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FLORISSANT FOSSIL BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT

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HEARING
BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES SENATE

NINETY-FIRST CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

S. 912

A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
FLORISSANT FOSSIL BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT IN THE
STATE OF COLORADO

MAY 29, 1969

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO



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FLORISSANT FOSSIL BEDS

U.S. SENATE,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION
OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Colorado Springs, Colo.

The committee met at 9 a.m. in the Little Theater, Civic Auditorium, Senator Alan Bible (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Senator Alan Bible, Nevada.

Also present: Senators Allott and Dominick.

Staff members present: Porter Ward, professional staff member, and Charles Cook, minority counsel.

Senator BIBLE. If the hearing will come to order, we will allow a few moments for people to get seated. We have adequate seating.

This is the time that we have regularly noticed for taking of testimony on the bill introduced by my two great distinguished colleagues from Colorado, Senator Allott and Senator Dominick, both of whom are with me at the hearing table today, to establish the Florissant Fossil Bed National Monument in your State of Colorado. We are here in your beautiful State of Colorado today to learn of local wishes on this very worthwhile project.

The Park Service has described national monuments as areas to preserve resources having primary scientific significance. They should embrace a sufficient comprehensive unit to permit public use or enjoyment of the scientific features or assemblage of features consistent with the preservation of said features.

Florissant, from the description furnished to me by my good friends, Senators Allott and Dominick, meets all of this criteria with some to spare. I am looking forward to an inspection trip later this afternoon after we have concluded our hearing. I feel sure that the results will well justify its inclusion in the national parks system.

We will hold further hearings in Washington, if they are indicated, after our return from the Memorial Day recess. It would be my intention to keep the record open for about 15 to 20 days. I think we can say that we will keep it open until June 15. I don't know what day that is in the week, but I will take a look and see. June 15 happens to be Sunday, so we will make it June 16, which is the following Monday, and the record will be kept open until June 16 for the filing of additional views or for those who cannot be here today and desire to be heard. We will include those additional views in the hearing record.

At this point in the hearing record we will include a copy of the bill, S. 912, and the report of the Department of the Interior.

(The data referred to follow:)

[S. 912, 91st Cong., first sess.]

A BILL To provide for the establishment of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in the State of Colorado

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in order to provide for the protection, controlled collection, and scientific interpretation of the unique insect and leaf fossils and related objects of scientific value which have been preserved in the ancient Florissant lakebeds in Teller County, Colorado, the Secretary of the Interior may acquire by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange such land and interests in land in Teller County, Colorado, as he may designate from the lands shown on the map entitled "proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument", numbered NM-FFB-7100, and dated March 1967, and more particularly described by metes and bounds in an attachment to that map, not exceeding, however, six thousand acres thereof, for the purpose of establishing the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

In exercising his authority to acquire property by exchange, the Secretary may accept title to any non-Federal property within the area designated, and in exchange therefor he may convey to the grantor of such property any federally owned property under his jurisdiction in the State of Colorado which he classifies as suitable for exchange or other disposal. The values of the properties so exchanged either shall be approximately equal or, if they are not approximately equal the values shall be equalized by the payment of cash to the grantor or to the Secretary as the circumstances require.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior shall administer the property acquired pursuant to section 1 of this Act as the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in accordance with the Act entitled "An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes," approved August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535; 16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), as amended and supplemented.

SEC. 3. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums, but not more than \$3,200,000, as may be necessary for the acquisition of lands and interests in land for the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument and for necessary development expenses in connection therewith.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., May 26, 1969.

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Your Committee has requested this Department's views on S. 912, a bill "To provide for the establishment of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in the State of Colorado."

We recommend the enactment of the bill with amendments.

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to acquire by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange not in excess of 6,000 acres of land within an area depicted on a map numbered NM-FFB-7100, and dated March 1967, for the purpose of establishing the monument. The property would be administered in accordance with the authority contained in the Act of August 25, 1916 (16 U.S.C. 1, 2-4), as amended and supplemented.

The purpose of S. 912 is to preserve and interpret insect and leaf fossils and related geologic sites and objects at the Florissant lakebeds for the benefit of present and future generations.

We recommend the following amendments:

1. Delete line 7 through 17 on page 2.

The last paragraph of section 1 of the bill would authorize the Secretary to acquire land within the proposed monument by exchange. Section 5(b) of the Act of July 15, 1968 (82 Stat. 354, 356), gives the Secretary general exchange authority within units of the national park system. This authority would be available, if the bill is enacted; therefore, the exchange authority contained in the bill is not necessary.

2. On page 3, line 1, delete "\$3,200,000", and insert, in lieu thereof, "\$3,727,000".

In January of this year, we estimated the cost of acquiring the 6,000 acres to be \$1,165,000 all of which is expected to be expended in the first year. Total development costs are expected to be \$2,562,000, of which \$2,467,000 will be expended by the fifth year after operation. Operating costs are expected to reach \$114,393 by the fifth year.

The required man-year and cost-data statement is enclosed.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that while there is no objection to the presentation of this report, the Bureau will express its views in a separate report which it is submitting to the committee.

Sincerely yours,

RUSSELL E. TRAIN,
Under Secretary of the Interior.

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL MAN-YEARS OF CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FIRST 5 YEARS OF
PROPOSED NEW OR EXPANDED PROGRAMS

	19CY	19CY+1	19CY+2	19CY+3	19CY+4
estimated additional man-years of civilian employment:					
Executive direction:					
Superintendent.....	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Administrative aid.....				1.0	1.0
Clerk-stenographer.....	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Total, executive direction.....	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.0
Substantive:					
Chief, interpretation and protection.....		1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Paleontologist.....	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Park naturalist.....			1.0	1.0	1.0
Caretaker.....					1.0
Foreman.....			1.0	1.0	1.0
Naturalist (seasonal).....	.5	.5	.5	1.0	1.0
Ranger (seasonal).....				.5	.5
Truckdriver (seasonal).....				.5	.5
Laborer (seasonal).....	.5	.5	1.0	1.0	1.5
Total, substantive.....	2.0	3.0	5.5	7.0	8.5
Total, estimated additional man-years of civilian employment.....	4.0	5.0	7.5	10.0	11.5
Estimated additional expenditures:					
Personal services.....	\$33,500	\$42,800	\$60,600	\$75,500	\$83,600
All other.....	390,400	1,354,750	904,500	620,400	250,800
Total.....	423,900	1,397,550	965,100	695,900	334,400
Estimated obligations:					
Land and property acquisition.....	1,165,000				
Development.....	75,000	1,093,000	784,000	195,000	320,000
Operations (management, protection and maintenance).....	42,900	54,550	81,100	100,900	114,400
Total.....	1,282,900	1,147,550	865,100	295,900	434,400

Senator BIBLE. I am particularly happy and proud to be able to present to a Colorado audience a man who needs no introduction, Senator Gordon Allott. We have a close, warm friendship together, even though we are on different political sides of the fence. We started out our senatorial careers at the same time, we both went on the Interior Committee at the same time, and we are both on the Appropriations Committee. So, Senator Allott, I am delighted to be in this great State of yours, and look forward to your testimony and that of the various witnesses.

STATEMENT OF HON. GORDON ALLOTT, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE
STATE OF COLORADO

Senator ALLOTT. Thank you very much. First, I want to welcome you to Colorado, Senator Bible, as chairman of the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee of the Senate Interior Committee. As you have indi-

cated, we have served on the same committees, substantially, since we came to the Senate. I'm also glad that my distinguished colleague, Senator Dominick, can be with us this morning.

I have worked with Senator Bible as I said on the Senate Interior Committee as well as the Senate Appropriations Committee for more than a decade, and I know of his great knowledge and understanding of this country's needs for recreation and the preservation of unique natural and scientific areas. He has labored tirelessly in the vineyard of national parks and monuments for many years, and will lend a knowledgeable and sympathetic ear to the testimony to be presented here this morning.

I should also like to thank the city of Colorado Springs for making these facilities available to the committee for hearings. I am hesitant to try to name all those who have been so helpful in arranging for these hearings, for fear that I may omit someone, but certain names do come to mind: Mayor McCleary; George Fellows, city manager; Ted Conklin, superintendent of public buildings and grounds; Joe Burns, chairman of the Teller County Commission; Roger Hansen, executive director of the Colorado Open Space Coordinating Council; the Park Service; and especially Dr. Bettie Williard, who has been so helpful in so many ways. This does not begin to exhaust the list of persons who have given so generously of their time and talents to try to bring about the establishment of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, many of whom have worked behind the scenes, and all of whom have done so without thought or expectation of any special recognition. To all of you, the Nation owes a debt of gratitude, and I wish to express my personal thanks.

As the chairman knows, my distinguished colleague, Senator Dominick, and I introduced a bill identical to the one before us in the 90th Congress. Unfortunately, the committee's time was so heavily committed to the final settlement of the central Arizona legislation and to other pressing matters that Senate action was not possible. Action was taken in the House of Representatives, but it is my sincere belief that the bill adopted by the other body was totally insufficient to grant the degree of protection these unique fossil beds deserve. This belief is based upon observations made during an on-site investigation I made May 10, 1968. The House bill authorized the acquisition of only 1,000 acres, but I am convinced that the full 6,000 acres, as would be authorized by S. 912, the bill on which we are now holding hearing, are essential to the proper management and preservation of this world renowned fossil treasure trove. I believe, Mr. Chairman, that the on-site inspection scheduled for this afternoon is essential to an appreciation of the unique values of the Florissant fossil beds, and hopefully will also persuade you of the need for the full 6,000 acres.

Mr. Chairman, the Florissant fossil beds are, without question, the most famous fossil deposits of their kind in the Nation, and have been subjected to the most intensive study of any similar deposit in the Rocky Mountain region. For decades, these beds have provided a classical classroom of geologic study to paleontologists, geologists, botanists, and entomologists; 60,000 specimens of more than 1,000 different species of life of the Oligocene period have been extracted. Collections have been taken by the American Museum of Natural History, the British Museum, the Carnegie Institution of Washington, the Denver Museum of Natural History, the University of Colorado,

Princeton University, and many others. I make mention of this simply to point out the universal recognition of the Florissant fossil beds by the scientific community.

Mr. Chairman, there is an urgent need for early action on this legislation due to potential encroachments. It is my hope that we can move this bill along to enactment with dispatch.

Mr. Chairman, I know that the many distinguished witnesses scheduled to appear here this morning will be able to expound with great authority and in detail upon the merits of a 6,000-acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

And, Mr. Chairman, I thank you for this time and look forward to hearing their testimony. And I particularly want to express my appreciation to the chairman who has given us almost carte blanche, considering our various calendars, to be here at a date that was convenient and timely.

Senator BIBLE. Well, I am very happy to be here. I am grateful to both you and Senator Dominick for the nice weather you have arranged. It is typical of my weather in Nevada. So I look forward to a real fine field inspection this afternoon. That is how you really get to see these areas, and sample the worthiness and make your determination, because the field inspection really does tell the story. We have adequate time, I am sure, to do a thorough job of it.

And now I want to recognize Senator Dominick.

STATEMENT OF HON. PETER H. DOMINICK, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF COLORADO

Senator DOMINICK. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You and I have served together on the District of Columbia Committee, and also the Small Business Committee. We not only have become friends, but know how each other work, I think.

Senator, in order to save the time for other witnesses, I would ask unanimous consent at this time that the prepared statement I have been included in the record in full.

Senator BIBLE. That will be ordered.

(The statement referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF HON. PETER H. DOMINICK, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF COLORADO

Mr. Chairman, I am indeed honored today to appear and testify before this subcommittee in support of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. I have co-sponsored this bill with my distinguished senior colleague from Colorado, Senator Gordon Allott.

My remarks will be brief and focus on two major points. These points are, in my opinion, the most important issues in this legislation. I urge the subcommittee and committee to move with all possible speed in conducting its hearings, and to approve this legislation at the earliest possible date.

The bill calls for reservation of 6000 acres. The exact area boundaries are set out in a map in the National Park Service report. The full 6000 acres must be set aside to preserve the true importance of this site. This is not just a beautiful Colorado valley. It is a site of singular historic and scientific importance. In terms of numbers of fossils collected it ranks second only to the Baltic Amber site. There is no other site in the world where so many species of one time have been preserved. Some of the fossils preserved occur nowhere else in the world. This legislation covers only the southern arm of the former lake bed, but within these boundaries are the most important and least altered portion of the fossil beds in a natural setting.

Similar legislation passed the House in the 90th Congress. For reasons of economy the site was reduced to 1000 acres. This type of economy would destroy the importance of this monument. Budget restrictions are as severe this

year. I urge this committee to approve this site intact with the stipulation and recommendation to purchase the 6000 acres and proceed with construction and development at a later date if necessary. I know the committee will find no opposition to this procedure under the circumstances.

The Chairman will recall I urged this course of action to you in a letter last May 1, 1968. In the press of business in the last session the Committee was unable to complete action on this measure.

This becomes critical for a second reason. I was informed just last week by Dr. Beatrice Willard of the University of Colorado, who will testify before this subcommittee, and Mr. T. W. Ten Eyck, Executive Director of the Department of Natural Resources, State of Colorado, that a private landowner, owning land adjacent to or partially included within the proposed site, has apparently executed a sales contract with a development company. I quote one paragraph of Director Ten Eyck's letter of May 19, 1969, to me:

"I would like to solicit your assistance in the matter of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument designation. I have just learned today that there is a sales contract on a portion of the land proposed for inclusion in the Monument. Apparently this particular owner, now quite elderly, has for many years been sympathetic toward the Monument effort but has finally concluded that he'd better sell his land rather than waiting any longer. I don't know what you can do to accelerate the decision-making in the Congress but I would certainly urge you to do whatever you can in cooperation with Gordon."

The committee can do little to stop the impending sale. Further purchases of this nature could well be a tragedy for this project.

There are at this time two mountain home developments near this site. Such activity will increase rapidly. If action is not taken soon to preserve this total site there will be little to preserve. This committee can aid in preventing further development of this type of acting quickly and decisively on this bill.

There are many other valuable points to be made concerning the scientific and historic value of this project. I am sure these will be well covered in testimony of other witnesses.

I would ask that my remarks before the Senate, on introduction of this bill, which appear in the *Congressional Record* of February 4, 1969, at page S1228, be included in the record at the conclusion of my testimony. A copy of those remarks has been furnished the subcommittee.

I also ask that a copy of a report prepared by the National Areas Committee of the University of Colorado, entitled "Evaluation of the Scientific and Educational Values of the Florissant Fossil Beds" be included in the record at the conclusion of my remarks. This excellent report clearly points out the necessity of preserving the full 6000 acres of the site and the urgency in accomplishing this preservation at the earliest possible date.

Mr. Chairman, in closing I wish to stress that encroaching civilization and real estate development threaten to destroy this area forever. Only Congress can now preserve the Florissant Fossil Beds.

The preservation of this area is conservation of the highest order. We can no longer ignore saving this unique and historical site. The Florissant Fossil Beds should be preserved and protected for all the people of this great country.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[From the Congressional Record, Feb. 4, 1969]

FLORISSANT FOSSIL BED

Mr. DOMINICK. Mr. President, I am delighted to join in sponsoring the bill to authorize the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. The importance of this area goes far beyond any local or State interests. It is of great scientific and historical significance.

Florissant, Colo., is a small community about 35 miles west of Colorado Springs and flanks Pikes Peak. The beds themselves lie in a broad grassy valley at an elevation of 8,200 feet. After the birth of the Rocky Mountains, 60 million years ago, erosion took place to the extent that, 20 million years later, the mountains in this region were reduced to rolling hill country. Volcanic eruptions covered the region with ash and other material, blocking the drainage and forming a large lake, Florissant Lake.

The shores were covered with trees and vegetation and habited by numerous varieties of birds, insects and, in the lake itself, fish and mollusks.

Great volcanic eruptions, most probably from the Guffey Volcano 15 miles southwest, covered the lake and surrounding countryside with ash and mud. This mud buried the lakeshore trees which gradually petrified. Leaves, insects, fish and other forms of life were carried to the bottom. There was thus preserved between layer upon layer of volcanic ash, in delicate detail, an impressive record of the life of the area.

The beds were discovered by Dr. A. C. Peale of the Hayden Surveys in 1877 and were investigated by Dr. S. H. Scudder, the world's leading authority on fossilized insects of his time. Since that time, the site has been visited and collections taken by the University of Colorado, Denver Museum of Natural History, Princeton University, American Museum of Natural History, and the British Museum to name only a few. Over 60,000 specimens of insect and plant fossils have been collected here. The beds are known by paleontologists, historical geologists and entomologists the world over.

This site, in terms of numbers of fossils collected, ranks second only to the Baltic Amber site. Almost all fossil butterflies have come from this site. There is no other locality in all the world where so many species of one time have been preserved.

I wish to stress, the rare value of these beds lies in the delicacy and detail of preservation of fragile insects, foliage and other forms of life which occur nowhere else in the world. Florissant depicts in an extremely accessible locality, the environmental conditions, geologic history, the life forms—the whole story of a period in the evolution of our planet which occurred over 40 million years ago.

Encroaching civilization and real estate development threaten to destroy this area forever.

Only Congress can now preserve the Florissant Fossil Beds.

The bill proposes to preserve 6,000 acres which contains a sample of each significant area of fossilization in its environmental setting. It covers only the southern arm of the Florissant Lake which is relatively undamaged by erosion and curio seekers. It covers only the purchase of land and necessary development expenses. It will allow continued scientific study yet preserve the history of this area for generations to come.

My colleagues are aware that I have strongly supported the conservation of our country's natural resources. The preservation of the Florissant Fossil Beds is conservation of the highest order. These beds are unique in all the world yet readily accessible by major highways to any visitor to the Rocky Mountain region. Hundreds of thousands of visitors each year pass this area in Colorado.

This project was proposed by the National Park Service in 1962 and again in 1965.

This bill, in a revised form, was passed by the House in the 90th Congress and on coming to the Senate was referred to the Interior Committee. Hearings were not possible because of the rush of adjournment and the election.

Mr. President, I wish to make my position very clear at this point. The major revision of the bill by the House in the last Congress cut back the acreage from 6,000 to 1,000 acres. This move was prompted by economy but, in my opinion, from the studies and reports made of this site, this type of economy would destroy the importance of this monument. If necessary, I would urge that we first and foremost preserve the total proposed site; purchase the 6,000 acres and develop the museum, service buildings, and roads at a later date. We must act now, affirmatively and effectively, or the opportunity may well be lost.

Mr. President, I propose that the committee not only hold hearings in Washington, but also recommend that field hearings be held in Colorado.

We can no longer ignore the preservation of this unique and historical site. It is a priority of the first order in the conservation and scientific community. It should be preserved and protected for all the people of this great country.

EVALUATION OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL VALUES OF THE FLORISSANT FOSSIL BEDS

(By the Natural Areas Committee of the University of Colorado)

The Florissant Fossil Beds are the Pompeii of the Oligocene epoch. The life and times of the period 25 to 40 million years ago were trapped and preserved

here by volcanic ash in the same way that life at Pompeii was "frozen in place" by volcanics from Mt. Vesuvius.

WHY SHOULD THE PROPOSED MONUMENT BE 6,000 ACRES IN SIZE?
WHY NOT 1,000 ACRES?

Boundaries of the proposed 6,000 acre monument (see map p. 18) were carefully outlined by the U.S. Park Service Planning Team in consultation with the University of California's leading paleontologist, Dr. Harry D. MacGinitie, world authority and author on the Florissant beds, and with paleontologists of the U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. National Museum. Though the total extent of the fossil beds is about 12,000 acres, the rectangular 6,000 acre area was chosen to include the essential features of scientific and educational value in the Florissant basin. These are as follows:

a. In the extreme *northwestern corner* (see map) of the area lies the University of California fossil locality 3731, which contains the best preserved leaf fossils in the deposits; this locality is unique because of the abundance of the extinct genus *Fagopsis*, an alderlike plant found at only one other site in the world (Ruby Valley, Montana).

b. In the *southwestern corner* and along the *western half* of the proposed Monument stand the life-like remains of *Sequoia* stumps, some of them being a spectacular 15 feet in diameter. Those which have been excavated stand 20 feet high. It would hardly be thinkable to exclude the silicified stump deposits from a national monument. *In the middle of this portion* of the valley are the original localities worked by Dr. Scudder, who discovered the fossil deposits in 1879.

c. In the *southeastern corner* of the proposed monument is the unique area of fantastic faulting, overturned beds, and fossil mudflows draped across the fossil-containing beds. This area has extraordinary educational and scientific value because it tells much not recorded elsewhere about the catastrophic history of the area during and just after the time of Lake Florissant. This area is the famous collecting site called the "Princeton locality" which has been studied since 1880.

d. In the *middle part of the eastern half* of the proposed monument and extending toward the *northeastern corner* of the area are exposed the famous insect-bearing lake shales from which both Cockerell (Univ. of Colorado) and Scudder collected thousands of marvelously preserved butterflies, dragon flies, flies, beetles and ants. At one of these sites last summer 50 fossil mosquitoes were found on a single rock collection! These particular deposits also include the famous "fish beds." Toward the northeast, at U.S. Geological Survey Paleobotanical locality D1496, is the only known occurrence of fossil palm trees in the Florissant area.

We share the view of Dr. MacGinitie and of paleontologists of the U.S. Geological Survey that a Florissant National Monument should include these particular 6,000 acres, in order to include the main geologic and paleontologic features of the unique beds.

HISTORY OF FLORISSANT FOSSIL BEDS

Florissant has an intriguing history that is plainly told by the geology and fossils preserved in this small basin. Forty million years ago this area was a lake. Insects, small animal forms, leaves, flowers, fruits, and whole plants settled into the mud on the bottom. These were preserved as fossils because a volcano, 15 miles to the southwest, emitted great clouds of fine ash at intervals over a period of thousands of years; the ash that fell into the lake trapped large quantities of fragile life forms, many of which are not found at any other fossil site. The intermittent fallout of volcanic ash, together with the normal sedimentation of muck, sand, and gravel in the lake, year by year formed layers of fossil-bearing rock that built to a depth of as much as 40 feet. Rain acting on the loose ash produced mudflows that encompassed the lakeshore trees, which later became silicified by mineralized ground water. Great petrified stumps of *Sequoia* remain as one of the most impressive features of the fossil beds.

Since that era the climate has cooled, and land has lifted, the lake has dried up, and the old lake beds have been cut by local streams and have been folded and faulted in part. Fortunately, however, the area has not been dis-

turbed severely enough to shatter and jumble the rock except along a few major cracks. In the main, the fossils can be found in excellent condition and in an unmistakable time sequence.

The Florissant plants include such trees as walnut, hickory, redbud, linden, and sweet gum, now of eastern U.S.A., and palms and *Sequoia* (coastal redwood) now of California, as well as many rainforest species now residing in the mountains of Northeastern Mexico. A very few plants typical of Colorado's present climate grew at Florissant. The plants tell us that the Oligocene climate was warm and temperate the year around, humid, and very similar to the present climate of highlands in northeastern Mexico.

SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL VALUES OF FLORISSANT FOSSIL BEDS

Fossil records are rare in general. Unusual conditions are necessary to form them, and they are easily destroyed by weather, surface erosion, and by earthquake and tectonic action. The Florissant deposits are actually one of the few existing sources of data in a record replete with gaps. Any good data are invaluable, and Florissant offers data of first quality.

The Florissant deposits contain the only rich, well-preserved sample of plant life forms of the Oligocene period in the southern Rocky Mountains. The abundance, quality and diversity of fossil insects in this deposit makes it *second only* to the insect-bearing deposits in Germany and the amber beds of the Baltic coast. The Florissant lake beds have been more thoroughly studied than any other single deposit in the Rocky Mountains, and possibly in the New World (47 scientific papers and books so far).

The Florissant lake beds have attracted more scientific attention than any other fossil site in the Rocky Mountains. Since they were discovered in the 1870's, they have been extensively studied by the country's leading authorities in geology, entomology, paleontology, and paleobotany, most of whom have commented on both the perfection and profusion of the specimens. This is America's best display of the evolution of insects. (Approximately 60,000 specimens have been collected.) It has the earliest known occurrence of fresh water diatoms. Spiders, butterflies, mollusks, birds, ants, snakes, and snails have left fossil remains here. 114 species of higher plants alone have already been identified from their fossilized seeds, leaves, and other remnants.

Scientific work reporting new research on the Florissant lake beds continues to be published. A Master's thesis was completed in 1966. Field parties of university students and staff from institutions in Pennsylvania and Kansas visited the area last summer, and typically the area is under study by similar parties every summer.

We anticipate that scientific interest in the Florissant beds will continue to grow for two reasons: (1) because the scientific documentation provides an excellent base on which to build and elaborate new studies; and (2) because from recent work it is obvious that there is much more to be learned from the records preserved there.

The educational values and potential of the Florissant fossil beds are outstanding. Educational displays using the local geology and fossils could be extremely exciting because of the dramatic events that actually are recorded here. At present the two existing local commercial fossil farms do not do the site justice from the point of view of a scientifically accurate, well-documented display of Florissant pre-history and geology. Three reasons for this are lack of adequate funds, lack of scientific staff, and the small size of the tourist display area in relation to the total diversity of features available in the basin.

It is such a marvelous experience to uncover the fossil of a leaf or insect that actually lived at that spot eons ago, that the public should have the opportunity to watch the work of preparators, as is possible at Dinosaur National Monument.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL MONUMENT

Development of roads and elaborate trails, as planned by the National Park Service, with attendant disruption of the landscape should be avoided. Modest foot trails to many of the sites already exist, and small trail markers and interpretive signs would be good additions. We feel that a modest museum with educational displays illustrating the history of the area is highly desirable, but a second priority item compared with acquisition of the land.

NEED FOR PROTECTION OF THE AREA

a. *Housing developments threaten to engulf the area.*—Since the Park Service first suggested this area as a possible Monument, housing developments have sprouted up on the very boundaries of the proposed monument (see map). In addition, the heartland of the proposed monument is now up for sale to the highest bidder. We are concerned that if the Congress does not act in 1968, it will be impossible to obtain any monument at all because of the increasing land values and house construction.

b. *Erodability of the fossil stumps.*—We have observed that when the fossil stumps are excavated so they can be enjoyed by tourists, weathering in the form of ice wedges tends to spilt the silicified stumps, unless they are protected. Some of us have suggested that the stumps should be sprayed with a weatherproof plastic sealer to protect them for posterity. The local tourist farms are not able to provide this kind of protection, but a Federal agency could accomplish it.

Senator DOMINICK. And I also ask unanimous consent that an article by Dr. Rudy C. Epis, an associate professor of geology, which was printed in the May 1969 Mines magazine, of the proposed Florissant fossil beds be included in the record.

Senator BIBLE. That likewise will be included, Mr. Reporter.
(The article referred to follows:)

[From the Mines magazine, May 1969]

Proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument

By Dr. Rudy C. Epis

Associate Professor of Geology

ON Feb. 4, 1969, Colorado Senators Allott and Dominick introduced before the U.S. Senate, Bill S. 912, entitled, "A Bill to Provide for the Establishment of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in the State of Colorado." The bill, reproduced in its entirety at the end of this article, is based largely on a study conducted by the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior. This study was published in May of 1967 and provides a master plan for the proposed monument; the purpose of which "... is to conserve a portion of the Florissant Fossil Beds and surrounding area for public use, study, and enjoyment; and to tell the story of the geological and fossil resources." The master plan considers such important items as land acquisition, resource management, research programs, visitor use, and development. The illustrations used in this article are taken from the published report of the National Park Service.

The Florissant Lakebeds occupy a small, elongate basin situated 15 miles northwest of Pikes Peak in Teller County, Colorado (see Fig. 1). The basin is arcuate in plan and generally less than 1 mile in width. Its northwestern portion

extends from Lake George to Florissant along the route of U.S. Highway 24. At Florissant, the basin bends somewhat sharply and continues southward 7 miles, paralleling Colorado State Highway 143 connecting Florissant with Cripple Creek. The total area of present outcrop of the beds is about 15 square miles. However, the proposed national monument would consist of no more than 6,000 acres lying immediately south of Florissant, as shown in Fig. 1.

It seems fitting that the Florissant Lakebeds be proposed as the site for a national monument. They contain a prolific assemblage of delicately and beautifully preserved fossil plants and insects, the likes of which are unsurpassed anywhere in the world. In addition, excellent specimens of fossil fishes and birds are found within the beds. Perhaps no other deposits of such limited areal extent have received so much attention; during the past three-quarters of a century over 225 scientific articles have been written about the nature of these beds, especially their enclosed fossil forms. Public and private museums and famous geological collections the world over proudly display fossil materials gathered from the Florissant Lakebeds. The deposits were discovered by A. C. Peale in 1873 as part of his activities with the Hayden U.S. Geological and Geographical Survey. Among the many papers published about them, perhaps the most comprehensive and significant are those of W. Cross on the general geology, S. H. Scudder on the fossil insects, and H. D. MacGinitie on the fossil plants.

The Florissant deposits consist of a heterogeneous series of beds composed dominantly of intermediate volcanic detritus. They are less than 150 feet thick, and because of their general soft character are poorly exposed, except in road cuts and recent stream valleys and gullies (Fig. 2). Major lithologic types include arkosic conglomerates; andesitic tuffs and mudflow breccias; thin-bedded tuffaceous shales, mudstones and sandstones; pumiceous tuffs; and volcanic conglomerates. The tuffaceous shales and mudstones, near the middle of the sequence, contain most of the delicately preserved fossil plant and insect remains (Figs. 3 and 4); the andesitic tuffs and mudflows below them have preserved numerous petrified stumps and logs of giant Sequoia trees (Fig. 5). Judging from the nature of the sediments and their enclosed flora and fauna, MacGinitie concluded that ancient Lake Florissant existed under climatic conditions similar to present-day climates of northeastern Mexico, northern Argentina east of the Andes, northeastern Australia, northeastern Africa, and northwestern India; that is, climatic conditions which were quite warm and humid, perhaps even sub-tropical, and considerably different from those existing in the region today.

Current studies by the writer, in cooperation with Prof. H. D. MacGinitie of the University of California at Berkeley and Dr. J. D. Obradovich of the U.S. Geological Survey in Denver, are underway to better define the geological age of the Florissant Lakebeds. Our preliminary results are based on K/Ar radiometric age determinations of volcanic rocks below, above, and within the deposits, as well as on correlations with dated stratigraphic units

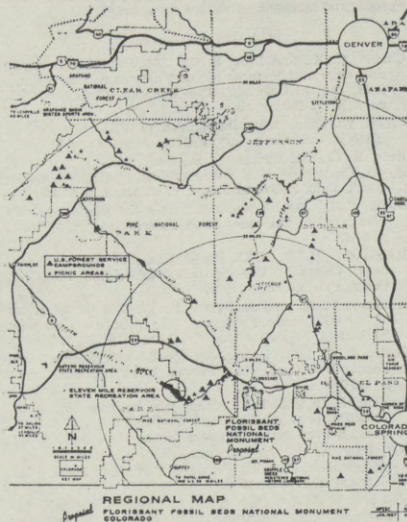


FIGURE 1. Map showing location of proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Colorado.

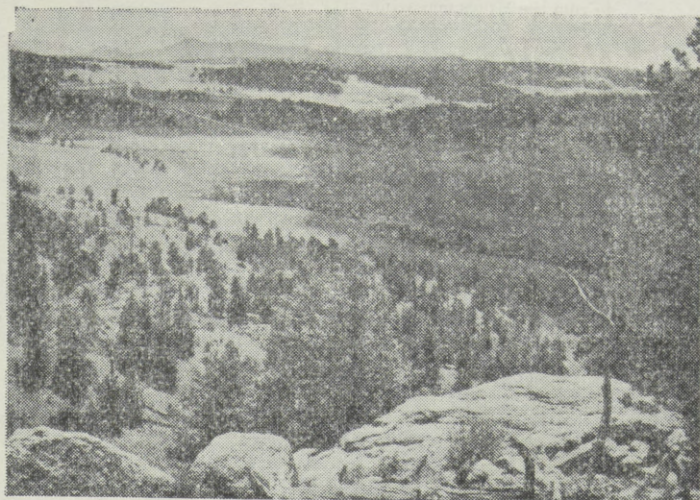


FIGURE 2. View southward of a portion of the proposed national monument showing grass and tree covered lowlands underlain by the Florissant Lakebeds.

is the adjacent Thirty-nine Mile volcanic field. These results indicate that ancient Lake Florissant was in existence during the early and middle parts of the Oligocene epoch, about 34 to 38 million years ago; they agree well with previous age determinations of Gazin, based on a fossil marsupial, and of MacGinitie, based on the fossil flora. We intend to complete these studies in the near future in hopes of providing a better understanding of the sequence of geologic events involved in the formation of the Thirty-nine Mile volcanic field, the Florissant Lakebeds, and the nearby Cripple Creek volcano.

Following is a brief sketch of the geologic history of the Florissant Lakebeds as we now know it. During and after Laramide mountain building activity in late Cretaceous—early Paleocene time, the Front Range and adjacent areas to the west were subjected to considerable erosion, and near the end of the Eocene epoch the resulting terrain was one of moderately low relief underlain primarily by Precambrian crystalline rocks. Early in Oligocene time volcanic eruptions commenced in the Thirty-nine Mile volcanic field southwest of the Florissant area, and outflow material from these eruptions disrupted existing drainage regimes. Andesitic and basaltic lavas and mudflows spread laterally from local centers and such deposits created a barrier to a southerly drainage system now occupied by the Florissant Lakebeds. Ancient Lake Florissant formed behind this volcanic dam which is located about 7 miles south of Florissant. Continuing volcanic activity in the Thirty-nine Mile field contributed the abundant pyroclastic and volcanoclastic material which showered and poured into the lake, quickly entombing existing life forms. The intensity of volcanism increased and built a large composite volcano centered in the vicinity of Guffey about 18 miles southwest of Florissant. Lava flows and breccias along the northeastern flank of the Guffey volcano eventually reached the site of Lake Floris-

sant; they are primarily responsible for preservations of the lakebeds as they finally engulfed the lake and buried its deposits beneath them. Erosion since Oligocene time has stripped away nearly all of this volcanic cover and exposed the lakebeds as we see them today.

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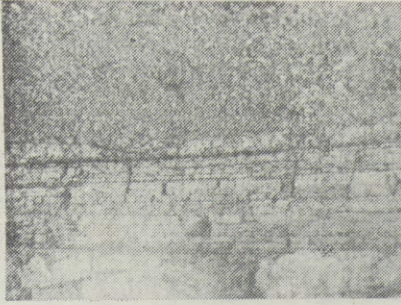


FIGURE 3. Outcrop of thin-bedded and laminated tuffaceous shales and mudstones which contain the most abundant fossil plant and insect remains.

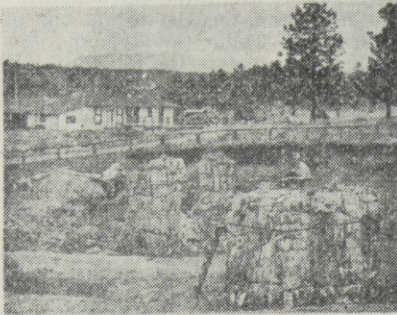


FIGURE 5. Petrified stumps of giant Sequoia trees within the site of the proposed national monument.

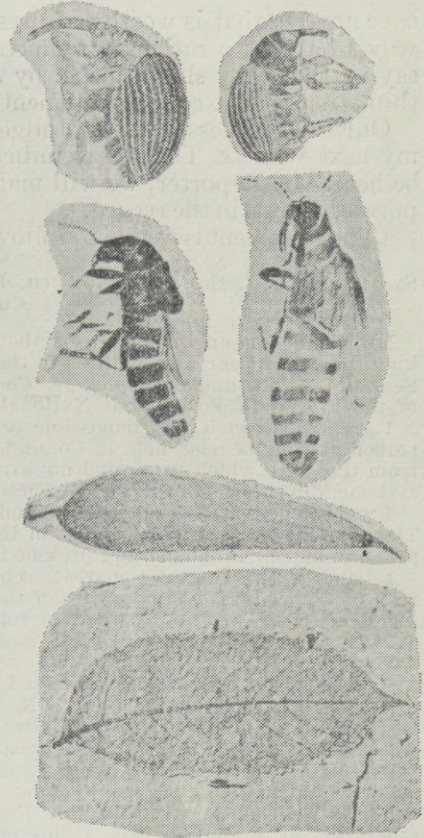


FIGURE 4. Typical examples of fossil insects and leaves delicately preserved in the Florissant Lake-beds.

