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Riverton, Virginia

August 6, 1929

Honorable Herbert Hoover
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

I have your letter of August second, and I thank you for your kind expressions of appreciation of the services of those who have joined in the effort to provide a suitable camp site in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia for the use of the President of the United States.

Please be assured that all the citizens and public officers of the State of Virginia who have contributed in any wise to the project feel that it has been both a privilege and a pleasure to be of service.

It will give me pleasure to convey your thanks to all of our citizens in Virginia so kindly mentioned in your letter.

Our only regret has been that you have not felt at liberty to accept the title deeds to the property, together with a suitable building properly equipped and ready for your use, as an evidence of the hospitality and good-will with which the people of Virginia welcome your occasional visits to the State.

Of course all the work being done on the roads and trails will redound ultimately to the benefit of the State and the United States when the Rapidan Valley road becomes (as it will in due time) one of the important gateways to the Shenandoah National Park. But the citizens of Virginia would have been glad to furnish both the land and the necessary camp buildings for your week-end visits, had you not insisted on furnishing your individual check for that purpose.

As Chairman of the Virginia State Conservation and Development Commission, permit me also to thank you for your generous offer to turn over this property to the Shenandoah National Park for the use of your successors, or for such other Park purposes as may be found proper. And in reply to your inquiry as to how the end you have in view can best be secured, I would suggest that you might either hold title in your own name

Hon. Herbert Hoover

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until condemnation proceedings are instituted, and then turn it over for the use of the Park in the regular course of the proceedings; or, you can deed the property in trust to the Chairman of the State Conservation and Development Commission of Virginia, which is authorized by law to accept gifts of real estate within the Park area for Park purposes.

The deed of trust could secure the use of the property as a week-end camp site to you and your successors in office, until and unless the Shenandoah National Park has been finally turned over to the Federal Government.

I should think that a properly worded deed of trust would furnish the simplest and most convenient method of dealing with the situation.

Command me if I can be of any further service, and believe me

Very faithfully yours,

William E. Carson

Wm. E. Carson

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