

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:
BADLANDS NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: An Act to establish the Badlands National Monument in the State of South Dakota, and for other purposes, approved March 4, 1929 (45 stat. 1558)

"...such areas shall be, and are hereby, dedicated and set apart as a national monument for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, under the name of the Badlands National Monument:"

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 1246, 70th Congress, 1st Session
Teton National Park (May 3, 1928)

"The bill provides for the establishment of a national park by presidential proclamation, covering lands in the most scenic and interesting section of the so-called Bad Lands of South Dakota, same to be known as Teton National Park, when certain requirements have been met.

The major area set aside for park purposes is 101 square miles in extent, comprising what is known as the Great Wall and the Pinnacles. The minor area comprises a tract of about 7 square miles and includes Sheep Mountain, from which is obtained a view which can not be surpassed anywhere for its grandeur and impressiveness."

"The topography of the South Dakota Bad Lands is so unique, varied, and interesting, and the fame of the region as a large field for scientific exploration of the geological past is so extensive, this committee is of the opinion that, in line with the general policy of the Government, the most scenic features of this region should be set aside as a national park and preserved for the enjoyment and education of the people. The scenic and educational assets of this area are unlimited and compare most favorably with other park localities. There is a wealth of scenic features which can not be found elsewhere. In the region abound vast beds of vertebrate fossil remains. Geologic formations, peculiar only to this region, appear in great variety. The whole area is a vast storehouse of the biological past. For three quarters of a century it has been the scene of operation for scientific expeditions from all parts of the world.

LOCATION AND EXTENT

The White River Bad Lands consist of the most important badland area of the world, the most interesting parts of which are included in the proposed bill. They lie generally in southwestern South Dakota, the most scenic part being in Pannington and Jackson Counties, and cover an area of about 1,000 square miles. A prominent arm, known as Pine Ridge, extends through northwestern Nebraska into eastern Wyoming. From Pannington County the Bad Lands extend northward for miles and miles in the form of lesser ranges, isolated mounds, buttes, and offshoots.

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report 92 - 158 92nd Congress 1st Session.
Arches National Park (June 17, 1971)

This report accompanied the Senate version of the bill
to grant park status to Arches National Monument.
The report contained the following description of the area:

DESCRIPTION OF AREA

"Arches National Monument lies in the heart of the famed red-rock country of southeastern Utah. There, sandstone towers, sweeping coves, balanced rocks, spires, pinnacles, and other spectacular forms resulting from the combined action of running water, wind, rain, frost, and sun form a setting in which the arches are a majestic culmination.

The rock in which the arches have formed was deposited as sand about 150 million years ago, during the Jurassic period. This 300-foot layer, called the Entrada sandstone, is believed to have been laid down mainly by wind. In time it was buried by new layers, and hardened into rock.

The rock was then uplifted, twisted, and severely cracked several times. Later, after erosion had stripped away the overlying layers, the Entrada sandstone was exposed to weathering, and the formation of arches began. Water entering cracks in the sandstone dissolved some of the cementing material, and running water and wind removed the loose sand. Cracks were widened into narrow canyons separated by fins. More rapid weathering of softer areas in some of these vertical walls resulted in undercutting. The quarrying by water and frost persisted, perforating the fins, enlarging the perforations, and smoothing their contours until large, graceful arches were formed. Some arches have been left isolated by erosion of surrounding fins. The visitor can see all stages in their development and decay in the proposed park area, where nearly 90 arches have been discovered to date.

Present facilities at Arches include a visitor center and modern campground for tents and trailers in Devil's Garden. In the summer, campfire talks are given nightly at the campground amphitheater and guided trips are scheduled regularly. For the more independent visitor, there are hiking trails to some of the more spectacular spots in the monument. There is an abundance of wildlife and desert plants, as well, to add to the enjoyment of the visitor to this area."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report 92 - 535. 92nd Congress 1st Session.
Establishing the Arches National Park in Utah
(Sept. 30, 1971).

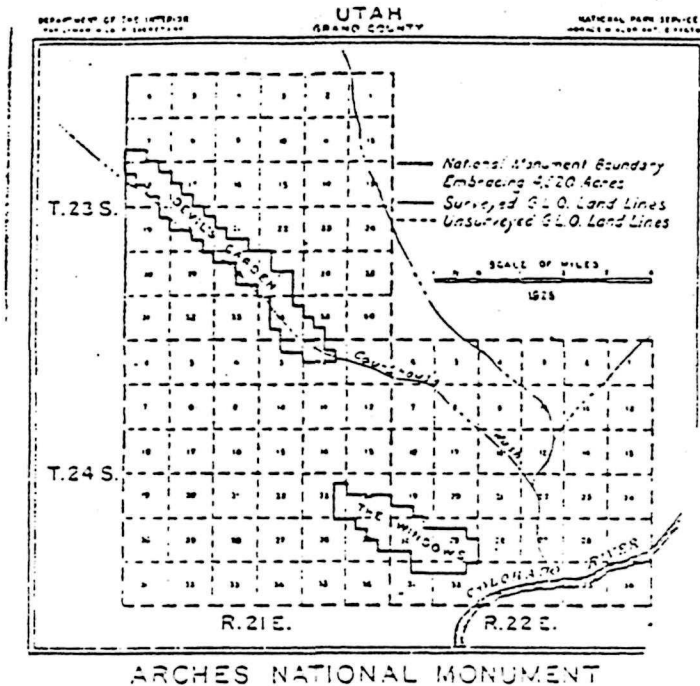
This report accompanied the House bill to establish Arches as a national park. Most of the discussion of the area concerned slight boundary revisions as a result of this legislation.

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

"Not unlike other parts of this vast open country in the State of Utah, the area involved under the terms of H.R. 7136 is spectacular. Indicative of its name, this area contains numerous arches (almost 90 have been discovered) carved in the Entrada Sandstone by the forces of nature. The bonus at this unusual area lies in the "uncountable" number of other weirdly shaped and delicately sculptured remains of that sandy formation which had its origin about 150 million years ago.

Much of the most intriguing part of the area has been administered as a national monument for many years, but some significant areas of the public domain remained outside the boundaries; consequently, action was taken to incorporate them into the monument. While this was accomplished without Congressional action, only the Congress can create a national park. H.R. 7136, if enacted, will establish the Arches National Park and will create statutory boundaries for it.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Department of the Interior, H.R. 1736, as amended, would revise the boundaries to include approximately 73,234 acres of land. While the legislation does not add any areas which would require the acquisition of any privately owned lands, there are some lands in private ownership which were within the boundaries of the enlarged national monument and which will be within the national park."



STATUTE: PROCLAMATION #3887, June 20, 1969
 This proclamation enlarged the monument by approximately 45,000 acres.

Proclamation 3887
 Enlarging the Arches National Monument Utah

"WHEREAS, the Arches National Monument in Utah was established by Proclamation No. 1875 of April 12, 1929, and enlarged by Proclamation No. 2312 of November 25, 1938, and its boundary adjusted by Proclamation No. 3360 of July 22, 1960, to reserve and set apart areas containing extraordinary examples of wind eroded sand stone formations and other features of geological, historic and scientific interest; and

WHEREAS, it would be in the public interest to add to the Arches National Monument certain adjoining lands which encompass a variety of additional features which constitute objects of geological and scientific interest to complete the geologic story presented at the monument; and"

STATUTE: An Act to establish the Arches National Park in the State of Utah
 (85 Stat. 422)

This statute changed the status of the Arches National Monument to a National park. The statute itself contains no description of the park area or any reference to visibility.

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
ARCHES NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: PROCLAMATION #1875, April 12, 1929, 46 Stat. 2988
This proclamation establishes Arches National Monument

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION
(No. 1875--Apr. 12, 1929--46 Stat. 2988)

"Whereas, there are located in unsurveyed townships twenty-three and twenty-four south, range twenty-one east, and twenty-four south, range twenty-two east of the Salt Lake meridian, in Grand County, Utah, two areas, known locally as the "Devil's Garden" and the "Windows," containing approximately 2,600 acres and 1,920 acres, respectively;

Whereas, these areas contain extraordinary examples of wind erosion in the shape of gigantic arches, natural bridges, "windows," spires, balanced rocks, and other unique wind-worn sandstone formations, the preservation of which is desirable because of their educational and scenic value; and

Whereas, it appears that the public interest would be promoted by...."

STATUTE: PROCLAMATION #2312, Nov 25, 1938, 53 Stat. 2504
This proclamation enlarged the size of the national monument.
(map included)

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION
(No. 2312--Nov. 25, 1938--53 Stat. 2504)

"Whereas certain public lands contiguous to the Arches National Monument, in Utah, established by proclamation of April 12, 1929 (46 Stat. 2988), have situated thereon geologic and prehistoric structures of historic and scientific interest; and

Whereas there are other public lands contiguous to the said monument which are necessary for the proper care, management, and protection of the objects of scientific interest situated on the lands included in the monument and on the other lands referred to above; and

Whereas it appears that it would be in the public interest to reserve such lands as part of the said monument:

Now, THEREFORE, I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, under and by virtue of the authority vested in me by section 2 of the act of June 8, 1906, c. 3060, 34 Stat. 225 (U.S.C., title 16, sec. 431), do proclaim that, subject to all valid existing rights, the following-described lands in Utah are hereby reserved from all forms of...."

The Bad Lands country does not readily lend itself to accurate definition or brief description.

The appellation "Bad Lands" was given to the region by the Indians, which name was thereafter adopted by the early French-Canadian trappers and handed down to the white man. It signifies a country difficult to travel through, generally because of the extremely rugged surroundings and the infrequency of passes through the Great Wall.

TOPOGRAPHY

The chief topographical features of the area embraced in the bill are Sheep Mountain and the Great Wall. The view from the cedar-covered top of Sheep Mountain, looking down on the vast expanse of projecting points or pinnacles and bottomless pits, is indescribable. The Great Wall, from 300 to 400 feet high, viewed from the valleys, and stretching for miles in an east and west direction, discloses for much of the distance a continuous serrated skyline series of towers, pinnacles, and precipitous gulches. The landscape is strange and weird in the extreme. This wall divides the high grass covered table-lands from the lowlands or adjoining basin country.

On close approach, the spectator is overwhelmed with the sublime grandeur and strangeness of the rugged contour. Even Government maps show many thousands of acres in this section as unsurveyable. The deep silence is penetrating to a degree, and there is almost a total absence of growing and living things. Deep rutted ravines, high ridges, hills and cliffs of grayish white, tempered with varied stratas of browns, yellows, purples, reds, and blues by the distant haze, extend far beyond view in every direction. Their fantastic shapes are constantly being changed by erosion.

World travelers pronounce the panoramic scenery of the Bad Lands of such rare, weird magnificence, which, intensified by the impressive desolation, can never be forgotten.

FOSSILS

The various stages of animal life through eons of time are geologically recorded in the peculiar soil of the Bad Lands. The work of the scientists in bringing to light the history of the plant and animal life of the past is going on constantly.

In formative geologic times, the Bad Lands abounded in animal life in vast variety. Their fossil remains are easily found in profusion, embedded in the formations of the region. Here are to be found the skeletons of grass-eating mammals larger than the mastodon. Here the ancestors of most of the present animal kingdom roamed at will, fighting for existence. Specimens of these fossil remains now repose in the world's principal museums."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 2073, 70th Congress, 2d Session
Proposed Establishment of and Boundary Revisions of
Certain National Parks (February 25, 1929)

"The Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, pursuant to and in accordance with S. Res. 237, reports that a subcommittee consisting of Senators Nye, Norbeck, Dale, Kendrick, and Ashurst in July and August of 1928 visited the sites of certain proposed national parks and certain other national parks, and that the said subcommittee has submitted the following report, which is approved by the committee.

PROPOSED TETON (BAD LANDS) NATIONAL PARK, S. DAK.

The committee made an inspection of an extensive area of the South Dakota Bad Lands and was greatly impressed with their value for scientific and scenic interest. The principal scenic features are the Great Wall, Cedar Pass, Big Foot Pass, and an unsurveyable area of great fascination known as the Pinnacles.

The topography of the South Dakota Bad Lands is so unique, varied and interesting, and the fame of the region as a large field for scientific exploration of the geologic past is so extensive, the committee is of the opinion that this area is worthy of a national park status. The whole area is an open book on the evolution of animal life from the earliest geologic period. The fossil remains of prehistoric animals embedded in the formations of this region are found in great profusion. For over 80 years it has been the scene of operation for scientific expeditions from all parts of the world. Specimens of these fossils repose in the world's principal museums.

Erosion has facilitated the exposure of these fossil remains and has caused the rugged contour of this section to assume the most fantastic and unique shapes. There is a wealth of scenic features with a wide range of exquisite coloring which can not be found elsewhere."

In conclusion, the committee stated:

"The Bad Lands of South Dakota furnished the committee with an entirely different character of this picturesque and unique scenery than is to be found in the Bad Lands of North Dakota (proposed Roosevelt National Park). The formations of the proposed Teton (Bad Lands) National Park are of a jagged spire type, an extremely unusual formation, as compared with the crimson buttes of North Dakota, and convinced the committee that this area should be given national park status, in order that it can be properly preserved and administered for the benefit of the thousands of people who pass through this section yearly."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
BANDELIER NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: Presidential Proclamation No. 1322 - February 11, 1916.
(39 Stat. 17764)

The proclamation makes no mention of the scenic attributes of the area. The purpose for the preservation of the area as a National Monument follow:

WHEREAS, certain prehistoric aboriginal ruins situated upon public lands of the United States, within the Santa Fe National Forest, in the State of New Mexico, are of unusual ethnologic, scientific, and educational interest, and it appears that the public interests would be promoted by reserving these relics of a vanished people, with as much land as may be necessary for the proper protection thereof, as a National Monument.

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 2427, 56th Congress, 2d Session.
Cliff Dwellers National Park. (January 23, 1901)

A bill was introduced into the 56th Congress to set aside the Bandelier area as a national park. The committee report to the bill included an "official report" of the General Land Office. That report contained the following reference to the scenic beauty of the plateau area:

"South of the Juege Canyon the stratum of tufa covers the entire plateau from the base of the mountains to the Rio Grande, and is deeply seamed by many canyons and canoncitos, which cutting through the stratum of tufa, leave it exposed in perpendicular walls. The district is traversed by the canyons of the Santa Clara, Chupaderos, Juege, Alamo, Sandia, Pajarito, and Frijoles, besides many lesser canyons and canoncitos, and is on the whole one of great scenic beauty."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 3705, 58th Congress, 3d Session.
The Pajarito Cliff Dwellers' National Park.
(January 19, 1905)

This region embraces the ruins of a large number of prehistoric buildings and caves of very great interest. The caves are excavated in volcanic tufa in the sides of tall and picturesque cliffs, and are well preserved.

This committee report included a study of the Bandelier area made by a representative of the Bureau of Forestry. The following passage is an excerpt from his report:

"The lands embraced within the proposed park are, with very few exceptions, well covered with cedar and pinon timber of dwarfed growth. In the western portion of the canyon and on the northern hillsides, are groves of pine, spruce, oak, alder, and long-leaved cottonwood. Scattered over the territory in question are restricted areas of grass-covered lands, forming small open glades. The range value of these lands is low and of small consideration. The high plateaus of tufa, deeply riven by many canyons, with the ramifications and picturesque cliffs, form a landscape which is exceedingly beautiful.

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: An Act to provide for the establishment of the Big Bend National Park in the State of Texas, and for other purposes, approved June 20, 1935. (49 Stat. 393)

"The State of Texas, known as the "Big Bend" area, shall have been vested in the United States, such lands shall be, and are hereby, established, dedicated, and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people and shall be known as the "Big Bend National Park."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 873, 74th Congress, 1st Session.
Big Bend National Park. (May 13, 1935)

Facts concerning the proposed legislation are set forth in the favorable report of the Secretary of The Interior under date of April 16, 1935, which report is hereinbelow set out in full and made a part of this report, as follows:

An excerpt from the Secretary's report follows:

"This proposed legislation would authorize the establishment of the Big Bend National Park, in the State of Texas, when the necessary lands shall have been secured by the United States by donation. The Big Bend area is a region of inspiring scenery, and contains many varieties of rare plant and animal life. It is a national importance and worthy of Federal protection and development as a national park. The scenic grandeur of the Big Bend country extends across the border into Mexico, and it is hoped that, if this proposed legislation is enacted, the Mexican Government will be invited to cooperate with the United States in the establishment of an international park."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 547, 74th Congress, 1st Session.
Big Bend National Park. (April 15, 1935)

"To the south, however, the landscape is dominated by mountain ranges and is felt to be of high caliber to rank well as a national park. In the Chisos Mountains the visitor is agreeably surprised at the colorful rock expanses, rose-colored and tinged with faint greens and yellows.

