

National Park Service Uniforms

**Breeches, Blouses and Skirts** 1918-1991

**Number 4**



*...and GO-GO Boots?*



**Gertrude S. Cooper, 1940, Superintendent, Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site, 1940-1945.** Mrs. Cooper was the first woman superintendent in the National Park Service. However, unlike the normal procedure of being elevated to this position through the Director's office, she was appointed by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on 16 July, 1940. This has spawned a controversy as to whether she or Wilhemina S. Harris, who became superintendent at Adams National Historic Site, 1950-1968, should be considered the first female superintendent of a National Park.

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By R. Bryce Workman

A Publication of the National Park Service History Collection  
Harpers Ferry Center  
Office of Library, Archives and Graphic Research  
Harpers Ferry, WV  
1998

Publications in the  
**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE UNIFORM SERIES**

|          |                              |                              |
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| Number 1 | Badges and Insignia          | 1894-1991                    |
| Number 2 | In Search of an Identity     | men's uniforms - 1872-1920   |
| Number 3 | Ironing Out the Wrinkles     | men's uniforms - 1920-1932   |
| Number 4 | Breeches, Blouses and Skirts | women's uniforms - 1918-1991 |

**Cover:**

**Marion Riggs, Philadelphia, 1970.** Riggs, now Durham, is wearing the tunic with culottes and "Go-Go" boots at the Freedom Week unveiling of the new women's uniforms at Independence National Historical Park, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 27, 1970. The regulations simply classified the footwear as boots, but they quickly acquired the appellation of "GO-GO" because they resembled those worn by the exotic dancers of the period. There weren't enough of the new lightweight felt women's hats for all the models, so she borrowed a summer straw hat from one of the men rangers.

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton Photo-HFC#70-253-96*

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# Introduction

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The National Park Service has, for most of its existence, been a male dominated organization. Women's role in the Service was never clearly defined until the 1960's, at which time a Victorian mentality prevailed, treating them as objects to be protected, instead of the ranger status to which they aspired.

Women have been on the Service payroll since 1918, for the most part as ranger-naturalists, although many of them occasionally performed actual ranger duties.

It is somewhat ironic that women in the parks should have worn men's pattern uniforms at the beginning of their involvement with the Service and after many years of finagling with a uniform of their own, end up looking like their male counterparts, or should we say, like a ranger.

In between they were dressed like WAAC's (Women's Auxiliary Army Corps), then a couple variations of airline stewardess, followed by a collage of fashion plates, all of which, while reasonably suitable for the Service's idea of the woman's role (teaching, receptionists, and other Visitor Center duties), were totally inadequate for that aspect of service desired by the women themselves, primarily field duty.

Even the outdoor functions assigned to female ranger-naturalists, such as trail guides and nature walks and talks in the woods found the clothing wanting. So much so, that women in some of the parks, notably Yosemite, with their superintendent's collusion, purchased and wore men's clothing while performing these duties.

Women have fought hard and served well as they worked toward their goal of equality with their male counterparts. At times,

it seemed the Service was acquiescent, only to be saddled with clothing less suitable than that in use. This was a frustrating period in the lives of uniformed female personnel.

In all fairness to the Park Service, while some may have been attempting to elevate the women on a pedestal most did not seek, nor wish, others simply miss-read the desires of those women in the field who would be wearing the prescribed clothing.

It took fifty years for women in the Service to achieve the true status of Ranger and another ten to acquire all the trappings thereof. But in the end, those women who fought the good fight and those that followed were rewarded for their perseverance.

As with the previous books in this series, this volume has been a group effort and I would like to thank all those people, in and out of the National Park Service, whose immeasurable and unstinting assistance have made this publication possible. I would especially like to thank Gary Cummins, Manager, Harpers Ferry Center, and Michael Alvarez for helping me maneuver through the bureaucracy to get this published; Polly Kaufman for allowing me access to her research on women in the parks; Tom DuRant, that denizen of the National Park Historic Photo Collections for his assistance in locating many of the images used; and last, but by no means least, I wish to thank the many unsung heroes, too many to name, that dwell in the depths of archives throughout the Park System.

R. Bryce Workman  
Harpers Ferry Center  
1998



## Breeches, Blouses and Skirts

Women's Uniforms in the National Park Service 1918-1991

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Although women married to National Park Service personnel had assisted their husbands for years as unpaid help (like the military, it came with the territory), their first appearance as “official” employees of the National Park Service occurred in 1918.

The first two “Rangerettes”, as these early women were known, were Clare Marie Hodges (Wolfson) and Helene Wilson. They were hired as temporary employees to fill vacancies left by men who responded to their country’s call to arms to “save the world” in Europe. Helene Wilson, from Los Angeles, checked in vehicles in Mount Rainier National Park, while Hodges, a local grade school teacher, performed ranger service at Yosemite from May 22 to September 7, 1918.

It is not known what type of uniform, or identification, if any, that Wilson wore. There are, however, at least three photographs of Clare Hodges while on duty. She is mounted on horseback in all of them. One is a group shot of the Yosemite ranger force in which it is difficult to distinguish her clothing. The other two images are of her and her mount. Both appear to have been taken at or around the same time. From these she appears to have worn what was referred to at that time as “camping clothes”. There are no pieces of regulation uniform evident, except for a badge and perhaps her hat.

In the early years, women found it very difficult to penetrate the male dominated National Park Service. It was only through the foresight of people like Horace Marden Albright, then superintendent of Yellowstone, and Washington Bartlett “Dusty” Lewis, superintendent of Yosemite (who hired Hodges), plus a few others that women were given a chance to show that they could perform the required duties as well as their male counterpart. Even so, it would be decades before this was truly put to the test.

