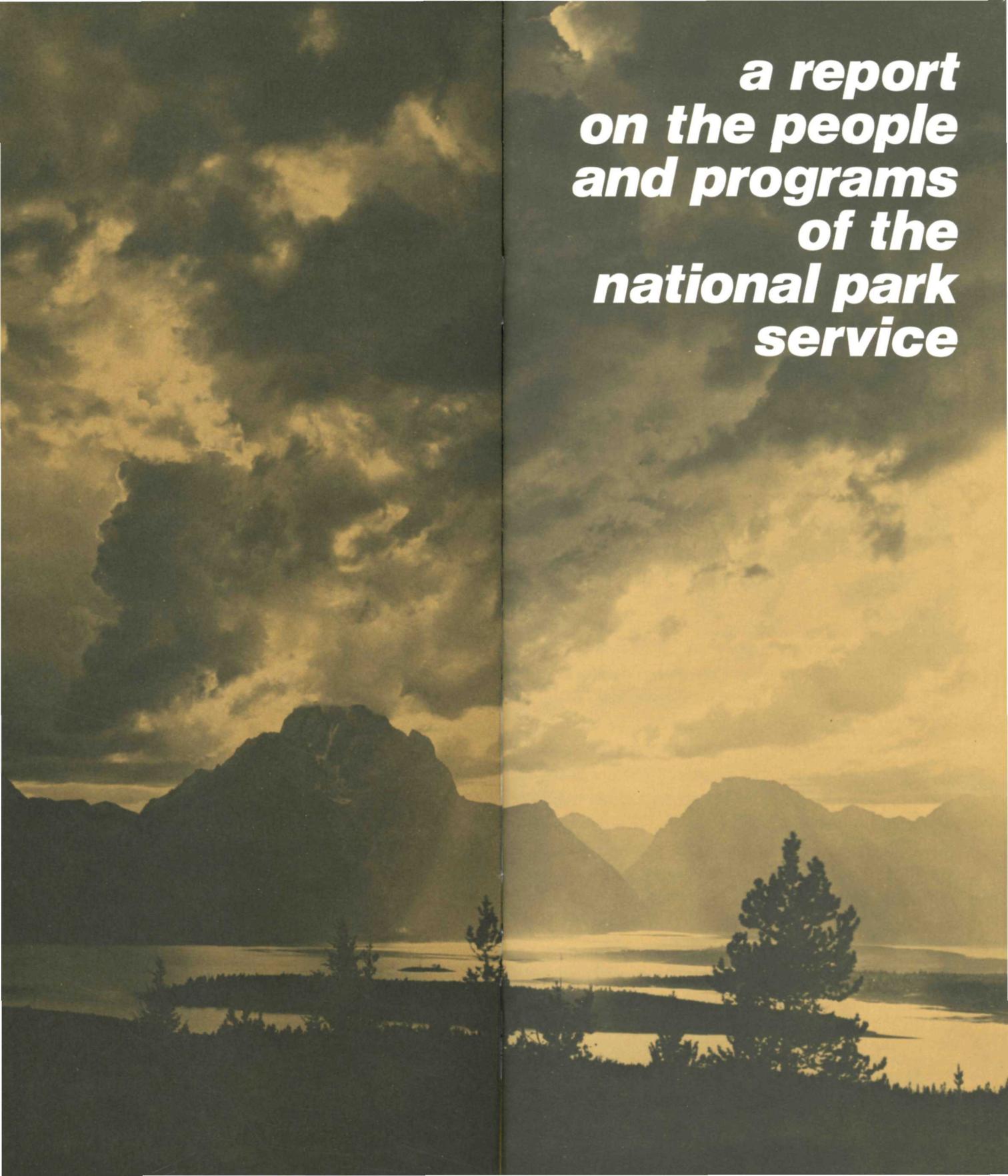


nps

briefing book
1973



***a report
on the people
and programs
of the
national park
service***

A LEGACY OF NATIONAL PARKS



The growing popularity of our parks has created a number of serious new problems as millions of Americans have sought the recreation and respite they provide. Traffic congestion and crowded campsites are becoming more common. In many places, natural systems have been overburdened and damaged by the presence of too many people. Wild animals and unique plants have often been crowded out of their traditional habitat. In short, we are beginning to understand that there are limits to the amount of use our parklands can withstand, and that as more and more people seek the great rewards of outdoor life, the experience can be somewhat diminished for each of them.

But these problems are not insoluble. We can meet them, if only we have enough will and imagination and discipline. I believe, for example, that our growing management expertise can teach us how to use our existing parks and forests more efficiently. And I am also convinced that we can substantially expand the acreage of our parklands, providing more adequate and more convenient recreational opportunities for all of our people.

One of the hallmarks of our proposals concerning parks is the emphasis we have placed upon variety. A highly diversified people should have access to highly diversified opportunities. For example, many will prefer the conveniences and activities of a well-developed park, while others will prefer the solitude of the wilderness.