Senator DOMINICK. I just want to say offhand that we do not have a unique situation here, but something which I think is quite urgent. All the lands that are included within this 6,000-acre proposed legislation that my distinguished colleague, Gordon Allott, has been pushing so hard, and I have been trying to give as much support to as I can, is in private hands. It is not State, and it is not Federal. Therefore, the change of ownership at any time on any of these pieces of property could be imminent, and the more speed that we can give to the hearings and to the consideration of this legislation, whether or not we get the appropriations for it, the sooner we are going to be able to get authority to be able to bring in private people for donations of funds, and foundations as well as Federal funds in order to get the land acquired and to save these very, very important geological beds.

And I thank the chairman for his time.

Senator BIBLE. Well, I want to assure both Senators that as far as I am concerned we will attempt to move this along at a quick pace. I have handled enough hearings to know that once you have the encroachments you encounter additional increased problems, so delay,

over an area that is worthy of preservation, becomes costly. So that is why I have set a rather fast timetable for filing of the statements, by saying that they should be in by June 16. So we will move along. I think that is an excellent statement, and I appreciate having it.

Our first witness then—is Judge Chenoweth here? He was listed as my next witness. There was indication that he might not be able to be here. Mr. Reporter, we will make an order that his letter be incorporated in full in the record.

(The statement referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF J. EDGAR CHENOWETH, FORMER MEMBER OF CONGRESS, TRINIDAD, COLO.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I sincerely appreciated the invitation to appear as a witness in the hearing on S. 912, a bill introduced by Senators Allott and Dominick of Colorado providing for the establishment of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado.

I greatly regret it was impossible for me to appear before the Committee in person at your hearing held in Colorado Springs on May 29, 1969. I was absent from the state which prevented my attendance. I am therefore submitting this statement in support of this legislation.

I want to personally thank the Committee for holding this hearing in Colorado. This enabled many persons living in this area, who are interested in this proposal, to appear in person and present their views to the Committee.

During my service in Congress, representing the Third Congressional District of Colorado, I became aware of the interest in preserving these fossil beds, and decided this project deserved my full support. I recall that the National Park Service did a great deal of work in getting this project ready for submission to Congress.

As a result of the growing interest in this proposal I introduced a bill in the 88th Congress on June 30, 1964, H.R. 11834, to establish the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. My bill was referred to the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. As I recall, a favorable report was received from the Secretary of the Interior, but reached the Committee too late for hearings to be held at that session. I did not return in the 89th Congress, but my bill was again introduced by my successor Frank E. Evans. I do not remember any opposition to this bill, except a difference of opinion as to the amount of land that should be included in the Monument. Otherwise, the sentiment was strongly in favor of the proposal.

I recall that the Chamber of Commerce of Colorado Springs was very much interested in this project, and I had considerable correspondence with Clay Banta, its manager. I also heard from other groups and individuals in support of this legislation.

Mr. Chairman, I feel it is important to preserve these fossil beds for the enjoyment of future generations. This can best be done by including them in a National Monument, as proposed in this bill. I understand there is nothing comparable to be found anywhere in the United States.

I strongly urge the Committee to approve this bill and I hope it may be enacted at this session of Congress.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Ed Hummel, the Associate Director of the National Park Service.

Mr. Hummel.

Mr. HUMMEL. Mr. Chairman, I would like your permission to bring two of my associates to the table with me.

Senator BIBLE. Certainly, and be seated and make yourselves comfortable.

Mr. HUMMEL. Mike Griswold and Merrick Smith.

Senator BIBLE. We know Mike pretty well. He was well trained in the Interior Committee.

Mr. HUMMEL. And Merrick Smith is with us with our planning team.

Senator BIBLE. Very happy to have all you gentlemen with us. We might ask you preliminarily: Have you visited this area?

Mr. HUMMEL. Yes.

Senator BIBLE. Very good. Every once in a while we have, back in Washington, a witness who is testifying with great gusto and great acclaim about a great area, and he had never even been there. I don't know how you can testify to something if you haven't seen it.

Senator DOMINICK. Mr. Chairman, I am not going to be able to go on the inspection trip this afternoon, but my son used to go to camp right there, and I have been there on several occasions and so has my family, and I know the area very well.

Senator BIBLE. I am sorry you can't join us.

**STATEMENT OF EDWARD A. HUMMEL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE; ACCOMPANIED BY MIKE GRISWOLD
AND MERRICK SMITH, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

Mr. HUMMEL. Mr. Chairman, we appreciate this opportunity to appear before this committee to testify on S. 912, a bill to provide for the establishment of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in the State of Colorado.

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colo., in order to provide for the protection, controlled collection, and scientific interpretation of the unique insect and leaf fossils and related objects of scientific value which have been preserved in the ancient Florissant lakebed.

The rare quality of the Florissant fossil beds lies not in dramatic exposure of big-boned creatures or colorful agatized trees, but rather in the delicacy with which thousands of fragile insects, tree foliage, and other forms of life have been preserved that are completely absent or extremely rare in most paleontological sites of the Oligocene period of geologic history. Here in the bed of an ancient lake that existed some 40 million years ago, is a classic area for the study of paleontology—known the world over to geologists, botanists, and entomologists. The insect fossil at Florissant are of primary significance, representing the evolution and modernization of insects better than any other known site in America. In addition, the fossil flora, emphasized by the petrified tree stumps and in more subtle tones by the great variety of leaf fossils, greatly add to the primary values.

Individually quite small, the fossils at Florissant are tremendous in aggregate. Florissant is unique in having yielded some 60,000 specimens of over 1,000 different species of life and in the remarkable way in which the fine grain volcanic ash has preserved, in minute details, the delicate features of innumerable specimens. Almost all the fossil butterflies of the New World have come from this area.

Mr. Chairman, Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, as proposed, would consist of a compact unit of some 6,000 acres to preserve the most suitable portions of the Florissant fossil beds, as well as the natural setting of the picturesque valley itself.

Interpretation and visitor use will focus upon the paleontological and geological resources of the area. The National Park Service will de-

velop a comprehensive research plan involving an inventory of the kind, location, and extent of existing park resources. Accurate mapping of the area's geology, particularly the fossil beds within the monument, their depth, and the location of rich fossil-bearing strata should be undertaken. The Service will work with the Geological Survey and others to assure good detailed knowledge of this fossil resource. Sufficient study should be undertaken to permit the preparation of a definite account of the area's geology, paleontology, and paleogeography. Research and collecting by qualified scientists will be encouraged.

The plan of development will be simple: a one-way tour road, a park headquarters, and visitor facility, short trails to selected fossil sites, hiking opportunities, a scenic overlook, a public picnic ground, necessary employee housing and maintenance, and service facilities. The administrative and visitor headquarters in the principal building, housing the necessary office and work space, visitor interpretive and information facilities and the monument's fossil collection. Development will provide for an estimated optimum day-use visitor capacity of 3,000. Total development costs are estimated to be \$2,562,000 of which \$2,467,000 is expected to be expended by the fifth year of operation. Operating costs are expected to reach \$114,392 by the fifth year.

The existing principal use of the area is livestock grazing, supplemented by some hay cropping. The grazing is limited primarily to the meadowlands which make up approximately 50 percent of the area. An estimated 225 acres is devoted to hay crops, much of which consist of native grasses. On the 13 ownerships, there are 10 farm residences, of which only two are used the year-round. Four owners are responsible for most of the grazing. The Colorado Petrified Forest has been operated as a commercial venture by the Singer family in combination with cattle grazing on the farm unit. The greatest number of visits recorded annually is 26,000. Except for alterations resulting from construction of farm buildings and numerous check dams and stock ponds, the physical landscape has been altered very little as a result of agricultural use.

The most pressing problem following authorization will be land acquisition. Land values are rising as a result of a discernible shift in land use from grazing to subdivision developments in the general region. All of the land is privately owned and most of the owners contacted have indicated a willingness to sell. Most of the land is required in fee for proper resource management and administration. However, certain residential rights could be allowed to present owners for a term of years and grazing could be eventually phased out under agreement of sale. Such retained rights would be permitted only if they did not conflict with the plan of visitor use and development. Rather than attempt to acquire utility rights-of-way, cooperative agreements will be sought with their owners to insure the greatest degree of compatibility with the development and use of the national monument. The estimated cost of acquiring the 6,000 acres of the monument is \$1,165,000, all of which is expected to be expended in the first year.

The Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments endorsed the proposal to establish the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in May 1962 and again in 1965.

We recommend the enactment of the bill with the amendments listed in the departmental report.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify, Mr. Chairman. I and my associates will be pleased to try to answer any questions you may have.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, Mr. Hummel. I wish, for proper orientation that you would point—the maps (see p. 18) are easily viewable by members of the committee, I am not so sure that the audience can see them too well. I wonder if you could square them around just a little so that we can share the view with the people in the audience. And as I understand it, this is an area about 35 miles from where we are now?

Mr. HUMMEL. That is right, sir.

Senator BIBLE. This is, as the map will show, within 35 miles of Colorado Springs. And what does that make it from Denver, about 125 miles, or something like that?

Mr. HUMMEL. Sixty miles airline from Denver.

Senator BIBLE. By road it is about 90 miles; is that a good figure?

Mr. SMITH. I would say it is about 100 miles.

Senator BIBLE. All right, it is in the hundred mile range from Denver. And the area that you intend taking is 6,000 acres. How do you arrive at 6,000? Why isn't it 5,000 or 4,000 or 8,000? What are the considerations that you followed in drawing the lines? Do you have a man with you who is responsible for drawing those lines and determining that it is going to be 6,000 acres?

Mr. HUMMEL. Well, I would like to make a general statement first, and then I would like to have Mr. Smith tell us some more.

The lakebed actually includes about 12,000 acres.

Senator BIBLE. What includes 12,000 acres, the lake?

Mr. HUMMEL. The lakebed. I think a very good justification could be made to include it all, but at the time the study started various people were involved, and somehow we were locked in at 6,000 acres as getting the most important area, and probably being the most practical solution. We feel that we do have, within the 6,000 acres, probably the most important and the most valuable part of the lakebed. But to geologically explain why we didn't get 6,100 or 6,200 would be a little difficult, because from a good scientific study we probably should have included all 12,000 acres.

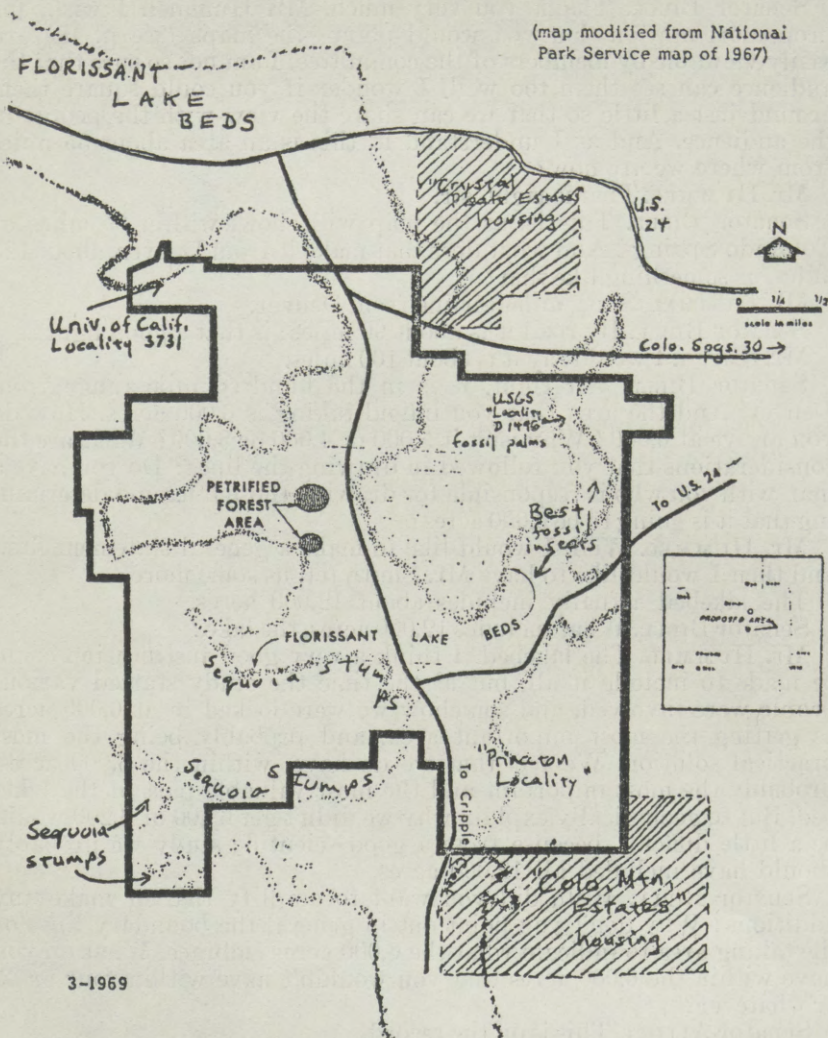
Senator BIBLE. Well, did you want to amplify that or make any additions? Why don't you point out in general the boundary lines of the taking area to indicate what the 6,000 acres embrace. What do you have within the 6,000 acres that you wouldn't have within four or 35 or whatever?

Senator ALLOTT. This is off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. HUMMEL. Senator, to explain the boundaries, I will have Merrick draw them. He doesn't have a microphone, so I will talk. Now the blue interposed line on the map is the fossil lakebed area. It seems we have a good portion of it in there, but some of it extends beyond. The basic boundaries were almost determined by the four corners, and the values of the various resources in these four corners. On the northwest corner are some of the best leaf collections, where early studies were made; on the southwest corner we have a good collection of stumps, petrified stumps, which are covered; and the southeast corner

PROPOSED FLORISSANT NATIONAL MONUMENT, COLORADO



is one of the best places, according to all the paleontologists who have been studied there, for interpreting the total history of what occurred when the lakebed was covered up in the volcanic eruptions which created these fossils which we now have. Then we have in the east central portion the insect collection. Further up, of course, are the fossil palm leaves, and also in the center of the bed we have what they call the petrified forest. So these are the principal important points where diggings have been made. To get them in the monument more or

less determined where the final boundary would be, while still forming an administrable unit. They tried to follow ridges whenever possible in order to protect the environment. We weren't always able to do so, but tried wherever it was possible. Some of the time when they came along there was a matter of landownership, of taking a piece or not taking a piece of a man's land which didn't materially increase the value or decrease the value for scientific or administrative purposes.

Senator BIBLE. Now what type of structures do you plan on building on this? A park headquarters and a visitor's facility?

Mr. HUMMEL. Yes.

Senator BIBLE. Is that going to be one complex?

Mr. HUMMEL. Yes.

Senator BIBLE. Where will that be located? Right by the petrified forest, you say?

Mr. HUMMEL. The plans are that trails from there would go out to these two particular sites containing the stumps, with trails emanating to other places. We had also thought at one time of putting a road from there down to the southwest corner, but that is a very tentative proposal. But there is little development beyond that, other than what is needed for administrative purposes, like housing and administrative buildings.

Senator BIBLE. That is fine, thank you.

If I understand your testimony correctly, there are 12 farm residences within the taking area at the present time?

Mr. HUMMEL. Most of them are relatively small and not very expensive. Only two are used permanently, and those two are in one family. The value of the two residences is probably \$10,000 or \$15,000. One of the better buildings on the site is a temporary lodge down in the southwest corner, which we have even considered utilizing in the park operations.

Senator BIBLE. Now you say in your prepared statement that certain residential rights could be allowed to the present owners for a term of years. Now what do you mean by that? If I had this year round permanent residence—and you tell me there are two of them—if I was one of those two owners, what type of tenure would I have? Would you follow the Cape Cod formula?

Mr. HUMMEL. Probably very closely. We would probably offer them a definite term or even life tenancy.

Senator BIBLE. What if I had a son, would I be able to let him have a life tenancy after me?

Mr. HUMMEL. I think we would be a little reluctant to agree to that.

Senator BIBLE. But I kind of have a feeling that, however this is handled as we move along on this bill, at least it ought to be spelled out. I have found that in handling these bills many, many times that they lead to a lot of misunderstandings if you don't say exactly what you mean, and what you intend doing. Hearings over the years become fuzzy, and they are subject to some misinterpretation, and if you would just spell it out A, B, C, D, what you intend doing, I think it would be helpful, and I would suggest that. You don't seem to have done it in the amendment as I read it, but I think it would be helpful that the Park Service people give consideration to the type of a tenure that they would give. You don't have many owners involved here. You have a total of 10; is that right?

Mr. HUMMEL. We have 13 owners; yes.

Senator BIBLE. But 10 residents. Two permanent year round.

Mr. HUMMEL. We would be glad to do that for each specific one. Generally speaking, we are concerned with the present owners; we are not concerned with their heirs. We would consider phasing out of grazing rights of the present owners or the people living there who might want to stay there the rest of their lives.

Senator BIBLE. How many grazing permits are there?

Mr. HUMMEL. There are about four principal grazers, people who graze livestock there.

Senator BIBLE. Does that mean there are only four owners that have permitted grazing rights within this area?

Mr. HUMMEL. Well, they own the land.

Senator BIBLE. They own the land. They own it in fee, I understand. And how many head of cattle do they run on this?

Mr. HUMMEL. Around 200 or 225.

Senator BIBLE. What do you propose as to them?

Mr. HUMMEL. Well, we have been considering from 10 to 20 years on those.

Senator BIBLE. You would permit them to graze their cattle for 10 to 20 years?

Mr. HUMMEL. Yes.

Senator BIBLE. I think I would be a little more definite than that. There is 10 years difference between 10 and 20. I think you ought to spell it out, and you may want some more consideration on it.

Mr. HUMMEL. We could put a maximum number of years that we wanted to permit grazing.

Senator BIBLE. I am trying to save misunderstandings. These people who have property rights there, maybe they want to sell, and maybe they don't want to sell. They ought to know what their rights are. They certainly have a fee simple right now, and since they have it in absolute ownership, they have the right to graze these 200 head. How many months a year do they graze?

Mr. HUMMEL. About 4 or 5 months a year.

Senator BIBLE. That would be starting about now and running into September, something like that? Is that a fair time on it?

Mr. HUMMEL. Yes. Yes; that is a fair time, I would say.

Senator BIBLE. After further consideration and consultation I wish you would submit for the committee's consideration, language that might clear this up. I think you will be in better position, and I think we will be in better position as this bill moves forward, if we know specifically, A, B, C, D, what you propose doing.

Mr. HUMMEL. We will be very happy to do that, Senator.

Senator BIBLE. I wish you would furnish that for the record. There may be some owners here today; I am not advised. But I will listen to their testimony with interest.

(The information referred to follows:)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., June 30, 1969.

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: During the field hearing on S. 912, the bill to authorize the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, the Departmental witness was asked to provide the Committee with definite indications of the manner with which the residential and grazing property owners will be dealt during acquisition of their properties.

In acquiring the lands within the project, the Secretary will be willing to negotiate with the owners of residential property for a purchase agreement which includes a retention of use for non-commercial residential purposes for any period up to and including life tenure. We would not consider that the two combination commercial museum-residence structures are "residential properties" for this consideration. We would expect to acquire these structures with no rights left outstanding.

We shall be willing to negotiate with the owners of grazing lands for a purchase agreement which includes a retention of grazing rights for any period up to and including 10 years after acquisition of the property by the Secretary.

In each instance of an owner's reservation of a right of use, the Secretary shall pay to the owner the fair market value of the property on the date of such acquisition less the fair market value on such date of the right retained by the owner.

We trust that this letter will provide the Committee with the assurances it desires during its consideration of this legislation.

Similar letters have been sent to Senators Allott and Bible.

Sincerely yours,

CHARLES G. CAROTHERS III,
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

Your land acquisition costs, you feel, are realistic? You know, you and I have had problems on that.

MR. HUMMEL. Yes, we have. But we have had a review early this spring, and the appraisal I gave you was one that was certified by our appraiser. But what we are really frightened about is that there is a great subdivision development going on close by, and I am hoping that we don't run into something where we will get a rapid escalation or even a 6 month—

SENATOR BIBLE. Well, we have run into that, as you very well know, in past park acquisitions, and I hope we can avoid it here. It becomes costly both to the Government and to the owner, and if you can make a quick determination of it so that the people will know exactly where they stand, so that the Government will know where they stand, both in the Senate and House of Representatives, then we are in far better shape.

I have no further questions of any of you men. I think this appears to be a proposal that has very few actually adverse ownerships. It is totally owned privately, but there are only 13 owners, is that correct?

MR. HUMMEL. Right.

SENATOR BIBLE. There are 10 residences and two are year round. So I think I understand that part of the problem very well. Thank you, gentlemen.

MR. HUMMEL. Thank you, sir.

SENATOR BIBLE. Our next witness will be Gregg Chancellor of the Division of Commerce and Development of the State of Colorado, representing Governor Love. Mr. Chancellor.

STATEMENT OF GREGG CHANCELLOR, REPRESENTING HON. JOHN
A. LOVE, GOVERNOR, STATE OF COLORADO

Mr. CHANCELLOR. Honorable Chairman and members of the committee, and distinguished guests.

On behalf of the State of Colorado and His Excellency, Gov. John A. Love, who is out of the country in an effort to obtain the 1976 Olympics for the United States with Colorado as the site, we welcome you to the Top of the Nation.

May we express our deep appreciation to you and our colleagues, Colorado Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick, sponsors of Senate bill 912, for your concern and action in preserving one of the great scenic, historic, recreational, and geological attractions of one of America's favorite vacationlands.

Colorado has been abundantly blessed with a variety of natural scenic beauty, an abundance of historic memorabilia, and an incalculable wealth of well-preserved geological and archaeological specimens.

As evidence of the tremendous interest in Colorado as a varied vacationland for the sightseer, outdoor recreationalist, rock hound, or professional geologist, 5 million people visited America's park preserves located within Colorado last year.

The two national parks, six national monuments, and two national recreation areas within our boundaries do belong to the American people to have and enjoy for the present and to hold and preserve for the future.

Fortunately, the fact that nature is slow to recreate that which man wantonly destroys was recognized by the Congress when Rocky Mountain National Park, Mesa Verde National Park, and Black Canyon of the Gunnison, Great Sand Dunes, Dinosaur, and Colorado National Monuments were so designated.

Had the Congress not looked toward the future when these areas were claimed in the name of the people of the United States, the irreplaceable scenic, historic, recreational, and geological resources of the past might well have been irreparably damaged or destroyed for the present.

Again, we have such a choice to make and an opportunity to preserve for ourselves and our posterity the scenic beauty, the recreational resources and, perhaps most important, the distinctly unique and irreplaceable remnants of an era of a million years ago.

The animals, plants, and insects preserved in the Florissant Fossil Beds have withstood the ravages of nature for some 25 to 40 million years. Nowhere else are such fossils to be found. And yet, with the sweep of a bulldozer to make room for housing and highways, these eons-old geologic treasures would be forever lost from Nature's vast vault of knowledge.

The State of Colorado is grateful for the blessings bestowed upon her by Nature and to the Congress for its efforts in preserving and developing these resources for all to enjoy.

The people of Colorado would welcome the establishment of Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. And, as with the other National Park Preserves within our boundaries, we pledge to do everything within our power to promote, and make available for all to enjoy, that which has been entrusted to us.

In consideration of the scenic, historic, and economic value of the Florissant Fossil Beds area, and in recognition of the present and imminent encroachments upon this area as well as the rising costs of land, the State of Colorado urges the designation of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument at the earliest possible time.

Mr. Chairman, we thank you very much, and I would like to present you with three of our books which show how we promote the present National Parks.

Senator BIBLE. I will ask the staff to get them from you, Mr. Chancellor. That was a very fine statement, and I wish you well in your quest for the 1976 Winter Olympics. As long as we can't get them for the Sierra Nevada's, I hope you get them for the Rockies. A fine statement. Senator Allott may have a question of you, Mr. Chancellor.

Senator ALLOTT. I don't have a question of you, Mr. Chancellor, but I do want to express my appreciation to you and the Governor for your support of this project, and I think your short statement, and it is short, expresses in a nutshell the values that we all seek to preserve and make available for future generations here. So I want to thank you very much for coming.

Mr. CHANCELLOR. Thank you, sir.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. I have no questions, Mr. Chairman. I think it was an excellent statement.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is John Bermingham, State Senator representing District No. 7, Denver, Colo.

And in order not to keep the audience in suspense over this confidential press conference that the two distinguished Senators from Colorado engaged in with the press a few moments ago, I am going to ask Senator Allott, before I start with you, Senator Bermingham, if he won't tell the audience and let us share in the secret. We will read about it in the newspapers.

Senator ALLOTT. Do you want this in the record?

Senator BIBLE. You can have it either off or on.

Senator ALLOTT. I think you would all be interested in this, and this weds the past to the future about as well as anything could. Just after Mr. Hummel started his statement, I received word, and Senator Dominick received word, from Washington that the very great competition for the Viking project between three groups of companies in the United States has been finally determined. Viking is a part of the ongoing space program of the United States. As of this morning at 10:00 o'clock an announcement was made at the White House that the \$280 million contract had been awarded to Martin Marietta for some unmanned, instrumented satellites to orbit and to land on Mars. Because of the development time and the window time, the first of these shots is contemplated in 1973. It justifies Martin's great investment in Colorado.

The contrast of this announcement and what we are doing here is sort of a black and white. You couldn't have two greater contrasts than those of us who are here today talking about saving the values that were placed in sedimentation 38 million years ago, and talking about the future of exploration of space.

Senator BIBLE. Well, that is quite exciting news, and I would certainly also yield to Senator Dominick for any observations he might care to make.

Senator DOMINICK. I was asked yesterday in a press conference that I had, if this was coming through, and I said I certainly hoped so. I didn't have any formal word. The people were concerned at that time—weren't concerned, but were interested—that this might be another manned program. It is not a manned program. It is an instrumented probe of Mars, and as Senator Allott said, 1973 is the first window that we have in the near future when the position of Earth and Mars would be in proper relation to really put an instrumented probe there in good shape, and if we miss that, 1975 is the next one. So being a believer in the fact that we must continue this space program, I am absolutely delighted that Martin, which has done such a terrific job with its space booster and the Titan and other work that it has done, has gotten this contract.

Senator BIBLE. Well, you are getting an awful lot of good news here in Colorado today. I hope your Air Force football team has a good year, too.

Now we will hear from Senator Bermingham. Senator, happy to have you here with us.

STATEMENT OF JOHN BERMINGHAM, STATE SENATOR REPRESENTING DISTRICT NO. 7

Senator BERMINGHAM. Mr. Chairman, Senator Allott, and Senator Dominick, my name is John R. Bermingham, and I live at 601 Franklin Street in Denver, Colo. I was born and raised in Chicago, Ill., and my mother was also born and raised in Chicago, Ill. Now it may not seem significant to this hearing as to where my mother was born and raised, but the significance will appear as my story unfolds.

In 1953 I moved to Denver and then in 1964 and again in 1968 was elected to the State Senate. I am a Republican. My district lies in east-central Denver, and includes probably the most diverse cross section of people of any district in Colorado. The district includes many of Colorado's most wealthy citizens living in exclusive neighborhoods and ultra-high-rise apartments. It also includes portions of Denver's ghetto. It includes thousands of very stable homeowners, and it also includes thousands of people who rent their dwelling places and work in Denver's downtown offices. My first noteworthy piece of legislation was Colorado's "Birth Control Law" which was adopted in 1965. The significance of this piece of legislation will also appear later in my testimony.

The Florissant fossil beds first came to my attention a number of years ago. I had always had an interest in fossils and petrified wood. I remember very clearly, when I was about 10 years old, my parents brought home a magnificent piece of petrified wood that they had picked up on a trip to Arizona. It was a fairly good sized piece, perhaps 10 inches long, 3 inches thick, and 4 inches wide, and two sides of it were highly polished so that the deep reds and yellows and browns of the grain were sharp and clear. We used it as a door stop. Then in the fall of 1966 an article in the Denver Post showed a picture of one of the petrified trees that was still standing at Florissant when the fossil beds were first discovered. This stump stood 40 or 50 feet into the air, I believe. The article was most interesting, but ended with a sad note that the tree had been taken down and shipped to the World's

Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. What happened after that, however, no one knew.

Now this is where my mother comes in. She was not born until 1895—2 years after the fair—but she tells me she remembers it very well. Many of her family's friends were closely connected with the fair, and mementos and reminiscences abounded throughout my mother's childhood. It was the first fair of its kind anywhere in the world, and was a truly remarkable achievement for an inland city that had been in existence for barely 50 years.

The reason that I mention this is because in response to my boyhood interest and excitement over the piece of petrified wood from Arizona, my mother told me a story that really made my eyes pop out. When she was a little girl, some of her family's friends had a table in their living room, and the entire table top was simply a highly polished cross section of a petrified tree. While I have no proof other than what I have told you, there is not a doubt in my mind but that the table was a souvenir of the fair, and that it was a piece from that incredible tree from Florissant.

But even if we now know what happened to that big stone tree, the story is still a sad one. For one brief summer the tree inspired awe and wonder on the shores of Lake Michigan, but what a tragedy that it is now lost forever.

Preservation of these natural wonders is a true function of Government, and it is not too late to preserve the remaining wonders of Florissant, as the full record of this hearing will show.

The people want their State and Federal governments to step in. Americans often pick up souvenirs like scavengers, but at the very moment they are committing their acts of depredation they will declare that the depredations of our natural treasures shouldn't be permitted to go on. "There ought'a be a law," they say.

In 1967 session of the State legislature I tried to do something about Florissant. It was clear that our State government would not be able to muster the resources that are necessary for the purchase of this area. Therefore, I used another approach. I introduced Senate bill 385 that proceeded in four steps.

1. The area was described by metes and bounds and then declared to be a site of great scientific interest.

2. Use of any bulldozer, scraper, plow, or other mechanical equipment without a permit from the game, fish and parks department was declared to be a misdemeanor.

3. The valuation for assessment of such property was dropped from 30 percent to 5 percent of actual value: in other words, the owner was to be given a substantial property tax reduction.

4. Then, to comply with due process, the provisions of the act were declared to be operative only with respect to land as to which the owner had filed a duly acknowledged statement that he accepted both the restrictions and benefits of the act.

The bill passed the Senate, but died in the House. This approach was simply not a true solution to the basic problem, and the true solution then seemed at hand—the congressional designation of the area as a national monument. The same situation has existed this year, so I did not make any further effort in the legislative session which has just ended.

At this point I want to revert back to my earlier statement that in 1965 I introduced the bill that authorized our county governments, our local health departments, and our welfare departments to distribute birth control information and supplies. There were many reasons for this bill, but one of the major reasons was the continuing need to get not only our world population but also our American population under control.

Population problems are among my greatest concerns. I am one of several like-minded persons who recently formed the Colorado Institute on Population Problems. The organization's purpose is to "publicize the consequence of over population in order to create public attitudes which will lead to small families." We have not yet devised a method to precisely measure the forces that presently are pressing toward the destruction of Florissant, nor can we precisely measure the accelerating increases in those pressures. But this much we do know: the population of Colorado Springs was 70,194 at the time of the 1960 census. The estimate for January 1 of this year was 128,500 and growing. Not only is there a tremendous increase in simple numbers but this increase itself generates a new pressure—the pressure on city dwellers to "get away from it all." Then, when this pressure becomes coupled with increasing affluence, the pressure of the population to acquire mountain cabins and second homes obviously rises very sharply.

But even if our Colorado Institute on Population Problems achieves its purpose, our population growth cannot be brought under control for another generation at the very minimum. In 1975 the number of women in their prime childbearing years—20 to 29—will be 28 percent greater than the number of women in this age bracket in 1968. We know this to be a fact, since these women are already in existence. Even if the number of births in 1975 is not 28 percent over the 1968 number, the increase will nevertheless, certainly be very large. In the face of these skyrocketing numbers, the land prices in the Florissant area can do nothing but go up.

Concurrent with the increase in the destructive pressures from real estate developers, the destructive pressures from curiosity seekers are also increasing apace. Private operations simply cannot sustain a proper custodial effort. Anyone who has visited the area can testify to the rundown appearance of the structures, fences, and so forth.

In conclusion, I feel I can safely predict that unless the Government acts, this unique piece of earth will be destroyed and lost forever, just as the petrified tree has been lost. Colorado does not have the resources to preserve the area, but the U.S. Government does. Furthermore, the preservation of these wonders of nature is in the interest of all Americans—not simply those that happen to live in Colorado.

The time for congressional action is now, and Congress should treat this as a matter of highest priority—before land prices increase even further, before the number of marauders increases even further, and before the features of scientific interest deteriorate even further.

I meet regularly with constituents from all walks of life, and I have no hesitancy in reporting to you that I believe that my constituents would overwhelmingly support the creation of the Florissant Fossil

Beds National Monument as a very proper and highly desirable expenditure of public funds.

Thank you very much for taking the time to come to Colorado to listen to our story, and thank you very much for your courtesy in permitting me to present these views.

Senator BIBLE. That is an unusually fine statement, Senator Bermingham, and I think it is worthy of comment that you have not only had this philosophy, but you have tried to back it up with some legislative implementation. I think that speaks very well of your interests of the preservation of the area. Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. I have no questions, Mr. Chairman, but I want to say, Senator Bermingham has been a very forward looking legislator. I think the force of your statement is greatly emphasized by your personal experiences with your family, and how well they express what may happen in this area unless we do something about it.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. I have no questions, Mr. Chairman, I think it was a very fine statement. Senator Bermingham and I ran together in 1968, as you did in Nevada, and we were all successful, and we are all well pleased.

Senator BIBLE. Well, as long as he didn't run against you, fine.

Our next witness is Joe Burns, chairman of the board of county commissioners of Teller County, Colo.

STATEMENT OF JOE BURNS, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, TELLER COUNTY, COLO.

Mr. BURNS. Honorable Chairman, members of the committee, and distinguished guests, this is quite a pleasure to testify before you, Senator Bible, and it is always a pleasure for me to be with my friends Gordon and Peter.

I am a member of the board of county commissioners of Teller County. It has long been a project of the Teller County commissioners to have these Florissant fossil beds included in the national park system so that these invaluable fossil beds would be protected and preserved.

Teller County is unique in that it owes much to volcanic action which occurred millions of years ago and has brought into being two world treasures—both pure gold in their own right.

Scientists tell us that at one time this part of Colorado was a tropical area and that a large lake covered the land where these Florissant fossil beds are located. Fish swam in the lake. Birds, butterflies, and strange insects flitted over the surface of the waters. Some of the surrounding mountains were active volcanoes which erupted from time to time.

During one, or several, of these eruptions, fabulous gold bearing ore was brought close to the surface of the earth. Millions of years later this area became known as the Cripple Creek district, the world's greatest gold camp.

When the volcanic ash settled on the surface of the lake, it caught many birds in flight and insects of all descriptions, thus carrying them to the bottom of the lake and entombing them forever in the mud and volcanic ash. The giant redwood trees were smothered where they

stood. In the centuries that followed, these trees turned into stone.

Thus through volcanoes belching forth rock and ash, two world famous treasures came into being millions of years later. One was the Cripple Creek district, known the world over for the pure gold it has added to the gold reserves of the world. In reverse action the other treasure was made. It was by the settling of the volcanic ash into the lake and carrying with it birds, insects, and so forth, that the Florissant Fossil Beds were formed. These are "pure gold" for scientific study of the plant and animal life of the Oligocene age.

