

PARK PRACTICE
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 in cooperation with DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, National Park Service
 and NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION (AIPE)

HEAD UP, EYES FORWARD

It's that time of year again. Before us lies 365 unblemished, sparkling days; they are ours to do with as we please in the shaping of our futures. We can take more steps up the ladder toward our personal goals, or we can stand still. Or we can go backwards. The decision is ours, individually and personally. The principle value of history is that it can teach us how we may avoid repeating errors. That is, if we're smart enough to learn from it. We have just closed the door on 365 days of personal history. Would anyone care to stand up and say he didn't make an error while they were rushing by? If so, he just made the first one this year.

Practically all successful organizations have periodic board meetings at which the future is considered and planned. Perhaps that is the main reason they stay successful. There is no valid reason why this same idea cannot be applied to the personal, family level. Maybe if it were, greater individual successes could be achieved and the world might be a better place in which to live. But that, of course, is utopian.

The point is that we have quite a ways to go in everything we do. Each of us can start the new year by reviewing our aims in life and bringing them up to date. The past is prologue, and what we wanted a year ago is probably quite different from

what we want this year to bring. One thing we don't want—and don't need—is more cupidity. We've got enough of that already.

Need a mental purgative to get you started thinking about the future? Then go back and read Kipling's "If". Space permitting, we could have printed it here. Since we can't, we offer another verse that came to us recently. You could do a lot worse than to start the year with

TAKE TIME . . .

- Take Time To Think . . .
it is the Source of Power.
- Take Time To Play . . .
it is the Secret of Perpetual Youth.
- Take Time To Read . . .
it is the Fountain of Wisdom.
- Take Time To Pray . . .
it is the Greatest Power on Earth.
- Take Time To Love and be Loved . . .
it is a God-given Privilege.
- Take Time To be Friendly . . .
it is the Road to Happiness.
- Take Time To Laugh . . .
it is the Music of the Soul.
- Take Time To Give . . .
it is too short a day to be Selfish.
- Take Time To Work . . .
it is the Price of Success.
- Take Time To Enjoy Good Food . . .
it is the Source of Health.

LORD, Grant us the time and power to understand one another. IBL

THE SECOND REASON FOR USING SEAT BELTS

The following item by Anthony L. Ellison, Chief, Office of Traffic Safety and Education, NPS, National Capital Region, appeared in the publication, N.C.R. Notes.

"The majority of states require seat belts in new cars, but many people are not using them. A powerful persuader now seems to be developing; failure to use a belt may bar recovery in a personal-injury suit.

"A lady was driving a new car cautiously on an icy street. She braked to a stop behind a bus. A man skidded his car into hers from the rear. She claimed injuries and sued the man for \$30,000.

"At the trial, the man cited the state law requiring all new cars to have two seat belts. The lady had the belts, but didn't have hers buckled.

"The judge instructed the jury to consider whether the lady was guilty of contributory negligence. They decided she was and she lost the case.

"Common law imposes on every person a duty to exercise ordinary care for his own safety. Also, state legislatures in passing laws requiring belts in cars apparently intended for persons to use them.

"The number one reason for wearing a belt still holds—it may save your life. The above story merely illustrates another good reason."

GREASING SIGNS TO DISCOURAGE VANDALS

Boulder, Colorado is a university city and very close to the Denver Metropolitan area. As a consequence, a large number of pranksters and vandals keep park personnel busy protecting, restoring, or replacing signs in the mountain parks. That is, they did until the City of Boulder Parks and Recreation Department came up with a slick means of discouraging vandalism.

Dwain Miller, Director of the Boulder Parks and Recreation Department, writes that they periodically paint the back of most of their signs with a thick coat of heavy grease. Most of their signs are black, so, the grease does not show and the vandals are discouraged.

It is now time to renew your membership in the Park Practice Program.

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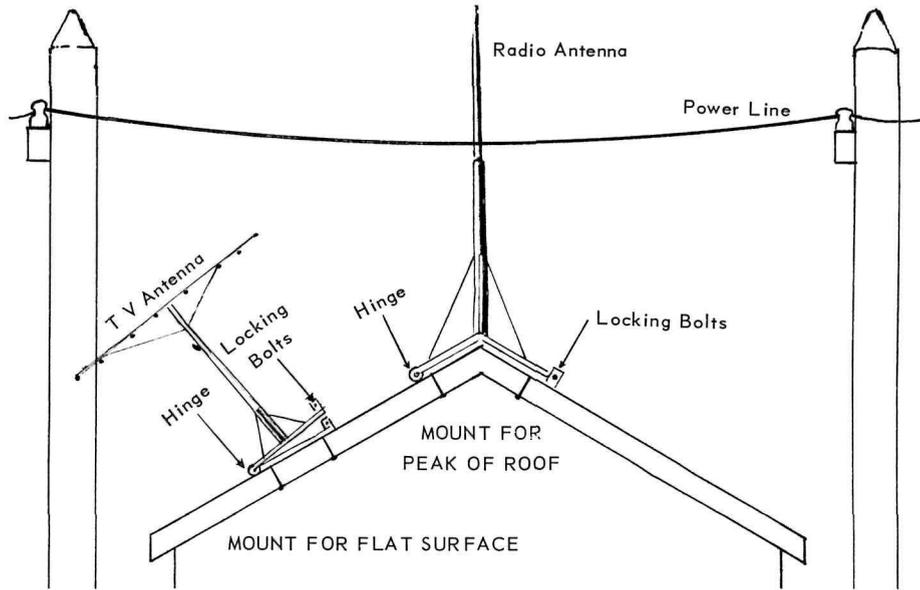
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ANTI-SHOCK ANTENNA MOUNT