One of the dramatic features in this area is the Rio Grande itself, which in its tortuous course, cuts through three steep-walled canyons, the Santa Helena, the Mariscal, and the Boquillas, and meanders over flat river plains between.

The romance of old frontier Mexico is in the atmosphere of the Big Bend region. In the Chisos Mountains the visitor is continually aware of its presence. The outstanding views in three directions carry the eye over into the mountains of Old Mexico. From the south rim, over 5,000 feet above the river the eye obtains the most dramatic panorama of the Chisos---a 200-mile sweep of American and Mexican terrain. Below the Rio Grande winds through walled canyons and river flood plains. As a unit of the national park system the region would be unique in this international flavor."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
BRYCE CANYON

BRYCE CANYON

STATUTE: "An Act to establish the Utah National Park in the State of Utah, approved June 7, 1924." (43 Stat. 593)

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby reserved and withdrawn from settlement, occupancy or disposal under the laws of the United States and dedicated and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, under the name of the 'Utah National Park'."

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Senate Report No. 294, 68th Congress 1st Session (March 21, 24) "To Establish The Utah National Park In the State Of Utah."

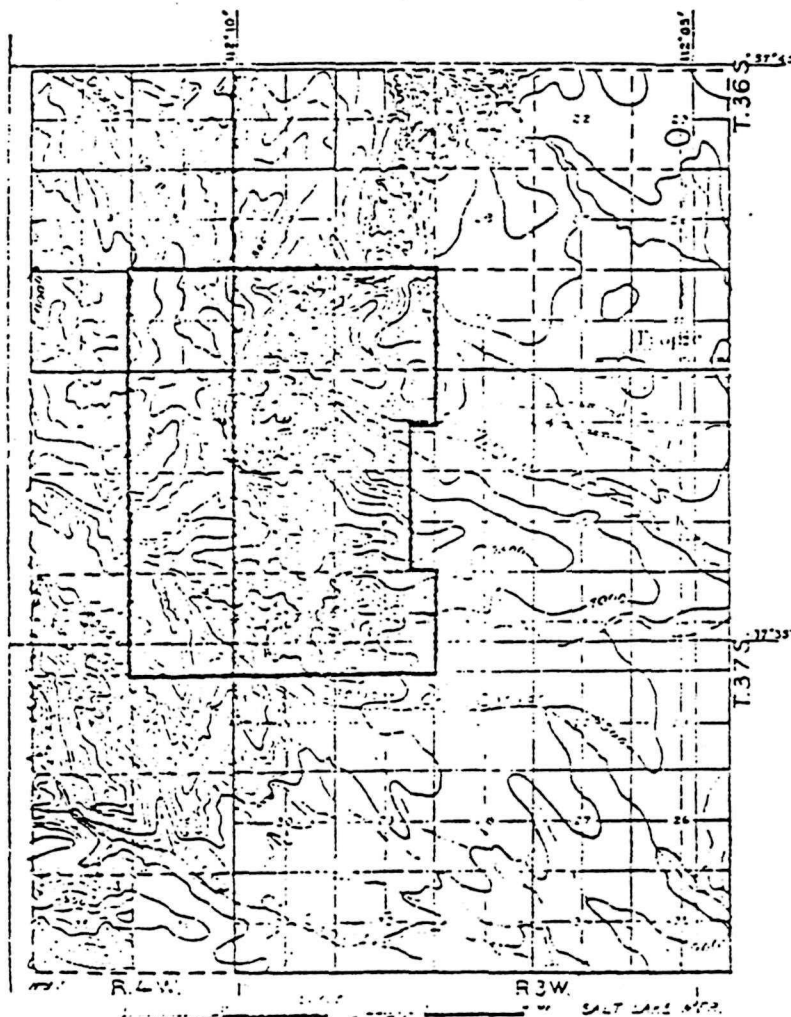
excerpt from a letter to I.L. Lenroot, Chairman, Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, from Hubert Work, Secretary of Interior: (description of the area)

"The area under consideration contains what is known as Bryce Canyon, which lies on the eastern declivity of the Paunsaunt Plateau, about 25 miles southeast of the town of Panguitch, and as the crow flies, about 55 miles northeast of Zion National Park. It is one of the three outstanding scenic exhibits of southwestern Utah, the others being Zion National Park and the Cedar Breaks area within the Dixie National Forest, and is readily accessible by good automobile roads."

Excerpt from a letter to I.L. Lenroot, from Henry Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture, recommending Bryce remain under Forest Service jurisdiction.

"The area described in the bill contains one of the most unique and beautiful examples of rock erosion to be found in the United States. Through the operation of natural agencies a section of the cliff system of the region corresponding approximately to the area described in the bill has been transformed into a fantastic array of pillars or columns which through the creamy whiteness of the rock formation give the area a most attractive aspect. It therefore is gaining increasing popularity as a scenic attraction and as a point of interest to the geologists. The public importance of the area is such that it demands retention in public ownership and proper protection against misuse or defacement."

The attractiveness of the canyon is a sublime spectacle viewed as a panorama from the certain points of vantage. As a detailed study it would appeal only to the geologist.



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT
WITHIN
POWELL NATIONAL FOREST
UTAH
APPROX. AREA 75,000 ACRES.
D. E. SPAN, ASSISTANT CHIEF OF BUREAU, U. S. FOREST SERVICE, JUNE 2, 1923

(original park area)

STATUTE: "An Act To provide for the addition of certain lands to the Bryce Canyon National Park, Utah, and for other purposes, approved, June 13, 1930." (46 Stat. 582)

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled. That for the purpose of preserving in their natural state the outstanding scenic features to the south and west of Bryce Canyon National Park, the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized, upon the joint recommendation of the Secretaries of Interior and of Agriculture, to add to the Bryce Canyon National Park in the state of Utah, by Executive proclamation, any or all of unsurveyed townships 37 and 38 south, range 4 west, Salt Lake meridian, not now included in said park, and all the lands added to said park pursuant hereto shall be, and are hereby, made subject to all laws, rules and regulations applicable to and in force in the Bryce Canyon National Park." (U.S.C., 6th supp., title 16, sec. 402d.)

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 1356, 71st Long 2nd session
"To Provide For Addition of Certain Lands To The Bryce Canyon National Park." (March 2, 1930)

excerpt from a memo to the Secretary of Interior from Arno Cammerer, Acting Director of the National Park Service. (April 25, 1930) (recommending passage of the bill enlarging Bryce Canyon National Park.

Extending to the south and west of the park as at present constituted, is an area containing exhibits of wind and water erosion, comparing favorably in beauty and scientific interest with similar features within the park for the preservation of which the present park was established.

STATUTE. "An Act To adjust the boundaries and for the addition of certain lands to the Bryce Canyon National Park, Utah, and for other purposes, approved February 17, 1931." (46 Stat. 1166)

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that for the purpose of preserving in their natural state the outstanding scenic features thereon and for the purpose of rounding out the boundary of the Bryce Canyon National Park...."

STATUTE: "An Act To correct the description of land added to the Bryce Canyon National Park pursuant to the Act of February 17, 1931, approved March 7, 1942." (56 Stat. 141)

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 923, 77th Congress 1st session (July 10, 1941.

excerpt from a letter to J. W. Robinson, Chairman, Committee on the Public Lands, House, from Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior. (May 22, 1941) (recommending additions to Bryce Canyon National Park)

"From a scenic standpoint, the lands in question are vital to the national park. They contain portions of the rim of the canyon, large sections of the famous Pink Cliff formation, and many highly colored and fantastically carved erosional forms. They also contain scientifically valuable fossil deposits. The preservation of the canyon rim and the weirdly sculptured pinnacles found immediately below the rim was, of course, the primary purpose in giving the Bryce Canyon area national park status.

I have been advised by the Bureau of the Budget that there would be no objection by that Bureau to the presentation of this report to the Congress."

Sincerely yours,

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK

CANYONLANDS

STATUTE: "An Act To provide for establishment of the Canyonlands National Park in the State of Utah, and for other purposes."
(78 Stat. 934)

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled. That in order to preserve an area in the State of Utah possessing superlative scenic, scientific, and archeologic features for the inspiration, benefit and use of the public, there is hereby established the Canyonlands National Park which subject to valid existing rights, shall comprise the following generally described lands:"

COMMITTEE REPORTS: HOUSE REPORT No. 1823, 86th Congress 2nd session.

This report describes the area under consideration and recommends passage of the House bill.

"Half of the Canyonlands country lies to the north of the junction of the Green and Colorado Rivers and between those two streams. The other half lies south and east of this junction. Members of the committee who visited the area this year for field hearings agree that the author of the bill, Congressman Burton, did not exaggerate when he called it a spectacular, fantastically beautiful place and that, as others have put it, it is an area which ranks with Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons.

The whole area presents "the scenery of erosion," as the National Park Service described it in its pamphlet report on Canyonlands, dated March 1962. Its primary interest to the public lies not in its form or fauna, for these are relatively scarce, but in its geology. This has been summarized by the National Park Service thus:

The study area is the scenic heart of the Colorado Plateaus Province. It contains a startling diversity of inspirational scenery, but is nevertheless a comprehensive whole. Although some of the individual features found within the area (arches, cliffs canyons, colorful rock layers, semidesert flora and fauna) are also found in other units of the national park system, many are not duplicated elsewhere and the total assemblage of features and their visual aspects is unique. Nowhere else is there a comparable opportunity to view a colorful, exciting, geologically significant wilderness from above, and then get down into its midst--- and still not lose the atmosphere of remote wilderness."

"The placid parks, particularly Chesler and Virginia, ringed by the
bristling forest of fantastic needles, are outstanding. Elephant Canyon,
offering rapidly changing scenery every hundred yards, has towering
Druid Arch as a climax at its head. Salt Creek and Horse Creek and
their tributaries provide equally intriguing but very different visual
values, as well as Indian ruins of archeological significance. Angel
Arch in Salt Creek Canyon is incomparable. The grabens in the Needles
country are scenically outstanding and geologically remarkable.
Cataract Canyon--the explorers' nightmare and modern river runners'
challenge--is a feature well worth seeing (and hearing). In the heart
of the Canyonlands the Green and Colorado Rivers merge their differing
shades of siltladen waters to form the wildest river on the continent;
a stream, untamable and only partly shackled, whose geologic history of
erosion is astounding, and whose basin holds the world's most vivid scenery.

* * * Standing Rock Basin (omitted from the boundaries in the present bill)
would merit national protection on its own for its concentration of huge,
sculptured fine and standing rocks. So would Upheaval Dome, a feature
geologically unique, with an appearance as unusual as its story. The
Island in the Sky, a great plateau ringed by sheer cliffs and connected
to the main land mass by a neck only 40 feet wide, is an incomparable
vantage point. Other overlooks in the Canyonlands provide different but
equally stimulating views.

Scenery alone makes this physiographic unit of national significance and
warrants the establishment of a national park within it. The geologic
interpretation of that scenery enhances it, and can be done simply,
meaningfully, and dramatically. Archeological, historical, and biological
values buttress the significance."

Exerpts from a letter to Wayne N. Aspinall, Chairman,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, House from
Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of Interior (May 14, 1964)
(recommends park status for Canyonlands)

"Canyonlands may be the Nation's last opportunity to establish a national
park of the Yellowstone National Park class--a vast area of scenic wonders
and recreational opportunities unduplicated elsewhere on the American
Continent or in the world.

The proposed Canyonlands National Park established by C. 27 is an
hourglass-shaped area in southeastern Utah, including the confluence
of the Green and Colorado Rivers. Its southern boundary is a few miles
above the tail waters of the reservoir or pool which is now being
created by Glen Canyon Dam and incorporated in the Glen Canyon National
Recreation Area. Its most northerly boundary is 30 miles north near the
San Juan-Grand County line and Deadhorse Point State Park. The park area
is approximately 20 miles wide, east to west, at the northern and southern
ends, narrowing toward the central portion to about 10 miles."

The park constitutes the central portion of a mighty, arid valley, much wider from plateau rim to plateau rim than the proposed park area itself, filled with mazes of canyons, gigantic standing rock formations, towering buttes, natural bridges or arches, balanced rock formations, and other evidence of mighty geologic forces and millions of years of erosion.

Surrounding the proposed park area, between its boundary and the plateau rims on east and west, are many more outstanding features--the Sixshooter Peaks, Cleopatra's Chair, the Elaterite Butte, the Orange Cliffs, Bagpipe Butte, and others which will be landmarks for centuries to come.

The area embraces the deep canyons of the Green and Colorado Rivers in the north, the confluence of those two rivers where streams of differently colored waters run together, to be churned into common mixture by the rapids in the cataract Canyon of the Colorado River which knifes through the southern half of the area thousands of feet below the level of the plateaus.

The park area will include Grandview Point which is at the end of a plateau known as the Island in the Sky, extending from the north toward the heart of the park area and terminating just above the Land of Standing Rocks. From this point visitors can view a panorama of hundreds of square miles including the major features of Canyonlands in the great valleys far below and many of the distinctive formations beyond the borders of the park.

The confluence area of the Green and Colorado Rivers in southeastern Utah unqualifiedly merits preservation as a national park. Within this area are three distinct scenic divisions separated by these two deep-canyoned rivers. These are the areas northward, westward and southeastward from the confluence. The rugged landscape in the areas contains a profusion of impressive red rock canyons, sandstone spires, arches, and other erosive features that may well be of worldwide significance.

SENATE REPORT NO. 381, 86th Congress, 1st session (background information for the committee)

BACKGROUND

(Language Similar to House Rept.)

"Canyonlands may be the Nation's last opportunity to establish a national park of the Yellowstone National Park class--a vast area of scenic wonders and recreational opportunities unduplicated elsewhere on the American Continent or in the world.

Surrounding the proposed park area, between its boundary and the plateau rims on east and west, are many more outstanding features--the Sixshooter Peaks, Cleopatra's Chair, the Elaterite Butte, the Orange Cliffs, Bagpipe Butte, and others which will be landmarks for centuries to come.

The park area will include Grandview Point which is at the end of a plateau known as the Island in the Sky, extending from the north toward the heart of the park area and terminating just above the Land of Standing Rocks. From this point visitors can view a panorama of hundreds of square miles including the major features of canyonlands in the great valleys far below and many of the distinctive formations beyond the borders of the park."

The National Park Service, in describing the area, has said:

Country to see

The region is visually exciting.

In 1959 the National Park Service began a study of this scenic wilderness which, with the signally important trip led by the Secretary of the Interior in 1961, has resulted in the proposal to preserve and make available for public enjoyment the features of greatest national significance in a Canyonlands National Park.

PARK VALUES

The study area is the scenic heart of the Colorado Plateau Province. It contains a startling diversity of inspirational scenery, but is nevertheless a comprehensive whole. Although some of the individual features found within the area (arches, cliffs, canyons, colorful rock layers, semidesert flora and fauna) are also found in other units of the national park system, many are not duplicated elsewhere and the total assemblage of features and their visual aspect is unique. Nowhere else is there a comparable opportunity to view a colorful, exciting, geologically significant wilderness from above, and then get down into its midst--and still not lose the atmosphere of remote wilderness.

Cataract Canyon--the explorers' nightmare and modern river-runners' challenge--is a feature well worth seeing (and hearing). In the heart of the Canyonlands the Green and Colorado Rivers merge their differing shades of silt-laden waters to form the wildest river on the continent; a stream, untamable and only partly shackled, whose geologic history of erosion is astounding, and whose basin holds the world's most vivid scenery.

The Maze---still unexplored---is exciting wilderness. The spires and other erosion remnants on the broad bench west of the rivers are compelling. Standing Rock Basin would merit national protection on its own for its concentration of huge, sculptured fins and standing rocks. So would Upheaval Dome, a feature geologically unique, with an appearance as unusual as its story. The Island in the Sky, a great plateau ringed by sheer cliffs and connected to the mainland mass by a neck only 40 feet wide, is an incomparable vantage point. Other overlooks in the Canyonlands provide different but equally stimulating views.

Scenery alone makes the physiographic unit of national significance and warrants the establishment of a national park within it. The geologic interpretation of that scenery enhances it, and can be done simply, meaningfully, and dramatically. Archeological, historical, and biological values buttress the significance.

RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Virtually every type of recreation can be provided by the Canyonlands area.

There are many points for scenic overlook and vistas. Many of the outstanding landmarks already named can be enjoyed from a car window, or a dozen steps from the car."

