SHOWN ON THE FRONT COVER

1 Mt. McKinley, Mid-Summer.
National Park Service Photograph

2 Barren Ground Caribou on the
Run at Mt. McKinley. National
Park Service Photograph.

3 Original sketch honoring City of
Refugee, Hawaii, by Fred Labitzke

4 Independence Hall at night,
photograph by Jack E. Boucher of
the National Park Service

5 United States commemorative
postage stamp of Cape Hatteras
National Seashore, designed by
Walter D. Richards

6 Statue to William Tecumseh
Sherman at Gettysburg National
Military Park, photograph by M.
Woodbridge Williams of the
National Park Service

7 Original drawing of the Filene
Center for the Performing Arts at
Wolf Trap Farm Park, Virginia, by
Fred Labitzke

8 United States commemorative
postage stamp, designed by Robert
Handville, honoring Yellowstone
National Park
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1 Washington Monument with Cherry Trees in Blossom. National Park Service Photograph by J. Aycock.

2 Devils Tower National Monument at mid-day. National Park Service Photograph by William S. Keller.
Of Parks and Postage Stamps

Today we take our National Park system for granted. It was not always so. There was not always a Yellowstone Park, or a Cape Hatteras Seashore, or a Lincoln Memorial. In fact, prior to 1872, no national park existed in the United States, or elsewhere in the world. President Grant’s signing on March 1, 1872, of an act creating Yellowstone National Park changed the course of history by establishing the first national park. This action reflected wisdom and rare insight into the need for providing parks for people.

If others had not accepted the idea that natural and historic resources must be preserved, the National Parks Centennial Year celebration would not have been possible or meaningful in 1972. Today, enthusiastic acceptance of this concept has resulted in 285 diverse units in our National Park system encompassing places like Yellowstone, George Washington’s Birthplace, Independence Hall, Cape Cod Seashore, Hawaiian Volcanoes and hundreds of others. From a simple stone marker in Washington recalling the founding of the National Grange to the largest park area of them all, the 2,803,804 acre Glacier Bay National Monument in Alaska, our park system helps each of us relate to our natural environment and reflect upon our heritage.

It is not surprising that there is a great common ground between parks and stamps. Both are closely intertwined with the heritage of America. The five stamps of the 1972 National Parks Centennial Series and the ten stamps of the 1934 National Parks Series, with which most stamp collectors are familiar, represent but a small fraction of the U. S. postage stamps closely related to national park areas. So many postage stamps provide windows into our national parks that we can discover America—especially those far away places we might not otherwise be able to visit—through stamps.

This Portfolio presents, for the first time, a look at the National Park System through United States postage stamps. You might wish to use this Portfolio as a topical album in which
to save your favorite national parks stamps. Because it is organized into geographic areas, you may wish to take it along the next time you travel. Unfortunately, stamps have not been issued for all of the parks. However, every stamp included in this Portfolio provides a key to our history, a glimpse into our environment, and a tribute to the enduring concept of parks, which since 1872 have helped provide for our aesthetic, spiritual, and cultural needs.

Now, join us in the world of Parks and Postage Stamps!
Although the first national park was established in 1872, the National Park Service of the U. S. Department of the Interior was not created until 1916. The Congress has assigned a dual mission: to manage the superlative natural, historical, and recreational 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 state, and local agencies, private citizens and organizations in the preservation of our Nation’s cultural and natural heritage.

The total number of national parks now stands at 38; national battlefields, 6; national battlefield parks, 3; national historical parks, 14; national monuments, 82; national historic sites in federal ownership, 44; national memorials, 19; national seashores, 8; national lakeshores, 4; national riverways, 4; and the national capital parks, 1 (comprising 709 units within the District of Columbia).

As of March 1972, there were 285 areas authorized or established in the National Park System, including some types of areas not mentioned above, such as Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts. As one writer puts it, these “...are not merely scenic places in America. They are America.”
ACADIA NATIONAL PARK, Maine
Proclaimed a National Monument, July 8, 1916

The rugged coastal area on Mount Desert Island, Maine, is symbolic of the northernmost National Park on the Eastern Seaboard. Here you may hike or drive to the top of Cadillac Mountain, the highest point on our Atlantic coast, and survey the sea. Twice daily, in the tidal zone, the tidepools are exposed for exploration—marine plants and animals living in microhabitats between the land and the sea. At Acadia the sea is all pervading: it encircles, it thrusts inland, it fogs. In the midday sun, its bright blue surface is studded with lobster buoys.

The name of the park as well as many points of interest—Schoodic Harbor, Isle au Haut, Champlain Mountain, Sieur de Monts Spring, remind us that these environs once welcomed French Colonists. To this day, many people in Maine proudly reflect upon their French and Acadian ancestry.

ADAMS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Massachusetts
Designated, December 9, 1946

Located in Quincy, Massachusetts, roughly eight miles south of Boston, the Adams house and library is a memorial to a family that was instrumental in shaping America. This was the home of John Adams, and his son John Quincy Adams, the second and sixth Presidents of the United States.

John Adams (1735-1826), from the first an opponent of Parliamentary injustice, early attacked the notorious Stamp Act; but, typical of his sense of justice, defended British soldiers accused of murder in the "Boston Massacre" of 1770. His keen arguments helped shape the Declaration of Independence, even though he earlier sought to work within the established order to remove grievances. With his firm recommendation, George Washington became commander of the Continental Army. Then, in 1783, he negotiated the Treaty of Paris with the British, thus concluding the hostilities which he had himself helped foster. He served with Washington as the first Vice President of the United States. Always honest, often wise, Adams' term as the Second President, brought controversy not untypical of the formative years of any nation.

John Adams' son, John Quincy Adams (1767-1848) was responsible for a good measure of the high esteem in which America came to be held in the world: at various times a diplomatic representative to Russia, Prussia, the Netherlands, and Great Britain, he helped negotiate the Treaty of Ghent ending the War of 1812. Elected President in 1824 by a slim electoral margin, he served one term, eschewing politics and working for internal improvements. He went on to fight against slavery.

This was also the home of Charles Francis Adams, U. S. Minister to Great Britain during the Civil War, and of the celebrated writers and historians, Henry Adams and Brooks Adams.

CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE, Massachusetts
Authorized, August 7, 1961

In September, 1620, the Mayflower sailed from Plymouth, England, carrying 102 passengers with their permit to settle on London Company lands in Virginia. After 65 stormy days they arrived in America, dropping anchor not in Virginia but at Cape Cod Bay. Realizing they had missed Virginia, and had therefore passed under the prescribed government of the crown, they drafted the first agreement for a self-government in America. This "Mayflower Compact" was accepted by all before going ashore at what is now Provincetown, Massachusetts. For about four weeks they explored this area, finding fresh water, Indian corn and Indians! Then they sailed across the bay and established the Plymouth Plantation, named after the English port of their embarkation; Plymouth in Devon.

Today, three centuries later, the ocean beaches, dunes, woodlands, freshwater ponds and marshes on outer Cape Cod continue to offer a haven for mariners and recreationists—reminders of the sometimes welcoming, sometimes harsh land which greeted these determined souls.
Above, from the left: 2c John Adams, issued June 3, 1938; 6c John Quincy Adams, issued July 28, 1938.

7c Acadia National Park, issued October 2, 1934.

Clockwise from the immediate left: 6c 350th Anniversary of the Landing of the Pilgrims, issued November 21, 1970; 1c Mayflower, issued December 21, 1920; 5c Signing of the Compact, issued December 21, 1920.

Above, from the left: 2c John Adams, issued June 3, 1938; 6c John Quincy Adams, issued July 28, 1938.
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Massachusetts
Authorized, May 26, 1967

John Fitzgerald Kennedy (1917-1963), thirty-fifth President of the United States, was born and spent his earliest years in this house at 83 Beals Street in Brookline, Massachusetts. Restored and refurnished to its 1917 appearance, it is the central attraction in a walking tour of the neighborhood including four nearby sites of importance to the early years of the Kennedy family.

The victim of an assassin’s bullet on November 22, 1963, he served as President for less than two years—a very short time, in which his youth (at 44 the youngest President) and his courage (a crucial confrontation with the Soviet Union over Cuba) and his egalitarian views (he was firmly committed to equal rights for all) made a profound influence in the Nation and the world. In a special way he was a hero to the Nation: he had won the Navy and Marine Corps Medals and the Purple Heart for his celebrated actions while in command of “PT 109” during World War II. He was a hero to the young and to the world: he was the first of a new generation to attain the Presidency, he sought to heal wounds at home and to strengthen alliances overseas. His tragic death brought universal grief. This first Roman Catholic President had been a Congressman, Senator, and a Pulitzer-prize-winning author.

MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK, Massachusetts
Designated as National Historic Site, April 14, 1959

More than one year before Independence would be proclaimed, the British, convinced that men like Samuel Adams were leading the colonies towards rebellion, took preventative action. On the one hand, they sought to quiet the Colonies with conciliatory acts; on the other, they prohibited importation of arms and gunpowder into the Colonies. But when the colonial militia began carrying off gunpowder and weapons stores belonging to the crown, British General Gage was finally forced to act.

In the early morning of April 19, 1775, British troops moved from Boston to Concord to find and destroy military supplies. Six companies of British troops under Major John Pitcairn confronted the colonial militia drawn up in the town green at Lexington. “Stand your ground,” Captain John Parker tells his Minute Men. “Don’t fire unless fired upon. But if they mean to have a war, let it begin here!” Triggered by what may have been an accidental shot, the British fired upon the militia, wounding ten and killing eight. Arriving in Concord to find most supplies removed, the British started back to Boston only to face the gauntlet of three or more thousand colonial riflemen, who untrue to the modes of European combat, fired from behind trees and rocks. The Battles of Lexington and Concord were a rout for the British; they were victories for the “Minute Men” who waited to be called at a moments notice. Thus began the American Revolution against the world’s mightiest land and naval power of the time.

SAINT-GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, New Hampshire
Authorized, August 31, 1964

The home, studio, and gardens of American sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens (1848-1907) preserves a turn of the century setting of the Cornish Colony, Cornish, New Hampshire. It was here that Saint-Gaudens created some of his most famous works. Here he overturned old conventions in sculpture, taught and became the leader of many artistic causes. He felt that no one ever succeeded in art unless born with an uncontrollable instinct toward it.

In 1876 he was commissioned to do a statue honoring Farragut. In 1880 the statue was exhibited in Paris; cast in bronze it now stands in Madison Square in New York City. This work was so well received that he no longer struggled to get commissions. His better known works are “The Standing Lincoln”, “The Randall”, “The Puritan”, and “Grief”, the haunting memorial to Henry Adams’ wife.

Saint-Gaudens spent much time in Washington, D. C., working with his friend McKim and Daniel Burnham on the McMillan Commission, making recommendations for the preservation and development of the Nation’s Capital. When President Theodore Roosevelt asked him to apply his talents to United States coinage, he magnificently redesigned the $10 and $20 gold pieces, which are treasured by collectors today.

Clockwise, from the right: 1c Washington at Cambridge; 2c Birth of Liberty Painting; 5c Minuteman Statue; entire "Lexington-Concord" series released April 4, 1925.

3c Augustus Saint-Gaudens Famous American, issued September 16, 1940.
ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL, Rhode Island
Authorized, October 22, 1965 Not yet open to the public

Roger Williams (1603?-1683) was a nonconforming Welsh minister who migrated to Massachusetts in 1631. He preached such heretical ideas as freedom of conscience in religious matters, a complete separation of civil and church laws, and Indian ownership of land. It was his belief that neither the King nor the colonist should have title to the land until they purchased it from the Indians. Almost immediately he fell into disagreement with the authorities. The Puritans would not tolerate divergent religious views—and their “holy experiment” was probably more intolerant of diversity in religion than Charles I. They decreed that the Reverend Williams should be banished from the colony.

Before Williams could be exiled, he and his followers fled the Massachusetts Bay Colony and settled near Narragansett Bay. Seeking a place to exercise freedom of thought and complete religious tolerance they founded Providence—the beginning of Rhode Island—near a fresh spring at the junction of the Moshassuck and Woonsaquatucket Rivers. As a result, Rhode Island then became a refuge for persecuted religious minorities and dissenters, including Jews and Quakers, although toleration of the latter strained even Roger Williams’ belief.

In 1673, Roger Williams’ house was destroyed by fire. Later, urban development filled in and covered over the spring and house sites.
3c 300th Anniversary of Rhode Island's Founding, issued May 4, 1936.
EDISON NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, New Jersey
Designated, December 6, 1955

In West Orange, New Jersey are the laboratory buildings and handsome country estate where Thomas Alva Edison (1847-1931) lived and worked for 44 years. The researches of this creative genius and his capable assistants produced hundreds of inventions and improvements. Edison's goal was to develop things that "every man, woman, and child in the world wanted." At the time of his death Edison held 1,093 U. S. patents, most of them the result of team experiments in these laboratories.

Still preserved are the physics and chemical laboratory, chemical storage room, machine shop and pattern room. From these "shops" came the motion picture camera, storage battery, the electric dynamo, mimeograph, phonographs, silent and sound movies, incandescent and fluorescent lamps. Here you can see the first successful electric light. A highlight of any visit to this site is the full sized replica of the tarpapered "Black Maria"—the first motion picture studio now used as a theatre with scheduled showings of Edison's early films.

FEDERAL HALL NATIONAL MEMORIAL, New York
Designated, May 26, 1939

Consider the chaos of government under the Articles of Confederation. Then, place yourself at George Washington's side as he travelled from Mount Vernon to New York to become the first President under the Constitution: he travelled through triumphant arch after triumphant arch, flowers strewn in his path, with offerings of crowns of laurel. Consider this, and you will understand much of the importance of Federal Hall in New York City. On this spot—the present structure is an 1842 building in the old plan—was New York's first City Hall. Following the Revolution, it became known as Federal Hall; it was here that the Stamp Act Congress (October 7-25, 1765) met. And then, it was selected following the war as the seat of the new U. S. Government—its temporary Capitol. On the balcony of this building George Washington, who as first President would do much to establish the tenor as well as the form of government, took the first oath of office. At this spot, in a very real sense, the efforts of the Revolution and the Constitutional Convention—which had been held in Philadelphia—came to a meaningful start.

Following the establishment of Washington as the capital, this location on Wall Street in the lower section of Manhattan became a Customs House and Branch of the U. S. Treasury, where at one time seventy percent of the U. S. Government's money was handled (1842-1920). Today it recalls, in the face of hustle and bustle, the solemnity of that first moment when Washington said: "I do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States...".

Above, from the left: 3c Thomas A. Edison Famous American, issued February 11, 1947; 2c 50th Anniversary of the Electric Light, issued June 5, 1929.

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GENERAL GRANT NATIONAL MEMORIAL, New York
Dedicated, April 27, 1897
Architect, John H. Duncan

ULYSSES S. GRANT STATUE, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated, April 27, 1922
Sculptor, Henry Merwin Shrady

As symbol of Union victory during the Civil War, Grant was elected the 18th President in 1868. He was reelected in 1872. The American people hoped for an end to turmoil when he was elected. However, Grant provided neither vigor nor reform. It was Grant however, who signed the act establishing the nation’s first National Park, Yellowstone.

Following his second term, Grant spent two years touring the world. His final years were darkened when he became a partner in a financial firm which went bankrupt. With the knowledge that he was dying of cancer, he made a final effort to pay off his debts and provide for his family by writing his memoirs. Just two days after completing the manuscript he died. His effort was a financial as well as a literary success, for the Personal Memoirs have become a military classic.

The 150 foot gray granite monument, popularly known as “Grants Tomb”, sits on a bluff overlooking the Hudson River. An open crypt in the center contains the sarcophagi of the General and his wife.

In Washington, D. C., located in Union Square, on the west front of the Capitol, the largest equestrian statue in the United States pays tribute to General and President.

