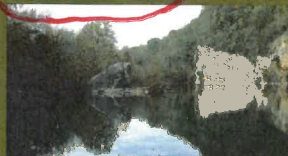


NATURAL RESTORATION AREAS

Trails and Points of Interest

A 300-acre, post-industrial, natural area characterized by ongoing restoration efforts and natural reclamation.

Mead's Quarry Lake



This 25-acre lake has floating wildlife platforms for birds and turtles. At times freshwater jellyfish can be seen here. State license required for fishing.

Imerys Trail (1.0 mile)

Named after the company that donated the 103-acre, Ross Marble Natural Area, this trail leads right through the heart of this rugged property with connections to the quarry gorge and multi-use trails.

Pink Marble Trail (0.4 miles)

A scenic, multi-use, trail along the lake-front named after the pink Tennessee Marble extracted for use in local and national buildings and monuments. The trail leads to an observation deck affording expansive views of the lake.



Tharp Trace (1.1 miles)

Looped trail, steep in places. Named after Minnie Tharp who championed the restoration of Mead's Quarry. Views of the lake and Mt. LeConte, plus the historic Stanton Cemetery, punctuate long stretches of woodland canopy along the trail above the cliffs.



HISTORY: In 1881, the Ross Marble Company began extracting Tennessee marble at Mead's Quarry for use in buildings and monuments in Knoxville, New York, and Washington, D.C. John M. Ross operated the quarry to the south. The Great Depression ended the marble boom and from the 1940s onwards only agricultural lime and gravel was produced at these sites.