STATUTE: "An Act To revise the boundaries of the Canyonlands National Park in the State of Utah.: (85 Stat. 421)

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act providing for the establishment of the Canyonlands National Park (78 Stat. 934; 16 U.S.C. 271) is amended as follows:

(a) Delete section 1 and insert in lieu thereof:

That in order to preserve an area in the State of Utah possessing superlative scenic, scientific, and archeologic features for the inspiration, benefit, and use of the public, there is hereby established the Canyonlands National Park."

COMMITTEE REPORTS: House Report No. 92 - 536, 92nd Congress 1st session.

"Revising The Boundaries Of The Canyonlands National Park
In This State of Utah." (September 30, 1971)

PROVISIONS OF THE LEGISLATION

"As recommended by the committee, this legislation would establish a boundary map description for the entire area rather than revising a lengthy metes and bounds description of it. Included in the area are four significant additions:

HORSESHOE CANYON

All of the proposed additions to the park, except Horseshoe Canyon, are contiguous to the existing park boundaries. This area, however, would be an isolated unit located about 7 miles from the northwest corner of the park. Because it contains such nationally significant scenic, scientific, and historic features, and because of the likelihood of damage to, or loss of, the prehistoric pictographs in the area unless protection is extended to the area, this addition is considered necessary and desirable. All of the lands are presently in Federal ownership.

LAVENDER CANYON

Located adjacent to the southeast corner of the park, this area contains significant scenic values and prehistoric Indian ruins which merit protection. Totalling 11,952 acres, this addition includes only 1,278 acres of State land and 80 acres of private land.

All of the above-mentioned additions have been reviewed and recommended by the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic sites, Buildings and Monuments."

VISIBILITY REFERENCE IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
CAPITOL REEF

STATUTE: PROCLAMATION #2246, August 2, 1937, 50 Stat. 1856
establishes Capitol Reef National Monument

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION
(No. 2246—August 2, 1937—50 Stat. 1856)

"Whereas certain public lands in the state of Utah contain narrow canyons displaying evidence of ancient sand dune deposits of unusual scientific value, and have situated thereon various other objects of geological and scientific interest; and

Whereas it appears that it would be in the public interest to reserve such lands as a national monument, to be known as the Capitol Reef National Monument."

STATUTE: PROCLAMATION #3249, July 2, 1958
This proclamation enlarged Capitol Reef National Monument to 39,185 acres.

PROCLAMATION 3249
ENLARGING THE CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL MONUMENT, UTAH

"WHEREAS it appears that the public interest would be promoted by adding to the Capitol Reef National Monument, Utah, certain adjoining lands needed for the protection of the features of geological and scientific interest included within the boundaries of the monument and for the proper administration of the area."

STATUTE: PROCLAMATION #3888; January 20, 1969
This proclamation enlarged Capitol Reef National Monument from 39,185 acres to 254,241 acres and brought within the monument the entire geologic structure known as Waterpocket Fold.

PROCLAMATION 3888
ENLARGING THE CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL MONUMENT, UTAH

"WHEREAS, the Capitol Reef National Monument in Utah was established by Proclamation No. 2246 of August 2, 1937, and enlarged by Proclamation No. 3249 of July 2, 1958, to set aside and reserve certain areas possessing significant features and objects of geological and scientific interest; and

WHEREAS, it would be in the public interest to add to the Capitol Reef National Monument certain adjoining lands which encompass the outstanding geological feature known as Waterpocket Fold and other complementing geological features, which constitute objects of scientific interest, such as Cathedral Valley; and

WHEREAS, under section 2 of the act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 431), the President is authorized "to declare by public proclamation * * * objects of history or scientific interest that are"

STATUTE: An Act to establish the Capitol Reef National Park in the State of Utah (85 Stat. 639)

This statute changed the status of Capitol Reef from a National Monument to a National Park. The statute itself contains no reference to visibility.

COMMITTEE REPORT: SENATE REPORT 92 - 157, 92nd Congress 1st session
Establishing the Capitol Reef National Park In The
State of Utah. (June 17, 1971)

This report accompanied the Senate bill establishing Capitol Reef as a national park. The report included the following description of the areas:

DESCRIPTION OF AREA

"As mentioned above, the Capitol Reef area has unique attributes qualifying it for national park status in the judgement of the Park Service and its advisers, and that of the committee, the members of which have conducted on-the-spot inspections. As described by George Hartzog, Director of the National Park Service, at the committee's May 28, 1970, hearing in Washington:

It is a spectacular area containing numerous cliffs, pinnacles, spires and brilliantly colored rock layers. Its primary geological feature is a section of the Waterpocket Fold, a great doubling up of the earth's surface.

The area is equally rich in historical significance, for here prehistoric Indians lived approximately 1,200 years ago and left many petroglyphs carved into the smooth cliff walls. Many Indian artifacts and relics from this period are on display at the visitor center. More recently history is also recorded on the cliff walls at Capitol Reef by the persons who traversed this part of Utah between 1350 and 1875 and carved their names and dates of passage en route.

Present day developments at Capitol Reef include a visitor center, modern campground, and several miles of self-guiding trails. The visitor may spend many hours discovering for himself the marvels of the highly colored eroded cliffs; the Hickman Natural Bridge whose 133-foot span is 72 feet high; Cohab Canyon; Capitol Gorge, with 1,000-foot walls 16 feet apart; and many other geological wonders."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report 92 - 537, 92d Congress 1st session
Establishing The Capitol Reef National Park In Utah.
(September 30, 1971)

This report accompanied the House version of the bill changing the status of Capitol Reef to a national park. The report included the following description of the area:

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

"The principal feature of this national monument is the Waterpocket Fold—a long monocline extending some 150 miles northwesterly from the southeastern Utah border.

Once this area was low-lying country covered with swamps and shallow lagoons. Broad sluggish streams deposited silt and sand on it which ultimately hardened into the sandstone and shale now characteristic in the region. The Waterpocket Fold was created, geologists say, by the uplifting force which created the Rocky Mountains about 60 million years ago.

As the surface of the earth's crust buckled and folded, different formations were tilted upward and exposed to the elements. Year after year, water and wind reworked the landscape carving away the softer formations and leaving the more resistant ones. With nature as the sculptor, this area has become an intriguingly rugged place. Only rarely can a natural crossing be found in this long escarpment. Although man has been present, the ruggedness of the country and the sparseness of the vegetation in the desert climate has kept this area almost unchanged."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: Act of May 22, 1902, reserving a certain tract of land from public lands in Oregon as a public park. (32 Stat. 202)

"In the State of Oregon, and including Crater Lake, is hereby reserved and withdrawn from settlement, occupancy, or sale under the laws of the United States, and dedicated and set apart forever as a public park or pleasure ground for the benefit of the people of the United States, to be known as "Crater Lake National Park." (U.S.C., title 16, sec. 121.)"

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 613, 55th Congress, 2d Session.
National Park In the State Of Oregon. (March 3, 1898)

Near the center of the proposed park is situated Crater Lake, which is conceded by all who have visited it to be one of the greatest scenic wonders in the United States, if not in the known world. Increasing numbers of scientists visit it from year to year for the purpose of making additional investigations, and all of them regard it as one of the greatest natural wonders of our country. The people of the West, as well as tourists, with one accord join the scientist in the wish that this grand work of nature may be preserved in its original beauty for the instruction and pleasure of all who may desire to visit it.

The views of the commissioner of the General Land Office were included in the committee report.

The following is an excerpt from a letter from the Commissioner:

I think it important that this locality should be reserved and protected, on account of its great natural wonders and beauties, and the constantly increasing interest that is being manifested by the people in regard to it.

The views of a representative of the U.S. Geological Survey were also included in the committee report:

"Crater Lake should be made a national park because it possesses in a high degree all of the essential features necessary to make a park of importance to the nation. It is one of our greatest natural wonders and in every way favorably situated for a healthful and instructive pleasure resort of the people. The beauty and majesty of the scenery are indescribable, but the order of its impressiveness is like that of the Niagara Falls, the Yosemite Valley, the grand canyons of the Colorado and the Yellowstone, and yet it is wholly unlike any of these. The lake is nearly circular, with an average diameter of about 5 miles. It is deeply set in the summit of the Cascade Range at an altitude of over 6,000 feet above the sea."

"The out slopes of the rim are gentle, well wooded, and watered, and diversified with beautiful vales, affording an especially inviting place of resort during the summer to enjoy the scenic beauties of the lake and the beautiful and invigorating air of the mountain summit. It thus appears that this great natural wonder is so favorably surrounded as to strongly recommend its being made a national park or pleasure ground for the benefit of the people."

"Beautiful and majestic as its scenic features are, the lake and its surroundings have a geological history that is even more attractive, and if made a national park, and published to the world as furnished with facilities for study and entertainment, it would doubtless attract many scientific tourists and contribute in the small measure to the prosperity of the region, as well as to the general information of the country at large."

COMMITTEE DOCUMENT: House Doc. No. 328, 61d Congress, 2d Session.
Letter from the Acting Secretary Of War.

The report concerned the construction of roads providing access to the Crater Lake National Park.

For an official description of the area, the report included a passage from a study entitled "The Geology and Petrography of Crater Lake National Park", by two representatives of the U.S. Geological Survey. The following passage is an excerpt from the U.S.G.S. report:

GENERAL FEATURES.

"The rim encircling Crater Lake, when seen from a distance from any side, appears as a broad cluster of gently sloping peaks rising about the general crest of the range on which they stand. The topographic prominence of Mount Mazama can be more fully realized when it is considered that it is close to the head of Rogue, Klamath, and Umpqua Rivers. These are the only large streams breaking through the mountains to the sea between the Columbia and the Sacramento, and their watershed might be expected to be the principal peak of the Cascade Range.

To one arriving by the road at the crest of the rim the lake in all its majestic beauty appears suddenly upon the scene, and is profoundly impressive. The eye beholds 20 miles of unbroken cliffs, the remnant of Mount Mazama, ranging from over 500 to nearly 2,000 feet in height, encircling a deep, blue sheet of placid water, in which the mirrored walls view with the original slopes in in brilliancy and greatly enhance the depth of the prospect. The lake is about 4 1/4 miles wide and 6 1/4 miles long, with an area of nearly 20 1/2 square miles.

The letter from the Army Corps of Engineers included this reference:

Other interesting features of the park are the canyons of Anna Creek (of which excellent views may be obtained from the existing road to Fort Klamath) and the similar canyon of Sand Creek, where the formation has been given the name of "the Pinnacles."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE NATIONAL PARKS
GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: An Act to establish "The Glacier National Park", in the
Rocky Mountains - - -" (36 Stat. 354) (approved May 11, 1910)

"It is hereby reserved and withdrawn from settlement, occupancy, or disposal under the laws of the United States, and dedicated and set apart as a public park or pleasure ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the United States under the name of "The Glacier National Park."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 580, 60th Congress, 1st Session.
To Establish Glacier National Park In Montana. (April 29, 1908)

The mountain scenery is of unparalleled grandeur and beauty. Mount Cleveland, the highest peak, reaches an elevation of 10,434 feet above the sea, and there are numerous rugged mountains in the proposed park ranging from 6,000 to 10,000 feet above sea level."

"In order to open this region of superb and unique scenery for the public a few main roadways will be required along the streams, together with horse trails to points of especial interest."

"Lake McDonald, near the southwestern boundary of the proposed park, is a sheet of water of an unmatched beauty, surrounded by scenery of such signal grandeur as to make a roadway along its eastern shore extremely desirable."

"There is also attached to this report a topographic map of the country, prepared by the Geological Survey, list of illustrations, and an article written by Mr. R. H. Chapman, of the Geological Survey, descriptive of the proposed park."

The following are excerpts from Mr. Chapman's report:

"In sharp contrast to the plains rise the mountains, which seen from the distance, present a rock wall of great steepness, extending apparently unbroken for miles. This, the eastern face of the range, is actually cut by long, deep U-shaped canyons, which have been largely formed by the great glaciers which once flowed from the mighty snow-covered peaks and ridges forming the divide between the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans."

"The area shown on the map herewith incloses about 1,340 square miles. Within these limits there 250 lakes, ranging from 10 miles to a few hundred feet in extent; there are more than 60 glaciers between 5 square miles and a few acres in area; there are animals, plants, and rocks in numbers and quantity to satisfy the most ardent student, and views of great variety, beauty, and grandeur to gratify the artist and lover of nature."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 2100, 60th Congress, 2d Session.
Glacier National Park.

"Well-known artists and writers who are frequent visitors here have described Lake McDonald as one of the most beautiful lakes in the world.

The editor of Forest and Stream says, in writing of Lake McDonald:

There is every scenic beauty here of an Alpine lake, with a far greater choice of game and fish.

Prof. John H. Edwards describes Lake McDonald and the region surrounding it as follows:

"In the heart of the Rockies, in the northern part of Montana, surrounded by mountain peaks in bewildering varieties of form, lies beautiful Lake McDonald. Not quite so large as Yellowstone Lake, it surpasses that loftiest of American mountain lakes of approximately size in grandeur of scenery."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 106, 61st Congress, 2d Session.
Glacier National in Montana. (January 20, 1910)

This report included photographs of various areas in the park, including:

- 1) Continental Divide near Vulture Peak looking northeast across valleys, at Headwaters of Saskatchewan.
- 2) Goathaunt Cliff near Mt. Cleveland-Lewis Range.
- 3) Vulture Peak from Outlet of Quartz Lake
- 4) Peak in Livingston Range showing folded rocks
- 5) Amphitheater Cliffs and Grinnel Glacier at head of Swiftcurrent Valley.
- 6) Livingston Range looking southwest of Continental divide to Vulture Peak with the Hanging glaciers.
- 7) Upper Lake with reflections, North fork of Belle River.
- 8) Chief Mountain from Kennedy Valley

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 1456, 62d Congress, 3d Session.
Glacier National Park. (February 6, 1913)

[Extracts from the report of Maj. W. R. Logan, Superintendent of the
Glacier National Park in 1911 - 12]

Within its borders are attractions for the scientist and tourist unsurpassed in any countr in the world, tourists of world-wide experience pronouncing it the Switzerland of America. Within its conlines are 60 active glaciers, these ice sheets being the sources of beautiful cascades and roaring mountain streams flowing into countless clear placid lakes for which the park is famed, the most noted of these being Lake McDonald, Lake St. Marys, Lake Louise, Iceberg Lake, Red Eagle Lake, Kintla Lake, Bowman Lake, Kootenai Lake, Logging Lake, Quartz Lake, Harrison Lake, and Two Medicine Lake. Lake McDonald, situated 2 1/2 miles from Belton, a little town on the main line of the Great Northern Railway, is one of the most beautiful lakes in America. It is 3,154 feet above sea level, 12 miles long, 2 miles wide, and surrounded by mountains covered with virgin forests of western larch, cedar, white pine, Douglas fir, spruce, and hemlock. The air about Lake McDonald is remarkably clear and pure, the fragrance of the fir, pine, and cedar producing a refreshing and invigorating atmosphere.

From the summit of Red Eagle Mountain one of the grandest views of mountain scenery in America is obtainable, this spot being a favorite with artists who visit the park.

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 593, 72d Congress, 1st Session.
Waterton - Glacier International Peace Park.
(February 23, 1932)

(This park was established by statute 47 - 145, May 2, 1932)

"Glacier National Park in Montana and Waterton Lakes National Park in Alberta and British Columbia, in Canada, are in reality a single great scenic area of unsurpassed glory. So closely are they linked that Waterton Lake, which gives its name to the Canadian Park, is divided by the international boundary line.

There is no area in America more replete with beauty of the highest order than that comprised within these two national parks."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE NATIONAL PARKS
GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: An Act to establish the Grand Canyon National Park in the State of Arizona, approved February 26, 1919. (40 Stat. 1175)

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby reserved and withdrawn from settlement, occupancy, or disposal under the laws of the United States and dedicated and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, under the name of the "Grand Canyon National Park."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 1082, 64th Congress, 2d Session.
Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona. (February 20, 1917)

The following excerpts are from the report on the bill submitted by the Secretary of the Interior:

"It seem to be universally acknowledged that the Grand Canyon is the most stupendous natural phenomenon in the world. Certainly it is the finest example of the power and eccentricity of water erosion and as a spectacle of sublimity it has no peer."

The sides of the gorge are wonderfully shelved and terraced and countless spires rise within the enormous chasm, sometimes almost to the rim's level. The walls and cliffs are carved into a million graceful and fantastic shapes and the many colored strata of the rocks through which the river has shaped its course have made the canyon a lure for the foremost painters of American landscape."