Erecting or removing a radio or a TV antenna can be an extremely hazardous job if there are power lines near enough to touch should the workman lose control. Such contact could, of course, be fatal.

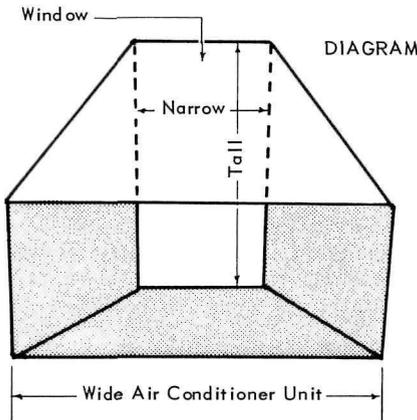
Robert B. Pierce, Caretaker, Lava Beds National Monument, designed a hinged base

which permits the antenna to move in one plane only, providing the worker with much greater control of the unwieldy object (see sketches).

Bob suggests that the hinge idea might also be used to construct the mounting for a welded flagpole, making it much easier to install a new flag halyard, or to work on the pulley.

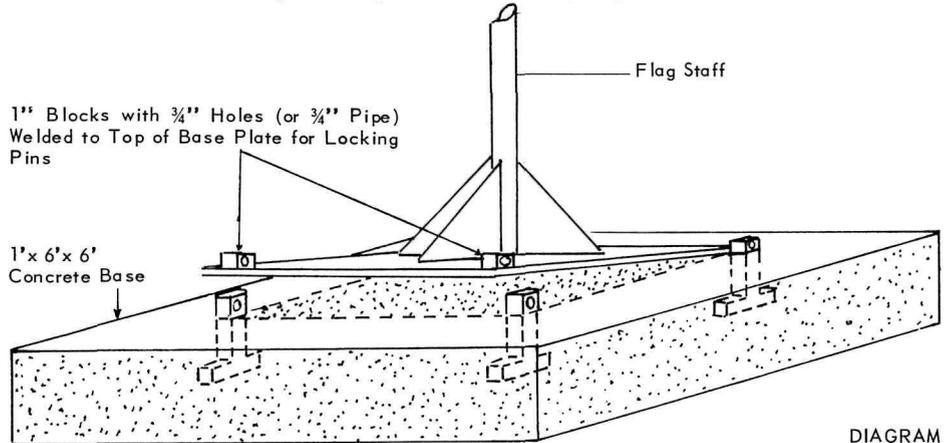
AIR CONDITIONER ADAPTER FOR ODD-SHAPED WINDOW

If you have the problem of adapting available window air conditioners to odd-shaped or odd-sized windows, such as the tall narrow type, take a look at the adapter worked out by Frank A. Hjort, Superintendent, Badlands National Monument.

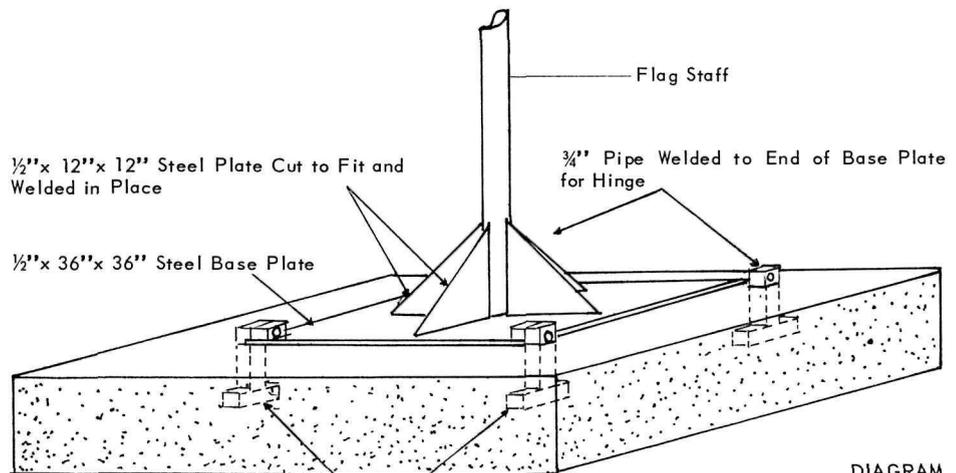


The box, which fits the air conditioner at one end and the window opening at the other, can be made by any carpenter.

