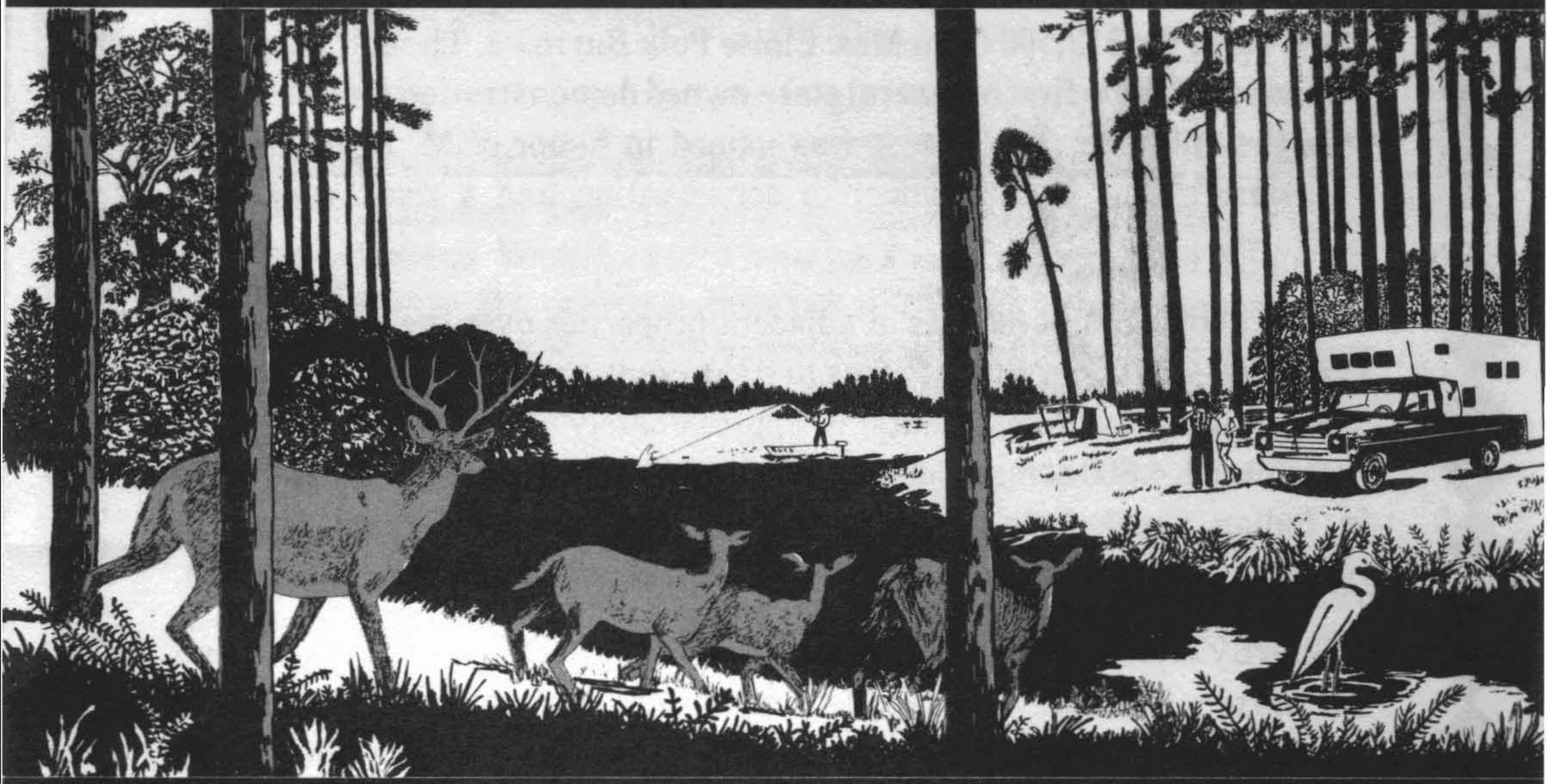


# Alexander State Forest and Indian Creek Lake



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# ALEXANDER STATE FOREST

## Woodworth, Louisiana

Alexander State Forest was established in 1923 when the state purchased 2,068 acres for \$12,500 from Mrs. Eloise Polk Burrows. Though originally intended to be the first of several state-owned demonstration forests, today it is the only one. The Forest was named in honor of M. L. Alexander, Louisiana's first commissioner of conservation and a relative of Mrs. Burrows.

