

A Glimpse into the Past

The Clemson Experimental Forest

Dr. George H. Aull initiated the Clemson Land Use Project in 1934 with a proposal to the Roosevelt administration's land reclamation program. The federal government purchased some 206 parcels of sub marginal farmland (27,400 acres) around the Clemson campus.

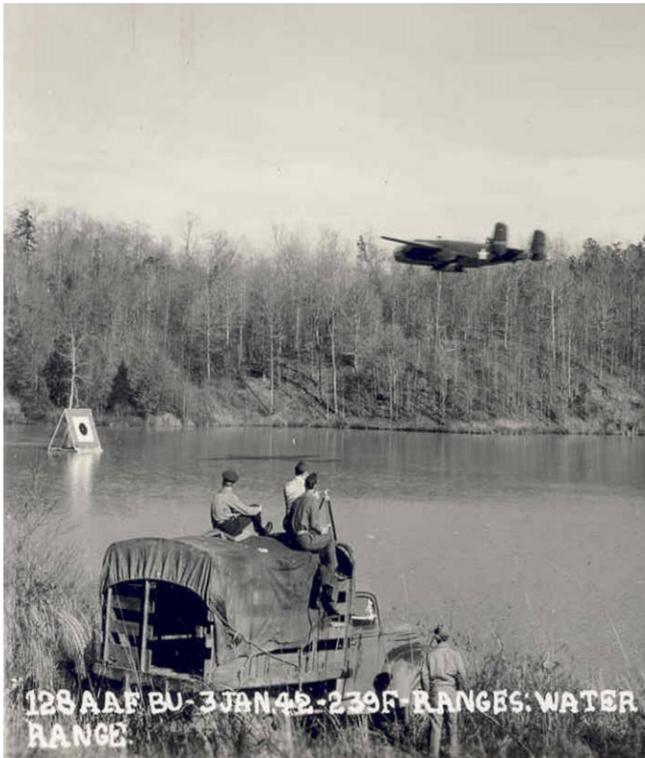
The tracts were purchased from struggling landowners, or banks that had foreclosed on lands for around \$13.00 an acre. Landowners typically did not bicker over offers, but instead the real struggle came from identifying property lines. When landowners used landmarks such as trees, boulders, or a certain fence to describe their boundaries, it took the hard work of lawyers, surveyors, and a little luck to get the job done.



Issaqueena Bathhouse

The Works Progress Administration (WPA) and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) worked to reclaim worn-out agricultural lands, protect the soil and provide recreational opportunities. Stream banks and gullies were stabilized and thousands of acres were reforested.

Lake Issaqueena was constructed, along with a bathhouse, boathouse, picnic shelters and trails. Many facilities were lost to vandalism and neglect through the war years.



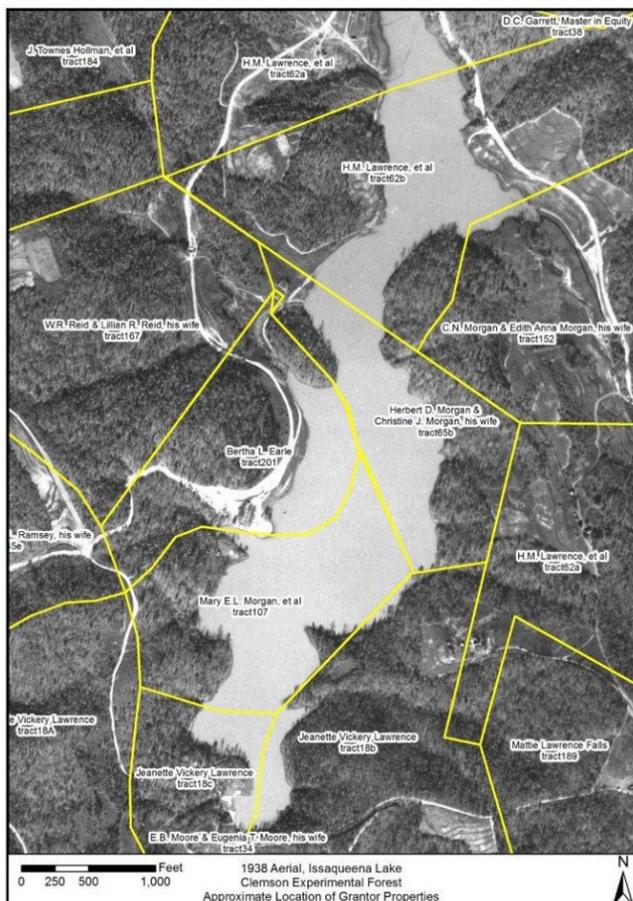
During the early 1940's, young airmen honed their flying and bombardier skills by completing practice bombing runs on Issaqueena Lake and land targets on the forest.

During the early



Issaqueena Boathouse

They typically flew B-25's stationed at Greenville Air Force Base. The 100 pound bombs were aimed at floating targets. The bombs were 95 percent sand and 5 percent black powder.



The area is maintained by the Clemson Experimental Forest staff from forest generated revenue.