Frank says they have been using these adapters at Badlands for several seasons and that they work efficiently.



DIAGRAM



DIAGRAM

4- 1" x 3" x 8" Welded Tees with 3/4" Holes for the Hinge or Locking Bolts

CHAIN GATE POST PROTECTS LOCK

If you're looking for a way to protect the lock on a chain gate while at the same time making it easy to hold the chain as the lock is being opened or closed, look no further. James Bowman, Park Engineer, Cape Cod National Seashore, has come up with a design that is just about foolproof. Charles Atwood, Maintenance Foreman III, has been turning these out in quantity and they have so far proven entirely satisfactory for keeping traffic off those trails closed to the public.

As the sketch shows, hot rolled square structural steel tubing, 5" x 5" x 1/4" thick is cut into 9 1/2" lengths. A 7/16"

slot, 13/8" long, is cut longitudinally in the center on one side from one end of the steel "box". This slot accommodates the 1 1/4" x 6" lock link bar. Next, a 5 1/4" by 5" section is cut from the bottom of the box opposite the side from which the slot was cut. Both ends of the box are then closed by welding steel plate on all edges.

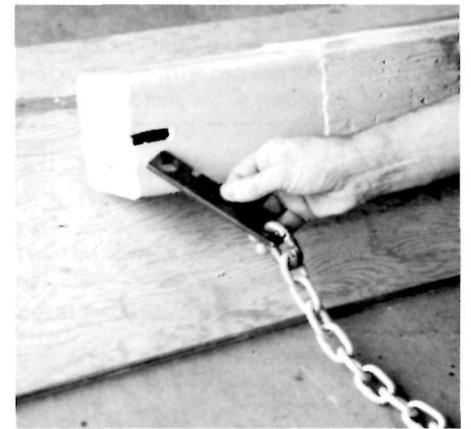
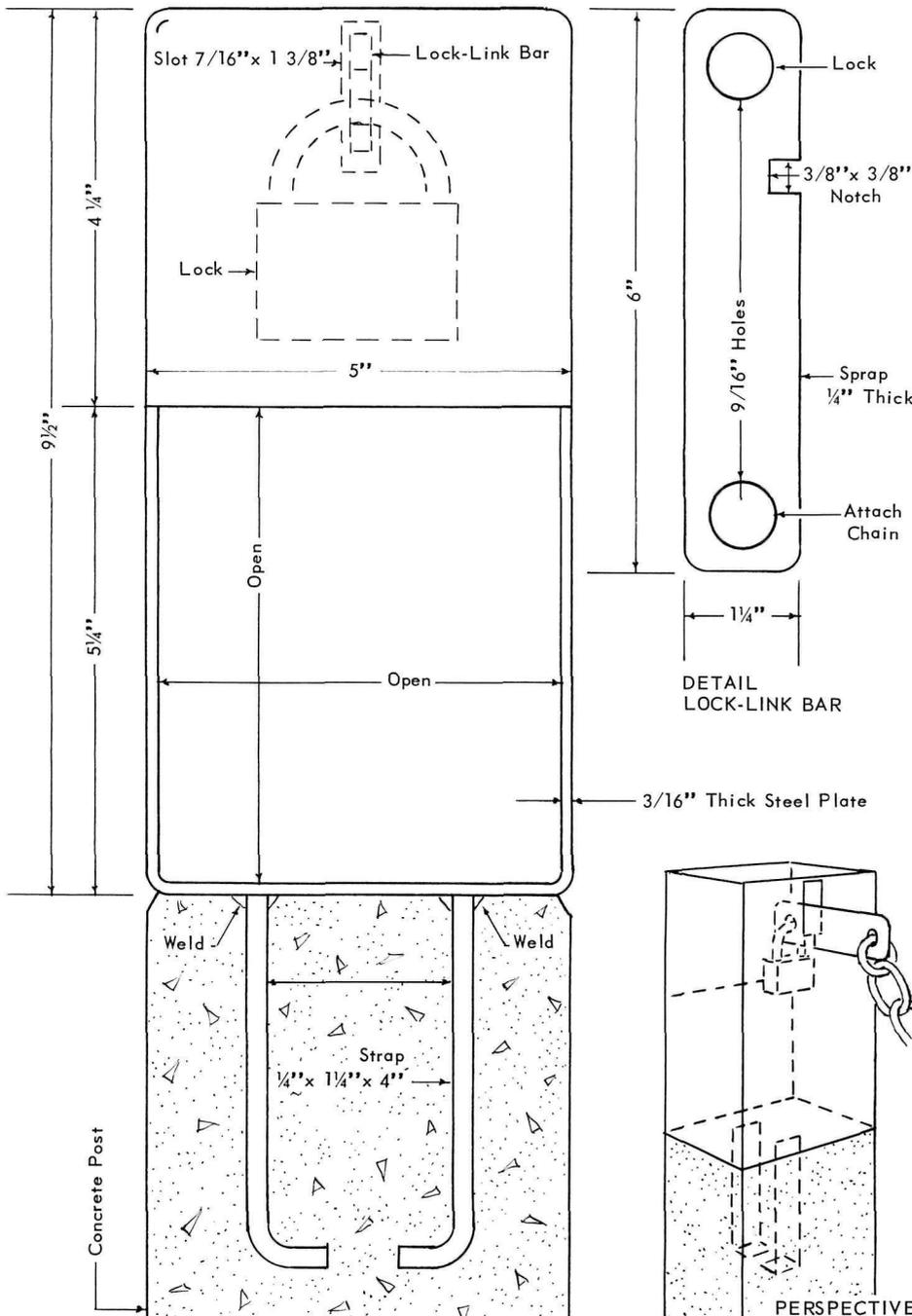
Two anchors 4" long by 1 1/4" wide are cut from 1/4" steel and one end of each is bent at right angles; the other end of each is welded to the welded bottom plate on that end of the box which has the wide opening. These anchors are spaced 2" apart and have the points turned in. The completed box is placed at the end of a 5" x 5" form, length as necessary, and concrete is poured to make a post with the box anchors embedded in the upper end. When cured, the steel box is painted.