The Florissant Fossil Beds are internationally known, and fossil specimens from these beds may be seen in museums all over the world. When Senator Allott addressed the Senate to introduce, on behalf of himself and his distinguished colleague, Senator Peter Dominick, legislation to establish the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, he quoted a paragraph of a letter which he had received from members of the Department of Entomology of the American Museum of Natural History and with Senator Allott's permission, I would like to read it to you. It is as follows:

Florissant is a magic word known to scientists throughout the world for one of America's treasures. It identifies a site with unparalleled fossil wealth from which has come almost all knowledge of fauna and flora for a great period in our past history, the Oligocene Epoch. In this small area are preserved in readily available form more species of terrestrial fossils than are known from anywhere else in the world. The Florissant insects are classical fossils that give us deep insight into the evolution of these dominant invertebrates. The area, as a reserve available to a mature scientific community, would continue to bring to light a wealth of new information.

We are very grateful to Senator Gordon Allott and Senator Peter Dominick for introducing this legislation again this year. We are especially appreciative of all the fine work these men have done in endeavoring to have these fossil beds declared a national monument.

It is imperative that the fossil beds be put under the protection of the national park system. Any ranger or guide from Mesa Verde National Park here in Colorado or from the Petrified Forest National Monument in Arizona can tell you what happens when souvenir hunters fall upon valuable treasures such as those in Mesa Verde or the Arizona Petrified Forest and the same would be true here with the fossil beds when they become well known by the souvenir collecting public.

I appreciate the opportunity of speaking before this committee and in closing would like to state that if these fossil beds are to be preserved for future scientific study, it is urgent that action be taken now to have this area declared a national monument and put under the protection of the national park system.

Senator Bible, I thank you.

Senator BIBLE. That is a very fine statement, Mr. Chairman, and I appreciate it.

How large a county is Teller County? What is your population, approximately?

Mr. BURNS. In 1960, I believe it was 2,800 and something. We have no accurate count from 1960.

Senator BIBLE. Have you had a little growth there, or has it remained about the same?

Mr. BURNS. A tremendous growth in one area of the county, yes.

Senator BIBLE. What are your cities in Teller County?

Mr. BURNS. Municipalities are the city of Cripple Creek, the county seat; the city of Victor, and the town of Woodland Park.

Senator BIBLE. Very fine. I wanted to build that into the record so I would have an idea of the size of the area. And you are having some growth there.

Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. I want to thank you very much, Joe, for being here, and we are gratified to know that we have the fullhearted support of yourself and the board of county commissioners in this effort.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. I want to repeat what Senator Allott said. I think this is going to be of real significance. Every now and again we get landowners who are not quite sure this is a good idea, and to find that Joe has done such a fine job on this as chairman of the board, and is wholly in support of it, is very gratifying.

Mr. BURNS. Thank you. I will send copies of this statement.

Senator BIBLE. I didn't hear your last statement.

Mr. BURNS. I will see that you all receive copies of my statement.

Senator BIBLE. There is no need of duplicating. If you have one for the reporter, that will suffice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Our next witness is Edward J. O'Brien II, county attorney of Teller County, Colo.

STATEMENT OF EDWARD J. O'BRIEN II, COUNTY ATTORNEY, TELLER COUNTY

Mr. O'BRIEN. Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee, I am afraid these prior speakers are stealing my thunder, so I will be here briefly.

As I understand the purpose of a national monument, it is for conservation of America's scenic, scientific, and historic heritage for the enjoyment, knowledge, and inspiration of the Nation's citizens. Using this criterion, I would not dare to appraise the scenic value of the proposed fossil bed site. Actual visual inspection is imperative.

From a scientific point of view, eminently qualified paleontologists have presented Congress with authoritative reasons for the necessity of preserving the fossil beds. These scientists are in a much better position to advise your committee on the scientific aspects, now and in the future, than I am.

I have been a resident of the Pikes Peak region for more than 33 years. Some 29 years ago, I made my first trip to Florissant to see the fossils. Later, as part of my junior high school training, our science teacher took us from Colorado Springs to Florissant on a field trip. We studied specimens from Florissant prior to our trip and observed the fossil beds in their natural setting, the excavations, and the preserved plants and insects on exhibit. I point this out in order to show the lasting impression these fossil beds have on those fortunate enough to come in direct contact with them.

Later on, in college, I took a course in organic evolution. Our text, written by Professor Stull of Yale University, contained numerous

photos and text references to fossils found at the Florissant fossil beds.

There is overwhelming evidence that the Florissant fossil beds contain a unique storehouse of scientific information. For that reason alone we cannot afford to have these beds encroached upon.

As for the third factor in the criteria for national monuments—the historic heritage—what could be more historic than a 40-million-year-old scientific wonder?

This committee has the opportunity to secure 40 million years of history for the benefit of the American public and the world's scientific community. Forty million years of preservation can go under a bulldozer's blade in a very short time. Once destroyed as it exists now, irreparable damage necessarily follows, and nothing can be done to restore that damage. We are pleading with you not to let the damage commence. Stop it before it starts.

By way of analogy, I believe Colorado at this time has six national parks. Three of these are scenic national monuments: the Black Canyon of the Gunnison, Colorado National Monument, the Great Sand Dunes National Monument. We have two historical national monuments: the Hovenweep National Monument pertaining to prehistoric stone towers and Indian pueblos, and the Yucca House National Monument, also a prehistoric Indian pueblo. We have in Colorado at this time one scientific national monument, closely analogous to the Florissant fossil beds, and that is the Dinosaur National Monument.

The Dinosaur National Monument contains the Nation's richest deposit of dinosaur fossils. In 1915, 80 acres were set aside to preserve the fossil deposits. Subsequently, some 159,000 acres were added.

This monument is comparable to the Florissant fossil beds proposed monument. Both are primarily concerned with fossil deposits; both contain scientific data equal to or superior to any in the world; both have their origins millions of years ago; both contain specimens which are subject to destruction without adequate protection.

Size seems to be the most significant difference. Dinosaur National Monument has 206,216 acres; Florissant requests 6,000 acres. Dinosaur meets the purpose of national monuments in all respects—scenic, scientific, historic—and it is submitted, so does the proposed Florissant Fossil Beds Monument.

We urge you to report favorably on this legislation. Now is the time for conservation of this unique asset. And again, alluding to the criteria for national monuments, conservation is the primary factor to be considered. Conservation of a valuable resource like the Florissant fossil beds is necessarily a good and proper thing.

I pledge to complete cooperation from the office of the Teller County attorney on all factors directly involving Teller County. Particularly the prompt resolution of the problems set forth on page 36 of the master plan for the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument prepared by the U.S. Department of Interior, National Parks Service, concerning county roads.

Thank you, sir.

Senator BIBLE. What is that problem set forth on page 36?

Mr. O'BRIEN. It is that "The county roads will remain for the foreseeable future and the county has expressed a willingness to donate the

road rights-of-way and to maintain the roads on a reimbursable basis. This offer needs to be explored and an agreement arranged to permit the transfer of the right-of-way."

Senator BIBLE. Very fine. And Mr. Hummel testified to that as well. I just wanted to be clear as to what exactly was on page 36. Thank you very much, Mr. O'Brien.

Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. I want to thank you also. In your long experience with this area it is very gratifying to this committee, and we are happy to have the cooperation of the entire Teller County community in this, and it will be one of the things which I'm sure will weigh heavily in the deliberations of the full Interior Committee.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. I have no questions, Mr. Chairman. It is nice to see Mr. O'Brien here and testifying this way.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Ralph Clifford, representing Carol M. Kenney, mayor of Woodland Park, Colo.

STATEMENT OF RALPH CLIFFORD, REPRESENTING MAYOR CAROL M. KENNEY, WOODLAND PARK, COLO.

Mr. CLIFFORD. Mr. Chairman and distinguished Senators, I am Ralph Clifford speaking for Mayor Kenney, who wasn't able to make it here this morning. We passed a resolution unanimously favoring these Florissant fossil beds, and if I may, I have four reasons that we feel are justifiable.

1. Few, if any, deposits of fossils of this quality exist in the United States. Historically and scientifically we feel the fossil beds are of great importance.

2. Any further delay in action aimed at creating a national monument at the fossil bed area will result in the loss forever of the beds through private exploitation.

3. The land in question contributes little, if any, to the economy of the area at present. Because Teller County depends heavily on tourism, the creation of a national monument at Florissant would enhance the general economy of the area.

4. Since the land in question is taxed almost totally as vacant land, the tax loss through acquisition by the Federal Government would be negligible and overwhelmingly offset by its contribution to the economy through tourism.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, Mr. Clifford. Woodland Park—and I can see it on the map—is how many miles from Florissant?

Mr. CLIFFORD. I believe we are probably 17 to 20 miles.

Senator BIBLE. How large is Woodland Park?

Mr. CLIFFORD. Approximately 1,700.

Senator BIBLE. A population of 1,700?

Mr. CLIFFORD. Yes.

Senator BIBLE. It is governed by a mayor and a town board, a board of trustees of how many members?

Mr. CLIFFORD. Six.

Senator BIBLE. Are they elected at large from the town?

Mr. CLIFFORD. Yes, sir.

Senator BIBLE. And Woodland Park is located within Teller County?

Mr. CLIFFORD. Yes. You will come through our town as you come to the site this afternoon, and we will enjoy having you.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. I only hope you will express our appreciation to the mayor and also to the board of trustees and citizens of Woodland Park. We have many friends there for the support of this bill.

Mr. CLIFFORD. Thank you.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. Mr. Chairman, I know that this is one of the areas that is growing very rapidly, and it is important to have the board of trustees and a representative of the mayor, and the mayor himself, put into writing the full support for this project. I appreciate your coming down and giving this testimony, Mr. Clifford.

Mr. CLIFFORD. We appreciate your giving us this time. Thank you.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Dr. Harry D. MacGinitie, Professor Emeritus, University of California.

STATEMENT OF DR. HARRY D. MACGINITIE, PROFESSOR EMERITUS, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Dr. MACGINITIE. Senator Bible, Senator Dominick, Senator Allott, and ladies and gentlemen. Not to blow my own horn, but just to explain why I am here, I have been engaged in the study of fossil plants now since 1931, and during that time I have had opportunity to visit several hundred localities scattered all over the Western States. At present I am engaged in the study of Eocene floras in the western Wind River Basin, Wyo. I began work on the study of plants of the Florissant Messa in 1936, 33 years ago. The work had to be postponed for a few years. The final monograph was published in 1953—"Fossile Plants of the Florissant Fossile Beds Colorado."

Senator BIBLE. Do you have extra copies of that available?

Dr. MACGINITIE. This is out of print. It's being reprinted.

Senator BIBLE. Well, I thought if one were readily available, we would have it available for reference by the committee.

Dr. MACGINITIE. You should have a copy of it.

Senator BIBLE. Fine, because somebody might want to refer to your monograph of 1953.

Dr. MACGINITIE. As several of my greatest colleagues have mentioned, the fossil beds are widely known over the world for the wealth of fossil plants, insects, and fishes which they contain. The combination of life forms, their abundance and their beautiful preservation is unique. There is nothing quite like it in the United States, or North America for that matter. The locality was first discovered during the work of the Hayden survey of the territories in the early seventies of the last century. As presently exposed, the beds are the result of a particular combination of circumstances, the damming of the drainage of the area by volcanic eruptive material, mudflows, ash deposits, and lavas. This formed a rather extensive shallow lake which was gradually filled by showers of pumice and dust from the great volcanic center near Guffy about 15-18 miles southwest of Florissant. Insects, leaves,

seeds and pollen, and fishes were preserved in the layers of successive volcanic sediments. Below the lake beds are two layers containing fossil stumps of redwood. Now this is a true redwood related to our modern sequoia found on the west coast. These were buried by mudflows from the volcano. Some of the fossil stumps are as much as ten feet in diameter. This was all buried and protected by later volcanic eruptions.

Senator BIBLE. How deep do you have to dig to get to these Sequoias?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Oh, 10 or 15 feet. They are very close to the surface.

Senator BIRLE. Thank you.

Dr. MACGINITIE. About sixty years ago a scientist at the University of Colorado wrote a popular article called "Florissant: a Miocene Pompeii." This was a very apt title. As people know who have read about and visited the area of Pompeii near Naples, Italy, the town was overwhelmed by the products of a great eruption from Mt. Vesuvius. Here was a civilization and culture preserved in a remarkable way in almost a moment of time. We can see the daily life of the people, their houses, their markets and even some of the food on their tables; the whole thing entombed for us to observe 2,000 years later. We have the same thing at Florissant, the biota of 38 million years ago, the insects, plants, fish, and the like living in a moment of geologic time, preserved for us to see and marvel at; we who were hardly on the way then. In other words, we have here just one page out of geologic history, but almost a complete page. We can reconstruct the forest and something of the environment, the climate, the soil type, and even the kind of tsetse fly which stung the ancient mammals. By the way, among the insects are tsetse flies which now, of course, are not in North America.

The contrast between the environment of the present and that shown by the fossils, the climate and vegetation, is practically absolute. Then a rich vegetation of at least 120 species of woody plants, growing in a warm, temperate, nearly frostless climate at an elevation of 3,000 feet or less. The groves of giant Sequoia and Port Orford Cedar are now replaced by small pines, spruce, aspen, and hardy shrubs at an elevation of 8,500 feet where frost may occur any month of the year. It is one of the best examples that I know of of change, almost absolute change through geologic time.

This brings us to face a question of values. The land occupied by the lake beds is not of particularly great value, either for housing or agriculture, but as a page of earth history from the dim past it is priceless. You can't put a price on it, there isn't anything else like it. The area is unique and unrivaled. I know of no other spot in the world which has just the combination of all the ancient life remains that are found at Florissant and it is well known over the world. My colleagues in Europe and Japan, when they come to visit the United States, always want to know where the Florissant beds are, and want to visit the Florissant beds. There is hardly an elementary geologic text that does not mention the Florissant fossil area.

And you know, in the early days at the Yellowstone area there were certain interests that were interested in taking it over, and if that had happened nowadays we would have a high board fence

around Old Faithful, and you would be charged \$1.50 to go in and look at it, and we don't want anything to happen like that at Florissant.

Senator BIBLE. That is a splendid statement, Doctor, you give to the hearing—don't run away. I want you to tell me what age and how many millions of years ago prehistoric man roamed here.

Dr. MACGINITIE. Well, they have had recent discoveries in Africa that tell us that manlike creatures that we would recognize as manlike creatures probably lived 2 or 3 million years ago.

Senator BIBLE. How many, 2 or 3 million?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Yes.

Senator BIBLE. And this is about 40 million years ago?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Yes; about 36 to 38.

Senator BIBLE. Well, I am glad to have that additional fact. I was wondering when all of those homo sapiens came on this earth. I had forgotten. Senator Dominick says he is not positive they have arrived yet. He might be right, after some of our actions.

Dr. MACGINITIE. I think the term "sapiens" is a misnomer.

Senator BIBLE. Well, you are undoubtedly correct, if I remember my Latin.

Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do hope that some of our previous witnesses will not feel hurt at all that they were not subjected to questions, but their statements have been self-explanatory, and we are coming to a group of people, such as Dr. MacGinitie, who is here entirely on his own. And Doctor, we appreciate it that you came here on your own to testify. Your experience with the Florissant Fossil Beds goes back how many years?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Let's see, I started in 1936. Thirty-three years.

Senator ALLOTT. Now I am going back a long ways myself maybe. I want you to put it on the record though. This is all part of the tertiary period, is it?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Yes, early tertiary.

Senator ALLOTT. Which was the oldest, the Eocene or the Miocene? The Oligocene is in between, I know that.

Dr. MACGINITIE. Starting at the bottom, Pliocene, Eocene, Oligocene, followed by Miocene.

Senator ALLOTT. Thank you. We at least have that straightened out for the record.

Senator BIBLE. I am glad to have that clear, because I was a little mixed up.

Senator ALLOTT. Now Doctor, I don't know how far this was gone into as we left the room a few moments ago, but I wonder if you could step over to the map (see p. 18) for just a moment, and I would like to pin down two or three things. Looking at the northwest corner, which is the upper left-hand corner of that map; there are the areas where the University of California has done so much work, is that right?

Dr. MACGINITIE. That was me.

Senator ALLOTT. That was you?

Dr. MACGINITIE. That was one of my best localities right here.

Senator ALLOTT. Now we are discussing why this whole area is valuable. Now since you have been over it, would you move on down south

through the western portion of that map and point out the significant fossil deposits that makes this entire area a necessity?

Dr. MACGINITIE. I had two very good localities right along the road where I got several thousand good plant fossils, and this area in here (indicating) has quantities of fossil stumps. Some of them are exposed, and some of them would have to be excavated, but here is a whole fossil forest in terms of petrified stumps.

Senator ALLOTT. When you say "here," Doctor, try to indicate a little more definite for the record.

Dr. MACGINITIE. Well, in this area here.

Senator ALLOTT. In the central western portion of the map?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Yes; right in here. I would like to say at this time that there are two layers of fossil stumps, the ones down below are all lying facing northeast away from the volcano, and the big stump at the Seeger Ranch is the second layer on top, and those stumps are all over, quantities of them.

Senator ALLOTT. Now going on down south on the western portion of the map there, I believe that there is a large area of Sequoia stumps even on the outside of the southwestern boundary of that map, are there not?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Yes; down in here, that is right.

Senator ALLOTT. Now let's move on east there, and on the map I have, it is marked "Princeton locality," and could you designate that in the southeastern portion of the map?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Right there. This is one of the early localities. I have forgotten just when it was excavated, but previous to 1900, if I remember right. I am not sure, but they got a great collection of insects and plants out of this locality, and the collection is still at Princeton, most of it, Princeton University.

Senator ALLOTT. Now moving on northward, on the east side of the map there, I believe about the central portion of that are very extensive fossil insect deposits, are there not? That would be the part shown on the map between the two blue lines?

Dr. MACGINITIE. This in a way may be a little misleading, because wherever you dig into the shales you can find insects; some places a little more concentrated than others, but insects are everywhere, wherever you excavate the shales.

Senator ALLOTT. But the greater deposits, I mean the concentration of deposits—

Dr. MACGINITIE. Is a little more here.

Senator ALLOTT. Now going up to the extreme northeast portion of the map there, I have been told, and I haven't seen these myself, but there are some fossil palms in that area?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Yes, they are rare. Two or three specimens have been found in here. They come from the lower tufts below the lake shales, but as far as I know, they are actually palms.

Senator ALLOTT. Now as I recall it, Doctor, the east and west boundaries of the proposed national monument roughly conform to the topographical situation, in that there are ridges on each side of that rather shallow valley, or what was formerly a lake bed.

Dr. MACGINITIE. You see, the valley is composed of soft rocks, and it has been excavated out by erosion and streams, and these are the granite ridges which outline the valley.

Senator ALLOTT. On the east and on the west?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Yes, sir.

Senator ALLOTT. Thank you very much, Doctor. I know you speak with great authority on this.

Dr. MACGINITIE. I would like to add here for what it is worth that this area up here contains quite a large area of really good fossiliferous beds. That would be north of the road going to Lake George. All this in here is also highly fossiliferous.

Senator ALLOTT. Mr. Chairman, I have had placed in my hands here a short history of the—

Senator BIBLE. You mean we can have this book, Doctor?

Dr. MACGINITIE. No, you can't have it.

Senator BIBLE. You are kind of an Indian giver. You mean I can look at it, but I have to give it back to you?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Eventually, yes.

Senator ALLOTT. I have here a short history that says they were originally discovered by Dr. A. C. Peale of the Hayden surveys, and without taking the time to run through this, I note that the Princeton Expedition started in 1880 under W. B. Scott and H. F. Osborn.

Dr. MACGINITIE. Yes.

Senator ALLOTT. And I think it would be appropriate, Mr. Chairman, if we inserted this very short condensed history of the developments, which also includes our present distinguished witness, in the record.

Senator BIBLE. Excellent suggestion. And in addition, I would insert that map (see p. 18) that accompanies the exhibit to which you refer. It will be inserted in the record.

(Brief summary of Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument follows:)

BRIEF SUMMARY OF FLORISSANT FOSSIL BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT

(Proposal)

S. 912

Location

Thirty-five miles West of Colorado Springs on U.S. Highway 24; Teller County, Colorado.

Size

Six thousand acres, all in private ownership, 14 landowners.

Cost

Acquisition: \$1,165,000 (approximately \$195 per acre).

Development: \$2,562,000 (roads and trails, \$769,000, buildings and utilities, \$1,098,000, miscellaneous, \$695,000).

Operation and maintenance (at the end of 5 years): \$114,392; 8 permanent employees and 3½ seasonal employees for a total of 11½ man-years.

Climate and Terrain

The Monument area is the bed of pre-historic Lake Florissant whose elevation ranges from 8200 feet to 8800 feet. It is a high grassy valley with numerous groves of pine trees with an Alpine climate.

Geologic history

Subsequent to the birth of the Rocky Mountains, 60 million years ago, a period of erosion ensued. By Oligocene time, 40 million years ago, the mountains in the Florissant region had been reduced generally to a broad, gently rolling hill land. Volcanic eruptions covered the region with pyroclastics to a depth of 40 to 60 feet or more, and the drainage of the area was blocked, thus forming Florissant Lake. The Lakeshore was mantled by many types of deciduous trees and immense Sequoia groves.

Explosive eruptions and mud flows filled the lake. The mud flows engulfed and buried the lakeshore trees, which were gradually petrified. Insects, leaves, fish, and other forms of life were carried to the bottom of the lake bottom and preserved between alternating layers of volcanic ash. Guffey volcano, 15 miles southwest, is the probable source of the volcanic material. The life cycle of the lake was perhaps only 5,000 years. Erosion has changed surface to present configuration.

Fossil collection

More than 1,000 different life species have been found, and 60,000 specimens of insects alone have been collected. Collections taken by: American Museum of Natural History (New York), the British Museum, Carnegie Institution of Washington, Denver Museum of Natural History, University of Colorado, Princeton University, and many others.

History

Florissant fossil beds were discovered by Dr. A. C. Peale of the Hayden surveys.

Investigated by Dr. S. H. Scudder, then THE authority of fossil insects, who spent the summer of 1877 and subsequent years collecting and studying the fossils in the area.

Other collecting expeditions of note

1880—Princeton University (W. B. Scott and H. F. Osborn)

1905-1906—University of Colorado and several other institutions

Early 1900's—American Museum of Natural History and the British Museum

1909—George Sternberg for the American Museum

1912—H. F. Wickham, University of Iowa (90 Species of butterflies)

1915 or 1916—Denver Museum of Natural History

1936-1937—University of California

1936—Dr. H. D. MacGinitie, collection now in Carnegie Institution of Washington, his work *Fossil Plants of the Florissant Beds, Colorado*, is the best and most complete of all Florissant literature. (Note: Dr. MacGinitie will testify at the hearings.)

1947 or earlier—Harry N. Andrews, author of *Ancient Plants and the World They Lived In*.

1951—Dr. Paul R. Stewart, President of Waynesburg College, Pennsylvania.

Commercial encroachment

The map (see p. 18) will show that there is commercial "mountain home" development on both the North boundary and on the South boundary.

Recent information indicates that a contract for sale of the property has been entered into by Mr. A. W. Gregg for 1800 acres in the proposed monument site, lying generally along the eastern boundary (this accounts for nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ of the monument area). Closing date was to be May 27, 1969. Sale price was \$150 per acre.

Other property owners have been approached.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick. Just be seated, Doctor, you might be more comfortable.

Senator DOMINICK. Doctor, did you say that the palms were below the lake bed?

Dr. MACGINITIE. They are below the typical lake shale. There are about 45 feet of volcanic mud flowing underneath.

Senator DOMINICK. Would that indicate that they were there before the lake was formed?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Probably; yes.

Senator DOMINICK. And the redwoods that you refer to, the petrified redwoods, are these like the California sequoias that we have now?

Dr. MACGINITIE. They are not the same species, but they are a closely related species. Their cones are a little smaller, but they are true redwoods.

Senator DOMINICK. And their size is about the same?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Yes. They grew very rapidly. I counted the rings on some of the stumps, and some of the rings are over an inch in thickness, so they grew very rapidly.

Senator DOMINICK. Doctor, we had a very good exposition of the various deposits that are within the boundary. I gather from your last statement that you felt that there were other things outside of the boundary which were also of interest. Is this correct?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Yes.

Senator BIBLE. The answer is "Yes"?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Yes, the answer is "Yes."

Senator DOMINICK. Are the deposits outside the boundary as collectivized—that is the best word I can use—as the ones within the boundary, or has there not been enough exploration to know?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Oh, they have pretty well explored. I should mention here that Dr. Stewart from Waynesburg College, Pennsylvania, has had a summer geology camp at Florissant for many years, and Saturdays and Sundays he used to take the kids out excavating for fossils. He has a magnificent collection, probably the best in the world, and we hope we can see some of it in the little shack that he has at Florissant. He got a lot of his samples north of the Lake George road.

Senator DOMINICK. In your opinion, looking at the boundaries that are laid out there for the proposed monument, do these boundaries represent the size of the monument that you feel would be adequate to give historic benefit to the country as a whole, or should they be enlarged or decreased?

Dr. MACGINITIE. I am afraid I am stepping outside my own bailiwick here. Probably that area is adequate to show what is there, but for my own personal opinion, I would like to see some of the territory north of the Lake George road included, because of the great series of the lake beds up there.

Senator DOMINICK. In other words, what you are saying is that the area does reflect a great deal of the memorabilia that we are trying to preserve?

Dr. MACGINITIE. I would say all of the essential things.

Senator DOMINICK. But if there were going to be any change in it at all it ought to be increased rather than decreased?

Dr. MACGINITIE. Never decreased. It is too small as it is.

Senator DOMINICK. That is what I was trying to get for the record. Thank you, Doctor.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you, Doctor; you have been a most helpful witness.

Our next witness is Dr. Beatrice E. Willard.

STATEMENT OF DR. BEATRICE E. WILLARD, COCHAIRMAN, THORNE ECOLOGICAL FOUNDATION

Dr. WILLARD. Honorable Senators, ladies and gentlemen. I certainly want to thank all of you for this wonderful opportunity to meet you in our State, and I especially want to thank Senator Allott. It was a deep privilege to show him this area last year about this time, and we very much appreciate the work he has done, and the backing that

Senator Dominick has given. As I sat here and listened to Dr. MacGinitie I was deeply moved, and I still am. My interest in Florissant started many years ago. I was born and raised in Palm Springs. My father was a photographer and he had—

Senator BIBLE. Palm Springs, Calif.?

Dr. WILLARD. Palm Springs, Calif. And he had a studio, and above the studio was an apartment, and during World War II Dr. T. D. A. Cockerell of the University of Colorado came to Palm Springs to donate his services to the Palm Springs Museum, which was adjacent to our property, and Dr. Cockerell was retired from the university here at that time. He was quite elderly, but he was very vigorous and very interesting. I was in college at the time, and I would come home on vacation and he would invite me up for tea. It was his custom each day to invite people up into the apartment for tea. And it was at that time that I heard about Florissant, and he would tell me in his inimitable way about what was there. And when I came to Colorado in 1967 those words were still ringing in my ears about the wonders of Florissant, and it has only been very recently that I have come into a position where I could do something about helping to preserve this treasure we have known about for almost 100 years.

Senator ALLOTT. Doctor, I hope you don't mind my interrupting you, but I have to say this: I was fortunate enough to be one of those persons who had a course under Dr. Cockerell when he was at the University of Colorado, and I remember his teas very well. He was one of the most stimulating, imaginative professors I have ever seen.

Dr. WILLARD. You know what I mean.

Senator ALLOTT. I certainly do.

Dr. WILLARD. Well, Senator Birmingham has very eloquently described just what seeing a piece of the wood can mean to a whole family. In thinking about what this means to people—I am not a paleontologist, I am a plant ecologist, but I am also an interpreter of the natural scene of people, and have been this since the age of two. I was searching for a way to make this even more meaningful to us this morning so that we would know why we had to do this and do it quickly. All of us, I think, in our schooling at some point, and I was very gratified to hear Mr. Ward, your assistant, tell about the other night, and learn about Pompeii in Italy, the city that was buried by volcanic ash in 79 A.D. A few years ago I was privileged to visit Pompeii. Although I had studied Roman history, I was astounded and fascinated by how perfectly preserved was the life of that time in this city, smothered by ash nearly two millenia ago. The buildings were intact, the gardens in place, people "fossilized" by the physical and chemical action of the ash, in all sorts of activities, even delicate paintings preserved on the walls of the houses, and food in people's mouths. Walking through that ancient, extinct city in the 20th century, I was literally transported back in time 2,000 years to experience, with those long-dead people, their culture, ideas, and the agony of the sudden volcanic eruption that had captured and preserved them intact for all to view in later times.

At Florissant, Colo., we have the same opportunity—except at Florissant we can be transported back in time 36 million years to before the advent of man on this earth. The Florissant lake shales were formed in much the same way as the Pompeiiian formation, by nu-

merous violent, sudden eruptions of a nearby volcano that rained fine ash over the countryside. This ash fell into a large lake dammed up by earlier lava flows from the volcano. As it fell, it sieved from the air and water animals and plants that were living, breathing, eating in the region of Colorado 34 to 38 million years ago. The gentleness of this ash fall, broken by the water of the lake, captured intact and held far from the ravages of pressure and decay, all the forms of life extant at Florissant in the Oligocene—exactly as life was preserved intact at Pompeii.

Consider for a moment the rarity of the juxtaposition of physical conditions that occurred at Florissant to accomplish this preservation. We all know how infrequently we find erupting volcanoes on the earth. And how few lakes there are—especially those dammed by lava flows. And how few volcanoes spew forth fine ash that rains the landscape such as at Krakatoa. This brings into its proper, immensely rare proportion, what happened in Colorado 38 million years ago. Thirty-eight million years later came men to unlock this treasure—Peale in 1877, Scudder in 1879 on, Carpenter in 1916, Cockerell in 1900, MacGinitie in 1936. The scientific explorations of these men, and many others, have shown us that this deposit of delicate leaf, flower, and insect fossils is the richest fossil deposit of these fragile biological forms known on the earth anywhere.

And now it is the unique privilege of the U.S. Congress to set this treasure aside as part of our national park system, for the incomparable experience it can afford man through all time to come.

Once this unique museum specimen—the Florissant shales—is placed in the national park system, then excavation of the deposit can be made similar to what has been done at Pompeii. This will provide visitors, through all time, the opportunity to actually walk in the Oligocene forests of giant Sequoias along the shores of ancient Lake Florissant. Future generations can mentally climb the rolling hills among a wide variety of deciduous trees—maples, oaks, ashes, hawthornes, beech, magnolias, liquidamber. What a contrast to the ponderosa pine forests of today. Here and there they will find flowers that graced the area. Our descendants can observe the hundreds of species of insects that flew in the subtropical air, crawled over the deciduous leaves of the upland forest, or swam in the lake on this site 38 million years ago.

Such observation would have many advantages over observations of living insects—the insects would stand still, they would not bite or terrify, and they would be there winter and summer. In addition, well over a thousand species of plants and animals have already been discovered in the Florissant Lake shales. Who knows how many more species of the Oligocene remain to be found?

Visitors have been impressed by the giant bones exposed in the quarry of Dinosaur National Monument in the northwest corner of Colorado. They admire the petrified logs in northern Arizona. They examine quizzically the fossil trilobites and other extinct animals of Illinois. They cower before the saber-tooth tigers at the La Brea Tar Pits in California. And indeed, all these sites and the many others where fossils of extinct animals and plants occur in the United States and around the world are impressive, instructive, and most interesting. But, none, absolutely none compare to what is present to be exhumed for man at Florissant. At all these other localities a few species,

or perhaps numerous ones, are preserved, but not the total picture of the entire biological community intact, as it lived, together with ample evidence of its climate and what actually happened at Florissant. Here we have in one piece a complete book—Dr. MacGinitie said one page, I would like to call it a book—in the earth's historical library with few pages removed or damaged.

This makes the Florissant beds comparable in the record of life on this planet to the Dead Sea Scrolls of Biblical fame, the Rosetta Stone that unlocked the secrets of the ancient Egyptian civilization, the Gutenberg Bible that records the first Western printing. Incidentally, in 1964 Congress appropriated more money to buy one copy of this Bible than it is estimated will be needed to buy the 6,000-acre library that lies locked in the Florissant Lake shales.

In view of the absolutely unique experience available to all people of our great country and the world, can we even contemplate hesitation at prompt, immediate approval and attendant action to create here a jewel in the National Park Service, while preserving intact one of the world's absolutely priceless scientific treasures? And yet it has taken 48 years to reach this field hearing—the first national park proposal was in 1921—17 years of formal proposals from the National Park Service, and four full Congresses to get to this point.

Will we be too little and too late? We certainly face this imminent possibility, with one third of the land now sold to land speculators in Colorado Springs, and another fourth of it propositioned for by the same men just last week. The course for congressional action is clear. People in generations to come will greatly laud and applaud your positive action.

I thank you very much.

Senator BIBLE. That is an unusually fine statement, Dr. Willard. You speak with great authority, and I think you again underscore the need for action in the very, very near future. I appreciate your being here today, and I know of your great interest as well as your expertise in this field. Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I only want to add this, that Dr. Willard has been untiring in her efforts, and I can see that she feels that there's almost a romance in peeling this page out of history, and preserving it, and for your efforts, Doctor, we are all very appreciative because it's been your interest and your prodding that has brought this hearing to this place.

Dr. WILLARD. Without your help we would be nowhere.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. I have no questions of Dr. Willard, Mr. Chairman, but I want to second what Senator Allott has said. Dr. Willard and I have, in fact, been on the phone twice in the last 2 or 3 days concerning this hearing, and on the need for moving as rapidly as we can because of the fact that this is not State or Federal land that we are dealing with. It is my hope, as I say, that this hearing will form a real foundation for an act to be passed as rapidly as possible.

Senator BIBLE. I share that view, from what I have heard. I am looking forward to seeing the area. Thank you very much, Dr. Willard.

Our next witness is Dr. Estella Leopold.

STATEMENT OF DR. ESTELLA LEOPOLD, COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB

Dr. LEOPOLD. Distinguished Senators, and ladies and gentlemen. I am here as a member of the Mountain Club, but I am also a professor at the University of Colorado. I have a special interest in the Florissant area because I was with each of the parties sent by the National Park Service to lay out the outlines of the proposed national monument, starting back in the early sixties, and I feel also a great interest in the fossils there.

I would like to make a few comments first outlining the position of the Mountain Club and their enthusiastic backing of the 6,000-acre proposed monument, and then a few comments of my own.

Since about 1965 the Mountain Club has been leading field trips into the area, probably taking about 500 people down there and showing them the fossils. We would like to specifically endorse the 6,000-acre monument proposal as shown here, and we felt quite concerned earlier when there were prospects of our receiving a smaller monument. Certainly, 1,000 acres, in our view—we share the view of Dr. MacGinitie—would not be adequate to adequately display the area. And in the interest of preserving the native scenic beauty of the area and the pastoral aspect of the countryside which you gentlemen will see there today, we of the Mountain Club are really opposed to further road development in the area, even for administrative purposes—for example, in the southwest corner, which access can be obtained now from the south. We are opposed to road development in favor of foot trails as to the most esthetic value to the key features, including the overlook up on the middle eastern side of the area.

As Dr. Willard has done, I would like to call the Senators' attention to the fact that the eastern area is under contract for sale to a real estate group, and it is our understanding that it is their intention to develop that area this summer. In the light of those comments, I would like to now make a few of my own.

Fossils can be sold. Those at Florissant, Colo., and the ash that surrounds them which are now hardened stone, may soon become base-ments for A-frame ghettos of the seventies. Even if they must serve as house footings, Florissant plant fossils are perhaps most noteworthy because they span the interval of 34 to 38 million years, and represent a tie point in an otherwise huge gap in the plant record of the region—a gap that ranges from 26 to 47 million years. It may be intriguing for some to own a home that sits astride the world's only good record of Oligocene plant life in the Rocky Mountains.

Fossils can and do make money. As a paleontologist, I can assure you that the scientific information on plants that has come from Florissant alone has been utilized outside the Florissant area by geological industries across the west, industries that are looking for uraninite, heavy metals, and the liquid gold that we call petroleum. For this purpose, for economic, scientific and geological pursuits, fossils will never be out of date. There isn't an oil company in America which does not find fossils significant to their economic causes.