HAMILTON GRANGE NATIONAL MEMORIAL, New York
Authorized, April 27, 1962
No Federal facilities

One of America’s greatest statesmen and patriots, Alexander Hamilton (1755-1804) built this home, the “Grange”, in the countryside for his family. The growth of New York City since those days of 1800 has erased the countryside, and the “Grange” now stands in Harlem. A man of great conviction, born at Nevis in the British West Indies, he died in 1804, in a gun duel with Vice President Aaron Burr.

This conviction led him from the very earliest to support the cause of freedom in the colonies. A skillful artillery unit commander at the battles of Long Island, White Plains, Trenton, and Princeton, he caught Washington’s eye, and served the General as aide-de-camp until 1781 when, again given command, he eventually fought at Yorktown. Conscious of the limitations of government under the Articles of Confederation, Hamilton was instrumental in calling the Constitutional Convention. Pushing for strong central government, and then, both through authorship of more than half of the Federalist Papers (which supported ratification) and carrying of the New York Convention despite massive opposition, he saw its ratification. He became the first Secretary of the Treasury, and successfully advocated a policy of developing capital necessary to economic growth: he restored the national credit, attracted foreign and domestic capital to American enterprises, and began a large-scale expansion of industry and commerce. Not all of Hamilton’s theories were accepted, and his strong views in the face of equally strong and contentious opinions put forth by Jefferson and Madison, eventually would threaten to split the Union.
Clockwise, from above: 2c Battle of White Plains (Hamilton’s Battery), issued October 18, 1926; $5.00 Alexander Hamilton, issued March 19, 1956; 3c 200th Anniversary of Alexander Hamilton’s Birth, issued January 11, 1957.

3c Generals Sherman, Grant, and Sheridan, Army and Navy Series, issued February 18, 1937.
HOME OF FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, New York
Designated, January 15, 1944
ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated, April 12, 1965
ROOSEVELT CAMPOBELLO INTERNATIONAL PARK, Canada
Established, July 7, 1946 Administered by a U. S.-Canadian Commission

Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882-1945), the Nation's thirty-second President, was born at Hyde Park, his ancestral home overlooking the Hudson River. As a youngster, he played here and dreamed of ships—one day he would become Assistant Secretary of the Navy. To Hyde Park he brought his bride, Eleanor (1884-1962), and here their children were raised. From here he launched a political career that stretched from the New York Senate, to the Governorship of New York, and election four times to the Presidency. Amazingly, this man, stricken at 39 by infantile paralysis, accomplished many of these political offices after that tragedy.

Roosevelt will always arouse controversy; not because of inaction, but because of direct, vigorous action in the face of a disastrous "Great Depression". His New Deal saw the implementation of Social Security, support of agricultural prices, collective bargaining, public works, and relief. Sometimes hasty, sometimes misdirected, sometimes un-Constitutional, his acts forged relief for a depressed Nation and boosted the national morale. Though he did not see the end of World War II, he courageously supported efforts to provide aid to Great Britain, helped forge allied unity, from the very start of the war planned for and worked towards a United Nations organization, and conducted most of the Nation's foreign relations. Three months after his election to a fourth term he died at Warm Springs, Georgia. Following his wishes, a simple stone block of white Vermont marble was dedicated to him in the modest, grassy park at 9th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue near the National Archives in Washington.

His wife, Eleanor, was no less a great American. Her career both before, during, and after FDR's Presidency bespoke human kindness. She championed educational and social reform, supported minority groups, and served her Nation in war-time as Assistant Director, Office of Civilian Defense. The first delegate to the United Nations General Assembly from the United States, she fought for human rights throughout the world. Author, lecturer, columnist, she was in her own right a contributor to our heritage.

Campobello, the summer home of the Roosevelt family, is owned and administered by an international park commission.

SARATOGA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, New York
Authorized, June 1, 1938

Every conflict has its turning point. In the Civil War it would be Gettysburg, in which the South lost all hope of foreign support and recognition. In the Revolution, it was the Battle of Saratoga, or rather, the battles which led to the surrender of General Sir John Burgoyne at Saratoga on October 17, 1777. Beginning in June 1777, Burgoyne attempted, with 4,200 British regulars, 4,000 German, and several hundred Canadians and Indians, to move from Canada though New York, and subdue the rebellious Colonists.

Too vain for his own good, Burgoyne encountered American regular and volunteer forces under John Stark, Benedict Arnold, and Horatio Gates, each time losing a few hundred men. Eventually 9,000 volunteers had joined the fight against the British. Burgoyne, who had retreated to the redoubt of Saratoga, found himself surrounded by a force many times larger than his own. So, he surrendered his remaining 5,700 men, lost all his weapons, and, by treaty, shipped all of his forces back to Europe with the condition they would never fight in America again.

In America, this defeat changed little the problem of overall British superiority. But, it jolted the British and encouraged a hesitant France to intervene openly on the side of the Colonists. What's more, on December 17, 1777, the King's Council of France recognized the Independence of the United States. Although the recognition did not initially help the revolutionaries (after all, the French Monarchy was not exactly in favor of revolutions) its recognition served the ends of the French, it was a milestone which legitimized the new Nation. Later, at a crucial time—the Battle of Yorktown—it would be French seapower which would make the difference.
Immediately above: 5c Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial, released October 11, 1963; four stamps at the left: 1c Hyde Park, issued July 26, 1945; 2c Warm Springs, Georgia, issued August 24, 1945; 3c White House, issued June 27, 1945; 5c Roosevelt's Goals in the War effort, issued January 30, 1946.

2c Burgoyne Campaign, issued August 3, 1927.
STATUE OF LIBERTY NATIONAL MONUMENT, New York, New Jersey
Proclaimed, October 15, 1924; transferred from War Department, August 10, 1933, Sculptor, Frederic Bartholdi.

"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, . . ." To the world the Statue of Liberty is a symbol of those ideals of human liberty upon which the United States and its government are founded. Millions of immigrants who crossed the ocean in search of greater freedom and opportunity, and Americans returning from abroad, have been greeted by this great lady. Conceived as a memorial to great international friendship, French sculptor Frederic Bartholdi expressed it in this classic form. This colossal statue, made of sheets of copper which were hammered into shape over a mold, raises its torch 305 feet above the base of the pedestal. Visitors may reach an observation balcony at the foot of the statue by elevator; inside the statue a steep spiral staircase leads into the crown on the statue’s head. The people of France financed the building of the statue while Americans provided the pedestal upon which it stands. The American Museum of Immigration has been installed in the base.

On October 28, 1886, the "Statue of Liberty Enlightening the World" was dedicated with impressive ceremonies. President Grover Cleveland, in accepting the monument on behalf of the people of the United States, solemnly promised that "We will not forget that liberty has here made her home; nor shall her chosen altar be neglected."

THEODORE ROOSEVELT BIRTHPLACE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, New York
Authorized, July 25, 1962
SAGAMORE HILL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, New York
Authorized, July 25, 1962
THEODORE ROOSEVELT INAUGURAL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, New York
Dedicated, September 14, 1971

Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919) was born October 28, 1858 and for twenty years lived in the family home at 28 East 20th Street, New York City. As a child he suffered from asthma and weak eyesight and was physically unable to attend school. However, his keen intelligence, boundless energy, and wide reading enabled him later to enter Harvard. After graduating from Harvard he bought this hill where he later built a twenty-two room Victorian home which he named Sagamore Hill.

He served as Assistant Secretary of the Navy during President McKinley’s first administration; a post he resigned in 1898 to help organize the Rough Riders where he saw only minor action but received wide credit.

In 1901 Roosevelt was elected Vice President. Less than six months after beginning his second term President McKinley was critically wounded by an assassin while attending an exposition in Buffalo, New York. After surgery McKinley’s condition improved and Roosevelt decided that he could take his family on an outing in the Adirondack Mountains. McKinley’s condition deteriorated, and Roosevelt was summoned to Buffalo. However, by the time he arrived the President was dead. As Vice President, Roosevelt was sworn in as the 25th President in the library of a private home in Buffalo.

After he became President, Sagamore Hill was the center of the day-to-day administration of the country’s affairs during the summer from 1901 to 1909. For more than 30 years it was one of the most conspicuous homes in America. Today, the house is little changed from the time it was the home of this distinguished American and his family. Roosevelt said, "After all, fond as I am of the White House and much though I have appreciated these years in it, there isn’t any place in the world like home—like Sagamore Hill, where things are our own, with our own associations . . ."
Counterclockwise, from upper left: 15c Statue of Liberty, released November 11, 1922; 8c Statue of Liberty, released April 9, 1954; 15c Liberty Air Mail, released November 20, 1959.

Clockwise, from upper left: 3c Sagamore Hill, released September 14, 1953; 3c Rough Riders 50th Anniversary, released October 27, 1948; 3c Panama Canal 25th Anniversary, released August 15, 1939.
Reconstructed log cabin at the Booker T. Washington birthplace. 
National Park Service Photograph by M. Woodbridge Williams.
BOOKER T. WASHINGTON NATIONAL MONUMENT,
Virginia
Authorized, April 2, 1956

Born into slavery on a small Virginia plantation at Hale's Ford in 1856, Booker T. Washington (1856-1915) became a free man at the end of the Civil War. His formal education began when he was sixteen. Working his way through the Hampton Institute as a janitor, he began a life devoted to learning and teaching. Founding the Tuskegee Institute in 1881, he directed its development into a leading educational institution. His love of education and recognition of the importance of learning in the bettering of the lot of the Negro made him an ardent advocate of Negro education and opponent of racism. With the death of Frederick Douglass (1817-1895) he became the acknowledged spokesman of the American Negro and an unofficial advisor to three Presidents. Washington's vision, however, extended beyond the limitations of race and sectionalism and he stressed educational and gradual adjustment for the American Negro rather than immediate change. This site preserves the birthplace and childhood home of Booker T. Washington.

APPMATTOX COURT HOUSE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, Virginia
Authorized June 18, 1930

On April 9, 1865, a week after being defeated at Richmond and Petersburg, General Robert E. Lee (1807-1870) and his Army of Northern Virginia were completely surrounded by a Union Army under the command of General Ulysses S. Grant (1822-1885) assisted by the forces of General Philip Henry Sheridan (1831-1888). With forces numbering only 30,000 and rations in short supply, Lee responded to Grant's invitation to surrender on terms which preserved the dignity of the soldiers of the South. In a surrender unprecedented in the annals of war, Lee's soldier's retained private horses and mules; officers retained side arms; and, although all equipment was surrendered, rations were issued by the Union Army to Lee's soldiers. Thus ended the costliest war in American history.

Grant thereupon returned to Washington, where, as hero of the hour, he was greeted with a tumultuous welcome, even as Mrs. Lincoln made plans for the President and herself to attend a performance of Our American Cousin at Ford's Theatre on April 14.

EISENHOWER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Pennsylvania
Designated November 27, 1967

Not yet open to the public

Adjacent to Gettysburg, where the tide turned against the Confederacy and Abraham Lincoln delivered one of the most memorable of all Presidential addresses, is the home and farm of Dwight David Eisenhower. To this quiet place the General retired after serving eight years as the thirty-fourth President of the United States. Eisenhower (1890-1969) was a man of luminous integrity and decency, of steadfast courage and conscience, whose quiet, top-level abilities, shaped much of the twentieth century. Graduated from West Point in 1915, he rose to General of the Army and to the post of Supreme Commander on the Allied Expeditionary Force in Western Europe, in which capacity his consummate skills for diplomacy welded the generals and the troops of the allied nations into a massive fighting unit capable of winning World War II in the European theater. President of Columbia University from 1948 to 1951, he soon entered the 1952 campaign for U. S. President. He was elected by the largest popular vote up to that time. Re-elected in 1956, he retired in 1960 to this, his home, in Gettysburg to write his memoirs.
Above, from the left: 10c Booker T. Washington Famous American, issued April 7, 1940; 3c Booker T. Washington Birthplace, issued April 5, 1956.

Clockwise, from the immediate left: 4c Generals Lee and Jackson, Army and Navy Series, issued March 23, 1937; 5c Battle of Appomattox, issued April 9, 1965; 3c Generals Sherman, Grant, and Sheridan, Army and Navy Series, issued February 18, 1937.

From top to bottom: 6c Dwight D. Eisenhower, issued August 6, 1970; 6c Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial, released October 14, 1969.
Within and near Colonial National Historical Park are the sites of some of this Nation's most memorable and significant events. Included is Jamestown, the place of the first permanent English settlement in America; Yorktown, where the culminating battle of the Revolution was fought in 1781 resulting in Cornwallis' surrender and the end of British hopes to suppress the rebellion; a 23-mile parkway connecting these and other colonial sites to Colonial Williamsburg, one-time capital of Virginia and a hotbed of rebellion long before 1776; and the Cape Henry Memorial, approximate landing spot of the Jamestown colonists in 1607.

Of course, it is the tale of Jamestown that evokes the most romance in all of our hearts. Captain John Smith (1579-1631) led a party of 144 to Virginia and founded Jamestown in honor of James I of England. Due to starvation, diseases including malaria, and hostile Indians, over half of these settlers died before relief arrived from England. At one time, Smith was captured by hostile Indians, condemned to death, and freed through the efforts of the Chief Powhatan's daughter, Pocahontas. This marked the second time Smith had been saved by a fair maiden: previously, captured while fighting Turks in Hungary, he was sold into slavery and rescued by four other fair maidens.

Colonial National Historical Park recalls nearly 180 years of America's earliest history and people.
Immediately above: 2c Battle of Yorktown, released October 19, 1931.

At the left, from top to bottom: 1c Captain John Smith; 2c Founding of Jamestown Colony; 5c Pocahontas; entire "Jamestown Exposition Series" issued April 25, 1907.

Above, left to right, top to bottom: 8c Silversmith; 8c Wigmaker; 8c Glassblower; 8c Hatmaker; entire "1972 Colonial Craftsmen Set" issued July 4, 1972.
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK,
Pennsylvania
Authorized June 28, 1948

No other single building is so closely or so universally associated with the achievement of American independence and the preservation of its liberty than Independence Hall in Philadelphia. Delegates to the First Continental Congress (1774) gathered in Carpenter’s Hall in Philadelphia, then the principal city of British North America, to protest England’s oppressive colonial policy. Protest turned to active resistance and fighting had already broken out in Massachusetts by the time the Second Continental Congress convened on May 10, 1775, in the Assembly Room of the Pennsylvania State House—now known as Independence Hall.

The spring of 1776 saw the sentiment of independence increasing, and by July 2 Congress had begun debating the form of The Declaration of Independence, which Thomas Jefferson with some aid from John Adams and Benjamin Franklin had written. Adopted unanimously on July 4, the Declaration of Independence asserted America’s rejection of George III, monarchy, and the remaining ties with England (the authority of Parliament had previously been denied while maintaining nominal allegiance to the Crown). Drawing upon the American tradition of government by the governed and the “rights of man” idea, the Declaration set in motion the drive for complete Independence.

How appropriate it was, then, when in 1787, Independence Hall became the site of the Constitutional Convention. In an effort to form a stronger and more perfect Union, to discard the notoriously weak and quarrelsome Confederation, to strengthen the image and reliability of the Nation in the eyes of the European powers, many of the heros of the Revolution formulated the Constitution to preserve for posterity the liberties won in the Revolution.

FORT MCHENRY NATIONAL MONUMENT AND HISTORIC SHRINE, Maryland
Authorized March 3, 1925

Strategically situated to protect the water approaches to Baltimore, Maryland, Fort McHenry saw action in the War of 1812 which marked a great milestone in the preservation of American liberties. The British, after successfully capturing and burning Washington in 1814 turned against Baltimore by sea and land. Francis Scott Key (1779-1843) witnessed a twenty-five hour bombardment of the fort from a ship in the harbor, anxiously awaiting the “dawn’s early light”. At dawn, he saw the flag still flying and began writing “The Defence of Fort McHenry,” which was soon renamed “The Star Spangled Banner”—sung for years to the tune of “To Anacreon in Heaven”. By Act of Congress it became the National Anthem in 1931.