The lock link bar has a 9/16" hole drilled in each end and a 3/8" x 3/8" slot cut in one edge 1 1/2" from one end. The hole nearest this slot receives the lock when the bar has been inserted into the post box slot; the hole in the opposite end receives the chain. The lock link bar slot hangs into the post box slot taking the strain off of the lock, and making it easy to attach and remove the padlock.

If this type post is used at each end of the chain, the gate may be locked with padlocks from two different agencies, as at Cape Cod where the Park Service and the Coast Guard each have different keys.

One thing is certain: nobody in their right mind is going to stick the muzzle of a shotgun up into the box to blow the lock off. At least, they won't do it more than once!

ELEVATION



BIG BUOYS AND THEIR MODELS

Edward J. Fahey, Senior Park Manager, Southwest Colorado Game Fish and Parks Department, uses 55-gallon drums for buoys. Brackets are welded on the drums for use in fastening them to 4"x8"x8' crossed ties. The lumber is treated with creosote and the drums are set 1 1/4" above the top tie.

Ed uses the "System of Uniform Waterway Markers for Use by States", which is put out by the Advisory Panel of State Officials to the Merchant Marine Council, United States Coast Guard, and the buoys are painted with those symbols.



When Ed wants to do a little "educating" of people who use the waterways or his seasonal crew, he can't very well have a set of the marked drums in the office, so he has done what cabinet makers used to do when they went out to sell their wares. He has made up a set of miniatures, using food or oil cans painted with the waterway markings as shown in the photograph.

An unwritten compact between the dead, the living and the unborn requires that we leave the unborn something more than debts and depleted natural resources.—

A Washington Supreme Court Decision.

A TIP FOR DRAFTSMEN

When drawing on tracing linen or vellum, it's annoying to hit a greasy or oily spot which prevents the ink from sticking. Calvin R. Cummings, Park Archeologist, Tuzigoot National Monument, suggests keeping a can of lighter fluid at hand. Before you begin drawing, wipe the linen or vellum with lighter fluid to remove any oil or grease spots.

Then, as the last step to a finished drawing, after all ink lines are in, again wipe the drawing surface with lighter fluid. This removes all pencil lines, fingerprints, oil spots, and does not affect the ink.

Your drawing will have a crisp clean appearance.

FIBERGLASS OUTDOOR TOILET

All-Glas, Inc. has a new model fiberglass outdoor toilet which is adaptable to either chemical or pit use.

