Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Joshua Tree

From: Acting Regional Director

Subject: Proposed change in name of monument

August 22, 1951

When Mr. Paul Franke was recently in this office he stated it is his opinion that consideration should be given to the possibility of a more appropriate name for Joshua Tree National Monument. The name "Joshua Tree" does seem unsatisfactory when one considers that the preservation of the local stand of Joshua trees was not the compelling reason for establishing the monument—also, finer stands exist outside the area. A more inclusive name which would encompass the desert botany as a whole, would appear more appropriate. It may be that the archeological importance of the Pinto Basin may suggest a name.

The proposal to change the name is, of course, not an entirely new one, and we realize it has aspects which may make a change in the name, even for the better, difficult to consummate.

Please let us have your confidential and informal opinion on this.

Herbert Maier
Acting Regional Director

Copy to: Director
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL MONUMENT
TWENTY MILES, CALIFORNIA

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Four
From: Superintendent, Joshua Tree
Subject: Proposed Change in the Name of the Monument

We have given considerable thought to your memorandum of August 22 relative to the above subject.

There are a number of reasons why the name "Joshua Tree National Monument" is not an appropriate one. Any name based on any particular one of the natural sciences would be equally inappropriate. A desirable name would at least imply the presence of the desert, desert plants and wildlife, and possibly the archaeological importance of the area. Of these we believe that the desert plants only are unique. We doubt that Desert Plant National Monument would be any improvement over the present name.

To date we are unable to suggest any name that we think is preferable to the present one. We will keep the proposal in mind and we would welcome any suggestions.

Frank R. Givens,
Superintendent.
March 27, 1952

Hon. Oscar L. Chapman
Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I have had some correspondence from some people who reside in the Joshua Tree National Monument area in which they are requesting that the look-out point that is now known as "Salton View" should be changed back to "Keys View" which the point was known by over some period of years; however, a man by the name of Keys shot another resident of the Twentynine Palms area by the name of Bagley.

I don't know if they have approached your office on this issue but under the circumstance I don't think that a change should be made. I believe that the existing name of Salton View is not only descriptive but is proper and obviously call your attention to the suggestion that the change not be made.

Thanking you for courtesies extended, I am

Yours sincerely,

Harry R. Sheppard

Washington, D.C.
My dear Mr. Sheppard:

I am in complete agreement with the conclusion expressed in your letter of March 27 that the lookout point in Joshua Tree National Monument known as "Salton View" should retain that name rather than to have it changed to "Keys View." The latter name apparently has been used locally to some extent but has never had official recognition. On the other hand, the Board on Geographic Names, which, jointly with the Secretary of the Interior, establishes official names for United States Government use, approved the name of Salton View, publishing that fact in its decision lists Nos. 4810, 4811, 4812, (March, April, May, 1952). The exact wording is as follows:


In order that you may be acquainted with the facts on which the decision was based, I am enclosing a copy of the memorandum which the Director of the National Park Service addressed to the Director, Board on Geographic Names, setting forth his recommendations and the reasons therefor. Those reasons still seem to me to be adequate.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) Dale E. Doty
Assistant Secretary of the Interior

Hon. Harry R. Sheppard  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Enclosure

Copy to: Director, Division of Geography w/o encl. and of incoming letter  
Reg. Dir., Reg. Four (2) w/o encl. & of incoming letter (by NFS)  
Mr. Diederich w/o incoming letter (by NFS)
April 14, 1948.

MEMORANDUM for the Director, Board on Geographic Names.

It has been recommended by the Custodian of Joshua Tree National Monument, California, that the name of "Kees View," now applied to an overlook in the monument area, be changed to and officially designated as "Salton View." This Office concurs in the recommendation.

One of the most popular tourist features of the monument, this point on the crest of the deeply-eroded fault scarp of the Little San Bernardino Mountains has been the center of much discussion as to a proper name since the monument was established. The name recommended appears to be the most descriptive and most appropriate since the point, from its elevation of 5,185 feet, overlooks the Salton Sea and its basin.

The popularity of the overlook requires its identification on maps and in literature of the monument as a place of interest. In the past this identification has been confused by the use of several names according to the source of information. As an example, the Automobile Club of Southern California published in 1942 a map of Riverside County and used the name "Inspiration Point."