Aside from being the birthplace of the National Anthem, Fort McHenry recalls the last war between the United States and Great Britain. The war went a long way towards establishing the United States as a legitimate power—nearly forty years after independence—in the eyes of the British, who had continued to scorn the young nation. It reasserted what had been stated on July 4, 1776, and consecrated with the adoption of the Constitution in 1787. With the close of the War of 1812 the faint hopes of England for reassertion of power in the former American colonies died.

FREDERICKSBURG AND SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY BATTLEFIELDS MEMORIAL NATIONAL MILITARY PARK, Virginia
Established February 14, 1927

FREDERICKSBURG NATIONAL CEMETERY, Virginia
Transferred from War Department, August 10, 1933

The Union capital, Washington, D. C. and Richmond, the capital of the Confederacy were only one hundred miles apart. Midway between these cities the Union and Confederate Armies fought four major battles in the violent Civil War: Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862; Chancellorsville, May 2-4, 1863; the Wilderness, May 5-6, 1864; and Spotsylvania, May 8-12, 1864. Forces of the Confederacy were victorious in the first two. But, shake-ups in the command structure of the Union Army by President Lincoln in 1864, saw a new and competent staff of generals assuming command. One was a once obscure brigadier general from Illinois, Ulysses S. Grant. Grant, named in the spring of 1864 as Commander-in-Chief of the Union armies, appeared in Virginia only to be attacked by Lee in the dense forest near Fredericksburg: the Wilderness. That battle was a stalemate. But, Grant moved on and the battle at Spotsylvania Court House began a drive which would eventually culminate in the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox.
Above, from the top: 2c 150th Anniversary of Independence, issued May 10, 1926; 3c 150th Anniversary of the Signing of the Constitution, issued September 17, 1937; To the right, from the top: 10c Independence Hall, issued July 4, 1956; 24c Signing of the Declaration of Independence, issued 1869.

From the top: 6c Fort McHenry Flag, issued July 4, 1968; 3c Francis Scott Key, issued August 9, 1948; 4c Francis Scott Key Credo, issued September 14, 1960.

5c Battle of the Wilderness, issued May 5, 1964.
GEORGE WASHINGTON BIRTHPLACE NATIONAL MONUMENT, Virginia
Established, January 23, 1930
The event was concisely recorded in the family Bible: "George Washington son to Augustine & Mary his Wife was Born ye 11th Day of February 1731/2 about 10 in the Morning & was Baptis'd the 5th of April following Mr. Beverley Whiting & Capt Christopher Brookes godfathers and Mrs. Mildred Gregory godmother." Born on February 11, 1732—by the old calendar then in use—the Gregorian calendar now in use changed the date to February 22.

Washington spent his first three-and-one-half years on Popes Creek Plantation, a typical farm of the period, which contained about 1,000 acres. The major crop was tobacco, which was sent to England in exchange for manufactured goods. However, it was also necessary to produce all of the food, both for the animals and humans, and most of the other necessities of life here on the plantation. Thus, there was a dual system of agriculture on the plantation; a large-scale institutionalized tobacco operation, and a diversified, self-sufficient farm.

The clock has been turned back so that the farm today recreates some of the scenes of the plantation life that were a major part of George Washington's childhood environment. A memorial mansion, furnished in the period, and a colonial herb and flower garden overlook Popes Creek estuary and the Potomac River. Farm crops of the period, especially tobacco and corn, look rather scraggley compared to today's super-hybrids. Sheep, horses, ducks, chickens and a team of Devon oxen hitched to a cart, help to recreate the sights, smells and sounds of the 1730's.

George Washington was a fourth generation American, and the gravesites of his father, grandfather and great-grandfather are located nearby.

GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL PARKWAY, Virginia, Maryland
Established May 29, 1930
This ribbon of parkland embraces many landmarks associated with the life of George Washington. When completed it will extend between Mount Vernon and Great Falls on the Virginia side of the Potomac, and from Great Falls to Fort Washington on the Maryland side. Landscaped primarily with native plants, the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway section was completed in 1932 to commemorate the bicentennial of George Washington's birth. It extends fourteen and one-half miles from Arlington Memorial Bridge to Mount Vernon.

Few estates in the United States are as "pleasantly situated" as Mount Vernon. Here, and along the Memorial Parkway that links Washington, D. C. with the home of the First President, much of what he saw remains. Man, it is true, has displaced the wilderness—the early homes, and growing Alexandria, of course—to say nothing of modern freeways or the turbojets shattering the air over Roaches Run as they leave National Airport. But the banks of the Potomac still have their willows, alders, and birches; and, in autumn, red maple, oaks, dogwood, sumac, hickory, and many others still adorn the hillsides in bright color.

Along the way is Alexandria, Virginia, which was founded in 1749 and first called Belle Haven. An important 18th-century seaport, the town carried on a lucrative commerce with the East and West Indies and some European ports. It contains many fine houses and buildings associated with George Washington—Christ's Church and Gadsby's Tavern are two of the most prominent.
From top to bottom, left to right: ½c Washington after Peale in 1777; 1c Washington after Houdon; 1½c Washington after Peale in 1772; 2c Washington after Stuart in 1796; 3c Washington after Peale in 1777; 4c Washington after Polk; 5c Washington after Peale in 1795; 6c Washington after Trumbull in 1792; 7c Washington after Trumbull in 1780; 8c Washington after St. Mermin; 9c Washington after Williams; 10c Washington after Stuart in 1795; entire “Washington Bicentennial Series” issued January 1, 1932.

GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK AND NATIONAL CEMETERY, Pennsylvania
Civil War internments began October 1863  Established February 11, 1895

The Battle of Gettysburg was one of the decisive battles of American history. On July 1-3, 1863, the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia under General Robert E. Lee engaged the Union Army of the Potomac under General George G. Meade (1815-1872). In the battles which followed, Lee lost nearly 28,000 men (killed, missing, and wounded) and Meade 23,000. The Confederate Army that staggered back from Gettysburg was never the same again. Nor, was the Confederacy, for a victory at Gettysburg would have probably spelled foreign recognition and further aid from England and France. The Union victory shattered these hopes and ensured strict English and French neutrality.

Four months after the battle, President Abraham Lincoln came to deliver “a few appropriate remarks” at the dedication of Gettysburg National Cemetery. Lincoln’s words—brief and not even the principal oration of the day—were directed at North and South alike. They perpetuated in the minds of Americans the high purposes for which the soldiers of that battle had fallen and crystallized the ideals for which free men, then and since, have lived and died.

U. S. MARINE CORPS WAR MEMORIAL, Virginia
Dedicated, November 10, 1954  Designer, Horace Peaslee
Sculptor, Felix de Weldon

The small island of Iwo Jima lies 660 miles south of Tokyo. One of its outstanding geographical features is Mount Suribachi, an extinct volcano that forms the narrow southern tip of the island and rises 550 feet to dominate the area. By February 1945, U. S. troops had recaptured most of the territory taken by the Japanese in 1941 and 1942; still uncaptured was Iwo Jima, which became a primary objective in American plans to bring the Pacific campaign to a successful conclusion.

On the morning of February 19, 1945, the 4th and 5th Marine Divisions invaded Iwo Jima. Ordered to capture Mount Suribachi, they reached the base of the mountain on the afternoon of February 21, and by nightfall the next day had almost completely surrounded it. On the morning of February 23, at about 10:30 a.m., men all over the island were thrilled by the sight of a small American flag flying from atop Mount Suribachi. That afternoon, when the slopes were clear of enemy resistance, a second, larger flag was raised by five Marines and a Navy hospital corpsman. Newsphotographer Joe Rosenthal caught the afternoon flag-raising in an inspiring Pulitzer Prize-winning photograph.

This was the bloodiest battle in Marine Corps history: 4,500 Marines were killed and over 15,000 wounded. These statistics can help us to appreciate the scripture “Uncommon Valor was a Common Virtue” which appears on the memorial.

The Marine Corps War Memorial stands as a symbol of this grateful Nation’s esteem for the honored dead of the U. S. Marine Corps. While the statue depicts one of the most famous incidents of World War II, the memorial is dedicated to all Marines who have given their lives in the defense of the United States since 1775.

WOLF TRAP FARM PARK, Virginia
Authorized October 15, 1966

Wolf Trap Farm Park represents a new dimension in the National Park System. It is the first national park for the performing arts. The ninety-one acre Wolf Trap Farm, which lies in the wooded, rolling countryside of Fairfax County, Virginia, was given to the Nation by Mrs. Jouett Shouse in 1966. Central to the park is the Filene Center for the Performing Arts which seats 3,500 people under cover and 3,000 on a sloping lawn. The stage house is 10 stories high, and the stage is 100 feet wide and 64 feet deep.

The National Park Service works hand in hand with the WOLF TRAP FOUNDATION, a nonprofit organization responsible for the performing arts program. The foundation has brought in leading orchestras, ballet companies, musical revues, popular singers, and jazz. It has also established Wolf Trap Company, which is composed of talented young performers without professional experience. Wolf Trap presents a summer-long season of music and the dance for residents and visitors to the Nation’s Capital. It held its first season in 1971.
From the left: 5c Battle of Gettysburg, issued July 1, 1963; 3c 85th Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address, issued November 19, 1948.

3c Iwo Jima (U. S. Marine Corps), released July 11, 1945.

6c Wolf Trap Farm Park, issued June 26, 1972.
NATIONAL CAPITAL PARKS, Washington, D. C.

Nowhere in the National Park System is the American heritage more in evidence than in the Nation's Capital. Here, the monuments and memorials to the great leaders and events provide a walk through history. The 720 units of the National Capital Parks enhance the setting of the capital city and abound with recreational and cultural activities.

This section of the PORTFOLIO, on the National Capital Parks, features some of the oldest public park lands and stands as a microcosm of American history.

COMMODORE JOHN BARRY STATUE
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated May 16, 1914
Sculptor, John J. Boyle

John Barry (1745-1803), who immigrated to America from Ireland, had all of the bravado of a bluebird and the courage of a true hero of the Revolution as a commander of the fledgling U. S. Navy. He was the first to capture an enemy ship of war: he seemed usually content to tackle two at a time. On April 2, 1781, Barry in command of the Alliance engaged two British privateers, the Mars and the Minerva. Both surrendered. Then, on May 29 of the same year, in calm seas without any wind, the British men-of-war Atlanta and Trespassy attacked him. During the engagement Barry was wounded. The crew verged on mutiny. But, by exercise of command he kept the crew in line and managed to come between the two enemy ships, dividing them and conquering. These two actions accounted for four of the 196 British ships sunk or captured by the U. S. Navy during the Revolution.

BEAUTIFICATION
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, wife of President Johnson, was instrumental in forming "The Society for a More Beautiful National Capital", and began the beautification program by planting azaleas in a small park near the Capitol. The Society received donations of funds and plant materials for use in and around Washington. In addition to planting hundreds of thousands of daffodils, rhododendrons, azaleas, and flowering dogwood and Japanese cherry trees, new landscaping of streets, parks and playgrounds was accomplished.

Making this effort, like some latter-day Johnny Appleseed, Mrs. Johnson scattered the idea of conservation across the land. A subtle change occurred in the attitude of millions of Americans toward their natural environment. Citizens and Congress have sensed this yearning for a better environment and for an end to pervasive despoilation, ugliness and pollution. Beautification and environmental questions became matters of concern for laymen as well as architects and planners.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA STATUE
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated November 7, 1964
Sculptor, Donald DeLue

Officially incorporated in Washington, D. C., in 1910. The 1960 dedication of this statue of a scout in uniform hiking into the future with confidence and faith marked the 50th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. Located near the Ellipse, the statue recalls a movement whose primary objective is defined in its oath: "On my honor I will do my best to serve God and My Country..." Though founded two years after the initial model of the Boy Scouts in England (which had been founded by Lieutenant-General Sir Robert S. S. Baden-Powell), the movement quickly took on a distinctively American character in the tradition of Theodore Roosevelt's rough and tough philosophy of communing with nature.
1c John Paul Jones and John Barry, Army and Navy Series, issued December 15, 1936.

From the left: 6c Flower Garden near the Capitol; 6c Washington Monument and Reflecting Pool; both "Beautification" stamps issued January 16, 1969.

4c 50th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts, issued February 8, 1960.
SIMON BOLIVAR STATUE
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated February 27, 1959  
Sculptor, Felix de Weldon

Known as the “George Washington of South America”, Simon Bolivar (1783-1830) was a Venezuelan statesman and revolutionary. As leader of a revolt in South America against the rule of Spain, “El Libertador” helped free six nations. His vision of uniting them into a Columbian Union failed, but to this day the Bolivian nation honors his memory in that country’s name. The beautifully landscaped park and bronze equestrian statue in his honor, near the entrance to the U. S. Department of the Interior, is a gift of the people of Venezuela to the people of the United States.

JAMES BUCHANAN STATUE
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated June 26, 1930  
Sculptor, Hans Schuler

James Buchanan (1791-1868) served his nation with loyalty, compassion, and distinction as a Representative in Congress, Senator, Secretary of State, and Minister to Great Britain. The only President who never married, his term as fourteenth President of the United States (1857-1861) was darkened by growing sectionalism and controversy between the North and the South over the question of slavery, fugitive slaves, and the expansion of slavery into the emerging states in the West. Though condemning slavery as a moral wrong, he sought to preserve the Union through compromise: he advocated a Constitutional amendment to recognize slavery. Nonetheless, he denied the right of any state to secede. Although differing with the methods used by Lincoln, his love for the Union was reflected by his firm support of it during the Civil War. This statue which honors him stands in the lower gardens of Meridian Hill Park.

ADMIRAL RICHARD EVELYN BYRD STATUE
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated November 13, 1961  
Sculptor, Felix de Weldon

Noted explorer of the polar regions, Admiral Richard E. Byrd (1888-1957) did more than any other individual to direct the opening explorations of Antarctica. A Naval Academy graduate and pioneer naval aviator, he flew over both poles. His flight over the South Pole on November 29, 1929, originated from his base at “Little America”. It was his second expedition for which the stamp was specifically issued. That expedition (1933-1935) resulted in gathering important scientific information, and the naming of Maria Byrd Land and the Edsel Ford Mountains. His courage is typified by his spending one full winter alone at an advance polar base. The eight-foot high bronze figure of Byrd stands alongside Memorial Avenue near Arlington Cemetery.

COLUMBUS MEMORIAL
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated June 8, 1912  
Sculptor, Lorado Taft

Although now disputed, Christopher Columbus (1446-1506) discovered America in 1492—and he remains to this day the antecedent discoverer of the first important and lasting European colonies in the New World. Columbus made his first voyage to the New World in search of a shorter route to the Far East (August 3, 1492, through March 15, 1493) with a crew of ninety men on three ships: The Nina, commanded by Vincente Yanez Pinzon; the Pinta, under the leadership of Martin Alonso Pinzon; and the Santa Maria under Columbus himself. Columbus’ crew was on the verge of mutiny two days before land was sighted on October 12 at a place now known as Watling Island in the Bahamas group. Later, Columbus explored Cuba and Santa Domingo, where the Santa Maria was wrecked on Christmas Day, 1492. A courageous explorer, Columbus and his brothers, whom he brought to the New World, proved poor administrators. Disgraced in 1500, sent back to Spain in chains, he was eventually restored to favor in the Spanish Court for whom he had sailed, but never to authority in the colonies. At a Plaza on Capitol Hill, Columbus and related figures stand at a semicircular fountain.
4c Simon Bolivar, Champion of Liberty, issued July 24, 1958.

15c President James Buchanan, released October 13, 1938.

3c Byrd Antarctic Expedition II, issued October 9, 1933.

