

## Neithercut Woodland

The 252.3 acre Neithercut Woodland in Farwell, Michigan (Surrey Twp., Clare County) was acquired by the University during the period 1959 through 1968 through gifts of General Motors stock from William A. Neithercut, of Flint, Michigan. The purpose of this acquisition was to replace the wooded area south of Warriner Hall, which had to be removed to build the University Center. Mr. Neithercut was happy to fund such a project for the University's Science Laboratory classes.

The woodlands itself is comprised of a variety of habitats. Mixed hardwood forests of aspen, oak, sugar maples, and white birch dominate, while cedar swamps, a beech-maple climax forest, a cattail marsh, shrub swamps, and an introduced prairie plant plot are the other major plant communities. Three trails that explore the diversity of habitats were established in 1976 and 1977.

The Wakelin McNeel Nature Center Lodge was constructed in 1973, and includes a building, road, parking lot, electricity, water well and telephone. The Center will accommodate fifty (50) people for meetings and public programs throughout all four seasons. *The combined value of the land and improvements as of June 30, 1998 is approximately \$259,500.*

### Restrictions

On the deed for the final purchase of land for the Neithercut Woodland (August 7, 1968, 65.8 acres), the Grantor and the University agreed that the entire premises (presumably the entire woodland) would be preserved in its natural state and dedicated solely to the study of nature and conservation unless otherwise directed by the Board of Trustees of Central Michigan University, and consented to by the University official responsible for directing the use of the premises.