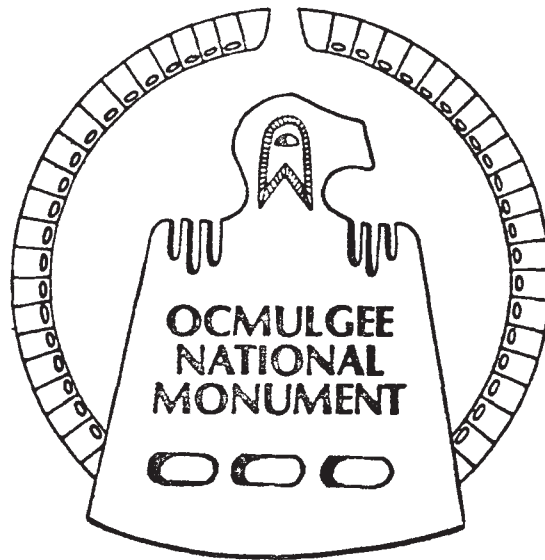


SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

FY 1987





Ocmulgee National Monument
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BUDGET AND FINANCE:

-ONPS.....\$ 394.2
-Cyclic.....\$ 68.6
-Quarters.....\$ 9.0
-Fee Collection..\$ 47.0

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

PERSONNEL ACTIONS:

Appointments:

2 Seasonal Laborers
3 Seasonal Rangers (Fee Collection)
1 Administrative Technician
1 Chief Ranger

Resignations:

2 Seasonal Laborers
1 Seasonal Ranger (Fee Collection)
1 Tractor Operator

Transfers:

1 Maintenance Worker
1 Administrative Technician
1 Chief Ranger
1 Lead Ranger

Upgrade:

1 Laborer

Conversion:

1 Laborer to Career Conditional

Conversion and Upgrade:

1 GS-3 Ranger (TAPER) to GS-5
Career Conditional

Furloughs:

2 GS-4 Rangers
1 Laborer

EMPLOYEE APPRAISALS/COUNSELING:

-Performance Standards and Works 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:

1 Small Purchases Correspondence Course
1 Administrative Workshop
4 Wordperfect Computer Software
2 H2 Accounting System
2 Advanced Supervisory Skills

4 Maintenance Management System
1 Retirement Seminar
1 Orientation to NPS Operations
1 Interpretive Skills II
2 National Interpreters Workshop
1 Historic Preservation Maintenance Hands-on Workshop
2 Ranger Skills
1 S212 Chainsaw Operation
1 Basic Law Enforcement (FLETC)
1 Environmental Skills Workshop
1 Interpretive Program Management
4 Fire Training

-The Middle Georgia District U. S. Attorney's Office sponsored a day-long Archeological Crime Scene Investigation Seminar at the park. This workshop also covered applicable laws. It was attended by 87 federal, state and local law enforcement officers and Rangers from several parks.

-Ranger staff received a day of hands-on training at the University of Georgia archeological field school conducted during the summer at the Shiloh Mound site at Milledgeville, GA.

SPECIAL WORK ASSIGNMENTS:

-Four employees participated in three separate details to fight fires in western states.

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS:

-10 cash awards were presented totaling \$1,400.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

-No complaints were filed during 1987. Equal opportunity and sexual harassment were discussed at Squad and Staff Meetings.

-Annual EEO Statement was issued by the Superintendent.

-Preparations are underway to comply with new SER Guidelines, "Affirmative Employment Program Plan"

-Recruitment took place at Georgia College, Milledgeville, GA; Fort Valley State College, Fort Valley, GA; and Jones County High School, Gray, GA.

-Two employees participated in a Youth Motivation Task Force at Fort Valley State College.

HEALTH/SAFETY:

-Safety and health concerns were discussed at each Staff Meeting, after changes in jobs, and at Safety Committee meetings.

- No serious accidents occurred in the park during this fiscal year
- A walk-thru safety inspection was conducted in December. Several hazards were noted and corrected.