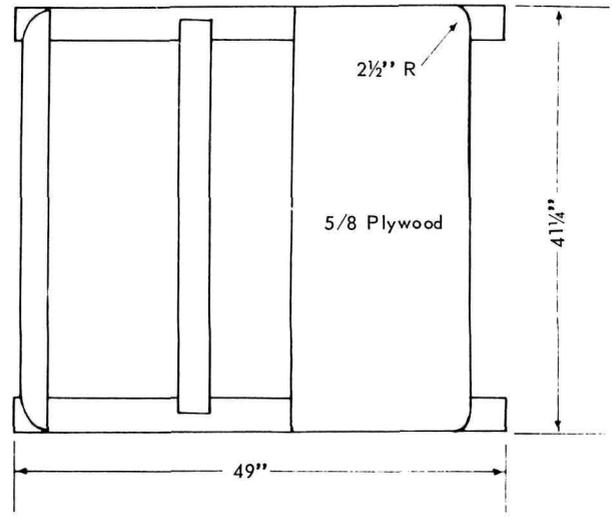
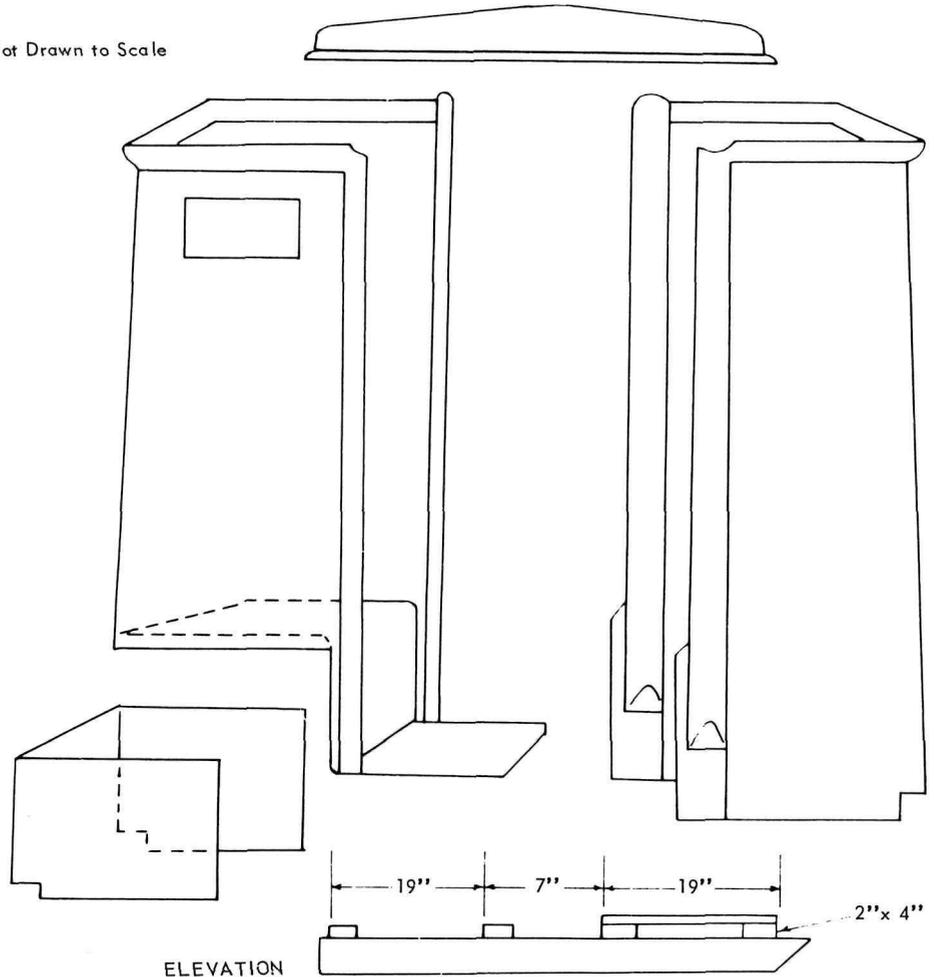
The unit is 46"x44"x86" with reinforcing of 3" fiberglass radius on the sides and steel tubing on the front and door. It is constructed of minimum 1/8" fiberglass laminate color coated inside and out, smooth interior and webbed exterior in choice of colors. It may be had with or without a urinal. The tank capacity of the

chemical unit is approximately 100 gallons. Shipped unassembled, it is said that a unit can be easily assembled by two men in about 30 minutes.

A current special offer lists four units shipped in a carton, disassembled without skids with green interior (extra charge for white interior) and white or green exterior as follows: Model C-4 (chemical), \$180. each; Model P-4 (pit), \$170. each (both FOB the plant).

For additional information write to All-Glas, Inc., P.O. Box 313, Lakeside, Calif., 92040 or call collect, Area Code 714-448-4321.

Not Drawn to Scale



PLAN

Speaking of Interpretation -

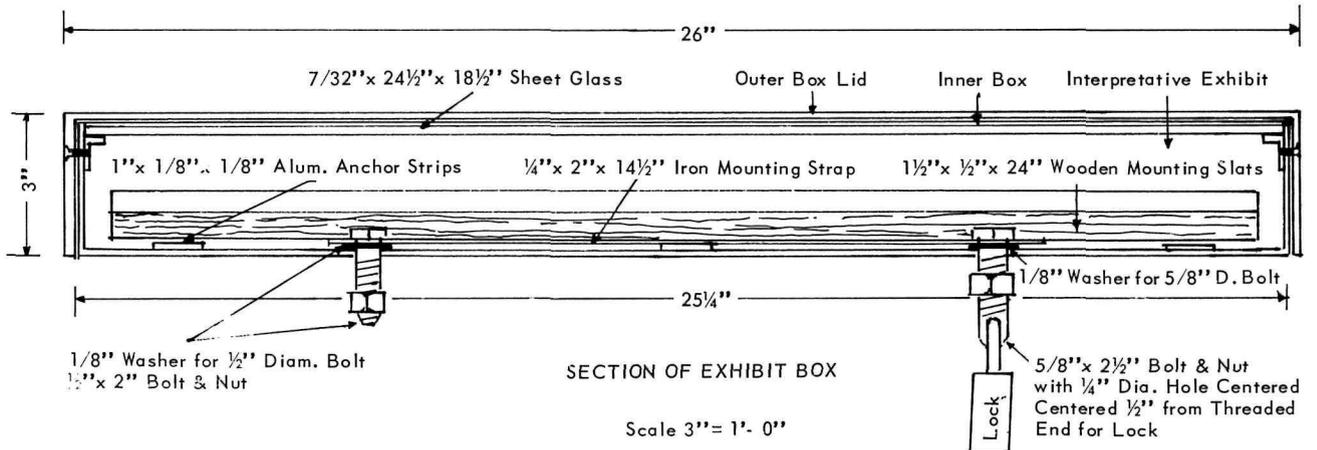
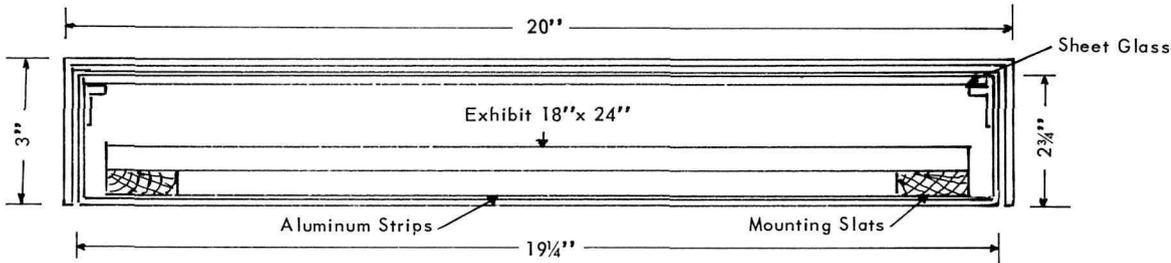
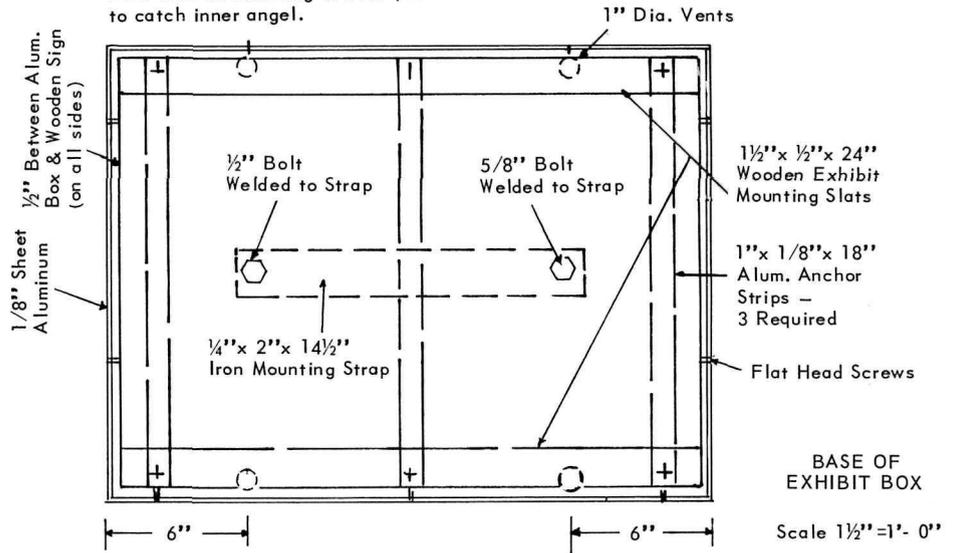
ROADSIDE EASEL

From V. W. Flickinger, NPS, Southeast Regional Office, come these photographs and specifications for building this attractive easel, which is in use at Blue Ridge Parkway.

The slanting top of the stone standard puts the exhibit at a good viewing angle and reduces glare. The aluminum box which houses and protects the exhibit item was made locally for about \$45 each in quantities. The box is bolted to the standard (see sketch for details).



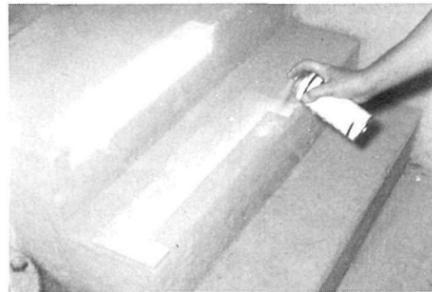
No screws in back to hold moulding. Drill hole in moulding & weld pin in to catch inner angel.



FAST SAFETY STRIPING

When steps need to be striped for safety, either on the first painting or repainting, Charles W. Embleton, Seasonal Ranger at Tuzigoot National Monument, uses this fast method.

Take a piece of scrap veneer or 1/4" plywood. Cut a piece out of one edge the desired size of the stripe. Fasten a handle to this mask with countersunk wood screws. You now have a permanent mask that can be reused indefinitely. Using a can of spray paint, the striping job can be done very rapidly (see photo).