It is essential that our system of parks satisfy both the casual tourist and the avid outdoorsman, that we have places where families can meet other families and places where people can be alone.

PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON
From a statement at Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming,
August 19, 1971

introduction

Congress has assigned the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior a dual mission: to manage the superlative natural, historical, recreational, and cultural areas which comprise the National Park System for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of all the people; and, to provide national leadership in cooperative programs with other Federal agencies, State and local governments, private citizens and organizations in the preservation of our Nation's cultural and natural heritage.



The National Park Service is a people-serving agency. It is also a resource-managing agency.

Through the resources of the National Park System, millions of Americans find enjoyment as well as refreshment of mind, body, and spirit.

Each area of the National Park System is managed pursuant to the broad policies prescribed by Congress in the legislation establishing the area. Supplementary administrative policies to guide day-to-day management have been promulgated in separate booklets for the natural, historical, and recreational categories of the System.

NATURAL AREAS

In natural parks, visitors may seek inspiration in the remarkable beauty and scenic grandeur of our land. Or they may utilize these areas to study flora and fauna, or geologic phenomena in endless variety. Grand Canyon, Glacier, Yosemite, Yellowstone, Great Smoky Mountains, Dinosaur, and many other parks exemplify the slow processes which have carved and shaped the landscape and clothed it with plant and animal life.

HISTORICAL AREAS

Americans, young and old, can gain a deeper understanding of the great events that have influenced our society from parks of history and prehistory. The cliff dwellings and mesa-top pueblos of Mesa Verde and a score of other sites in the Southwest, the effigies of Effigy Mounds, and the 10,000-year-old relics of Ocmulgee give us glimpses of people who lived here long before the coming of the first European.

In the System lies the whole range of our colonial and national history. The parks include early Spanish forts in Florida and Puerto Rico, and old Spanish missions in New Mexico and Arizona. Fort Raleigh commemorates the first English attempt to settle the New World, and not far away is Jamestown where English settlement succeeded. At Independence National Historical Park, visitors to Independence Hall relive the stirring moments surrounding the birth of our nation and the writing of its Constitution. At Jefferson National Expansion Memorial in St. Louis, one retraces the great westward movement of the American people. And on the battlefields of Yorktown, Saratoga, Gettysburg, and Vicksburg, at quiet Appomattox, at Fort McHenry, and Fort Pulaski, one senses the true depth of American valor and courage.

RECREATIONAL AREAS

To meet, in part, the Nation's ever-increasing demand for outdoor recreation, especially water-based recreation, a number of national recreation areas have been established. Shadow Mountain, Glen Canyon, Coulee Dam, and Lake Mead are names growing more familiar every year.

Also, national seashores and national lakeshores such as Cape Cod, Padre Island, Point Reyes, Indiana Dunes, and Sleeping Bear Dunes have been established to preserve outstanding natural and historical values.

CULTURAL AREAS

In recent years a new category of parks has been authorized by Congress for inclusion in the National Park System. Cultural parks will preserve folkways of the past as well as establishing sites for contemporary programs. Wolf Trap Farm Park, which opened in 1971 in suburban Washington, D.C., is the first national park for the performing arts.

THE CAPITAL CITY

The National Park System, owned by all Americans, is indeed a priceless part of our heritage. Nowhere is this more in evidence than in the Nation's Capital where the parks and monuments are the focal point for millions of visitors. Here, it is possible to walk through history with the great and near-great who have molded our Federal Government, or to participate in the cultural and recreational activities which abound in this the stateliest of our cities.

CONCESSIONERS

Working with the Service in providing for the needs of park visitors for food, lodging, and other services are some 200 concessioners. Their operations are authorized by individually negotiated contracts, which prescribe, under policies laid down by Congress, payment of franchise fees (usually a percent of gross receipts), control of rates, advertising, location of facilities, and quality of service.

COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS

Besides establishing the National Park System, Congress has authorized a number of programs to involve State and local governments and the private sector in

cooperative efforts to preserve outstanding examples of our Nation's natural and cultural resources for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of the people. This national policy is articulated in several statutes, among which the most significant are the Historic Sites Act of 1935, the Park, Parkway, and Recreation Area Study Act of 1936, and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

The Historic American Buildings Survey is a program for recording, by measured drawings and photographs, important examples of historic American architecture. The program is conducted by the National Park Service in cooperation with the American Institute of Architects and the Library of Congress.

The Historic American Engineering Record is a program for recording, by measured drawings, photographs, and documented historic reports, important examples of American engineering and industrial archeology. The program is conducted by the National Park Service in cooperation with the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Library of Congress.

The Inter-Agency Archeological Salvage Program is designed to discover knowledge of, and recover artifacts from, archeological sites threatened by construction of highways, dams, pipelines, and other public works. The program is sponsored by the National Park Service in cooperation with a number of other Federal agencies and with private organizations.