This passage is taken from a report submitted to the committee by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture:

"This department has always recognized that the Grand Canyon of the Colorado is one of the most stupendous scenic wonders of the world and is of first importance for the consideration of Congress in the establishment of national parks. This area should by all means be administered in connection with the other national parks and this department heartily approves of its establishment."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: "An Act To establish the Grand Teton National Park in the State of Wyoming, and for other purposes, approved February 26, 1929." (45 Stat. 1314)

The described lands were:

"dedicated and set apart as a public park or pleasure ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the United States under the name of the Grand Teton National Park of Wyoming."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 1537, 70th Congress 2nd session
"Establishment of the Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming." (January 26, 1929).

This report accompanied Senate bill 5513 and endorses the Legislation to establish Grand Teton National Park. The committee report begins with the following passage:

"The Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, to whom was referred the bill (S 5543) to establish the Grand Teton National Park of the State of Wyoming, and for other purposes having fully and carefully considered the same, report favorably thereon with recommendation that the bill do pass without amendment.

The bill provides for the establishment of what are justly considered the greatest and most beautiful peaks on the continent as a national park, to be known as the Grand Teton National Park of Wyoming. The Teton range presents the most profoundly impressive mountain view in America. It is a gift to the Nation and posterity to which the people of Wyoming may well be proud that the grandeur and scenic beauty of these rugged Alpine peaks of which the Grand Teton (highest of the three, and aptly called the Matterhorn of North America) towers to 13,747 feet and the wilderness area surrounding them may be preserved in their natural state for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the United States and future generations to come."

The following is an excerpt from a letter to Gerald P. Nye, the Chairman of the Committee on Public Lands, from Roy West, the Secretary of the Interior. The letter endorses establishment of Grand Teton as a national park.

"The proposed park area meets the highest national park standards as it is one of the outstanding scenic exhibits of this country."

Therefore have to recommend that the bill be given favorable consideration by your committee."

Very truly yours,

ROY O. WEST

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 2073, 70th Congress 2nd session
"Proposed Establishment Of And Boundary Revisions Of
Certain National Parks." (February 25, 1929)

The report is self - explanatory:

"The Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, pursuant to and in accordance with S. Res. 237, reports that a subcommittee consisting of Senators Nye, Norbeck, Dale, Kendrick, and Ashurst in July and August of 1928 visited the sites of certain proposed national parks and certain other national parks, and that the said subcommittee has submitted the following report, which is approved by the committee:

PROPOSED GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK, WYOMING

Hearings were held in the territory, and the committee is unanimously in favor of the establishment of the Tetons as a national park. S 5543, creating these great peaks as a national park, to be known as the Grand Teton National Park, passed the Senate on February 7, 1929, and was passed by the House of Representatives on February 18, 1929. This territory comprises outstanding scenery and is easily deserving of national park designation."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 1286, 73rd Congress 2nd session
"To Extend The Boundaries Of The Grand Teton National Park
In The State Of Wyoming." (June 6, 1934)

This report concerns the effort to consolidate the Jackson's Hole area into the Grand Teton National Park. Local and regional controversy over the loss of tax revenue prevented the addition of Jackson's Hole through the Legislative process. Therefore, a separate Jackson Hole National Monument was created by presidential proclamation on March 15, 1943. In 1950, a statute was passed which abolished the national monument and consolidated the two areas as the new Grand Teton National Park. The best references to the scenic attributes of the area were contained in this 1934 report:

NECESSITY AND PURPOSE OF THE LEGISLATION

"Grand Teton National Park is in the Jackson's Hole section of Wyoming, south of Yellowstone National Park. The Jackson's Hole country is of great scenic beauty and is one of the best game sections of the United States, containing a herd of approximately 20,000 elk, 3,500 moose, as well as numerous other game animals. Teton National Park as established is of small area, including in its boundaries only the Teton Mountains and some lakes at their base.

IMMEDIATE NECESSITY FOR LEGISLATION

The passage of this bill will include in the National Park systems a beautiful scenic area. It will bring about the proper development of the Grand Teton National Park."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE NATIONAL PARKS
GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: An Act to provide for the establishment of the Shenandoah National Park in the State of Virginia and the Great Smoky Mountain National Park in the States of North Carolina and Tennessee. (approved May 22, 1926 - 44 Stat. 616)

"dedicated, and set apart as public parks for the benefit and enjoyment of the people."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 4399, 59th Congress, 1st Session.
Appalachian Forest Reserve, Etc. (May 22, 1906)

"The White Mountains and the Southern Appalachians are alike in being natural recreation grounds for a very large part of our population. Over 60,000,000 of the people of the United States are within twenty-four hours of the Southern Appalachians, and the White Mountains have long held a foremost place as a summer resort, especially for the Northern and Middle Atlantic States. Both of these regions should be guarded and handed down to the generations which follow. They are great natural blessings with which we have been endowed and which we must protect."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 459, pt. 2, 60th Congress, 1st Session.
Southern Appalachian and White Mountain National Forests.
(April 13, 1908)

IV.--FOR HEALTH AND RECREATION.

The White Mountains and the southern Appalachians are alike in being recreation grounds for a very large part of our people. Over 60,000,000 people are within twenty-four hours' travel of these regions. The matter of business is important, but the health consideration, which is not to be measured in dollars and cents, is not to be forgotten or lightly considered. Under present day conditions people must have places where they can go to get the bracing air and inspiration of the mountains. There are 10,000,000 people within a few hours travel of the White Mountains, and many of them actually go there year after year, not only people of wealth and leisure, but clerks, teachers, and artisans, people of small salary, who have the privilege of only a few days' vacation. The Southern Appalachians are likewise visited by many thousands each year in quest of rest, recreation, and health. The value of the mountains to the nation in this way must not be overlooked, nor should their value as recreation grounds be destroyed.

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 1320, 68th Congress 2d Session.
 Providing For The Acquisition Of Lands In The
 Southern Appalachian Mountains For Park Purposes.
 (January 29, 1925)

The Secretary of the Interior appointed a special commission to study the feasibility of establishing certain national parks in the eastern U.S. The commission's report was printed in full in this House report. The following passages are excerpts from the Southern Appalachian National Park Committee:

"The two-thirds of our population living east of the Mississippi has contented itself with a few State parks, not knowing that in the southern Appalachian ranges there are several areas which fill the definition of a national park because of beauty and grandeur of scenery, presence of a wonderful variety of trees and plant life, and possibilities of harboring and developing the animal life common in the precolonial days but now nearly extinct."

"It is the opinion of the committee that a park in the East should be located if possible where it will benefit the greatest number and it should be of sufficient size to meet the needs as a recreational ground for the people not only of to-day but of the coming generations. The committee therefore decided that no site covering less than 500 square miles would be considered. This eliminated a large number of proposed areas and allowed the committee to concentrate its efforts on a few that appeared to be possible sites on account of their size, location, and favorable scenic features. These sites have therefore been thoroughly examined."

The committee laid down a few simple requirements for its guidance in seeking an area which could be favorably reported to you for the possible consideration of Congress:

1. Mountain scenery with inspiring perspectives and delightful details.
2. Areas sufficiently extensive and adaptable so that annually millions of visitors might enjoy the benefits of outdoor life and communion with nature without the confusion of overcrowding.
3. A substantial part to contain forests, shrubs, and flowers, and mountain streams, with picturesque cascades and waterfalls overhung with foliage, all untouched by the hand of man.
4. Abundant springs and streams available for camps and fishing.
5. Opportunities for protecting and developing the wild life of the area and the whole to be a natural museum, preserving outstanding features of the southern Appalachians as they appeared in the early pioneer days.
6. Accessibility by rail and road.

We have found many areas which could well be chosen, but the committee was charged with the responsibility of selecting the best, all things considered. Of these several possible sites the great Smoky Mountains easily stand first, because of the height of mountains, depth of valleys, ruggedness of the area, and the unexampled variety of trees, shrubs, and plants. The region includes Mount Guyot, Mount Le Conte, Clingmans Dome, and Gregory Bald and may be extended in several directions to include other splendid mountain regions adjacent thereto."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 1523, 75th Congress, 1st Session.
Addition to Tahoe National Forest, Nevada, and the
Great Smoky Mountains National Park in East Tennessee.
(August 13, 1937)

The Great Smoky Mountain National Park is one of the most picturesque and beautiful parks in the country, and is different from other great parks in its scenery.

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 608, 78th Congress, 1st Session.
(June 25, 1943)

AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS OF LAND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SCENIC PARKWAY TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATE VIEW OF THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK FROM THE TENNESSEE SIDE OF THE PARK, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

This report accompanied H.R. 1388, which was enacted into law in 1944.
(Public Law 232. 78th Congress)

"The projected parkway would follow a course generally paralleled to the north boundary of the park, and would afford an inspiring panorama of the mountains without disturbing the scenic or agricultural values of the country.

An excerpt from the Secretary of the Interior's report on this bill:

"The purpose of this proposed legislation is to authorize the acceptance of land to be donated to the United States for the construction of a scenic parkway in the bordering foothills of the mountains near the north boundary of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park."

"The proposed route would afford inspiring panoramic views of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE NATIONAL PARKS
GUADALUPE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: "An Act to provide for the establishment of the Guadalupe Mountains National Park in the State of Texas, and for other purposes." (80 Stat. 920)

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in order to preserve in public ownership an area in the State of Texas possessing outstanding geological values together with scenic and other natural values of great significance, the Secretary of the Interior shall establish the Guadalupe Mountains National Park. . . "

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 1682, 89th Congress, 2d Session.
Guadalupe Mountains National Park, Texas.
(October 6, 1966)

Three natural features within the boundaries of the proposed park are outstanding for the layman who visits it. The first is Guadalupe Peak which rises to an elevation of 8,751 feet above sea level or approximately 5,100 feet above the surrounding countryside. This is the highest point in the State of Texas. Close neighbors to Guadalupe Peak are Lost Peak (7,834 feet) to the north, Pine Top Mountain (8,362 feet) to the northeast, and Shumard Peak (8,625 feet), Bartlett Peak (8,513 feet), and Bush Mountain (8,676 feet) to the northwest, all of which are within the park boundaries.

A second outstanding natural feature within the proposed park is El Capitan (8,076 feet) just south of Guadalupe Peak. El Capitan is at the apex of the wedge-shaped geological formation of which the other peaks heretofore mentioned are parts. The sheer 1,000-foot limestone cliffs of El Capitan and the equally imposing glacis below the cliffs give it a fortresslike appearance. Visible for 50 miles or more, it has been a landmark ever since man first appeared in this part of the world and has been well known to white travelers since 1358 when the Butterfield Trail was hacked out of the wilderness.

The following passage is an excerpt from the report or the bill submitted by the Secretary of the Interior:

The areas set aside under the bills for the park contains a combination of scenic and scientific attributes that qualify it as an outstanding addition to the national park system. It contains some of the most beautiful landscape in the entire southwestern part of the United States, and its Permian marine limestone mountains contain the most extensive and significant fossil reefs in the world. The Guadalupe Range resembles

a huge V with the point of the V lying in Culberson County, Texas, and the two arms extending northward into New Mexico. The point of the V is El Capitan, which, with its sheer thousand-foot cliff, is visible for over 50 miles. Directly north of El Capitan is the highest point in Texas, Guadalupe Peak, rising to a height of 8,751 feet above sea level. Elevations range from 3,650 feet at the base of the western arm of the mountains to the top height of Guadalupe Peak. Between the two arms of the mountain range is a pine-covered rolling highland deeply incised by canyons. The contrast between desert and high country atmosphere—including shaded canyons nourished by mountain streams—is vividly apparent. The canyons contain a unique assemblage of plants and animals that is, in part at least, a carryover from the Pleistocene epoch. McKittrick Canyon, which is partly within the 5,632 acres presently owned by the United States, features an exceptional ecological complex of coniferous and broad-leaved trees and shrubs.

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE NATIONAL PARKS ,
ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: "An Act To provide for the establishment of the Isle Royale National Park, in the state of Michigan, and for other purposes approved March 3, 1931. (46 Stat. 1514)

said area shall be, and is hereby, established, dedicated, and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, and shall be known as the Isle Royale National Park."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 1794, 71st Congress, 3d Session.
Establishment of the Isle Royale National Park, Michigan.
(February 17, 1931)

Excerpts from a memorandum on the subject of Isle Royale that was submitted to the Secretary of the Interior by Director Albright of the National Park Service:

"There are many marvelous beauty spots in their primitive condition, thus offering perfect examples of nature's textbooks for the study of scientist and student. Especially is this the case on the smaller islands surrounding the main Isle Royale. The exquisite, rugged beauty of the cliffs of the shore lines, indented with countless small bays and mouths of trout streams that may be enjoyed by sailing along the narrow deep fiords or channels, constitutes a particularly fascinating contribution to the scenic offerings of the park."

"It is, therefore, evident that from a scenic, recreational, scientific educational standpoint, here is presented one of the outstanding opportunities for the establishment of a great island national park, unique of its kind in the system, and measuring up to the high standards that have been prescribed for such establishment. Its type of scenery, utterly distinct from anything now found in our national park system, its primitiveness, its unusual wild life and interesting flora, its evidences of possible prehistoric occupation, all combine to make Isle Royale and its neighboring islands of national park caliber."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 1130, 77th Congress, 2d Session.
Adding Certain Lands To The Isle Royale National Park,
Michigan. (February 23, 1942)

These lands were added to the Isle Royale National Park by 56 Stat. 138, approved March 6, 1942.

The committee report included a report from the Secretary of the Interior on the proposed addition:

"Passage Island contains desirable scenic features which are similar to those of Isle Royale, and is ideally located for administration as a part of the park."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: An Act To establish the Kings Canyon National Park, California, to transfer thereto the lands now included in the General Grant National Park, and for other purposes, approved March 4, 1940. (54 Stat. 41)

"... is hereby reserved and withdrawn from settlement, occupancy, or disposal under the laws of the United States and dedicated and set apart as a public park, to be known as the Kings Canyon National Park, for the benefit and enjoyment of the people."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 718, 75th Congress, 1st Session.
Establishing the Kings Canyon Wilderness National Park.
(June 2, 1939)

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The purpose of the bill (H. R. 3794) is to conserve permanently in its natural condition, as a national park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, one of the most famous scenic areas in the United States.

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 1134, 76th Congress, 1st Session.
Creation of the Kings Canyon National Park.
(August 3, 1939)

Excerpt from a report submitted by the Secretary of the Interior:

The Kings River country is world famous as a high-mountain wilderness."

Also, the splendid scenery to the Kings River Basin was still without national park protection, subject to multiple uses such as grazing, hunting, timber cutting and hydroelectric power development.

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: "An Act To establish the Lassen Volcanic National Park in the Sierra Nevada Mountains in the State of California, and for other purposes, approved August 9, 1916." (39 Stat. 442)

"and said tracts are dedicated and set apart as a public park or pleasuring ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the United States under the name and to be known and designated as the Lassen Volcanic National Park."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 1021, 63d Congress, 2d Session.
Lassen Volcanic National Park.

Excerpt from the Department of Agriculture's report on the bill:

"The areas embraced have been restricted to those whose chief value is for their scenic attraction and the scientific and natural wonders embraced therein."

Excerpt from the committee report:

Beautiful and majestic canyons, particularly Warner Canyon, which cuts into the lava for nearly two-thirds of a mile below Juniper Lake and Los Molinos Canyon, with almost vertical walls, several thousand feet into the ancient lavas of Mount Lassen.

On March 5, 1912, the Lassen Highway Association adopted a resolution unanimously approving and endorsing said bill and urging its passage, which resolution is as follows:

Susanville, Cal., March 12, 1912.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE LASSEN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION AT SUSANVILLE, CAL.,
MARCH 5, 1912.

Whereas our Congressman, the Hon. John E. Raker, has introduced a bill in the Congress of the United States setting aside certain lands in California therein described to be known as the Peter Lassen National Park; and
Whereas these lands are known to us personally; and
Whereas this territory embraces many of the most wonderful scenic features in the world, including lakes, streams, waterfalls, geysers, hot springs, mineral springs, boiling lakes, recent extinct volcanoes, and many other features of great singular beauty and attraction:
Therefore be it
Resolved, That we unanimously endorse said bill and urge our Representative to do his utmost to secure the passage of the same

Lassen Highway Association.

An excerpt from a letter from the Lassen Volcanic National Park Committee:

"There we have Bumpass's Hell, Devils Half Acre, boiling mud spring, ice caves, geysers, hot and ice-cold springs, Manzanita Lake, and a number of other most beautiful and interesting lakes, the Cinder Cone, and many other interesting features."