A TISKET-A-TASKET
A TREE-TOP BASKET

The design for the homemade basket lift (a "cherry picker") for use with a tractor front end loader shown in the photo was sent for the benefit of GRIST readers by James B. Work, Director, Pinellas County Park Department, Clearwater, Florida.

The device is used to pull Spanish moss from the trees or to trim out dead branches. The only modification required is that the two short hydraulic hoses on the loader be replaced with long ones so that all four are the same length.

MINISKIRTS FOR GIRLS —
"LONGIE" SKIRTS FOR TABLES

Above-the-knee hemlines and open front work tables and desks have been all but causing work stoppages everywhere in the country, but at Tuzigoot National Monument they're solved the problem. Wouldn't you know it would be a girl who would suggest the change—Clerk Typist Carla Martin.

Of course, the problem isn't new and GRIST has published suggestions for skirt-ing desks, but at Tuzigoot the special angle was that during the summer, the typist worked at an open typewriter table



which had to be near the visitor entrance to the museum, information desk, and publication counter. Now, with the view obstructor attached to the table (see photos), Carla can concentrate on error-free reports and visitors can concentrate on museum exhibits.

PERMANENT SOLUTION FOR
LEAKY ROOF PROBLEM

A leaky roof can be permanently repaired economically and at the same time provide sufficient insulation to lower inside building temperature as much as 20° F on a hot day or to hold in building heat in

winter. The modern solution? -- sprayed-on urethane foam.

This substance adheres permanently to any surface to form a tough seamless moisture and vapor barrier. It eliminates costly fastening devices, adhesives, straps, clips, braces; is resistant to weather, fire, oil, solvents, chemicals, corrosion; is light in weight; flexes easily with thermal expansion and contraction of the base material; and needs little or no maintenance.

In a roof renewal project, urethane foam chemicals are applied by a technique similar to paint spraying. The foam immediately forms a seamless, monolithic coating. The rigid urethane foam, which is applied to about a 3/4-inch depth is covered with two coats of paint.

In the case of an Arkansas assembly plant, a 40,000 sq. ft. roof required 11 drums of urethane foam and 8 drums of top coat. Application time for the completed job totaled 104 man-hours. Two men each worked 28 hours on the foam application and 24 hours on the top coat application. The manufacturer says that results were so satisfactory in this case that another building with a 30,000 sq. ft. roof has been given the same treatment.

The urethane foam for the project was supplied by the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co. For more information, write or phone the nearest representative of the company.

ONE-PIECE TRAILER HITCH

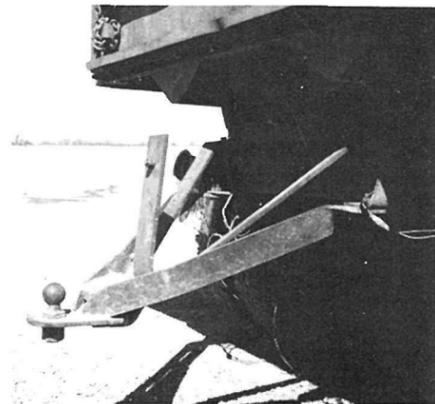
Edward J. Fahey, Senior Park Manager, Southwest, Colorado Game Fish and Parks Department, suggests that a trailer hitch to haul small equipment or large house trailers be made in one piece.

Photo No. 1 shows such a one-piece hitch.

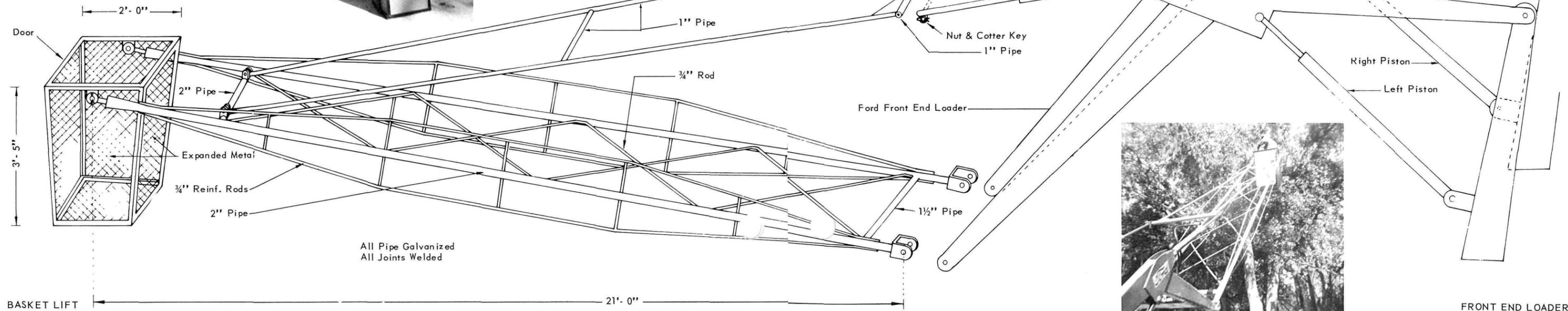
Photo No. 2 shows the hitch in normal position which allows the dump to be used without danger to the hitch. It can be used in this position to haul small equipment.

Photo No. 3 shows the hitch in out position for hauling large equipment such as a house trailer. In this position the hitch is 21 inches further away from the dump then when used in the normal close-up position.

Two sets of holes allow the hitch to fit in both these positions.



(Editor's Note: If you are having difficulty writing out the explanation for a device or improvement worked out in your park which you would like to send along to GRIST, you might take a tip from Jim. He sent along as an aid to GRIST's draftsman a short movie film on construction and use of the tree-top basket.)



FRONT END LOADER

LATRINE ODOR CONTROL AT ISSUE

Following the publication of the article titled "Latrine Odor Can Be Controlled" on page 48, November/December, 1966 GRIST, we have received a communication from Mr. Ira L. Abelow, Reliance Chemicals Sales Co., 216 Clayton Street, Denver, Colorado 80206. In its effort to keep Park Practice participants fully informed on all matters of important concern, Mr. Abelow's letter is presented hereafter.

Reference is made to the Nov.-Dec. 1966 issue of "GRIST" which makes mention of a product called HIOTROL BOTTOMSIDE.

The following is submitted for consideration:

HIOTROL BOTTOMSIDE which is recommended by its manufacturer for the control of latrine odors is basically a chemical compound known as, PARACHLOROMETAXYLENOL.

The fumes from Parachlorometaxyleneol (and the various other xylenol compounds) are known to be toxic. They are known to produce headaches and other symptoms and are known to cause organ damage—the kidneys, liver and the brain.

The results of the fumes are known to be cumulative. The damage is irreversible, permanent.

The use of Parachlorometaxyleneol to control latrine odors in recreation area restrooms, cabins, trailers and/or enclosed areas present a potential hazard to the maintenance personnel, campground users particularly children.

Ultimately, the latrines will have to be pumped out. Disposal of the effluent will present a serious problem. The pumping will remove some of the chemical. How is this effluent to be treated? If it is dumped into a sewer system, it will 'knock out' the digester. If the effluent is dumped into a seepage pit—there is the possibility of polluting the 'groundwater'—if dumped into a flowing stream—there will be pollution.

The compound is supposed to be effective against solid wastes, it is supposed to be bactericidal if mixed with feces (as in the intestinal tract) but in the latrines, there are no mixing mechanisms—at best all there can be is a coating for the waste mass with anaerobic degradation continuing in the center of the waste mass.

If the gaseous form is supposed to be the penetrating principle, then it also will not reach the organisms in the inner portion of the compacted feces, and when temperature changes occur it will be completely ineffective in the cold. The waste phase is aqueous and not miscible with the usual solvents.

The System is potentially dangerous, particularly to children. A pleasant smelling deodorant is used for Topside—it masks the odor of the Parachlorometaxyleneol fumes.

With reference to the reactivity of the chemicals—recreation areas have a long history of having various unknown materials poured into the latrines. One does not know what effect other things may have when combined with the compound and its solvents. It is always dangerous to trust the safety of compounds of unknown reactivity.

LUMBER RACK FOR LIMITED SPACE

After the maintenance building was constructed at Grand Portage National Monument, it was obvious that space was going to have to be used to the very best possible advantage. Buildings Repairman Gordie



LeGarde came up with a good idea for storing a maximum amount of lumber in a minimum space (see photo A).

Here's what Gordie did:

1. Took 8 pieces of rough 2x6 framing notched each piece on one side at 2-foot intervals
2. Paired the 8 pieces and placed each pair together with the notches facing (see photo A)
3. Bore 1/2-inch holes through both pieces of each pair, centered and in line, so that a bolt placed through the holes would pass through the center of the notches
4. Cut pieces of waterpipe into 3-foot lengths and inserted these through the holes formed by the notches, then bored holes through the center of each piece of pipe to match the holes in the 2x6's

5. Secured the 2x6's and the pipe by inserting a bolt through the holes in 2x6's and the pipe (see photo A)
6. Spaced the four posts, with cross-arms (the pipe lengths) thus formed, an equal distance apart and secured them by nailing a 2x6 the length of the 4 spaced posts to each end of the row of posts



7. Raised the assembled rack upright, nailed it to the floor, bolted it to the rafters, and put it into use (see photo B).

RIDGING RUINS OF FLYING INSECTS

Flying ants swarming in the top room of the Tuzigoot National Monument ruins during July and August were an unpleasant annoyance for park personnel and visitors. Johnny Tavasci, a seasonal laborer at the Monument, found a non-poisonous, instant eradication method. By using a week burner, with the flame turned to maximum, Johnny cleared the flying ants from the top room for several hours.

RANGER 'RED' sez:-

"There ain't never time to do a job right, but it seems like there's always time to do it over again."



Jim Burnett & IBL