Left to right, top to bottom: 1c Columbus in Sight of Lane; 2c The Landing of Columbus; 3c Santa Maria, Flagship of Columbus; 4c Columbus' Fleet, the Santa Maria, Nina, and Pinta at Midcourse; 5c Columbus before Isabella of Spain, all released January 1, 1893.

National Parks Portfolio
CUSTIS-LEE MANSION, Virginia
Purchased by U. S. Government, 1883 Architect, George Hadfield

A truly outstanding view of the Potomac River and Washington is afforded any visitor who stands at the portico of the Custis-Lee Mansion, now located in the Arlington National Cemetery. Known locally as “Arlington House”, this was the home of George Washington Parke Custis, a grandchild of Martha Washington. After Custis’ father died in the Revolutionary War, Custis became the foster son of General and Mrs. Washington. Custis’ daughter in turn, married Robert E. Lee, who later became the able commanding General of the Confederate Armies. Lee and his wife made their home here until, with the advent of the Civil War, they left, never to return. Occupied by Union troops, the surrounding area became a national cemetery after the battle of Manassas. The mansion itself, however, is by Act of Congress a permanent memorial to Robert E. Lee (1807-1870), who served both the Union and the Confederacy with distinction and served as president of Washington University (later renamed Washington and Lee University).

DANTE ALIGHIERI STATUE
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated December 1, 1921 Sculptor, Ettore Ximenes

Dante Alighieri (1265-1321), the famed Florentine poet, belongs to the Great European tradition of literature and satire to which all Americans are indebted. Best known for his satirical “The Inferno”, he belonged to an age which had not dreamed of American or of a round earthly globe. In academic gown crowned with a laurel wreath, the bronze figure of Dante stands in the lower gardens of Meridian Hill Park.

DISCUS THROWER STATUE
National Capital Parks, Washington
Dedicated March 1, 1956 Sculptor, Myron

In 776 B.C., amateur athletes competed for the first time in what, over the years, has come to represent the finest, most respected and demanding athletic competition. Every four years Greeks from every part of the Hellenic world gathered to seek glory at Olympia. For the week of Olympic Games warring city states proclaimed a truce as they cheered their home town favorites to victory. Although outlawed in AD 394, the present games were begun again in 1896.

The discus throw is one of the oldest individual sports and the Greeks considered the discus throwing champion the greatest athlete. The Greek sculptor Myron studied the athletes’ form and his classically proportioned “Discobolus” or “Discus Thrower” evokes effort without strain.

During World War II the Nazis looted Italy of art treasures, including the “Discobolus”. After the war the United States supervised the return of these treasures. The grateful people of Italy presented this copy of Myron’s “Discus Thrower” to the people of the United States. Poised, and ready to send the discus sailing across the street into the State Department, this bronze athlete stands in a small park near the Department of the Interior.

JOHN ERICSSON STATUE
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated May 29, 1926 Sculptor, J. E. Fraser

Born in Sweden, John Ericsson (1803-1889) immigrated to the United States in 1839 three years after developing the screw-type marine propeller, an invention which revolutionized navigation. His design was used for the warship Princeton, an ill-fated ship which, nonetheless, was the first to have its propulsion system under water and thus protected from gunfire. Later, winning the enthusiastic support of President Abraham Lincoln, Ericsson designed and built the Monitor. That gunboat, after defeating the Merrimac in the now famous duel at Hampton Roads, Virginia, became the prototype of a whole series of “ironclads”. A giant in the history of marine engineering, Ericsson is honored in a sculpture cut from the largest single block of granite outside of Egypt. The memorial can be seen in West Potomac Park near the Potomac River and the Lincoln Memorial; Ericsson was buried in his native land, Sweden.
DAVID GLASGOW FARRAGUT STATUE  
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.  
Dedicated April 25, 1881 Sculptor, Vinnie Hoxie  
History has remembered David Glasgow Farragut (1801-1870) as an American leader of great daring and dedication. Orphaned and then adopted by a naval officer stationed at New Orleans, he returned at the head of seventeen ships and a flotilla of mortar boats to run the gauntlet of Confederate defenses in 1862, destroy the Confederate fleet, and cause the fall of New Orleans to Union hands on April 28, 1862. During the Battle of Mobile Bay, August 5, 1864, his reaction to the warning “Torpedoes ahead!” was a ferocious “Damn the Torpedoes!” which has gone down in history along with Dewey’s later “Fire when ready, Gridley”. For this heroism, Farragut was successfully rewarded with the ranks of rear admiral, vice admiral, and admiral, thus becoming the first American naval officer to hold these ranks, each created especially for him.

FIRST AIRMAIL FLIGHT MARKER  
Airmail stamps were first issued in Washington, D. C. on May 13, 1918. The first airmail service was begun on May 15, 1918 between Washington, Philadelphia and New York. The mail was flown on a regular schedule in U. S. Army planes which took off from West Potomac Park, beside the Potomac River. Curtiss JN 4-H airplanes with a capacity of 150 pounds of mail flew the 230 miles in about three hours.  
This service was inaugurated by the Post Office Department in cooperation with the Aviation Section of the Signal Corps of the U. S. Army. On April 12, 1918 the service was taken over in its entirety by the Post Office Department. A bronze plaque on a granite boulder commemorates the site.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS HOME  
Frederick Douglass (1817-1895) was born a slave in Tuckahoe, Maryland. When he was twenty-one years old he escaped from Baltimore, Maryland to Massachusetts where he became a roving lecturer and author. After lecturing in the British Isles for two years he returned to the United States, bought his freedom, and became an Abolitionist newspaper editor.  
During the Civil War he organized two Negro regiments of Union soldiers in Massachusetts. He was an advisor to President Lincoln, and discussed the problems of slavery with him. After the war he became Marshal and Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia, and Minister to Haiti from the United States—our first Black diplomat.  
Through his speeches and his writings he became one of the most influential men in the United States. His advocacy of abolishing slavery, industrial education for Negroes, suffrage for women, and opposition to all forms of inequality make him a genuine champion of liberties. His home, Cedar Hill, occupies a prominent hill in Southeast Washington. To commemorate his work, the house complete with library and mementos of Douglass’s life is restored as a living history site.

FRANKLIN PARK  
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN STATUE  
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.  
Dedicated January 1889 Sculptor, Jacques Jouvenal  
Born in any age, Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) would have undoubtedly excelled in any occupation. Scientist, statesman, diplomat, editor, revolutionary, postmaster-general, citizen in the fullest sense of the word, Franklin’s efforts and achievements read like the deeds of many men. The Nation is indebted to him for his efforts at the age of 81 in helping frame the Constitution and resolve disputes over representation between the large and small states. Even when he helped draft the Declaration of Independence and became one of its signers, he was almost twice the age of most of the revolutionaries. The first American-born Postmaster-General of the Colonies, he organized the Junto (it became the American Philosophical Society), the Academy (which became the nucleus of the University of Pennsylvania), the first circulating library, and Philadelphia’s first fire fighting brigade. Franklin’s Poor Richard’s Almanac, inspired John Paul Jones (1747-1792) to name his warship the Bonhomme Richard (poor Richard) in honor of Benjamin Franklin.  
He is commemorated by a downtown park and a statue on Pennsylvania Avenue in the Nation’s Capital.
25c Frederick Douglass
Prominent American, issued
February 14, 1967.

3c Farragut and Porter,
Army and Navy Series,
issued February 18, 1937.

6c Curtiss Jenny Air Mail,
released December 10, 1918.

Counterclockwise, from
above: 3c 250th Anniversary
of Franklin's Birth, issued
January 17, 1956; 4c
Benjamin Franklin Credo,
released March 31, 1960; ½c
Benjamin Franklin, issued
October 20, 1955.
PRESIDENT JAMES GARFIELD STATUE
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated May 12, 1887 Sculptor, John Quincy Adams Ward
James Abram Garfield's (1831-1881) term as twentieth President of the United States, cut short by the bullet of the assassin Charles Guiteau, was too brief to make an appraisal. But, this last of our President's to have been born in a log cabin—in this case, in Cuyahoga County, Ohio—brought with him to the Presidency a distinguished if not controversial career. President of Western Reserve Eclectic Institute (a college) at the age of twenty-six he was simultaneously a member of the Ohio Senate, and during the Civil War he became a Brigadier General at thirty-two. When the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad began, he was implicated without proof of involvement in the Credit Mobilier which had sought to divert profits from the railroad into outside hands in exchange for political influence. Elected to the Senate in 1880, he was shortly after elected President, thus ending a very short career as a Senator.

This memorial is located at First Street and Maryland Avenue on the west front of the Capitol.

SAMUEL GOMPERS STATUE
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated October 7, 1933 Sculptor, Robert Aitken
The noted labor leader of English birth, Samuel Gompers (1850-1924) helped found the American Federation of Labor (AF of L), serving as its president almost continuously from 1886 until his death. In an era when strikes were countered by lockouts and union demands for better working conditions and higher wages often brought bloodshed and even intervention by Federal troops, Gompers pursued a philosophy which recognized the need for strikes but dismissed the socialistic and utopian objectives of others in the labor movement. As a result, he sought to win for his union members, who were organized around crafts rather than plants or industries, a legitimate place in the community. Gomper's pragmatic approach of seeking constant improvement through small changes worked and commanded a following. Others who sought radical change failed. Gompers, whose statue along with other figures representing labor, overlooks Massachusetts Avenue from a small park, worked loyally to improve the lot of the worker in his adopted land.

GENERAL NATHANIEL GREENE STATUE
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated in 1877 Sculptor, Henry K. Brown
A Revolutionary War General second only to Washington in his importance as a military leader, Nathaniel Greene (1742-1786) was born in Rhode Island. Expelled from the Quaker Church because of his interest in military affairs, he retired to Mulberry Grove, a plantation near Savannah, Georgia. In the intervening years Greene's abilities as an organizer and leader played decisively in America's fight for independence. At Washington's side during the bitter winter stay at Valley Forge, Greene was named Quartermaster-General of the Army, at which time he reorganized and strengthened the theretofore haphazard supply system. Later, as acting commander of the Continental Army in 1780, he helped try and sentence Major John Andre, Benedict Arnold's British contact. Successfully leading forces in the South, whom he first refitted and reorganized, he trapped Lord Cornwallis time and time again. With each encounter, Cornwallis forces diminished. Greene's efforts led to the victory at Yorktown. Today, the bronze equestrian statue of Greene in downtown Washington is thought to be the best of its type in Washington.
6c President James A. Garfield, released November 20, 1922.

1c Generals Washington and Greene, Army and Navy Series, issued December 15, 1936.

JOHN PAUL JONES STATUE
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated April 17, 1912 Sculptor, Charles Niehaus

A statue of Commodore John Paul Jones (1747-1792), father of the United States Navy, stands in bronze near the Tidal Basin. Born in Scotland, Jones’ love for the sea carried him into the service of two nations which would someday become the great super powers of the twentieth century. Serving in the Continental Navy from the very first, Jones’ extraordinary abilities and daring saw him being given in 1779 the command of a ship which he named the Bonhomme Richard in tribute to Benjamin Franklin. Engaging the superior British man-of-war Serapis, Jones accomplished the impossible by capturing the enemy while losing his own ship. Earlier he had replied "I have not yet begun to fight" from the decks of his burning, sinking ship when asked to surrender. With the peace of 1783 and the abrupt end of the fledgling navy, Jones went to Russia where he became an Admiral in the Czar’s Navy. A final voyage long after his death carried his remains to a crypt at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland.

LAFAYETTE PARK
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Acquired by George Washington in 1791 as part of "President’s Park"

In the center of Lafayette Park, across Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House, is a statue of President Andrew Jackson (dedicated January 8, 1853. Sculptor, Clark Mills). At the four corners of the park are statues honoring four great foreigners who fought in America with Washington to make the American Revolution a reality: General Thaddeus Kosciuzko (dedicated May 11, 1910. Sculptor, Antion Popiel), General the comte de Rochambeau, (dedicated May 24, 1902. Sculptor, M. Hamar), General Frederic von Steuben (dedicated December 7, 1910. Sculptor, Albert Yaegers), and General the Marquis de Lafayette (dedicated April 1891. Sculptor, Alexandre Falquiure and Antonin Mercie).

No other square block is as rich in U. S. history as this one. George Washington acquired the site as a public park in 1791; here the first formal celebration of Independence Day took place in 1801. Here, President Andrew Jackson would eat his lunch and talk with the American people. Here, President Truman took his morning walks. And how appropriate, too, for here stand reminders to the heroism of Americans and foreigners which made America a free country.
1c John Paul Jones and John Barry, Army and Navy Series, issued December 15, 1936.

At the right, from left to right: 2c General Fredrich Von Steuben, issued September 17, 1930; 5c General Thaddeus Kosciuszko, issued October 13, 1933; 2c Battle of Yorktown, released October 19, 1931, showing Rochambeau, Washington, and DeGrasse from left to right.

At the left, from left to right: 3c 175th Anniversary of LaFayette's Arrival, issued June 13, 1952; 3c 200th Anniversary of LaFayette's Birth, issued September 6, 1957; 10c President Andrew Jackson Prominent American, released March 15, 1967.
HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW STATUE
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated 1906 Sculptor, William Couper

Seated, garbed in his professional robes, the statue of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882) overlooks the humming everyday world from a park on Connecticut Avenue. The most famous and popular American poet of the 1880’s, he is responsible for a good portion of what today endures as the best loved in American literature: “The Village Blacksmith”, “Paul Revere’s Ride”, “Evangeline”, “The Courtship of Miles Standish”, and “The Wreck of the Hesperus”. For all of their lack of first-hand observation it is not surprising that Longfellow’s poems, flavored by distinctive rhythm, and imbued with a bold proclamation of the romance of America’s simpler past, became household favorites. Perhaps his was a love common to those from Maine. Fluent in several languages, he translated Dante’s The Inferno and served on the faculty at Harvard College in Cambridge until his death.

ANDREW W. MELLON MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated May 9, 1952 Sculptor, Sidney Waugh

Where Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues converge near the National Gallery of Art forming a small triangular park, one of the most beautiful fountains in Washington bubbles and splashes as a memorial to Andrew W. Mellon (1855-1937). American financier, advocate of tax reduction and Secretary of the Treasury under three Presidents, Mellon’s enduring contribution to America goes far beyond this service or his contributions as Ambassador to Great Britain. He gave his renown art collection to the United States and provided $15 million to house it: the National Gallery of Art recalls this generosity. The painting “Madonna and Child with Angels”, painted by the Flemish Master Hans Memling (1430-1494) is but one of the paintings on display from the Mellon Collection of the National Gallery of Art.
1c Henry Wadsworth Longfellow Famous American, released February 16, 1940.

Left to right, top to bottom: $1 Lincoln Memorial, issued February 12, 1923; 4c The Seated Lincoln, issued May 30, 1959; 3c 13th Amendment, issued October 20, 1940; 5c Emancipation Proclamation, issued August 16, 1963; 4c Abraham Lincoln Credo, issued November 19, 1960.

From the left: 5c Memling’s “Madonna and Child with Angels” from the National Gallery of Art Mellon Collection, issued November 6, 1967; 3c Andrew W. Mellon Famous American, issued December 20, 1955.
NATIONAL GRANGE MARKER
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated September 9, 1951

The National Grange, also known as the Patrons of Husbandry, was formed in 1867 at Washington by Oliver Hudson Kelley, a government employee who sympathized with the plight of American farmers—particularly those in the South—who were suffering from the effects of a depression, competition from foreign farm products, increased productivity at home, declining prices, and vanishing markets. A forerunner of modern producers' cooperatives, the Grange brought farmers together for mutual protection and advancement in the market place. Membership declined after a peak in 1875, possibly because the Grange never regarded itself as a political organization. However, today it has an active membership of about 600,000.

A bronze tablet on a granite base, at Madison Drive and 4th Street on the Mall, marks the site where the Grange was founded.