Fossils tell a story. But the story does not have to be economic to be valid. For example, the story of evolution is not a commodity item, but it is a pretty stirring and acceptable concept. Tell a tale of post-Eocene evolution at the Princeton site on the flanks of the old Lake

Florissant with the fossil quarry spread out before you, and the eyes of the people from 7 to 70 are sparkling. The old Oligocene landscape is still at hand, with minor changes, as a stage and the fossils are the actors. Tell the same story in the lab; show the same kinds of fossils to the same kinds of people and they think you are talking about science and the drama of Florissant history doesn't come through. Eliminate the stage and put the fossils under glass with typed labels—it is like drawing the curtains on the drama.

After leading about 500 people through the Florissant area, it is quite clear to us that people find a world of difference between field science and laboratory specimens. The 60,000 fossils from the Florissant formation that have been placed in museums from Berkeley to Berlin do not tell the local story of the Oligocene as well as the old landscape itself; the story is in the stratigraphy, physiography, geomorphology, structure and fossil biota of the sediment at Florissant, Colo.

Today when the new society is tossing out remnants of past cultural patterns, it may seem unpopular to bother with saving a priceless scientific field library like the Florissant paper shales with all of their fine print. But I ask you, how can man keep a perspective on his direction and life's path if he loses track of the routes that life has followed before him? How can man evaluate his planetary environment and visualize his historic place in it if he does not keep and cherish a few touchstones with the past? When we have studied the moon, will we throw it away?

What you do about the proposed Florissant National Monument, gentlemen, will be a matter of history. You have here a great opportunity to implement the National Park Act of 1916 to save a model community of the early Rocky Mountains for further viewing by the humanity of the future. It is a historical observation that founders of Yellowstone Park and Grand Canyon National Monument, for example, are long remembered for their foresight, while those that opposed, no one ever hears about anymore.

The concept of what a fossil community was like becomes a lot clearer if one can see where the community lived. If Florissant is not given national monument status this year, I fear all we will have is its old address.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, Dr. Leopold. I think that is a very fine contribution, and again underscores and emphasizes the need for action. I have no further questions of you, Doctor, perhaps your Colorado Senators do.

Senator ALLOTT. I am not going to quiz her about paleontology, I'll tell you that. I was up here with her, and I hope they don't let her lead this expedition, because if you try to keep up with her you will be in bad shape.

There was one thing, though, Doctor. I was with you on the site last spring when we were up there, and your remarks: "Tell a tale of post Eocene evolution at the Princeton site on the flanks of the old Lake Florissant with the fossil quarry spread out before you, and the eyes of people from 7 to 70 are sparkling." We went east on a road, coming off the county road there, and I recall your making an explanation that the development could be so arranged there that by

simply going up the hill that people could see a whole series in the steps of evolution. Do I remember you correctly?

Dr. LEOPOLD. Yes.

Senator ALLOTT. Now why don't you put this in the way it ought to be expressed so that it will be in the record.

Dr. LEOPOLD. This was a point that Dr. Willard made earlier. The idea here was that a series of stepstone excavations up through the terracelike Florissant deposits on the middle of the southeast quarter of the monument area would be an ideal place to give the visitor an educational display where he could walk actually through the geologic record. You would begin at the base of the Florissant Lake deposits and the underlying sediments, through the lake sediments, in a series of steps, and be able to see the fossils in their time sequence, and with appropriate educational explanations on the site, in this kind of a field display. And then on the top could be seen the interesting overlying lavas or volcanic deposits which have covered and preserved the sediments. Of course, the story about what has happened since can also be seen in that area.

Senator ALLOTT. The thing that impressed me, that I wanted to get into the record, was the fact, that in this one place in particular, by proper development, you could get such a fantastic historical picture of the development of plant life and insect life.

Dr. LEOPOLD. I believe that such display would nicely show rather a prerecord from around 34 million years ago through a period of about 38 million years ago, as well as the features that have happened in the interim since.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. I just want to congratulate Dr. Leopold and tie down this one area. What are we talking about on this map is the Princeton locality? Would you point that out?

Dr. LEOPOLD. This is a benchlike deposit of Florissant formation coming out toward the west from the wooded area up here (indicating), dropping off in the valley. A nice display could be made from just below—this is north of the Princeton locality, sir—just below the terrace on up. The same thing could be done over here. This is actually even more dramatic in some respects, because in this locality there are faults and structural changes that I, at least, haven't seen elsewhere, showing that, as Dr. MacGinitie referred to it, post-Florissant time upward in the region, creating a block fault, and then the overlying lava deposits.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, Dr. Leopold, for your very valuable statement.

This is the time when we customarily take our morning recess. We will be in recess for 10 minutes.

(Ten minute recess taken.)

Senator BIBLE. The hearing will come to order, and let's have quiet in the hearing room, please.

Our next witness is Dr. Ruth Weiner of the Colorado Open Space Coordinating Council. Dr. Weiner.

STATEMENT OF DR. RUTH WEINER, COLORADO OPEN SPACE COORDINATING COUNCIL

Dr. WEINER. My name is Ruth Weiner, and I am testifying on behalf of the Colorado Open Space Coordinating Council, Inc., 5850 East Jewell Avenue, Denver, Colo. The council is a coordinating structure of 25 organizations concerned with the environment, having a cumulative membership of about 27,000 Colorado citizens. I am the council's legislative chairman.

We wholeheartedly support S. 912, establishing Florissant Beds National Monument. Witnesses preceding me and several who are to follow, notably Dr. Estella Leopold and Dr. Bettie Willard, have described and will describe the unique geologic and paleontologic features of the proposed monument better than I can, so my testimony will not deal with these in detail. I testify to the unanimity with which the members of our member organization support the creation of the monument. We have led numerous trips through the fossil beds, participants in which have included students, scout groups, and out-of-State visitors, as well as members of Colorado outdoor organizations. One and all, participants in these trips have found the experience fascinating and educational, and have expressed a desire to see this unique area open to the public.

Florissant is a living museum, and as such provides an educational experience far surpassing that of seeing excavated fossils displayed in glass cases, or reconstructed dioramas. To pull apart layers of paper shale and discover the insect or plant imprint yourself is an experience few children forget. Any visitor to those national monuments like Bandelier or Dinosaur, where the antiquities are preserved in their original location, can testify to the overwhelming and memorable impact of wandering through and entering the world of the past that is preserved there. Dr. Willard has already described this very eloquently.

Florissant is unique in the world. Surely in the wealthiest Nation on earth there is room to preserve this singular remnant of a vanished geologic era for the children of the future. Surely the land which gave birth to the national park and national monument concept, the idea that these priceless and timeless antiquities should be available forever to everyone, will extend this concept to the fossils and petrofied redwood stumps of Florissant.

As a national monument, the fossil beds would add considerably to the tourist attractions in the State, since national monuments are publicized nationwide. Inclusion of as much of the original lakebed as can still be included, the 6,000 acres which the present bill asks, will not only include a wide variety of fossil species in the monument, but will result in reduced visitor impact on the fossil beds. We are well aware that conflicting uses are proposed for this land—primarily summer home development, which would ruin that part of the fossil beds on which any kind of construction took place. We ask the committee to consider which use will ultimately be of greater benefit to the people of this State and of the Nation. In a time when there are increasing and conflicting pressures on the land, and when more and more of it is swallowed up by housing developments, surely these fossil beds should be deemed worthy of preservation. I might add

that, as a summer home development, the site is far inferior to many such developments in the area.

We are asking the committee to make a decision which will be far reaching in future consideration of land priorities, and to decide in favor of the interest of the American people. Include 6,000 acres in the national monument now, using available funds for land purchase and perhaps postponing development. A delay in opening the monument, even a delay of several years, is much better than losing even part of the site as a monument forever. Even delayed development would ultimately open the fossil beds to all the people of the United States. We ask that you rescue the fossil beds from certain and imminent destruction, and authorize the 6,000-acre monument now.

Appended to my statement is a list of the member organizations of the Colorado Open Space Council which support the 6,000-acre Florissant National Monument. I might point out this includes all but two of our member organizations, who, because of tax considerations, never support any statement having to do with legislation.

(The list referred to follows:)

Member organizations supporting the 6,000-acre Florissant National Monument:

Denver Audubon Society
 American Camping Association, Rocky Mountain Section
 Aiken Ornithological Society
 Association for Beautiful Colorado Roads
 Colorado Federation of Women's Clubs
 Colorado Hawking Club
 Colorado Mountain Club
 Colorado Whitewater Association
 Colorado Mineral Society
 Colorado Wildlife Federation
 Denver Botany Club
 Denver Field Ornithologists
 Interprofessional Committee on Environmental Design
 Mountain Area Planning Council.
 Men's Garden Clubs of Colorado
 Metropolitan Wildlife Federation
 Plains Conservation Center
 PLAN-Boulder
 Planned Parenthood of Colorado
 Regional Parks Association
 Sierra Club, Rocky Mountain Chapter
 Springs Area Beautiful Association
 Trout Unlimited, Cutthroat Chapter.

Senator BIBLE. That is a very impressive list, Mrs. Weiner, and we do appreciate receiving it, and particularly to learn that this proposal has the backing of such an illustrious group of people as you have detailed here. Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. Thank you, Doctor, I thank you for your statement, and I must say, Mr. Chairman, that the Colorado Open Space Coordinating Council in its entirety has been most cooperative in bringing this matter to its present state, and they have really supported this matter enthusiastically, as long as I can remember it, and we are very grateful for it.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. Mr. Chairman, I want to congratulate Dr. Weiner on a very excellent statement. She and I have been in contact on a lot of these things from time to time, and she does a very capable job.

The Rocky Mountain Center for Environmental Control would also be in favor of this particular project; is that right?

Dr. WEINER. I can't really speak for them, because as far as I know the Rocky Mountain Center doesn't take positions on anything, but if they were to take a position on anything, I am sure they would favor this.

Senator DOMINICK. Well said.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Dr. John Chronic, professor of invertebrate paleontology, University of Colorado.

**STATEMENT OF DR. JOHN CHRONIC, PROFESSOR OF INVERTEBRATE
PALEONTOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO**

Dr. CHRONIC. Mr. Chairman, Senator Allott and Senator Dominick, ladies and gentlemen: I am honored by the invitation, Mr. Chairman, to appear before the Florissant field hearings of the Senate Interior Committee on behalf of the Department of Geological Sciences of the University of Colorado and the the University of Colorado Museum to affirm the need for a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

I have been on the University of Colorado faculty for 19 years, teaching and researching paleontology and historical geology. My work includes numerous field trips, many of which have been to Florissant. I have taken hundreds of University of Colorado students and many visitors to this unique area during the past 19 years, and I fully appreciate the great interest and educational value this site holds for people from all walks of life, from all parts of the country, and from all parts of the world. There is no doubt in my mind that this geologic occurrence is unique and highly significant in giving us a better understanding of our earth's history.

In my visits to Florissant I soon became increasingly and painfully aware of the need for this area to be put under public administration. My thoughts turned as early as 1956 to efforts to get this area set aside as a monument. Although there was considerable help and cooperation from a number of Coloradans, the effort was seemingly not broadly enough based to get results at this time. Now that the fate of the Florissant fossil beds is again brought before us, this time with a broader supporting base, and with the backing of many, many interested people, I want to tell you four of the more pressing reasons why I am supporting the immediate enactment of legislation favoring the monument.

1. Considering the great significance of this area in clarifying most elegantly a bit of the geologic past of the Pikes Peak region, the Florissant area is grossly inadequately marked and explained. Although it is known around the world for its outstanding fossils, which are exhibited in hundreds of museums, there is little, indeed, virtually no indication, on the main highway, U.S. 24, which passes directly over the outcrop, that this is the site of such scientific fame. Many people have complained to me about this serious defect.

The present management of the only relatively active commercial exhibitor at Florissant has attempted to label some of the fossil specimens; the labels and descriptions are, however, both inadequate and inaccurate.

The brochure which has been distributed to visitors to Florissant is, to be blunt, quite wrong in several ways. Although I have suggested improvements to the management, nothing has been done to make it scientifically acceptable.

Also, only a small part of the Florissant story is now crudely explained to the visitor or student. A wonderfully intricate and fascinating account could be easily developed from the materials present, and will, if one can judge by their work elsewhere, be developed by the U.S. National Park Service if and when this area comes under their supervision.

2. At each visit to Florissant, I can see that fossils—the tangible evidence of the area's history—are rapidly disappearing from the site. Not the least cause of this erosion are the countless tourists who are now encouraged to take souvenirs from the sites. Also, no attempt has ever been made to protect the large petrified trees from weathering; indeed, several are now in advanced stages of disintegration. Relative to many of our geologic wonders, it is a limited site, small and fragile. With the passage of time, Florissant will have less significance and interest, as the fossil evidence is removed. Only action before it is too late can save it for posterity.

3. Each year, or so it seems, less attention is paid to supervising the Florissant exhibits and area. Last year on one visit I found the small, primitive museum, which houses a number of unusual and valuable specimens, completely open and unattended.

Many times, in the past few years, the commercially operated exhibit areas have been completely closed to visitors; one has not been open at all for several years.

In taking students and visitors there, I am repeatedly embarrassed by the conditions of the exhibit areas. I am sure that the really great significance of Florissant is tarnished or largely lost under the present private ownership.

4. On my last visit to Florissant, late in 1968, I was informed by the owner of the present exhibit area that it was soon to be subdivided into resort-type lots, such as are already being developed north and south of the proposed reservation area, and that in the future the exhibits area would no longer be open for visits of student or tourists.

Mr. Chairman, I have presented here some direct and cogent reasons for establishing the Florissant fossil beds as a national monument. May I emphasize again that if this national monument is to be useful and enjoyable for the people, and for science, it should be protected as soon as possible—that is now.

The American people, as well as, of course, all people, deserve to have their outstanding and unique scientific sites preserved and adequately explained. As our population increases, as tourism becomes more and more a part of our way of life, and as more visitors come from abroad to see our magnificent country, it behooves us to see that Florissant is acquired and preserved at once.

Thank you very much.

Senator BIBLE. Very fine statement, and you listed very cogent reasons as to why we should move with haste.

Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. Thank you, Doctor. I just want to echo what the chairman has said: We are very appreciative of your very strong and forceful statement.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. I have no questions, Mr. Chairman. I just thought it was an excellent statement.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Clay Banta, manager of the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce.

STATEMENT OF CLAY BANTA, MANAGER, COLORADO SPRINGS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mr. BANTA. Thank you very much, Chairman Bible, and Senators Allott and Dominick of Colorado. This will be very short.

I am executive vice president of the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce, and have been actively engaged in connection with this effort to get the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument established through two different Congressmen, and now through our Senators. I first became acquainted with this through legislation put in by Mr. Chenoweth, and then later through legislation which was introduced into the House by our present Congressman, Frank E. Evans. Let me simply say that when we were first approached on this, we were on the horns of a dilemma. No. 1, we couldn't argue with the economic benefits which we would get, which the whole Pikes Peak region would get from having a national monument in the proximity. We were delighted about this part. On the other hand, we, business people in the Pikes Peak region are always the type of people who occasionally write letters to you Senators and Congressmen, and say: "Watch those tax dollars. Let's find places and ways to save." So there was our dilemma.

Up to this point we hadn't had very good education on the thing, and at this point we were still thinking of it pretty generally as a petrified forest. This is the way it had been publicized by the owners and the private entrepreneurs there.

It was about this time that the superintendent of Rocky Mountain National Forest, and the superintendent of Pike National Forest, and a specialist from the San Francisco office paid us a visit and explained the tremendous scientific value. My wife, for instance, is a native of Cripple Creek, and she didn't even know about this particular phase of it. She knew about the petrified forest, but not about this scientific phase of it. And I certainly won't attempt to go into that. This has been amply handled by specialists in the field. I would like to point out one other thing: You can be assured that we will enjoy and back the economic benefits that this will mean to tourism. We are a tourist center and have been for many years. This is one of the important parts of our livelihood. Along with this, for the benefit of the national monument, if it is established, we will spend dollars and effort in helping to publicize it in making sure that other people across the country know that it is more than simply a group of petrified tree stumps.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much. That is a fine statement. Is the chamber of commerce off the horns of that dilemma yet? You are 100 percent for it now?

Mr. BANTA. Yes, sir.

Senator ALLOTT. Thank you very much, Clay, for coming here.

Senator DOMINICK. I have no questions. I have known Clay for a long time, and I know the problems he went through, and I am delighted with the support he has given us.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you.

Our next witness is Nate Snare. Is he here? He doesn't appear to be here. The record will be kept open until June 16, and if we can have a record of his statement anytime by then, or before then, it will be incorporated as a part of this record.

Our next witness is Dr. Richard Beidleman, professor of biology, Colorado College.

STATEMENT OF DR. RICHARD BEIDLEMAN, PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY, COLORADO COLLEGE

Dr. BEIDLEMAN. Mr. Chairman, and Senators Allott and Dominick, it is a pleasure to be here speaking on behalf of another potential national monument.

In 1852, in the Sierra Nevadas overlooking California's San Joaquin Valley, the Calavaras grove of big trees was discovered, a cluster of living giant Sequoias related to the fossil Sequoias of Florissant. The next year two enterprising adventurers, George Gale and a companion, wandered into this grove and were especially impressed by a giant redwood known as the Mother of the Forest. This magnificent tree stood 315 feet in height, with a girth of 61 feet and bark many inches in thickness in places. Filled with visions of fame and fortune, the men stripped off 116 feet of the tree's bark, had it taken by wagon to Sacramento, on to San Francisco by boat, and finally to the east coast for exhibit. Eventually the bark was displayed at the Crystal Place in London—but none of the skeptical British could believe that there were trees that large, and Gale's get-rich-quick scheme was a failure.

In what appeared to be an unrelated event, the Yosemite Valley to the south had been discovered in 1851. By 1864 Californians were urging that the Federal Government give Yosemite Valley and the adjacent Mariposa grove of big trees to the State of California as a State park. In his plea for preservation, Senator Conness' most prophetic comment was then, "Remember the Mother of the Forest * * *." And this foresighted Senator then went on to say that there was "No other condition of things like this one on earth." Today, both Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa grove of big trees are preserved within a national park, and have been so preserved since 1864.

Over a century later another Sequoia grove is in jeopardy with its associated lake setting of Oligocen flora and fauna. But all of the Florissant region's famous inhabitants are fossils, unable to grow again like the California redwoods. And thus, indeed, there is no other condition of things like this one on earth.

The Florissant fossil beds represent a page of the world's geological book opened to a unique chapter of the Oligocene setting in America. From this chapter, for example, has come the most complete picture of fossil insects in the New World. Destruction of such a site is comparable to what we might think of as a geological book burning, es-

pecially devastating because there is only one irreplaceable volume on this subject in the universe.

There are a number of national monuments and national parks in the United States which preserve fossil remains. But no such preservation exists within the State of Colorado; and throughout the national park system, which attempts to display the many pages of our country's geological history, pages dealing with this particular portion of past life on earth are lacking—and may never be displayed if no action is taken at this time.

The National Park Service is currently emphasizing an ecological approach. The incorporation of the environmental awareness message into the Service's ongoing interpretive programs. The fossil lakebeds at Florissant represent a rare opportunity for interpretation of an unusual environment—a paleoecosystem—which has only existed once on the surface of the earth. The entire lake area should be set aside, because whoever heard of preserving half a lake? Complementing the fossil ecosystem is a modern scene of grassland and conifers which, encroached upon even now by human developments, lends itself to the environmental awareness message.

President Abraham Lincoln saved the Sequoias at Mariposa Grove in 1864. In 1968 a presidential candidate aptly noted that among those items that should escape the budget knife are appropriations for conservation and education, for the preservation of natural resources. President Nixon went on to say that we must find the time and energy to preserve and improve our heritage and prepare to hand it over to future generations in better condition than it came to us. At a time when we are doing some real soul searching about the meaning of American patriotism, it may well be that in the final analysis the height of patriotism will involve the preservation rather than the exploitation of the natural American heritage. That degree of patriotism can be demonstrated now with respect to the unique heritage at Florissant.

A State park official in New York recently remarked that open space is like virginity. Once lost, it can never be regained. Today Florissant represents not only an open space above ground, but a space below ground filled with a practically untapped scientific and educational treasure house of fossils.

I might say off the record that it is rare indeed in 1969 to come across a 40-million-year-old virgin, and any opportunity we have to preserve one—[laughter].

It is imperative that the entire 6,000 acres of this world-famous fossil lakebed be acquired at once before the bulldozer despoils the area forever.

Thank you, gentlemen.

Senator BIBLE. Very good; Doctor, you are very colorful. That was a fine statement and I appreciate it.

Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. I appreciate it very much. It says here you are a professor of biology, but I think you are an M.D., aren't you?

Dr. BEIDLEMAN. Oh, no, I have had your two sons in class, and have enjoyed them very thoroughly, and hope the reverse is true, too.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. I have no questions. I enjoyed it very much.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much.

Our next witness is Olin L. Webb.

STATEMENT OF OLIN L. WEBB, DENVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mr. WEBB. Mr. Chairman, Senator Allott, Senator Dominick, my name is Olin L. Webb. I live at 3105 South Clayton Street, Denver, Colo. I am associated with the Denver Chamber of Commerce, in charge of metropolitan development.

I might say at the outset that I did not have the same dilemma faced by Mr. Banta; we have been accepting graciously Federal funds for so long, we have no dilemma to be upon.

However, I think it important for me to express to you gentlemen the changing image and awareness of the private section, as we refer to ourselves in the business community, that the role that we have held for so many years is rapidly changing in its respect toward the natural resources of our great country. There is an increasing awareness, awareness among our business executives and leadership of the importance of the esthetics in the development of our economic area. We know that we cannot encourage the economic development and growth of our area without giving great consideration to the environment, and part of my job is to assist business leaders in becoming aware of what those dangers are.

For instance, in recent months, and in the last few years, our organization has been concerned with and supportive of programs such as the Denver Land Mark Commission to preserve nearly hundred-year-old buildings. We are concerned, and associated with the effort to develop a regional parks system for the Metropolitan Denver area. We are deeply absorbed in the development of stronger controls for air and water pollution. We are concerned with developing the finest of industrial development parks that will blend in with the environment of the metropolitan area. We are involved with the program to redevelop the South Platte Valley. We are concerned with, and this puts directly into our dilemma, we are concerned with the development of green belt areas along water courses in underdeveloped areas to prevent their encroachment by residential and commercial construction. We are very concerned that in this case the Florissant area, that this will be lost to posterity. We sincerely feel that this is an area that should be considered part of our National Archives. We do not hesitate to collect and preserve the written word of our civilization, whether it be right, whether it be appropriate, or even whether it be wrong. I think that it would be appropriate for us to preserve for posterity the heritage of this very important area. I hope you will give every possible consideration to it.

Senator BIBLE. An excellent statement, well balanced and well thought out, and I want to compliment you on it.

Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. I want to thank you very much. We appreciate it.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. I have no questions.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, Mr. Webb.

Our next witness is Dr. David Jensen, Assistant Professor, Department of Physiology, University of Colorado Medical Center.

STATEMENT OF DR. DAVID JENSEN, DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY,
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

Dr. JENSEN. Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, my interest in this proposal that we are discussing this morning stems from the fact that for a considerable period of time I have been studying the Florissant region and preparing an article for the American Museum of Natural History. Let me say at the outset that I heartily endorse this proposal.

Now I have entitled this publication "The Fossils of Florissant, Colorado: Realities and Enigmas." This morning I would like to mention a few of the enigmas connected with this region. These are essentially threefold. The realities have been dealt with quite eloquently in the testimony given up to this time. I would like to point out certain interesting bits of evidence which are at present lacking in the record. The first enigma is biological. Now numerous species of insects, plants, fish and certain mollusks are both evident and abundant to the Florissant shales. However, for a lacustrine or lake situation, however ancient, certain organisms are conspicuous by their absence. I refer first of all to amphibian remains, such commonplace creatures as frogs, toads and salamanders have not, so to speak, turned up as yet.

Secondly, representatives of the crustacea are limited to almost microscopic ostracods. But such commonplace fresh water aquatic organisms, such as crayfish, have not been found in this region. They have been found, by the way, in similar shales in Wyoming.

As far as insects are concerned, the larvae have not been found in considerable abundance.

Now since the volcanic activity in this region took place over millenia, a seasonal variation is pretty well ruled out in this regard. How about plant damage by specific insects? Pathology? There's little evidence on this score. Admittedly some of the plants have been devoured by insects which have been recognized, but this information is at present quite limited as far as I understand it.

The second large gap in our knowledge is the hiatus in time, in the geology of the region, compared to the area to the west of here. Now the questions I have just posed, these little gaps in our knowledge can only be answered with further exploration and careful study of this area.

I think, though, the third, and perhaps the most important enigma facing us this morning: what will be the fate of this region? Will it be lost irrevocably through commercial exploitation and development, or will it be preserved as a part of an invaluable and irreplaceable scientific heritage of this country? This it richly deserves. Hopefully the latter situation will attain, and if so, with your permission, Mr. Chairman, I would like to offer a couple of positive suggestions for the record.

First of all, I noted in the proposal that excavation of certain areas by qualified specialists and their teams will continue. This, I think, is an excellent idea. Now one ultimate goal of scientific research of this nature is the publication of the results and the open technical literature so that all may study it. Now I suggest that perhaps some of the specimens which are found by individuals in the course of their researches, after they have been studied and duly noted and recorded, be placed on display for the benefit of visitors to the monument.

I also suggest that in the museum, the proposed museum of this region, that some of the individual people who made discoveries in this area, and who featured prominently in its scientific history, should be acknowledged, and I mention such people as Dr. Peale, who discovered the fossils there originally, while involved in the Hayden survey; Dr. Scudder, who made an exhaustive study of the insect fauna; Cope, the paleontologist who studied the fish which were found in the region; and, of course, Dr. MacGinitie and Dr. Cockerell, all of whom have made outstanding contributions to the understanding of the history of this region.

Senator BIBLE. There may well be others, I wouldn't be an authority on that. And I think the Park Service can examine your ideas. I don't think we need to belabor the point, because I think they are good suggestions, but I think you could reduce it to writing and submit it to the Park Service at a time that we hopefully get this created as a monument. I think that would be time for them to consider what they want in their museum, but we had better get first things one first. I think we had better preserve it before it gets away.

Dr. JENSEN. I am saying that, indeed. Thank you very much.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much. I have no questions. A fine statement, Doctor.

Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. Thank you, Dr. Jensen, I appreciate your statement. And I think you thought that those who have contributed so much to the development should be remembered when the development takes place.

If I could, Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that a gentleman handed me two boxes containing some very beautiful exhibits from this area. I don't know who the gentleman is. What is your name, sir?

STAN YOUNG. Stan Young.

Mr. YOUNG. Stan Young.

Senator ALLOTT. And they were put down here on the table, and those of you who have not visited this place would probably like to look at them. But they are not for you to take away, they belong to him. They are most interesting, and beautiful specimens.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. I have no questions.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, Mr. Jensen.

Our next witness is Fred S. Mills, president of the Woodland Park Chamber of Commerce.

STATEMENT OF FRED S. MILLS, PRESIDENT, WOODLAND PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mr. MILLS. Distinguished Senators, ladies and gentlemen. You have heard a lot of testimony here this morning as to why the Florissant National Monument should be established. The Woodland Park Chamber of Commerce is also entirely in favor of the establishment of the monument. The purpose of me being here this morning is to discuss in part some of the facilities and the willingness of the local area to support and to endorse such establishment.

Many of the people testifying here this morning, of course, have talked about the visitors that would come to the area and, of course, this is one of the reasons for the establishment of the monument, to preserve it for the visitors. Let me tell you a little bit about our area.

Woodland Park is a growing mountain community located midway between Colorado Springs and the proposed Florissant National Monument site, and only 15 miles on U.S. Highway 24 from this site. It is the nearest community fully equipped to serve the needs of the monument visitor.

All modern facilities and necessities to meet the needs of the visitor are available, including commercial bank, modern super market, newspaper, drugstore, service stations, seven churches of all major denominations, doctors, dentists, and clinic, motels, restaurants, campgrounds, commercial and national forest; dude ranches, clothing stores, hardware-lumber-general merchandise stores, and so forth. There are 18 national forest campgrounds in the immediate area with 302 family camping units; seven commercial campgrounds with approximately 850 family camping units; two large luxurious camping facilities under construction with an additional 1,000 family camping units. This means a total of 2,150 family camping units available in the immediate area that can handle over 6,000 persons visiting the area daily.

The area is rapidly changing land use—subdivisions developing rapidly over the entire county, including the area immediately surrounding the monument site.

I happen to be a real estate broker operating in the Woodland Park and Teller County area, and I can speak from experience that, expertly, this area is being encroached upon, and will be encroached upon more without immediate action. Some growth factors regarding our town, of Woodland Park. Retail sales last year showed an 18-percent increase over the previous year. Bank deposits have grown to a million and a half dollars with a new bank established only 3 years ago. Population, approximately 600 in 1969, now numbers approximately 2,000.

In summary, Woodland Park is a small, but rapidly growing community with adequate yet expanding facilities to meet the needs of the visitor to the Florissant National Monument. We, the Woodland Park Chamber of Commerce heartily endorse and support the establishment of this monument at the earliest possible time.

Senator BIBLE. Very fine statement, Mr. Mills. I appreciate having that viewpoint of the good citizens of Woodland Park.

Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. I just also want to express my appreciation for the support of your people, Mr. Mills.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. I have no questions. It is a beautiful area, and I am sure that what Mr. Mills said is certainly going to come true.

Mr. MILLS. Thank you.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, Mr. Mills.

Our next witness is Mr. Peter Robinson, curator of geology, University of Colorado Museum.

STATEMENT OF PETER ROBINSON, CURATOR OF GEOLOGY,
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO MUSEUM

Dr. ROBINSON. Senator Bible. One of the valuable assets of modern culture is man's desire to preserve and protect those objects small or large that are of artistic, esthetic, or scientific interest. For the smaller things of natural or manmade origin museums have been created for this purpose. For the larger natural objects we have fortunately created the national parks and national monuments.

Florissant, Colo., is a unique locality preserving part of the record of central Colorado as it existed many millions of years ago in the Oligocene epoch of the geologic time scale. Entombed in the paper-thin shales of the Florissant Lake beds are thousands of fossils, particularly plants and insects, but fish and occasionally mammals as well. The deposit is unique because it is the sole example of this type of deposit recording that moment in time. Deposits containing fossil insects are always rare; those containing the variety and quality of Florissant are rare indeed.

One of the facts about such deposits that is inescapable is that once they are destroyed they are irretrievable. If Florissant is destroyed by man it will be even more of a tragedy as comparable sites do not exist.

The pressures of an expanding population are forcing development on many areas of scientific interest which might have been left alone, in part due to their relative inaccessibility. Modern technology has made every area of the world accessible. We are in the unfortunate situation of having to act now or not act at all to save areas such as Florissant.

As curator at the university museum in Boulder, I am charged with the care and preservation of all the university's specimens from Florissant. As a normal part of my duties I am required to lend out specimens from the museum for study by scientists elsewhere. The importance of the Florissant collection is attested to by the rate of these loans compared to the rate of loans of specimens from other deposits. In the 8 years I have been in Boulder I have sent out Florissant materials to a greater number of scientists than any other deposit containing fossil invertebrates or plants in our collections. Requests to borrow Florissant materials have come from Denmark and England as well as from institutions in North America.

That we and other museums have large collections from Florissant is only a part of the story. Detailed scientific excavations using modern statistical methods and controlled excavating techniques have not been made there. More useful information of the Colorado geologic history will be derived from future work in this area. Because of the limits of the deposit such work would be impossible if the deposit were destroyed by development.

I sincerely urge that the Florissant area be designated a national monument. Only such action by the Government can save it from destruction, and more importantly, preserve it for future generations of Americans.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much. I think it is a very helpful contribution to the hearing.

Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. I have no questions. Thank you very much.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. I have no questions, Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you, Dr. Robinson.

Our next witness is Mrs. Joseph Stammen, of the Izaak Walton League.

STATEMENT OF MRS. JOSEPH STAMMEN, IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE

Mrs. STAMMEN. Senator Bible, Senator Allott, and Senator Dominick, you have heard the scientific and educational values of the Florissant Fossil beds. Today I represent a group of conservationists, the Colorado division of the Izaak Walton League of America. Contrary to some beliefs, conservationists are people, and we do represent people. I too have——

Senator BIBLE. I am sure you are.

Mrs. STAMMEN. I, too, have a personal interest in the Florissant Fossil beds, as when I was in high school I served as a guide at the Petrified Forest for 3 weeks. Here in Colorado we have 1,500 Waltonians who are interested in preserving the Florissant Fossil beds. We realize the great importance of conservation, education, and that the entire area is an outdoor laboratory of great value, not only to the people in Colorado, but to the entire world.

Last year at the State convention of the Izaak Walton League of America we passed the resolution, which I would like to read in part. I will not read the whereas's, since time is so short.

Therefore be it enacted by the Colorado Division of the Izaak Walton League of America in annual convention assembled this 16th day of June, 1968, That the Colorado Division urge Congress to establish a 6,000 acre Florissant National Monument as proposed by the National Parks Service and by representative Frank Evans in Bill H.R. 5606; and be it further

Resolved, That the Colorado Division of the Izaak Walton League of America, vigorously opposes the economy measure of the House of Representatives in cutting the acreage to 1,000 acres rather than the 6,000 originally requested.

Senator BIBLE. That is a very fine statement, and very effectively told. Thank you very much. And we will put in the full resolution in the record, if you will make it available to the clerk of the committee.

Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. Thank you very much for that statement.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. Mrs. Stammen, just one question. I hoped that with the ardent support of the Izaak Walton League, which we have, that perhaps we may even get some contributions from them to help out in the development work.

Mrs. STAMMEN. We hope so, sir.

Senator DOMINICK. Thank you.

(The resolution referred to follows:)

RESOLUTION OF THE COLORADO DIVISION, IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA—
STATE CONVENTION JUNE 15 AND 16, 1968, LITTLETON, COLO.

Resolution No. 7. Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument

Whereas, an area 35 miles west of Colorado Springs near Florissant, Colorado is the site of an ancient lake that existed some 40 million years ago during a period in geologic history; and

Whereas, this area is known the world over to geologists, botanists and entomologists for:

1. insect fossils which represent the evolution and modernization of insects better than any other known site in America,
2. fossil flora is emphasized by the petrified tree stumps of giant redwoods that once existed in this area,
3. leaf fossils add to the primary values; and

Whereas, the Florissant type fossils are unique, as nowhere else in the world do fossils like this exist. Approximately 60,000 specimens of insects alone have been collected there; and

Whereas, Florissant is the earliest known occurrence of fresh water diatoms, spiders, butterflies, mollusks, bird, ants, snakes and snails have also left their fossil remains. One-hundred and fourteen species of higher plants have been identified. Almost all of the fossil butterflies of the New World have come from the ancient Florissant Lake Beds; and

Whereas, the educational and scientific benefit to scholars, scientists and the public in general is unmeasurable: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Colorado Division of The Izaak Walton League of America in annual convention assembled this 16th day of June, 1968, That the Colorado Division urge Congress to establish a 6,000 acre Florissant National Monument as proposed by the National Park Service and by Rep. Frank Evans in Bill H.R. 5606; and be it further

Resolved, That the Colorado Division of The Izaak Walton League of America, vigorously opposes the economy measure of the House of Representatives in cutting the acreage to 1,000 acres rather than the 6,000 originally requested.

Senator BIBLE. The next witness is Sam Gadd, of Colorado Springs.

STATEMENT OF SAM GADD, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO.

Mr. GADD. Good morning, it is near lunchtime and I will be very brief.

My name is Sam Gadd, G-A-D-D of Colorado Springs and Chicago. I am an editor and writer for Encyclopedia Britannica. Among other things, I write about birds—a subject that has millions of amateur and professional devotees around the world.

The Florissant Beds should, of course, be preserved for science as the site of marvelous insect, fish, and leaf finds, studied long ago by such outstanding naturalists as Oliver Perry Hay and Colorado's own Dr. T. D. A. Cockerell. But there is another, and little-known reason, why the locality has world importance.