"The following letter of date June 16, 1914, from M. E. Dittmar, of Redding, Cal., goes into detail and describes the natural wonders of the territory included within the boundaries of the proposed park, which letter is as follows:"

(Excerpts from Mr. Dittmar's Letter)

"Hon John E. Raker,
Washington, D.C.

My Dear Sir: You are no doubt aware that we have suddenly developed a scenic wonder in northern California that is in a class by itself, so far as the continental portion of the United States is concerned. Mount Lassen is unquestionably in eruption, and while the area about the crater for radius of a good many miles supports nothing of commercial importance, it is very interesting from the viewpoint of nature's wonders, and will eventually draw tourists from all parts of the continent and to a certain extent from all parts of the world.

The writer has recognized the attractive features that nature has bestowed to this section and has often thought of the advisability of urging that the area where these wonders of nature are grouped be set aside as a national park and retained by the Government to interest and instruct the present and future generations of our country."

"Nor is the modified activity of Mount Lassen the only thing of interest; for miles north and south, east and west, of the monumental snow-clad pile nature has worked here fantasies."

"The writer during the past year compiled a book descriptive of Shasta County, wherein Mount Lassen is located, and in referring to the wonders of that region, I used the following:

"In southeastern Shasta the at present somewhat remote and seldom visited Mount Lassen National Monument is an unheralded wonderland. The grandeur of the scenery and the varving fantasies of nature were recognized by the National Government when the Mount Lassen National Monument was established. In time it will be known as nature's curiosity shop. Here you find the contradictory hot springs, near by vast caves of ice, almost fathomless mountain lakes with cinder-cone islets and shores of volcanic scoria and glass, canyons half a mile deep, and mountain peaks that rise a mile above the canyon floor and 2 miles above sea level. An unexplored and almost unknown wonderland is the Mount Lassen National Monument."

"The Mount Lassen National Monument should be extended from the small area at present covered so that it will cover all of nature's wonders in that region, and preserve and develop the attractions that are so generously grouped within a comparatively small compass."

"Chambers of commerce of the State of California, civic organizations, boards of supervisors, as well as members of the Columbia University of Michigan, and others, have heartily endorsed, recommended and urged the creation of this park. Some of these endorsements as presented to the committee and used are as follows:"

Excerpt from a letter from members of Columbia University:

"It is not alone the great volcano which must appeal strongly to the imagination of our people, although its activity has been followed with keen interest by citizens in every part of the country; but the Cinder Cone, with its wonderful double crater, the marvellous modern fields of lava and beds of volcanic ash with associated remnants of a forest destroyed about a century ago, the lake dammed by the recent lava flow, and the drowned trees rising above its waters, the boiling springs of great beauty and wonderful variety, and all the other natural marvels which surround the mountain base would make the region, if opened to the public, one of the most attractive wonderlands in our country."

"The auto trip from Susanville to the base of the mountain was alone sufficient to justify the time and money spent in this part of our excursion, the wonderful scenery and the majestic pine forests providing abundant interest for every mile of the journey."

"On the whole, it is difficult to imagine a region where the more striking phenomena of nature are developed on a grander scale or in a manner calculated to appeal more strongly to the average individual."

The committee stated in its concluding paragraphs:

"These parks are not only an asset to the State in which they are located but a great asset to the National Government, and the committee believes it will redound to the benefit of the Congress that creates a national park out of such wonderful territory with its natural beauties and surroundings to the end that it may be preserved for all times for the benefit of the people."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: An Act To provide for the establishment of the Mammoth Cave National Park in the State of Kentucky, and for other purposes, approved May 25, 1926." (44 Stat. 635)

"there is hereby, established, dedicated, and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, the tract of land in the Mammoth Cave region in the State of Kentucky."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 1178, 69th Congress, 1st Session.
Mammoth Cave National Park.

Included in the committee report was a report submitted by the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission. This commission was appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to report on the feasibility of establishing certain areas in the eastern U.S. as national parks.

"The Mammoth Cave area is situated in one of the most rugged portions of the great Mississippi Valley and contains areas of apparently original forests which, though comparatively small in extent, are of prime value from an ecological and scientific standpoint and should be preserved for all time in its virgin state for study and enjoyment. Much of the proposed area is now clothed in forest through which flows the beautiful and navigable Green River and its branch, the Nolin River."

"Also, in his annual reports of 1918, 1919, and 1920 the Director of the National Park Service, Mr. Stephen T. Mather, indicated his approval of the Mammoth Cave National Park project, and in his report of 1920 went so far as to suggest the propriety of there being made Federal appropriations for the purpose of purchasing the needed area therefor. We quote therefrom the following excerpts:

"The land itself, covering the cave and contiguous areas, contains thousands of acres of the splendid virgin growth of the deciduous forest growth of the East. Its location at the head of navigation of the Green River contributes another particularly fascinating detail of the richness of that region."

The committee stated in its conclusions:

"The area called for in the bill will insure a great recreational ground, most advantageously located, where, in spring, summer, and fall thousands of our people may find--in addition to the pleasure and interest derived from an inspection of the caves and their many features of interest--the most delightful outdoor recreation in boating and fishing on Green and Nolin Rivers, lovely, navigable streams flowing for miles through the proposed park, and in traversing the picturesque and rugged hills and valleys and great forests of the region included in the proposed park area."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
MOUNT MCKINLEY NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: "An Act to establish the Mt. McKinley National Park, in the Territory of Alaska, approved February 26, 1917."
(39 Stat. 938)

"of the United States, and said tract is dedicated and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people under the name of the Mount McKinley National Park."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 1273, 64th Congress, 2d Session.
Mt. McKinley National Park, Alaska (January 10, 1917)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF BILL

"The bill reserve approximately 2,200 square miles of public land, embracing Mount McKinley, as a national park. Mount McKinley is situated in the interior of southern Alaska, being about 125 miles from the Pacific Ocean and about 70 miles from Broad Pass, through which is being constructed the Government railroad in Alaska.

The principal reasons for the establishment of the park are, first, the stimulating of travel by tourists and sight-seers to Alaska; second, the preservation of the national scenery, the facilitating of travel to the park, and the accommodation of tourists; third, the protection of game.

Mount McKinley is not only the highest mountain in North America, but is the most unique in its conformation. It reaches in altitude 20,300 feet. While this mountain is remarkable by reason of its extraordinary height, it is unique through the fact that it rises almost abruptly from the foothills and plains surrounding its base, which only have an altitude of two or three thousand feet."

An Act of March 19, 1932 (47 Stat. 68) revised the boundaries of the park, but the act itself contained no reference to the scenic qualities of the area. The committee report to the bill did include such a description:

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 276, 72nd Congress, 1st Session.
To Revise The Boundary Of The Mt. McKinley National
Park, In The Territory of Alaska . . . (Jan 26, 1932)

The following is an excerpt from a memorandum from the Director of the Park Service to the Secretary of the Interior, explaining the purposes for the addition of lands:

"The proposed extension to the northwest will bring Wonder Lake into the park. The shores of this lake would provide an advantageous site for another hotel-lodge development and would afford a finer view of Mount McKinley than any now had in the park."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
MT. RANIER NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: "An Act To set aside a portion of certain lands in the State of Washington, now known as the 'Pacific Forest Reserve,' as a public park to be known as 'Mount Ranier National Park,' approved March 2, 1899." (30 stat. 993)

The designated lands were:

hereby dedicated and set apart as a public park, to be known and designated as the "Mount Ranier National Park," for the benefit and enjoyment of the people.

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Mis. Document No. 247, 53d Congress, 2d Session.
(July 26, 1894)

The reports begins with a "Memorial from the Geological Society of America, favoring the establishment of a national park in the State of Washington." The following excerpts were taken from that report:

"The western part of this reserve includes many features of unique interest and wonderful grandeur, which fit it peculiarly to be a national park, forever set aside for the pleasure and instruction of the people.

This grand mountain is not, like Mount Blanc, merely the dominant peak of a chain of snow mountains; it is the only snow peak in view, Mount St. Helens and Mount Adams being, like it, isolated and many miles distant. Rainier is majestic in its isolation, reaching 6,000 to 8,000 feet above its neighbors. It is superb in its boldness, rising from one canyon 11,000 feet in 7 miles. Not only is it the grandest mountain in this country, it is one of the grand mountains of the world, to be named with St. Elias, Fusi-yama, and Ararat, and the most superb summits of the Alps. Eminent scientists of England and Germany, who, as members of the Alpine club of Switzerland and travelers of wide experience, would naturally be conservative in their judgment, have borne witness to the majesty of the scenery about Rainier.

In 1883 Prof. Zittel, a well known German geologist, and Prof. James Bryce, member of Parliament and author of the American Commonwealth, made a report on the scenery about Mount Ranier. Among other things they said:

"The scenery of Mount Rainier is of rare and varied beauty. The peak itself is as noble a mountain as we have ever seen in its lines and structure. The glaciers which descend from its snow fields present all the characteristic features of those in the Alps, and though less extensive than the ice streams of the Mount Blanc or Mont Rosa groups are in their crevasses and serracs equality striking and equally worthy of close study. We have seen nothing more beautiful in Switzerland or Tyrol, in Norway or in the Pyrenees, than the Carbon River glaciers and the great Puyallup glaciers; indeed, the ice in the latter is unusually pure, and the crevasses unusually fine. The combination of ice scenery with woodland scenery of the grandest type is to be found nowhere in the Old World, unless it be in the Himalayas, and, so far as we know, nowhere else on the American Continent."

"But the highway which would challenge the world for its equal in grand scenery would extend from the Cowlitz Pass northward along the crest of the range to the Cascade branch. The distance is 50 miles. 31 in the park and 19 beyond it to the railroad. Within the reserve the summit is open and park like. On the east is a sea of mountains; on the west is a bold descent of 3,000 feet to the valleys of Cowlitz and White rivers, beyond which Tacoma rises in overpowering grandeur, 8,000 feet above the road and only 12 miles distant."

The memorial was signed by the National Geographic Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Geological Society of America, the Sierra club, and the Appalachian Mountain club.

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 2300, 55th Congress, 3d Session.
Washington National Park. (February 24, 1899)

The date on this report precedes the approval date for the Act to set aside Mt. Rainier as a National Park by six days. The passage is a good example of a reference to the scenic beauty of an area, but within the park boundaries:

"This legislation is strongly urged by the people of Washington, and the purpose is to preserve from injury or destruction the scenic and other natural beauties of Mount Rainier and the surrounding footlands embraced within the boundaries described in the bill for such park."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 2978, 57th Congress, 2d Session.
Improvement of the Mt. Ranier National Park In The
State Of Washington. (February 10, 1903)

This report concerned an appropriations bill for "sundry civil expenses" and included an amendment for improvements in Mt. Ranier National Park.

"The mountainous country within the park constitutes scenic beauties unsurpassed anywhere in the world. An abrupt peak rises nearly 15,000 feet from the snow line and is pronounced by mountain climbers from all parts of the globe to be one of the most, if not the most, striking mountain peaks in the world. The glaciers surrounding the park, the water courses, the forests, and the canyons are of the greatest possible interest, and the protection provided for and the improvements to be secured by the proposed legislation are to be commended."

Mr. E. A. Hitchcock, Secretary of the Department of Interior, wrote a letter to Mr. William B. Allison, the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, describing the need for improvements in the park. The improvements involved construction of "wagon roads" (1903) in the park for accessibility purposes. The letter lists areas of interest in the park and concludes the natural features cannot be enjoyed without the construction of proper roads:

"This national park, it is stated in a paper prepared by Mr. F. G. Plummer, of the Geological Survey, includes within its boundaries:

- (1) Mount Ranier (or Tacoma), the greatest and most beautiful of the snow peaks in this country. Its altitude is 14,526 feet, and its mass sufficient to fill Lake Erie.
- (2) A wonderful system of living glaciers, of which the largest is, alone, greater in extent than the combined area of all the glaciers on Mount Blanc in Switzerland.
- (3) The Sluiskin and Tatoisch ranges of volcanic peaks, more beautiful in profile than the Tetons of the Yellowstone.
- (4) Canons 3,000 to 5,000 feet deep.
- (5) A large number of beautiful lakes.
- (6) Dozens of cascades and waterfalls, the highest of which is 900 feet.
- (7) Mineral springs having various medicinal properties and of temperatures from 40° to 90° F.
- (8) A wide field for geologists, botanists, and mountaineers.
- (9) The magnificent views of the surrounding mountains and valleys are limited only by earth curvature, and are in extent about

These natural curiosities or wonders within this reservation can not be advantageously seen by the traveling public interested therein, nor can the Department satisfactorily provide for the preservation from injury or spoliation of timber, mineral deposits natural curiosities, or wonders within the park and their retention in their natural condition, as required by the act of March 2, 1899 (30 Stat. L., 994). unless proper roads are constructed therein."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 719, 57th Congress, 1st Session.
Trespassing on Mt. Rainier National Park, Washington.
(March 13, 1902)

"Your committee find that the Mount Rainier National Park is now one of our national resorts, and that a constantly increasing number of tourists from all parts of the world are attracted to the mountain on account of its unsurpassed grandeur and the extent and peculiar formation of its many glaciers. Those journeying to the mountain have heretofore left the usual lines of railway or steamboat travel at the city of Tacoma and proceeded by stage to the foothills. A new line of railroad is now being built to within a few miles of the mountain, and the number of visitors will therefore, in all probability, increase very rapidly on account of the increased transportation facilities.

The mountain is something over 14,414 feet in height and rises very abruptly from the snow line and is considered by mountain climbers to be one of the most picturesque and striking mountain peaks in the world. The national park surrounding the peak contains many streams which are attractive to fishermen, and the forests abound in game. At the present time it is practically impossible to protect the natural scenery against vandalism or to prevent trespassers from entering upon the park."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: An Act To establish the Olympic National Park, in the State of Washington, and for other purposes, approved June 29, 1938.
(53 Stat. 1241)

The Act describes the surveyed boundaries of the established park, then sets aside those lands to be:

"dedicated and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people and shall be known as the Olympic National Park."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 2658, 74th Congress, 2nd session
(May 14, 1936) Mt. Olympus National Park

This report endorsed passage of the House bill establishing Mt. Olympus National Park. The report begins:

R E P O R T
(To accompany H. R. 7086)

"The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 7086) to establish the Mount Olympus National Park in the State of Washington, and for other purposes, having considered the same, hereby report the bill without amendment with the recommendation that the bill be passed.

The purpose of the proposed national park is to preserve for the benefit and enjoyment of the people the finest sample of primeval forest in the Pacific Northwest; to provide suitable range and permanent protection for the herds of native Roosevelt elk and the other native wildlife, to conserve and render available to the people, for recreational use, these outstanding expressions of nature in addition to the magnificent mountain scenery and numerous glaciers of the Olympic Range.

The purpose of the bill (H.R. 7086) is to abolish the existing Mount Olympus National Monument, a mountainous area of 298,730 acres which does not contain the finest example of the northwest forest or winter range for the elk, and to establish a national park to be known as the Mount Olympus National Park, with an area of 728,360 acres including the present monument area and a suitable sample of the adjacent primeval forest and game range.

The same report contained a letter from Secretary Wallace of the Department of Agriculture, recommending Mt. Olympus remain under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service. The following excerpts were taken from a letter from Secretary Ickes of the Interior Department, recommending park status for the area:

Department of the Interior,
Washington, March 16, 1936.

Hon. Rene L. DeRouen,
Chairman, Committee on the Public Lands,
House of Representatives.

My Dear Mr. Chairman: Further reference is made to your letter of April 3, 1935, requesting a report upon H. R. 7086, entitled "A bill to establish the Mount Olympus National Park, in the State of Washington, and for other purposes."

The bill has the earnest support of conservation organizations throughout the country. The purpose of this bill is to establish a national park which will include the present Mount Olympus National Monument, additional area of high scenic value, and a sufficient section of the adjacent primeval forest to insure its permanent protection. The proposed park would save from logging the finest representation of the remaining Northwest forests. It would provide permanent protection of the last great remnant of the Roosevelt elk and sufficient winter range to maintain the species for posterity. It would preserve one of the most scenic, unspoiled areas within our country, measuring up in every respect to the high standards set for national parks and monuments. (See exhibit A.)

The scenic, recreational, and scientific values of the proposed Mount Olympus National Park are of such superlative quality that they should be conserved unimpaired for human use. A national park is the only known economic form of land use which will, at the same time, conserve the area. Forestry must feed upon the area. The tourist business produces a more "sustained yield" than could ever be attained by the chopping of these trees. It is more truly a "multiple use" of the resource than logging would be, for it contributes to a great variety of industries and human needs. A national park comes far nearer to the forestry aim, "the greatest good to the greatest number", than could ever be achieved by selling these trees to private logging companies.