The National Register lists those historic and cultural properties possessing national, regional, State, and local significance in the interpretation of our heritage. The Historic Preservation Act of 1966 authorizes Federal grants-in-aid to the States (50-50 matching basis) to finance surveys for identifying properties of regional, State, and local significance for nomination to the National Register. The National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, funded by the Congress to the National Park Service, identifies properties of national significance. The Historic Preservation Act of 1966 also provides certain safeguards against damage by Federal undertakings for all registered properties and authorizes a grants-in-aid program to the States and the National Trust for Historic Preservation to assist in their preservation of properties.

The National Landmarks Program identifies natural

and cultural properties possessing national significance in preserving and interpreting the Nation's natural history, history, and archeology. Besides designation as a Landmark, all historical and archeological properties are included automatically on the National Register. The program also identifies those places offering opportunities of national significance in teaching environmental education. The purpose of the National Landmarks program is to encourage the preservation and appropriate public use of these nationally significant properties. The program does not involve the acquisition of lands by the Federal Government.

The Volunteers in Parks Program lets individuals assist in park programs on a voluntary basis. VIPs serve in living history demonstrations, interpretation, arts and crafts, history, archeology, environmental education, and other public-service activities.

Separate brochures describing these cooperative programs are available, upon request, from the Director, National Park Service, Washington, DC 20240.

ADVISORY COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS

By legislative enactments, Executive orders, and delegations from the Secretary, the Director either serves as a member of, or performs the staff services for, a number of commissions, boards, and committees:

Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments. Created by act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 66).

Advisory Board on San Jose Mission National Historic Site. Created by Memorandum of Agreement, signed May 8, 1941, between the Department of the Interior, the Texas State Parks Board, and the Archbishop of San Antonio, Tex.

Advisory Committee for Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace and Sagamore Hill National Historic Sites Advisory Committee. Created by act of July 25, 1962 (76 Stat. 217).

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Created by title II of Public Law 89-665, October 15, 1966 (80 Stat. 915).

American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. Created by Public Law 89-491, July 4, 1966 (80 Stat. 259).

Appalachian National Scenic Trail Advisory Council. Created by Public Law 90-543, October 2, 1968 (82 Stat. 919).

Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission. Created by Public Law 87-126, August 7, 1961 (75 Stat. 284).

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Commission. Created by Public Law 91-664, January 8, 1971 (84 Stat. 1978).

Committee for Preservation of the White House. Created by Executive Order 11145, March 17, 1964.

Consulting Committee to the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings. Created in 1958 by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to recommendation of the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments.

Father Marquette Tercentenary Commission. Created by Public Law 89-187, September 15, 1965 (79 Stat. 791).

Fire Island National Seashore Advisory Commission. Created by Public Law 88-587, September 11, 1964 (78 Stat. 928).

Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission. Created by Public Law 372, August 11, 1955 (69 Stat. 694).

Gateway National Recreation Area Advisory Commission. Created by Public Law 92-592, October 27, 1972.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Advisory Commission. Created by Public Law 92-589, October 27, 1972.

Gulf Islands National Seashore Advisory Commission. Created by Public Law 91-660, January 8, 1971 (84 Stat. 1967).

Historic American Buildings Survey Advisory Board. Created by the Secretary of the Interior, memorandum of November 17, 1933, to the Federal Civil Works Administrator.

Historic American Engineering Record Advisory Committee. Created pursuant to Agreement among the National Park Service, American Society of Civil Engineers, and the Library of Congress, dated January 10, 1969.

Independence National Historical Park Advisory Commission. Created by act of June 28, 1948 (62 Stat. 1061).

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Advisory Commission. Created by Public Law 89-761, November 5, 1966 (80 Stat. 1309).

Mar-A-Lago National Historic Site Advisory Commission. Created by Public Law 92-527, October 21, 1972.

Minute Man National Historical Park Advisory Commission. Created by act of September 21, 1959 (73 Stat. 591).

National Capital Planning Commission. Created by act of June 6, 1924 (43 Stat. 463), as amended. The Commission is the central planning agency for the Federal and District Governments to plan the appropriate and orderly development and redevelopment of the National Capital, and the conservation of its important natural and historical features.

National Park Foundation. Created by Public Law 90-209, December 18, 1967 (81 Stat. 656), as a charitable, tax-exempt, nonprofit, nongovernmental corporation to further the conservation of natural, scenic, historic, scientific, educational, inspirational, or recreational resources for future generations of Americans through the acquisition and use of real or personal property for the benefit of, or in connection with, the National Park Service, its activities, or its services.

National Parks Centennial Commission. Created by Public Law 91-332, July 10, 1970 (84 Stat. 427).

National Visitor Facilities Advisory Commission. Created by title II of Public Law 90-264, March 12, 1968 (82 Stat. 43).

Natural Sciences Advisory Committee. Created by the Secretary of the Interior on March 9, 1964.