Albright hired Isabel D. Bassett as a guide at Yellowstone in 1920.<sup>1</sup> This started a trickle of women into the service. Marguerite Lindsley Arnold) and Frieda B. Nelson were hired in 1925; Frances Pound (Wright), 1926; and Herma Albertson (Baggley) in 1929. Only temporary, or seasonal, to use today's vernacular, female employees were hired to perform ranger duties. All permanent positions for women were classified as naturalists, even though some of them did occasionally perform ranger duties.



**Clare Marie Hodges, 1918, Temporary ranger, Yosemite National Park.** Hodges, a local grade school teacher in the valley, was one of the first two women to be hired by the National Park Service. Since a uniform was not specified for women, she is shown wearing what were termed "camping clothes" at that time, with only a badge to indicate her Park Service affiliation.

NPSHPC-HFC/YOSE#931

Apparently due to proximity, and shared interests, most of the early Park Service women tended to marry fellow employees. Even so, these ladies had a "tough row to hoe". The National Park Service had no provisions, uniform or otherwise, for women. Consequently, they were left, pretty much, to their own devices as to what they were to wear. Herma Albertson wore the standard ranger uniform, including the hat, tailored to fit her, while Frieda Nelson and Margaret Fuller wore the same standard uniform, but tailored for women. (buttoned right to left) Others attached their badges to formal hunting coats, sweaters, or any other article of clothing that struck their fancy.

One of the photos of Marguerite Lindsley show her wearing a ladies riding coat and jodhpurs with a ranger badge, but in the majority of existing images, she is wearing civilian garb without even a badge to denote her Park Service affiliation.

Martha Sophia Bingaman, who assisted her ranger husband John W. Bingaman as a temporary, wore her badge on a loose civilian vest to show that she was part of the Service.

Francis Pound, on the other hand, wore what appears to be a uniform of her own design. It consisted of the standard boots, breeches, shirt and tie, but with a very long coat, almost to the knees, with slash pockets. Two bottom and one upper on left. It may have been a regular civilian variety, although it appears to be the same material as the breeches, which were probably the standard forest green. Although not shown in any of her photographs, she is known to have occasionally carried a sidearm.<sup>2</sup>

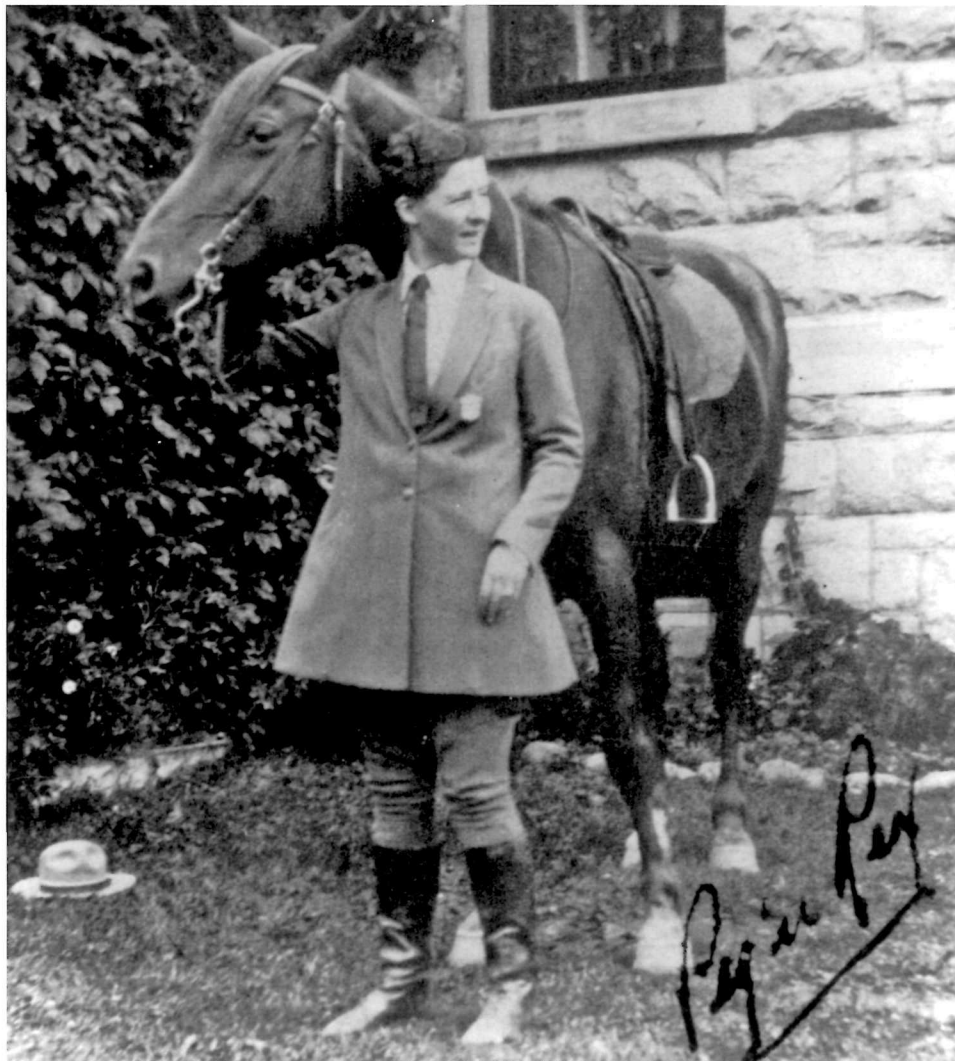
**Marguerite "Peg"  
Lindsley, c.1925.**

Naturalist, Yellowstone National Park. Peg was the daughter of Chester A. Lindsley, acting superintendent, Yellowstone National Park, 1916-1919, and the first permanent female naturalist in National Park Service.