Nine additional purchases of adjacent properties over the next 15 years expanded Alexander State Forest to its present size of almost 8,000 acres. The multiple-use forest contains approximately 700 acres of hardwood bottomland, 4,800 acres of loblolly, slash and longleaf pines, and 2,250 acres in Indian Creek Lake. It is managed for timber production, forestry research, and recreation. In addition, the forest is a game management area.

Shortly after the turn of the century, most of the area was cut-over and left barren, but today Alexander State Forest is an excellent example of reforestation. It contains an estimated 35 million board feet of timber, and some 1.5 million board feet are harvested annually. From 1933 to 1940, a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp was located on the Forest. During this period the Corps hand planted much of the land to pine and constructed the 35 miles of excellent road system still in use today. The CCC enrollees at the State Forest camp, all World War I veterans, also built the log administration building. This building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The 175-foot Woodworth Tower in the Forest's headquarters compound is believed to be the world's tallest fire tower.

The State Forest, including Indian Creek Recreation Area, is maintained largely by inmates from the Work Training Facility/North at Camp Beauregard through an agreement with the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections. The program has been highly successful from its inception in 1970 and has served as a model for other public agencies using inmate labor.

## **RECREATION AREA**

Within the Alexander State Forest is Indian Creek Recreation Area, with 100 acres of developed recreation facilities, 250 acres of primitive camping area, and the 2,250-acre Indian Creek Lake. The lake was constructed as a joint venture of the Louisiana Forestry Commission, the Rapides Parish Police Jury and the Lower West Red River Soil and Water Conservation District as a reservoir to be used for agricultural irrigation in times of need and for recreation purposes.

Indian Creek Recreation Area contains 71 campsites with conventional hookups, swimming areas, bath houses, a boat launch ramp and some 75 picnic sites. A pavilion within the developed area will accommodate groups of up to 100 people.

The primitive camping area is designed primarily for tent camping. Only parking and camping spaces are provided; there are no other facilities.

The recreation area is open year round. All revenue collected through user fees is returned to Indian Creek Recreation Area for operational expenses. From October 1 to February 1, special winter rates are available.











Facilities are available on a first-come basis only, except for the pavilion. It is recommended that pavilion reservations be made as far in advance as possible, especially for use during outdoor months, because demand for this facility is heavy.

Camping on Alexander State Forest is restricted to designated areas in the Indian Creek Recreation Area.

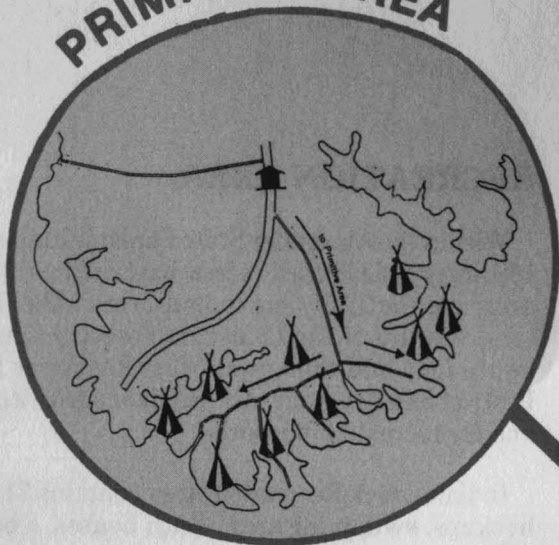
Indian Creek Hiking Trail is a two-and-a-half mile long path through mixed pine-hardwood forest. The trail traverses uplands and minor stream bottoms, providing access to a variety of habitats and plant species. A wide variety of animal and bird species utilize this habitat including the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker.

The trail follows the shore of Indian Creek Lake in some places providing scenic viewing and photographic opportunity. There is easy access to the Trail on foot from the entrance station, camping area and primitive area. It is marked by a sign at each road crossing and is marked along its length by white painted marks on trees.

