

The Lake Tower



Lake Blue Ridge is an earthen dam lake built by the Tennessee Electric Company ca. 1925 – 1930, and was later purchased by the TVA. (1,537,700 cubic yards of earth were used to build the dam which is 165 feet tall and 1,000 feet long.) It was the first dam of its kind east of the Mississippi. Robert Taylor's father brought his family to Blue Ridge in 1924 to become a foreman supervising crews building the dam. The name was originally Lake Toccoa but, to avoid confusion, was later changed to Blue Ridge Lake. Many a crazy boy jumped from the heights of the dam at first opportunity, including Robert! (Picture courtesy of Tina Stuart)