**Peg and her horse Rex.**

Lindsley is wearing a hunting coat, probably red, with a badge and USNPS collar ornaments. She also, apparently wore the hat, as evidenced by the one on the ground.

*NPSHPC-HFC/93-326*



But this is how she dressed most of the time when working.

*NPSHFC-YELL/130,391*



Pauline "Polly" Mead (Patraw) also wore the standard NPS uniform, but sported a wide floppy brimmed hat, patterned after those worn by the Harvey girls, on her head.

Although during these early years there was an occasional cry in the wilderness concerning the uniforming of women in the Service,<sup>3</sup> nothing was done until Carlsbad Caverns and other parks that utilized women for guides and positions that brought them into contact with the public, came under the influence of the National Park Service.

Among the recommended changes to the regulations submitted by the uniform committee in 1927 were two that would have effected women had they been implemented. One called for them to wear the regulation uniform, at the desecration of the director or park superintendent. The other though, would no doubt have created quite a furor if it had been included in the new regulations. It called for female employees not required to wear a uniform to wear a collar ornament [USNPS] "conspicuously on the front of the waist of the dress".<sup>4</sup>

Even when the changes were made, they only replaced breeches and boots with skirts and shoes and possibly eliminated the hat. Photographs show that there were two styles of skirt worn during this period. One type had wide box pleats and the other appears to be simply a full skirt with natural fall pleats. The coats were the standard male style, tailored to fit, although, some were cut on the female pattern.

The majority of existing photographs showing women in Park Service uniforms from this period are from Carlsbad Caverns. These show that when hats were worn, at least at that location, they ran the gamut from chic little light colored items perched on the side of the ladies heads, to standard military overseas patterns of forest green wool.

In the spring of 1940 the Fechheimer Brothers Company forwarded drawings for a distinctive uniform for Park Service women to the uniform committee chairman for the committee's perusal.<sup>5</sup> It is not known whether these were solicited or just a bit of entrepreneurship on the part of Fechheimer. Fechheimer was a very aggressive company and usually attended the conferences in order to



**Gov. Nellie Ross, Freida Nelson & Supt. Albright, 1925, Yellowstone National Park.** Ross was governor of Montana at the time and Horace M. Albright, park superintendent. Nelson is wearing the standard men's uniform, cut for a woman, with riding boots and women's gloves.

NPSHPC-YELL/131,465



**Frances Pound, 1925, Yellowstone National Park.** Pound was another child of the parks, growing up and sometimes patrolling with her ranger father, before joining the service herself. Here is another case where, due to the lack of uniform regulations covering women, the ranger was left to her own devices. Her knee length coat with slash pockets is undoubtedly of the standard forest green material. For decoration, she has a badge, sleeve brassard, and a pair of collar ornaments at the points of her lapels.

NPSHPC-YELL/130,375



**Mr. & Mrs. Charles McNally - Rangers at Tuolumne Meadows, YNP, 1926.** Eva Cora McNally and her husband Charles A. were a husband and wife team of temporary rangers at the Tuolumne Meadows checking station, Yosemite National Park. Eva is wearing a military web belt with a holster for an Army 45 cal. automatic pistol, although the butt protruding from it appears to be a revolver. Her only signs of authority are her badge and the sidearm on her hip. She's probably only wearing the weapon for the photograph.

*NPSHPC-James V. Lloyd  
photo-HFC/YOSE#RL-7370*

**Herma Albertson, 1929,** ranger-naturalist, Yellowstone National Park. Albertson was one of the women that wore the complete male-style Park Service uniform, including regulation boots. She married Chief Ranger George F. Baggeley, while in the Service, and worked until the end of 1933.

*NPSHPC-YELL/130,092*



**Martha Bingaman, 1926,** seasonal ranger, Yosemite National Park. She assisted her ranger husband, John W. Bingaman, who was assigned at the time to the Alder Creek Entrance Station. Unlike men, temporary women rangers were not required to wear a uniform.

*NPSHPC-HFC/YOSE#943*





1929  
NPSHPC-HFC/WASO I-393



1930  
NPSHPC-HFC/WASC I-392

**Pauline Mead, temporary ranger-naturalist, Grand Canyon National Park, 1929-1931.** The first year, Mead wore civilian clothes with, maybe a USNPS collar ornament for decoration. In 1930, however, she obtained a uniform on the man's pattern, but instead of the Stetson, the superintendent preferred she wear a soft brim hat, such as that worn by the Fred Harvey Girl Guides of the Southwest. Mead's employment ended after she married Assistant Superintendent Preston Patraw in 1931.



**Enid Reeves Michael, temporary ranger-naturalist, Yosemite National Park.** Michael was hired by Superintendent Washington Bartlett Lewis as a seasonal in 1921, and served in this capacity for over twenty years. She never wore a uniform.

NPSHPC-HFC/77-63

Due to the lack of official guidance, early Park Service women wore whatever the park superintendent or their own whim dictated. Badges were pinned on all types of clothing to identify their association with the Park Service.

*NPSART-Gilbert B. Cohen,  
artist-HFC/ARM#GR-0002  
1 thru 5*



answer questions concerning uniforms as well as being there when decisions were made.

At the Superintendent's Conference in January 1941, women's uniforms were on the agenda. It would seem logical that Fechheimer's sketches would have been presented at that time, but the tone of the official correspondence indicates otherwise. It refers to the distribution of the drawings after the conference. This of course does not preclude the possibility of them being discussed at

the meeting and distributed afterward.

Unfortunately, since these drawings have not been located we have no way of knowing exactly what the uniforms looked like. From the correspondence it can be determined that they contained two different uniforms, "A" and "B"; that one of them, apparently "B", had a short coat, while "A"'s coat was of the longer variety, similar to the men's; and both included an "overseas" cap. A shirt with a high collar and a necktie were also defined.<sup>6</sup> This uniform sounds very much like that adopted in 1947.