NAVY-MARINE MEMORIAL
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Authorized February 16, 1924
Sculptor, Ernesto del Piatta

This monument in the west shore of the Potomac River is a feature along the George Washington Memorial Parkway. One of the largest aluminum statues ever made, it was cast by the Aluminum Company of America. It features seven sea gulls in flight above the crest of a billowing wave.

Erected by the Navy-Marine Memorial Association, the memorial bears this inscription; “To the strong souls and ready valor of those men of the United States * who in the Navy, the Merchant Marine and other paths of activity upon the waters of the world * have given life or still offer it in the performance of heroic deeds * this monument is dedicated by a grateful people.”

PERSHING SQUARE
National Capital Parks, Washington
A statue has been authorized by Congress; design to be chosen.

General John J. Pershing (1860-1948) is best remembered as the commander of American troops in Europe during World War I who insisted that American troops in France operate under American rather than foreign commanders. A graduate of West Point, he served in the Spanish-American War, the Phillipines, and the American Southwest during the border disputes with Mexico. His meteoric career saw a promotion from captain to brigadier general in one promotion in 1906, to full general in 1917, and to General of the Armies in 1919 (the only person in American history to hold that exact title). Moving to Washington as Chief of Staff in 1921, Pershing retired in 1924 at the age of 64. He lived to the ripe old age of 88, and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT ISLAND, Washington, D. C.
Established May 21, 1932

This seventy-two acre wooded island in the Potomac River is truly a discovery experience in the heart of Washington, D. C. The walking trails through swampland, marshland and forest, and an environmental study area, are explored by hundreds of school groups and metropolitan residents. Spring and summer flowers, the small mammals—muskrat, opossum, raccoon—and many birds make the scene ever changing. Near the center of the island, on a five acre oval terrace, is a seventeen foot bronze statue of T. R.

Theodore Roosevelt came to the Presidency at a time when rapid business growth and industrial consolidation produced alarming extremes of poverty and wealth. Through strong executive leadership T. R. sought to achieve a “square deal” for all. His attitude was strong and clear cut. Some of his most effective achievements were in conservation. He added more than 125,000,000 acres to the national forests, started major reclamation and irrigation projects, proclaimed the first national monument, and reserved lands for public use.
5c Centenary of the Founding of the National Grange, issued April 17, 1967.


Clockwise from the left: 3c U. S. Coast Guard, issued November 10, 1945; 3c U. S. Navy, issued October 27, 1945; 3c U. S. Merchant Marine, issued February 26, 1946.

6c President Theodore Roosevelt, released November 18, 1955.
JOSE de SAN MARTIN STATUE  
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.  
Dedicated October 28, 1925  
Sculptor, Dumont

Jose de San Martin (1778-1850) is known throughout South America as the heroic “Liberator of the Andes”. San Martin, Argentine General and statesman, was a leader along with Simon Bolivar of the fight for independence from Spain. He led the struggles for the liberation of Peru, Chile, and Argentina, and served as Protector of Peru from 1821 until 1822, when he resigned to avoid the infighting for leadership. Discouraged by the post-revolution chaos, he moved to France where he died. The majestic equestrian statue, a copy of one in Buenos Aires, was cast in Argentine copper as a gift from the people of Argentina to the United States.

GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT STATUE  
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.  
Erected 1874

This equestrian statue, made from cannon captured by General Scott during his Mexican Campaign, depicts him in field uniform. General Winfield Scott (1786-1866) was the hero of the War of 1812 and the War with Mexico. Almost seventy-five years old at the beginning of the Civil War, Scott, a Southerner, refused to join the Southern forces because he believed in the Union. He began to recruit men to defend the capital; then he retired in 1861.

GENERAL PHILIP H. SHERIDAN STATUE  
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.  
Dedicated, November 25, 1908  
Sculptor, Gutzon Borglum

An illustrious Union General during the Civil War, Philip Henry Sheridan (1831-1888) had the nickname “Little Phil”. Grant assigned him command of the cavalry of the Army of the Potomac. He was also instructed to take command of all the Union forces in the Shenandoah Valley, to drive the enemy out and to destroy the region’s economic resources. In the end, it was Sheridan’s cavalry which broke Lee’s flank, resulting in the fall of Petersburg and Richmond, and forcing the Confederates to retreat.

In 1884 Sheridan succeeded General Sherman as Commander of the United States Army. Four years later he became a full general, died, and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

GENERAL W. T. SHERMAN STATUE  
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.  
Dedicated, October 15, 1903  
Sculptor, Carl Rohl Smith

One of the great Union Generals, his equestrian statue is on the rise from which he surveyed his victorious troops parading down Pennsylvania Avenue before leading them past the White House reviewing stand at the close of the Civil War.

William Tecumseh Sherman (1820-1891), a West Point graduate, took part in the first battle of the war, Bull Run; four years later he fought one of the last. Tough, tenacious Sherman, accused by the South of “studied and ingenious cruelty”, sought to destroy the resources of the South. It was total war, so Sherman thought, as he moved to cripple the Confederacy’s will to fight. While Grant kept Lee busy in Virginia, Sherman advanced from Tennessee through Georgia and the Carolinas. Ripping up railroads, destroying bridges, factories and industries, and living off the land, Sherman’s men plundered anything that might aid the rebels. After occupying Atlanta for ten weeks, Sherman began his march to the sea. The South boiled in helpless rage as he advanced, picking clean an area up to sixty miles wide.

Later, Sherman succeeded Grant as General in Chief of the United States Army. He also declined running for the Presidency with a statement which is often repeated, “I will not accept if nominated and will not serve if elected.” Sherman meant it!
4c Jose de San Martin, Champion of Liberty, issued February 25, 1959.

3c Generals Sherman, Grant, and Sheridan, Army and Navy Series, issued February 18, 1937.

2c Generals Jackson and Scott, Army and Navy Series, issued January 15, 1937.

3c Generals Sherman, Grant, and Sheridan, Army and Navy Series, issued February 18, 1937.
THOMAS JEFFERSON MEMORIAL
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.

JEFFERSON NATIONAL EXPANSION MEMORIAL
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Missouri
Designated December 21, 1935 Arthitect, Eero Saarinen

"I have sworn upon the alter of God eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man," was the Credo of this remarkable President. In his first four years in office he almost doubled the size of the country by the Louisiana Purchase, which extended the United States all the way to the Rocky Mountains. He eliminated the Revolutionary War debt, disposed of the Barbary Pirates, launched Lewis and Clark on their expedition, and welcomed four new states into the Union.

Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) was, as well, an author of the Declaration of Independence and an architect of the Nation. Jefferson's unbridled faith in the sovereignty of the people firmly established the republican form of government in America. The Jefferson Memorial salutes our third President, the first to deliver his inaugural address at the new federal capital on the banks of the Potomac. Symbolic of his spirit of Western expansion of the Nation is the 630-foot-high arch beside the Mississippi River at St. Louis.

GENERAL CASIMIR PULASKI STATUE
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated May 11, 1910 Sculptor Kazimierz Chodzinski

General the Count Casimir Pulaski (1749-1779), a Polish soldier, joined Washington's forces early in the Revolution and distinguished himself at the Battle of Brandywine Creek on September 11, 1777, near Philadelphia, when American troops were partially routed and forced into an orderly but hard-pressed retreat. During the ill-fated siege of Savannah, begun September 15, 1779, General Pulaski, supported by French Admiral D'Estaing's fleet, led a charge against the 3,000 man British garrison. Killed in that action, Pulaski is honored twice in the National Parks: Fort Pulaski, at Savannah Beach, Georgia, a nineteenth century fort, is now a National Monument. And, Pulaski is immortalized in Bronze, on his favorite horse, alongside Pennsylvania Avenue.
Left to right, top to bottom:
4c Thomas Jefferson Credo, issued May 18, 1960; 2c Thomas Jefferson, released April 30, 1904; 3c 150th Anniversary of the Louisiana Purchase, issued April 30, 1953; 3c President Thomas Jefferson, issued June 16, 1938; 5c Jefferson Memorial, issued October 5, 1966.

2c General Casimir Pulaski, 150th Anniversary of his death, issued January 16, 1931.
WASHINGTON MONUMENT
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated February 12, 1885
Architect, Robert Mills

George Washington's (1732-1799) enduring fame began in July, 1777, when he took command of the newly formed Continental Army. He was an inspiring leader able to obtain the best results with limited resources and untrained men. More than any other contemporary American, he symbolized the Revolution to his countrymen and came to be regarded as the father of the Nation.

Not uniformly victorious in his campaigns nor, later, entirely popular with the people for his pursuit of neutrality in foreign relations, Washington—as hard as it is to believe—has been much maligned at times in American history as well as virtually deified, likened by many to a Grecian god. The truth lies somewhere in between; Washington's pock-marked face and false teeth detract nothing from his compassion and genius in war, his humility and dedication to the Republic in peace, his leveling influence as he presided over the Constitutional Convention in 1787, or his wisdom in avoiding foreign entanglements when he became America's first President. Were it not for Washington's dash south to Yorktown in 1781, doubtless the Revolution would have dragged on; and, perhaps America would not, truly, have been born. Today the father of the United States lies buried sixteen miles south of Washington near the Potomac at Mount Vernon. He was a great man whose memory will endure.

WHITE HOUSE
Authorized July 16, 1790
Architect, James Hoban

George Washington selected the site for the White House, yet he was the only President never to live in it. The cornerstone was laid on October 13, 1792, following the plans of architect James Hoban. For many years it was known as the "President's House" or the "President's Palace." President and Mrs. John Adams were the first to move in; November 1800. Then, on August 24, 1814, British forces captured Washington and burned the house along with other government buildings. President James Madison escaped, but he returned to the burned out capital city and the government rebuilt.

Throughout its history, the house has kept pace with modern improvements. Over the years balconies and office wings have been added, and every President has had some interest in the grounds—the trees and gardens. The house was completely renovated during President Truman's term with efforts made to retain or restore the original atmosphere. In all, the White House now has 132 rooms which are used for state business and as living quarters for the President and his family.

DANIEL WEBSTER STATUE
National Capital Parks, Washington, D. C.
Dedicated January 18, 1900
Sculptor, Gaetano Trentanove

Daniel Webster (1782-1852), creator and statesman, legislator and lawyer, stands before us in history as a supporter of America. "I wish to speak today," he proclaimed on March 7, 1850, "not as a Massachusetts Man, nor as a northern man, but as an American ... I speak today for the preservation of the Union. Hear me for my cause." Long an advocate of tariffs and trading advantages favorable to the North, he was always an ardent nationalist. One of the foremost constitutional lawyers of his day, he left an enduring mark on history when he successfully pleaded the case of Dartmouth College before the Supreme Court: in essence, he argued that the charter for Dartmouth College issued by George III could not be revoked by New Hampshire. His victory established the sanctity of contracts and provided the basis for later decisions encouraging corporations, which were to become a fountainhead of American growth and prosperity. Look at his statue and you will see that his words still echo in the land.


6c Daniel Webster, 150th Anniversary of the Dartmouth College Case, issued September 22, 1969.

From top to bottom: 3c White House, National Capitol 150th Anniversary Series, issued June 12, 1950; 6c White House, issued January 24, 1968.
Fort Frederica National Monument with Frederica River in the background.
National Park Service Photograph by George A. Grant.
ABRAHAM LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Kentucky  
Established, July 17, 1916

At the close of the American Revolution, the Lincoln family moved from Virginia to the tough, frontier region of Kentucky, where the sixteenth President’s grandfather, also named Abraham Lincoln, was killed by Indians. Abraham’s son, Thomas, a model of the hardworking American pioneer, married Nancy Hanks in 1806, saved the sum of $200 (really a good amount in those times) to buy a 300-acre farm in 1808. Here, in a one room log cabin, in what could be thought of as the end of the world at that time, the future President was born on February 12, 1809. Deprived of these lands by a defective land title, the Lincoln family moved on, through Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois, always making new homes in the wilderness; always without a real home. A memory of this devastating childhood experience—no land, no home—may have influenced Lincoln’s avid support of legislation in 1862 in providing a “Homestead” of 160-acres free to citizens who occupied and improved tracts of the vast western lands. Lincoln was not the only President to be born in a log cabin. However, none are so closely, or so romantically, connected with the dire hardships of such living.

ANDREW JOHNSON NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Tennessee  
Authorized, August 29, 1935

Presidents of the United States have always had their admirers . . . and their detractors. But in only one instance has the violent clash between Presidential functions and Congressional prerogatives come to the point of bringing impeachment proceedings against the President, and to his trial before the Senate. Andrew Johnson, the seventeenth President (1808-1875), is synonymous with impeachment. Yet, in all fairness, he was probably more a victim of the mood of his age and of his own righteousness, than he was of any real wrongdoing. The fact that impeachment failed by one vote does not tell the story of this man. His basic, conciliatory attitude towards the South brought him into the bad graces of radical politicians whose vindictiveness towards the South in the wake of the Civil War ran contrary to the American spirit. Though himself vindictive at the beginning, when he assumed the Presidency under tragic circumstances, he soon adopted Lincoln’s conciliatory attitude towards the Southern States. He felt that National interest would best be served by bringing the southern states back into the Union on generous terms as quickly as possible. Fortunately, the challenge to the Presidency, which some historians feel would have made succeeding Presidents “creatures of Congress” and would have destroyed

the balance of powers in American government, was defeated. But by only one vote.

Obviously, Johnson was a courageous man. He was self-made, raised on the early frontier; he had a firm faith in the common man. The only President never to have attended school, and more devoted to the Union than to slavery, he was the only Southern Senator who refused to secede with his state.

CAPE HATTERAS NATIONAL SEASHORE, North Carolina  
Authorized, August 17, 1937

Cape Hatteras National Seashore lies on the windswept Outer Banks of North Carolina, a seventy mile stretch of sand. Always dominated by the sea, these lonely barrier islands, from one to twenty miles offshore, contain some of the earliest sites of English Colonial settlement, are home to thousands of waterfowl and the last resting place for the skeletons of hundreds of ships wrecked on the treacherous shoals. Storms and vandals have carried away most of the remains of wrecked ships, but bits still remain partly buried in the sands or submerged in the water of this graveyard of the Atlantic.

The surf, the sand and the sea present a continually changing pattern of nature, and provide the visitor with a wide variety of recreational activities. Day by day one becomes aware of the continuing geological forces at work—eroding away the sand and plants, rebuilding and reshaping the landscape. And, in this zone where life in the water meets the life forms of the land there is a richness, diversity and similarity of salt and fresh water plants and animals. More than 300 species of birds have been seen here. Wildflowers grow profusely, and the yaupon, bayberry silverling and gallberry shrubbery mixed with the live oak and loblolly pine interest many.

For the active recreationist the waters provide a wide variety of sport fishing, with channel bass, bluefish, marlin, mackerel, and tuna. There are facilities for camping, swimming, boating, and sailing—enjoyed here from mid-April to mid-November.
4c President Abraham Lincoln Prominent American, issued November 19, 1965.

17c President Andrew Johnson, issued October 27, 1938.

2c+2c+2c+2c Cape Hatteras National Seashore, released April 5, 1972.
CASTILLO DE SAN MARCOS NATIONAL MONUMENT, Florida
Proclaimed, October 15, 1924

The settlement of Florida by Europeans—specifically, the Spaniards—began in Florida more than 400 years ago. Columbus, who had inspired the Spanish conquests with his discoveries, never actually saw North America. Yet, Spain claimed the region on the basis of discovery; France and Britain both challenged that claim, saying that it was immaterial that Spain had established St. Augustine in 1565 as the first permanent European settlement in the North American continent. Spain, to defend her claim and mainly to protect St. Augustine, built a defensive, stone fort—Castillo de San Marcos. But the Spaniards, who used this area as a base for establishing missions, saw little potential in the goldless, empty, and somewhat unfriendly North American continent. Spanish eyes looked to South and Central America, although they would retain Florida (temporarily controlled by England during the American Revolution) until its sale to the United States in 1819 for $5 million, Spanish ambitions were spent. Curiously, some of the earliest British and French explorers saw North America with the same vision as the Spanish; it was not an opportunity, but rather a barrier to direct travel to the rich Orient.