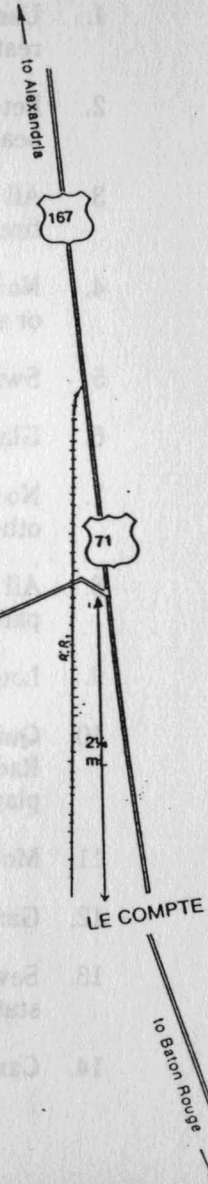
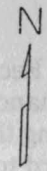
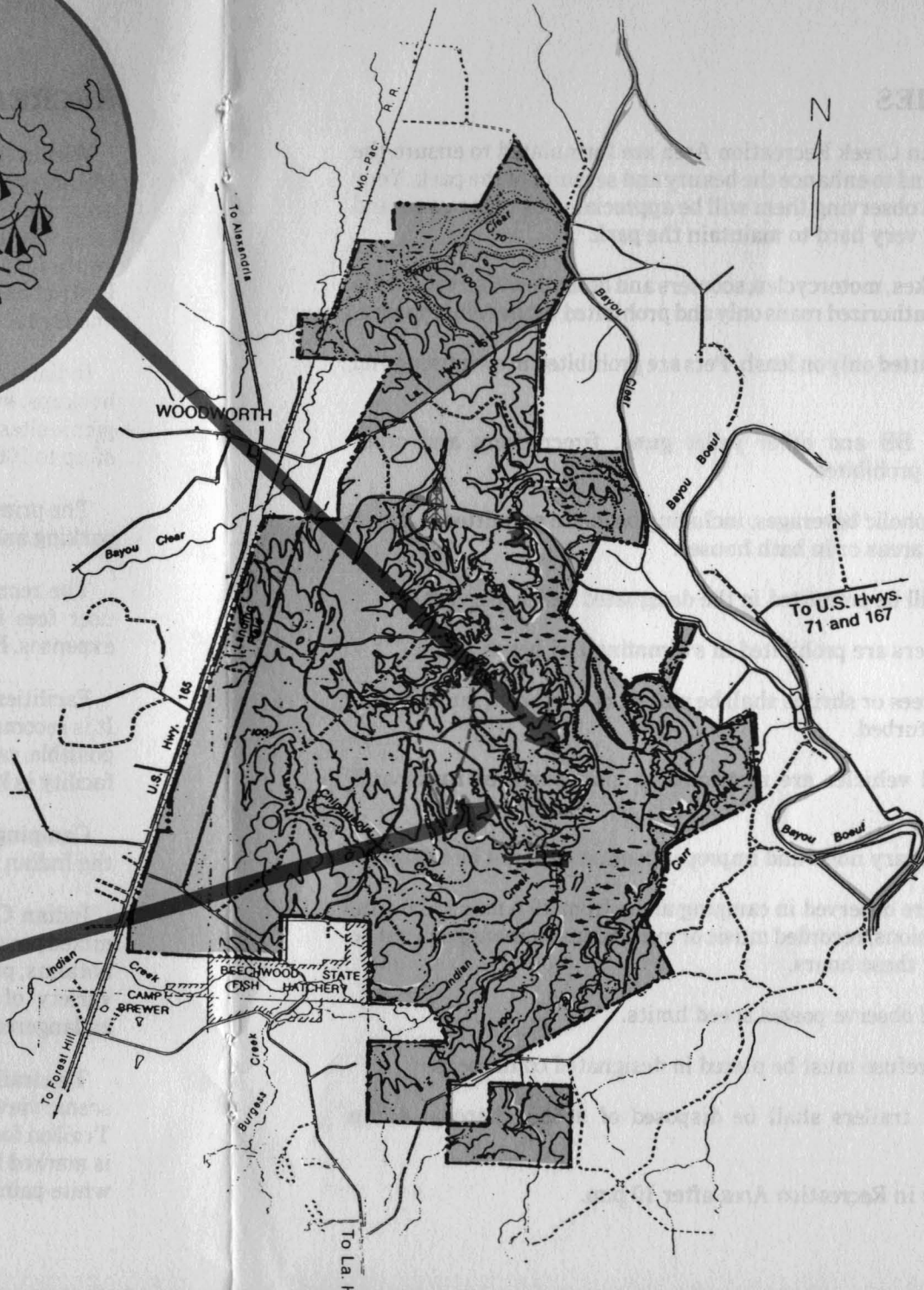
**LEGEND**

- Headquarters 
- Entrance to Indian Creek Recreation Area 
- Fire Tower 
- Camp site (primitive area) 
- Launching Ramp 
- Open Water 
- Hunting Areas 
- No Hunting Areas 
- Forest Roads 
- Hiking Trails 

**PRIMITIVE AREA**



**RECREATION AREA**



# **PARK POLICIES**

Policies for Indian Creek Recreation Area are formulated to ensure the safety of its users and to enhance the beauty and serenity of the park. Your kind cooperation in observing them will be appreciated by other users and by those who work very hard to maintain the park.