As word leaked out about the proposed uniforms, women began writing Fechheimer Brothers inquiring as to prices and material samples prompting Uniform Committee Chairman John C. Preston to



**Margaret Fuller Boos, c.1929, temporary ranger-naturalist, Rocky Mountain National Park.**

Boos worked two seasons at the park, 1928-1929. She wore the same uniform as the men in the park, except cut for a woman.

Left to right: Edmund B. Rogers, supt; (?), Margaret Fuller Boos, (?), (?)

NPSHPC-HFC/ROMO#581-2



**Ranger Naturalists and Naturalist Staff, 6/13/33, Yellowstone National Park.** Herma Albertson Baggley is shown with the rest of the naturalist staff at Yellowstone during her last year with the Service.

Left to Right: R. Spaulding, Frank Oberhansley, Herma Albertson Baggley, Charles Hutchins, H. Stagner, H. Lystrup, Dr. McDougall, Dr. C.M. Bauer

NPSHPC-HFC/WASO #70-53-2

**Lila Michelsen, guide at  
Carlsbad Caverns  
National Park, 1931.**

Michaelsen is wearing a standard (men's) coat with a skirt. Badge is probably PARK RANGER.

*NPSHC-T.C.Worley  
Photo-CACA#3534*



admonish Fechheimer to “advise the one making the inquiry that to date no definite decision has been reached by the uniform committee concerning the style of uniform for women employees of the National Park Service.”<sup>7</sup>

The whole matter of women's uniforms was a very “controversial subject”, with everyone having their own ideas as to what form it should take. Some didn't like the shirt (the style worn by men) and thought that a sports blouse should be substituted instead. Others believed that the hat should be omitted, or at least changed.

Since the whole matter of women's uniforms pertained to women it was decided that a committee of women should be set up to decide the issue. Consequently, on October 20, 1941, Jean McWhirt Pinkley (Frank “Boss” Pinkley's daughter-in-law), Junior Park Archaeologist (seasonal) at Mesa Verde National Park was appointed Chair, along with Myra

**Guides at Carlsbad  
Caverns National Park,  
1932.**

These women were classified as guides, although one (second from left) is wearing a ranger brassard. Most images of women in Park Service uniform from this period were taken at this site, due to the number employed there. Thomas Boles, superintendent, 1927-1946) is standing in the center.

*NPSHC/CACA#7493A*



## Carlsbad Caverns National Park



Left photo: c.1930s. These two women are wearing the standard coat, one cut on the woman's pattern, the other on the man's. Both are wearing white stockings. The woman on the left is wearing a patch of some kind on her right sleeve, but it doesn't appear to be the ranger brassard. Shoes are heavyduty serviceable type.

NPSHPC/CACA#7487

Right photo: 1937. This woman ranger is wearing a man's style coat with a chic little hat perched on her head.

NPSHPC/CACA#7490



**1939.**

Overseas caps apparently were in vogue prior to WW II. Three women are shown here wearing WW I versions in 1939, while Appell appears to have on a beret.

Left to Right: Marguerite Walker, Myra Appell, Lizzie Bee Harris, Anita Armstrong

NPSHC/CACA#7492



**1941.**

Lila (Michaelson) Hansen. This photograph of Michaelson, now Hansen, shows her wearing what may be the hat prescribed in the 1947 Uniform Regulations. "Soft felt hat with small snap brim, turned up at back and sides and down over the forehead in front, in matching color with narrow grosgrain ribbon on dark green color." But, since it's the only known image of anyone wearing this particular hat, we can't be sure. This shows the USNPS starting to be worn by women on their hats.

NPSHPC/CACA#3534

**Aztec Ruins National  
Monument, New Mexico,  
June 13, 1940.**

Left to Right: Homer  
Hastings, Georgia Akers,  
Stanley Milford, Joyce  
Chubb, Thomas C. Miller  
(Custodian), Zelda Mae  
Abrams.

*NPSHPC-George A. Grant  
Photo-AZRU#209*



Appell, Registered Nurse, Carlsbad Caverns National Park, both in Region III, and Gertrude S. Cooper, Superintendent, Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site, (first female superintendent of a national park) and Mariana D. Bagley, Assistant Historical Aide, Colonial National Historical Park, of Region I as members of the committee. Women from Regions II and IV were omitted since there were no women in these regions required to wear the uniform.<sup>8</sup>

**Jean W. Pinkley,  
c.1940s.**

Pinkley, the daughter-in-law of "Boss" Pinkley, became a noted National Park Service interpreter and archeologist. She is shown here as part of the uniformed staff at Mesa Verde National Park.

*NPSHPC/HFC#94-497*



The December 7, 1941, Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and the resulting General Conservation Order M-73-a, which reserved wool cloth for military uniforms, halted all further speculation in Park Service uniforms, women's, as well as men's.

Things remained "status quo" for the next year or so. In the meantime, Fechheimer intervened with the War Production Board, on behalf of the National Park Service and obtained a dispensation for uniform material on the basis that the Service was an essential Government agency.

When Order M-73-a initially came down, Director Newton Drury, on the recommendation of Uniform Committee Chairman John C. Preston, proclaimed the National Park Service would do its “bit” toward the war effort and made the field jacket and trousers the standard apparel for ranger wear for the duration, since they required less material to make. Those with coats could still wear them as long as they were serviceable and in good repair. New coats could be purchased as long as existing material lasted at the suppliers. Even after Fechheimer’s “slight of hand” artifice, the Service still maintained the jacket status, but in reality, it was left up to the individual rangers whether or not to comply since the material was available.



**Scotts Bluff National Monument Personnel, c.1944.**

Office personnel were required to wear uniforms at this time and although Meinser is classified as a “Junior Clerk Stenographer,” she is wearing a badge, something that was supposed to have ceased per order of the Director in 1920. Note also, the USNPS pin on the front of her overseas cap.