Over and above these considerations, we should establish this park for the good of our country.

It is urgently recommended that H. R. 7086 be approved, with the following amendments: . . ."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 1568, 75th Congress 1st session
"Establishing The Mt. Olympus National Park."
(August 16, 1937)

The previous House bill in the 74th Congress 2d session failed to pass due to disagreement over logging interests and the proposed boundaries for the national park. A new bill was introduced in the first session of the 75th Congress to resolve these differences. This bill failed to pass for the same reasons.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

H. R. 4724 is a similar bill to H. R. 7086, Seventy-fourth Congress, second session, save and except that this bill contains a drastic modification in boundary, which modification was accepted to alleviate objections made to the prior legislation on this subject.

The purpose of the proposed national park is to preserve for the benefit and enjoyment of the people parts of the finest sample of primeval forest in the Pacific Northwest; to provide suitable range and permanent protection for the herds of native Roosevelt elk and the other native wildlife; to conserve and render available to the people, for recreational use, these outstanding expressions of nature in addition to the magnificent mountain scenery and numerous glaciers of the Olympic Range.

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 2247, 75th Congress 3d session
Establishing The Olympic National Park In The State Of
Washington. (April 28, 1938)

This report accompanied House bill 10024. This bill resolved the boundary and logging disputes of the previous bills, and was passed into law in 1938. The committee report included a similar statement of facts as the previous House reports:

STATEMENT OF FACTS

"The purpose of the proposed national park is to preserve for the benefit, use and enjoyment of the people, the finest sample of primeval forests of Sitka spruce, western hemlock, Douglas fir, and western red cedar in the entire United States; to provide suitable winter range and permanent protection for the herds of native Roosevelt elk and other wildlife indigenous to the area; to conserve and render available to the people, for recreational use, this outstanding mountainous country, containing numerous glaciers and perpetual snow fields, and a portion of the surrounding verdant forests together with a narrow strip along the beautiful Washington coast."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
PETRIFIED FOREST NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: Proclamation No. 697, December 8, 1906 - 34 Stat. 3266.

"AND, WHEREAS, the mineralized remains of Mesozoic forest, commonly known as the "Petrified Forest," in the Territory of Arizona, situated upon the public lands owned and controlled by the United States, are of the greatest scientific interest and value and it appears that the public good would be promoted by reserving these deposits of fossilized wood as a National monument with as much land as may be necessary for the proper protection thereof."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 879, 56th Congress, 1st Session.
Petrified Forest National Park, of Arizona.
(March 30, 1900)

"We will quote from the report of Prof. Lester F. Ward, paleontologist of the United States Geological Survey. Mr. Ward's report will soon be published, and we only make such quotations from it as will explain the importance and necessity of the proposed park."

"The region near Hollbrook, Apache County, Arizona, known as the "Petrified Forest," "Chalcedony Park," and "Lithodendron (stone trees) Valley," is of great interest, because of the abundance of its beautiful petrified conifer trees, as well as its scenic features."

Mr. Ward in his report, among other things, says:

SCENIC FEATURES

With regard to the first of these, viz, the scenic aspect, I can safely say that it has never been exaggerated by any who have attempted to describe this region. The pictures given in the letter of the Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, above quoted, are not overdrawn, and the more or less glowing descriptions of Mollhausen, Marcou, Newberry, and other explorers fall far short of what might truly be said from this point of view. These petrified forests may properly be classed among the natural wonders of America, and every reasonable effort should be made not only to preserve them from destructive influences, but also to make their existence and true character known to the people.

"The region consists of the ruins of a former plain having an altitude above sea level of 5,700 to 5,750 feet. This plain has undergone extensive erosion to the maximum depth of 700 feet, and is cut into innumerable ridges, buttes and small mesas, with valleys, gorges, and gulches between. The strata consist of alternating beds of clay, sandstone shales, and massive sandstones."

"The clays are purple, white, and blue, the purple predominating, and the white and blue forming bands of different thickness between the others, giving the cliffs a lively and pleasing effect. The sandstones are chiefly of a reddish-brown color and closely resemble the brownstones of the Portland and Newark quarries on the Potomac River and at Manassas, in Virginia, but some are light brown, gray, or whitish in color. The mesas are formed by the resistance of the massive sandstone layers, of which there are several at different horizons, to erosive agencies, and vary in size from mere capstones to small buttes or tables several miles in extent, stretching to the east and to the northwest."

"The valley of this creek is narrow in the northern and central parts of the area, and there are several short branches or affluents, but at the southern end it broadens out and its rugged, scoured, and canyoned slopes are highly picturesque. Here is located its principal petrified forest, and this is the region that has been characterized by some as Chalcedony Park. The petrified logs are countless at all horizons, and lie in the greatest profusion on the knolls, buttes, and spurs, and in the ravines and gulches, while the ground seems to be everywhere studded with gems consisting of the broken fragments of all shapes and sizes and exhibiting all the colors of the rainbow. When we remember that this special area is several miles in extent, some idea can be formed of the enormous quantity of this material that it contains."

The committee concludes:

"It would seem that all that would be necessary would be to call the attention of the American Congress to this remarkable region in order to secure its preservation to our posterity."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: "An Act to establish the Rocky Mountain National Park in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes, approved January 26, 1915" (38 stat. 798)

"and said tract is dedicated and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the United States, under the name of the Rocky Mountain National Park:"

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 1275, 630 Congress 3d Session
Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado

Excerpt from a letter to Henry L. Myers, Chairman, Committee on Public Lands, from Clay Tallman, Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture:

"It is reported by the local forest officers that the tract embraces an area of considerable scenic beauty and is annually visited by a number of tourists who are attracted to this region for recreation purposes."

The report continues:

"Since the preparation of the above official reports, and in fact since the committee authorized a favorable report upon this bill, the Secretary of the Interior has just submitted a brief additional report mentioning some of the beneficial features and the importance of establishing this park and giving the measure his personal and active approval as follows:

The Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, January 9, 1915.

My Dear Mr. Ferris: In accordance with your request, I beg to advise that I favor the creation of the Rocky Mountain National Park in the State of Colorado. It will give to the country a new national playground having unsurpassed mountain scenery and a most salubrious climate, and which will be in proximity to the great centers of population in the eastern portion of the United States. I am confident that the affairs of this park could be administered at a moderate cost.

Cordially, yours,

Franklin K. Lane.

Hon. Scott Ferris,
Chairman Committee on Public Roads, House of Representatives.

Practically the entire population of the State of Colorado is asking Congress to make the scenic territory referred to in this bill a national park."

The following is an excerpt from a memorial from the Colorado Legislature urging Congress to set aside the area as a national park.

"That the people of Colorado desire that said park shall be established It includes the highest mountain peaks in the State; the area is little adapted to either agriculture or grazing; its scenery for sublimity and grandeur is not excelled on the continent. Its location is easy of access to America's millions who seek health and recreation in the summer months, being situated in the front and main range of the Rocky Mountains."

"And practically everyone who has visited that country has ever thereafter been an earnest advocate of the setting aside of that marvelously scenic region as a national park for the benefit of all the people of the United States.

In fact, Estes Park and its adjacent peaks and territory, included in this bill, is known almost as well throughout Europe as it is in the United States as being one of the most marvelously beautiful regions of the earth."

STATEMENT OF GOVERNOR AMMONS OF COLORADO

"Governor Elias M. Ammons, of Colorado, appeared before your committee and stated in substance as follows:

"...and the territory described in this bill embraces the most scenic features of that region and is amply sufficient for a national park."

STATEMENT OF GOVERNOR ELECT CARLSON, OF COLORADO

"...He stated that a large percent of the 56,000 people who visited that park last summer stayed there practically the entire summer; that the park and adjacent territory is not only a healthful climate, but one of the most delightful places in the world. That the territory really has a great scenic value for the nation by reason of its being the headwaters of those rivers and containing so many mountain peaks and the other scenic features."

STATEMENT OF SENATOR THOMAS OF COLORADO

"Senator Charles S. Thomas, of Colorado (author of the pending bill S. 6309, which is a duplicate of H. R. 17614, by Mr. Taylor of Colorado) appeared before your committee and also gave a description of this territory from personal knowledge.... That the scenery is not surpassed in the Alps, or anywhere on the face of the earth; that the mountains, the parks, the valleys, lakes, canyons and foliage all form a combination of beauty and magnificence

that can not be outrivald elsewhere. That nature has designed these places as retreats for men and as places where the sublimity and grandeur of nature and nature's work can be contemplated with benefit to all. That while these features may be sentimental notions, that sentiment occupies a great place in the affairs of man."

"The sentiment which prompted the Government to reserve portions of the public domain from private ownership and occupation is universal. It was inspired by the unusual scenic beauties and attractions abounding in a few places, the careful preservation of which was a duty imposed by the Government in the interest of mankind. This duty is now too obvious for discussion: the only question being as to its undue exercise which up to this time has been appropriate and fully warranted by the character of the territory embraced within the several national parks heretofore created. The inclusion of the proposed Rocky Mountain National Park within the system is both justified and required by the purposes to be subserved. The territory embraced within its boundaries consist of a combination of mountain and valley, whose sublimity and scenic beauties are unsurpassable."

From a "report on an examination of the area of the proposed Rocky Mountain National Park, Colo." by R. B. Marshall, Chief Geographer, U.S. Geological Survey, January 9, 1913.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

"There is no predominant commanding natural feature in Estes Park, such as is found in the Crater Lake, the Yellowstone, or the Yosemite, or along the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, but the region as a whole is as beautiful as any to be found in the United States or, indeed, in the world. There is spread before the eye a gorgeous assemblage of wonderful mountain sculpture, surrounded by fantastic and ever-changing clouds, suspended in an apparently atomless space. At first view as one beholds the scene in awe and amazement, the effect is as of an enormous painting, a vast panorama stretching away for illimitable distances. Gradually this idea of distance disappears, the magnificent work of nature seems to draw nearer and nearer, reduced apparently by an unseen microscope to the refinement of a delicate cameo. Each view becomes a refined miniature, framed by another more fascinating, the whole presenting an impressive picture, never to be forgotten."

The committee report concludes with this passage:

"The territory included in this bill may be fittingly called "The Rocky Mountain National Park."The area is in the north-central portion of the State of Colorado, and that entire portion of the State is one of the most beautiful mountain regions in the world.

The State of Colorado has always been one of the most enthusiastic champions of the slogan, "See America first." President Roosevelt referred to the Centennial State as the "Playground of the Nation," and many citizens of our country proudly and affectionately refer to the State as "the Switzerland of America." The State has more than 5,000 miles of excellent State highways, 20,000 miles of improved county roads on the plains, the foothills, through the mountains and valleys, amidst magnificent scenery. With fine camping, hunting, hundreds of good trout streams, and 320 days of sunshine in every year, she invites the human race to come and enjoy her superb health-giving climate and unique mountain scenery of unparalleled grandeur and marvelous beauty.

Your committee confidently believe that the time is fast approaching when this Government will need and have many more national parks. The tendency in every State and every city in the United States is toward the creation of more outing places. The strenuous life which the American people are living requires outdoor recreation and relaxation, and our city, State, and national parks are one of our greatest health assets. No money ever expended by the Government will bring greater returns in health and happiness than that expended towards the improvement and maintenance of our national parks. Your committee believes that from the natural wonders which the proposed territory contains it should be created into a national park, and therefore unanimously and earnestly recommend the passage of this bill."

STATUTE: "An Act to add certain lands to the Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado, approved February 14, 1917. (39 stat. 916)

This act described the added lands to the park in surveyors language only. For example:

"That the eastern boundary line of the Rocky Mountain National Park between the section corner common to sections two and three, township three north, and sections thirty-four and thirty-five, township four north, range seventy-three west, and the township corner common to townships five and six north, ranges seventy-two and seventy-three west, is hereby changed so as to read as follows:

However, the committee report to the bill described the area's geographic scenic qualities:

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 502, 64th Congress, 1st session
Extension Rocky Mountain National Park, CO (Apr. 7, 1916)

"A reliable description of the area included in the bill is supplied in a letter addressed to Representative Timberlake by Mr. Enos Mills, a representative of the Department of National and State Parks of the American Civic Association, and is printed for the information it contains:

Washington, D. C., December 28, 1915.

Hon. C. B. Timberlake.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir: The four small areas proposed as additions to the Rocky Mountain National Park may safely be called just scenery. They are not well clothed with timber, grass is exceedingly scanty, a mineral outcrop has not been discovered, and they are without any water power.

TWIN PEAKS AREA.

This area overlies the summits and the summit slopes of Twin Peaks, nearly all of it being above the altitude of 10,500 feet. From the summit one commands nearly all the eastern slope - a 25-mile stretch - of the Rocky Mountain National Park. Its most commanding summit is needed by the park officials as a lookout station. It is also needed and has long been used as a viewpoint by the public.

A fringe of timber composed of lodge pole and timber pine and engelmann spruce cover the lower slopes of this area: the upper part of it is above the timber line and is decorated in summer with dwarfed Alpine flowers and small spaces of grass.

GEM LAKE AREA.

Like a high peninsula, the Gem Lake territory thrusts out from the high mountains into the Estes Park Valley. Seen 2 or 3 miles away, the south wall suggests a Yosemite wall. The summit and slopes are piled with domes and spires of granite and scattered with groves and broken growths of pines, firs, and spruces. Gem Lake is a tiny clear pool in a niche near the summit. Gem Lake ridge is an excellent and much-used viewpoint.

DEER MOUNTAIN AREA.

The Deer Mountain area, with its sprinkling of pines and spruces, overlies the rocky summit of Deer Mountain. Its approximate altitude is 10,000 feet. This choice viewpoint affords an excellent outlook on the downward slopes of the mountains, and also of near-by Longs Peak.

The small Horseshoe Park area lies by the main entrance of Rocky Mountain Park and may well be added to the original area.

The three leading areas, though noncommercial, contain viewpoints of vantage. If these points fall into private hands, they might, and probably would, be used to exact toll from the public. They are popular mountain tops. Two good trails were long ago built by the public to the summit of each of these three places. Gem Lake territory is 2 miles north, Twin Peaks about 6 miles to the south, and Deer Mountain about 5 miles west of the village of Estes Park.

Very truly, yours,

Enos A. Mills.

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: An Act To set apart a certain tract of land in the State of California as a public park, approved September 25, 1890.
(26 Stat. 478).

is hereby reserved and withdrawn from settlement, occupancy, or sale under the laws of the United States, and dedicated, and set apart as a public park, or pleasure ground, for the benefit and enjoyment of the people.

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Document No. 393, 56th Congress, 1st Session.
Report on the Big Trees of California.

The beauty of the Big Trees and their surroundings is nowhere more vividly described than in Mr. John Muir's "Mountains of California." He says:

So exquisitely harmonious and finely balanced are even the very mightiest of these monarchs of the woods in all their proportions and circumstances there never is anything overgrown or monstrous-looking about them. On coming in sight of them for the first time, you are likely to say, "Oh, see what beautiful, noble-looking trees are towering there among the firs and pines!" their grandeur being in the meantime in great part invisible, but to the living eye it will be manifested sooner or later, stealing slowly on the senses, like the grandeur of Niagara, or the lofty Yosemite domes. Their great size is hidden from the inexperienced observer as long as they are seen at a distance in one harmonious view.

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 4769, 59th Congress, 1st Session.
Purchase of Lands in Sequoia and General Grant National Parks, California. (June 5, 1906)

Sequoia National Park is in Tulare County, California (the east central part). It was set aside by Act of Congress in 1890, because of its scenic grandeur and its wonderful forest of redwoods, there being over 6,000 trees measuring from 12 to 32 feet in diameter.

STATUTE: An Act of July 3, 1926 added the lands to Sequoia National Park described below in the committee reports. (44 Stat. 818)

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 647, 65th Congress, 3d Session.
Sequoia National. (January 14, 1919)

THE AREA INCLUDED IN THE PARK.

The land which this bill proposes to add to the Sequoia National Park (265 square miles at present) lies north and east of the park and is easily accessible by trail from the Giant Forest. It comprises a large area of mountain-top country approximating 1,335 square miles, making a total area of 1,600 square miles. Its eastern boundary of about 70 miles is the very crest of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, including Mount Whitney, whose elevation of 14,501 feet is the loftiest in the United States. Along this magnificent crest lies a massing of mountain peaks of indescribable grandeur, for Mount Whitney is no towering elevation, but merely a granite climax; its peak is a little higher than its neighbors, that is all.