Many of you know about Archaeopteryx, the famous dawn bird from the Jurassic shales of Europe; but have you ever heard of palaeospiza? It comes from Florissant, and it is one of the very few birds to have been fossilized complete with feathers. Palaeospiza bella is also one of only two fossil birds to represent a family of its own in the vast assemblage of perching birds—passeriformes. Really good fossils within this order of birds, which embraces more than half of all the species known to science, are extremely rare. Florissant has contributed one of the rarest and finest of these. Though its name means beautiful old sparrow, palaeospiza bella is placed near the larks, and it seems to provide a link between the great suborder of songbirds and the more primitive perching birds; thus it has quite exceptional taxonomic importance.

Chances are good that other birds of this kind will be found at Florissant: a single feather of an otherwise mysterious species, named fontinalis pristina, has already turned up there, as though to lead searchers on. So I hope that Florissant will be preserved in behalf of

ornithology, which has here an opportunity that is really unmatched anywhere else in the world. Thank you.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, and I am glad to get that additional view.

Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. I thank you very much.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. I have one question of Mr. Gadd. I am not being difficult, but this subject has always somehow intrigued me. They found a mammoth, for example, way up in a glacier area in the Arctic region with hay still in its stomach. You found a bird with feathers on it. Now how does it happen that nature can change so suddenly that they can catch a mammoth with hay still undigested, or a bird whose feathers have been preserved? I think this is fabulous, but I just don't know how it happens.

Mr. GADD. We would hope, Senator Dominick, that we can get answers when Florissant is preserved.

Senator DOMINICK. I am working on that.

Mr. GADD. I must say it's quite fascinating that mammoths do turn up with buttercups in their bellies, and one explanation is that an influx of cosmic rays has killed them. Nobody really knows. But as to the preservation of birds with feathers, this is so exceptional, because the conditions have to be exactly right, and only when there has been a fall of a very fine ash that preserves the creature, as the insects show that are in front of you there, right down to the finest segments, will we get the same conditions for birds and mammals.

I would like to make one little further suggestion, and that is, when the geologic substrata is better known by exploration at Florissant, that every effort be made to extend its boundaries to include shoreline, because most organisms are preserved under those conditions, and we just don't really know where those lie yet. So there is that additional reason for insuring at least 6,000 acres at the outset.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much for your testimony.

Our next witness is Clifton R. Merritt of the Wilderness Society.

STATEMENT OF CLIFTON R. MERRITT, THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Mr. MERRITT. Chairman Bible, Senator Allott, and Senator Dominick, I am Clifton Merritt, director of Field Services for the Wilderness Society, with headquarters in the society's western regional office at 5850 East Jewell Avenue in Denver, Colo.

The Wilderness Society is a national conservation organization of more than 50,000 members who are primarily concerned with the preservation of our remaining natural areas for the use and enjoyment of the American people. Nearly 1,000 Colorado citizens are members of the Wilderness Society.

I greatly appreciate this opportunity to appear before you today on behalf of the society to express our strong support for S. 912 by Senators Allott and Dominick to establish the 6,000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

These fossil treasures of some 30 million years ago have a value that transcends their commercial worth. Let us not allow more of them to be dug up and pawned off like cheap baubles. These priceless re-

mains of past geological ages belong not to the private profit maker or the real estate promoter. They belong to the Nation and the world.

Man has much to gain through learning more about the life forms on earth—both those that preceded him and those that share their existence with him. The regard that we demonstrate for these long-ago creatures which lie embodied in the stone will doubtless be reflected in the consideration that we show for present life forms and, in fact, all our natural resources. Without these, man's world would be impoverished, indeed.

Scientists and educators are telling us that already we have reserved too few of those choice natural areas for their tremendous scientific and educational uses.

This is but a small acreage that we ask be set aside from the few and made available to all. Let us proceed with expedience to conserve these precious acres while there is still time.

On behalf of the Wilderness Society, I urge prompt passage of S. 912 to establish Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this statement.

Senator BIBLE. We are pleased to have the endorsement of the Wilderness Society. Are there questions?

Senator ALLOTT. No questions.

Mr. MERRITT. In addition, Mr. Chairman, I have a brief letter from one of our cooperators, Miss Joy Coombs, of Denver, Colo.

Senator BIBLE. The letter will be incorporated in the record. Thank you very much.

(The letter referred to follows:)

DENVER, COLO., May 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Senate Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments.

DEAR SIR: Florissant has something to teach us, and it teaches with the impact of reality. A sequoia stump standing in the exact spot where it grew some 35 million years ago brings into the minds eye a whole forest of these great trees surrounding a little lake, and the never-never land of pre-history slowly becomes real, and becomes part of *our place*. With fingers tracing the fossil of an insect that once buzzed around this very valley, one begins to *feel* that life on the entire crust of the earth, 35 million years ago, is part of *our* remote history. Florissant leads beyond book learning, to excitement and significance.

As a Senator, you have done your part to "give us the Moon, and perhaps you feel that one of the important parts of this achievement is an adventure of the spirit—a more competent measure of space and time, and a better grip on what it can mean to be human. I hope you will judge that Florissant offers an inexpensive way to put an adventure of the spirit within the reach of everybody. I hope you will resolve to keep this "time bridge" intact. It gives us one more probe into the most formidable frontier of all—the unfolding of humanity.

Sincerely yours,

JOY COOMBS.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Dr. Richard Bradley of the Colorado College.

STATEMENT OF DR. RICHARD BRADLEY, COLORADO COLLEGE

Dr. BRADLEY. Mr. Chairman, gentlemen of the committee, in view of the lateness of the hour, and the fact that much of what I have to say has been said better by many other witnesses, perhaps it would be best if I just say who I am, and whom I represent, and skim through the rest of my statement.

Senator BIBLE. Very well, your statement will be incorporated in full in the record. The pangs of hunger coming on about lunch time moves everybody along a little faster. So you go right ahead, Doctor, just highlight it.

Dr. BRADLEY. My name is Richard C. Bradley. I am a professor of physics at Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colo. I am appearing before you today on behalf of the National Parks Association, of which I am a member of the board of trustees.

The association is a private, nonprofit, public service organization, educational and scientific in character, with 42,000 members throughout the United States and abroad. It was established 50 years ago by Stephen Mather, the first Director of the National Park Service, and has as its principal aim the preservation of this country's magnificent system of national parks and monuments. It also actively encourages the acquisition of new units to the National Park system provided only they are unique and of demonstrably superior quality, as is the case with the proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

We wish to commend the two Senators from Colorado for their great public spirit in sponsoring this legislation. Perhaps this is out of order here, but we also wish to commend Congressman Frank Evans who for the third time has introduced a similar bill in the House of Representatives.

Senator BIBLE. Oh, no, it's not out of order at all. He has a right to introduce it, and we have to get a bill through him too.

When are you going to start highlighting this, Doctor?

Dr. BRADLEY. Very soon now, sir, I am hungry too.

We respectfully urge all Members of the Congress to join with these gentlemen in setting aside in perpetuity an area of truly outstanding scientific importance.

Then the next paragraph I say we hope this can be done quickly for reasons which have already been given quite thoroughly.

Then in the next paragraph I mention that there was an editorial in the Denver Post last night strongly favoring this proposal, and also urging speed on this thing. It says that—

The hearing has a special urgency because of reported real estate activity in the area. Developers apparently see the lovely, rolling country around Florissant in only one way: it's hot property for home and resort sites, and Colorado's running out of such available ground.

Then let's see, if we skip down to perhaps the third paragraph, perhaps this hasn't been said before.

It is worth mentioning that we have here a most unusual circumstance, perhaps without precedent in recent legislative history; namely, a proposal is being made to put a substantial piece of land under the protection of the National Park Service, and it stands virtually unopposed. Contrast this with the long bitter battles that raged over the creation of a Redwoods National Park or a Marble Canyon National Monument. If this bill fails to pass, it will not be because powerful lobbies were arrayed against it, but because this Congress, deeply involved as it is with the weightier issues of the day—civil rights, violence at home and abroad, overpopulation, pollution, and the like—could not seem to find the time to consider it. We hope this will not happen. We hope you gentlemen will not allow it to happen. We recog-

nize that the preservation of prehistoric fossil beds may be deemed an insignificant issue compared to those other desperate problems. But it is not insignificant, as the sponsors of this bill well know; for the greatness of America lies not just in its genius to get men to the moon and back, but rather in the sum total of all the experiences and opportunities it can offer its people. The freedom—or the opportunity—to decipher the story of the earth from the messages encoded in rocks is as important to our culture as the freedom to use a public library. Not everyone will take advantage of these freedoms, but in the long run our whole society will benefit from the few who do.

Then in the rest of the statement here, I have quoted at length an article which appeared in an issue of the National Parks Magazine, which is the official organ of the association, an article written by Mrs. Eleanor Gamer, a geologist of Colorado College, and rather than do that, perhaps I could give this whole magazine to the committee, which it can then keep for its files.

Senator BIBLE. I think we probably all get the National Parks Magazine. I do at my home, and it's a very fine publication. But I do wish we could have at least one copy for the information of the committee.

Dr. BRADLEY. We in the National Parks Association feel it would be a terrible tragedy if this wonderful array of fossils were to be destroyed and urge the prompt passage of S. 912 in order to prevent that from happening.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to present our views.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. I have no questions. I appreciate your coming and testifying, Doctor.

Senator BIBLE. Senator Dominick.

Senator DOMINICK. I have no questions, and I also appreciate it. (The full statement referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF DR. RICHARD C. BRADLEY, MEMBER, BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, my name is Richard C. Bradley. I am a professor of physics at Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado. I am appearing before you today in behalf of the National Parks Association, of which I am a member of the Board of Trustees.

The Association is a private, non-profit, public service organization, educational and scientific in character, with 42,000 members throughout the United States and abroad. It was established 50 years ago by Stephen Mather, the first director of the National Park Service, and has as its principal aim the preservation of this country's magnificent system of national parks and monuments. It also actively encourages the acquisition of new units to the national parks system provided only they are unique and of demonstrably superior quality, as is the case with the proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

We wish to commend the two senators from Colorado for their great public spirit in sponsoring this legislation. We also wish to commend Congressman Frank Evans who for the third time has introduced a similar bill in the House of Representatives. We respectfully urge all members of the Congress to join with these gentlemen in setting aside in perpetuity an area of truly outstanding scientific importance.

We hope this can be done quickly, for time is rapidly running out for these fossil beds, and the chance to save them will not long be with us. The metropolitan areas just east of the Rockies—Boulder, Denver, Colorado Springs, and Pueblo—are among the fastest growing in the nation, and mountain home subdivisions are spreading throughout all the valleys to the west of them. Indeed, they have al-

ready reached Florissant, and are crowding hard against the 6,000-acre tract proposed for national monument status. Nothing but the good consciences of the present owners now prevents them from selling off this land to speculators and development companies. Last night in an editorial strongly supporting this bill, the *Denver Post* commented:

"The hearing has a special urgency because of reported real estate activity in the area. Developers apparently see the lovely, rolling country around Florissant in only one way: it's hot property for home and resort sites, and Colorado's running out of such available ground."

These fossil beds were discovered over 100 years ago, their great importance has been recognized for at least 50 years, efforts to protect them date back to 1921, and bills aimed at doing so have been before the Congress since 1964. We are told that the government can purchase this land for less than \$1 million. It ought to do so immediately, for as the *Denver Post* observed in the same editorial: "That is a small price to pay for preserving for posterity one of the world's most priceless treasures." And the price will never again be as low as it is today.

It is worth mentioning that we have here a most unusual circumstance, perhaps without precedent in recent legislative history, namely, a proposal is being made to put a substantial piece of land under the protection of the national park service, and it stands virtually unopposed. Contrast this with the long bitter battles that raged over the creation of a Redwoods National Park or a Marble Canyon National Monument. If this bill fails to pass, it will not be because powerful lobbies were arrayed against it, but because this Congress, deeply involved as it is with the weightier issues of the day—civil rights, violence at home and abroad, overpopulation, pollution, and the like—could not seem to find the time to consider it. We hope this will not happen. We hope you gentlemen will not allow it to happen. We recognize that the preservation of prehistoric fossil beds may be deemed an insignificant issue compared to those other desperate problems. But it is not insignificant, as the sponsors of this bill well know; for the greatness of America lies not just in its genius to get men to the moon and back, but rather in the sum total of all the experiences and opportunities it can offer its people. The freedom—or the opportunity—to decipher the story of the earth from the messages encoded in rocks is as important to our culture as the freedom to use a public library. Not everyone will take advantage of these freedoms, but in the long run our whole society will benefit from the few who do.

Other witnesses, far more expert than I in matters of geology and paleontology, will tell you why these fossil beds at Florissant are so valuable. For my part, I should like simply to quote a few passages from an article that appeared in the July 1965 issue of the *National Parks Magazine* (the official publication of the National Parks Association), and then I shall leave a copy of the magazine with the Committee for inclusion in its files. The article was written by author-geologist Eleanor Gamer at Colorado College.

She begins by describing the discovery of the fossil beds in 1867 by members of the Hayden Survey. Then:

"Word of the find spread gradually throughout museums and universities, and by 1912 thousands of Florissant fossils could be seen in major paleontological collections around the world. It has been estimated that of 150 locations containing fossil insects, only the Baltic amber has yielded a greater number of specimens than have the little lake beds at Florissant. Among these sixty thousand fossils, which represent over a thousand species, is to be found an enormous panorama of insect life including four species of the tse-tse fly, and virtually all of the New World butterflies.

"The singularity of the Florissant lake beds * * * is perhaps more understandable when one considers that preservation of land biota as fossils is of rare occurrence * * * (and) especially so for delicate objects such as leaves and insects."

Mrs. Gamer then recounts the geologic history of the area, going back 40 to 60 million years, and tells how the combination of uplifts and volcanism provided just the right circumstances for producing these fossils.

Next she describes some of the fascinating anomalies to be found in the fossil plants:

"The flora of Florissant holds many surprises. Among it one finds a now extinct * * * relative of our modern elm. There are numerous species which exist today only in China, Australia, or South America. There are representatives of species found today only at high latitudes, in juxtaposition with others now

confined to the tropics. Only in recent years have investigators seriously attempted to reconstruct a consistent picture out of these seemingly exclusive elements."

Later in the article she describes some similar anomalies among the insect fossils. One cannot help experiencing a little of the excitement of the original investigators as one reads this article. Nor can one fail to recognize that there is more, much more, yet to be learned from these remnants of an ancient era, provided they can be saved from the bulldozers.

Mrs. Gamer summarizes the case for the monument in her final paragraph:

"In 1962 the National Park Service put forward a proposal to acquire a portion of the south arm of the lakes for a national monument. Undeniably such protection is immediately necessary if any part of the fossil beds are to be preserved for research and interpretation to the public. Inclusion of a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in the national parks system is deemed by many, both in and out of the scientific world, as important to round out the nation's holdings of fossil remains. It would make a perfect companion area to Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona, with its magnificent silicified tree trunks, and Dinosaur National Monument in Utah and Colorado, with its huge vertebrate fossils. Only Florissant can provide the fine miniatures of the Tertiary which connect the larger remnants of the Mesozoic with the world of today."

We in the National Parks Association feel it would be a terrible tragedy if this wonderful array of fossils were to be destroyed, and urge the prompt passage of S.R. 912 in order to prevent that from happening.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to present our views.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Frederick H. Campbell of the Kiwanis Club of the Rampart Range.

STATEMENT OF FREDERICK H. CAMPBELL, KIWANIS CLUB OF THE RAMPART RANGE

Mr. CAMPBELL. Distinguished Senators, the resolution passed by our Kiwanis Club is before you by copy. I have the original here for your record. There is no point in adding to what we have already heard, but as I have sat here all morning listening to the testimony, this point comes to my mind, and I offer it to you for what it's worth.

Private landowners don't wear black hats, but the economic facts of life force land development on the site that is now proposed for the monument. The landowners cannot hold land indefinitely while waiting for Government to develop the natural wonders that are there, and as you distinguished Senators know, over 15 years of previous study and discussion have preceded this field hearing. The testimony today reveals imminent, pending land sales, and all our club can say at this point is, gentlemen, now is the time to act. And we thank you.

Senator BIBLE. Very effectively said; thank you. And the resolution will be made a part of the record. Questions?

(The resolution referred to follows:)

RESOLUTION OF THE KIWANIS CLUB OF THE RAMPART RANGE, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

Whereas, it is in the national interest to preserve and protect cultural, historic and scientific landmarks not only for the enjoyment of generations presently living but also for future generations; and

Whereas, there exists in Teller County, Colorado, near the community of Florissant, a unique natural deposit of fossils and a petrified forest that forms a vast catalogue of life in the Oligocene period of geologic time; and

Whereas, it is in the national interest to continue to expand recreational facilities throughout the country to meet increasing requirements for such facilities by our rapidly expanding population: Be it therefore

Resolved, That the Kiwanis Club of the Rampart Range wishes to go on record as favoring the establishment of Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument as proposed by Senate Bill Number 912.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Kiwanis Club of the Rampart Range, Colorado Springs, Colorado, this 27th day of May, 1969, and ratified by the club at its annual meeting on the same day.

EDWYN SHERWOOD, *President*.

Attest:

JACK SCHAEFFER, *Secretary*.

Senator BIBLE. That concludes our witness list. We have had a very fruitful hearing, and you have been very patient. We have attempted to have a thorough hearing and hear everybody. As I announced earlier, the record will be kept open until June 16 for any additional comments or corrections that you might make. I see no need, as I sum up this testimony today, and look forward to visiting the area this afternoon, of having a further hearing in Washington, D.C. The Park Service has presented its proposal, and thank goodness we have a favorable report from the administration, and the price tag does not seem to me to be excessive. I am sure that it is very clear to everyone who heard the testimony, if we are going to do anything we had better do it rather quickly before the developers and others move in.

So there will be no further hearings, as far as I am concerned, in Washington, D.C. The record will be kept open until June 16. I will submit it to the subcommittee, of which I am the chairman, at a very early date after that for consideration, and their reading of the record, and immediately thereafter I will ask the chairman of the full committee, Senator Jackson of Washington, to have an early markup of this bill. This is one of the very few hearings that I have attended in the past 10 years where we didn't have violent opposition of some kind, and to go through a hearing without any opposition kind of makes me feel a little lonely, but I am delighted to be here in this great and wonderful area of yours, and if there are no further comments, we will—

Senator ALLOTT. Only this, that I want again to express my appreciation. I have attended many of these hearings with Senator Bible—Cape Cod and other places—and this has been a really unique hearing in that respect, and we are all very happy about it.

Senator BIBLE. It shows the great confidence you have in your two able Senators. And the record will be kept open until June 16, which is a Monday. The hearing is adjourned.

(Whereupon, the committee was adjourned.)

...and I am sure that you will find it very interesting to read of the many things that I have seen and done since I left you. I am sure that you will find it very interesting to read of the many things that I have seen and done since I left you.

Yours truly,
John F. Kennedy

...and I am sure that you will find it very interesting to read of the many things that I have seen and done since I left you. I am sure that you will find it very interesting to read of the many things that I have seen and done since I left you.

Yours truly,
John F. Kennedy

APPENDIX

(Under authority previously granted, the following statements and communications were ordered printed:)

STATEMENT OF HON. FRANK E. EVANS, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF COLORADO

I am pleased to have this opportunity to present testimony in support of legislation creating the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

The site for this lies at the foot of Pikes Peak, thirty-five miles west of Colorado Springs.

The mountain valley in which the proposal monument lies is the bed of a prehistoric lake. During the Oligocene Period, about 40 million years ago, fine volcanic ash spewing from nearby volcanoes settled layer by layer in the lake.

As it settled, the ash encased and preserved the various flora and fauna which lived around the lake. Today, just a few inches below the sod, you can find beautiful fossils ranging from delicate butterflies and tiny spiders to the leaves and massive trunks of giant redwood trees.

The unique process of fossilization which took place at Florissant preserved many forms of life which are almost never seen in fossil form elsewhere.

Paleontologists say that the Florissant beds have supplied them with more fossils of insects and plants than any other single location in the world. The 60,000 insect specimens taken from the site include a thousand species.

The original National Park Service report on the fossil beds, made in April of 1962, says:

"This site has great significance in being a classic location known to many scientists—it has historic significance to the geologist, the paleontologist, the entomologist, the botanist; it is the home source for the numerous fossil insects and leaves that grace the exhibition halls and research rooms of so many institutions of learning."

A letter I received from Dr. Edwin H. Colbert of the American Museum of Natural History says:

"The Florissant Fossil Beds represent one of the most famous collecting localities in the world for the recovery of fossil insects and plants. The locality is cited in many publications, not only in this country, but in foreign lands as well, and the significance of the fossils that have been found in the Florissant beds can hardly be overestimated. Therefore, I think it is extremely important that the Florissant locality be incorporated into a National Monument for permanent preservation. Such action would maintain for the benefit of future generations a region of unusual importance to the understanding of earth history and development of life on the earth. Every effort should be bent in this direction for the future benefit of citizens not only of the State of Colorado, but also of the nation and the world."

In a letter to me one of his associates, Dr. Norman D. Newell said:

"A comparative small area of incomparable scientific value for fossilized leaves and insects and petrified stumps of trees has been the source of scientific monographs illuminating some of the very ancient history of central Colorado . . . I most urgently suggest that you take the necessary steps to see that this property comes into the public domain and be regarded as a national treasure."

A New York Times article dated July 17, 1966, says that:

"The fossils at Florissant show the evolution and modernization of insects perhaps better than any known site in America. The remarkable abundance of the fossils, and the perfection with which even the smallest details are preserved, makes these fields especially significant."

Scientific and conservationist authorities are not alone in their enthusiasm for preserving the fossil beds in a National Monument. I have received hundreds of expressions of support from both organizations and the public-at-large. School children from coast to coast have written me in support of this legislation. Unlike proposals for some other national monuments and parks, I have yet to see signs of any opposition at all.

Numerous organizations have formally endorsed this proposal. Many newspapers have written strong editorial endorsements.

And the National Park Service again this year submitted a favorable recommendation.

This proposal for the establishment of a National Monument at the Florissant Fossil Beds can hardly be considered hasty or ill-prepared. The original recommendations were made in 1952 by Mr. Edmund Rogers, a former superintendent of Yellowstone Park. In 1959 the area was one of those recommended for inclusion in the Colorado Park System. The extensive National Park Service survey which was completed in April 1962 resulted in a favorable recommendation. In the 88th Congress former Colorado Representative J. Edgar Chenoweth introduced legislation to establish the National Monument. In the 89th Congress I introduced a similar bill. In the 90th Congress I again introduced legislation which was considered and adopted by the House of Representatives.

This year the Senate Interior Committee conducted extensive field hearings in Colorado Springs.

The evidence is here. If this beautiful mountain valley and the treasure of its floor are to be preserved, it must be done now. A National Monument at the Florissant Fossil Beds is vital for the conservation of one of the Nation's most unusual and irreplaceable scientific and recreational resources.

The preservation of our prehistorical heritage is no less a noble act than the preservation of our historical heritage.

STATEMENT OF HON. DONALD G. BROTZMAN, A.N.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS
FROM THE STATE OF COLORADO

Mr. Chairman, as a sponsor of legislation in the House of Representatives to establish the Florissant National Monument, I commend my colleague in the Senate for the personal attention they are giving to this unique open air museum.

These ancient fossil beds, dating from the Oligocene period, are one of the greatest scientific treasure troves in the world. The Florissant beds are recognized as the only fossil deposits of their kind in the nation and have been studied by geologists, botanists and entomologists the world over.

I personally believe that the unsurpassed scientific value of these beds is only one of the reasons this 6,000 acre area should be preserved as a national monument. The great beauty and scenic value of this location make a visit here a memorable experience and one worth preserving for all Americans.

Mr. Chairman, I am heartened by the enthusiastic support for this comprehensive proposal that has been expressed by the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior. I respectfully urge its favorable consideration by this distinguished Committee.

STATEMENT OF THE COLORADO OPEN SPACE COORDINATING COUNCIL, INC.

The Colorado Open Space Coordinating Council, Inc., a Colorado corporation not-for-profit, serves as a coordinating structure for currently twenty-four recreational conservation organizations throughout the State of Colorado, with cumulative memberships of approximately 25,000 citizens. The purpose of COSCC is to "work for the preservation, wise use and appreciation of scenic, historic, open space, wilderness and outdoor recreational resources . . . for the cultural, educational, physical, health, spiritual and economic benefit" of the citizens of Colorado and the nation.

Consistent with that purpose, the following undersigned organizational participants of the Council desire to go on record *once again in strong support of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument* as proposed by Senator Gordon Allott in S. 912, with an identical bill, H.R. 5953, introduced by Representative Donald G. Brotzman. In addition, Representative Evans introduced H.R. 6223

of a similar nature. *It is imperative that this monument be established as soon as possible, without loss of another year.* Rarely does the Council have the opportunity to support such a positive proposal that has no opposition as this.

This area, situated in a scenic mountain valley in Teller County, Colorado, 35 miles west of Colorado Springs, is now threatened with mountain-home subdivisions and other commercial encroachments. If prompt and decisive action is not taken by the Congress, these irreplaceable fossil beds that have been formed nowhere else on earth will become victims of the bulldozer, the paving machine, and the real estate promoter. Even if Florissant was not threatened by such encroachments, soaring land prices will soon put it beyond reach of the American people.

The animals and plants preserved in the Florissant Fossil Beds were captured and "frozen in place" by volcanic ash from sudden nearby eruptions between 25 and 40 million years ago. Only at the Florissant site are the Rocky Mountain insects, plants, including flowers, and some animals of that geologic period (Oligocene) preserved. Thus *Florissant is unique*; nowhere else in the world are fossils like these known to exist.

The National Park Service has proposed that *6,000 acres of a fossil bed area, known to be in excess of 12,000 acres*, be designated as a National Monument. This proposal is embodied in the three bills cited above. Despite strong community, national and State backing for this National Monument, the 91st Congress is the fourth to review bills for its establishment.

WHAT ARE FLORISSANT'S UNIQUE SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL VALUES?

1. *Florissant has an intriguing history that is disclosed only by the geologic and paleontologic features of these unique beds.*—Twenty-five to forty million years ago, the area was a lake. Insects, small animals, leaves, flowers, fruits and even whole plants fell into this lake, settled in the muddy bottom and were finally preserved by tons of volcanic ash that sifted over the entire region. These peculiar conditions for fossil preservation have not been found elsewhere in the world.

2. *Fossil records are rare, wherever they are found.*—Unusual conditions are necessary to form them in the first place. Then they are easily destroyed by weather, surface erosion, earthquakes, mountain building and other catastrophies. Good fossil data is absolutely invaluable for scientific research and *Florissant offers data of the highest quality.* Approximately 60,000 specimens of insects alone have been collected there! Florissant is the earliest known occurrence of fresh water diatoms. Delicate animals like, spiders, butterflies, mollusks, birds, ants, snakes and snails have also left their fossil remains. One hundred and fourteen species of higher plants have so far been identified. The amount of knowledge of past life forms that can result from future investigations of these fossil beds is undeterminably large. New techniques and additional information can contribute to many new discoveries.

3. *The potential for outstanding educational and interpretive programs of the Florissant beds is high.*—Scientists have been investigating these fossil remains for 90 years. Many new species of extinct plants and animals have been described from these beds. This research provides much interesting material for interpretation to the American people. Due to the *dramatic perfection of many of the fossils*, including the giant Redwood stumps, *educational displays could be unusually exciting.* At present, two local commercial "fossil farms" can, by self-admission, hardly do the site justice from an educational, paleontological, or geological point of view. Without question, a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument of adequate size would attract students of all age groups, scholars from around the world and, of course, thousands of the general public.

WHY IS 6,000 ACRES NEEDED FOR THE PROPOSED MONUMENT? WHY NOT FEWER ACRES?

Because—

(1) *The boundaries for a 6,000-acre monument were not drawn from guesswork.*—Following exhaustive field work, they were carefully outlined by a National Park Service planning team in consultation with Dr. Harry D. MacGinitie of the University of California, a world authority on the Florissant beds. Paleontologists from the U.S. Geological Survey and the National Museum of Natural History also participated in the boundary decision-making.

(2) *A 6,000-acre monument is a conservative and not a liberal proposal.*—Although the proposal could have validly included an area of up to 12,000 acres,

the rectangular 6,000-acre proposal was selected in order to include only the most representative of the major cities. Any fewer acres would take the scientific story of Florissant completely out of context.

(3) *A minimum of 6,000 acres is needed to provide for not only scientific investigations, but also public interpretive facilities and outdoor recreation opportunities in an integrated and well-planned setting.*—The Florissant beds are situated in a Ponderosa pine area, interspersed with rolling grasslands. The setting offers magnificent views of Pikes Peak and other nearby mountains. In addition to the interpretive and educational aspects, Florissant offers superb opportunities for hiking, camping and picnicking. The overall development of the Monument could not be accomplished in a really meaningful fashion, if it were limited to less than 6,000 acres.

HOW CAN WE "ECONOMIZE" AND STILL CREATE A 6,000-ACRE MONUMENT?

Land acquisition must be given top priority over development! If Congress is concerned about expenditures, as it must be at this moment in history, Florissant National Monument lands can be *acquired now at one-fourth of the total projected cost of both acquisition and development two years ago.* Comparative acquisition and development estimates are as follows:

Size	Acquisition costs	Development costs	Total	Per-acre cost
1,000 acres.....	\$225,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,225,000	\$2,228
6,000 acres.....	900,000	2,750,000	3,650,000	605

It should be obvious from these estimates that the best economics would be to: (1) *establish a 6,000-acre monument for a much lower unit cost*; (2) *acquire the 6,000 acres now*; (3) *develop the Monument facilities later.* Existing buildings that would be acquired with the land are adequate for housing and interpretive and administrative functions of the National Park Service in the early years of the monument.

This land will never be cheaper. According to a recent Bureau of Outdoor Recreation Report, "Recreation Land Price Escalation," land prices are generally increasing across the nation from 5 per cent to 10 per cent annually. An average annual increase of 7 per cent will cause land prices to double within 10 years! *This 7 per cent projected increase in land values has already raised the estimated cost of acquisition \$126,000, since February 1967, when the last bill was introduced in the Congress.* Thus we strongly emphasize the need for prompt action carried through to a passed bill, signed by the President, during this session of Congress. Thus our recommendation that land for Florissant National Monument be acquired now and developed later is consistent with recent research and recommendations of the Department of the Interior.

We urge that the Congress act to establish a 6,000-acre florissant national monument without delay so as to preserve intact for future generations this priceless scientific and educational treasure.

This statement is endorsed by the following organizations which have had an opportunity to consider it and to act:

Aiken Ornithological Society, 1680 6th St., Boulder, Colorado 80302.

American Camping Association, Rocky Mountain Section, 1375 Delaware, Denver, Colorado 80204.

Association for Beautiful Colorado Roads, 630 Steele, Denver, Colorado 80206.

Colorado Federation of Women's Clubs, 915 Madison Street, Denver, Colorado 80206.

Colorado Hawking Club, 756 19th, Boulder, Colorado 80302.

Colorado Mineral Society, Star Route 2, Box 219½, Evergreen, Colorado 80439.

Colorado Mountain Club, % Jim Wade, 1700 Western Federal Savings Bldg., Denver, Colorado 80202.

Colorado White Water Association, 1225 Linden Avenue, Boulder, Colorado 80302.

Colorado Wildlife Federation, 3535 Benton, Denver, Colorado 80212.

Denver Botany Club, 2560 S. Washington, Denver, Colorado 80210.

Denver Field Ornithologists, 2695 Newland Street, Denver, Colorado 80214.

Interprofessional Committee on Environmental Design (ICED), 1905 Taft Drive, Denver, Colorado 80215.

Metropolitan Wildlife Federation, 5980 Brooks Drive, Arvada, Colorado 80002.
Mountain Area Planning Council (MAP), Route 2, Box 437, Evergreen, Colorado 80439.

Men's Garden Clubs of Colorado, 821 Adams, Denver, Colorado 80206.

Plains Conservation Center, 945 Adams, Denver, Colorado 80206.

PLAN—Boulder, 1430 High Street, Boulder, Colorado 80302.

Planned Parenthood of Colorado, 606 Elkhart, Aurora, Colorado 80010.

Regional Parks Association, 3075 S. Clayton Way, Denver, Colorado 80210.

Rocky Mountin Chapter, Sierra Club, 1484 S. Eudora, Denver, Colorado 80222.

Springs Area Beautiful Assocation, 14 E. Fontanero St., Colorado Springs, Colorado 80907.

Trout Unlimited, Cutthroat Chapter, 7301 S. Delaware Ct., Littleton, Colorado 80120.

STATEMENT OF D. J. STERLING, CONSERVATION COMMITTEE, ROCKY MOUNTAIN
SECTION, SIERRA CLUB

Senator Bible, Chairman, and distinguished Senators from Colorado you have heard much testimony this morning from experts. I am not an expert in these fields. My specialties are Mathematics (in which I hold a doctorate) and Photography (my pictures in connection with conservation articles have appeared in several magazines including Sierra Club Bulletin, Maine Digest, and Yankee). I speak this morning as a representative of the Rocky Mountain Section of the Sierra Club. This section of the Sierra Club has approximately one thousand members and motivated by many of the arguments presented this morning, especially the *absolute uniqueness of the fossil beds* in question and the *utter irreplaceability of these beds* if they are lost to the bulldozer and the developer the membership has passed a resolution urging the formation of Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

On behalf of the Rocky Mountain Section of Sierra Club and its members I urge passage of Bill 912 establishing 6,000-acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

STATEMENT OF A. EARL BRYSON, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, SPRINGS AREA
BEAUTIFUL ASSOCIATION

Springs Area Beautiful Association is a citizens' organization (non-profit, non-partisan) concerned with the preservation and promotion of the natural and man-made beauty of Colorado Springs and its surrounding area; also, with the maintenance of high standards in all matters affecting the appearance and physical development of the area. It has a membership of some 400; it is supported through voluntary membership contributions of individuals, business concerns, and groups sharing its objectives. Included in the latter classification are 25 separate organizations representing most of the groups concerned with the out-of-doors; the membership of such organizations totals well over 1,000 whose voices are thus indirectly added to our own in areas of common interest.

Our organization, through earlier action of its Executive Board is already on record as strongly supporting the efforts, past and present, to establish the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. The basic reason for our position rests on the vital necessity of preserving for posterity a natural feature of such extraordinary rarity and unique qualities—one which, according to the judgment of experts, is without equal elsewhere in the known world. In an era of proliferating population density, of ever diminishing space limitations, it is imperative for understanding of our past and enjoyment of our future that at least the most significant of our natural wonders be preserved against encroachments of an incompatible nature. In the present situation, such encroachments already threaten, which gives added reason for concerted action not only to save this wholly unique feature but to save money on its acquisition.

Aside from this basic reason—which has implications going far beyond local and regional interests, we support the proposal for the special benefits which it has for our state and area. Ours is an area dependent in an above-average degree on conservation and best possible development of its extraordinary natural beauty and unique natural features. These attract the millions of visitors who annually contribute to the support of our economy; they also contribute importantly to the satisfactions of thousands of new residents who over recent years have been

added to our permanent population. To desecrate in any way this beauty or to fail to develop properly our irreplaceable natural features is to undermine the foundations of our physical and material well-being, no less than the substance of our resources of mind and spirit.

Colorado Springs is increasingly an educational center of major national importance; it is important that this trend be fostered. To its superior system of public and private secondary schools, its educational facilities include a number of institutions of higher learning of recognized national standing. These include Colorado College, the oldest and one of the most respected liberal arts colleges in the Rocky Mountain West; the U.S. Air Force Academy, a leading service institution; the Colorado Springs Campus of the University of Colorado, a major branch of the State's largest tax-supported university; the Nazarene Bible College, newest of our institutions of higher learning, and, soon to be added the El Paso Community College, scheduled for an enrollment of perhaps 5,000 students within a few years. The Florissant Fossil Beds, preserved as is contemplated in the pending legislation, would provide a natural laboratory of inestimable value to the students of these institutions thus benefiting them and the area of which they constitute an important segment. In addition, such educational benefits would apply universally to specialized students who would find only here answers to many questions and problems not otherwise available.

We are aware of the need for selectivity in the allocation of federal funds under existing conditions and subscribe fully to that approach. This proposal, however, is non-postponable; there is only one of its kind. If lost, it will be irretrievably lost. And it will be lost if action is not quickly taken. We urge that such action be taken through approval of the pending bills.

CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER,
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING,
Denver, Colo., May 22, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: Unfortunately, the press of my own work prevents my attendance at the field hearing on the Florissant Fossils Beds National Monument in Colorado Springs on May 29, 1969. I ask that this statement be included in the record of this hearing.

The legal jurisdiction of the Denver Planning Office is limited to the City and County of Denver. The proposed Florissant Fossils Beds National Monument is many miles away from the City, and thus well beyond our planning jurisdiction. Nonetheless, community objectives of the official Denver Comprehensive Plan take special note of factors leading to improvement of the environment for living in Denver. These factors include the acquisition of major public open spaces in areas near Denver, and improvement of access into mountain recreation areas. Increase in population of cities along Colorado's Front Range, including Denver, is going to accelerate during the balance of this century, and the need for public recreation space in the mountains to the west of the City is becoming ever greater. I personally am well acquainted with the Florissant Fossils Beds area, and the unique qualities of the area qualify it not only as an outstanding recreation area, but as a wonderful outdoor classroom for the coming millions of school children in Colorado and the much larger number from all over the country who would benefit from a National Monument.

I urge that immediate action be taken to acquire as large an area as possible in the Florissant Fossils Beds area and that a National Monument be created in the immediate future. Acquisition of land at this time while it is still feasible is the important thing; development can wait if necessary until funds for such purposes are more readily available.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES D. BRAMAN, Jr.,
Director of Planning.

ROCKY FORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Rocky Ford, Colo., June 6, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.:

The Rocky Ford Chamber of Commerce of Rocky Ford, Colorado wishes to go on record as being very definitely *in favor* of establishing a 6,000-acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado.

Very truly yours,

ROCKY FORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

TOWN OF WOODLAND PARK,
Woodland Park, Colorado, May 22, 1969.

Mr. CHARLES COOK,
Senate Interior Committee,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR Mr. COOK: At the regular meeting of Board of Trustees held May 15, 1969 the Board unanimously approved the following resolution:

"Be it resolved, That the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Town of Woodland Park favor and endorse the establishment of the Florissant Fossil Beds as a National Monument, and that said Mayor and Board urges the Congress of the United States to take such action as necessary to establish such National Monument; and that a letter signed by the Mayor be written to Washington, D.C. to register support to establish Fossil Beds at Florissant as a National Monument."

Considerable thought on the part of the Mayor and Board preceded the foregoing resolution. Permits us to convey our reasoning in arriving at this action.

1. Few, if any, deposits of fossils of this quality exist in the United States. Historically and scientifically we feel the fossil beds are of great importance.

2. Any further delay in action aimed at creating a National Monument at the Fossil Bed area will result in the loss forever of the beds through private exploitation.

3. The land in question contributes little, if any, to the economy of the area at present. Because Teller County depends heavily on tourism, the creation of a National Monument at Florissant would enhance the general economy of the area.

4. Since the land in question is taxed almost totally as vacant land, the tax loss through acquisition by the federal government would be negligible and overwhelmingly offset by its contribution to the economy through tourism.

For the reasons stated, and because the conservation of such natural phenomena is of vital national importance in our materialistic society, we implore you to act promptly to establish the Florissant Fossil Beds as a National Monument.

Respectfully submitted.

CAROL M. KENNEY, Mayor.

THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA, INC.,
Washington, D.C., June 12, 1969.

Re S. 912.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR Mr. CHAIRMAN: The Izaak Walton League of America wishes to go on record as supporting the establishment of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Colorado. The League concurs with position taken by our membership in Colorado that the full 6,000 acres be set aside for this purpose. As a Coloradan I am personally familiar with this fine area and with its very special educational, scientific and recreational potentials. The area should be in public ownership and under public management for those values.

Respectfully,

J. W. PENFOLD, Conservation Director.

THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA, INC.,
Laramie, Wyo., June 9, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: The undersigned wishes to give endorsement and urge favorable action in the Senate Interior Committee and passage by the Senate and House of S. 912, to establish a 6,000-acre *Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument* in Teller County, Colorado.

I have been interested in this fabulous area for a number of years and have noted several previous efforts in Congress to have this area set aside as a national monument for its protection and availability for scenic and scientific study by the public at large. Now, it is evident that the area is fast becoming seriously endangered by real estate promotions and fast escalation of land values. I strongly urge your committee to recommend and secure passage of this bill at the earliest possible time in this session of Congress.

Sincerely and respectfully yours,

BURTON W. MARSTON, *National Director.*

PIKES PEAK CHAPTER NO. 34,
 IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA,
Colorado Springs, Colo., May 29, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

SIR: The Pikes Peak Chapter, Izaak Walton League of America, wholeheartedly supports Senate Bill S-912 by Senators Peter Dominick and Gordon Allott to establish the 6,000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds as a National Monument.

Located 35 miles west of Colorado Springs, Florissant is unique. It is perhaps Colorado's most important small natural area, containing for all to read exciting pages in the natural history of the region dating back 30 million years or more. Without Natural Monument protection, the wealth of small plant and animal fossils of the region will soon be lost to unnecessary development.

The 282 members of this Chapter advocate the establishment of this National Monument and go on record urging early action and adoption of this Senate measure.

Sincerely,

GLENN W. FRUM,
Representative, Pikes Peak Chapter, IWLA.

MAY 28, 1969.

MR. GLENN W. FRUM,
Colorado Springs, Colo.

DEAR SIR: This letter is to authorize you to act as representative of Pikes Peak Chapter No. 34 of the Izaak Walton League of America at the hearing on the Florissant Fossil Bed National Park proposal to be held May 29, 1969.

At the meeting of the general membership of the Chapter held on May 27, 1969, it was voted to vest you with the authority to act on behalf of the membership of over two hundred and seventy-five (275) men on this very important project.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS STEWARD, *President.*

Attest:

O. A. KENELLY, *Secretary.*

COLORADO FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.,
Denver, Colo., May 25, 1969.

Senator HENRY JACKSON,
Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs,
New Senate Building, Washington, D.C.

The Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs endorses Senate Bill 912, introduced by Senators Allott and Dominick. This bill would establish a 6000-acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. The Federation asks that this

statement be included in the Florissant Hearing Record of May 29, 1969, at Colorado Springs, Colorado, conducted by Senator Bible.

Representatives Evans and Brotzman (Colorado) introduced resolutions in the house for 6000 acres—H.R. 6223 and H.R. 5953 respectively. We support them.

Immediate acquisition of this land is imperative. The Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs supports Florissant acquisition now, development later. This land will never be cheaper.

Animals and plants were captured, "frozen in place," by volcanic ash from sudden nearby eruptions between 30 and 38 millions of years ago, which formed the Florissant Fossil Beds. The ancient beds include fragile fossils of ferns, leaves, insects, fresh water fishes, mollusks, microfossils, birds and even their feathers. There are seven different layers, each telling their different chapter in plant-animal-insect-water life.

Petrified trees dominate one layer with Sequoia stumps standing 14 feet tall and 10 feet in diameter. These are similar to the giant Redwoods in California. Fossil stumps and leaves of pine are to be found, as are deciduous trees, such as oak, maple, walnut, willow and beech.

Nearly a century of research has been based on collections from this site. It has been a source of invaluable material for museums and institutions of learning all over the world. That this irreplaceable area might become a housing development—a victim to bulldozers, paving machines and real estate promoters—would be tragic.

To set aside 1000 acres is not enough. Valuable fossils would not be included. 6000 acres must be acquired.

Florissant is unique. It is a precious national heritage. Nowhere else in the world are fossils like these known to exist. This rich treasure must be preserved.

Very sincerely,

(Mrs.) MARY H. HUNTINGTON,
Legislative Chairman.

DENVER AUDUBON SOCIETY,
Denver, Colo., May 22, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The Denver Audubon Society (300 members) urges support for Senate Bill 912 introduced by Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick to establish a 6,000-acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado.

Our Society has conducted meetings and a field trip to study the Florissant matter. We feel strongly that 6,000 acres are necessary to protect this unique area and that immediate land acquisition is essential. Real estate development extends to proposed Monument boundaries and threatens the Monument itself. Prompt action is vital to preserve the Florissant Fossil Beds.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT W. FORSTER, *President.*

COLORADO WILDLIFE FEDERATION, INC.,
Denver, Colo., May 29, 1969.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: This letter is to reaffirm the support of Colorado Wildlife Federation for a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

Sincerely yours,

RALPH R. HILL, *President.*

COLORADO HAWKING CLUB,
Boulder, Colo., June 2, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and Insular
Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The Colorado Hawking Club, being a dedicated group of conservationists, wishes to have its statement concerning the establishment of Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument included in the Florissant Hearing Record.

For many years Florissant has been known as a site, unique in the entire world, where Nature preserved an irreplaceable collection of insects and plants, the scientific and educational value of which is inestimable. Although the government has till now failed to make this 6000 acre tract of fossil beds a National Monument, we feel that immediate action *must* now be taken before imminent land speculation and development destroy forever this priceless heritage bequeathed us by Nature.

We, therefore, strongly urge that the entire 6000 acre tract be acquired as a National Monument, development of which can be provided for at a later time; the pressing need now is acquisition to preserve, once and for all, these marvelous treasures.

Yours sincerely,

LAWRENCE D. CROWLEY, *Vice President.*

WYOMING AUDUBON SOCIETY,
Casper, Wyo., June 9, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and
Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The officers and board of directors of the Wyoming Audubon Society have asked us to write you concerning the bill (S. 912) to establish a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Colorado. We strongly support the immediate establishment of this 6,000 acre national monument before irreparable damage is done to this valuable natural feature.

The society's 125 members are deeply interested in the preservation of such a unique feature which gives us the opportunity to learn more about earlier life on our planet. Please include our statement of support in the Florissant Hearing Record.

Sincerely,

FLORENCE SPRING, *President.*
LOIS LAYTON, *Secretary.*

THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF COLORADO SPRINGS,
June 9, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on National Parks and Monuments,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: The Woman's Club of Colorado Springs urge the members of the Senate subcommittee on National Parks and Monuments to recommend the purchase of land at Florissant, Colorado for the proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

Sincerely,

MRS. WILLIAM CLARK BAILEY,
Legislative Chairman.

ARKANSAS VALLEY CONSERVATION COUNCIL,
Pueblo, Colo., May 28, 1969.

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: The Arkansas Valley Conservation Council, a nonprofit corporation of individuals and organizations in southeastern Colorado, wishes to go on record in favor of the acquisition of 6,000 acres of land in the Florissant

Fossil Bed area in Colorado. We believe that this land should be preserved as a National Monument. It is imperative that this land be acquired by the Federal Government and protected from development by private interests. The unique geological fauna and flora of this area should be protected and made available for future generations to enjoy and to study.

Sincerely,

D. W. JAMES, Ph. D.

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN,
St. Louis, Mo., June 2, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I wish to recommend the earliest possible action on legislation to make a National Monument of the Fossil Beds at Florissant, Colorado. I have visited these fossil beds many times and have used them for teaching and instruction purposes while I was on the staff of the University of Denver and the University of Colorado.

I know for fact that these beds are a unique and valuable resource. An important part of man's knowledge is the evolutionary history of the Earth. The plant and animal remains contained within these beds are an extremely important resource for studying a portion of the Earth's history. We should never neglect nor fail to understand all the intricacies of evolution. Our very survival may depend on such understanding.

Their protection within a national monument is urgent. Please act now to pass the proper legislation.

Sincerely yours,

DAVID M. GATES, *Director.*

GIRL SCOUTS—MILE HI COUNCIL,
Denver, Colo., June 9, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: The 24,000-plus girl members and some 4,500 adult volunteer members of Girl Scouts-Mile Hi Council, based in the Denver Metropolitan area, urge this committee to establish and acquire the 6,000-acre property 35 miles west of Colorado Springs proposed as the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

The Girl Scouts feel that this has top priority over any commercial development, and that the historical value of this 6,000-acre area is vital to not only Coloradans but to peoples throughout the world.

Girl Scouts-Mile Hi Council ask this committee to preserve this historical property and enter this statement in the hearing record.

Cordially,

(Mrs.) CLARE COX,
Director of Public Relations.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY,
COLORADO CHAPTER,
Boulder, Colo., June 3, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing you in support of Senate Bill 912 to establish a 6000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado. I was unable to attend the hearing regarding this bill in Colorado Springs on May 29, 1969. Reports to me have been that it was a good meeting.

In spite of all the manifold problems facing the Congress at this time I believe we are justified in urging the preservation of our non-renewal resources. The bulldozers are not in the habit of awaiting the return of anything like a normal condition before doing their work. This area when I last saw it was being threatened by developers. I believe that the enormous values in the proposed Monu-

ment justifies all speed ahead to preserve it for scientific, educational and other purposes for ours and for future generations.

We thank you and your committee for your untiring work on this and other projects of like nature. We have been able to assist in a material way on many. We urge that this Senate Bill 912 be dealt with at the earliest possible time.

With our very best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

W. T. GARRETT, *Chairman.*

JUNE 3, 1969.

To: Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments.

From: The Otero County Wildlife Association of Alamogordo, N.M., affiliated member of the New Mexico Wildlife and Conservation Association, Inc.

The Otero County Wildlife Association wishes to go on record at the florissant hearings, supporting the acquisition of 6,000 acres of a fossil bed in Teller County, Colorado, 35 miles west of Colorado Springs, to be established as a National Monument.

Prompt and decisive action to acquire these irreplaceable fossil beds, found nowhere else on earth, must be taken before they fall victim to bulldozers, paving machines and real estate promoters.

If Congress is concerned about the expense of immediate development, it can be postponed in favor of the acquisition of the land immediately. This fossil bed can never be replaced.

The OCWA supports acquisition now and development later.

ARKANSAS VALLEY CHAPTER,
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION,
Pueblo, Colo., May 31, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,

*Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Your hearing on Senate Bill 912 introduced by Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick (Colorado) was interesting, lively and informative. I was requested by the Daughters of the American Revolution to lend our support to this effort as we feel that preservation of the Florissant Fossil Beds is part of our patriotic duty. Our American Heritage Committee earnestly commends early action on Senate Bill 912 establishing a 6000 acre Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado.

Sincerely,

Mrs. John B. Farley,
MARY FARLEY,

Chairman, American Heritage Committee.

SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT,
Pueblo, Colo., May 29, 1969.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,

*Chairman, Subcommittee, Parks and Monuments,
Old Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I want to take this opportunity to sincerely congratulate you and your colleagues, Senators Gordon Allott and Peter H. Dominick, on the excellent Hearing you provided in Colorado Springs on Thursday, May 29, to hear testimony on the proposed Florissant Fossile Beds National Monument, Senate Bill 912.

I had an opportunity to visit with many who gave statements during the Hearing, and they were extremely pleased with the amount of time you afforded each of them, and with the questions and comments which you and your colleagues offered.

At the same time, the Officers and Directors of the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District are totally in support of your efforts to obtain adequate funding for U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Projects. As you know, our Conservancy District is the legal agency sponsoring the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project, and if the recommended budget prevails, our Project will be seriously de-

layed, and this of course will extend the time when we will start making rather substantial payments to the United States Treasury. I know that Senators Allott and Dominick are working closely with you and other members of the United States Senate in trying to obtain additional funds to keep all of our Projects as close to schedule as possible.

Colorado was highly honored when you agreed to hold your Hearings in Colorado Springs, and we shall look forward to appearing with you, and others, in support of funding for Reclamation programs.

Very sincerely,

CHARLES L. THOMSON,
General Manager.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO.,
June 6, 1969.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: A representative of the League of Women Voters of Colorado Springs, Colorado attended the Field Hearing May 29, 1969. We appreciated the opportunity to be there and are especially grateful that we can add to the testimony. We respectfully request that the following statement be included in the *Florissant Hearing Record*:

The League of Women Voters of Colorado Springs supports Senate Bill 912 introduced by Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick to establish a 6,000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado. The League has for years been interested in and supported land acquisition for the purpose of promoting parks and recreation. At the same time it supports cooperative planning in the Pikes Peak Region to encourage planned and guided growth for physical, economic, educational, recreational, cultural and aesthetic development.

The acquisition of the Florissant Fossil Beds as a National Monument, we believe, would not only greatly enhance the area but would be an immeasurable asset to the entire country. The unique wealth of geological and paleontological heritage embodied in this acreage, we believe, should be preserved from encroachment of any kind and acquired as soon as possible to reduce ultimate costs.

We urge the Congress to establish a 6,000 acre Florissant National Monument without delay.

Thank you Senator Bible for your kind attention to this.

Sincerely,

Mrs. FRED E. KYER, *President*.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION
OF GEOLOGISTS,
May 14, 1969.

Senator GORDON ALLOTT,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: Reference is made to Senate Bill 912, "To Provide For the Establishment of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in the State of Colorado".

The Board of Directors of the Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists, a professional and scientific society of approximately 1500 Colorado Geologists and Earth Scientists, after properly twice polling assembled members, does hereby officially endorse and support the establishment of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. We believe that the protection and preservation for now and the future of this unique Colorado area of scientific and public interest and importance is of great value to Colorado and the Nation. We urge your support of this worthy project.

Please call on us if we can be of further aid in this endeavor.

Yours very truly,

R. D. BRACE, *Secretary*.

UNIVERSITY OF DENVER,
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE,
Denver, Colo., May 22, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: This is written in strong support of your bill S. 912 which, when passed, will protect one of nature's richest treasures of records from the geological past, the Florissant Fossil Beds.

As an ecologist, I cannot emphasize too strongly the urgency of protecting the area around Florissant, Colorado, from the ravages and exploitation of amateur collectors and from destruction through land use. To a scientist, it is almost inconceivable that there should be any opposition to the creation of a National Monument for this purpose.

If the expense of purchasing the land and setting it aside is used as an argument against establishing a National Monument, I would like to point out that expenditures of this kind *now* are of much greater value to our future civilization than many of those arising from preparations for war (defense) and manned journeys into space, yet the total cost is infinitesimal in comparison.

I cannot attend the hearing in Colorado Springs, but wish my views on this matter to be on record.

Sincerely,

MORAS L. SHUBERT.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO,
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY,
Boulder, Colo., May 20, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I address you in support of the legislation to create the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. Specifically, these bills are S. 912, by Senators Allott and Dominick, H.R. 5953, by Representative Brotzman, and H.R. 6223, by Representative Evans. All bills are essentially alike in that they ask for the preservation of at least 6000 acres, so as to encompass all the most important deposits of fossil plant and insect specimens.

It is urgent that this monument be established because the area is being threatened with development, and it is impossible to go elsewhere and find such magnificent fossil remains of so many different organisms. Florissant fossil beds are unique in many ways, and they are famous among students of paleontology the world over. They have not been completely studied, and they must be preserved for continued studies into an indefinite future, otherwise they will be forever lost.

I have expressed these same views to Senator Allott in previous correspondence, and know that he concurs with me. I trust there will be complete success in the efforts to achieve the protection of the full 6000 acres in a national monument at Florissant, Colorado.

Most sincerely yours,

ROBERT E. GREGG, *Professor of Biology.*

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY,
Los Angeles, Calif., June 2, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: It has recently come to my attention that an important hearing is scheduled on the proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. These fossil beds are world famous for their excellent preservation and variety of floral and faunal content representing the Oligocene period. As long as it was possible for private enterprise to *preserve* the area, this seemed an adequate measure. If, however, subdividing becomes a threat of encroachment and the

only means of preservation is through establishment of a National Monument, I strongly favor such action.

It is particularly important to preserve such scientific landmarks in an area obviously destined to become surrounded by the expanding population. The world is becoming sophisticated enough to realize the lack of foresight and good judgment of those who sacrifice areas of this nature for commercial gain. In deference to necessities of economic realities it seems support for acquisition now and development later is the logical approach.

Sincerely yours,

THEODORE DOWNS,
Chief Curator, Earth Sciences Division.

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING,
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO,
Boulder, Colo., May 23, 1969.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Even though I am not a long-time resident of the State of Colorado having moved here less than five years ago, I have come to appreciate certain of the scenic, historic, archeological and geological treasures of this state. I'm sure that the statement may be made for many other areas of the country also.

Due to other responsibilities at the University of Colorado, I will not be able to attend the hearing scheduled on Thursday, May 29, in Colorado Springs. I therefore wish to state, as part of the Florissant Hearing Record, my complete support for whatever legal measures must be taken for the creation of the Florissant National Monument. It is my understanding that some 6,000 acres must be acquired in order to preserve this treasure.

It is a source of disbelief to me that anyone would even consider destroying an area such as this by the construction of housing developments, cities, roads or any other facility. It continually amazes me that, whereas even a poor country such as Greece has its antiquity laws, a wealthy country such as the United States has paid so little attention to the preservation of things historical, both natural and man-made.

This land must be acquired at any cost and preserved for the enjoyment of our citizens and visitors, and for scholars in many fields of study who will learn from this so much of our past which will otherwise remain unknown, should this territory not be preserved.

By copy of this letter I am informing my Senators and Representatives of my concern. I hope that you will take very seriously the comments of thoughtful citizens and scholars who seek seriously and conscientiously to preserve areas such as this.

Sincerely yours,

R. CURTIS JOHNSON, *Chairman.*

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO,
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES,
DEPARTMENT OF MOLECULAR, CELLULAR AND DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY,
Boulder, Colo., June 22, 1969.

Senator HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: As a resident of Colorado I want you to know that I am deeply interested in the fate of Florissant with its fossil beds. I strongly agree with the moves of making it into a National Monument.

Please, add my name to the list of strong supporters of this project.

I don't think I have to point out to you what a treasure these rich fossil beds provide for the interested tourist and the professional. Speaking for both, I urge you to support the effort of a speedy preservation of Florissant.

Sincerely yours,

ELFRIEDE GAMOW.

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY,
BOTANY DEPARTMENT,
Provo, Utah, June 19, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIRs: It has recently been called to my attention that there is a possibility for the creation of a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, and, as a Paleobotanist, I am strongly in favor of the concept.

I consider these strata to contain some of the best fossil plant and insect remains of Oligocene age to be found. It is an ideal location to interpret the history of this epoch in the Rocky Mountain region for the American public.

I have recently seen what can happen when preservation under the National Park System comes too late. An example occurred within the recent expansion of Capitol Reef National Monument. As described to me by local residents, five years ago a region near Capitol Reef contained an abundance of petrified wood. Today, although this area has been included under the recent expansion of the monument, the wood is extremely rare. According to the residents, it was hauled away in semi-truck loads to southern California. The wood is now lost to science, and I think the Florissant beds will soon be just as inaccessible unless something is done about them.

I know of other cases where unique fossil specimens were destroyed because of the lack of interest of construction crews.

I think one can compare a rare fossil specimen to a rare volume in a library, and a very rare specimen to a one book edition. If either are destroyed, there is no replacement available, and that portion of knowledge is lost to man.

I strongly urge action be taken on this National Monument before it is too late. I would also appreciate a reply if this letter cannot be included into the record of the hearing.

Sincerely yours,

W. D. TIDWELL,
Professor of Botany.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY,
DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGICAL AND GEOPHYSICAL SCIENCES,
Princeton, N.J., May 26, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: I understand that the world-famous Florissant Lake beds are threatened by real-estate developments. Whether this threat be imminent or not, I wish to add my voice to those who have urged Congress to establish a 6,000 acre National Monument at this site, to preserve this extraordinary geological phenomenon for science and for the interested layman. Florissant is a geological concept—it has provided unique insight into the continental fauna and flora of Oligocene times, and pictures of its fossils have been illustrated in texts the world over. I regard it as one of a dozen truly outstanding fossil sites of the world. Its loss to private commercial or residential development would be (1) shocking destruction of one natural and scientific heritage, and (2) a demonstration to the world that the United States government is unable or unwilling to protect this heritage adequately against the pressures of private profits.

Sincerely,

ALFRED G. FISCHER,
Professor of Geology.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, MEDICAL CENTER,
Denver, Colo., June 19, 1969.

Senator HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: Please add my name to the list of people encouraging immediate passage of Bills: S. 912, H.R. 5953, and H.R. 6223 which request purchase of 6000 acres of the Florissant Fossil Beds for a national monument. Thank you very much.

LAWRENCE L. HAYES, Ph. D.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO,
COLORADO SPRINGS CENTER,
Colorado Springs, Colo., May 29, 1969.

The SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: I would like it known and recorded that I strongly support the development of the Florissant fossil beds (located in Florissant, Colorado, in Teller County) being established as a national monument.

My interest in preserving this rich biological and geological area stems from several personal visit and from information received from the Colorado Open Space Council.

There is ample justification for the purchase of the Florissant fossil beds and the establishment of these beds as a national monument. The Colorado Open Space Council points out two very specific reasons supporting the establishment of such a monument:

1. It is imperative that this monument be established immediately without loss of another year. The area, situated in a scenic valley, is threatened with mountain-home sub-divisions and other commercial encroachments. Unless Congress takes prompt and decisive action to *acquire* the 6,000 acre property, irreplaceable fossil beds found nowhere else on earth, will fall victim to bulldozers, paving machines, and real estate promoters. Even without encroachment, soaring land prices will soon put Florissant out of the reach of the people.

2. Animal and plants (60,000 specimens of insects alone collected so far) were captured and "frozen in place" by the volcanic ash from seven nearby eruptions between 30- and 38-million years ago to form the Florissant fossil beds. Only at Florissant are the Rocky Mountain insects, plants, flowers, and animals of that geological period (Aligocene) preserved; this even includes the giant redwood stumps. Thus, Florissant is unique; nowhere else on earth are fossils like these known to exist.

On the basis of these two reasons alone there is sufficient justification to warrant the purchase of these beds and hence, establish the area as a national monument. I am requesting that the committee make whatever attempts will be necessary to insure that that Senate Bill 912, introduced by Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick of Colorado, be given fair hearing. Likewise, I am requesting that the committee recommend and support the passage of this bill.

Sincerely,

J. RICHARD RODWICK,
Dean for Student Relations.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA,
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES,
Gainesville, May 31, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,

Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I would like to submit this letter in support of Senate Bill 912 introduced by Senators Peter Dominick and Gordon Allott to establish a 6,000-acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado.

I have done biological field work in the Florissant area west of Colorado Springs for six summers and I will be returning again this July to continue several research projects. The Florissant valley, which would be preserved as an ecological "whole" under the 6,000-acre monument, is a scenically beautiful region as well as one abounding in wildlife and wildflowers. There are many species of large and small mammals, including antelope, deer, elk, black bear, mountain lion, bobcats, coyotes, beavers, cottontail and jack rabbits, porcupines, several bat species, badgers, chipmunks, golden-mantle ground squirrels, tassel-eared squirrels (*Sciurus alberti*, like on the north rim of the Grand Canyon), white-tailed prairie dogs, etc. There are over 100 species of birds during the summer. In years of average or better rainfall, the wildflower display in June and July is truly spectacular: every open area is carpeted with paintbrush, many pentstemon species, mariposa lilies, harebells, and composites of great variety. Under the aspens and in wet meadows along the beaver ponds may be found columbines, elephant ears, blue iris, shrubby cinquefoil, shooting stars, and many others. In

August and early September, various sunflowers, fireweed, senecio, etc., taking the place of the earlier flowers, frequently make as beautiful a display as the earlier ones.

This rolling country, with forested ridges rising above grassy valley meadows, accessible all year with excellent camping areas, is unlike any other Rocky Mountain national park or monument, without even touching on the unique and invaluable national resource present in the extensive fossil beds. Since my first extended visit in 1960, I have seen land costs rise every year, inroads being made by developers, scores of tourists every summer carting off irreplaceable fossils that millions of Americans could enjoy viewing and contemplating if this area were under the protection of the National Park Service. The time to act is *now*. I most strongly urge a favorable report on the immediate acquisition of this 6,000-acre site *this year*, with no further delay. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS C. EMMEL,
Assistant Professor.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY,
Los Angeles, Calif., May 26, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: It has come to my attention that the preservation of Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument is being threatened. This is very disturbing as the area is a classic paleontological locality and should be kept as it is. The site is one of great importance and should be maintained as a scientific and educational monument. If it becomes subdivided for building purposes, the loss to posterity will be one of regret and of shame to the shortsightedness of those who permit its destruction.

Sincerely yours,

HERBERT FRIEDMANN, *Director.*

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN,
SCHOOL OF NATURAL RESOURCES,
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION,
Ann Arbor, Michigan, May 29, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
*U.S. Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: May I place myself on record in favor of passage of a Bill to create Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, Teller County, Colorado.

It was privilege and pleasure to testify in favor of the formation of the Monument at an earlier time when I was Assistant Secretary of Interior for Fish, Wildlife and Parks. May I, then, merely reiterate my belief in the importance of saving this area with sufficient acreage to protect the scientific interest and to allow for proper interpretation of this piece of history to visitors.

The Florissant Fossil Beds are world famous for the richness of the preserved species. It would be a shame and an embarrassment to all who know of the area should the United States be unable, or more correctly, unwilling to make an investment that is minor relative to the lasting value of this natural feature that is not duplicated elsewhere in variety and richness of fossils.

Sincerely yours,

STANLEY A. CAIN,
Charles Lathrop Pack Professor of Conservation.

NEW JERSEY ACADEMY OF SCIENCE,
RUTGERS—THE STATE UNIVERSITY,
New Brunswick, N.J., June 2, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Dr. Jack McCormick, President-elect of the New Jersey Academy of Science, alerted me to the following recommendations. As executive

officers of the Academy we seek to add our personal endorsement plus that of all our Academy members interested in the preservation of scientific sites.

In particular the New Jersey Academy of Science, a nonprofit organization composed of one thousand university and industrial scientists, science educators and science students, recommend the establishment of a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado, as proposed in Senate Bill 912 introduced by Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick. Further, we recommend that the entire 6,000 acre tract comprises only about one-half of the entire Florissant site, it includes the most outstanding deposits and historically important scientific areas.

Should budgetary limitations be necessary, we support delay in improvement of facilities rather than reduction in size of the proposed Monument.

Respectfully submitted.

FREDERICK C. KULL, Ph. D.,
President.

THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY,
DEPARTMENT OF VERTEBRATE PALEONTOLOGY,
New York, N.Y., May 26, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I have on several occasions attempted to point out the significance and importance of the Florissant Beds, in letters written to various concerned Representatives and Senators. There is no need to repeat the arguments here—I think that they are well understood by all concerned in the hearing. In brief, I only wish to repeat that the Florissant Beds, which have been known to scientists for about one hundred years, are famous throughout the world for their marvelous insects, plants and other fossil specimens. It will be a sad service to science, to the citizens of our country and to the citizens of the world if these unique deposits are not preserved and protected.

Therefore, it is, in my opinion, of the utmost importance that the proposed National Monument at Florissant be established as soon as possible according to the plans drawn up by the National Park Service. This, of course, envisages a National Monument of approximately 6,000 acres in extent. It is particularly important that this acreage be purchased immediately and preserved, in order that the area, which is truly one of our national treasures can be properly developed for the present and future generations. Any move to restrict the Monument to less than the proposed 6,000 acres will severely limit its development and usefulness.

I sincerely hope that the Senate and the House will agree to an authorization to obtain this land at the earliest possible moment.

Sincerely,

EDWIN H. COLBERT,
Member, National Academy of Sciences.

CARNEGIE MUSEUM,
DEPARTMENT OF THE CARNEGIE INSTITUTE,
Pittsburgh, Pa., May 26, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I understand that a bill has been introduced by Senator Gordon Allott to establish the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument and that this bill will soon be considered by your committee. This bill, S. 912, is worthy of the strongest endorsement and backing which your committee can give. Speedy consideration and affirmative action are needed if the land necessary for the establishment of this monument is to be saved.

Creation of a park at Florissant has long been favored and actively pushed by many organizations and groups of interested citizens and scientists. The rocks of Florissant and the picture of past life which they have preserved so beautifully are unique in this country and are rivaled in only one other spot in the world. The combination of factors which led to the preservation of the delicate insects and plants in these volcanic rich lake sediments are only rarely en-

countered in the total history of past life. Such occurrences are approached in this country in the Green River Lake Beds of Colorado and Wyoming but these represent an earlier chapter in the history of life. Florissant presents us with the *only* good documentation of the plant and insect life that lived in the Rocky Mountains some 25 million years ago. Because of its unique character the record of life left for us in the Florissant Lake Beds should be saved from the ravages of bulldozer and developer.

This proposed monument will nicely compliment the two other National Monuments already within the Park Service which are devoted to the past history of life on the earth. The others, Dinosaur and Agate Springs, preserve for us a glimpse of the Age of Dinosaurs 160 million years ago and the Age of Mammals 25 million years ago (Agate). The latter Monument in Nebraska will provide the public with a marvelous story of the land mammals, rhinos, camels, pigs, etc., which lived at the same time that the beautiful plants and insects were falling into the calm lake water at Florissant. Together these two localities will provide splendid pictures of life in the west 25 million years ago.

As we are all uncomfortably aware these days, increased population and greater urbanization are destroying our environmental and natural surroundings at an alarming rate. Preservation of forest, parks, and other undeveloped lands is essential for the future enjoyment of us all. When this act of conservation can be coupled with a proposal for preserving a truly unique and irreplaceable piece of history, they deserve our strongest efforts on their behalf.

Again, let me strongly urge prompt approval of this bill by your committee and the Senate.

Sincerely yours,

CRAIG C. BLACK,
Curator, Vertebrate Fossils.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT,
THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES,
Storrs, Conn., May 30, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I wish to offer a few words in support of the establishment of the Florissant National Monument. It may be appropriate to note that I have been engaged in fossil plant research and teaching for some 30 years.

It has been some years since I last visited Florissant but I have been there and am familiar with the deposit. Without question it is a unique phenomenon; to the best of my knowledge there is no other place in the world where one may observe such a splendid *combination* of both petrified and compressed plant and animal fossils. It has contributed much valuable scientific information concerning the vegetation of the past and is a splendid place for students to learn how plants and animals are preserved as fossils. It is perhaps needless to say that, once destroyed, it could never be reproduced on this earth.

I thought highly enough of the locality to mention it several times and use a photograph of one of the petrified trees in a paleobotanical book that I wrote some years ago (ANCIENT PLANTS—Cornell Univ. Press). If it would help in any way I would gladly send you a copy of the book without charge.

In my opinion it would be a significant advance in the national conservation effort to establish Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

Respectfully yours,

HENRY N. ANDREWS,
Professor of Botany.

MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY,
THE AGASSIZ MUSEUM,
HARVARD UNIVERSITY,
Cambridge, Mass., May 23, 1969.

Hon. ALAN BIBLE,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: I understand that you are chairing hearings in order to determine the desirability of creating a Florissant National Monument.

May I be permitted to record with you the strongest possible endorsement of this project. The Florissant Fossil Beds are unique. There is nothing like them anywhere else in the world. Future generations would never forgive us for having destroyed something which was once created in the past and which can never be restored, once it is lost. The Florissant Fossil Beds are one of the natural gems of the state of Colorado. The creation of this National Monument will add to the many already existing attractions of our beautiful West. Every effort should be made to preserve this unique treasure of our nation for posterity and to preserve it to an extent (6,000 acres) commensurate with the importance of this Monument.

Sincerely yours,

ERNST MAYR,

Member, National Academy of Sciences.

PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY,

Baguio City, May 26, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INSULAR AND INTERIOR AFFAIRS,
*New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

GENTLEMEN: I am writing in support of Senate Bill 912 to establish the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado. Will you please include my statement in the Florissant Hearing Record. Copies of this letter are also being sent to my representatives in congress: Senator McGee, Senator Hansen, and Congressman Wold.

Compared to the amount of land in Colorado which is presently under federal jurisdiction, the 6,000 acres proposed for this national monument is a small tract. Still it is an important one. The fossils found there are one-of-a-kind. A monument of this kind cannot be established anywhere else in the nation.

Preservation of these fossils is important not only from the standpoint of recreation and education of the public but also for scholarly study of the geologic past. If this opportunity to preserve them is missed, it is lost forever.

There is an urgency to the bill. Some of the land to be included in the monument may well be subdivided for residential purposes before the next session of congress convenes.