The name "Kees View" has obtained from activities of Mr. William F. Kees, who has maintained a homestead and who acquired parcels of land in the monument area by various means before the area was set aside. Mr. Kees is still living, and although presently absent, is expected to rejoin his family at some future date at their home within the monument. Since Mr. Kees is still living, established procedure would preclude the use of his name in any official designation.

In submitting the proposal it was pointed out by our field people that some opposition to the change might be expected from Mrs. Kees and a few friends of the family who are not friendly toward the monument. However, the fact that Mr. Kees is now serving a sentence in San Quentin following conviction on a charge of manslaughter stemming from a fatal disagreement with a neighbor would probably enter into consideration of the official use of his name after his death, should it be proposed.

The feature under consideration is geographically located in the NW corner of Sec. 7, T. 3 S., R. 2 R., San Bernardino Meridian, shown roughly on the enclosed map.

/s/ Newton B. Drury
Director
Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Four
From: Superintendent, Joshua Tree National Monument
Subject: Place Name - Stubbe Spring

There has been some question as to the correct spelling of Stubbe Spring. It is shown on our maps as Stubby Spring, however this was questioned by Bill Kays, and others. Mr. Harry James made an investigation of the proper name, and below is quoted from his letter:

"As to Stubbe I am advised by an old-timer, Mrs. Edith M. Flincham of 1683 Hill Drive, Los Angeles 41, that N. C. Stubbe a prospector, miner, etc., is the man for which your Stubbe Springs is named. He also filed on a spring near the Serrano Indian village of Palukiktem back of Banning on January 5, 1891. This village and spring were in a canyon and it, too, became known as Stubbe Canyon. Stubbe had a partner in most of his activity who was called G. M. Labermeier. This information corroborates information given me earlier by Bill and Mrs. Kays."

It would seem that maps in the future should be corrected to the proper name of Stubbe.

Wm. R. Supernaugh
Superintendent
Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Joshua Tree
From: Regional Chief, Recreation Resource Planning

Subject: Place Name - Stubbe Spring

In your memorandum of January 10th you indicated that the present spelling, "Stubby Spring," is incorrect, and should be changed to "Stubbe Spring."

This spring is now being investigated, with a view to possible invalidation. Therefore we suggest that no action be taken toward changing the spelling until the question of invalidation has been completed.

George L. Collins
Regional Chief
Recreation Resource Planning

K&K: Budlong: CO
Memorandum

To: Director, National Park Service

From: Executive Secretary, Domestic Geographic Names

Subject: Pending decision on Stubbe Spring in Joshua Tree National Monument

A case brief has been prepared for Stubbe Spring for presentation to the Domestic Names Committee in April. It will read on the docket as follows:

**Stubbe Spring:** spring in the Little San Bernardino Mountains in Joshua Tree National Monument about 21 miles northeast of Palm Springs; Riverside County, California; 33° 57' 37" N., 116° 14' 12" W. Not: Stubby Spring.

The spelling of this name is in variance with your 1941, Joshua Tree National Monument map.

It was submitted in a letter from Mr. Harry C. James, Executive Director of the Desert Protective Council in which he states that the spring was named after a H. C. Stubbe who lived in the area as early as 1891.

Any comments from the National Park Service would be appreciated.

O. Kilmartin
Executive Secretary
Domestic Geographic Names
March 11, 1960

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Four

From: Chief, Division of Recreation Resource Planning

Subject: Pending Decision on Stubbe Spring in Joshua Tree National Monument

The attached memorandum from Mr. J. O. Kilpatrick, Executive Secretary for National Geographic Names points out an inconsistency in the spelling of Stubbe (or Stubby) Spring in Joshua Tree National Monument and asks for our comments.

We would appreciate having the benefit of your advice.

SIGNED

Ben H. Thompson, Chief
Division of Recreation Resource Planning

In duplicate

Attachment

Copy to: NPS Planning w/o attachment

JMGaffmann:ts
Memorandum

To: Director
From: Regional Director, Region Four
Subject: Pending Decision on Stubbe Spring in Joshua Tree National Monument

In his memorandum of March 11 Mr. Thompson requested our comments on the proposal to change the spelling of Stubby Spring in Joshua Tree National Monument.

We enclose a copy of Superintendent Superintendent Supernaugh's memorandum of January 18 on this subject, and copy of Mr. Collins' reply. We are still of the opinion that it would be inadvisable to take any action on this proposed name change until the examination of the claim by the Bureau of Land Management has been completed, and we know whether or not it will be declared invalid. We are inclined to think that any publicity of this sort should be avoided until the investigation has been completed.