Ozark National Scenic Riverways Commission. Created by Public Law 88-492, August 27, 1964 (78 Stat. 608).

Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore Advisory Commission. Created by Public Law 89-668, October 15, 1966 (80 Stat. 922).

Regional Advisory Committees. Authorized by Public Law 91-383, August 18, 1970 (84 Stat. 825).

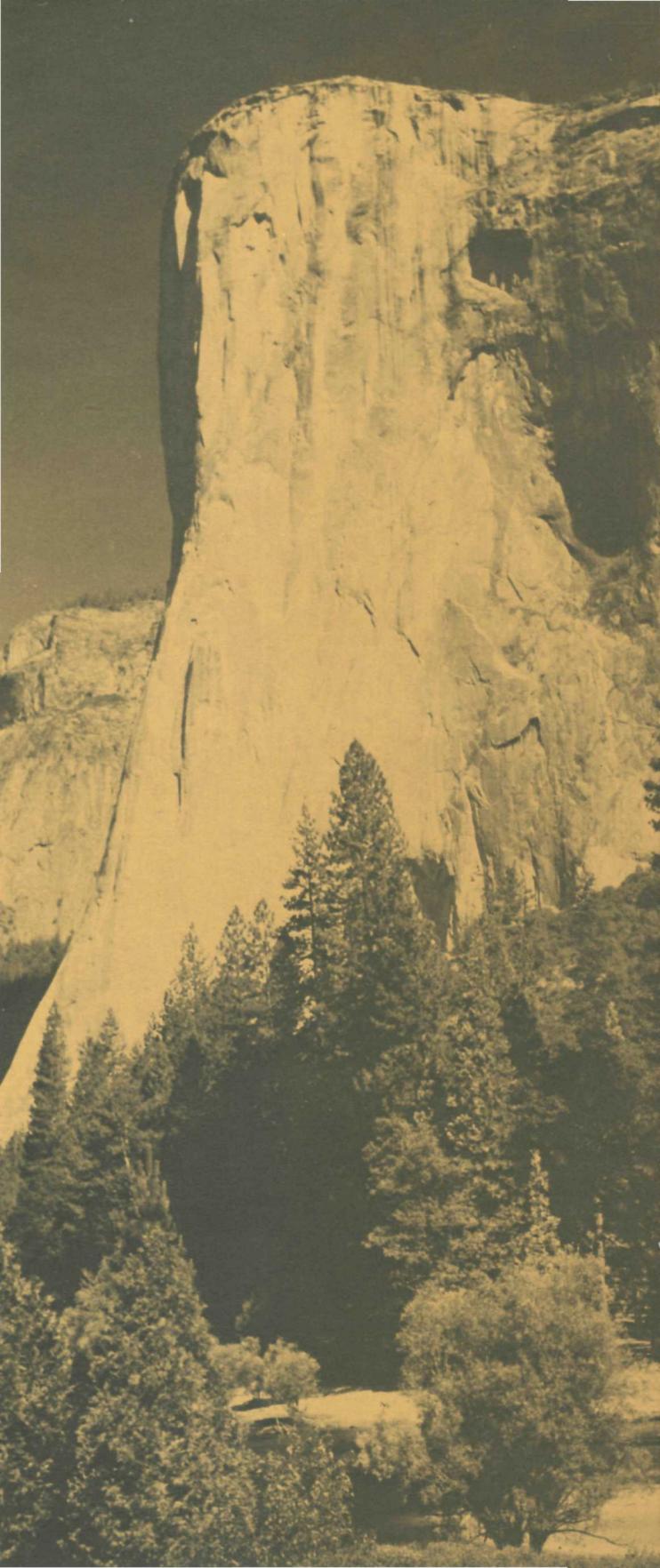
Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore Advisory Commission. Created by Public Law 91-479, October 21, 1970 (84 Stat. 1075).

The District of Columbia Zoning Commission. The D.C. Zoning Commission is comprised of the Director of the National Park Service, or his designated alternate, the Architect of the Capitol, the Mayor of the District of Columbia, the Chairman of the D.C. Council, and the Vice Chairman of the D.C. Council. The Commission regulates the location, height, size, etc., of buildings and structures, the percentage of lot which may be occupied, the size of yards, courts, and other open spaces, the density of population, and the use of buildings, structures, and land for trade, industry, residence, recreation, public activities, or other purposes for the health, safety, morals, convenience, order, prosperity, or general welfare of the District of Columbia and its planning and orderly development as the National Capital.

United States Territorial Expansion Memorial Commission. Created by Public Resolution 32, June 15, 1934 (48 Stat. 967).

Washington National Monument Society. Organized 1833; incorporated by act of February 22, 1859; acts of Congress of August 2, 1876, and October 1, 1888.