Left to Right: Custodian Merrill J. Mattes, Junior Clerk-Stenographer Ethel L. Meinser, Park Ranger Sneddon

NPSHPC/SCBL#1531

With the able bodied men again going off to war, women, especially NPS wives, were enlisted to help in the parks, particularly in the offices and entrance stations. At that time, in the field, even office help wore uniforms. While not specified in the uniform regulations, in 1943 a material saving uniform was specified for women. That uniform consisted of:

“Coat, 16oz. elastique ‘WAAC’ type. Skirt, 16 oz. elastique, gores and 4 pleats. Overseas Cap, 16 oz. elastique. Shirt, steel grey poplin with shoulder straps and pleated pockets. Necktie, four-in hand, ‘Barathea’ dark green. Oxfords, cordovan color, plain toe Belt, using NPS hat-band for this purpose with buckle to be added.”<sup>9</sup>

This last item, the belt, must have been the occasion of much mirth. None of the photographs examined of uniformed female personnel from this period show anyone wearing this belt, or for that matter, anyone able to wear it. The hatband only allowed for a 24” waist and that was with the uniform on.

As with the men, women who had been uniformed continued to wear the man’s style coat throughout the war as long as it was presentable. A photograph of Ethel L. Meinser, stenographer at Scott’s Bluff National Monument, taken in 1944, shows her wearing an “overseas” cap with a USNPS collar ornament in front, standard men’s style coat, semi-full skirt, shirt (appears to be gray), tie and shoes. It is interesting that even though her title is stenographer she is wearing a badge. Except for the cap, this is essentially the same

**Women's dress,  
1930s & 1940s**

Women's uniforms began to become standardized when Carlsbad Caverns National Park and its uniformed women guides came into the fold, but the first official regulations pertaining to women were not issued until 1947.

*NPSART*

*Gilbert B. Cohen, artist-  
HFC/ARM#GR-0002-6 &-7*



uniform worn by Lila Michaelson, Guide at Carlsbad Caverns in 1931.

After the war, the subject was taken up again and after much debate, a standard uniform for the women of the National Park Service was finally authorized on June 2, 1947 with Amendment No. 1 to Volume 19 (1947) of the National Park Service uniform regulations. Even then, it was segregated under the heading of "Special Uniforms".

"The standard uniform for all Service areas in which women are required to wear a uniform in the performance of their official

duties while engaged in public contact, interpretive, or protective work, shall consist of the following:

Coat: The standard men's fatigue jacket.

Skirt: Six-gore skirt of same material as jacket.

Hat: Soft felt hat with small snap brim, turned up at back and sides and down over forehead in front, in matching color with narrow grosgrain ribbon on dark green color.

Shirt: Convertible or standard Peter Pan collar type of steel-gray color. Long sleeves buttoned at the wrist. Shirts may be worn open at the neck when so authorized by the superintendent. Such authorization, when granted, shall apply to all uniformed personnel within an area.



**The Mission Church from the southwest, Tumacacori, NM, 1947**

(detail). Sally Brewer (Harris) is shown standing at the church entrance in a plain skirt. Coats could be left off in hot climates at the discretion of the superintendent.

NPSHPC/George A. Grant  
Photo/HFC#C47-GG-687

Necktie: Draped bow of soft scarf material, or four-in-hand tie. Dark green in color. (During the summer season, the necktie may or may not be worn, subject to the conditions prescribed in the preceding paragraph.)

Shoes: Oxford type, dark brown color, plain toe.

Stockings: Neutral color.

Belt: Not mandatory. (The standard National Park Service hatband may be adapted for this purpose, if desired, by the provision of buckles instead of the standard thong for lacing.)

Buttons: Regulation National Park Service buttons are prescribed.

**Uniform for Women  
Employees, 1947  
Uniform Regulations-  
Amendment NO. 5,  
May 1950.**

This image of Olive Johnson wearing a modified style WAAC Army uniform was used to illustrate the women's uniform in the Amended 1947 NPS Uniform Regulations.

Even though the "overseas" cap was not addressed in the regulations, it was being worn by the women and thus, included in this picture.

*NPSHPC/HFC#96-1326*



Insignia: Same as for men employees

Materials: Same as for men employees."

The National Park Service, at last, was recognizing women. Granted, their uniform was classified under the "Special" category and there was only one, instead of three, like the men, and their coat was not the men's dress blouse, just the "standard men's fatigue jacket", but at least they were being acknowledged as part of the uniformed establishment.

There must have been some agitation concerning their wearing the fatigue jacket and WAAC hat, because when the regulations were amended on May 24, 1950, to include photographs to "illustrate the proper uniforms and the correct methods of wearing them", it shows the woman wearing an adaptation of the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC) blouse and Army "overseas" cap, even though there are no amendments authorizing it. This followed the Service's move toward the military styling (men's belted coat, etc.) after the war. This decision must have come soon after the issuance of the regulations, since there are no known contemporary photographs of women wearing either the "fatigue" jacket

or WAAC hat, although, there are several contemporary images depicting women wearing the "WAAC" blouse and overseas cap.

While color photography had been around for some time, the majority of photographs were taken in black and white. There is, however, a 35mm color transparency, taken in 1953 of Carlsbad Caverns Guide-Nurse Olive Johnson. Her coat (WAAC) is of a very dark green (similar to Army officer's coats) while her overseas cap ap-

pears to be about five shades lighter. This variance does not show up in an earlier black and white image.

Another item not mentioned in the regulations, but which was incorporated into the uniform, was the wearing of one of the USNPS collar ornaments on the front of the overseas cap, a practice that had been fashionable for a number of years.

