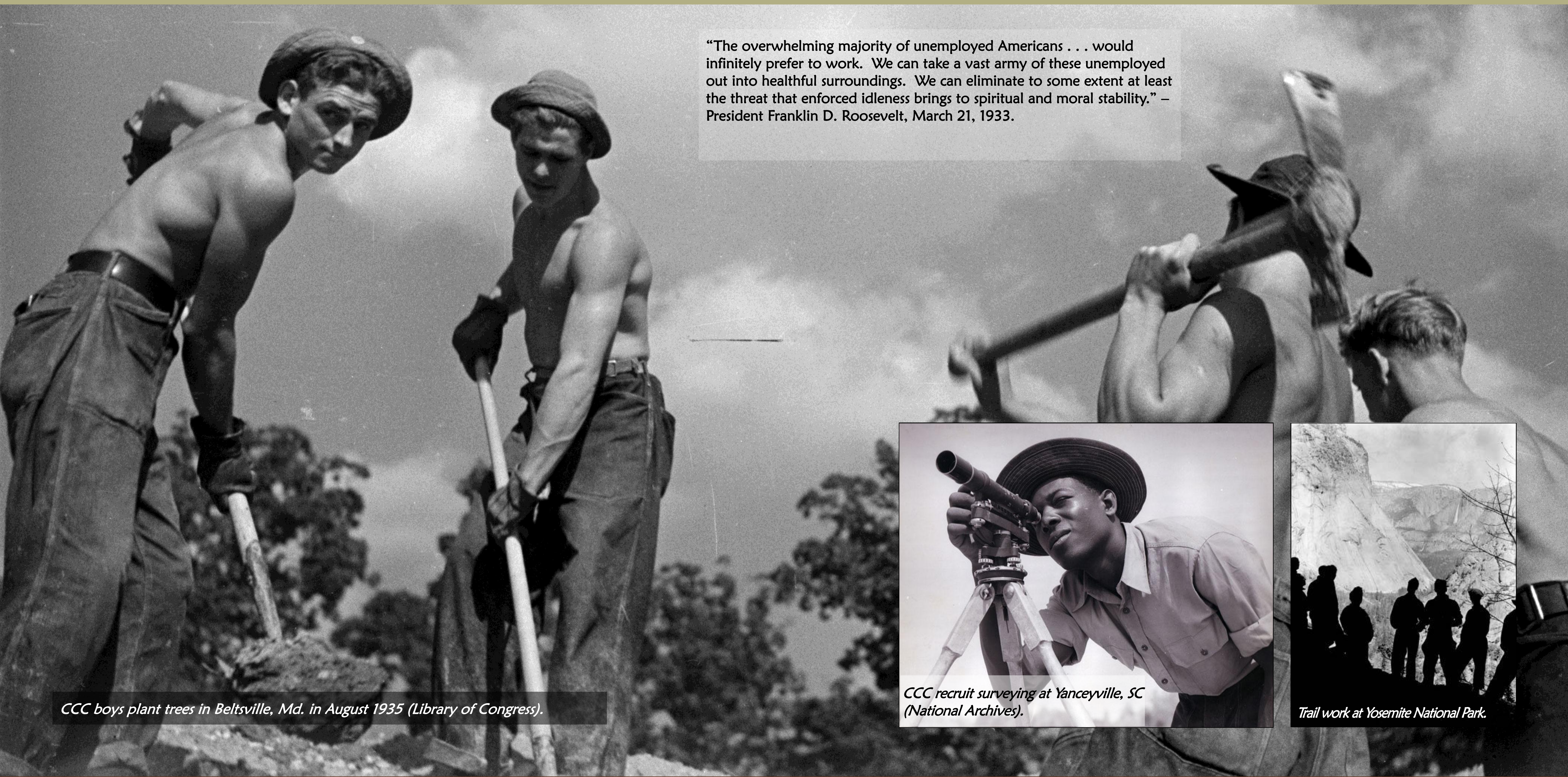


ROOSEVELT'S "TREE ARMY"

THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS



"The overwhelming majority of unemployed Americans . . . would infinitely prefer to work. We can take a vast army of these unemployed out into healthful surroundings. We can eliminate to some extent at least the threat that enforced idleness brings to spiritual and moral stability." – President Franklin D. Roosevelt, March 21, 1933.

To rescue the nation from the Great Depression, President Franklin D. Roosevelt started a series of public works programs to get Americans back to work. The Civilian Conservation Corps was among the first and most successful of these programs.

Created in March 1933, the CCC was the greatest public forest and park development effort in the nation's history. For nine years, the CCC put over two million young men to work conserving natural resources and building many facilities that are still used today.

Most "boys" (as they were commonly referred to) earned \$30 a month—\$25 of which was sent home to their families.

CCC boys plant trees in Beltsville, Md. in August 1935 (Library of Congress).



CCC recruit surveying at Yanceyville, SC (National Archives).



Trail work at Yosemite National Park.



The CCC statue at Gambrill State Park was made possible by a generous donation from Potomac Edison Company, which is proud to support the heritage of Maryland State Parks.