I urge you to give favorable consideration and support to this measure. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

JAMES E. BANKS,
Lt. Col., U.S. Air Force.

FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY,

Chicago, Ill., May 28, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: It has recently been brought to my attention that Senate Bill 912, proposing the establishment of a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, will be considered by you in the near future.

The Florissant Fossil Beds offer us a unique record of insect life during a crucial period of the Earth's climatic history. At the time these beds were laid down, the climate was just beginning the long cooling which led ultimately to the Ice Age. We have several areas in which fossil vertebrates of this time occur—the largest and finest of them is being included in the expanded Badlands National Monument—but our record of insects and plants must depend upon Florissant. It is, therefore, of greatest scientific importance that the irreplaceable fossils at Florissant be preserved. They will assist in studies of climatic change, of climatic history, of the evolution of insects, and of the relation of insect life to its environment. The area can be developed in a manner suited to teach these phenomena to the public.

Sincerely,

JOHN CLARK,
Associate Curator of Sedimentary Petrology.

FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY,
Chicago, Ill., May 27, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: I hope that your consideration of Senate Bill 912 will reach a conclusion favorable to the establishment of a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument of about 6,000 acres.

The fossil insects that occur at this locality are very important records of the life of the past. The Florissant fossil beds are a national scientific resource not duplicated elsewhere. If this Monument is established for the preservation of the Florissant fossils, the future will inevitably bring further discoveries of scientifically important specimens that would remain forever inaccessible if the land were to be used for building.

Even if the land were simply to be held vacant for several years until it could be properly developed for the edification of the American public, we would profit from its having been preserved.

Sincerely,

EUGENE S. RICHARDSON, Jr.,
Curator of Fossil Invertebrates.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA,
DEPARTMENT OF GEOCHRONOLOGY,
Tucson, Ariz., June 9, 1969.

Memorandum to: Colorado Open Space Council, Inc.

Re: Senate bill 912 (Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument).

GENTLEMEN: This letter comes in support of Senate bill 912 (Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument).

In my career, as a limnologist, I understand the rarity of the site. We are seldom fortunate enough to be able to acquire prehistoric scientific evidences of the organisms which are preserved at the Florissant Beds. This uniqueness should be preserved indefinitely.

In this modern day we all too often are losing sites of scientific interest which are not replaceable. I fear that monetary return is not realized in a historic preservation situation and therefore presents a problem in regional planning. But, I must emphasize the irreplaceability of such situations and that the value to science cannot be measured in cash values.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN S. CARLSON,
Assistant Professor, Biological Sciences Department.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY,
DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGICAL AND GEOPHYSICAL SCIENCES,
Princeton, N.J., June 5, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I should like to add my own personal and professional support to the several bills urging the establishment of *The Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument*.

I am familiar with this unique occurrence of incredible numbers of beautiful and highly important fossil leaves and petrified stumps. Its scientific importance makes it imperative that it be kept from destruction by rock-hounds and tourists. Educationally, it should be developed as an almost perfect example of the preservation of Colorado's ancient forests.

Sincerely,

ERLING DORF,
Professor of Geology.

HYDES, MD., June 3, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Senate Committee on Interior and
Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Speaking as a citizen interested in the welfare of today's Americans and tomorrow's, I urge the passage of Senate Bill 912 to establish a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado. It is vital that these 6000 acres be acquired immediately before they are despoiled by development. If money is scarce, as it ought to be just now, be sure to buy the land. We can delay visitor facilities on this and other national holdings till later.

Sincerely yours,

ELIZABETH K. HARTLINE.

AURORA, COLO., June 6, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
SENATE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: In regards to Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, it is my wish to "support Florissant Acquisition now, development later."

Thank you in advance.

Very truly yours,

MARGI B. NICHOLS.

IDAHO, May 26, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
SENATE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: Please accept this statement as favoring protection of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument as urged by the Colorado Open Space Council, Inc.

Sincerely,

T. RUSSELL MAGER.

DENVER, COLO., May 23, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: Because I cannot attend the field hearing on Senate Bill 912 to be held May 29 in Colorado Springs I want to send this statement that it may be included in the Florissant Hearing Record.

I earnestly beg that this bill be considered favorably by your committee. Already too much time has been lost. Daily this priceless property is being lost to the general public, present and to come, by the encroachment of private interests. Too much of our inheritance is lost because of carelessness of officials who should seek to save the good things for all and not let them be acquired for the profit of the few.

Please save as much of these beds as possible, up to 12,000 acres and certainly not less than 6,000. Now is the time for action. Never again will the land be cheaper, in fact maybe it will not again be available. Remember we are saving a unique, a priceless, piece of America, not just for the present, but for all generations to come.

Yours truly,

KATHERINE D. MATSON
Mrs. C. H. Matson.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., June 7, 1969.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSULAR AFFAIRS,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: I am writing to give my support to the acquisition and establishment of 6000 acres Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado. This is important to do *now*, as land prices will rise, and encroachments begin if the Government does not act promptly.

This is a unique section of land, with fossils that are found nowhere else, and so is a particularly valuable piece of land. It seems right to acquire it now, and develop it later.

Yours truly,

SOPHIA B. PARKER
Mrs. Gordon Parker.

HOMEWOOD, ILL., June 10, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,

Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

SIR: I regret that I could not attend the May 29, 1969 field hearing at Colorado Springs, Colo., concerning Senate Bill 912—a proposal for establishment of a 6,000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller Co., Colorado.

Please accept my wholehearted endorsement and support of this proposal.

Very truly yours,

DONALD H. POTTER,
Member, American Society of Landscape Architects.

GOLDEN, COLO., May 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Since I shall be unable to attend the Senate hearing tomorrow (May 29) on the Florissant Fossil Beds bill S912 which is before your committee on Park and Monuments, I should appreciate the inclusion of my comments in the record from the hearing.

I strongly urge the passage of S 912 on the grounds that such precious things as these records in stone constitute a solemn obligation to be preserved for the enlightenment of as yet unborn multitudes. There will never be any more of these fossils than there are right now. There will however be many more people. By the simple logic of supply and demand, their value can only increase with the passing years. We dare not do other than our utmost to preserve these God given wonders for posterity.

Sincerely yours,

BETTY G. McFERRIN
Mrs. William McFerren, Jr.

BOULDER, COLO., June 11, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,

Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

SIR: I strongly support S.B. 912 to establish a 6,000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. The value of this area has been established beyond a doubt by professional geologists and ecologists. To the average citizen, such as myself, the value is just as apparent—the fossil beds, the sequoia stumps, and the evidence of volcanic activity are all striking. When I visited the area just one month ago, the evidence of pressure for real estate development was also striking. I am a City Planner and well aware of the processes of land development; I believe the need to set aside this land for a National Monument is immediate and urgent.

The immediate situation calls for freezing the status of this land by Congressional authorization for acquisition. This action would assure the property owners of a reasonable return on their land, but would relieve the pressure for development. At some future date, Congressional appropriation of funds could follow, particularly if an organization such as The Nature Conservancy could supply funds in the interim. Funds for development could follow at a later date. The pressing need is for authorization of acquisition and this I strongly urge.

Yours truly,

ELIZABETH F. GOODWIN
Mrs. Robert D. Goodwin.

BOULDER, COLO., June 13, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,

Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I would like to add my name to the list of those persons who are concerned about the *Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument*. It is imperative that this Monument be established immediately, without loss of another year!

I have almost daily been losing faith in our government as being representative of the people, rather than "big money" and power interests. Please help restore some of my faith in the "establishment" by lending your full support to a cause that transcends profit and practicality.

Sincerely yours,

ROGER HUDIBURG.

BOULDER, COLO., May 21, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I strongly urge you to support legislation leading to the establishment of the *Florissant Fossil Beds* as a National Monument. We cannot afford to wait much longer to preserve this rare fossil area.

Yours sincerely,

ART WAINWRIGHT.

HON. GORDON ALLOTT,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: Your little article about Florissant, Colorado, pleased me greatly because this one area *must* be saved for all of the coming generations.

I fully agree with you that this area should be saved and preserved. For all the millions of fossils, information and whatever more you can possibly learn from these.

It's most certainly worthwhile!

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

WINNIE BARRON,
(age 11½).

BOULDER, COLO., May 28, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: I would like to urge the Congress to act as quickly as possible to establish *Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument* near Florissant, Colorado. The size of the monument should, as a minimum, include at least 6,000 acres as has been proposed in Senate bill 912. Any smaller size will mean that significant areas of fossil beds will lie outside the protection afforded by the proposed monument, and will thus be largely lost to scientists who may wish to conduct studies, and to the public who will wish to enjoy a glimpse of the pre-history of the area.

It is urgent to act quickly to purchase the land because residential home developments are beginning to encroach on the area which might destroy much of what we seek to have preserved, and which will certainly raise the price of the land. There is urgency in the government's acting to purchase the land. There is no urgency in budgeting funds for the development of the area for visitors. This can wait for a few years if necessary.

Please record my strong support for decisive action by the United States Government to acquire at least 6,000 acres of land to form a *Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument* at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully yours,

ALBERT A. BARTLETT.

BOULDER, COLO., May 30, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: This letter is written to express our family's interest in the proposed *Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument* in Teller County, Colorado.

We sincerely hope the Committee will act favorably upon the proposal to preserve this unique area in a 6,000 acre national monument so that future generations of Americans can visit the area with pride and gain understanding of the geological meaning of our country.

Yours sincerely,

HAROLD T. BECHER, M.D.
INGRID H. BECHER,

DENVER, COLO., May 28, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
*New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Please register our names in support of the bill to establish a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in the State of Colorado.

We have seen fossils collected from this area and we are aware of the greediness of some collectors in unrestricted fossil and mineral areas.

We are also painfully aware of the rapidly diminishing ratio of recreation sites in the United States to the vastly increasing number of tourists on our highways. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the State of Colorado.

Sincerely yours,

SALLY W. BARKER.
WILLIAM S. BARKER.

AURORA, COLO., May 20, 1969.

Senator GORDON ALLOTT,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR ALLOTT: Apollo 10, a tremendous scientific achievement!

Congress had the foresight to appropriate hundreds of millions of dollars for the space programs. Congress should also be cognizant of the necessity of preserving our perishable records of the past.

Establish the Florissant National Monument now!

Landowners in the Florissant, Colorado area claim that after 17 years of annual investigations, progress to establish the Monument appears to be still be at an impasse. Positive action should be taken quickly, before the area is lost.

Senate Bill, S. 912 should immediately be passed!

Only one million dollars, I understand, is needed (a small sum by today's standards) to preserve a unique fossil record. Fossils dating back some 30 plus millions of years. Records that cannot be replaced if destroyed. And destroyed it appears they shall be. Land developers in the area will not wait for the National Park Service to waste more time in idle investigations of the area.

The whole valley will soon come under small acreage ownership.

Senator Allott, I urge you to do all in your power to see that immediate steps are taken to obtain this 6000 acre area for the National Monument. Present and future generations should not be deprived of the opportunity to enjoy this wonderful and unusual paleontological evidence.

Thank you, Senator Allott.

Sincerely yours,

CARLTON BELZ.

BROOMFIELD, COLO., June 5, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: Several weeks ago my son and myself had the privilege of touring the proposed Florissant Fossil Bed of 6,000 acres with the Denver Audubon Society led by Dr. Estella Leopold. This is truly marvelous and should be saved for others to enjoy and study.

It is not hard to understand that it will not be for long unless it is protected from souvenir seekers and real estate developers.

We must protect these 40 million year old treasures. Please put us down on the record as certainly being 100% for this development. We'll be most happy to have our money be used for this national monument.

In the Rocky Mountain News we saw that the Interior Department, Tuesday, added its endorsement to a \$2.5 million development plan for the Florissant Fossil

Beds west of Colorado Springs. How thankful we are for this news—What's next?
Thank you for your time and help in this important matter of saving the Fossil Beds.

Sincerely,

Mrs. LON TOMPKINS.

ASPEN, COLO., May 23, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: I find myself unable to attend the public hearing by your committee concerning the establishment of a 6,000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado 35 miles west of Colorado Springs. I beg that the following brief statement be included in the Florissant hearing record.

I make this statement as an individual, not officially representing any organized group. However I feel that what I have to say would be heartily endorsed by a large segment of the American public if they knew you were having a hearing on this subject.

I am a trained, but not practicing, professional botanist. As a private citizen with a family of five we visit and enjoy all of the currently established national parks and monuments within the reach of our free time and pocketbook. Most of the western ones we have visited many times. The value of the presently established national parks and monuments is obvious to all. The struggle to establish them is a matter of record, with which you gentlemen must be thoroughly familiar.

The current cutbacks in funds for parks and monuments is everywhere obvious. (One of our sons has volunteered free of charge to assist ranger naturalists who are short-handed in any of the western parks or monuments.) If you are convinced that this land should be set aside and developed for the public use, but are faced with the consideration of available budget, I beg you to procure the land now to assure its protection and let the development and full use come later when more money is available.

In my generation I have seen conservation programs get too little too late! Don't repeat it!

With kind regards,

STUART A. MACE.

GOLDEN, COLO., June 4, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: The story of life is a thrilling one. More importantly, the understanding of the development of the myriad forms of life here on earth is essential to our survival. The study of earlier forms of life is of immense value to us if we would understand fully the delicate ecological balances that enable life in its infinite varieties to exist. Man is not above these ecological relationships—indeed, he is vitally affected by them.

The more we can learn from such a treasure of life history as exists in the proposed Florissant Monument, the better able we will be to create a world park conducive to man's growth and development, rather than a wasteland conducive only to man's slow decay and death.

I strongly urge you to support action to acquire the 6000 acres of land in Teller County that we may not be deprived of this heritage of our past and lesson for our future.

Very truly yours,

PATRICIA A. COUBROUGH.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., June 4, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I wish to advise you of my strong support of Senate Bill 912 which would establish a 6,000-acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

The growth of the metropolitan Pike's Peak region and the resultant population pressure on land in the vicinity make it imperative that this site of immeasurable scientific value be given immediate protection.

Since budgetary considerations weigh heavily this year, I urge that, if necessary, park service development of the area be postponed. However, we cannot afford to delay acquisition of this land.

Respectfully,

GEORGE M. COVINGTON.

ASPEN, COLO., June 14, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: May I strongly urge that funds be made immediately available for acquisition of the full 6,000 acres proposed for the Florissant Beds National Monument. I urge this at this time, being fully aware of the need for economy and careful use of available funds. It would seem, however, a foolish economy to delay this acquisition and run the risk of having this irreplaceable resource partly or wholly destroyed. Similarly, reduction to 1,000 acres would have the same deleterious effect.

A resource of this type, if once destroyed, can never be replaced. Fossil beds of this type are created once in the history of the area, and never again. Unfortunately, residential, highway, and other uses are demanding land all the time, and are already threatening this area. There is a serious danger that a large part of this unique resource may be lost forever, unless prompt action for its preservation is taken.

At the present land prices seem to increase astronomically everywhere, and it is probable that a delay, even for a year in acquisition, may put the project completely out of reach financially.

It has been commented that if these lands are acquired now, development may have to be delayed for some time until funds are available. This isn't really important.

The fossils will remain in place indefinitely, and the area can be opened for public use in due course. Probably, once the Monument has been created and land, in the full amount acquired, scientific study will commence at the expense of the University or other Institution involved—and the project thus be used even before further funds can be budgeted for development for the public.

In any event, failure to acquire the entire 6,000 acres can only have an adverse effect, and may well result in this resource being lost forever.

I request that this statement be included in the hearing record, and be given your sympathetic consideration.

Sincerely,

TADINI BACIGALUPI, JR.

CASPER, WYO., June 2, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: I favor Congress approving funds to acquire the 6,000 acres necessary to avoid the destruction of irreplaceable fossil beds in the Florissant area, which are in danger of being destroyed by private interests, and to designate this area as a national monument.

These fossil beds should not only be preserved because they are unique; but also because of their educational value for study of animals and plants of that geologic period which can be found nowhere else, as far as known.

Very truly yours,

TERESA SCHMITZ.

DENVER, COLO., May 22, 1969.

Re Senate bill 912, Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: The opportunity to preserve the fossils at Florissant is now. That they should not be preserved seems unthinkable to any member of the scientific community. They are to be found nowhere else in the world.

Before the subdividers take over, before prices go higher, let Congress authorize acquisition of these irreplaceable 6,000 acres. Development is postponable; establishment of the site is not.

Respectfully yours,

ALICE H. FLEMING.

DENVER, COLO., June 10, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: As a resident of the State of Colorado, I should like to urge that Congress take prompt and decisive action to obtain the 6,000-acre property at Florissant for preserving the fossil beds.

Last summer I drove down to Florissant and, after searching for only a little over an hour, found six very good specimens of leaves. (What a thrill it was to open up the rocks and find leaves perfectly preserved for 40 million years.) Since I work for Shell Oil Company, I brought my specimens to work and showed them to several geologists, who were quite enthused about them, and said they wanted to take their children down to hunt the fossils. I am only pointing this out to show you that even the professional men find the fossils of great interest.

Again I should like to urge that the 6,000 acres be acquired.

Yours very truly,

CHARLOTTE FANCHER.

DENVER, COLO., June 8, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIRS: As far as I know, the Florissant Fossil Beds are unique in the world, a beautiful and irreplaceable demonstration of an interesting prehistoric age on our planet.

Now is the time to acquire enough land (6,000 acres) to preserve a good and lasting example of this national outdoor museum for a National Monument. Development can wait for later, the important thing is to acquire the land now, while prices are still reasonable.

Please act upon this important legislation.

Sincerely,

HELEN I. COBB
Mrs. John C. Cobb.

ENGLEWOOD, COLO., May 26, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: As an individual and as a geologist I would like to express my support for Senate Bill 912 to establish a 6,000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado. As far as I know, the Florissant occurrence of insects, plants and other fossils is unique and should certainly be preserved. I understand that timing is critical in that housing developments are encroaching on the area under consideration. Because of this, acquisition of the property is of first priority and I hope it can be accomplished even if there are not presently funds for development of the area following the land acquisition.

Very truly yours,

RAY E. GILBERT.

COLORADO FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS,
Del Norte, Colo., May 24, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: The members of the South Central District of the Colorado Federation of Women's Clubs are pleased that you will hold hearings in Colorado Springs, May 29th, on the proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. Our district has worked on this project for four years. We understand that the

land may be sold if action is not taken immediately. We feel that this area, the full 6,000 acres, should be preserved as a National Monument.

Our district is composed of 503 club members in a 5-county area. As you no doubt know, conservation is one of the main departments of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Much has been accomplished in this department by our members.

Please seriously consider our reasons for this preservation.

Respectfully yours,

LOUISE S. CHENOWETH,
President of South Central District.

DENVER, COLO., May 25, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I urge that Congress act as soon as possible to acquire the 6000 acres for the Florissant National Monument. I fear this irreplaceable natural wonder will be lost to private development if action is not taken soon.

This is an invaluable area for nature students to use as a natural laboratory, and it can be a source of instruction and enjoyment for all citizens.

Sincerely,

HAROLD H. MATHES.

BOULDER, COLO., June 3, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: It is now extremely urgent that Congress act to establish the Monument—time is running out fast for the preservation of this most unique American heritage.

It is essential to establish at least 6,000 acres now; funds can always be found later to develop the site for Americans of different interests, but it will obviously be impossible to later move any subdivision housing which encroaches for the site.

I would like to think that your children and my children, and our children's children—and all Americans, will be able to see the Florissant Beds.

Respectfully yours,

L. X. FINEGOLD.

NORTH GLENN, COLO.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: It is my hope that the proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument will receive top priority. This unique area must be acquired as soon as possible. It is my opinion that acquisition of the proposed 6,000 acres is most important and should be considered first. Development can come in the future; buildings on the site could be used at the present. It is my understanding that the 6,000 acres can be purchased for \$900,000 now; this is a tremendous opportunity to preserve the area for future generations and is preferred to the acquisition and development costs of the 1,000 acres for a total cost of \$2,225,000.

Please take positive action in favor of the acquisition of the total 6,000 acres now, before bulldozers, paving machines, etc., destroy this record of the earth's history.

Sincerely,

KATE R. THOMPSON.

BOULDER, COLO., June 15, 1969.

Subject: Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument field hearing, May 29, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: I am writing in support of Senate Bill 912 to establish a 6,000-acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado.

Proposed housing developments are encroaching on the Florissant Lake beds.

Acquisition of this land for preservation of the unique fossils beds is urgent. I have visited Olduvai Gorge in Tanzania, East Africa, where a similar condition of volcanic ash surrounded botanical and zoological specimens and preserved them. Wouldn't it have been a shame if that area had been bulldozed for housing development before Dr. and Mrs. Leakey made their significant find of the "Zinjanthropus Skull" placing the history of man back much earlier than previously known. Who knows what scientific discoveries may be found in the Florissant Fossil beds.

If the budget squeeze will not permit acquisition and development of the National Monument at this time, by all means authorize the acquisition of the land before it is too late. Do not compromise on a smaller monument.

Sincerely,

MARGARET M. BIVANS.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., May 26, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: I will be unable to attend the Public hearing of the proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument on May 29th to be held in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Yes I have seen the Florissant Fossil Beds twice and I can say it is something exhibited to view, especially something unusual or worthy of notice. As I look at it from a standpoint of a National Monument within this 6,000-acres and no more land added to this proposed National Monument, I will support the study committee as well, as both Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick of Colorado in their proposal of Senate Bill 912 for a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument for Colorado.

Cordially,

LESLIE M. CORNFORTH.

DENVER, COLO., May 21, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: In regards to the H.R. 6223 and H.R. 5953 respectively. We, as an individual and also group of the Audubon Society, would like very much for you to do all you can on this bill in regards to helping preserve this natural beauty of our great state of Colorado.

Few states of this great country of ours can boast of such natural beauty and only our Maker could have created such a phenomenal wonder and beauty.

Too many of our natural and historical places are giving way to commercial enterprises. Let's preserve these great heritages that have been handed down to us from our past generations.

Thanking you and hoping you will use your influence to help preserve this wonder of our country. Act now before it is too late.

Sincerely,

JOHN C. MCGUIRE.

LEONARD & DOLE,
San Francisco, June 2, 1969.

Re Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Please support Senate Bill 912 by Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick to protect these unique fossils.

Sincerely,

RICHARD M. LEONARD.

GOLDEN, COLO., May 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We are indeed fortunate to have discovered the unique and priceless Florissant Fossil Beds near Colorado Springs. It is with great concern that these be preserved for all mankind.

I would like to go on record as being in favor of S. 912, and urge that it be presented to Congress during this session.

Sincerely yours,

DOROTHY H. HAHERL.

CORTEZ, COLO., May 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee, Parks and Recreation, Committee on Interior and
Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

This is in regard to the hearing in Colorado Springs May 29 regarding the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

I believe that it is most important to set aside all the area possible to preserve these fossils for future and present study.

GEORGE W. KELLY.

SAN DIEGO, CALIF., June 9, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: As chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee, I earnestly request that you back the Florissant Fossil Beds in Colorado as a National Monument. Here is a rare collection of insect, leaf and flora fossils know world-wide to the paleontologists. Inform Congress of this valuable addition to our National Parks system if you will to receive authorization and provide the necessary funds.

Very truly,

AGNES M. BEHRENS.

DENVER, COLO., May 26, 1969.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I have read of the Colorado Springs hearing on establishing a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. I am unable to attend but wish to go on record as strongly in favor.

I understand that real estate interests are already eager to invade this unique collection of fossils and geologic specimens of many kinds.

I propose that the 12,000 acres be designated a National Monument plus the 6,000 proposed by the National Park Service.

We are losing much of our wilderness areas, this one is unique and Congress should act now before prices go up anymore, or before these fossils are damaged.

Sincerely,

ALICE MARSHALL.

NEWARK, DEL., June 10, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and
Insular Affairs, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: I urge the Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments to approve without delay creation of a 6,000 acre Florissant National Monument. The fossils found at Florissant are unique; nowhere else in the world are fossils of this geologic period known to exist.

In order that the minimum 6,000 acre site may be established, land acquisition must be given top priority over development. The land will never be cheaper and if Congress is concerned about economy, any costly development surely can be postponed in favor of immediate land acquisition. Again, I urge this Subcommittee to act now to preserve the matchless Florissant fossil beds.

Very truly yours,

DENNIS NEUZIL, D. Eng.

SAN DIEGO, CALIF., June 10, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I would appreciate your support of the Florissant Fossil Beds in Colorado as a national monument. I feel it would be a valuable addition to our National Park System.

Thank you.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. EDITH CATTORINI.

ASPEN, COLO., June 12, 1969.

Attention: Chairman Alan Bible:

We believe Senate Bill 912 introduced by Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick to establish a 6,000 acre Florissant Fossil Bed National Monument in Teller County, Colorado should be passed.

This is the only area that Rocky Mountain flora, insects and fauna fossils of the Oligocene Period exist. It therefore should be preserved for public viewing and paleontology.

JOHN P. MUELLER.

ELEANOR C. MUELLER.

MARVIN HATAMI & ASSOCIATES,
Denver, Colo., June 5, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: Please include in the hearing record my support for the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

NOEL COPELAND.

DENVER, COLO., June 5, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: I am writing you in support of S. 912 introduced by Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick to establish the 6000-acre Florissant Fossil Beds as a National Monument.

The preservation of this scientific treasure is of extreme importance. It is one of two fossil sites of the Oligocene Era which are known to exist in mid-continental North America, and it is unique in the variety and abundance of Oligocene life preserved. Since its discovery in 1874 paleontologists from all over the world have visited the site. About 50 scientific books and papers have resulted from a study of the Florissant fossils.

It seems incredible that a nation as oriented to science as this is, will fail to preserve this important area for all time. I am confident that you and your committee will act favorably on S. 912.

However, it is necessary for action to be taken this year on land acquisition if the fossil beds are to be acquired at a reasonable cost or even to be saved at all. The site is imminently threatened by mountain home developments and other encroachments. The estimated acquisition cost is about one million dollars, a miniscule percentage of our total national budget. If Congress is concerned about economy, top priority should be given to land acquisition over development, which can wait.

Yours sincerely,

HENRY D. TEFFT, Jr.

DENVER, COLO., June 10, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Interior Committee,
Senate Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We are writing on behalf of the Florissant Fossil Beds in Colorado. Having seen a most informative program on TV last night, we feel

the need to preserve this very important piece of land. Therefore, we strongly urge that it become a national monument or state park in the near future.

Very truly yours,

JANE JACKSON.
JANET HEBARD.

BOULDER, COLO., May 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Interior and Insular Affairs
Committee, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: This letter is intended for inclusion in the Congressional Record of the hearings on Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. Colorado Springs, May 29, 1969. Other people will address themselves to the unique scientific aspects of the proposed monument; I would like to emphasize a different point.

Exciting episodes in earth history are recorded in the land all around us. Most people need some help in reading this record. There are many places in the country, such as Grand Canyon, where the record is longer and more varied than it is at Florissant, but these areas are often on such a vast scale that an average person is incapable of grasping the full story, or seeing all the evidence, in a reasonable period of time.

At Florissant, the record is short and the evidence is unusually complete and compactly located. With skillful excavations and displays by the National Park Service, a visitor in a short time can see all the evidence by which earth scientists read the record of the old Florissant environment. He will see more than the superb fossils; he will see how scientists use the fossils, and their enclosing strata, to deduce what the climate, the geography, the topography, and the geology (the volcanic eruptions) were like during that period of geologic time. Florissant can be an excellent working educational monument like Dinosaur National Monument, only better in that the greater variety of fossils allows a more complete restoration of the environment that existed at the time.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM C. BRADLEY,
Chairman, Department of Geological Sciences.

ARVADA, COLO., May 29, 1969.

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: You are to be commended for calling a field hearing this date at Colorado Springs, Colo. and thus giving people an opportunity to state their wishes concerning the destiny of that part of the fossil beds which can still be saved from destruction or uncontrolled exploitation.

Every consideration should be given to establishing a national monument that will include at least the six thousand acres which can be procured at this time, and which is pertinent to the overall scope of the monument as proposed by the National Park Service.

This land should be placed in control of the National Park Service just as soon as possible. Proposals for this important national monument have come up repeatedly thru the past years, and with each delay there have been more encroachments that have reduced the available area.

Emphasis should be put on acquiring the land *now*. If funding indicates a delay in development, it seems reasonable that some of the existing buildings (on the land purchased) would be adaptable to use for administrative and service work associated with the monument.

As former residents of Teller County, we petition you to act in favor of Senate Bill 912 sponsored by Senators Allott and Dominick. Likewise, it is hoped that you will consider and support the similar proposals of H.R. 5953 and H.R. 6223 which have been introduced in the House by Representatives Brotzman and Evans.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM F. WACKLER.
MARY E. WACKLER.

SALINAS, CALIF., June 12, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: The Florissant fossil beds are unique in the entire world and irreplaceable; their value to the scientific world is priceless; they are part and parcel of the history of this world and offer endless study opportunities to the professional and amateur scientist; they open vistas of interest to even the layman. Delay in setting aside this invaluable 6000 acres as the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument will invite encroachment, destruction and/or soaring land prices which will place it beyond purchase possibilities. The American people already have had this sad situation in parklands authorized but without appropriation funds designated so that inflation prices have threatened the entire plan.

We strongly urge that the acquisition of these 6000 acres be made immediately; the development can be handled when our nation is not so heavily burdened; but do not let short-sighted economy measures deprive us of acquiring this heritage. Efforts of the past 16 years on the part of dedicated citizens has brought us to this moment of decision; let it be the right one; establishment of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

Sincerely,

VIRGINIA BACHER.
F. A. BACHER, Jr.

MARVIN HATAMI & ASSOCIATES,
Denver, Colo., June 10, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I wish to express my support of Senate Bill 912, and the movement to establish a 6,000-acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado.

Sincerely,

R. K. FULLER.

DENVER, COLO.

Senator GORDON ALLOTT,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I urge immediate action to acquire 6,000 acres, with development postponed, if necessary.

Since my visit to the area in 1966, I have followed the inaction of Congress on this matter and find it hard to believe a National Monument of such a unique character could be delayed for 16 years.

Sincerely,

Mrs. HARRY BERMAN.

NORTH CONWAY, N.H., June 4, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR ALAN BIBLE: We are writing to support the Senate Bill 912 to establish a 6,000-acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado. We feel very strongly that these irreplaceable fossil beds which are found nowhere else on earth should be protected and preserved for the future. It would be a terrible mistake to postpone this proposed Monument any longer due to housing development and other commercial encroachments. The American people must look to the future and preserve *now* our valuable unique fossil beds. Fossil beds aren't made overnight!

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. GARY FRITZ.

DENVER, COLO.

Senator GORDON ALLOTT,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: On a recent trip to the fossil beds at Florissant, Colorado, I saw that mountain cabins are being constructed.

Won't you please use the power of your office to preserve this geological treasure from further destruction by voting to make the area a National Monument.

Respectfully yours,

Mrs. MELBA R. BENNETT.

DENVER, COLO., June 12, 1969.

Senator HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: Please speed action on bills already introduced to preserve the fossil beds in the Florissant, Colorado area as a National Monument.

Real estate development moves fast. Landowners must be reached and offered comparable prices.

Houses can be built on many alternate types of land rather than over fossil beds where the pre-history of the land can be read in the land itself. I have personally found part of a fern and a snail "imprinted" in layers of shale there.

Let's preserve our *natural history* right where it can be "read".

Thank you.

Yours,

Mrs. BLANCHE WALTERS.

MORRISON & MORRISON, INC.,
Denver, Colo., June 9, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: I have been watching with interest the hearings about Senate Bill 912 to establish a 6,000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado.

I would like to have my positive interest in this bill recorded in the hearings of your subcommittee. As a member of the Mile High Chapter of the Izaak Walton League, I have been interested in the luncheon conversations our group has had about this bill. I am pleased that my Republican senators, Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick have introduced this prospective legislation.

Sincerely yours,

JERRY HIGGINSON.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., May 31, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: We attended the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument Field Hearing on May 29, in Colorado Springs, so know that you have all the facts, as they were brought out there.

As the price of this land will constantly become higher, we urge you now to do all within your power to see that it is purchased as soon as possible.

Yours for a new and unique National Monument.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. NOBLE J. MILLER.

MADISON, WIS., June 3, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I am writing in strong support of S. 912, which establishes the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. The Florissant Beds are a unique resource which must be protected against subdivision and commercial development. Homes can be built elsewhere, but there is only one Florissant,

a place I hope my grandchildren will be allowed to see. The 6,000 acres proposed in the bill is the minimum size the monument should be.

Sincerely yours,

PAUL FISHBANE.

FORT COLLINS, COLO., June 3, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,

Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I wish to lend my support to bill S. 912 to establish the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. Such an unique area I feel is certainly worthy of preservation, and that the acquisition of the land containing them is an urgent matter. Whatever development may be necessary to make them accessible and to protect them can come later.

Very truly yours,

MARIE V. YOUNG.

NORMAN, OKLA., March 8, 1968.

HON. GORDON ALLOTT,
*U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR ALLOTT: I am writing to urge you to support a bill providing for a 6000-acre Florissant National Monument in Colorado. Having learned that a House bill (H.R. 5605) has been passed which would create a 1000-acre National Monument, I am moved to ask you to help pass a measure that would increase the area to be set aside in this locality. In my opinion it is far more important to spend money on the acquisition of land than on development of the area.

Yours sincerely,

KENNETH L. TAYLOR.

DENVER, COLO., June 4, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,

*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: My wife and I most heartily support Senate Bill 912, authorizing government purchase and development of 6000 acres in Colorado for the proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

Sincerely yours,

ROGER A. MILSTREY.

GREEN MOUNTAIN RANCH,
Buffalo Creek, Colo., May 30, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MUSEUMS,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: Colorado has so many spots of beauty, some saved, some let get away, for so called "Progress"; so we should keep for our own coming generations to enjoy those interesting fossil beds near Florissant, Colorado.

My father ran cattle on the open range, and I knew that huge petrified redwood stump, with saw broken off when trying to split it to take to 1904 World's Fair, when it was the only stump uncovered. I have a picture sitting on top of it.

All through the years I have taken, my children, friends, all who are interested there to marvel at the trees, dig for fossils; and in a way, be educated.

If we do not save these 6,000 acres for posterity, we are not the intelligent, thinking people who built our great Nation.

Yours truly,

An Old Cowpoke
ETHEL C. MYERS.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., May 29, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I feel it is extremely important that the Florissant Fossil beds be preserved for posterity. I am a native of Colorado, and I am very familiar with the area in question. These beds are invaluable from the geological viewpoint. As an outdoorsman and naturalist, I feel that a portion of wilderness should be preserved in this area, because land speculation and subdivision have seriously endangered the native flora and fauna in the area. This area in severe winters serves also as winter range for at least a part of the Pikes Peak elk herd. This herd's range is rapidly being depleted and subdivided. It is my sincere wish that this 6,000-acre tract be preserved and protected from any future development.

A. MARK HORVAT.

COMANCHE VETERINARY CLINIC,
Kiowa, Colo., May 27, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARK AND RECREATION,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: On the subject of the establishment of a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado, please include the following statement in the record of the hearings to be held May 29 at Colorado Springs, Colorado.

I wish to urge the subcommittee to strongly recommend that the full 6,000 acre fossil beds area be acquired immediately before further encroachments are made on this valuable geological formation.

Sincerely,

DUANE L. HOWE, D.V.M.

DENVER, COLO., June 2, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: This letter is in regard to Senate Bill 912 to establish the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado.

I hope that it will be decided to purchase the 6,000 acres necessary to establish this area as a National Monument. As I understand it, the price is within reason now and although no development could take place because of lack of funds, at least the land would be set aside. We need more big areas, especially ones of archeological and historic value such as this one, set aside for people to use and enjoy.

Please do all you can to preserve the Florissant Fossil beds.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. RUTH JOHNSON.

GREELEY, COLO., May 21, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: We cannot live up to the potential of Colorful Colorado unless we establish a large (minimum 6,000 acre) Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

Reduction of acreage and postponement of action
equal

Extravagance and blight

Acquisition of this unique area will be easier and cheaper now! Establish Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument before we are all fossils!

Very truly yours,

JOSEPHINE B. JONES.