Eastward from this crest descent superbly tumbled slopes rich in the grandest scenery of America and the world, merging, below the timber line, into innumerable lake-studded valleys which converge into the extraordinary valleys of the Kings and the Kern Rivers. Two branches of the Kings River flow through valleys destined, when known, to a celebrity second only to Yosemite Valley; one of these is the Tehiquite Valley, the other the Kings River Canyon. These lie north of the Sequoia National Park, while on its east lies still another valley of future world celebrity, the Kern Canyon.

This area which, united with the present Sequoia National Park, would make a "Greater Sequoia" of 1,600 square miles, constitutes a total of supreme scenic magnificence. It would make a national park unexcelled even in America for sublimity and unequalled anywhere for rich variety. It is penetrated by trails and affords, with its three foaming rivers, its thousands of streams, its hundreds of lakes, its splendid forests, occasional meadows, castellated valleys, inspiring passes, and lofty glacier-shouldered summits, the future camping-out resort of many thousands yearly.

The Tehiquite Valley and the Kings River Canyon, which are more accessible now than the Kern Canyon, have striking nobility of scenery. The walls of both are as sheer as and are often loftier than Yosemite's. The rivers which flow through them are glacier-run torrents of innumerable cascades and waterfalls, lined to the edge with forests and full of fighting trout.

Both valleys are guarded, like Yosemite, with gigantic rocks. The Tehipite Dome in the Tehipite Valley and the Grand Sentinel in the Kings River Canyon must be classed with Yosemite's greatest. The Tehipite Valley has grandeur for its keynote, as the Yosemite Valley has supreme beauty.

The report from the Secretary of the Interior included these comments:

"Scenically this country is unexcelled, of its kind, in the United States. Its eastern boundary follows the crest of the Sierras Nevada Mountains, from a point 55 miles below the Yosemite National Park's southern boundary southward to and including the climax of the Sierra, which is the mountain grouping in the neighborhood of our loftiest summit, Mount Whitney. In kind it is similar to Yosemite, but differs materially in variety, in climax, and particularly in the extraordinary massing of the peaks. Its small glaciers are many. Its granite cirques have unusual size and majesty. Lofty precipices abound. Interesting volcanic phenomena and to its picturesqueness and scientific significance. I know of no country of similar magnificence whose fastnesses can be penetrated and enjoyed with similar comfort because of the practical absence of rain during the summer months."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report 1063 Part 2, 65th Congress, 3d Session.
Roosevelt National Park. (Roosevelt was a proposed
name change of Sequoia which did not pass)

But among those from the East who have personally visited this region is Hon. Frederick H. Gillett, of Massachusetts, distinguished Member of this House. Speaking in the House January 14, 1919, he said in part:

Three years ago I went through this Sequoia National Park and the King and Kern Valleys. We went in, out of reach of the telegraph or the mail, with a pack train and I spent there two of the most interesting and healthful weeks of my life. I do not suppose it is possible to compare different beauties of nature according to their relative excellence, but if there is any finer scenery in the world than this I should like to see it. But until I have seen it I shall be skeptical about it and be satisfied with the wonderful picturesqueness and variety of the valleys and gorges and mountains and chasms and streams of this extraordinary region. It did not seem to me it was useful for anything except a great camping-out place for the American people. Possibly a few sure footed animals might get grazing there, but it was apparently created as a grand aggregation of scenic beauty, where tired man could refresh and enjoy himself.

The Secretary of Agriculture, Hon. D. F. Houston, says in his report on this matter December 30, 1918:

The immense area which it is proposed to transfer from the national forest to the national park is known to contain a number of scenic features of first-rate importance, the most notable being Mount Whitney and the canyon of the South Fork of Kings River. Unquestionably these two features are chiefly valuable for their scenic interest and should be retained and administered with a view to make them available for the instruction and entertainment of the public.

In his statement before this committee Mr. Gilbert Grosvenor, editor of the National Geographic Magazine, said in part:

The area that we saw---I have been all through Switzerland many times, and in my judgment Switzerland can't compare with it. We counted at least 100 waterfalls that if they were in Switzerland would have become celebrities.

There is another point of view. When you go to bed in Switzerland at night you don't know whether the rain will allow you to see any scenery the next day. You may stay there a week without seeing a mountain top. I did. You go out to the Sierra and you are absolutely sure, so far as the weather is concerned, of getting the worth of your railroad fare repaid you in the scenery.

From an educational point of view, no section of America compares with the Sequoia. The number and variety of the trees are extraordinary. The number of Nature's exhibits is extraordinary. All of the geological area is extraordinary. This area will never be developed unless you develop it. I have great respect for the Forest Service, but its province is not to develop natural scenery. It can't, because its functions are different. If this area is going to be developed for the public it can only be done as a national park.

VISIBILITY REFERENCE IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: "An Act to provide for the establishment of the Shenandoah National Park in the State of Virginia and the Great Smoky Mountain National Park in the State of North Carolina and Tennessee, and for other purposes, approved May 22, 1926." (44 Stat. 616)

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That when title to lands within the areas hereinafter referred to shall have been vested in the United States in fee simple there shall be, and are hereby, established, dedicated, and set apart as public parks for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, the tract of land in the Blue Ridge, in the State of Virginia, being approximately five hundred and twenty-one thousand acres recommended by the Secretary of the Interior in his report of April 14, 1926, which area, or any part or parts thereof as may be accepted on behalf of the United States in accordance with the provisions hereof, shall be known as the Shenandoah National Park."

STATUTE: "An Act to provide for the securing of lands in the southern Appalachian Mountains and in the Mammoth Cave region of Kentucky for perpetual preservation as national parks, approved February 21, 1925." (-3 Stat. 958)

This act itself contained no reference to the scenery of the Shenandoah area. However, the following committee report to this bill included several references describing the scenery of the area. Note that the descriptions are made by the southern Appalachian National Park Committee. This committee was composed of five "outstanding experts on parks" and was appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to study potential national park sites in the East.

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 1320, 68th Congress, 2d Session.
Providing For The Acquisition Of Lands In The Southern
Appalachian Mountains For Park Purposes.

"The Secretary of the Interior last year requested five men, expert in park and out-door life, to comprise a committee to study the scenic area of the southern Appalachian Mountains, having in mind selecting areas of national-park standards, to report to him their choice of an area or areas that could be recommended for inclusion in a national-park system."

The following is an excerpt from the expert's report

"Nature calls us all, and the response of the American people has been expressed in the creation so far of 19 national parks. All but one are west of the Mississippi River. The two-thirds of our population living east of the Mississippi has contented itself with a few State parks not knowing that in the southern Appalachian ranges there are several areas which fill the definition of a national park because of beauty and grandeur of scenery, presence of a wonderful variety of trees and plant life, and possibilities of harboring and developing the animal life common in the precolonial days but now nearly extinct."

It continues:

"We inspected the northern part of Georgia, whose fine mountains blend with the highland region of southern North Carolina. We ascended Mount Mitchell and viewed the splendid Black Mountain range north of Asheville. We went over carefully the Grandfather Mountain region, which for our study included the beautiful country from Blowing Rock to remarkable Linville Gorge. We responded to the call of the poet---to see Roan Mountain if we would really see the southern Appalachians. We went to Knoxville and from there to the tops of "the Big Smokies," which carry on their crest the boundaryline between North Carolina and Tennessee. We went into Virginia to inspect that portion of the Blue Ridge on the east side of the Shenandoah Valley which extends from Front Royal to Waynesboro. Some members of the committee also visited Cumberland Gap, southern West Virginia, northern Alabama and eastern Kentucky. Several areas were found that contained topographical features of great scenic value, where waterfalls, cascades, cliffs, and mountain peaks with beautiful valleys lying in their midst gave ample assurance that any or all of these areas were possible for development into a national park which would compare favorably with any of the existing national parks in the West.

The committee laid down a few simple requirements for its guidance in seeking an area which could be favorably reported to you for the possible consideration of Congress:

1. Mountain scenery with inspiring perspectives and delightful details.
2. Areas sufficiently extensive and adaptable so that annually millions of visitors might enjoy the benefits of outdoor life and communion with nature without the confusion of overcrowding.
3. A substantial part to contain forests, shrubs, and flowers, and mountain streams, with picturesque cascades and waterfalls overhung with foliage, all untouched by the hand of man.
4. Abundant springs and streams available for camps and fishing.
5. Opportunities for protecting and developing the wild life of the area and the whole to be a natural museum, preserving outstanding features of the southern Appalachians as they appeared in the early pioneer days.
6. Accessibility by rail and road.

The Blue Ridge of Virginia, one of the sections which had your committee's careful study, while secondary to the Great Smokies in altitude and some other features, constitute, in our judgement, the outstanding and logical place for the creation of the first national park in the southern Appalachians. We hope it will be made into a national park, and that its success will encourage the Congress to create a second park in the Great Smokey Mountains, which lie some 300 miles distant southwest.

It will surprise the American people to learn that a national park site with fine scenic and recreation qualities can be found within a three-hour ride of our National Capital and within a day's ride of 40,000,000 of our inhabitants. It has many canyons and gorges, with beautiful cascading streams. It has some splendid primeval forests, and the opportunity is there to develop an animal refuge of national importance. Along with the whole southern Appalachians, this area is full of historic interest, the mountains looking down on valleys with their many battle fields of Revolutionary and Civil War periods, and the birthplaces of many of the Presidents of the United States. Within easy access are the famous caverns of the Shenandoah Valley.

The greatest single feature, however, is a possible skyline drive along the mountain top following a continuous ridge and looking down westerly on the Shenandoah Valley from 2,500 to 3,500 feet below, and also commanding a view of the Piedmont Plain stretching easterly to the Washington Monument, which landmark or our National Capitol may be seen on a clear day. Few scenic drives in the world could surpass it.

We therefore recommend the creation of a national park in the part of the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia above described, and shown approximately on the accompanying map."

Previous to this legislation, the Shenandoah area was considered to be set aside as a forest preserve. These attempts, from 1901 to 1910, were all unsuccessful, but the committee reports to the bills included several references to the scenery of the area.

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 1172, 57th Congress 1st session.
The National Appalachian Forest Reserve. (April 18, 1902)

"But the district is valuable not alone to lumberman, farmer, and scientist. The scenery about the falls, cascades, and gorges is beautiful beyond description. The view from the greater elevations of the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky Mountains can rarely be equaled."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 2221, 56th Congress 2d Session.
Forest Reserve In The Southern Appalachian Mountain Region.
(February 12, 1901)

MEMORIAL TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
FROM THE APPALACHIAN NATIONAL PARK ASSOCIATION

"To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America:

The petition of the Appalachian National Park Association respectfully shows that your petitioner is an organization composed of citizens from many States in the Union and was formed for the purpose of bringing to the attention of the Congress of the United States the desirability of establishing a national park of some place in the southern appalachian region."

That the facts which led to the organization of your petitioner, and which are presented as reasons for the establishment of such a national park, are as follows:

RARE NATURAL BEAUTY OF THE SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN REGION.

In western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee (or, more definitely, in the heart of the Great Smoky Mountains, the Balsam Mountains, and the Black and Craggy Mountains) as found not only the culmination of the Appalachian system, but the most beautiful, as well as the highest, mountains east of the lofty Western ranges. Forty-three mountains of 6,000 feet and upward in altitude, as well as great number of inferior height, all clothed with virgin forests and intersected by deep valleys abounding in brooks, rivers, and waterfalls, combine to make this a region of unsurpassed attractiveness.

Standing upon the summit of one of these sublime heights the eye often seeks in vain for the bare mountain side--the evidence of the devastating ax--and before one stretches out a view magnificently beautiful.

If the national parks already established have been chosen for their unusual natural beauty, here is a national park, conspicuously fine, awaiting official recognition as an addition to the number."

The conclusions of the committee with regard to the Theodore Roosevelt Park was as follows:

"The visit of the committee into North Dakota for the purpose of studying the proposal to establish the Roosevelt and Killedeer National Parks, and the holding of hearings at Medora, N. Dak., in regard thereto, has furnished the committee with first-hand knowledge of the situation, which will prove invaluable when the matter comes up for consideration. The historical background of the area proposed to be set aside as the Roosevelt National Park is a fitting atmosphere for these Bad Lands, with their crimson buttes rising out of this picturesque country. Besides the historical importance connected with Theodore Roosevelt's stay in the Bad Lands, there is also a bit of romance associated with the name Marquis de Mores. He was a French nobleman who came early into this Bad Lands country and built a chateau overlooking the little town of Medora, which stands to-day preserved in its original state and contains the furnishings of its builder. It is of great interest to the tourist who visits this unusual country."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 1787, 79th Congress, 2d session
Establishing The Theodore Roosevelt National Park
And Erecting A Monument In Memory Of Theodore
Roosevelt In The Village Of Medora, N. Dak.
(March 19, 1946)

"The badlands of North Dakota have a distinct value from a recreational, scenic, and historical viewpoint. The nature of the terrain of this area is not mountainous; it is an area where the wind and water has eroded the soft earth away, causing that portion of the land and rock formations that were slightly harder to stand out, forming canyons, peaks, spires, eroded hills, and mesas.

This is truly rugged, scenic territory where the imagination may perceive most any shape or semblance. There is a great deal of agate and petrified wood in this area. The people of North Dakota have been advocating a national park in the Badlands for many years, and such a plan has the approval of all civic organizations of the state. It is believed that this park will preserve for posterity an area of great interest and benefit to the citizens of the entire Nation. The greater portion of the proposed area is now in Federal ownership, having been acquired back in the days of the Resettlement Administration and similar agencies. There are some 5,000 acres of land not in Federal ownership, and the bill provides for exchange of lands of approximately equal value, thereby blocking up the land for park purposes.

This land has very little commercial value at the present time, and there is a Nation-wide desire that the unique scenery of the Badlands be set apart for posterity."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 49, 80th Congress, 1st Session
Establishing the Theodore Roosevelt National Park
(February 18, 1947)

The bill in the 79th Congress establishing Roosevelt National Park was vetoed by President Truman due to problems concerning the exchange of lands included in the park boundaries. These differences were worked out in the 80th Session, and the Roosevelt National Memorial Park was established April 25, 1947.

"The area is about midway between the heavily populated sections in the Great Lakes region and the Yellowstone and other national parks. Its scenery is different from that of any other national park. Many tourists have pronounced it as more interesting than any other national park they have visited. Yet its location and scenic interest insure its widespread use, when made into a national park, by thousands of our citizens."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:
THEODORE ROOSEVELT NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: Joint Resolution correcting Act establishing the Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park, as amended, approved June 29, 1948 (62 stat. 1102)

"That section 1 of the Act of April 25, 1947, establishing the Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park as amended by Public Law Numbered 620 be further amended by striking out the period at the end of section 1 and inserting the following: ", are hereby dedicated and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, and shall be known as the Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Proposed establishment of and boundary revisions of certain national parks (February 26, 1929)

"The Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, pursuant to and in accordance with S. Res. 237, reports that a subcommittee consisting of Senators Nye, Norbeck, Dale, Kendrick, and Ashurst in July and August of 1928 visited the sites of certain proposed national parks and certain other national parks, and that the said subcommittee has submitted the following report, which is approved by the committee:

In accordance with S. Res. 237, the subcommittee of the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, authorized and directed to investigate the advisability of establishing certain national parks and the proposed changes in, and boundary revisions of, certain other national parks, visited in the order named the following areas:

Proposed Roosevelt National Park, N. Dak."

Concerning the Theodore Roosevelt Park area, the committee report stated:

"There is offered here something quite different from the usual national park scenery, which is coupled with the historic interest created by the fact that Theodore Roosevelt ranched for several years in these parts. The old Roosevelt log house is still in existence, and at its original site within the proposed park would prove of great interest to the great numbers of people who travel through this proposed park on their way to and from the national parks farther west. The park boundary should be made to include the old Roosevelt ranch, the Petrified Forest, the so-called Painted Canyon (which has been likened to a small edition of the Grand Canyon in Arizona), and perhaps one or two other exceptionally attractive spots within the Bad Lands. These are linked by good highways, which would make a large part of the Bad Lands scenery available to visitors."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: Act To set apart certain lands in the State of South Dakota as a public park to be known as the "Wind Cave National Park," approved January 9, 1903. (32 Stat. 765)

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 1944, 57th Congress, 1st Session.
Wind Cave National Park. (June 17, 1902)

Excerpt from a report submitted by the commissioner of the General Land Office:

I also transmit copy of a report subsequently received from Special Agent M. A. Meyendorff, dated May 24, 1902, with two of the exhibits (A and B), and copy of Exhibit D, forming a part thereof, submitting the result of an underground survey made of the cavern.

