

Baldwin Woods, N. Baldwin City, Kansas

June 15, 1959

On a tract of land (lowest area of Baldwin Woods) measured four elm trees which had recently been cut. On the diagrams, each annual ring is represented by a solid black block, the width of the annual ring is proportional to the height of the block, that is, the height of the block is exactly the width of the annual ring. We are now in a low period of precipitation and a change to greater moisture is indicated. Recent increment of growth can probably be correlated with drainage from the soils of the valley and fire. Differences in amount of shade might also determine width of annulations. One major fire occurred about 1855 or about one hundred years ago. One elm tree, 2/10 mi up Canyon from Railroad Crossing measured 14.9 feet in diameter at chest height. It seems a shame that these old trees should be cut from this unusual forest. Better the area be made into a reservation or city park where these large trees could be perpetuated as an example of the original climax forest community of this area.