When new regulations were drawn up 1956, those pertaining to women's uniforms remained the same, even to the wearing of the men's fatigue jacket (now called the standard men's field jacket). Apparently, bowing to the inevitable, Amendment No.4 restored the overseas cap in October, 1957, but nothing is said about the coat.

In 1960, the National Park Service issued a written statement on the employment of women in uniformed positions, urging administrative officials to consider fully all qualified applicants for vacancies within the Service. It states that the National Park Service should "employ in its uniformed positions the best qualified men and women available." However, it goes on to say "women cannot be employed in certain jobs, such as Park Ranger or Seasonal Park Ranger...in which the employee is subject to be called to fight fires, take part in rescue operations, or do other strenuous or hazardous work..." but that "Participation by women employees in lecture programs, guided tours, museum and library work, and in research programs would be entirely appropriate and very helpful in many Parks. Increased attention may also be given to children's programs in some Parks and to extension work to schools for which women interpretive employees may be even more effective than men."<sup>10</sup>

This interpretation of the roles of women in the Service probably had more to do with the design of their uniforms than any overt act of discrimination in quality or variety.

New regulations had been issued in 1959 to take effect on January 1, 1961. These new regulations only provided for dress uniforms for



**Viola V. Shannon, park guide, Carlsbad Caverns National Park, 1951.**

This portrait shows the recessed pockets of the uniform, as well as the USNPS pin on the "overseas" cap.

NA #79-SM-35



**Olive Johnson, Doll's Theatre Big Room, Carlsbad Caverns National Park, 4/53.**

This early color photograph shows that Johnson's hat and coat are 2 different colors. The coat appears to be "Army" green and her cap forest green. The Arrowhead patch had just begun to be issued the previous Fall.

NPSHPC/Prasil  
Photo/HFC#WASO-CO-2240

women. A winter version made from 19-oz. all wool elastique and a lightweight tropical weave, 50-50 wool-dacron, version for warmer climates. Both were to be forestry green in color. Corresponding material was to be used for hat, jacket and skirt in each uniform. Sketches were included in the regulations of the hat, jacket and skirt.

“Dirty-work” clothing was to be civilian “garb” without any identifiable National Park Service garments or insignia. The uniform was to be worn only by women employees whose duties involved primarily contact with the public. Occasional contact or brief relief assignments in which contact with the public occurred did not qualify them to wear a uniform.

The hat was to be designed after those worn by American Airline Stewardesses (Delta Uniforms #A-707) at that time. USNPS

**Seasonal Ranger-  
Historians, 1957  
Season, Roosevelt-  
Vanderbilt National  
Historic Site, Hyde Park,  
New York.**

Though all three are  
Seasonal Ranger-  
Historians, only the men  
are wearing badges.

Left to Right:  
Henry Werle, Arlene  
Stokes, Daniel de Francis

NPSHPC/HFC#96-1327





**Mrs. Mitsuko T. Shikuma, 1962.**

Shikuma was an Information-Receptionist, at Park Headquarters and Visitor Center, Hawaii National Park, Hilo, Hawaii. While not substantial enough for field duty, the 1961 uniform was well suited for this type of activity.

NPSHPC-HFC#96-1328

was to be embroidered in gold on the front in 1/2-inch letters. However, this was changed to silver on March 21, 1960, prior to the regulations taking effect, when it was noted that gold was not consistent with the other ornamentation on the uniform. (silver USNPS and badge)<sup>11</sup>

The jacket was also styled after that of the airline stewardess. It was a four-button model (Delta #A-703), tailored to fit, with the small arrowhead patch on the left shoulder.

The skirt was to be straight with front and rear 10" kick pleats proportioned to size. (Delta #A-703) It was to be worn without belt.

The blouse could be made out of any suitable white fabric. It was to be short sleeved, open necked, (a tie was no longer part of the women's uniform) and plain design without pleats or ornamentation. Patch was to be worn on left sleeve, same as jacket.

Shoes were changed to grace the new uniform. They were no longer just oxfords, but now any women's shoes with either low,

### Women's uniforms in the 1960s.

The 1961 pattern uniform was authorized in the 1959 Uniform Regulations, but was not to become effective until January 1, 1961, but more than likely, anyone purchasing a uniform in 1960 ordered the new pattern. For some unexplained reason, the uniform was changed again in 1962. The material and color remained the same so the effect was minimal.

NPSART-  
Gilbert B. Cohen, artist-  
HFC/ARM#GR-0002-6, -7



Cuban or French (high) heels could be worn. They were to be of a plain cordovan colored closed toe and heel design, without slashing or other conspicuous ornamentation. (brilliant, large bows, ribbons, etc.)

Stockings remained a neutral shade (silk, nylon, or similar fiber) and overshoes could be either zippered galoshes, like the men, or black rubberized calf-length pull-on boots.

Jewelry, except for rings and wristwatches, was not to be worn.

Stormcoats and raincoats were to be the same as the men's.

The 1961 uniform regulations were very liberal in defining the uniform for women. Certain items were specifically spelled out, but variations were allowed at the numerous parks. For instance, when Helen Lindsley was hired at Yellowstone, she was informed "You will need a women's uniform hat, dress coat and skirt in the 100% wool, 19 oz. elastique material. You will need a couple of plain white blouses - in the past our girls have had the best luck ordering women's shawl collar shirts from Gregory's, Greely, Colorado...Don't buy uniform shoes - you will need something suitable for walking and will do best with plain dark brown loafers...suitable raincoat is required, and the best bet (if you don't already have one of a buff, beige, or tan color) is one in a Balmacaan style [loose single-breasted overcoat with raglan sleeves and a short turnover collar] - a zip-out lining is more versatile but not mandatory. Other than these items, hose should be a plain neutral color - seamless preferred. If you carry a purse on duty it should be plain and brown."<sup>12</sup>

After distribution of the new regulations, complaints and suggestions began to come in from the field. One particular item dealt specifically with women. It involved the location of the badge and nametag. The uniform regulations provided for women to wear the badge on their jacket, but the only location specified was on the left breast pocket (for men). There were no breast pockets on the women's jacket and this general location was too low for a good appearance on a woman. It was decided to raise and center both items, badge on left and name tag on right, 2" below the notch in the jacket collar. This location allowed both items to lay snug against the coat.

