited collecting of plant, animal and geological material will be allowed under two conditions:
 - (a) The specimens taken will be such a small proportion of the species that their removal will not have a signi-

ficant influence on the population of that species in area;

- (b) that the specimens are placed in a suitable place of storage at Simpson College or on loan to other institutions, so that they will be available for reference in future research.

There must not be repeated collections made by persons doing similar research.

6. Live-trapping and marking of animals is permitted, but "killer-type" traps shall not be permitted without the consent of the local committee.
7. The removal of dead materials shall not be permitted. Dead plants and animals shall remain as they are to make possible the return of this organic material to the forest.

It is the desire of Mr. Berry and The Nature Conservancy that the Berry Woods be protected and maintained in its natural beauty forever.

Literature Cited

- Fernald, M. L. 1950. Gray's Manual of Botany. 8th ed. American Book Co. New York, N. Y.
 Gleason, H. A. 1952. New Britton and Brown Illustrated Flora. New York Botanical Garden, Lancaster Press, Lancaster, Pa.

Scheming for Resource Management

LESTER F. FABER¹

Abstract During the past 25 years much good conservation work has been done in Iowa. It is now time to re-evaluate existing facilities and services provided for Iowa citizens by the Conservation Commission. It is time to take stock of what we have in relation to existing public needs, and to plan ahead to meet anticipated demands by the people of this state. To decide what to do in the future it is perhaps best to set out existing problems and add a pinch of crystal ball to see what the future might hold. Studies and surveys must be carried out to answer many questions facing us today. A few examples are—To what extent can fish and wildlife resources be utilized to meet hunting and fishing needs? What is the role of fish and wildlife management in meeting these needs? What lands should be used for hunting and fishing in conjunction with other uses? What are the present needs and anticipated demands for forest products in Iowa? What are the responsibilities of various levels of government in planning for and meeting the needs of people for local, area-wide and state-wide outdoor recreation?

SCHEMING FOR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Over 25 years ago a conservation plan was prepared as guide