Wolf Trap Farm Park Advisory Board. Created by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to Agreement dated May 20, 1966.



national park service organization

The National Park Service was established on August 25, 1916 "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

The National Park Service is a bureau of the Department of the Interior. The bureau is administered from the central office in Washington, D.C.

As of January 1, 1973, there were 298 parks in the National Park System. A superintendent is in charge of each park, or group of parks where several areas are sufficiently close to warrant a single administrative head.

Field direction is provided through seven regional offices, with headquarters in the following cities: Northeast Region, Philadelphia; Southeast Region, Atlanta; Midwest Region, Omaha; Southwest Region, Santa Fe; Western Region, San Francisco; Pacific Northwest Region; Seattle. The parks and memorials of Washington, D.C., are administered by the office of National Capital Parks.

The functions of planning, design, and construction of physical facilities in the parks are carried out by the Denver Service Center. Production of publications, museum exhibits, and audiovisual programs are carried out by the Harpers Ferry Center.

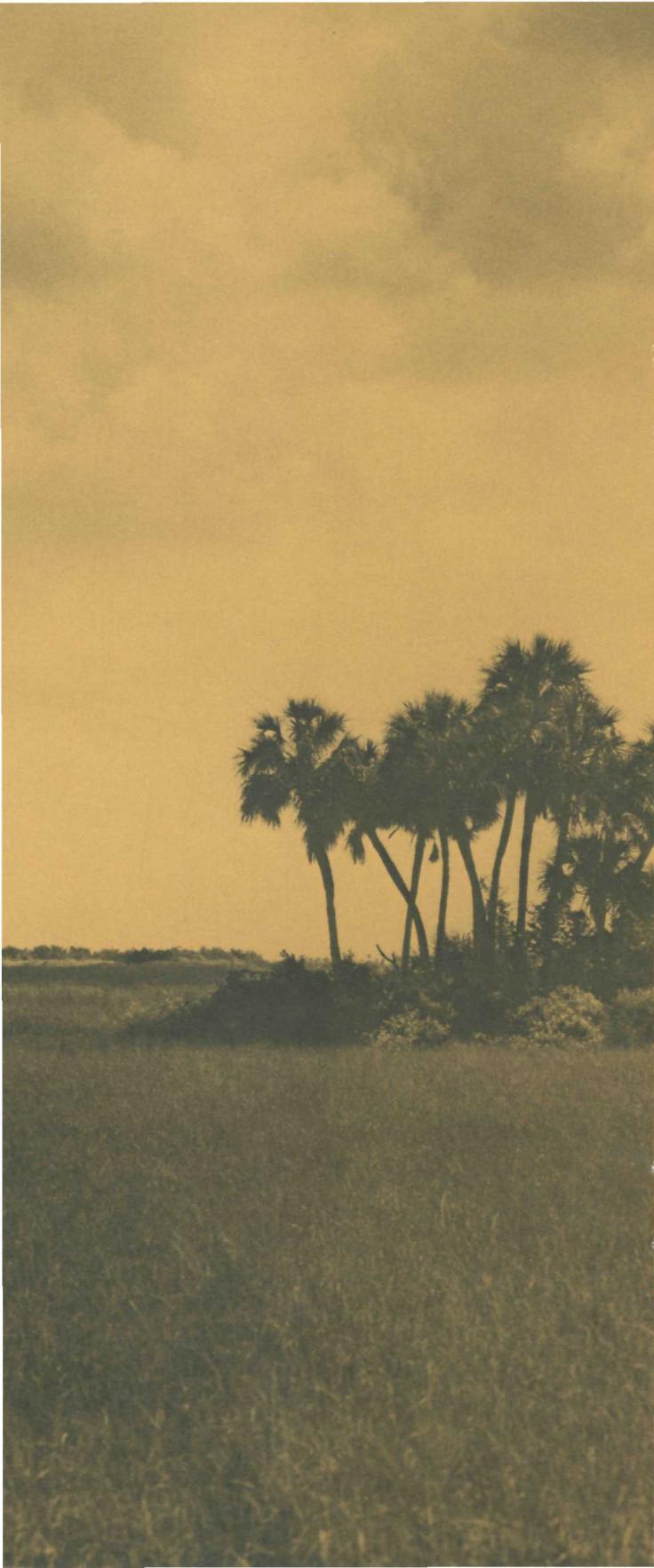
Two training centers, with facilities for housing and conducting specialized training for National Park Service employees, are located at Grand Canyon and Harpers Ferry.

Cooperative research programs are conducted in conjunction with universities at research centers at University of Washington, Seattle; University of Alaska, College; Georgia State University, Atlanta; University of Denver, Denver; Southern University System, New Orleans; City University of New York, New York; University of Wyoming, Laramie; University of Nevada, Las Vegas; George Williams College, Chicago; Florida State University, Tallahassee; University of Arizona, Tucson; University of New Mexico, Albuquerque.

an environmental ethic

Many people go to the National Parks and historic landmarks not simply to satisfy a need to get back to nature from crowded cities or for outdoor recreation, but to strengthen their identity with their country.