Herbert Maier
Acting Regional Director

Attachments D
Memorandum

To: Secretary, Domestic Geographic Names Board on Geographic Names

From: Director, National Park Service

Subject: Pending Decision on Stubble Spring in Joshua Tree National Monument

In your memorandum to us of February 10, you asked for our comments on the above decision, pointing out that the spelling of this name is in variance with our 1961 Joshua Tree National Monument map.

Attached are copies of memoranda from the Superintendent, Joshua Tree National Monument and our Region Four Office in San Francisco, giving information on this name proposal and recommending deferment of any action until the Bureau of Land Management examination of the claim has been completed. We concur in this recommendation.

(Sgd) CONRAD L. WIRTH
Director

Attachments 3

Copy to: Bureau of Land Management w/c attachments
Regional Director, Region Four (2)
NPS Planning w/c attachments

JMKaufmann:ts
5/3/60
September 16, 1960

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Four

From: Chief, Division of Recreation Resource Planning

Subject: Pending Name Decision on Stubbe Spring, Joshua Tree

Acting on Mr. Meier's memorandum of April 19, the Director, by memorandum of May 4, asked the Board on Geographic Names to defer action on verifying the proper form of the above name pending completion of a Bureau of Land Management examination of a claim for the spring.

The Board, having to complete action on this pending decision, has asked if there have been any developments which can now enable the Board to take final action. Please advise us.

Ben H. Thompson, Chief
Division of Recreation Resource Planning

In duplicate

Copy to: Mr. Diederich, RFS

J.Kauffmann:mf
9/16/60
MEMORANDUM

To: Director
From: Assistant Regional Director
Subject: Pending Name Decision on Stubbe Spring, Joshua Tree

In reply to Mr. Thompson's memorandum of September 16, we are still awaiting word from the Bureau of Land Management, and hope that we will receive information from them in the near future concerning the status of the mill site claim at the spring.

We suggest that it would still be advisable for the Board on Geographic Names to withhold final action until we hear from the Bureau of Land Management, since complications might ensue by reason of a name change if the claim upon which the spring is located should be invalidated.

Assistant Regional Director

Copy to: Supt., Joshua Tree
w/cc incoming letter
Memorandum

To: Executive Secretary, Domestic Geographic Names Board on Geographic Names
From: Director, National Park Service
Subject: Funding Home Decision on Stable Spring, Joshua Tree National Monument

Aware of the Board’s desire to complete action on this pending geographic name decision, we made inquiry of our Regional Office as to its status. Our Region Four Office believes it is still advisable for the Board to withhold final action on this proposal. We are still awaiting word from the Bureau of Land Management concerning the status of a salt site claim at the spring, and complications might ensue by reason of a name change if the claim upon which the spring is located should be invalidated.

We suggest and ask that postponement of this decision be continued.

Sgd
E. L. Scoven
Director

Copy to: Regional Director, Region Four (A)
Mr. Frederick HPS w/c inc. memo from Region Four

[Signature]
October 17, 1960
Memorandum

To: Director, National Park Service  
Attention: Mr. John Kauffman

From: Executive Secretary, Domestic Geographic Names

Subject: Your memorandums of May 4, 1960 and October 17, 1960

Over a year has passed since you requested that we withhold publication of a decision rendered in April, 1960 by the Domestic Names Committee for the name Stubble Spring in Joshua Tree National Monument. We understand that Mr. William Supernaugh, Superintendent of this national monument concurs with the Committee's decision. However, the request for deferred publication was based on a pending report from the Bureau of Land Management concerning the status of a mill site claim at the spring. If this report still has not been received, is there a need to continue deferral of the promulgation of the decision?

J. O. Kilmartin
Executive Secretary
Domestic Geographic Names
August 2, 1961

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Four

From: Acting Chief, Branch of National Park System Planning

Subject: Geographic Name, Joshua Tree

Attached is a memorandum of July 24 from the Executive
Secretary, Domestic/Board on Geographic Names, con-
cerning the name Stubble Spring (misspelled Stubble
in the memorandum) in Joshua Tree National Monument.
We shall appreciate your advice on this matter.

SIGNED

J. H. Gadsby, Acting Chief
Branch of National Park System Planning

In duplicate

Attachment

Copy to: NPS Planning w/attachment

JHkouffmann/ct

Kouffmann