Another item of contention was that of women wearing the badge. The majority of the 45 career uniformed women employees



Illustration in the 1961 National Park Service Uniform Handbook depicting the new "Airline Stewardess" style uniform hat. Chapter 5, Page 11.

National Park Service  
Archives,  
HFC RG Y55



**The 1961 pattern women's hat.** This hat had a more pleasing appearance on paper than in person. It was changed to the more familiar "Buffalo Chip" design prior to the introduction of the 1962 pattern uniform. This hat has the small arrowhead crudely whip-stitched on the front indicating it was worn after the uniform change in 1962.

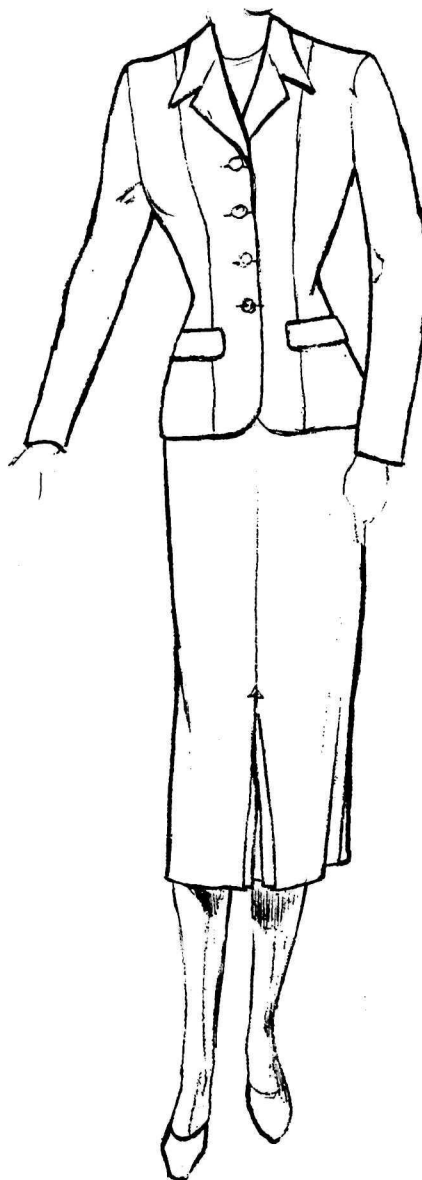
NPSHPC-  
Steve Ruth Photo-  
HFC#96-1343

Illustration in the 1961  
National Park Service  
Uniform Handbook  
depicting the new  
"Airline  
Stewardess" style uni-  
form. Chapter 5, Page  
10.

*National Park Service  
Archives, HFC RG Y55*

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE UNIFORMS  
Illustrations

HANDBOOK  
Chapter 5  
Page ~~10~~ 10



WOMEN'S UNIFORM

Release No. 1

November 1959

performed information and interpretive functions. Since there were no women rangers at that time, the rest must have been classified as naturalists or historians. Some women expressed strong opinions against wearing the badge, while others were just as adamant for it.<sup>13</sup>

This was later resolved by issuing the women a silver arrowhead pin, the same size as the tie tack, "in lieu of a badge", though superintendents had the option of issuing them a regular badge, if they so desired.

Mary Bradford relates the experience of when she received her pin, she was very unhappy about it. Visitors did not consider her having any authority and would by-pass her to talk to the "ranger with the badge". So she refused to wear it and requested a badge from her supervisor. He agreed with her and issued her a regular ranger badge. Unfortunately, when she pinned it on her uniform it proved to be too heavy for the material. But, exercising that 'old ranger know-how', She stuck the pin through her jacket and fastened it to her bra strap.

On January 30, 1962, Amendment No.4 to the uniform regulations brought yet another change for the uniformed women of the National Park Service. The new uniform, although of a different cut, was made from the same material as that previously worn. Consequently, it only altered their appearance slightly. The reason for the change is not known, since existing official correspondence does not address this issue.

In addition to the uniform changes, the regulations now allowed women employees on duty in areas administrated by the National Park Service to wear the uniform, when authorized to do so by the Director or superintendent.

The USNPS on the front of the hat was now to be replaced with the new small size arrowhead, (1-1/2" x 2") although the earlier style continued to be worn for some time by those that had purchased them prior to the change. Two fabric-covered hatpins were also specified. In addition, the hat was not required to be worn by uniformed receptionist-typist and receptionist- secretaries or anyone doing desk work.



**Viola V. Shannon -**  
Worked at Cavern from  
1941 to May 1968 -  
Started as elevator  
operator, later guide,  
finally Supervisory  
Guide.

Photo was taken on  
2/17/62.

NPSHPC-CAVE#1833

**Mary B. Weatherwax,  
Roosevelt-  
Vanderbilt, 1961.**

As this photograph testifies, not all women ran out and purchased the new uniform as soon as it came out. Even so, they were supposed to have switched over by January 1, 1961.

NPSHPC-HFC#96-1331



**Beatrice Lunt, Colonial  
National Historical Park.**

Lunt is wearing the Model 1962 stewardess uniform with the plastic nametag and Arrowhead pin ("in lieu of badge"). The "regs" called for the USNPS to be worn on the blouse collar, if worn outside, but she has hers on her coat lapels.