CHALMETTE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, Louisiana
Established, March 4, 1907

On the east bank of the Mississippi River, six miles from the heart of New Orleans, lies Chalmette. Here, on January 8, 1815, General Andrew Jackson, in the last battle of the War of 1812, stunned crack British troops. That battle, actually fought two weeks after the Treaty of Ghent ended the War of 1812, was the last battle between the United States and Great Britain (as well as Canada). Jackson, a self-trained military genius, later became the seventh President of the United States. The War settled few issues; but peace restored the status quo ante bellum, crushed the military power of Indians allied with the British west of the Mississippi, and thus prevented the Mississippi River from becoming America's fixed Western boundary.

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK, Florida
Authorized, May 30, 1934

Everglades, the third largest National Park, was established in 1947 to protect the largest remaining subtropical wilderness in North America. It is a great biological exhibit in an aquatic setting, presenting the drama of nature in unspoiled surroundings.

Southern Florida is a flat plain with so little change in elevation that it is awash with tides. In this flat, flat land, exist complex plant-and-animal communities threatened with destruction. Some of the habitats, such as the Everglades themselves, and some of the animals—crocodile, manatee, roseate spoonbill, reddish egret, wood stork, and bald eagle—are rare or unseen elsewhere in the United States. Among other plant and animal inhabitants are the alligator, snook, tarpon, pink shrimp, royal palm, mahogany, and mangroves.

The building of drainage canals, the increase of agricultural development, and the leap in population along the coastal strips have in recent years reduced the flow of fresh water into the park. These man-made threats to the conditions of life in the park, unlike the hurricanes, occasional fire, flood, or drought could prevent the continued existence of the park. The life of the Everglades depends on us.

FORT FREDERICA NATIONAL MONUMENT, Georgia
Authorized, May 26, 1936

In 1733 James Edward Oglethorpe (1696-1785), seeking relief for paupers and debtors in England, obtained a charter from the crown and founded Savannah in what is now Georgia. The first group of Frederica settlers—166 men, women and children—arrived in February 1736. Quickly they built a fort. As Frederica grew, so did Oglethorpe's concern for its safety. The town stood on land claimed by Britain, France, and Spain; should war come it would be in a dangerous position.

The problems between Great Britain and Spain erupted in the War of Jenkin's Ear. (What was the War of Jenkin's Ear? — that's a tale for you to find elsewhere.) However, Oglethorpe's outnumbered troops defeated a Spanish invasion force and Spain was never again a threat to Georgia. Oglethorpe's Regiment was no longer needed, it disbanded and the soldiers withdrew from the fort in 1763. Frederica—born of need and nurtured by war—no longer existed as a living place.

If you go to Georgia, remember Oglethorpe and his noble ideals when you see what little remains—reduced by time and erosion—of Fort Frederica.
From the left: 5c 400th Anniversary of the Settlement of Florida, issued August 28, 1965; 3c Centennial of Florida's Statehood, issued March 3, 1945.

Clockwise, from the left: 10c President Andrew Jackson Prominent American, issued March 15, 1967; 1c Andrew Jackson, issued March 22, 1963; 5c 150th Anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, issued January 8, 1965.

From above to left: 8c Alligator, Wildlife Conservation, issued June 12, 1971; 3c Everglades National Park Dedication, issued December 5, 1947.

3c General James Oglethorpe, 200th Anniversary of the Settlement of Georgia, issued February 12, 1933.
FORT RALEIGH NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, North Carolina
Designated, April 5, 1941

This area, on Roanoke Island near the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, recalls the fitful starts of early colonization in America. After exploring it in 1584, Sir Walter Raleigh named the entire region "Virginia" after the Virgin Queen, Elizabeth I. John White, at the direction of Raleigh, returned in 1587 with some 120 men, women, and children, to found the Roanoke settlement. When John White sailed for England later that year for additional supplies, he left behind his daughter, son-in-law, and the first English child to be born in North America, Virginia Dare. White's planned prompt return to Roanoke fell victim to the war between England and Spain and the use of every available ship to defend England from the Spanish Armada. When White returned in 1590, the colonists had disappeared and only the fort-like structure remained. The fate of the Lost Colony residents remains a mystery.

FORT SUMTER NATIONAL MONUMENT, South Carolina
Authorized, April 28, 1948

Fort Sumter, named after the American Revolutionary patriot Thomas Sumter (1734-1832), is located near the entrance to the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina. One of the coastal fortifications built by the United States after the War of 1812, its only significant action came when, at 4:30 a.m. on April 12, 1861, Confederate shore batteries under the command of General Pierre G. T. Beauregard (1818-1893), opened fire on it and commenced the hostilities of the bloody Civil War. The thirty-four hour siege of Ft. Sumter, which cost not a single life, was not the beginning but the violent climax of strife between the North and the South which had existed prior to Lincoln's election. Failing at compromise, the South had moved towards independence before this date; over one dozen U. S. military installations had been seized prior to this time without violence. But at Sumter, history recorded a Union anxious to reenforce and maintain its authority, and a South Carolina Government fearful that Sumter would serve as a staging area for troops to occupy its soil. Sumter surrendered for lack of supplies; but the South, strengthening its defenses and enlarging its stores, repulsed repeated attacks and maintained it as a stronghold until Sherman's march south forced the evacuation of Charleston. The fall of Ft. Sumter impelled Lincoln to action, and by April 15 a call for 75,000 volunteers was issued.

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK, Tennessee, North Carolina
Established, February 6, 1930

The Great Smoky Mountains, which form the boundary between North Carolina and Tennessee, is the loftiest range east of the Black Hills and one of the oldest uplands on earth. The mountain outlines are softened by a dense forest and luxuriant plantlife. The name "Great Smokies" is derived from the smoke-like haze that envelops these mountains.

Visitors may enjoy this wild sanctuary from the main roads which traverse the mountains and loop through Cades Cove. World-renown for its variety of flora—the result of fertile soils, heavy rainfall, and varying elevations—the park can be enjoyed at any season of the year. Some 1,400 species of flowering plants grow in the park. Within the coves, broadleaf trees predominate, while along the crest of the 6,000 foot high mountains, conifer forests similar to those found in central Canada are seen. Over 600 miles of horse and foot trails offer the most rewarding experience of seeing the park on its own terms.

At Cades Cove an 11-mile loop road leads past open fields, pioneer homesteads, and little frame churches where mountain people lived and worshiped almost unnoticed for a century. Many of the log cabins and barns stand as monuments to a pioneer way of life that is almost gone from these mountains.

SHILOH NATIONAL MILITARY PARK AND CEMETERY, Tennessee
Established, December 27, 1894.

On April 6, 1862, General U. S. Grant and his army of 40,000 were surprised by a Confederate force of about equal strength, as they camped around Shiloh Church, Tennessee. Attempting to stop Grant from controlling the rivers and rail centers, Confederate General Johnston decided to attack before additional Union troops coming up the river could join Grant to push the western invasion of the Confederacy. Some of the Northern troops fought doggedly, extracting a fearful toll and enabling Grant to reform his lines.

A great deal of fighting took place in a peach orchard—in bloom—and around a small pond where soldiers from both sides came to drink and bathe their wounds. By late afternoon the water in the pond was red, Confederate General Johnston had been killed, and Grant's surviving troops were safe in their line.

During the night additional Union troops arrived and the following day the Confederates were pushed off the field. The exhausted Federals did not follow. However, the way was prepared for the siege of Vicksburg, which was later to cut the South in half.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5c Virginia Dare, 350th Anniversary of the establishment of the Colony of Roanoke, issued August 18, 1937.</th>
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<tr>
<td>10c Great Smoky Mountains, issued October 8, 1934.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4c Battle of Fort Sumter, issued April 12, 1961.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4c Battle of Shiloh, issued April 7, 1962.</td>
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WRIGHT BROTHERS NATIONAL MEMORIAL,
North Carolina
Authorized, March 2, 1927

Kitty Hawk, located on the wind swept outer banks of North Carolina, was chosen by the Wright brothers from U. S. Weather Bureau records as a desirable location for their experiments in flight. Blessed with exceptionally fair and constant winds, Wilbur (1867-1912) and his brother Orville (1871-1948) were able to make more than a thousand experimental glider flights from the top of Kill Devil Hill.

By December of 1903 they had begun testing their glider developed theories on a motor-driven, heavier than air machine. On December 17, 1903, this experimentation and perseverance launched the age of aviation when the first successful, powered, manned, heavier-than-air, craft made a spectacular twelve second, 120-foot flight.
From left to right: 6c 46th Anniversary of Wright Brothers Flight at Kitty Hawk, issued December 17, 1949; 6c 50th Anniversary of Powered Flight, released May 29, 1953.
Great Lakes Country
GEORGE ROGERS CLARK NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, Indiana

During the opening years of the American Revolution the British dominated the Old Northwest territory (present-day Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin) and maintained the local Indians as allies. British Redcoats and the Indians harassed and devastated the American frontier settlements.

In response, Clark persuaded the Virginia Legislature to fund his attack against the Indians and British at Vincennes, Kaskaskia and Cahokia. With a small “army” of 175 well trained Indian fighters he won a total victory and foiled British attempts to prevent “American” expansion into the northwest.

A memorial, featuring a large statue of Clark, with murals showing his exploits, is located in the park on the eastern bank of the Wabash River at Vincennes, Indiana.

HERBERT HOOVER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Iowa
Authorized, August 12, 1965

Herbert Clark Hoover (1874-1964) is seen in the Nation's history as a figure of immense contradictions, noble achievement, dismal failure. Born in a simple two-room cottage in West Branch, Iowa, he graduated from Stanford, became a world-renown mining engineer, and never lost his concern for the human being. He distinguished himself as chairman of the American Relief Committee in London, and the Commission for Relief in Belgium following World War I, and as U. S. Food Administrator. His eight years as Secretary of Commerce saw expansion of the Commerce Department’s activities, a fostering of trade associations in the face of unionism.

Elected the Nation’s thirty-first President in 1928, Hoover almost immediately was faced by the challenge of the Great Depression. In retrospect, it can be said that Hoover and the Nation were the victims of a philosophy of as little government intervention in the economy as possible. Patiently awaiting economic forces to turn the economy around, he saw the depression become worse. Blamed by the electorate for the Depression, he was not reelected in 1932. Later heading the “Hoover Commissions” on the reorganization of government, 1947-1949 and 1953-1955, he recaptured much of the rightful respect for his integrity that he was due. This site preserves his birthplace, boyhood home and burial place.

LINCOLN BOYHOOD NATIONAL MEMORIAL, Indiana
Authorized, February 19, 1962

LINCOLN HOME NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Illinois
Authorized, August 18, 1971

When Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865) was 7 years old, his father Thomas Lincoln, seeking to secure free land, moved his family into the Indiana wilderness and settled near Little Pigeon Creek. Two years later his mother died, and the family sank into a rough existence from which it did not emerge until Thomas remarried. Abe grew up in Indiana. A lanky, good-humored youth, liked by all, he helped his father with the farming, hacked away at the forest with his ax, attended the occasional schools in the community, and read incessantly. At 16 he worked for a few months on a farm along the Ohio. Three years later he rode a flatboat down the Mississippi to New Orleans and first glimpsed a wider world.

In 1830 the Lincolns moved once more. Lured by reports of rich black soil, they set out for Illinois. Abe was now 21, but he stayed with his family for a year, breaking ground, splitting rails, and planting corn. After another trip down the Mississippi, he drifted into New Salem, a thriving village.

He spent six important years in New Salem pursuing a number of activities: store clerk, sought elective office, postmaster, surveyor, and studied law. After marrying Mary Todd in 1842, he settled down in Springfield, Illinois to practice law. From 1847-49, Lincoln served in Congress, but was passed over for renomination. Five years later he came out of political retirement to debate with Stephen A. Douglas (1813-1861), their first debate came in 1854. Lincoln’s views on slavery and its introduction into the territories brought him supporters from across the country.

At the Republican Convention of 1860 Lincoln was nominated on the 3rd ballot. From his home in Springfield Lincoln ran a quiet campaign, receiving politicians and delegations—avoiding speeches. In November he won the election although he polled less than half of the popular vote.
<table>
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<th>Stamp Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>2c 150th Anniversary of George Rogers Clark’s Victory at Vincennes, issued</td>
<td>February 25, 1929.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5c President Herbert Hoover Memorial, released</td>
<td>August 10, 1965.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3c Borglum’s Head of Abraham Lincoln, issued</td>
<td>February 17, 1959.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Oliver Hazard Perry (1785-1819), who served his Nation on the sea, and would die upon the Oronoco River of Yellow Fever while on a mission to Venezuela, is ennobled by his famous message, “We have met the enemy and they are ours.” During the War of 1812 Britain’s position in Canada threatened the entire Old Northwest; their hold of Detroit was a thorn in America’s side. Perry, commanding a fleet of ten ships built at Erie, Pennsylvania, defeated a British Fleet under Captain Robert H. Barclay with such decisiveness as to gain permanent control (during the War of 1812) of Lake Erie and to make the British position at Detroit undefensible. Thus saving the Old Northwest, Perry also encouraged his American compatriots many of whose other engagements were much less successful. Perry’s victory, in a war which marked the final conflict between the United States and Canada or Great Britain, stands in a class with that of Andrew Jackson at Chalmette at a later time. Although Perry’s victory did not launch a dazzling career as did Jackson’s victory at New Orleans, it did contribute substantially to the security of the United States. Perry, like Jackson, would be proclaimed a National Hero.

Located on an island in Lake Erie about four miles from the mainland, Perry’s Victory Memorial is one of the world’s greatest battle monuments. The memorial is a Greek Doric fluted column 352 feet high, the most massive Doric column ever built. Its cap serves as an observation platform from which one can view nearby islands and the lake area where the battle took place.

William Howard Taft National Historic Site, Ohio
Authorized, December 2, 1969

It is perhaps surprising that a man with little real taste for politics, but a basic sense of fair play and democratic values with a good command of jurisprudence, should ever have become twenty-seventh President of the United States. But it was exactly those values, recognized by President Theodore Roosevelt, which made William Howard Taft (1857-1930) Roosevelt’s personal choice for the Republican nomination in 1908. He had earned his reputation in over twenty years as lawyer, prosecuting attorney, state judge, Solicitor General of the United States, Governor of the Philippines, Secretary of War, and professor of law at Yale University. His actions as the first civil governor of the Philippines in restoring domestic tranquility, resolving problems of church-owned lands, and implementing limited self-government are typical of this attitude. Once elected (he defeated the perennial candidate, William Jennings Bryan), he continued many of Theodore Roosevelt’s policies, including conservation and trust-busting. Failing in reelection, he was later appointed by President Harding as Chief Justice of the United States, the only man in American history to have served as President and as Chief Justice. As Chief Justice, as might be guessed, he was more at home, advancing a doctrine of conservatism.

This site preserves the birthplace and early home of Taft.
| $1 Oliver Hazard Perry, issued November 15, 1894. | 4c President William Howard Taft, released June 4, 1930. |
BIG HOLE NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD
Established, June 23, 1910

NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, Idaho
Authorized, May 15, 1965

Originally the Nez Perce were distinguished by their docile attitude as they were excluded from their ancestral homes by the white settlers and the army. In August of 1877 they were to be moved from the Wallowa Valley of Oregon, which by treaty belonged to them in “perpetuity”, to some places “just as good” in Idaho Territory. Chief Joseph decided to migrate peacefully to Canada. However, during the relocation activities hostilities broke out and Joseph reluctantly went to war.

