

VIRGINIA. IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY.

The State Commission on Conservation & Development  
of the State of Virginia, Petitioner,

v.

AT LAW NO. 149

Clifton Aylor- and others, and thirty-seven  
thousand, four hundred (37,400) acres, of  
land, more of less, Defendants.

PURSUANT to the provisions of Section 8 of Chapter  
410 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Virginia, Session of 1928,  
(Public Park Condemnation Act) and pursuant to Section 29 of said Act,  
George H. Levi of Clarke County, <sup>1/4</sup> Miller A. Price of Shenandoah County,  
Virginia, and M. Lohr Capper of Frederick County, Virginia, are appointed  
special investigators, and members of a board of appraisal commissioners;  
each of said appointees having the citizenship and residential qualifications  
required by said Act; and said appointees are directed to qualify as such  
special investigators and members of a board of appraisal commissioners  
by taking an oath before the Clerk of this Court to maintain and support  
the Constitution of the United States of America, the Constitution of the  
State of Virginia and for the faithful and impartial discharge of their  
duties as such special investigators and members of a board of appraisal  
commissioners.

AND PURSUANT to section 23 of the aforesaid act,  
each of said appointees upon his qualification as such special investigator  
and as such member of a board of appraisal commissioners, or in either or  
both of said capacities, is clothed with like right, powers and obliga-  
tions and duties as those conferred by law upon the Sheriff of Rappahannock Co.  
Virginia, with relationship to the execution within said Rappahannock County,  
of any and all orders entered by the Court or the Judge thereof, in these  
proceedings, including the service and return of process and the service  
or posting of any and all notices and the return thereof.

The Clerk of the Circuit Court of Rappahannock County,  
Virginia, shall enter the foregoing in the Common Law Order Book of said  
court as a vacation order.

Given under my hand this 9 day of June, 1930.

J. P. Alexander Judge,  
Circuit Court of Rappahannock County, Va.

VIRGINIA:

Clerk's Office of Rappahannock Circuit Court, June 25, 1930.

The foregoing vacation order was this day received in the  
said office and entered as therein directed.

Teste: Jas. M. Smith, Clerk.

The State Commission on Conservation & Development of the State of Virginia, Petitioner,

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AT LAW NO. 149

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37,400 acres of land, more or  
less, Defendants.

-APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATORS AND APPRAISAL COMMISSIONERS.-

Enter:

*Did not be  
entered*

JUDGE.

*Entered in Common Law Order  
Book "B" - Page 360 + index id.*

LAW OFFICES

WEAVER & ARMSTRONG

FRONT ROYAL, VA.

LAW OFFICES  
WEAVER & ARMSTRONG  
FRONT ROYAL, VA.

June 24th, 1930.

Mr. James M. Settle, Clerk,  
Washington,  
Virginia.

Dear Jim:

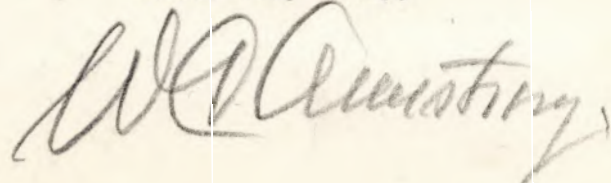
I am enclosing you herewith an order of Judge Alexander appointing three special investigators and members of a Board of Appraisal Commissioners to condemn the park lands in Rappahannock.

Please spread this order on the Common Law Order Book as soon as you receive it.

There is also enclosed type-written instructions of Judge Alexander to these gentlemen and you are directed to give each of them a copy. These instructions are identical in every respect with those given the same gentlemen by Judge Williams here. They have copies of the same already, and you need not go to the trouble of making additional copies for them.

I have prepared the several oaths which they are to take and sign before you. When they have done this, please enter a separate order on the Common Law Order Book showing the qualification of each.

Yours very truly,



a/t.

LAW OFFICES  
WEAVER & ARMSTRONG  
FRONT ROYAL, VA.

October 31st, 1932.

Mr. J. M. Settle, Clerk,  
Washington,  
Va.

Dear Jim:

I enclose herewith answer of the John J.  
Miller heirs signed by Judge Harrison, which please file in the Park  
proceedings in your office.

With kindest regards.

Yours very truly,

a/t.

W. C. Armstrong

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE CLERK.

THE INSTRUCTIONS set out herein are directed to Mr. George J. Levi, Miller A. Price and M. Lohr Capper, whom I have appointed special investigators and members of a board of appraisal commissioners, in these proceedings, and directed to qualify before you or your deputy.

BEFORE administering the necessary oaths of office you will have each of these gentlemen a carbon copy hereof and file the original with the record.

TO MESSES. GEORGE H. LEVI, MILLER A. PRICE AND  
M. LOHR CAPPER, SPECIAL INVESTIGATORS AND MEMBERS  
OF A BOARD OF APPRAISAL COMMISSIONERS:

YOUR duties as special investigators and members of a board of appraisal commissioners are set forth in the Public Park Condemnation Act.

