

several sections of the valley. Above Prettyboy Reservoir, it descends for several miles in a series of pools and rocky rapids to the level of the lake. The lake, formed by Prettyboy Dam, is about 7½ miles long, lying in long narrow arms between steep wooded slopes. At Prettyboy Dam, the water drops 130 feet to flow for some 7 or 8 miles through a heavily wooded rocky gorge in a series of pools and rapids. The bed of the stream is gravelly and hard and the stream itself, some 30 feet wide, is clear, cool and sparkling with trout as the predominant fish life. Here and there, pools with rocky sides are deep enough for swimming.

Below Blue Mount, Bee Tree Creek brings to the river considerable sediment during heavy rains, the banks become grassy and at places broader, and the river bottom gradually becomes more muddy. The river is generally broader, and shallow with fewer stretches of rapid water, and there are considerable areas of flat bottom land, mostly in meadow, on one bank or the other. At Phoenix, the river enters Loch Raven reservoir, through which it flows for about 9 miles.

At Loch Raven Dam, the river drops 82 feet with another drop of 20 feet at the old dam, one-quarter mile downstream. Turning northeastward a short distance below the old dam, the river flows for a mile with a steep hillside on its right and broad meadowland on its left, then turning sharply southeast, it again plunges into the deep gorge through which it flows until it emerges at the Fall Line. This entire stretch of the river is characterized by reaches of quiet pools, often deep enough for swimming directly from the banks, interspersed with rocky reaches and rapids, with the river gradually widening from about 70 or 80 feet at Loch Raven to over 100 feet at the Fall Line.

Between Belair and Old Philadelphia Roads the river enters the Long Calm, one of the most famous fording places of colonial days for travelers on the road to Philadelphia. Below the Long Calm, the river, in a final surge of eagerness to reach the sea, races through a mile or more of swirling rapids, deep whirlpools and jumbled rocks, reminiscent of some of the beautiful trout and salmon fishing rivers of the North, to emerge from the hills at the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

Throughout this lower portion of the river a series of mills provided power for iron works and other industries in colonial times, but only remnants of some of these structures are discernible today. In former times, deep water extended up to the "First Falls of the Gunpowder" and ships moored just below the last of the rapids. Today, however, before reaching the open water of the Gunpowder tidal estuary, the river flows another two miles in

a narrow winding stream through marsh and flat alluvial plains, built up over several centuries by the soil washed from the farms of the watershed. North of the river, at the site of old Joppa Town, this alluvial plain extends for a mile or more before high ground is encountered, but on the south shore a finger of high land, rising to over 100 feet directly from open water projects outward to form the peninsula between the Gunpowder estuary and Bird River. This height of land, known as Days Mount, was the site of an extensive colonial mansion which is now in ruins. The splendid views from this knoll, up the valleys of the two Gunpowder rivers in one direction, and out over the estuary and the Bay in the other, amply justify the inclusion of this area in the park system contemplated in this report.

During drought periods, there is likely to be a deficiency of water in the river below Loch Raven, especially in that part immediately below the dam, as water is withheld for public water supply purposes. Small dams or weirs, or offstream impoundments might well be considered for this section as means of maintaining fishing, swimming, and canoeing.

Throughout the entire length of the river, interesting and picturesque side streams descend in a series of rapids and falls to the river and provide opportunity for a variety of woodland activities, including swimming in some of the deeper sylvan pools. The most exciting and picturesque of all of these side streams is Long Green Creek, where it descends in a series of gushing falls and rapids past the Cone Boy Scout area.

Taken in its entirety, the river offers in splendid measure a wide variety of scenery varying from quiet picnic groves and extensive lakes to rugged steep hillsides and rapid rocky reaches of stream and river, with ample opportunity within a relatively short distance of the city for a wide variety of recreational activities for large numbers of people.

Little Gunpowder River—The Little Gunpowder River has its source in the vicinity of Black Horse, in Harford County, and is the boundary between Harford and Baltimore counties from that point to tidewater, a distance of perhaps 20 miles. In its upper reaches, it flows through an area of rolling, open farmland and large estates, which is the center of the Maryland fox hunting country. Just below the Jarrettsville Road, however, it enters a well-wooded stretch of somewhat steeper hills, where the remains of the old Stansbury mill and an abandoned public road are now completely enclosed in thick forest. This section of the valley offers delightful areas for the more quiet sylvan-type of outdoor enjoyment.

For several miles below the Stansbury Mill-Sawmill