He led a brilliant retreat, traveling more than 1,000 miles through Idaho and Montana, eluding one army and defeating another, before arriving at their old camping grounds on the Big Hole prairie. Here, two days later, the Indian camp was attacked by Col. John Gibbon, 146 U.S. troops led by 17 officers, and 34 citizen volunteers. Recovering from the shock of this ruthless attack, the Indians made the soldiers’ positions untenable; Chief Joseph reorganized, fled camp and began a desperate retreat.

The Nez Perce then looped through Yellowstone National Park on their way to Canada, incidently, capturing two women tourists, but later releasing them unharmed! In the mistaken belief that they had escaped they stopped to rest forty miles from the Canadian border. On September 30, at Bearpaw Mountain, in the northern part of Montana Territory, they were surprised by an army force under Colonel Nelson Miles. The Indian resistance forced the soldiers to settle down to seige. After five days Chief Joseph surrendered with the moving statement that “From where the sun now stands I will fight no more forever.”

DEVILS TOWER NATIONAL MONUMENT, Wyoming
Proclaimed, September 24, 1906

In northeastern Wyoming stands an imposing formation: a stump-shaped cluster of rock columns 1,000 feet across at the bottom, narrowing to 275 feet in diameter at the top. Devils Tower, as it is known, is the tallest tower of columnar rock in the United States, some 865 feet above the level of the surrounding forest. Its very uniqueness has made it important over the years. For centuries it played an important role in the folklore and religion of native Indians. It became, with the opening of the West, a landmark to the stalwart explorers pushing their way west from the Black Hills region. To the more modern age, cognizant of its unique beauty and grandeur, it has become a scenic attraction. Indians, settlers, modern man—all have recognized Devils Tower as something special. But it was not until President Theodore Roosevelt proclaimed Devils Tower as the first National Monument in the United States on September 24, 1906, that efforts were made to preserve this natural wonder.

DINOSAUR NATIONAL MONUMENT, Utah, Colorado
Proclaimed, October 4, 1915

For about 145,000,000 years dinosaurs ruled the earth. When they first appeared, their “North American” habitat was a continent covered by shallow seas and vast subtropical swamps. The dinosaurs moved slowly. Some walked on two legs—others on four—leaving footprints in the mud. Some lived to be 200 years old before they died, leaving behind skeletons which sank into the mud and became covered by sediments. Later, as the mountain ranges formed over a period of millions of years, the warm climate changed. Steaming swamps disappeared and the plant food of the dinosaurs died out. These changes, plus disease and the evolution of other plants and animals, resulted in the disappearance of all the dinosaurs about 65 million years ago.

Some of the rocks and river sediments in Dinosaur National Monument are 140 million years old. By excavating these formations from the “Age of Reptiles”, petrified bones of crocodiles, turtles, and fourteen species of dinosaurs have been brought to view. The highlight of your visit to this monument will probably be the world-famous display of dinosaur fossils in the Quarry Visitor Center. You can watch “in-place” operations as technicians use jackhammers, chisels, and icepicks to cut away the hard stone and expose the fossil bones. This work, as well as the origin of the deposits, the cleaning and preservation of fossils, is explained.
3c 50th Anniversary of Devils Tower National Monument, issued September 24, 1956.

Clockwise, from the left: 4c Indian Hunting Buffalo, issued June 17, 1898; 6c Chief Joseph/American Indian, issued November 4, 1968; 6c North American Bison, Wildlife Conservation, issued July 20, 1970.

6c The Age of Reptiles, Natural History Series, issued May 6, 1970.
GLACIER NATIONAL PARK, Montana
Established May 11, 1910. Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park, 1932

This wilderness area of more than 1 million acres in northwestern Montana joins with Canada’s Waterton Lakes National Park in forming what must be the grandest display of geology, botany, and zoology existing on earth. Straddling the Continental Divide, the park preserves superb Rocky Mountain scenery: over 200 lakes, 50 small glaciers, an array of wildlife, spectacular alpine flowers and dense forests. The bighorn sheep, mountain goat, moose, elk, grizzly and black bear are readily seen in their natural habitat along with hosts of smaller mammals and birds. The birds attracting most interest are the bald eagle, osprey, water ouzel, ptarmigan, Clark’s nutcracker, thrushes, and sparrows.

Over a thousand miles of wilderness trails open this paradise to hikers. The high country chalets, Sperry and Granite Park, are accessible only by trail in the summer months and provide food and lodging. They are unmatched in all of North America. “Going-to-the-Sun” Road, one of the outstanding scenic roadways of the world, connects the east and west sides of the park. Both trails and roads lead visitors past places and sites bearing Indian names which recall the close relationship of the Indians to the unspoiled wilderness of yesterday.

GOLDEN SPIKE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Utah
Designated, April 2, 1957

The workmen had wired the sledge hammer and the spike so that each time the sledge struck the spike a “dot” was sent by telegraph. At 12:47 p.m., May 10, 1869, from Promontory Summit, Utah, three dots—“DONE”—flashed to both coasts. Also, a railroad spike of gold was symbolically driven to connect ribbons of steel from the East and the West. A railroad from the “Union” to the Pacific was at last a reality: and with it, the reality of a truly united, transcontinental nation. As is often the case in history, where one opportunity is fulfilled by an invention or development, the development in the 1830’s of the locomotive answered an underlying problem facing the expansion of the United States. Namely, how do you unite a far-flung nation across which there is no fast means of transportation?

The attempt to establish an independent “state” under the “Bear Flag” in California, and the short-lived Republic of Texas, were indicative of the feelings of many early settlers. But who could build such a railroad? Slow recognition that government help was necessary, and the beginning of the Civil War, resulted in President Abraham Lincoln’s signature on July 1, 1862, of a bill providing for land grants to companies building railroads across the Great Plains (in exchange for reduced rates in the transportation of mail and military shipments). Such offers by government naturally attracted both able and dishonest men; but the completion of the railroad literally tied the Nation together. Furthermore, it provided a means by which the vast natural resources of the Nation could be tapped, new areas opened to settlement, and the fruits of mass production in industry widely distributed. Unification of the Nation; an improvement in material standards; that is what the Golden Spike stands for.

HOMESTEAD NATIONAL MONUMENT OF AMERICA, Nebraska
Authorized, March 9, 1936

Homestead National Monument, a quarter section of prairie and woodland near Beatrice, Nebraska, and the site of the claim of Daniel Freeman, one of the first “homesteaders” filing for land under the Homestead Act, recalls the wish for “Free Land”! That was the constant cry of frontiersmen who wanted the Federal Government to provide land to settlers willing to take risks on the prairies. President Abraham Lincoln, himself the product of a landless life, signed into law on May 20, 1862, the Homestead Act, which permitted any citizen (or person who planned to become a citizen) to file a claim on 160 acres of unappropriated government land; if he lived there and tilled the soil for five years, deed to the land was transferred to the farmer. The immediate result of the Act was to promote westward agricultural expansion; the resulting increase in productivity provided ample foodstuffs for the North during the Civil War, with excess for export to Europe (in the face of poor harvests there). This export commodity served to remind Great Britain, who was also dependent on Southern cotton, that she should not alienate the Union. Noble in its objectives, the Homestead Act was not altogether successful. Providing few protections against fraud, it inadvertently encouraged graft and land monopoly. And, since few people could really afford to migrate and to open such areas—and many were inexperienced, in addition—nearly two-thirds of all claims under the Homestead Act failed. Thus, the Homestead National Monument is a tribute to those who succeeded, to those who failed, and to the fits and starts of American expansion.
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<th>Image</th>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image1.jpg" alt="9c Glacier National Park" /></td>
<td>9c Glacier National Park, issued August 27, 1934.</td>
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<td><img src="image2.jpg" alt="3c 75th Anniversary of the First Transcontinental Railroad, the &quot;Golden Spike Ceremony&quot;" /></td>
<td>3c 75th Anniversary of the First Transcontinental Railroad, the &quot;Golden Spike Ceremony&quot;, issued May 10, 1944.</td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image3.jpg" alt="4c Centenary of the Homestead Act" /></td>
<td>4c Centenary of the Homestead Act, issued May 20, 1962.</td>
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MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK, Colorado
Established, June 29, 1906

Located in Southwestern Colorado are the most notable and best preserved prehistoric cliff dwellings in the United States. Within the park are preserved pithouses, masonry pueblos on mesa tops, majestic cliff dwellings, including the stunning "Cliff Palace", and other works of these early Americans. For some 1,300 years, commencing about the time of Christ, Indians lived in this region by farming, using tools fashioned from native rock and trading with other Indian tribes. Their culture evolved over the centuries.

Archeologists have been able to reconstruct these events and activities by studying the hundreds of ruins in the park, although only a few have been excavated. The ruins and artifacts clearly demonstrate the skills and the social organization these people attained. As farming Indians they lived with their crops, first as single families in shallow caves on the Mesa tops. After 700 years they had begun to live in groups or compact villages, "the pueblos". As their worldly goods became more attractive—beautifully woven baskets, decorated pottery, turquoise jewelry, and delicately woven garments—they began to use the bow and arrow for protection. In this period the great cliff palaces and other large "apartment" houses were built. Then, about 1300 A.D. they abandoned these dwellings and moved to the southwest.

Exhibits and museums in the park show the arts, crafts, and physical remains of these ancient people.

MOUNT RUSHMORE NATIONAL MEMORIAL, South Dakota
Authorized, March 3, 1925 Sculptor, Gutzon Borglum

The faces of the four American Presidents carved into 6,000-foot Mount Rushmore boldly symbolize the vigorous beginnings and trials of the United States during its first century and a half of growth. Washington represents the struggle for independence and the birth of the Republic. Jefferson expresses the country's political philosophy of self-government—a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. Lincoln typifies the permanency of the Nation and the struggle to assure equality for all its citizens. And Roosevelt depicts a 20th-century America, a period which awakened the people to the necessity for conserving the natural resources and saw the United States emerge as a determining influence in world affairs.

Work on the mountain began on August 10, 1927, the same day President Coolidge officially dedicated Mount Rushmore as a National Memorial. It reached the present appearance in 1941, when the available funds were exhausted.

Borglum did not intend for Mount Rushmore to become known only for its gigantic proportions; rather, he believed that "a monument's dimensions should be determined by the importance to civilization of the events commemorated."

SCOTTS BLUFF NATIONAL MONUMENT, Nebraska
Proclaimed, December 12, 1919

Both Scotts Bluff and Mitchell Pass, famous landmarks to the pioneers along the Oregon Trail, witnessed the mass migration between 1843 and 1869. The missionaries had been the first to report about Oregon's rich soil and remarkable climate; that was in the 1830's. By 1841 the first wagon caravan began the two-thousand mile journey between Independence, Missouri (where the Oregon trail began), along the Platte River through what is now Nebraska, across Wyoming, and on to the Willamette Valley. One can speculate what these people may have thought as they stopped, took a steep hike to the top of this 4,649 foot bluff (measured from sea level) and gazed westward across the agriculturally rich river valley. So great was the migration, that by 1845, some five thousand Americans had passed this way, creating shrill cries for the incorporation of Oregon into the United States and creating a potential conflict between the United States and Great Britain over the "54° 40' " demarcation.
4c Mesa Verde National Park, issued September 25, 1934.

3c Mt. Rushmore National Memorial, issued August 11, 1952.

3c Centennial of the Nebraska Territory, issued May 7, 1954.
THEODORE ROOSEVELT NATIONAL MEMORIAL PARK,
North Dakota
Established, April 25, 1947

Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), a young New York assem­blyman, arrived in the badlands in September 1883 for a buffalo hunt. The bison were already becoming scarce and Roosevelt asked a number of ranchers for advice on where to find them. They also discussed the prospects for the open-range cattle business. Before returning to the east coast, he joined two other men as a partner in the Maltese Cross Ranch.

A few months later, his wife and mother died on the same day. T. R. returned to the Dakota ranch to regain his vigor and sense of purpose through physical and business activities. He established a second open-range ranch, the Elkhorn, as his own operation while continuing as a partner in the Maltese Cross Ranch. In the late summer of 1886 he returned to New York to stand for re-election and to marry his second wife. However, Roosevelt did not forget his ranches, though his interest declined he spent parts of five years in the badlands. Meanwhile he pursued an increasingly successful political career in the East. In 1889 he sold his investment in North Dakota.

As President of the United States, Roosevelt judged the use of the Nation’s natural resources by values that were scientific, scenic, and historic, as well as economic. He fostered the establishment of the Forest Service to maintain the forests perpetually. He also signed the Antiquities Act which provided that areas of outstanding archeological and historical values could be set aside as national monuments by Presidential proclamation. By this act, Roosevelt proclaimed 15 national monuments and obtained congressional approval for the establishment of five national parks.

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho
Established, March 1, 1872

The world’s first national park, Yellowstone, is a wonderland of geysers, hot springs, mud volcanos, canyons, and a wildlife display unsurpassed in the United States. The real phenomenon of Yellowstone is that it was the first to represent the concept of setting aside a place of natural beauty and geological significance. It, the Act setting aside this park, was to set the tone and timbre of the national cultural behavior in the United States. As the first national park Yellowstone is symbolic of the entire national park movement which has resulted in the creation of national parks in more than 100 nations.

The natural phenomena of the park extend through its 3,400 square miles. High volcanic plateaus, impressive rugged mountains, forests, grasslands, boiling springs, lakes, mud pots, canyons, and geysers are all on display. During the summer season a profusion of wildflowers splash color through the open spaces and forests. The infinite variety of Yellowstone is world renown—relationships in nature between plants, animals, clean water, clean air and the land. The natural vista described a century ago is still here, a century later, its beauty protected for all as part of “Yellowstone National Park.”

ZION NATIONAL PARK, Utah
Proclaimed, July 31, 1909

Nature’s own “psychedelic light show” might be used to describe the range in colors of these rock formations—from dark red and orange to light purple and pink. The colors change continuously with the reflection of the light, making the colorful sandstone canyons of Zion the main feature of the park.

The Virgin River has cut through the sandstone for many thousands of years so that today the Zion Canyon is fifteen miles long and varies from a half mile to only a few feet wide. The canyon walls, almost vertical in spots, tower from two to three thousand feet above the River. It is important to remember that the Virgin, and its many forks and tributaries can be placid streams or, can become raging, pounding, flooding torrents after a summer cloudburst. The geologic forces of the past are still in action today—the Virgin River is removing over three million tons of rock from the park annually.

A twelve-mile round trip drive through Zion Canyon provides the opportunity to see some of the famous landmarks of the area; The Sentinel, Three Patriarchs, Mountain of the Sun, and Great White Throne. The trails of Zion complement the park’s striking views and are almost as famous.
30c President Theodore Roosevelt, issued December 8, 1938.

8c Zion National Park, issued September 18, 1934.

8c Zion National Park, issued September 18, 1934.

From top to bottom: 5c Yellowstone National Park, issued July 30, 1934; 8c Yellowstone National Park Centennial, 1872-1972, issued March 1, 1972.
A view of Saguaro National Monument, Arizona, showing the Saguaro Cacti.
National Park Service Photograph by Fred E. Mang, Jr.
CORONADO NATIONAL MEMORIAL, Arizona
Authorized, July 9, 1952

Francisco Vasquez de Coronado, Spanish explorer, is typical of the explorers from Spain who trudged across vast areas of the United States to find nothing of real interest. Like the explorers DeSoto, Ponce de Leon, and Narvaez, Coronado searched for instant riches rather than long-term developments. Motivated by the vision of seven, non-existent, but quite legendary cities of gold, Coronado trooped almost aimlessly through the vast lands which are now Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Kansas. Finding nothing but open land and Indians, he abandoned his search, and returned to Mexico City, where with other explorers he turned his vision South.

This 2,834 acre park commemorates the first European exploration of the southwest in 1540-42, and provides a view of part of the route by which the expedition entered what is now the United States.