"Seeing is believing," and touching the Liberty Bell or watching an eruption of Old Faithful is worth a long trip to experience a sense of identity with America.



Well before the birth of the national park idea in this country, the belief that parks are vital to the physical and mental health of the people was eloquently expressed by the noted landscape architect and planner Frederick Law Olmstead. Submitting his Report to the California Legislature in 1865, recommending the policy which should govern the Yosemite Valley and the neighboring Mariposa Big Tree Grove, Olmstead wrote:

“The first class of considerations . . . likely to have influenced the action of Congress [in transferring Yosemite Valley to California in 1864], is that of the direct pecuniary advantage of the commonwealth which under proper administration will grow out of the possession of the Yosemite. . . . A more important class of considerations, however, remains to be stated. . . . It is the main duty of government, to provide means of protection for all its citizens in the pursuit of happiness against the obstacles, otherwise insurmountable, which the selfishness of individuals or combinations of individuals is liable to interpose to the pursuit.

“It is a scientific fact that the occasional contemplation of natural scenes of an impressive character, particularly if this contemplation occurs in connection with relief from ordinary cares, change of air and change of habits, is favorable to the health and vigor of men; and especially to the health and vigor of their intellect . . . it not only gives pleasure for the time being, but increases the subsequent capacity for happiness and the means of securing happiness.”

When the bill to create a National Park Service was under consideration in Congress in 1916, J. Horace McFarland defined the social values of parks. Testifying before the House Committee on Public Lands, he said: “The word ‘park’ in the minds of most of us suggests a place in which there are a number of flower beds, and probably stone dogs, and iron fountains, and things of that kind, and a road over which an automobile may travel. We forget that the park has passed out of that category in the United States. *The park now serves the people; the park decreases the demand on the forces for keeping order; the park is the direct competitor, in the United States, of the courts, of the jail, of the cemetery, and a very efficient competitor with all of them.*” (Emphasis supplied.)

Love of locality is one of the roots of social cohesion, according to Charles E. Merriam, one of our greatest political scientists. But in a young country like the United States, and in a society where one family in five moves each year, and where we have more than 80

million automobiles, we have a hard time developing local roots of the kind familiar to Englishmen in Sussex, Frenchmen in Brittany, or Irishmen in County Cork. Our national parks, like Yosemite and Grand Canyon, and our historic places, like Independence Hall and the Washington Monument, take the place of local roots for tens of millions of mobile Americans. They give us the assurance of a “sense of place” expressive of our country that we can tie to permanently, wherever we move or live.

Many people go to the national parks and historic landmarks not simply to satisfy a need to get back to nature from crowded cities or for outdoor recreation, but to strengthen their identity with their country. “Seeing is believing,” and touching the Liberty Bell or watching an eruption of Old Faithful is worth a long trip to experience a sense of identity with America.

The National Park System is uniquely qualified to participate in the development of an *environmental ethic* as the foundation upon which our citizens may renew and preserve the quality of our national life. Within the System are the national parks—superlative examples of the natural world; the historic sites—significant landmarks of the manmade cultural world we have built with human resourcefulness; and the national recreation areas—administered to make available for recreational pleasure the many resources of these richly endowed lands and waters.

Every society, every organized aggregate of persons with a group consciousness, has its own way of life, its own culture. The essential core of culture consists of traditional ideas, and especially their attached values, whose origins are nonbiological and socially transmitted. Those ideas and values are expressed in such tangibles as tools, structures, and other artifacts; and in such abstract and intangible products as language, laws, customs, and the design and artistic qualities of art, sculpture, music, architecture, and literature. National cultural parks, such as Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts, recently authorized by the Congress, add a new opportunity for private citizens and Government to join hands in preserving and interpreting the continued viability of these evidences of ways of life. Thus, the System takes on new importance as a launching area for programs aimed at bringing man back to the center of his world—*responsive* to it, and *responsible* for it.

Creation of a curriculum-integrated environmental study program called National Environmental Education Development (NEED), has enriched traditional park

interpretation. The NEED program brings the youngest schoolchildren to a critical awareness of the environment and of the interactions of natural and social processes. At the intermediate level, it gives young people an understanding of man's role, past and present, as a user of his world. The senior high school objective is to encourage the growth of an increased understanding and appreciation of the natural and cultural worlds into a vigorous *environmental ethic*—one that increases man's chances of surviving in his habitat.

Environmental Study Areas are a further implementation of this program. These facilities are laboratories for organized curriculum-related educational programs. They can be used by other than schoolchildren for teaching environmental concepts such as continuity and change, patterns and diversity, interaction and interdependence, and evolutionary development.

These concepts, or *environmental strands*, can be applied with as much validity to the historic and cultural world as to the world of nature. They illustrate the interrelationships between both worlds, and man's inescapable involvement and dependency as a member of both.