In regard to the subterranean wonders of this cavern agent Meyendorff's report submits as follows:

"To do justice to the wonderful evolution of nature which created this cavern, to describe its grandeur, grotesqueness, and beauty would require the researchful mind of a profound student of geology and pen of the poet. Bereaved of both and limited inspace and time, I will simply say that it is one of the greatest wonders of the world."

Also from Agent Meyendorff's report:

"In the attempt to describe the attractions of the Wind Cave one can not complete it without an allusion to the town of Hot Springs, nestled among red crags of gypsum, on Fall Creek, 12 miles south of the Wind Cave, and the beautiful panorama through which one passes while driving over the splendid natural road from Hot Springs to the Wind Cave. A park embracing the whole, improved and beautified, with electric devices within the cave, would make a park of marvel. The Wind Cave at this stage of exploration is in its embryo."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: An Act To set apart a certain tract of land lying near the headwaters of the Yellowstone River as a public park, approved March 1, 1872. (17 Stat. 32)

"...is hereby reserved and withdrawn from settlement, occupancy or sale under the laws of the United States, and dedicated and set apart as a public park or pleasuring-ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Exec. Document No. 35, 42d Congress, 3d Session.
Letter from the Secretary of the Interior accompanying a report of the superintendent of the Yellowstone National Park for the year 1872. (February 4, 1873)

"From Market Lake to the park the country is wild and unsettled, and all provisions must necessarily be transported by pack-trains. Following the road from Market Lake to the ford on Henry's Fork of Snake River, a distance of thirty miles, the traveler from that point has nothing to guide him but a faint bridle-path. While passing over this part of the route, he will have many fine views of the Tetons, the great mountain landmarks of the region."

"There are at least two thousand hot springs, large and small, in this basin, and of this number probably two hundred are geysers. The whole basin is enveloped in steam, and, seen at a distance, is like the approach to a cluster of manufactories. The geysers project water with terrific force, and in fabulous quantities, and in every conceivable form, to heights, varying from 20 to 250 feet. These, seen in the rays of a midday sun, or in the beams of full moon, are inexpressibly grand. Unlike any other scenery in the world, they amaze the beholder by their magnitude and novelty."

"It is fifteen miles from this basin to Yellowstone Lakes, over a path running through a pine forest, greatly obstructed the entire distance by fallen timber. Several beautiful cascades in the Fire Hole River may be visited on this part of the route. The lake is nearly 8,000 feet above the ocean. It is twenty-five miles in length, embosomed amid mountains, gemmed with green islands, unique in form, and surrounded on all sides by hot springs of great variety, number, and beauty. Jets of steam may be seen issuing from the hot springs, from the islands, even from the bosom of the lake itself. Some of the loftiest and most inaccessible mountain-ridges on the continent lift their snow-clad summits in the immediate vicinity. The scenery is colossal and full of savage grandeur."

"Following the river from the foot of the lake for the distance of nine miles, the visitor reaches the locality of Sulphur Mountain, the Mud rate interest, and presenting novelties of rare and curious character.

Ten miles farther down the river are the two great cataracts, and the Grand Canon, of the Yellowstone, perhaps the most stupendous elements of scenery in the park. The upper fall is 115 feet in height; the lower, which plunges directly into the canon, is 350 feet, and the canon itself, varying from one to three thousand feet in depth, is forty miles in length, and for the whole distance presents to the eye the most wonderful chasm in the world. Jets of hot vapor issue from its sides, and color them with the most brilliant colors of nature. From its profound depths stars are visible in the day-time. Lieutenant Doane, who, in 1870, succeeded in reaching the bottom of the canon, at a point where the walls are nearly 3,000 feet in height, in his official report (Senate Executive Document No. 51, Forty-first Congress, third session) says: "It was about 3 o'clock p.m. and stars could be distinctly seen, so much of the sun-light cut off from entering the chasm."

About eighteen miles farther, and at a point of one mile divergence from the canon, the beautiful fall of Tower Creek, with its grotesque surroundings, meets the eye; and, twenty-five miles below this point, the most wonderful hot springs of Gardiner's River, with all their variety of beauty and novelty, assert their claims to be considered the most remarkable of the curiosities of the park.

Thus, in a circuit of perhaps ninety miles, the greatest attractions of the park may be seen, and, at the close of the tour, the visitor is within seventy-five miles, over a good road, of Fort Ellis, and the beautiful town of Bozeman, in Montana Territory.

It is impossible, in this report, to convey the faintest idea of the grandeur of the mountain and river scenery everywhere present on this ride. We venture to say that there is not in the world, within the same Unit, so many wonderful freaks of physical geography, so much to amaze and delight the beholder.

The trip thus finished through the park, the traveler, at any time before the middle of August, may fitly complete it by proceeding from Bozeman to Helena, through the beautiful valleys of the Gallatin and the Upper Missouri, thence by coach through a highly picturesque country one hundred and forty miles to Fort Benton, where, in a fine river-steamer, he may complete the trip by a sail of six or seven days, of two thousand miles down the Missouri, to Omaha, or to the junction of the Northern Pacific Railroad, whence he may reach the sea-board by rail."

"Could all be portrayed with the same faithfulness, and made to adorn the walls of our Capitol, how greatly would they exceed in grandeur and vastness our ordinary art decorations.

Nothing has been, nothing can be said, to magnify the wonders of this national pleasuring-ground. It is all and more than all that it has been represented. In the catalogue of earthly wonders it is the greatest, and must ever remain so. It confers distinctive character upon our country, greater than that of Niagara, Yosemite, or Mammoth Cave, though each of these is, in itself, without parallel. But here, the grandest, most wonderful, and most unique elements of nature are combined, seemingly to produce upon the most stupendous scale an exhibition unlike any other upon the globe. It should be substained. Our Government, having adopted it, should foster it and render it accessible to the people of all lands, who in future time will come in crowds to visit it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. P. LANDGORD,
Superintendent Yellowstone National Park.

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: An Act Authorizing a grant to the State of California of the Yosemite Valley," and of the land embracing the "Mariposa Big Tree Grove," approved June 30, 1864. (13 Stat. 325)

"...said State shall accept this grant upon the express conditions that the premises shall be held for public use, resort, and recreation; shall be inalienable for all time."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 185, 40th Congress, 2d Session.
In the Senate of the United States. (July 23, 1868)

This report concerned the rights of two settlers, J. M. Hutchings and J. C. Lamon, who were granted 320 acres of land in the Yosemite Valley by the State of California. The grant was subject to the approval of Congress, due to the stipulations set forth in the Act of June 30, 1864.

"The Yosemite valley is one of the wonders of the world. It stands unrivalled in its majesty, grandeur, and beauty. It is one of those magnificent developments of natural scenery in which all the people of the country feel a pride and an interest, and to which their equal right of access and enjoyment ought to be protected. To this end the grant was made to California. That State was required and expected to take the valley and to hold it for "public use, resort, and recreation," and Congress in effect by the act of 1864 reserved it for such purposes."

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 2, 41st Congress, 2d session.
J. M. Hutchings, J.C. Lamon. (January 18, 1870)

"The marvelous beauty and grandeur of the locality prompted this legislation. Among the great natural wonders of the world it stands unrivalled. The "cleft" in the mountains which forms this valley is at any point, and is walled in by precipitous mountains of granite from three thousand to four thousand five hundred feet in height. Over these walls, which are generally perpendicular, the waters of the Merced River and its tributaries fall into the valley below, forming the most beautiful cascades in the known world. No description could do justice to the dazzling scenes of loveliness and magnificence which feast the eye and gladden the heart in every part of this wonderfully appointed valley. — It was felt, and most naturally, that a spot so sacred to beauty and to worship should not be appropriated to private ownership and exclusive use, but should be preserved free and open to the world; and Congress, on the assurance that no settlements had been established in the valley under the laws of the United States, made the grant to which we have referred, which California accepted."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Executive Document No. 22, 52d Congress, 2d Session.
Letter from the Secretary of the Interior.
(January 5, 1893)

"The State of California accepted the grant on the express condition that it should be held for public use, resort, and recreation. At that time the Yosemite was already famous as the most wonderful natural scenery on earth. There can be no doubt that it was the purpose of Congress that all its features should be perpetuated in their original unmarred beauty and attractiveness, and the best means of attaining this end it was deemed was to put it under the guardianship of the State."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Report No. 863, 54th Congress, 1st Session.
In the Senate of the United States. (May 5, 1896)

"The canyons of the Tuolumne and Merced rivers within this park are hardly less wonderful in their scenery than the canyons of the Yellowstone and Colorado rivers. The Hetch Hetchy Valley, on the Tuolumne river, within the park, is a Yosemite Valley on a reduced scale; and were there no Yosemite Valley this Hetch Hetchy Valley, with its marvelous rock and water scenery, would be regarded as one of the wonders of the world.

Mount Conness, Mount Dana, Mount Gibbs, Mount Lyell, Mount McClure, and Mount Ritter, all of them bald granite peaks ranging from 12,000 to 15,000 feet high, tower above the general crest of the Sierra Nevadas, and are all within this park. Two of these mountain peaks, Dana and Lyell, have living glaciers on their slopes.

The park, over its whole extent, except near the crest of the Sierras, is heavily timbered with pine, fir, spruce, hemlock, tamarac, cedar, and sequoias or "big trees." There are two groves, known as the Tuolumne and the Merced groves, of these "big trees." Indeed, nowhere else in the world is there found a more magnificent growth of timber, remarkable alike for its size and its height, than in this park. The proportions of the sequoia gigantea may be realized when it is known that six-horse stage coaches, loaded with passengers, are driven through openings cut out of the bases of living "big trees" on several roads leading through this park to the Yosemite Valley grant."

"This rare, varied, and wonderful scenery found within the limits of this park was a sufficient and proper reason for its establishment by Congress as the Yosemite National Park."

"In this Yosemite Valley grant there are granite cliffs and domes rising vertically from 3,500 to 6,500 feet above the floor of the valley. There are waterfalls on the Merced River and its tributaries, five in number, varying from 600 feet to 3,000 feet high, coming over these cliffs and through this "gorge" to the Merced River, where it flows in placid beauty through the level of the valley; and there are forests of pine, fir, spruce, cedar, oak, in the valley proper and on the higher Sierras above and around it, of great beauty and of unusual size and height, comprising, as a whole the most wonderful combination of rock, water, and forest scenery in the known world."

"This park is attractive to, and is visited by, tourist and travelers for its sublime water, forest, and mountain scenery, hereinbefore described, and as this park encircles the Yosemite Valley grant, tourists and travelers to the wonderful Yosemite Valley must needs pass over these toll roads traversing the Yosemite National Park."

VISIBILITY REFERENCES IN THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
ZION NATIONAL PARK

STATUTE: Proclamation No. 877, July 31, 1909, 36 Stat. 2498
Establishes Mukuntuweap National Monument

MUKUNTUWEAP NATIONAL MONUMENT, UTAH

By The President Of The United States Of America
A PROCLAMATION
(No. 877--July 31, 1909--36 Stat. 2498)

"WHEREAS, the Mukuntuweap Canyon, through which flows the North Fork of the Rio Virgin, or Zion River, in Southwestern Utah, is an extraordinary example of canyon erosion and is of the greatest scientific interest, and it appears that the public interest would be promoted by reserving it as a National monument, with such other land as may be necessary for its protection;"

STATUTE: Proclamation No. 1435, March 18, 1918, 40 Stat. 1760
Addition Of Land To Zion National Monument.

ZION NATIONAL MONUMENT, UTAH

By The President Of The United States Of America
A PROCLAMATION
(No. 1435--March 18, 1918--40 Stat. 1760)

WHEREAS, It has been established by the research of competent observers that certain lands directly bordering upon the Mukuntuweap National Monument, reserved by proclamation dated July 31, 1909, said monument and adjacent lands being in the State of Utah, contain many natural features of unusual archeologic, geologic, and geographic interest, unknown at the time the monument was created,

AND WHEREAS, The archeologic features pertain to the prehistoric races of America and to the ancestral Indian tribes,

AND WHEREAS, The geologic features include craters of extinct volcanoes, fossiliferous deposits of unusual nature, and brilliantly colored strata of unique composition, among which are some believed to be the best representatives in the world of a rare type of sedimentation,

AND WHEREAS, The features of geographic interest include a labyrinth of remarkable canyons with highly ornate and beautifully colored walls, in which are plainly recorded the geologic events of past ages,

AND WHEREAS, It appears that the entire area herein referred to should be preserved intact for the purpose of scientific research and for the enjoyment and enlightenment of the public,

AND WHEREAS, The canyon of the North Fork of the Virgin River, the principal natural feature of geologic and geographic interest included within the boundaries of the said Mukuntuweap National Monument, was named "Zion Canyon" by Mormon settlers many years before the name "Mukuntuweap" was given to this region because it was regarded as a safe refuge in the event of Indian attacks on neighboring settlements,

AND WHEREAS, The name "Zion" is still applied to this region to the exclusion of the name "Mukuntuweap,"

COMMITTEE REPORT: House Report No. 1285, 64th Congress 1st session

excerpt from a letter to the Secretary of the Treasury from Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, estimating the cost of construction of a highway through Zion.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, July 8, 1916.

"Dear Mr. Secretary: The Mukuntuweap National Monument, Utah, was set aside by presidential proclamation of July 31, 1909, and the administration thereof as under the supervision of the Secretary of the Interior. It embraces the magnificent gorge of Zion Creek, called the Mukuntuweap Canyon, the walls of which are smooth, vertical, sandstone precipices from 800 to 2,000 feet deep, and are of the unscalable within the limits of the reservation. The North Fork of the Rio Virgin River passes through the canyon, and it is claimed that the views into the canyon from its rim are exceeded in beauty and grandeur only by similar views in the Grand Canyon of the Colorado."

STATUTE: An Act To establish the Zion National Park in the State of Utah, approved November 19, 1919. (41 Stat. 356)

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Zion National Monument, in the county of Washington, State of Utah, established and designated as a national monument under the Act of June 8, 1906, entitled "An Act for the preservation of American antiquities," by Presidential proclamations of July 31, 1909, and March 18, 1918, is hereby declared to be a national park and dedicated as such for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, under the name of the Zion National Park."

COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate No. 22, 66th Congress 1st session (June 20, 1919)

excerpt from a letter to Henry L. Myers, Chairman
Committee on Public Lands, from Franklin Lane,
Secretary of the Interior. (recommending preservation
of the area as a National Park)

"Zion Canyon is an extraordinary gorge cut from brilliantly colored sedimentary rocks by the North Fork of the Virgin River. Its proportions are about equal to those of Yosemite Valley in Yosemite National Park; the walls are several hundred feet lower and the canyon is considerably narrower. In the cutting of the gorge, however, the torrential stream and wind and rain, have carved domes spires, towers and other curious forms that strikingly resemble many of the features of Yosemite Valley. More interesting than the carving of Zion's cliffs is their exquisite coloring. Red predominates as it does in the Grand Canyon in Arizona, but there are amazing combinations of brown, black, and white colors with the red and with each other. White sandstone is superimposed on the red strata, and other layers of the red rock lie in turn upon the white. The action of water upon the exposed surfaces of these rocks has produced a symphony of color that gives the canyon its greatest charm. The finishing touches are given by the forests of the valley floor and the trees on the rim and in the niches of the nearly perpendicular canyon walls. Early scientific explorers of the Southwest, including Maj. J. W. Powell, who made the first trip through the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River, visited Zion Canyon and wrote of the great beauty of the gorge and the brilliance of its coloring, and several artists, including Thomas Moran, have conveyed the wonders of the region to the world by paintings of distinction."

COMMITTEE REPORT: To 46 Stat. 582, approved June 13, 1930

House Report No. 1357, 71st Congress, 2d session
(May 2, 1930) (on the addition of land to Zion
National Park)

excerpt from a letter to the Secretary of Interior from
Arno Cammerer, Acting Director of National Park Service:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,
Washington, April 25, 1930.

"Memorandum for the Secretary.

Reference is made to letter of April 23 from the chairman Committee on the Public Lands, House of Representatives, transmitting a copy of H. R. 11699, "A bill to add certain lands to the Zion National Park, in the state of Utah, and for other purposes," with request for report thereon. This bill proposes to add lands totaling approximately 17,900 acres to the Zion National Park, Utah. The land adjoins the southeast, south, and southwest boundaries of the park.

The addition of these lands to the park is very desirable for the following reasons:

- (3) To protect the upper section of the valley of Clear Creek, through which the Zion-Mount Carmel Highway is being constructed.
- (4) To bring under park protection a number of excellent cliff ruins in the Parunuweap Canyon and to add to the park the unusually scenic upper canyon of the Parunuweap and make available additional camping ground for park visitors on the floor of the Parunuweap Valley."