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER NATIONAL MONUMENT, Missouri
Authorized, July 14, 1943

On this small Missouri farm, George Washington Carver (1864-1943) was born inauspiciously to slave parents. His father was probably a slave from a neighboring plantation. As a baby, George, his sister and his mother were kidnapped by marauding guerrillas at the beginning of the Civil War. Moses Carver, his owner, succeeded only in recovering George. He lived with the Carvers and served them by doing laundry, cooking and handicrafts until his mid-teens, taking their surname after the abolition of slavery. Although he was talented in art and music, it was his early fascination with plants that developed into a real sensitivity for botany.

Earning Bachelor and Master degrees at Iowa State College at Ames, Iowa, he became one of the greatest agricultural scientists that the United States ever produced. His work with the peanut and other common plants facilitated the South's change from a one crop economy based on cotton—a crop which the abolition of slavery and intense foreign competition had made only marginally profitable—to a diversified one. As director, for forty-seven years, of the Tuskegee Institute's agricultural research, this former slave helped America grow and prosper.

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK, Arizona
Established as a National Monument, January 11, 1908

The Colorado River, which begins on the western slope of the Continental Divide in the Rocky Mountain National Park, erodes and winds its way through five states for 1,360 miles before reaching the Mexican border. Along its course are many park areas presenting outstanding examples of the effects of wind, water, and temperature on this watershed. Best known of the eroded valleys and canyon gorges is the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. It not only provides us with a scene of tremendous beauty and visual impact, but the exposed layers of shales, limestones and sandstones provide one of the most complete geological stories of our earth.

John Wesley Powell (1834-1902), geologist and anthropologist led the first perilous expedition through 1,000 miles of the Green and Colorado River canyons in 1869. Today you can have this adventure on conducted river trips through parks preserved in the National Park System. If you were to make Powell's trip today, you would pass through eight different National Park areas: Canyonlands National Park, Dinosaur National Monument, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Grand Canyon National Monument, Grand Canyon National Park, Lake Meade National Recreation Area, Marble Canyon National Monument, and Rainbow Bridge National Monument.

SAGUARO NATIONAL MONUMENT, Arizona
Established, March 1, 1933

In the desert flatlands and along the foothills of the Rincon Mountains, east of Tuscon, Arizona, is this famous Saguaro cactus forest. Here, the desert scene is studded with thousands of stately saguaros. These awesome plants, the greatest may reach a height of 50 feet, weigh 12 tons, and live to be 200 years old, are particularly sensitive to the impact of man, his culture, and his domestic animals. With age they fall prey to a bacterial disease.

Clusters of creamy-white blossoms—the state flower of Arizona—appear at the ends of the elephant trunk-like branching arms in May and early June. The fruits are eaten by many birds, chipmunks, ground squirrels, and many other creatures. Over the years, Papago Indians have eaten the fruit fresh, dried them, and made syrup from the juice.

The maintenance of a natural environment for these plants must be assured if we are to continue to enjoy and to enable the survival of this showy Saguaro species.
3c George Washington Carver
Famous American, issued January 5, 1948.

3c 400th Anniversary of Coronado's Expedition,
issued September 7, 1940.

From top to bottom: 6c Centennial of John Wesley Powell's Expedition down the Green and Colorado Rivers, issued August 1, 1969; 2c Grand Canyon National Park, issued July 24, 1934.

From top to bottom: 3c Centennial of the Gadsden Purchase, issued December 30, 1953; 4c 50th Anniversary of Arizona Statehood, showing Saguaro Cacti, issued February 14, 1962.
Wizard Island and Llao Rock in winter, in Crater Lake National Park, Oregon.
National Park Service Photograph.
COULEE DAM NATIONAL RECREATION AREA,
Washington
Agreement of December 18, 1946

Standing across the Columbia River about 90 miles north-west of Spokane, Washington, is Grand Coulee Dam, the largest concrete dam and the greatest single power source in the United States. In addition to providing billions of kilowatt-hours of electricity for homes and factories, water from the reservoir will eventually irrigate more than a million acres of land.

Behind the dam the waters of Franklin D. Roosevelt Lake stretch for 145 miles, providing a clear blue lake and a 660 mile lakeshore for water oriented sports and recreation. The area is equally famous for things to see—the immense dam, blue water and rolling hills, rushing streams, a fascinating geology, and a variety of animals and plants. Volcanism, glaciation, and water erosion were the forces which shaped the Columbia Basin. Evidence of these activities can be seen around the present lake. The dam, however, blocks the once great salmon runs to the upper Columbia drainage system and the spawning areas.

In the early 1800’s the North West Company fur trappers began establishing trading posts along this section of the Columbia River. They were followed by missionaries, settlers and gold miners. In the 1870’s, at the close of the Indian Wars in the west, the Indian Reservations in the area were established.

CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK, Oregon
Established, May 22, 1902

Violent eruptions and the draining away of molten rock caused the collapse of Mount Mazama, 6,600 years ago. Thus, in the heart of a once active volcano this deep blue lake was formed—a lake in a crater. The lake, 1996 feet at its deepest, reflects the encircling multi-colored lava walls which rise 500 to 2,000 feet above it.

Visitors are lured by the virgin forest and meadows of wildflowers on the slopes of the crater. During July and August the alpine flowers are seen beside the trails along the crater’s rim. A 33-mile drive around the rim of the lake offers unexcelled observation points. Hiking trails provide special panoramas of Crater Lake; and Wizard Island, a cinder cone in the lake, gives a name to the enchantment which this Park conveys to every visitor.

FORT CLATSOP NATIONAL MEMORIAL, Oregon
Authorized, May 29, 1958

Although the purchase of the Louisiana Territory by Jefferson in 1803 doubled the area of the United States, the treaty covering the $15 million purchase did not define the actual boundaries of the territory. With a view to discovering the extent and riches of the newly acquired area, President Thomas Jefferson chose his private secretary, Captain Meriwether Lewis (1774-1809), and William Clark (1770-1838) to lead an exploratory expedition into the West. Less than 30 men began an unprecedented 8000 mile round trip from St. Louis to the Pacific Ocean in May of 1804, funded by a $2500 appropriation from the Congress, who itself saw the possibilities in extending the internal commerce of the Nation and of cultivating friendly relations with the native Indian tribes. On November 7, 1805, having crossed the Great Plains, the Rocky Mountains, the troop came in sight of the Pacific Ocean, and constructed Fort Clatsop as their winter headquarters. Upon their return in 1806 to St. Louis, it was shown that overland travel to the Pacific coast was possible. The result: stimulation of interest in the settlement of the area, and eventually, the great migration along the Oregon Trail to the rich lands of the new Northwest.

McLOUGHLIN HOUSE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Oregon
Designated June 27, 1941

The McLoughlin House is one of the few remaining pioneer dwellings in the region once known as the Oregon Country, which today forms the States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and parts of Montana and Wyoming. The house was built in 1845-46 by Dr. John McLoughlin (1784-1857), superintendent of the Columbia department of the Hudson’s Bay Company. It reflects the romantic epoch of the Pacific Northwest and its transition from the fur-trading era into a settled region. This historic site is a memorial to an English subject who generously aided the American settlers in establishing their new homes in the Oregon Country.
3c Completion of Grand Coulee Dam, issued May 15, 1952.

Clockwise, from the left: 3c President Thomas Jefferson, issued June 16, 1938; 10c Map of the Louisiana Territory, issued April 30, 1904; 3c 150th Anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, issued July 28, 1954.

6c Crater Lake National Park, showing Crater Lake, issued September 5, 1934.

3c Centennial of the Oregon Territory, showing John McLoughlin and Jason Lee, issued August 14, 1948.
JOHN MUIR NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, California
Authorized, August 13, 1964
MUIR WOODS NATIONAL MONUMENT, California
Proclaimed, January 9, 1908

Scotland lost, and America gained when John Muir's (1838-1914) family emigrated to the United States in 1849. A college drop-out, Muir was largely self-educated—an education which created a deep sense of the need for conservation—through years of wandering and studying geological structures and botanical cultures over most of North America. His studies encouraged him to agitate for legislation to set aside forest preserves for parks and other uses. His efforts cast a great shadow in the history of conservation in America. Not unlike the virgin redwood grove preserved in his honor at Muir Woods, 17 miles north of San Francisco, his efforts were firm. His achievements included a great deal of responsibility for the establishment of the U. S. Forest Service, Yosemite National Park, Sequoia National Park, Mt. Rainier National Park, the Petrified Forest National Monument, and part of the Grand Canyon National Monument. Seldom in history has one man been so richly honored by such magnificent an achievement—one appreciated today by thousands and thousands.

MOUNT MCKINLEY NATIONAL PARK, Alaska
Established, February 26, 1917

Mount McKinley National Park is a subarctic wilderness 250 miles south of the Arctic Circle. Over 3,000 square miles of the park surround Mt. McKinley, which rises to 20,320 feet and is the highest mountain in North America. Almost untouched by the hand of man, the park has contrasting topography, ranging from towering mountains to lowlands and stream valleys.

Here can be seen the stark beauty of the subarctic and the struggle for survival by its wild inhabitants. The park is home to 132 species of birds and 37 species of mammals including grizzly bear, timber wolves, barren ground caribou, moose and Dall sheep. Throughout the park, evidence of the massive power of the glaciers can be seen, and active glaciers still cling to the higher mountain slopes.

At the right, from top to bottom: 3c Alaska Territory, issued November 12, 1937; 15c Mt. McKinley National Park, issued July 28, 1972.
MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK, Washington
Established, March 2, 1899

Less than a million years ago, volcanic eruptions created the massive Rainier, the highest mountain in the Pacific Northwest, rising to 14,410 feet above sea level. Today, steam from a crater at its summit continues to melt the snow. The mountain’s higher elevations are covered by glaciers, snow and ice fields, giving it a gleaming mantle. The snow and ice persist, renewed by heavy snowfall—as much as 15 to 80 feet annually! There are 26 glaciers (i.e., large masses of ice at least 100 feet thick and moving) at work, the larger ones originating at the summit or in large cirques high on the mountainside. Several can be seen from good vantage points along park roads and a few are easily accessible to the hiker.

The snow does leave the lower elevations and recedes from the “park-like” meadows in mid-June, exposing a carpet of luxurious alpine wildflowers which become the feature of the park. At the lower elevations dense forests of Douglas fir, Western hemlock, and red cedar crowd into the park valleys, but it is the subalpine fir which endures up the slopes until treeline is reached. This is an arctic island in a temperate zone.

SITKA NATIONAL MONUMENT, Alaska
Proclaimed March 23, 1910

Sitka, located on the west coast of Baranof Island in southeastern Alaska, was founded by Alexander Baranof, a Russian trader in 1799. A fishing and lumbering center (the Sitka Spruce was named for the town), it was the most important and cosmopolitan city on the Pacific Coast and the capital of Russian America. To supply agricultural products for their Alaska settlements, the Russians also established several farms on the California coast. These activities illustrate the threat of foreign intrusions into America that produced the Monroe Doctrine.

Sitka National Monument is the site of an Indian fort where, in 1804, the Tlingit Indians made their last stand against Russian colonizers. With an exhibit of totem poles similar to that depicted on the Alaska Purchase stamp, it is a reminder that Alaska was not always American territory. Totems are to Alaskan Indian culture what painting and music are to the culture of Western civilization—a form of art through which man attempts to synthesize his spiritual feelings and intellectual aspirations.

William Henry Seward (1801-1872), the Secretary of State in the Grant administration, purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867 for $7.2 million. Sitka was the site, in October 1867, of the ceremony transferring Russian America to the United States. Ninety-two years later Alaska became the 49th State of the Union, bringing with it a unique cultural heritage not found elsewhere in the United States.

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, California
Established, October 1, 1890

More than a half million acres of scenic wonderland, on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada, were first set aside by the State of California at President Lincoln’s order to preserve the breath-taking beauty of mountains, valleys and waterfalls. By the 1870’s, guided hiking and horseback tours were taking visitors to the back country of this park. Today, public trams and bicycles, which enable visitors to leave cars behind, carry explorers down roadway vistas, and hundreds of miles of trails invite those seeking additional pleasures.

The experience of looking down upon Yosemite Valley from Inspiration Point, of seeing Half Dome and Mirror Lake, the waterfalls, towering cliffs, valleys and big trees evokes a sense of wonder in visitors, and gives dimensions to the time in which nature works. The topography within the park reflects elevations ranging from 2,000 to 13,000 feet. Five life zones are identifiable within this range, each with its related community of animals and plants. Most outstanding are the groves of Sugar Pine and three groves of Giant Sequoias.

Flowering trees and shrubs, meadows of colorful wildflowers, and the inspiring Yosemite Falls, Bridalveil and Nevada Falls, the Merced River, Lake Tenaya, Tioga Pass, and El Capitan augment hundreds of bird and mammal species in providing unforgettable impressions of these Sierra treasures.
To the right, 3c Mount Rainier National Park, issued August 3, 1934.

To the left, 3c Centennial of the Washington Territory, issued March 2, 1953.

1c Yosemite National Park, issued July 16, 1934.

8c Centennial of the Alaska Purchase, issued March 30, 1967.
A courtyard battery of El Moro Castle in the San Juan National Historic Site. National Park Service Photograph by Jack Boucher.
The Islands
CITY OF REFUGE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, Hawaii
Authorized, July 26, 1955

The first Polynesian Pilgrims probably arrived in the Hawaiian Islands about AD 750, bringing with them art, culture, and rigid taboos which only the foolhardy dared to violate. The standard price for breaking the "kapu", a system of do's and don't's, was death by a sacrificial club to the head. The old Hawaiian system was basically feudal, with rigid class distinctions. It was a pyramid of privilege, with the king at the top who could do almost no wrong and a common man at the bottom who could do a lot of it. It would have been an intolerable system without some sort of loophole for the common man—the City of Refuge was one of the loopholes. Defeated warriors, noncombatants, and taboo breakers escaped death if they reached the sacred land ahead of their pursuers.

Never a "city" in the sense of a permanent dwelling place for a large number of people, it had a strictly transient population, an endless stream of fugitives seeking pardons for their transgressions or seeking refuge for being on the wrong side of a war. The City of Refuge is more properly called the Place of Refuge at Honaunau. Located on a six acre shelf of ancient lava that dips into the Pacific Ocean, the refuge is roughly square in shape, with the ocean on two sides and a great wall (10 feet high and 17 feet wide) along the other two. Containing the platforms of three temples and the remains of dwellings of great chiefs, this site is historically the most important, and the most intact of several such refuges on the islands of the Hawaiian chain.

SAN JUAN NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Puerto Rico
Designated, February 14, 1949

Attracted by gold, Juan Ponce de Leon began the colonization of Puerto Rico about 1508. In 1521, the same year that Ponce de Leon was mortally wounded in the conquest of Florida, the village was moved to the present coastal site of San Juan.

Although the colonists found some gold in the rivers and a limited commerce developed in sugar, coffee, and other products, Puerto Rico never produced much wealth. But the island was important to Spain for other reasons. For fifty years Spain built a vast and rich empire in America. To carry the new riches across the sea, two convoys left Spain each year, entering the Caribbean near Puerto Rico. One took on Mexican silver and merchandise at Vera Cruz, while the other loaded pearls at Cartagena and Peruvian treasure at Puerto Bello on the Isthmus of Panama. The two fleets met for the homeward voyage to Spain past the shores of Florida.

Roving corsairs, mainly French, English, and later Dutch, seized what they could of Spanish goods. No ship or settlement in the Caribbean was safe from attack. Spain responded to the threats by building massive fortifications which were added to over the next 200 years. The oldest and most strategic is El Moro Castle, with its tiered batteries and vaulted tower commanding the harbor entrance.

A new chapter in the history of the islands began at the end of the Spanish-American War in 1898. Spanish rule came to an end when the defenses of San Juan were turned over peacefully to the United States.
11c **City of Refugee National Historical Park**, issued May 3, 1972.

8c **450th Anniversary of San Juan, Puerto Rico**, showing a tower of El Moro Castle, issued September 12, 1971.
Suggestions for further reading

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