Thus, the history of the national park movement in this country could be viewed as the natural evolution of an *environmental ethic*. This emerging ethic stands as an imperative guideline in carrying out the responsibilities that Congress has entrusted to the National Park Service. It seeks to bring together, into a manageable fusion, the two worlds of man—the natural world into which he is born, and the cultural world he has created.



legislative landmarks

Among many legislative enactments creating the National Park Service and defining its missions, the following have primary significance:

Act of March 1, 1872. This legislation established Yellowstone National Park, the first of its kind, in which the Congress laid down a new public land policy; namely, that portions of the public lands were to be “reserved and withdrawn from settlement, occupancy, or sale under the laws of the United States, and dedicated and set apart as a public park or pleasuring-ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people . . . That . . . the Secretary of the Interior . . . shall provide for the preservation, from injury or spoliation, of all timber, mineral deposits, natural curiosities, or wonders within said park, and their retention in their natural condition.”

The national park concept decreed in this and subsequent national park acts is concerned with the “retention in their natural condition” of natural features and scenic resources for the enjoyment of the people.

Antiquities Act of 1906. In the years after 1900, vandalism and indiscriminate looting of prehistoric Indian sites in the Southwest resulted in the passage of the Antiquities Act of 1906. This act extended the earlier public land policy relating to natural parks to provide authority for the President, by proclamation, to set aside as national monuments “historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States. . . .”

Act of August 25, 1916. On this date, the Congress established the National Park Service and assigned to it for administration all of the national parks and most of the national monuments theretofore established. In the 1916 act the Congress also established a broad framework of policy for the administration of these areas; namely, that the Service “shall promote and regulate the use of . . . national parks [and] monuments . . . by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks [and] monuments . . . which purpose is to conserve the scenery and natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

Act of February 21, 1925. This provided for “securing of lands in the Southern Appalachian Mountains and Mammoth Cave regions of Kentucky for perpetual preservation as national parks.” This act led to the

authorization by the Congress in 1926 of Great Smoky Mountains, Mammoth Cave, and Shenandoah National Parks, supplementing Acadia, the first national park in the East. All of these parks involved the acquisition of lands in private ownership. The acquisition of such lands, however, was to be accomplished through *donations*. These actions were significant in that prior thereto the national parks and monuments had been set aside from the public lands.

Act of March 3, 1933. This provided for reorganization within the Executive Branch of the Government and resulted in an Executive order that transferred to the Department of the Interior for administration by the National Park Service the national memorials and parks of the Nation’s Capital, national monuments, and historical and military parks administered by other Federal agencies.

Historic Sites Act of August 21, 1935. Here was established a national policy to preserve for public use historic sites, buildings, and objects of national significance for the inspiration and benefit of the people of the United States. The act also directed the Secretary of the Interior to carry out wide-ranging programs in the field of history and placed with the Secretary responsibility for national leadership in the field of historic preservation. Another provision of the act, which has had strong influence upon the development of the National Park System, was the establishment of the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments.

Park, Parkway, and Recreation Area Study Act of June 23, 1936. This authorized, among other things, studies looking toward the development of the National Park System, including areas having primary recreational significance.

Act of June 30, 1936. This authority provided for the administration and maintenance of the Blue Ridge Parkway by the Secretary of the Interior through the National Park Service, thus introducing the rural parkway concept into the System.

Act of August 17, 1937. This legislation establishing Cape Hatteras National Seashore marked the beginning of the national seashore concept.

Travel Act of July 19, 1940. This act authorizes the

Secretary through the National Park Service to cooperate with public and private tourist, travel, and other agencies in the display of exhibits, and in the collection, publication, and dissemination of information with respect to places of interest, routes, transportation facilities, accommodations, and such other matters as may be advisable and advantageous for the purpose of encouraging, promoting, or developing travel within the United States. The act also established an Interdepartmental Industry Travel Advisory Committee to coordinate and advise on the program.

Act of August 7, 1946. The Congress provided authority to the National Park Service to enter into cooperative agreements for administration of recreation on areas under jurisdiction of other agencies of the Government.

Act of August 7, 1961. The authorization of Cape Cod National Seashore marked a new concept in the development of the National Park System; namely, the use of appropriated funds at the outset to purchase a large natural area in its entirety for public enjoyment as a park. Prior to this enactment, areas, for the most part, were established either by setting aside portions of the public lands or from lands donated to the Federal Government initially by public or private interests.

January 31, 1962. On this date, the Outdoor Recreation Commission, established pursuant to an act of June 28, 1958, submitted its report to the President of the United States. The report contained far-reaching recommendations affecting the future of outdoor recreation. Many of the recommendations of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission are now bearing fruit and their implementation has affected the National Park System. For example, Policy Circular No. 1 of the President's Recreation Advisory Council not only defines national recreation areas but also establishes broad guidelines regarding their management.