IN THE PERFORMANCE of these important duties, you are subject only to the direction and control of this Court, and the Judge thereof, and this you should bear in mind at all times. The Judge of this Court will hold himself in readiness at all times to assist and advise you in all matters pertaining to the performance of your duties, and invites you to consult him freely in all matters as to which you may be in doubt, except of course the making of such findings of fact, especially as to the value of lands and other interests within the park area as to which the law imposes on you the duty of exercising your own uncontrolled and independent judgment.

investigators will be limited substantially as follows:

(a) TO making diligent inquiry as to the existence of lands or interest in lands in the proposed park area in Rappahannock County to which infants, insane persons, or persons under legal disability are entitled and lands as to which no claims of ownership have been filed and as to whether there may be sufficient reason to believe that no such claims of ownership will be filed;

(b) YOU are not required at this time to ascertain the values or exact description of such lands and it will be sufficient at this time to secure general information as to the names of owners, location, extent, etc. which might be useful or necessary if and when a special report is called for with relation thereto;

(c) TO visit the area sought to be condemned in these proceedings and acquaint yourselves generally with the boundary lines, parcels and tracts into which it is subdivided, the occupants and owners and the nature of their claims, the character of the soil, crops, and other information which you would deem useful if you yourselves contemplated buying these lands;

(d) TO furnish blank forms to persons desiring to file claims;

(e) ON request, to assist the persons owning or claiming right, title or interest in the lands sought to be condemned to fill out and verify the claim forms furnished them;

(f) TO perform duties contemplated in Section 23 of the Park Condemnation Act.

YOUR duties as members of the board of appraisal commissioners are also set forth in the Public Park Condemnation Act.

BY far the most important duty which you will be called upon to perform in the course of these proceedings are the making or finding of values of the various tracts, or parcels of land within the park area and of the various claims of right, title and interest thereto.

IN THE performance of these duties the utmost degree of impartial fairness and discretion will be required of you, and it is of the utmost importance that your conduct and bearing at all times should be such as to inspire confidence in your probity and rectitude and absolute impartiality.

WHEN YOU come to make such findings of value your sole duty in that connection will be to ascertain and report the true value of the various parcels or tracts of land within the proposed park area and of such claims of right, title or interest therein as this Court or the Judge thereof may direct you to ascertain.

YOUR duty then will be to ascertain values and to act on each claim as an impartial and unbiased judge of such values. It is no part of your duty to induce either the petitioner or the claimants to accept or consent to accept any specific amount as the value of these lands, or claims thereto, or to try to convince them that the values you may set upon them are the true or correct values. Your duty will be limited to the making and reporting to this Court findings of the facts as to value.

YOU should, therefore, be extremely guarded in every word and deed, and carefully reserve your own views as to values for the reports you may be called upon to submit.

THE Condemnation Act gives you very broad powers in your investigations as to the values of the lands sought to be condemned in the park area, but when findings come to be made as to the value of any parcel or tract within the park area, or of any claim of right, or title thereto, both the petitioner and the claimant will be entitled to a hearing and to an opportunity to examine the witnesses called at the hearing. You should not therefore permit either the petitioner or any owner or claimant to discuss in your presence the value of any tract or parcel of land in the park area, or of the value of any claim of right or title thereto until and unless there is a hearing of which both parties have had notice and an opportunity to be heard.



TO assist you in the performance of your duties you may call on the Court to require the parties to the proceedings to furnish you with any information in their possession or in their files, as to the location, title, ownership, extent and boundaries of any of the various parcels and tracts of different ownership within the Park area.

THE Act provides compensation for your services at the rate of twelve dollars per diem for each day in which you are actually engaged in the performance of your duties; and reimbursements for actual expenditures for travel, lodging, subsistence and other expenses as may be allowed and approved by this court or the judge thereof.

A MONTHLY itemized and duly verified statement properly supported by the necessary vouchers, should be submitted to the Clerk of the Court setting forth your claims for compensation and reimbursement. And to avoid any questions hereafter, and for the guidance of both the Clerk and yourselves, I deem it proper to advise that the services herein directed to be performed by you and for which you will be entitled to compensation are to be rendered wholly in Rappahannock County wherein these proceedings are pending; an allowance and approval of actual expenditures for lodging and subsistence will be limited to a maximum of three dollars per day; to six cents per mile for travel in your own automobile; and for all other expenditures to those that are affirmatively shown to be reasonable and necessary in the performance of your duties in Warren County.

Wm. Alexander JUDGE.

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INSTRUCTIONS TO SPECIAL INVESTIGATORS AND APPRAISAL COMMISSIONERS.

FILED IN  
CLERK'S OFFICE  
RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY

June 25<sup>th</sup> 1930  
Teste: Jos. M. Settle Clerk

LAW OFFICES  
WEAVER & ARMSTRONG  
FRONT ROYAL, VA.