1. Use of mini bikes, motorcycles, scooters and other powered vehicles is restricted to authorized roads only and prohibited in the camping area.
2. Pets are permitted only on leash. Pets are prohibited in swimming and beach areas.
3. All firearms, BB and other pellet guns, firecrackers and other fireworks are prohibited.
4. No food or alcoholic beverages, including beer, are permitted in beach or swimming areas or in bath houses.
5. Swimming will be permitted in the designated beach areas only.
6. Glass containers are prohibited in swimming and beach areas.
7. No flowers, trees or shrubs shall be picked, cut, broken, mutilated or otherwise disturbed.
8. All motorized vehicles are restricted to hard surfaced roads and parking lots.
9. Loud, unnecessary noise and improper conduct will not be tolerated.
10. Quiet hours are observed in camping areas from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m. Radios, televisions, recorded music or musical instruments will not be played during these hours.
11. Motorists will observe posted speed limits.
12. Garbage and refuse must be placed in designated containers.
13. Sewage from trailers shall be disposed of at the disposal dump stations.
14. Campers only in Recreation Area after 10 p.m.

15. No refunds are made except in cases of emergency.
16. Only one camper unit is permitted to occupy one camp site.
17. Drunkenness, nudity, or disorderly conduct is prohibited.
18. Check out time for campers is 3 p.m.

## **HUNTING**

Alexander State Forest is a game management area. Hunting is subject to wildlife management area rules and regulations as approved and adapted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. Valid Louisiana hunting licenses are required. Hunting is allowed on most areas of the Forest, exceptions being the headquarters complex area and the recreation area. Restricted areas are posted.

## **FISHING**

Indian Creek Lake offers excellent fishing opportunity for bream, white perch, bass, and catfish. Fishing is permitted year round, and in accordance with state fishing regulations. A valid Louisiana fishing license is required for all persons 16 years or older.

## **FISH HATCHERY**

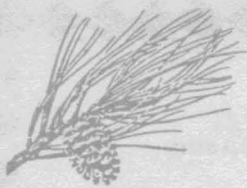
The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries operates a fish hatchery on land adjoining Alexander State Forest's southern border. Here, fingerlings are grown for distribution to lakes throughout Louisiana.

Please direct all inquiries regarding  
Alexander State Forest and Indian Creek Recreation Areas to:

State Forest Complex Manager  
Louisiana Office of Forestry  
Alexander State Forest  
Post Office Box 298  
Woodworth, Louisiana 71485

Telephone(s): (318) 487-5058 (Indian Creek Recreation Area)  
(318) 445-4511 (Alexander State Forest Headquarters)  
LINC 229-1000 (Alexander State Forest Headquarters)





SLASH PINE



LONGLEAF PINE



LOBLOLLY PINE

# NATIVE TREES ON ALEXANDER STATE FOREST



AMERICAN SYCAMORE



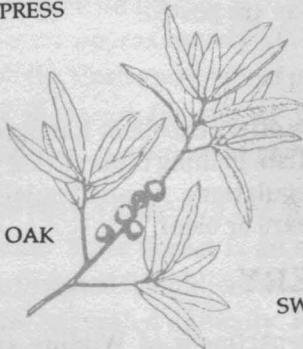
BALDCYPRESS



RED MAPLE



TUPELO-GUM



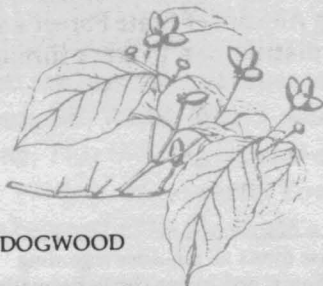
WILLOW OAK



SWEETGUM



WATER OAK



DOGWOOD



BLACKGUM



SOUTHERN RED OAK



GREEN ASH



WHITE OAK