

NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY
CORNELL UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
Ithaca, N. Y.Rural Education Department

September 21, 1953

Mr. S. B. Simmons, Assistant Supervisor
Agricultural Education in Negro Schools
Agricultural and Technical College
Greensboro, N. C.

Dear Mr. Simmons:

I regret that it was not possible for you to visit our camp this summer. We had a big season with about 650 attending camp. In regard to your request for a brief evaluation of the Hammock Beach campsite I am sending along my reaction.

Accessibility: Hammock Beach is accessible by excellent roads from all parts of the state.

Location: While the campsite is not isolated, it is in an out-of-the-way location to give it the privacy desired in a camp.

Swimming: The swimming beach along the Inland Waterway is fair extending about 30 yards into the waterway. After that it drops off rapidly. Water is clear and of course, salty.

The swimming beach along the ocean side of the outer bar leaves nothing to be desired. Here four miles of sand dunes merge with the sea in a fine sand beach. At places it is possible to walk out over 100 yards before encountering deep water. Breakers pound in on this beach incessantly adding a thrilling touch to swimming, especially for boys who have had experience swimming only on inland rivers and ponds. On the flat beaches undertow is not serious.

Program potentials: The program possibilities at Hammock Beach are limitless. The waterway provides miles of protected water for safe boating. The outer beach with its dunes makes a fine camping spot for overnight camping trips. The area abounds with many forms of wildlife. Fishing is excellent both in the waterway and along the outer beach. The pine forests provide opportunity for camping, conservation study, woodcraft, hiking and orienteering.

I personally feel that Hammocks Beach could become one of the outstanding youth camps in the United States and feel that I am especially privileged to have played a small part in getting an N. F. A. camp established there.

If I can be of any further help, do not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely,

/s/ Harold L. Noakes