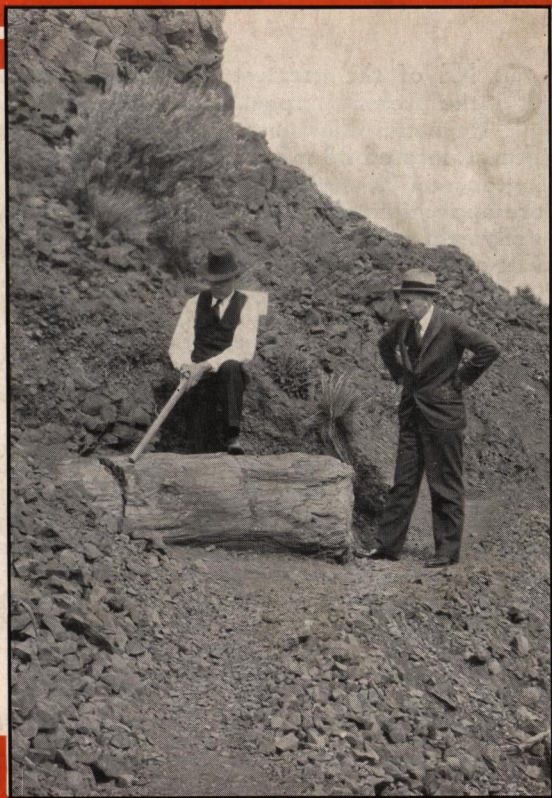


# GINKGO

## *Petrified*

# FOREST



### MILEAGE TABLE

Ellensburg to Ginkgo Forest.....	28 miles
Seattle to Ginkgo Forest.....	150 miles
Tacoma to Ginkgo Forest.....	164 miles
Spokane to Ginkgo Forest.....	178 miles
Portland to Ginkgo Forest.....	267 miles
Coulee Dam to Ginkgo Forest.....	102 miles

Published by  
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ELLENSBURG, WASH.

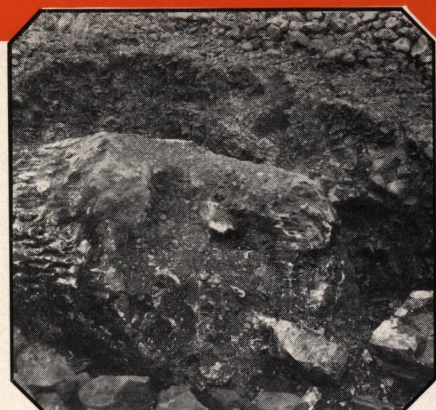
PHOTOS COURTESY ASAH EL CURTIS

# WORLD'S LEADING PETRIFIED FOREST



General view of area in which specimens are located.

RECENT DISCOVERY BY  
GEORGE BECK, GEOLOGIST,  
ELLENSBURG, WASH.



Black walnut log, five feet diameter.

**O**NE of the greatest geological wonders of the present, appealing to both scientists and laymen, consists of the Ginkgo Petrified Forest, located 28 miles east of Ellensburg, Washington, on a transcontinental highway. There are approximately one hundred typical logs, partially exhumed, and situated within a few hundred feet of the highway.

This forest is named after the sacred Oriental tree, Ginkgo, the living specimens of which have descended from the sacred gardens in the Orient. This area contains the only known petrified specimens of Ginkgo.

Altogether there are thousands of specimens situated in twenty sections of arid land, containing about one hundred varieties of hard woods and conifers. The petrified forest was originally discovered by the Indians and was used as material for arrowheads. More beautiful pieces were used as trinkets.

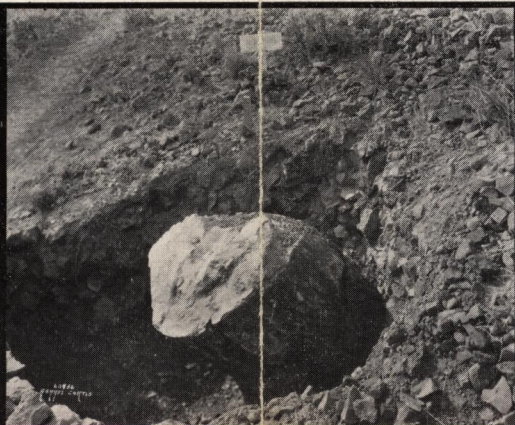
The petrified formation occurred ten to thirty million years ago when the logs were carried by flowing lava into an ancient lake which chilled the lava. The trees were not burned because of the molten rock chilling and immediate exclusion of air. Later the logs were covered by about ten additional flows of lava, which have been removed by action of the Columbia River. The wood was changed to opal but the details of the wood structure were perfectly preserved. Specimen hunters have caused the policing of the area by the State Park Board.

Originally, the climate was about the same as at present in respect to temperature, with additional moisture, due to the fact that the Cascade Mountains were not in existence to cut off more bountiful rainfall from the Pacific Ocean. Many of the trees have their closest relatives in Asia and the Great Lakes district of this country with some scattering individuals descending from the preceding tropical forests.

DOUGLAS FIR  
Three Feet Diameter



MAPLE TYPE  
Three Feet Diameter



DOUGLAS FIR  
Four Feet Diameter