April 2, 1962. The Bureau of Outdoor Recreation was established and assigned the nationwide recreation planning and related functions of the Secretary then being performed by the National Park Service, under the authority of the Park, Parkway, and Recreation Area Study Act of 1936.

Act of May 23, 1963. This law charged the Secretary of the Interior with the responsibility "to promote the

coordination and development of effective programs relating to outdoor recreation." The act states "That the Congress finds and declares it to be desirable that all American people of present and future generations be assured adequate outdoor recreation resources, and that it is desirable for all levels of government and private interests to take prompt and coordinated action to the extent practicable without diminishing or affecting their respective powers and functions to conserve, develop, and utilize such resources for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people."

Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964. This legislation declares it the policy of the Congress to secure for the American people of present and future generations an enduring resource of wilderness. Among other things, the act established the National Wilderness Preservation System and requires the Secretary of the Interior, within 10 years, to review roadless areas of 5,000 acres or more in the National Park System and make recommendations as to whether such lands should be added by the Congress to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of September 3, 1964. This act established a fund into which shall be deposited revenues derived from entrance and user fees at certain developed Federal recreation areas, sales of surplus real property, and taxes on motorboat fuels.

Act of July 15, 1968. This amended the 1964 act to provide additional funding from receipts from Outer Continental Shelf Revenue.

Historic Preservation Act of October 15, 1966. By this act Congress broadened its policies involving historic preservation activities, to encourage preservation by private individuals, and to assist State and local governments and the National Trust for Historic Preservation in preservation activities. The act authorizes matching grants to the States for preparation of statewide historic preservation plans, and matching grants to the States and to the National Trust for Historic Preservation for acquisition and rehabilitation of historic sites and structures. The act expands the National Register of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, and culture, to be maintained by the Secretary of the Interior. Sites and objects listed on this National Register must be considered by the heads of Federal

agencies before approving the expenditure of Federal funds on projects that may affect them. The act also established a 17-member advisory Council on Historic Preservation to advise the President and Congress and to coordinate Federal, State, and private activities in the field of preservation. The Director of the National Park Service is designated as Executive Director of the Council.

National Trails System Act of October 2, 1968. This act established the beginnings of a national system of recreation and scenic trails, placing the Appalachian Trail under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service and the Pacific Coast Trail under the Forest Service.

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of October 2, 1968. This act stated that those rivers “which, with their immediate environments, possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values” should be set aside for

the enjoyment of the people, “to protect the water quality . . . and to fulfill other vital national conservation purposes.

Volunteers in Parks Act of July 29, 1970. This act authorized the acceptance of part-time voluntary services in support of National Park Service functions, and the payment of expenses incidental to the voluntary service. Volunteers while on duty are extended the protection afforded regular employees with respect to tort claims and employee compensation for work injuries.

Gateway and Golden Gate National Recreation Areas. As a major step in “bringing parks to people,” Congress in 1972 authorized inclusion within the National Park System of two recreational areas involving significant beach and other recreational lands within and immediately adjacent to San Francisco and New York City.

Almost unnoticed in our concern over group alienation and changing behavioral patterns in our society, a remarkable thing is happening in our national parks: people DO want to get involved with their national heritage. We call them Volunteers in Parks—and the initials, VIP, stand for “very important people.” Last year some 6,000 men and women, from young people to retirees, found something in common as they contributed more than 196,000 man-hours of volunteer service as guides, interpreters, campground attendants and participants in living history programs.

Of the 298 natural, historic and recreation areas of the National Park System, 144 had VIP programs in 1972. Included were Indians at Badlands, college youth at Yosemite—even a group of volunteer doctors serving Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts.

Again, we see an increasing number of private citizens willing to serve as non-paid advisors in programs to identify and preserve historic properties throughout the Nation. They make available to the government a broad range of professional expertise. We have no difficulty in filling volunteer posts on the American Engineering Record Advisory Committee, the Consulting Committee for the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, or the Historic American Buildings Survey Advisory Board—all administered through the National Park Service.

A measure of the growing interest in volunteer participation in historic preservation is the rise of entries in the National Register of Historic Places, from about 1,000 in 1966 to some 5,000 today.

I find all of this encouraging, and I hope you do too.

ROGERS C. B. MORTON
Secretary of the Interior

visits to the national park system

Areas indicated are those authorized as of January 1, 1973

Visitation is for areas established, operating, and reporting as of January 1, 1973

Several parks embrace lands in two or more states.

State "Areas" figures reflect this fact.

Map excludes sites not in Federal ownership.

Visitation figures are approximate. More specific figures are available in the NPS publication, PUBLIC USE OF THE NATIONAL PARKS.

Regional Offices ★





As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities for water, fish, wildlife, mineral, land, park, and recreational resources. Indian and Territorial affairs are other major concerns of America's "Department of Natural Resources." The Department works to assure the wisest choice in managing all our resources so each will make its full contribution to a better United States—now and in the future.

National Park Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR