



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT

1207 Emery Highway
Macon, Georgia 31201

A2621

March 13, 1987

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Southeast Region

From: Superintendent, Ocmulgee National Monument

Subject: Superintendent's Annual Narrative Report

Enclosed are three copies of the Superintendent's Annual Narrative Report for 1986. If you have questions, please give me a call at FTS# 238-0248.

Superintendent

Enclosures



SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT
1207 Emery Highway
Macon, Georgia 31201

Ocmulgee National Monument
SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT
FY 1986

BUDGET AND FINANCE:

-ONPS.....\$355.3
-Cyclic.....\$ 31.0
-Quarters.....\$ 6.4

-Park's financial and accounting system was entered in the computer and Superintendent's Office provided with a detailed monthly printout showing variances.

-There was no excess spending in the 4th quarter of the fiscal year.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS:

-Three Career-Conditional Appointments and Two Transfers.

EMPLOYEE APPRAISALS/COUNSELING:

-Performance Standards and Work Plans were developed for all employees.

-Employees were counseled specifically on goals at 6-month intervals with on-going counseling on a daily basis. Employee appraisals were performed within the proper timeframe.

TRAINING:

-IDP's were developed for all employees.

1 -A personnel skills inventory was conducted on all employees.

-Two law enforcement Rangers were detailed to Chattahoochee National Recreation Area on weekends to assist during the summer.

-Two Rangers participated in wild fire assignments through SERO.

-Chief Ranger was assigned to SER Cultural and Natural Resource Management team to assist with preparation of new Southeast Regional Resource Management Plan.

-Following is number of employees attending training during 1986 and name of courses attended:

2 - Law Enforcement Refresher
1 - Touch Screen Computer Programming
1 - Interpretive Skills II

- 2 - Firefighting Training (S130, S190)
- 1 - Safety/Loss Control Management
- 2 - Orientation to NPS Operations
- 2 - EEO: Its Place in the Government (OPM Correspondence Course)

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS:

- Six Cash Awards
- One Quality Increase
- One Honor Award for Superior Service

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

- No complaints were filed during 1986. Equal opportunity and sexual harassment were discussed at Squad and Staff Meetings.
- A new Mini-Affirmative Action Plan was developed by the Equal Opportunity Committee and the Superintendent issued his annual EEO statement.
- Recruitment was conducted by EO Chairman and Administrative Technician at three local schools during December and January.

HEALTH/SAFETY:

- Safety and health concerns were discussed at each Staff Meeting, after changes in different jobs, during the YCC Program and at Safety Committee meetings.

PROPERTY:

- Property management was monitored and critiqued during one park walk-thru inspection. All property has been placed in park's computer for better control.
- Following equipment was surveyed:

- Hustler 295 Mower
- Toro Push Mower and Two Motors
- Electric Hedge Trimmer (worn out)
- Gas Edger (worn out)
- 3 Storm Doors from Quarters
- Steel Tool Box, Short Bed
- 3 Wooden Tables
- 7 Sets Steel Shelves
- Brief Case (worn out)
- Olivetti Logos Calculator DN 51804
- Victor Adding Machine

- One Hustler 400 Riding Mower was purchased.
- Repairs were made to Cushman Gas Scooter (\$350) and 2 Weedeaters (\$150).

MAINTENANCE/CONSTRUCTION:

- Replaced 50 feet of boundary fence destroyed by vehicle accident from Emery Highway.
- Quarters #1: Constructed and installed arbor on patio
Tiled kitchen and washroom floor
Sanded and refinished master bedroom floor
- Quarters #2: Replaced two storm doors
Repaired deteriorating outside wooden wall
Repaired electric stove
Repaired electrical outlet
- Replaced all rubber hoses on solar panels.
- Constructed and installed supply shelves for Ranger Division.
- Constructed and installed shelves for fire fighting equipment in Fire Cache.
- Installed hazardous supply cabinet on wash rack behind Visitor Center.
- Constructed and installed storage shelves in curatorial facility.
- Constructed cabinet for Touch-Screen Computer.
- Constructed storage shelves for Discovery Lab
- Constructed two wooden bridges and one set of steps on new trail.
- Constructed and installed shelves in supply room.
- Installed new book holders in Gift Shop.
- Installed tile floor in Discovery Lab and hallway.

CONTRACTS:

- Contracted and completed new roof on Visitor Center.
- Visitor Center interior plaster and painting contract completed.
- Murals in Rotunda replaced and exhibits repaired.

- Contract to remove solar supply line from underground to ground level was completed.

AUTOMATED SYSTEMS:

- Staff Resource Ranger worked on a computerized accounting and management system, parts of which were utilized during FY 1986, with an improved menu-driven package to be on line in FY 1987.
- Staff Resource Ranger and Chief of Maintenance continue work on the park's Maintenance Management System.
- Staff Resource Ranger is developing a visitor information program for park's new Altos TouchScreen computer.

SQUAD AND STAFF MEETINGS:

- Regular weekly Squad and monthly Staff Meetings were held, with films concerning safety, effective communications, and other special programs, including a doctor-presented program on stress management.

MANAGEMENT PLANS:

- General Management Plan and Interpretive Prospectus revisions are programmed for FY 1987.
- Barbara Sulshoff, SER Planning Office, met with the Superintendent on November 7th to establish procedures for developing a Land Protection Plan for OCMU.
- Public Lands Stewardship, Environmental Concerns Committee, continues to collect data to furnish the park with a landscape and erosion control plan.

PARK OPERATIONS EVALUATION:

- Three walk-thru inspections were conducted. A SER team evaluated park operations, noting few deficiencies. Park received an excellent review and all deficiencies have been corrected.

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:

- This document was printed and copies forwarded to proper offices throughout the National Park System.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESS REPORTS:

-Congressional Progress Reports concerning Ocmulgee National Monument were developed and mailed, along with the park's newly-developed Administrative History, to each Congressional Office.

CULTURAL/NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION:

-The Great Temple Mound and island in front of the Visitor Center were closed temporarily to re-establish vegetation through hydroseeding; the picnic area was relocated to allow grass recovery.

-Cooperated with Susan P. Bratton, NPS Cooperative Studies Unit, on an exotics vegetation study of OCMU.

-Park staff had open lines of communication with Georgia Forestry Commission, especially their entomologist who assisted Rangers in a Southern Pine Beetle identification program.

-Forest Fire Lab, working with park staff, developed a Prescribed Fire Plan for the park's Main Unit.

-Georgia EPD conducted a water quality study of Walnut Creek and analysis of other park waters.

-Park staff worked on a kudzu control program and initiated a cooperative agreement between HUD, Southern Railroad, and Georgia Forestry Commission to control kudzu adjacent to the park's boundary.

-Steam was used on fire ant mounds in high use areas.

-Several hazardous beetle-infested pine trees were removed.

-Data was submitted regarding curatorial needs. Daily operations met NPS-6 guidelines. Access to curatorial facilities is controlled. A partition was built between the work and storage areas and new shelving was constructed to increase storage capabilities. A locking, fireproof file cabinet was purchased for records protection. Computerization of catalog records will begin when ANCS software is received. Forms 10-238 covering curatorial accountability and collections management are approved for implementation in 1988, if funded.

-Exhibit repair necessitated by damage from Visitor Center roof leaks was completed. Park staff saved over \$19,000 by undertaking part of the work inhouse instead through exhibit repair contract.

-Staff attended a community meeting with Georgia Department of Transportation officials on the subject of widening Emory Highway (which will involve park entrance changes). Corresponded in writing with Georgia DOT regarding

realignment of entrance and islands in front of park, need for issuance of new permits, and installation of a traffic light to provide safer entrance/exit.

-A new committee of concerned citizens has been formed under the auspices of the National Public Lands Stewardship Steering Committee and the Ocmulgee National Monument Association. They have proposed a plan to assist the park with exotic vegetation control and re-establishment of native plants in the park to enhance the historic scene.

VISITATION:

-The park had 214,850 visitors. This continues marked annual increases in visitation over the past few years (1983-83,000; 1984-111,000; 1985-198,000).

VISITOR PROTECTION:

- Contacts were maintained with Macon Police Department and Bibb County Sheriff.
- Cooperation with Federal and county courts led to 100% conviction on challenged cases.
- Six recorded motor vehicle accidents resulted in damage to government property and natural resources. These were caused by speeding on busy Emory Highway near the park's front entrance.
- Vandalism incidents were fewer than in 1985.
- Park staff cooperated with local law enforcement agencies on investigation of a robbery suspect who came into the park.
- Jailing procedures were confirmed and the jail visited by law enforcement Rangers.

INTERPRETATION/VISITOR SERVICES:

- Interpretive tours were monitored periodically by the Chief Ranger. New themes, ideas, and items were promoted through interpretive programs such as Take Pride in America, NPS Passport Program, Constitutional Bicentennial, etc.
- The 1986 Calendar of Events featured a wide variety of films, lectures, demonstrations, nature walks and workshops.
- The Statue of Liberty traveling exhibit was at the park for several days in May 1986.
- Data has been compiled to meet deadline for revision of Statement for interpretation.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:

A community-chaired committee was organized to support in the park's 50th anniversary. All programs for the Golden Anniversary were aimed at educating the public concerning the need for protecting and preserving Ocmulgee National Monument's resources and promoting pride in the nation's cultural and natural heritage. The park's 50th anniversary year was busy, informative, productive and received excellent support and publicity. The year was kicked off with a press conference attended by Congressman J. Roy Rowland and local officials. Other very special events included:

1. Torchlight Walks: These were conducted in conjunction with Macon's Cherry Blossom Festival. They were highly successful, providing the park with a different type of exposure.

2. Discovery Lab Dedication: The park's Discovery Lab was dedicated on 5/4/86 with a host of dignitaries, speakers and news media in attendance. It has been praised by visitors from across the Southeast, with a number of special visits by groups from other parks and museums who came specifically to see how it is organized. A Teacher's Guide and two videos have been produced in connections with the Lab and over \$1,000 in donated funds is now on hand for further improvements.

3. National Public Lands Day - The third annual celebration took place on September 8th with a large number of participating citizens. Volunteers picked up litter. Speakers from SERO, Keep America Beautiful, the City of Macon and Bibb County took part in the program. A proclamation from the City formally recognizing the park was presented to the Superintendent. It was announced that the President had signed a bill officially establishing an annual National Public Lands Day and the Governor proclaimed September "National Public Lands Month in Georgia." The park received an award from the State of Georgia on November 13th for its National Public Lands Day efforts. A video tape was developed featuring the Executive Director, Macon-Bibb County Beautification, Clean Community and Energy Commission, and the Superintendent. It was shown at Keep America Beautiful's national meeting in Washington in December to encourage other land managers to become involved in the National Public Lands Day effort and to explain how simple such involvement can be.

4. Save the Mounds Run - This 5K run took place in the park on November 15th with over 100 runners participating. The event was coordinated by Pat Madison and Tom Moody, Chairman of the Golden Anniversary Special Events Committee. It was sponsored by local businesses and the Ocmulgee National Monument Association. Dr. Aaron Hyatt, Chairman, Golden Anniversary Steering Committee, and Carolyn Crayton, Executive Director, Macon-Bibb County Beautification, Clean Community and Energy Commission were speakers. Winners received trophies. Proceeds go to the Ocmulgee National Monument Association and are earmarked for mound maintenance and erosion control.

5. Golden Anniversary Archaeological Conference - This special day, December 13th, was organized by Dr. David Hally, Anthropology Dept., University

of Georgia, in cooperation with Mercer University, Macon. Papers presented by archaeologists from as far away as California covered subjects pertaining to Ocmulgee National Monument's contributions to Southeastern Archaeology and its entire 12,000-year theme. A large number of participants from the Southeastern professional archaeological community, along with avocational archaeologists and other interested people from the local area, attended. A volunteer videoed the program and other volunteers set up exhibits. A sponsor will be sought to publish the papers as a commemorative volume.

YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS:

-A summer YCC program was conducted with a crew of one leader and six teenagers. Among other projects, enrollees cut vegetation on the Great Temple Mound, built a stairway and two bridges for the park's trail system, removed accumulated leaf litter from fire trails, and cut vegetation from the historic trenches.

VOLUNTEERS IN PARKS PROGRAM:

-Volunteers contributed 3,244 hours of service, with VIP's utilized in all phases of operations. Park's VIP Coordinator has open lines of communication with Volunteer Macon and other volunteer-related organizations. The 1985-86 VIP Program was cost-effective with volunteer expenses averaging \$.32 per hour. With its present small staff, the park could not operate at its present level without a good VIP Program. For example:

-Park staff obtained a 3-1/2 hour training film. Volunteers operated the park during the training session so that the entire staff could attend.

-Two blind VIP students from the Georgia Academy for the Blind assisted with routine maintenance duties, thus enabling staff to become involved in other areas.

-Boy Scouts and other individuals carried torches and fire-flappers, set up luminaires, made torches and performed other services for Torchlight Walks.

-Volunteers assisted the park with planning and implementing all of the park's 50th anniversary activities and professionals have lectured, served as consultants and provided many other forms of assistance. Local high schools provided a band and color guard for National Public Lands Day.

PRIVATE SECTOR SUPPORT:

-Staff redesigned and relocated the donation box which provided the park with an over 85% increase in donated funds over the same period last year.

-Funding was obtained for the Discovery Lab and the 50th Anniversary programs.

These donations provided by the Ocmulgee National Monument Association, Inc., banks, civic organizations and others were invaluable.

- Two video programs have been produced by a local TV station and donated to the park. One is a video tour of the park for use with schools, tour groups and special populations. The other provides orientation to the Discovery Lab.
- A Freedom Shrine was donated by the Bibb County Exchange Club (value \$1,500) to form an educational corridor leading into the Discovery Lab.
- The Macon Exchange Club is working with the park to sponsor "The Four Little Pages" for presentation at local high schools.
- Coca Cola Company and Bordens Dairies donated drinks and ice cream to all park visitors, GEICO furnished materials and built the speakers' platform and provided chairs for the Southeast High School Band on National Public Lands Day.
- The Army Reserve set up a field kitchen, cooked and served dinner for the Civilian Conservation Corps return in October. Epicure, Inc. provided food for 175 people at a reduced cost of \$100 which was paid by the Ocmulgee National Monument Association. C&S Bank donated 50th anniversary commemorative paperweights to CCC members.
- Cobb County's Archaeologist who lectured during the CCC Return, donated copies of 40 slides and 40 black & white photographs from Dr. Arthur Kelly's collection taken in the park during the 1930's, also, four volumes of Creek Talks, Letters and Treaties (a very valuable addition to the park's Library).
- The Save the Mounds Run was totally organized by local citizens. Pepsi donated drinks and a local vendor contributed fruit for after-race refreshments. Trophies and jackets were provided as prizes and commemorative t-shirts were given to each participant. Equipment and officials were provided by a local track club. All profits went to the Ocmulgee National Monument Association to assist the park with mound maintenance and restoration.
- The Golden Anniversary Archaeological Conference was totally organized by Dr. David Hally, University of Georgia, in cooperation with Mercer University, who provided their Medical Center Auditorium and refreshments for breaks during the day-long conference. Each participating scholar paid their own fare, except that the Ocmulgee National Monument Association paid the expenses of Dr. James B Griffin (Smithsonian) and Dr. Jesse Jennings (Univ. of Oregon) who were special guests since they began their careers here.
- Tom Moody, Forward Macon, volunteered to provide top soil and seeds to restore the island in front of the Visitor Center and the Macon-Bibb County Clean Community Commission donated \$250 to start a native plant fund.
- The complete year-long 50th anniversary Calendar of Special Events (in

addition to the regular weekly calendar) did not cost the park one penny and the park has enjoyed unprecedented public support.

OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.:

- A new president and officers were installed at the beginning of the calendar year.
- The Association sponsored a large portion of the park's 50th Anniversary programs.
- Updating of by-laws was completed.

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA INITIATIVE:

- Superintendent met with the Director's Take Pride in America Committee and kept the SER coordinator informed of all new developments and initiatives in the park.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- SER divisional offices were furnished with all information in their areas of responsibility, including an overwhelming number of newspaper clippings forwarded to SER-DC. The most controversial and sensitive issue at present is the Fall Line Freeway. Letters, clippings and other data were provided to SER Planning Office to keep them abreast of the situation.

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

- The Superintendent served on the Board of Directors of the Macon-Bibb County Convention and Visitors Bureau (6-1/2 years) and Goodwill Industries of Middle Georgia, Inc. (1 year). He has served on several committees of the Macon Chamber of Commerce (6-1/2 years), served on the Energy and Community at Large Beautification Committees of the Macon-Bibb County Beautification, Clean Community and Energy Commission (6-1/2 years); been a member of the Macon Historical Society (The Group, 6-1/2 years); worked with the Georgia Academy for the Blind to provide employment for two blind employees to do maintenance work on the park's grounds for the first six months of CY 1986; served on the Fort Hawkins Task Force Team and the Fort Hawkins Neighborhood Association; chaired a committee on the Middle Georgia Boy Scout Council and organized judges for the Scout Fair from all law enforcement agencies in the Macon Area, including 4 OCMU Rangers (15 judges).
- Staff Resource Ranger served as Secretary-Treasurer of the statewide Society for Georgia Archaeology and was personally involved in establishing a Middle Georgia Chapter of that organization, served on the Cherry Blossom Festival Steering Committee, worked with the Georgia Academy for the Blind on a

subsidized program which allowed two of their students to work at the Monument at no cost to the park, and served on the Fort Hawkins Task Force.

- The Superintendent and Staff Resource Ranger spoke to a number of organizations both on and off-site (Mercer University classes, DAR, church groups, educators interested in the Discovery Lab, civic organizations, foreign dignitaries, botanical societies, Scout representatives, etc.) Chief Ranger and other Rangers spoke to educational, civic and church groups.
- The park received extensive media coverage throughout the year, beginning with a special press conference in January attended by 50th Anniversary Committee members, Congressional representative, local government officials and others. Lines of communication to Congressional offices are open, with excellent rapport.