PROPERTY:

- Property management was monitored and critiqued during two park walk-thru inspections. All property is entered in the park's computer system.
- Maintenance Division property was inventoried for inclusion in the new Maintenance Management System.
- Local and Golden Eagle Passports were properly accounted for and surveyed upon expiration.
- Transferred one Cushman Scooter to Tuskegee
- Surveyed one Hustler Mower (sold through GSA Excess Property)
- Purchased:
 - 1 - Hustler Mower
 - 1 - John Deere Tractor with mower attachment
 - 1 - Computer System for I&RM Division
- Leased one Dodge 4x4 Truck from GSA to replace Chevrolet Citation
- There were no major equipment repairs

SQUAD AND STAFF MEETINGS:

- Weekly Squad and monthly Staff Meetings were conducted, with films concerning safety, communications and other special programs associated with each Staff Meeting

MANAGEMENT PLANS:

- A General Management Plan Team visited the park on October 6-7, 1987, to evaluate concerns, issues and needs. These were addressed and a document signed by the Superintendent was forwarded to WASO thru SERO.
- Superintendent worked with U.S. 8th District Congressman J. Roy Rowland's office and SERO to develop a legislative package, including maps, that will enable the land parcel known as Drake's Field (adjacent to the Monument's boundary and containing known cultural resources related to the park) to be donated to the park by the City of Macon. This will also be addressed in a five-year Land Protection Plan to be included in the General Management Plan.
- A new Statement for Interpretation was written.
- A new Cultural and Natural Resource Management Plan, including Environmental Assessment, was written following the updated guidelines and is awaiting approval.

- The Soil Conservation Service and the Public Lands Stewardship/Take Pride In America Committee are working on plans to control erosion on the Great Temple Mound and to replace exotic species with desirable native species in the park.

MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS:

- Data for the nationwide Maintenance Management System was compiled and entered into the new computer system. The trainer visited Ocmulgee the week of October 19-20 and worked with the Chief of Maintenance, Maintenance Worker, Administrative Technician and a Park Ranger who serve on a committee implementing this project. The trainer will return in January 1988 to reevaluate the system and make any changes that are required.
- The new SER Management System was introduced in the Ranger Division using forms to collect data concerning I&RM activity hours.

FEE COLLECTION:

- A passive fee collection system was initiated February 2, 1987. Educational groups, senior citizens and travelers from out-of-town continue to comprise a high percentage of park visitation.
- After continued increases in visitation over the past several years (1983-83,000; 1984-111,000; 1985-198,000; 1986-215,000), visitation decreased during 1987 to 164,000, apparently due to a combination of factors: (1) Initiation of fee collection has caused a decrease primarily in local visitors who no longer use the park as frequently for casual "outings." A number of vehicles have been recorded entering then immediately exiting the Visitor Center parking lot; a few enter the Visitor Center then leave after learning that a fee is required. It is likely that others by-passed the entrance sign and drove through the park without paying the fee, especially during periods of extended staff shortage in 1987 due to job lapses and Rangers sent to fight fires. (2) Increased local and national publicity preceded and accompanied the park's 1986 Golden Anniversary, at which time visitation reached a peak. (3) As result of the Quality Basic Education thrust, the state of Georgia has made drastic cuts in the amount of time allowed for out-of-class activities, made it more difficult to justify field trips, and placed stringent limitations on the use of school buses for field trips. (4) A survey indicates a 1987 overall decrease in out-of-town visitors at other Macon area sites except during Cherry Blossom Festival Week last March.

PARK FRONT ENTRANCE:

- A formal agreement was made between the Superintendent and Georgia Department of Transportation officials to establish a new park entrance approximately 500' east of the present entrance. The state will design and construct a new intersection at that point, providing a deceleration lane for entrance to the park and a traffic light to assure safe exit, both east and west, for park visitors. The state also agreed that they will enter into an agreement with NPS to construct a connector from the new entrance to the present roadway. The state provided a tentative drawing and surveyed the property from the park's drive to the new entrance. Their Engineering

Department will furnish all designs and dimensions for the cooperative agreement. Alan Woodrow, SERO, has been assigned to the project.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESS REPORT:

-The Superintendent met with the 8th District Congressman and his aides several times during the year to discuss various issues between the park and private sector. The park has excellent lines of communication to his offices.

VISITOR PROTECTION:

- Contacts were maintained with the Macon Police Department, the Bibb County Sheriff's Department, and the Middle Georgia District U. S. Attorney's Office.
- Two recorded motor vehicle accidents resulted in damage to government property (wooden fence along Emory Highway).
- There were no incidents of vandalism during 1987.
- There were no major incidents or accidents within the park.

CULTURAL/NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION:

- Access to the curatorial storage area is controlled and the employee responsible for this area of cultural resources was trained at FLETC. Immediately upon her return, she assisted the U. S. Attorney's Office with organizing the Archeological Crime Scenes Investigation Seminar mentioned under "Training." Forms 10-238 covering curatorial accountability and collections management are approved for implementation in 1988, if funded.
- Park staff had open lines of communication with U. S. Fish and Wildlife, U. S. Soil Conservation Office, EPD, Georgia Forestry Commission and other Georgia Department of Natural Resources personnel.
- Curatorial operations met NPS-6 guidelines with work and storage areas placed on a dedicated lock system. Work under Form 10-238 covering accountability and collections management was rescheduled for FY 1988.
- A report on archeological monitoring conducted by SEAC during installation of a new water/sewer line through the park in 1985 was completed and copy placed in park research files.
- New Cultural/Natural Resource Management Plan and Environmental Assessment were written conforming to revised NPS guidelines.
- Cultural and natural resource protection needs were considered in the park's request for update of the General Management Plan.
- Park staff worked on a kudzu control program using Roundup.
- The U.S. Soil Conservation Service completed a study of vegetation in the park.

INTERPRETATION/VISITOR SERVICES:

- Interpretive tours were monitored periodically to assure effective presentation and accuracy of content.
- Interpretive programs promoted the Take Pride In America Initiative, Bicentennial of the Constitution, NPS Passport Program, etc., through special celebrations such as National Public Lands Day, programs (arranged for the musical "Four Little Pages" presentation in Macon), exhibits and displays.
- Teacher/group leader orientations to the Discovery Lab were conducted periodically. Two 8-station listening centers, pottery design "stamping paddles," new chairs, an other items and improvements were added to the Lab this year. Orientation packets including the Teachers' Guide and videos produced by WMAZ TV (donated to the park), were much-used by out-of-town teachers/group leaders.
- Ranger staff worked on a number of projects that will be completed in 1988. These include Interpretive trail signs, a well-researched miniature Creek Indian village for the Discovery Lab, a special exhibit on prehistoric shell gorget "Southern Cult" designs, a new donation box, research notebooks on a number of subjects related to the park's themes, etc.
- A new Statement for Interpretation was completed.
- The 1987 Calendar of Events featured a variety of films, lectures, demonstrations, nature walks, and workshops.
- Ranger staff assisted the City of Macon with setting up exhibits at Fort Hawkins during the 1987 Cherry Blossom Festival. This included writing and recording a narrative on the Fort's history.

MAINTENANCE PROJECTS:

Buildings:

- Installed lights in hallway to Discovery Lab.
- Repaired No. 4 pump on Visitor Center heating system.
- Put timer on climate control system at Earthlodge to save energy.
- Repaired leaks in Visitor Center roof.
- Placed steel boxes for fee collections funds in Administrative safe.
- Constructed typewriter shelf for front desk.
- Built shelves for evidence closet.
- Installed track lights in Theater lobby.
- Repainted downstairs restroom floors in Visitor Center.
- Replaced plastic cover on slide file cabinet.-Repaired leaking faucet and shower in downstairs men's restroom.
- Relocated arrowhead table from Visitor Center Activity Room to Discovery Lab.
- Installed wall in OCMU Association office.
- Installed florescent light in Visitor Center temporary exhibit window
- Repaired plaster and painted Museum/Visitor Center interior

Grounds:

- Placed grills over drainage holes at the British Trading Post Site.
- Repaired boundary fence near Goodwill Industries.
- Filled holes on west end of Opelofa Trail.
- Relocated boundary fence at Emery Highway.
- Planted winter grass on front island of Visitor Center grounds.
- Oversaw contract to reseal and restripe roads and parking lots.
- Mowed all fields in the park.
- Relocated picnic area.
- Put planters in front of Visitor Center.
- Replaced PVC gate with steel gate at entrance road.
- Installed fee gate and signs at Visitor Center.

Quarters:

- Put up curtains at Quarters #1.
- Put plastic around back porch at Quarters #1.
- Painted interior and exterior of Quarters #2.
- Rewired Quarters #1.

Vehicles and Equipment:

- Repaired frontend and alignment of Ranger Club Car.

Maintenance Management System:

- Compiled inventories, task lists, other data, and began implementation of new computerized nationwide NPS Maintenance Management System.

PRIVATE SECTOR SUPPORT:

Ocmulgee National Monument Association, Inc.:

- The park cooperating association oversaw all donations for specific projects, handled purchasing, stocking and recordkeeping for the Museum Shop which grossed \$35,000 this year, with \$12,000 donated to park programs as opposed to the \$8,000 in ONPS funds that the park provided to the Association in 1979. They sponsored the Calendar of Events, including a "Save the Mounds Run," Bicentennial musical program "The Four Little Pages," and other interpretive projects that provide visitors with quality experiences in the park. They continue to support the Discovery Lab which increased in usage during the past school year. A new Board of Directors was elected and new directions established to provide even greater park support in the future.

Volunteers in Parks (VIP) Program:

- The VIP Program provided over 3,000 hours of service to the park. A plan has been received from the Boy Scouts to construct a trail from the primary mound area, along Walnut Creek to the river, with an agreement to provide future trail maintenance. Scouts assisted with Torchlight Walks during Macon's Cherry Blossom Festival. Park staff conducted workshops on native wildflowers for the Middle Georgia Council, Girl Scouts of America, who planted native wildflower seeds in disturbed areas of the park as part of their 75th Anniversary project. Local juvenile court officials

periodically send public service work details to pick up litter or perform other chores. At the 1987 National Public Lands Day Celebration, the Superintendent honored two outstanding volunteers who have given many hours of time to park assistance.

National Public Lands Stewardship/Take Pride In America Program:

-With installation of a new Steering Committee Chairman, goals were set for the next 5-10 years. Priority #1 will be to work with the community and state to beautify Emory Highway from Coliseum Drive, thru and past the new park entrance after the highway is widened. Immediate plans are for the committee, after construction is completed, to assist with landscaping the new park entrance, giving visitors a more aesthetically pleasing experience as they enter and exit the park. Another long-term project will address improvement of the roadway into the Lamar Unit. This was also discussed by the General Management Plan Team.

-The Education Sub-Committee provided ongoing support for the Discovery Lab and the Public Relations/Promotions Sub-Committee publicized this year's National Public Lands Day Celebration. Again, there was a large turn-out with speakers from SERO, the Secretary's Take Pride Coordinator from Washington, D.C., and dignitaries from the local area. On the preceding day, there was a large response from Girl and Boy Scouts, sororities, fraternities, etc., who canvassed the entire park for litter.

-Ocmulgee was among five parks in the country selected by the Department of the Interior as finalists for a national Take Pride In America Award which will be presented in January 1988.

COMMUNICATIONS:

-SER divisional offices were provided all information in their areas of responsibility and good lines of communication were open between the park and SER.

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

-The Superintendent served on the Board of Directors of the Macon-Bibb County Convention and Visitors Bureau and Goodwill Industries of Middle Georgia, Inc. He served on several committees of the Macon Chamber of Commerce, served on the Energy and Community at Large Beautification Committees of the Macon-Bibb County Clean Community and Energy Committee, was a member of the Macon Historical Society "The Group," served on the Fort Hawkins Task Force Team and the Fort Hawkins Neighborhood Association.

-Rangers served as Secretary-Treasurer and on the Board of Directors of the statewide Society for Georgia Archeology and are involved with the Middle Georgia Chapter of that organization, providing contacts with both the avocational and professional archeological communities. They served on the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival Steering Committee, the Public Lands Stewardship/Take Pride Steering Committee, the Macon Historical Society, and the Fort Hawkins Task Force.

-Rangers assisted the Middle Georgia Council, Girl Scouts of America, with their 75th anniversary wildflower project.

-Superintendent and Rangers spoke to a number of schools, civic clubs and other organizations and appeared on a number of public service radio and TV programs throughout the year.