DENVER, COLO., May 20, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.:

I wish to go on record as strongly supporting Senate Bill S. 912 (Allot & Dominick) for the establishment of a 6,000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado.

This is a marvelously unique area which *must* be preserved. I've visited the beds and also seen the possible & immediately probable encroachment by real estate interests. *Please* acquire this land *now*—to save it at the very least. Considerations necessary to developing it can be planned later—but Florissant must be set aside right away!

Sincerely yours,

CAROLYN KERCHECK.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., May 27, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I wish to express my concern over the preservation and acquisition of the Florissant Fossil Beds west of Colorado Springs.

Part of our heritage today is dependent on the foresight of the conservationist of the past and we can and should continue to meet our responsibility for the next generation. The scientific value alone should justify the dedication of the area as a National Monument. I hope the committee can *first* proceed with acquisition of the total area since funds are limited so the area can be protected until the National Park Service can budget for management and development.

Yours very truly,

B. G. BOVEL.

MAY 29, 1969.

DEAR SIR: We are very much in favor of Bill (Senate) 912, to establish a 6,000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds Nat'l Monument in Teller Co., Colorado.

I feel that it is very important to acquire this land before the fossils are destroyed by land developers.

Very truly yours,

Mr. and Mrs. J. BERNARD BOYLE.

LONGMONT, COLO., May 22, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.:

I strongly urge that land acquisition to the 6,000-acre Florissant Fossil Beds be given top priority. These unique beds are valuable for the delicacy with which thousands of fragile insects, tree foliage, and other forms of life have been preserved that are not found, or are extremely rare in most paleontological sites of this period.

Here we may gaze on fossil flora, leaves and insects that lived twenty-five million years ago. More than 1000 species of insects—including the tsetse fly of southern Africa—have been found in fossil form here.

In this area are petrified tree stumps of a *Rea Arborae* or Sequoia Redwood seventy-four feet in circumference. Here, 8,200 feet above sea level, is the record of great change that is unique. These stumps reveal that a huge forest of hardwood varieties such as walnut, oak, maple, and pine were mixed with trees that are now found only in China, West Indies, Mexico and California.

Only at Florissant are the Rocky Mountain insects, plants, flowers and animals of the Oligocene geologic period preserved! I strongly urge that this area be obtained by the government NOW. It can be developed as a National Monument in later years.

Sincerely yours,

SELETHA BROWN,
Travel Columnist for the Longmont Ledger.

ST. PETER'S,
Greeley, Colo., May 21, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: It has come to my attention that a Senate Bill known as 912 has been introduced by Senators Allott and Dominick to establish a six thousand acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado.

I remember as a child and young man this area which has proved so fascinating because of its archaeological treasures. It would be a tragedy to see this land used for subdivisions. Too much of our countryside, it seems to me, is being used for this purpose.

It would be my hope that this Bill would be passed quickly by Congress.

Respectfully yours,

OWEN J. McHUGH, *Pastor.*

ENGLEWOOD, COLO.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS.

GENTLEMEN: I am writing this to indicate my support of Senate Bill S. 912 and deep interest in the acquiring of the 6,000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds in Teller County to be used as a National Monument.

Mrs. IRENE L. KAHAN.

BOULDER, COLO., May 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: It is not possible for us to attend the hearing May 29 in Colorado Springs on establishing the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado. We, therefore, wish to go on record as favoring Senate Bill S. 912 introduced by Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick of Colorado to establish a 6,000 acre Florissant National Monument.

We visited this area in the summer of 1967 and agree that this unique area should be established immediately. Let us acquire the land now and, if necessary, postpone the development.

Truly yours,

Mr. and Mrs. R. K. KEITH.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., May 22, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: I would like to state that I am strongly in favor of establishing the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument near Florissant, Colorado. This is a unique area of great importance and interest to the general public, and should be preserved for generations to come. If the Federal Government does not establish this as a national monument, in a few years it will be a desecrated geologic waste land.

I was the recipient of the 1968 Colorado Conservationist of the Year Award sponsored by the Colorado Wildlife Federation and the Sears Roebuck Foundation. I received the award for work done in having city watershed areas open for public recreation. I have found through this work that private areas can be opened for public use under proper conditions and the actual beauty of the area will be increased. I believe under the auspices of federal government, the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument would be one of the great areas of geological interest in the United States and would be opened to people for generations to come. In addition, the area would in fact improve in beauty and function.

Very truly yours,

SANDY F. KRAEMER.

COLORADO PETRIFIED FOREST,
Florissant, Colo., June 11, 1969.

Re Senate bill 912, the establishment of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

HON. GORDON ALLOTT,
Senator from Colorado,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I was not permitted to testify at the Colorado Springs, Colorado hearing and would like the testimony to be completed with the addition of my statement.

We as owners and operators of the Colorado Petrified Forest are not in agreement with the valuation on our properties. The Interior Department's valuation on the commercial operation is less than the property cost over 40 years ago. I can assure you that a good market does exist in this area for any and all property that is available.

Sincerely yours,

AGNES R. SINGER.
ROBERT C. SINGER.

BLACK FOREST, COLO.

HON. GORDON ALLOTT,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I believe that you are aware of the crisis that will befall our state (and the whole nation) if the Florissant Fossil and petrified forest is not saved for all posterity. The only way to make this possible is through making it a National Monument. There is a bill up in the Senate and in the House concerning this, and it must be acted upon *now*, before it is too late. I, along with many others, urge you to please make the proposed Florissant National Monument a reality.

Most sincerely yours,

PETER G. BARRON.

DEER TRAIL, COLO., May 29, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: The Petrified Forest and Florissant Beds are larger than what I have heard they were. I have not been there. I have heard of them at different times. They should be set aside as a park or monument, especially as it is the only one of its kind in the Western United States.

Not too many years ago, an older friend of mine (now deceased) told of moving a sheep herders camp in that part of the country. He arrived at a good location shortly after dark. There was plenty of dry wood. He was going to build a bonfire so the herder would know where to go. When his axe hit the wood, there was a shower of sparks and the axe bounced off. He went on quite a ways before he found wood that would burn. Later, he was shown another axe that was ruined, from the same wood.

The park should be purchased now, and developed later, when funds are available. Before long, it will be too late.

Yours truly,

CARL R. SMITH.

LONGMONT, COLO., May 20, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: Because of the unique assemblage of floral and faunal fossils contained in the Florissant Fossil Beds, Teller County, Colorado, I believe it is imperative that a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument of at least 6000 acres be established for the enlightenment and pleasure of present and future generations; and that procedures and monies to acquire the land for said National Monument should be implemented at once.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

MYRA M. STITZEL.

LOVELAND, COLO., May 21, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: Since we have visited the Florissant Fossil Beds and marveled at their historic and geological value we heartily endorse the establishment of a 6,000-acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado as proposed in S.B. 912 as introduced by Senators Gordon Allott and Peter H. Dominick of Colorado. This is a critical period for their acquisition in that commercial interests wish to take over a greater portion of the area for development, which would destroy forever 'that which God had wrought' for man's edification and pleasure. It would seem that we are living in times when few things are sacred and we deplore the continuing endeavors to obliterate the wonderful handiworks of nature.

Sincerely,

JOHN STREAM.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF., June 2, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I urge your favorable consideration of immediate land acquisition for establishment of an adequate Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

The alternative to establishing a park and/or monument in favor of a housing subdivision should so gag the sensitivities of thinking persons that it would appear obvious that this land has to be preserved for future generations. What else but cheap commercialism would press for destruction of such priceless property?

Yours truly,

J. J. STRONG.

AURORA, COLO., May 26, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: Since I am unable to attend the public hearing on the establishment of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, I would like this statement of support included in the record of the hearing.

I would strongly urge that the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument be established as soon as possible with a minimum of 6000 of the over 12000 acres of fossil bed included in the monument. Current reports on impending development and increasing land prices make it imperative that the land be obtained now. While this could be said about many places, the fossil beds are both unique in nature and irreplaceable. Once the bulldozers move in, no amount of money can replace the fossil beds.

In looking at our national debt, we are borrowing against the future, maybe we owe some consideration to the future. Maybe some small part of the money should be used to save things like the fossil beds and open space. Development can come later, the important thing is that the land be saved.

Sincerely,

CHARLIE J. PARKS, Jr.

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLO., May 27, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: This is to advise that I am in favor of Senate Bill 912 to establish a 6000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado.

Thanking you in advance, I am,

Yours sincerely,

HUGH S. RICHARDS, M.D.

ROCKHOUNDS, INC.,
Fort Collins, Colo.

Senator GORDON ALLOTT,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: Let it be known to all interested parties, that the entire membership of ninety people, of the Fort Collins Rockhounds Inc., are fully behind the efforts to instigate Federal Legislation, to create a National Monument of the Florissant Fossil Beds at Florissant, Colo.

Sincerely,

DON ROBINSON, *President.*

DENVER, COLO., May 25, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I respectfully request that this letter be entered into the written record favoring the acquisition of the full 6000 acres for a Florissant Beds National Monument, in accord with Senate Bill 912 and House bills H.R. 6223 and H.R. 5953 respectively. My reasons are these:

1. The principle applies in this, as in most Conservation causes, of immediacy and urgency. "Undeveloped" areas lie constantly under threat of bulldozers and commercial or residential construction, which means the death of a natural area, with its scenic, scientific, and ecological values.

2. The Florissant fossil beds represent a unique remnant of the geologic ages of the past, specifically the Oligocene period, and hence their loss would be irreparable, since there is none to equal it or replace it.

3. The rapidly rising cost of land, there as everywhere, makes it imperative that acquisition take place this year. To wait longer will soon place the cost out of reach, even for a Congress that appropriates billions for defense!

4. The extremely small area of Colorado in National Parks and Monuments, wholly preserved for posterity, stands in stark contrast to the thousands of acres gobbled up for residential development; and even the National Forests, which are subject to "multiple use"—meaning exploitation of all kinds, including commercial.

Therefore, as an individual, and a member of more than one Conservation group, I urge that legislation be expedited this year to establish Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, to the extent of *at least* 6000 acres, as proposed in the bills mentioned.

Very sincerely,

Rev. ARVIN W. Roos.

DENVER, COLO., May 19, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: As a resident of Colorado, I am interested in the allocation of six thousand acres for the Florissant National Monument.

Far too much of our American heritage is being squandered in the name of progress. We must save our spots of natural beauty and our prehistoric fossil beds.

I understand that you will soon hold hearings on this subject in Colorado Springs; when you come to Colorado, perhaps you will be enthralled by our western wonderland. I sincerely hope so!

Sincerely yours,

ELEANOR C. RUFF.

DENVER, COLO., May 21, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: For more than forty years I have been familiar with the fossil beds at Florissant, Colorado, and known of their relative importance from both historical and geological standpoints. With others, I have been anxious that this important area might come under public control and development and have wondered why it had not done so much sooner.

Not so much as a Colorado native do I request that prompt and vigorous steps be taken to preserve and develop this area for the public benefit—I do so as an interested American for the benefit of the world!

Neither should it be considered that such a step will cost the people. Instead, it will save for the people!

Since I will not be able to attend the public hearing, I take this opportunity to make known my views and to urge favorable action by Congress. Please let my statement be made a part of the hearing record.

Very truly yours,

E. J. SCHAEETZEL.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., June 5, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: As a native Coloradoan and a present resident of Colorado Springs, Colorado, I am very much interested in the establishment of the proposed Florissant Fossil Beds as a National Monument, thirty-five miles west of Colorado Springs.

The area is situated in a scenic mountain valley near the small community of Florissant, Colorado. The area is threatened with mountain home subdivisions and other commercial encroachments.

Nearby areas are being developed at this time. It is therefore imperative that this Monument be established without loss of another year.

Unless Congress takes prompt and decisive action to acquire the 6000 acres of land, irreplaceable fossil beds found nowhere else on earth will fall victim to real estate promoters and heavy equipment operation.

As in many other areas of the country soaring land prices will soon put the Florissant area out of the reach of the American people. There is increasing development in our mountain areas within 20 to 50 miles west of Colorado Springs for summer homes. It is readily accessible and an ideal climate.

It is therefore requested that every action possible be taken to have Congress purchase the 6000 acres this year for the proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, Colorado.

Very truly yours,

HAROLD E. SEELY.

DENVER, COLO., May 21, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.
(Attention: Senator Alan Bible, chairman).

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: I feel it is very necessary to buy the 6,000 acres of fossil land at Florissant, Colorado in accordance with Bill # S. 912.

Support Florissant acquisition now, Development Later!

Sincerely yours,

BETTY JO SHANKS
Mrs. Jack W. Shanks.

LONGMONT, COLO., May 21, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We note from an article in the *Denver Post* (May 18, 1969) that you will be holding hearings on the Florissant fossil beds in Colorado Springs later this month. We regret that we will be unable to attend the hearings, but we wish to make our views known to you and to perhaps have them entered in the record of the hearings.

We have been to the Florissant area and have seen both the plant and insect fossils, as well as the fossilized remains of the Redwood trees. They are, indeed, impressive. Although we are not professional paleontologists or "conservationists", it is obvious to us that these fossil bed must be preserved. It would be a tragedy if fossils which have endured for 40 million years should be lost through our negligence.

We have seen the cabin "developments" in the area, so we realize that Congress must not delay in the establishment of a national monument in Florissant, lest private interests once again remove from public access something which we should all be proud to own. It is, moreover, extremely unfortunate that the original 6,000 acres proposed has been chopped to 1,000, and we urge that the original boundaries be reestablished. Congress should be willing to allocate funds enough to include all the fossils—and before land values "sky-rocket."

Sincerely yours,

Mr. and Mrs. ROGER CHARLTON.

LONGMONT, COLO., May 25, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I would like to express my support for the establishment of Florissant National monument in Teller County.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM A. CHELLA.

DENVER, COLO., May 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Senate Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments.

DEAR SIR. Florissant has something to teach us, and it teaches with the impact of reality. A sequoia stump standing in the exact spot where it grew some 35 million years ago brings into the mind's eye a whole forest of these great trees surrounding a little lake, and the never-never land of pre-history slowly becomes real, and becomes part of *our place*. With fingers tracing the fossil of an insect that once buzzed around this very valley, one begins to *feel* that life on the entire crust of the earth, 35 million years ago, is part of *our* remote history. Florissant leads beyond book learning, to excitement and significance.

As a Senator, you have done your part to "give us the Moon", and perhaps you feel that one of the important parts of this achievement is an adventure of the spirit—a more competent measure of space and time, and a better grip on what it can mean to be human. I hope you will judge that Florissant offers an inexpensive way to put an adventure of the spirit within the reach of everybody. I hope you will resolve to keep this "time bridge" intact. It gives us one more probe into the most formidable frontier of all—the unfolding of humanity.

Sincerely yours,

JOY COOMBS.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., May 29, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: As a member of The Wilderness Society, I am strongly in favor of Senate Bill 912, which calls for immediate purchase of 6,000 acres of the Florissant Fossil Beds. If this land isn't acquired now, land developers will have it subdivided in the near future, and all wilderness aspects of the area will be lost. This valley is also an important winter feeding ground for elk, which will disappear with the building of summer homes.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. RUTH S. MCKOWN.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., May 29, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: In regard to the Florissant Fossil Beds, I strongly urge that this remarkable geological formation be established as a National Monument.

Florissant is unique, no where else on this Earth are fossils like this known to exist. Congressional action on this matter has been pending for more than five years. In the meantime, land developers have been eating away at this great American treasure.

If the routes of normal legislation are too slow and tedious, I urge you to persuade President Nixon to proclaim this land a National Monument, an action, I am told, within his executive power.

Sincerely yours,

LORRAINE BURGESS
Mrs. Guy Burgess.

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS,
Washington, D.C., May 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee Hearing,
Colorado Springs, Colo.:

The General Federation of Women's Clubs supports establishments of Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument so that the area will be preserved intact for scientific purposes and for future generations.

MRS. WALTER VARNEY MAGEE,
President.

CARBONDALE, COLO., May 26, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: As residents of Colorado, we wish to give our full support to the proposal that a National Monument be established at the Florissant Fossil Beds as set forth in Senate Bill 912, introduced by Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick of this State. It would be an irreparable loss to the State, the country, and even the world if this unique fossil bed area were allowed to fall into the hands of developers of real estate either residential or commercial and be destroyed.

Very truly yours,

COURTLANDT D. BARNES.
KATHERINA MCCORMICK BARNES.

DENVER, COLO., May 23, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: While a student at the University of Chicago in 1925, I first heard about the wonders of the Florissant fossil beds west of Colorado Springs, Colo., but it was not until a week ago that I had the opportunity to visit the area.

With its abundance of paleobotany specimens and its gigantic petrified Sequoia stumps still in place, this is surely a unique area, and should not be allowed to be desecrated and destroyed by housing developments. It certainly should be under the protection of our National Park Service.

I ask your active support in this endeavor.

Very truly yours,

JOSEPH L. BORDEN.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO.

DEAR CONGRESS: My name is Lynn Goodman and I live on 2107 Bryant Avenue. I know my letter is one of about a thousand but I think you should make Florissant a national monument. But one thing I disagree about is making Cristal Peak Estates touching the monument and also with Colorado Mountain Estates.

May 4-9 I went to Mr. Sandborns camp (High Trails Outdoor Education Center) and I enjoyed it very much and I hope that you will make it a national monument because I love the wildlife and I vote to keep it.

Sincerely,

LYNN GOODMAN.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO.,
May 28, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
SENATE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: The Florissant Fossil Beds of Colorado are a rarity of great worth to the American people.

I entreat you to take action to make this geological formation a permanent part of the American Heritage. No where else in the world is there a fossil deposit of such great worth.

Yours truly,

GUY BURGESS.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO.,
June 2, 1969.

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: In lieu of my presence at the hearing on the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument (Senate Bill 912) on May 29, 1969, at Colorado Springs, Colorado, I am sending you this statement:

I am strongly *in favor* of establishing a 6,000-acre designated area for the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument *immediately*; acquisition should take priority over development, if economy is of first consideration, because there is threat of encroachment by commercial subdivision development.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. DOROTHY GUMAER.

SOUTHERN COLORADO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT,
Pueblo, Colo., June 3, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Parks and Recreation Subcommittee,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The Southern Colorado Economic Development District would like to express its support for Senate Bill 912 which would establish the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County of our District. We regret that we were unable to personally appear at your hearings in Colorado Springs.

Tourist attractions represent one of the chief resources available in our seventeen county area of Southern Colorado. Any development which would serve to attract a greater number of visitors into Southern Colorado is a definite contribution to our efforts to inject new vitality into the District's economy. We are especially anxious to encourage development which will stimulate the isolated and depressed counties participating in our program. The \$2.4 million in initial development cost, plus the \$143,000 annual projected operating costs of the proposed Monument would provide a new spark not only to the economy of Teller County, but to all the tourist-orientated areas of the Southern Colorado Economic Development District. This is clear from the projected four-fold increase in tourist visitations (from the present annual 26,000 to 104,000) to the fossil beds upon designation as a National Monument.

It is our understanding that recommendations made before June 16 will be included as part of the testimony of the hearings. We would like to request that this statement be included in that testimony.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS V. HEALY,
Chairman of the Board of Directors.

GRAND JUNCTION, COLO., May 27, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: I hope you will look with favor upon establishment of a Florissant monument as this area is one of the better known and best example of Oligo-

cene period Mountain flowers and animal life—including insects and non-flowering plants.

As you probably are aware, Sequoia Redwoods stumps are within the proposed area of the monument as well as palms—naturally these are all fossilized but the fact that they are such good examples should make them important to preserve.

It is my understanding that due to the long delay in setting the area aside that is being threatened with mountain homes—as you well know most of these homes really become shanties and dispoilers of the natural area. Too many people try to get away from city life and settle in similar areas, only to find that the life of seclusion which they desired, is found by many others and has been commercialized by real estate agents. It is a vicious cycle and the natural surrounds are the main sufferers as when the people suddenly learn that they are again surrounded, they allow the building to go to pot and since nature is already destroyed, you have nothing.

Sincerely yours,

HOWARD H. HOTTES.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, *June 18, 1969.*

CHAIRMAN, SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I am very much in favor of preserving the Florissant fossil beds in Colorado in the form of a National Monument. It is extremely important to have unspoiled areas in which to do research.

Yours truly,

ELEANOR B. SMITH
Mrs. Charles C. Smith.

DENVER, COLO., *June 16, 1969.*

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I support State Bill 912 for establishment of a six thousand acre national monument to include the Florissant fossil beds in Teller County, Colorado. It is imperative that this land be acquired by the government before private ownership depletes this unique resource through property development and other misuse by the public.

Sincerely yours,

JOYCE SCHAUB.

BOULDER, COLO.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: We are in favor of the immediate establishment of a 6,000 acre (at least) National Monument at Florissant, Colorado. It is completely irresponsible to delay this action any longer. Conservation of this area (and all others) must be now or there will be nothing to conserve.

Mr. and Mrs. WM. L. JONES.

WILDERNESS PHOTOGRAPHY,
Colorado Springs, Colo., June 14, 1969.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
*Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. BIBLE: May my letter be entered into the records on the hearing regarding the Proposed Florissant National Monument. I feel that this area should not be lost as a monument and the value for the present and future generations is invaluable.

The 6,000 acres is the minimum for the monument as Senator Dominick and Senator Allott have proposed in their bills.

Thank you,

JERRY MALLETT.

DENVER, COLO., June 16, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: I want to go on record in favor of the Senate Bill #912, introduced by our own Colorado Senators, Dominick and Allott. It is imperative that the Florissant Fossil Beds be preserved for posterity, not only because of the unique characteristics of the area, but also because of the land development activities which are encroaching. If this acreage is not acquired quickly, the cost could become exorbitant. My feeling is that the minimum acreage should be 6,000.

Needless to say, as a National Monument the Florissant Fossil Beds can well be one of Colorado's most accessible internationally famous attractions for the general public as well as scientists.

Very sincerely yours,

LOUIS A. CHERBENEAU.

DENVER, COLO., June 14, 1969

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I wish to register support for Senate Bill 912 to establish a 6000-acre Florissant Fossil Bed National Monument. Personal inspection of the area has convinced me that these fossils are a national treasure not to be destroyed by the whim of a real estate developer.

ROBERT E. PRESSEY.

BOULDER, COLO., June 19, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: This note is to support as strongly as I possibly can the Senate Bill 912 introduced by Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick to establish a 6000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado. Prompt action to acquire this 6000 acre property with its irreplaceable fossil beds is important. Mountain home sub-divisions and other commercial encroachments threaten it. It is an irreplaceable part of our geological and wilderness heritage found no where else on earth. Unfortunately, commitments prevented me from attending the public hearing held June 19 in Colorado Springs, Colorado. I am writing now to express my concern and to urge that every action be taken to include this important resource in our national monument system.

Sincerely,

THORREL B. FEST.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., May 29, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The Sheriff of the Denver Posse of the Westerners has directed me to personally deliver to you the enclosed letter with signed petition by the members present at the meeting, 28 May 1969 at the Press Club in Denver, Colorado. I am confident that, had the entire membership been present, all would have supported this recommendation.

During the discussion before this petition was circulated for signatures, there was no adverse comments made, and the tenor of the discussion was the urgency with supporting this project now.

Sincerely,

JOY R. BOGUE,
Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired).

RESOLUTIONS

STATE OF COLORADO
County of Teller, ss.:

Whereas, the conservation and protection of the fossil beds located near the town of Florissant, County of Teller, Colorado, is a matter of extreme urgency and necessity; and

Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Teller, State of Colorado, is fully cognizant of the immediate need to establish a national monument to achieve the conservation and protection of the Florissant fossil beds; and

Whereas, in the opinion of the Board of County Commissioners of Teller County, Colorado, the minimum of Six Thousand (6,000) acres is required to achieve the stated purposes and to accomplish the ultimate preservation of a representative sample of the scientific data available: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Teller, State of Colorado:

(1) That the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee of the Senate Interior Committee act immediately to acquire Six Thousand-acre (6,000-acre) site and commence appropriate planning for further development by way of improvements.

(2) That the Park and Recreation Subcommittee of the Senate Interior Committee approve at the earliest possible time the proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument consisting of Six Thousand (6,000) acres.

Be it further resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee of the Senate Interior Committee, Room 3202, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

This Resolution is hereby unanimously approved and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Teller County, Colorado, this 9th day of June, 1969.

JOE B. BURNS, *Chairman.*

RALPH E. HINES, *Member.*

RAY PRIMM, *Member.*

Attest:

[SEAL]

RALPH H. DIAL,
Clerk of the Board.

STATE OF COLORADO,
County of Teller, ss:

Whereas, the Florissant Fossil Beds located in northwestern Teller County, Colorado, are well known throughout the nation and the world as being one of the most splendid and unique depositories of scientific information in the field of paleontology; and

Whereas, the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee of the Senate Interior Committee has held a formal hearing on the proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument; and

Whereas, the interests of the people of the City of Cripple Creek, the people of the State of Colorado, and the people of the United States of America, will be best served by the conservation of this scenic, scientific and historic site; and

Whereas, the need to achieve the protection, preservation and conservation of this natural asset for the enjoyment, knowledge and inspiration of the nation's citizens is so important that a special effort on the part of the City of Cripple Creek is desirable: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Cripple Creek, County of Teller, State of Colorado:

(1) That the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee of the Senate Interior Committee is hereby requested to approve, with all convenient speed, the proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

(2) *Be it further resolved*, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Mr. Charles Cook, Senate Interior Committee, 3202 New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

Unanimously approved and adopted by the City Council of the City of Cripple Creek, County of Teller, State of Colorado this 4th day of June, 1969.

ARTHUR F. TREMAYNE,
Mayor of the City of Cripple Creek.

Attest:

[SEAL]

EDITH E. MARSHALL,
City Clerk.

STATE OF COLORADO,
County of Teller, ss:

Whereas, the fossil beds located near the town of Florissant, Teller County, Colorado, have been proposed as a national monument; and

Whereas, there is an urgent need to conserve the Florissant fossil beds for the benefit of the American public, in that private ownership and development con-

stitute an immediate threat to the preservation and conservation of this area; and

Whereas, the City Council of the City of Victor, County of Teller, State of Colorado, recognizes that irreparable damage will result from any further private development of the fossil bed site: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Victor, County of Teller, State of Colorado:

(1) That the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee of the Senate Interior Committee approve at the earliest possible time the proposed Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument of a six thousand (6,000) acre tract.

(2) That the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee of the Senate Interior Committee adopt the plan for a 6,000-acre national monument which provides for the maximum protection against adverse developments, and results in the best use of the land involved.

Be it further resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee of the Senate Interior Committee, Room 3202, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

Approved and unanimously adopted by the City Council of the City of Victor, Teller County, Colorado, this — day of June, 1969.

ARTHUR B. WALLACE,
Mayor of the City of Victor.

Attest:
[SEAL]

IRMA F. SNODGRASS,
City Clerk.

Be it resolved, That the Young Democrats of Colorado urge the creation of a 6,000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument as proposed in the Evans bill (HR 6223), and urge further that, if there is any shortage of funds, available be spent now on land acquisition in the Lake Beds to a 6,000 acre monument.

PETITIONS

WEBER STATE COLLEGE,
Ogden, Utah, May 3, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: In the best interest of our own and future generations, we, as faculty members at Weber State College, strongly urge you to support the movement to establish a "Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument." This area contains fossils of a type found nowhere else in the world. As you know, the area is being developed for housing and will be lost to the people of our country if the monument is not established.

Sincerely,

(The above petition was signed by 14 faculty members of Weber State College.)

We, the undersigned, teachers and students of Stratton School, Colorado Springs, Colorado, would very much request that you save and preserve the Florissant Fossil Beds near Florissant, Colorado, and make it a National Monument. The following statements are only a few of the reasons why you should save the Florissant Fossil Beds:

1. Fossils found in the Florissant Beds are not known to be found anywhere else in the entire world.
2. Fossils, bones, etc., from the past are important in the studies of prehistoric life.
3. This 6,000 acres will never be cheaper!!
4. Some National Monuments are so crowded you can't get in! We need more National Monuments to keep up with the population explosion.
5. We would rather look at a National Monument than a huge housing project.
6. We will be destroying valuable fossils if we build houses on them.
7. If you can spend billions of dollars on going to the moon, can't you spend a little on another National Monument?

8. These fossil beds should be preserved for generations yet to be born.
9. The beds give more information to science.
10. Destroying the fossils would be like running a bulldozer through a cemetery.

A few reasons for having 6,000 acres instead of 1,000 are:

1. By cutting the 6,000 acres to 1,000 acres, you will be annihilating many irreplaceable fossils.

2. Another reason is that all of the National Monuments average 108,247 acres. Imagine having only 1,000 acres.

We implore you not to let some of the world's most priceless and interesting fossils be sacrificed to "progress."

A quote from the well-known David Brower is: "People don't know what they've missed here—and they never will."

(The above petition had 441 signatures, teachers and students of Stratton School.)

PHILADELPHIA, PA., May 28, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,

Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We, the undersigned members of the scientific staff of The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, acting jointly as concerned citizens, wish to endorse Senate Bill 912, introduced by Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick, to establish a Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado. We urge that the 6000-acre tract recommended for protection in the Master Plan prepared by the National Park Service should be included fully. Restriction of the Monument to a smaller area, such as the 1000-acre tract proposed last year, would result in loss of the richest accumulations of insect fossils, the fossil palm site, three sites of outstanding importance to the history of paleontologic science in America (known as the "Princeton locality," "University of California locality 3731," and "U.S. Geologic Survey locality 1496"), and large areas containing petrified stumps of Sequoia. Such restriction also would impair the educational and recreational potential of the monument.

If it is necessary to limit appropriations for the establishment of this National Monument, we recommend that budgetary adjustments should be made in appropriations for development of facilities for staff and visitors, rather than in funds for acquisition of the land. Exploitation of contiguous areas for housing developments already has begun and parcels within the proposed National Monument area are alleged to be for sale. Loss of, or damage to the irreplaceable, unique fossil locality should be prevented by immediate acquisition.

Respectfully submitted,

H. RADCLYFFE ROBERTS,

Director.

ALFRED E. SCHUYLER,

Chairman, Department of Botony.

JACK McCORMACK,

Chairman, Department of Ecology.

MICHAEL G. EMSLEY,

Chairman, Department of Entomology.

HORACE G. RICHARDS,

Chairman, Department of Geology.

JAMES E. BÖHLKE,

Chairman, Department of Ichthyology and Herpetology.

RUTH PATRICK,

Chairman, Department of Limnology.

R. TUCKER ABBOTT,

Chairman, Department of Malacology.

RODOLPHE M. DESCHAUENSEE,

Chairman, Department of Ornithology.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,

Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

We, the undersigned, wish to register our support of Senate Bill 912, which would establish a 6000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado.

We believe that this bill should be approved and enacted without undue delay so that land acquisition could begin as soon as possible to save the priceless fossil beds from commercial encroachments.

(The above petition was signed by 42 residents of Teller County, Colo.)

JUNE 4, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
*New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: We, the 6th grade class at Mt. View School of Air Academy District of Colorado Springs, believe it is imperative that the Florissant Fossil Beds become a National Monument. It would be a sacrilege not to preserve this unequaled geologic interest area against home subdivisions or commercial investments.

We have gathered shale from surrounding road cuts and enjoyed finding leaf and stem fossils. This land should be preserved for future generations NOW!

Sincerely,

(Kathy Conrad and 46 others.)

CHARLES HAY SCHOOL,
Englewood, Colo., May 27, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,

Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Monuments, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: As teachers we are concerned with fostering attitudes of appreciation and conservation of our heritage. It seems to us highly desirable and appropriate that the Florissant fossil beds be designated a national monument. Such action would show our appreciation of a significant geologic heritage. Such designation would conserve a natural treasure for future generations to learn from and enjoy. Because land values continue to increase, we recommend that funds be used to acquire at least 6,000 acres of the fossil beds for a national monument.

Sincerely yours,

Joe M. Riggs, Merna Hunter, Myron Cave, Mary Stidman, Eva Booth, Hazel Jordan, Cynthia A. Hooker, Caroline E. Ireland, Edna A. Tourtelot, Virginia Hungerford, Jane Eddy, Elizabeth Carter, Marie Enyart, Jennine Lane, Kay M. Cave, Vange Nelson.

STATE OF COLORADO,
OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING,
Denver, Colo., June 12, 1969.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND MONUMENTS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: We, the undersigned, would like to add our support for the creation of the proposed 6,000 acre Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Teller County, Colorado. The rapid increase in urbanization along the Front Range of the Colorado Rockies poses a grave threat to these irreplaceable fossils. Thus, it is imperative that action be taken immediately to protect this large concentration of fossils from permanent destruction.

Sincerely,

(The above petition was signed by 14 employees.)

THE WESTERNERS,
Denver, Colo., May 27, 1969.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Enclosed is a unanimous list of names of the members attending the May meeting of the Denver Posse of The Westerners regarding the establishment of the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

If we had the time to circularize the entire membership of 1000 of the Denver Posse of The Westerners, I am sure that this too would be practically a unanimous vote in view of the project.

Furthermore I am confident that all the other 20 or 30 chapters of the Westerners in the United States would be entirely in favor of this if there was the time to contact them.

Sincerely,

ROBERT L. BROWN,
Sheriff, Denver Posse,
(and 59 others).

(Robert L. Brown and 59 signatures.)

BERKELEY, CALIF., June 16, 1969.

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: Please enter my statement, as follows, in the official public hearing record concerning proposals to establish the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

I am in complete favor of this proposed legislation and urge that this proposal be established by Congress prior to the end of this current session of Congress.

The area as proposed will be lost to commercial development very soon unless protected as a national monument: Such area now possessing one of the world's outstanding fossil beds.

I would suggest that in addition to the proposed 6,000 acre area to be classified as a national monument, additional areas be added so as to preserve adjacent fossil beds of utmost importance.

Very sincerely,

JOHN R. SWANSON.

PITTSBURGH, PA., July 1, 1969.

Senator HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: It has been called to my attention that the Florissant fossil beds near Colorado Springs, Colorado, are threatened by the construction of a resort-type subdivision. The fossil area comprises more than 12,000 acres of lakebed that was buried in fine volcanic ash about 38 million years ago and contains numerous fossils of insects, birds, plants, etc. The National Park Service has plans for preserving 6,000 acres of this deposit.

I urge your support of Senate Bill 912, sponsored by Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick. Two other bills, H.R. 5953 and H.R. 6223, also deal with this subject. Although Florissant is not as well known as the canyon of the Colorado River or the California Redwoods, as a geologist, I wish to assure you that at least a portion of this unique fossil deposit deserves preservation. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

RICHARD E. GRAY.

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING,
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO,
Boulder, Colo., June 27, 1969.

Senator HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: I support Senate Bill S. 912 sponsored by Senators Gordon Allott and Peter Dominick and House Bills H.R. 5953 and H.R. 6223 sponsored by Representatives Donald Brotzman and Frank Evans. These bills author-

ize the purchase of land for establishing a National Monument at the fossil bed in Florissant, Colorado. Since real estate development of this land is imminent, it is expedient that Congress authorize the purchase of this land.

We in Colorado who have seen and enjoyed the fossil beds feel that they should be preserved for future generations.

Sincerely yours,

W. B. KRANTZ, *Assistant Professor.*

BERKELEY, CALIF., *June 13, 1969.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The Florissant Fossil Beds in Colorado are an irreplaceable national treasure. They belong to all the people of the USA. It is up to us to make them a national monument. We need your help.

Hopefully yours,

Mrs. STANLEY W. GARVEY.

BOULDER, COLO.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION,
New Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIRs: I'm very much in favor of the establishment of the 6,000-acre Florissant Monument.

I have lived in Colorado for twenty-six years and am quite familiar with the region and its value as a national monument.

ELIZABETH HOLLISTER.

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the first of these is the fact that the number of cases of this disease is increasing rapidly in the United States. This is due to the fact that the disease is now being recognized by the public and the medical profession. The second fact is that the disease is now being reported by the public and the medical profession. The third fact is that the disease is now being reported by the public and the medical profession.

With the above facts in mind, it is not surprising that the disease is now being reported by the public and the medical profession.

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