NPSHPC-HFC#96-1332



A new "Airline hostess type" jacket was specified. This new jacket was made out of the same materials as before, but now it was "semi-form fitting with three buttons equally spaced 3" apart, lowest button at smallest part of waist." It was to have a natural shoulder line (no padding) with a "shawl collar 1 3/4" to 2" wide at nape of neck tapering to top button. Length of jacket to be 5" below natural waistline, all the way around skirt of jacket."

A new feature of this jacket was a hidden inside pocket 4" wide by 3" deep, positioned 2" below the top button hole on the right side seam of jacket. Because of the variations in temperature and other conditions and activities, uniformity of wearing or doffing the jacket was to be maintained locally. The standard size (3-3/4") arrowhead patch was to be worn on the left sleeve as before, plus an "Embroidered name tag" was to be placed on the right side of jacket to the side of lapel. The sketch that came with the amendment specifies "Embroidered or plastic name tag." There is no evidence that an embroidered nametag was ever made. (see: Book No.1 - Badges and Insignia)

The "Airline hostess type" skirt was also changed. Even though it is still specified as "Delta Uniform #A-703 or equal", it is constructed entirely different, unless of course, Delta changed their design also. It was now to be "straight, no flair, three gores—single gore front and two gores in back. Back of skirt has double inverted 8" pleat, proportioned to size, set into back center seam with diamond tack of matching silk thread;...Waistband to be 1 1/4" wide...double button and buttonhole adjustment."

Buttons to be of matching color or its equal. Zipper placket 7" long on left side of skirt. Skirt to be at least 1 1/2" to 2" below the knee. Pocket-slash type, self piped, opening 3 3/4" wide with dia-

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE UNIFORMS  
Illustrations

Women's Uniform (con.)

USNPS emblems on collar, blouse or jacket.

Embroidered or plastic name tag.

Shawl collar blouse narrower than collar of jacket.

Three buttons - lowest one at smallest part of waist.

Straight, front one panel, skirt - pleat in back, self-fabric belt.

HANDBOOK  
 Chapter 2  
 Page 32

Reduced size  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " arrowhead emblem.

Regulation size  $3\frac{3}{4}$ " arrowhead emblem on jacket - reduced size  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " arrowhead emblem on blouse.

Silver or gold NPS arrowhead pin, in lieu of badge.

Accessories:

Gloves - leather, dark brown; cotton, white.

Handbag - leather, dark brown, standard/shoulder-str

Shoes - leather, dark brown, unadorned.

Illustration from the 1962 National Park Service Uniform Handbook showing the second "Airline Stewardess" uniform. Chapter 2, page 32.

National Park Service  
 Archives/HFC RG Y55

Amendment No. 4

January 1962

mond tack of matching silk thread at either end of opening." Pocket was on the right side of skirt with opening on a slant,  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " from waistband in front to 4" from waistband at rear.

Skirt had five belt loops, three vertical (1 rear, 2 front) and two "keystone" shaped ones at the sides. (one behind the zipper placket

Illustration from the  
1962 National Park  
Service Uniform  
Handbook showing skirt  
used with the 1962  
Women's uniform.  
Chapter 2, page 33.

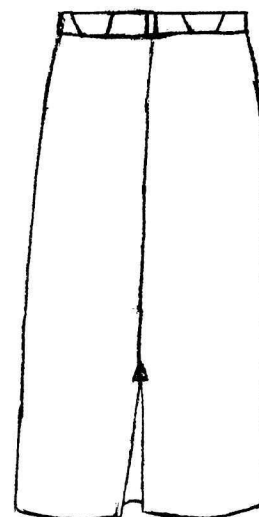
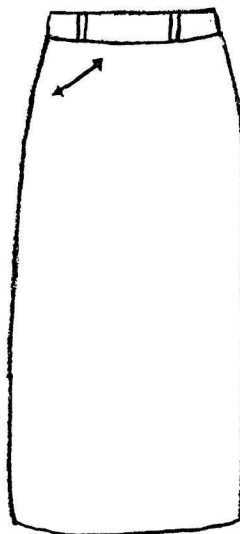
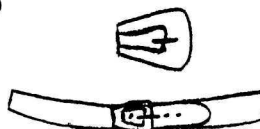
*National Park Service  
Archives/HFC RG Y55*

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE UNIFORMS

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Page 33

Women's Uniform (con.)



Straight no flair, three gores - single gore front and two gores in back with double inverted 8" pleat; pocket - slash type at angle; skirt loops according to description; self fabric belt and buckle - buckle according to style shown.

Amendment No. 4

January 1962

on left side and other one at matching location on right side)

Belt and buckle were to be covered in the same fabric as uniform. Although not specified in the regulations, existing examples in the National Park Service History Collection show that they were to be 1-inch wide.

The new uniforms were to be made from the same materials as before with the addition, as in the case of the men's, of a new "Medium weight" uniform of 13 or 14-oz. all wool gabardine, which

could be optionally authorized, subject to regional director's approval upon request of superintendents.

The blouse was to be made out of any suitable plain white material without any decoration. Blouse could have either long or short sleeves. Collar was to be the same size as on the jacket and could be worn either under or over jacket collar. However, uniformity and consistency were to be maintained as to position of collar and sleeve length by the uniformed women at any locale. The reduced size (2-1/2") embroidered arrowhead patch and the nametag were to be worn on the blouse like the jacket.



**Louise Linen, Great Smoky Mountains National Park.** This image shows clearly the ornamentation to be worn on the blouse. Her badge appears to be lying flat on her blouse. Maybe she is also utilizing Mary Bradford's method of securing it.

NPSHPC-HFC#96-1329

Accessories came in for their share of change, as well. Plain gloves of either dark brown leather or white cotton could be worn. Handbag could be either dark brown leather or reptile. Shoes could still be dark brown or reptile skin, but now they were to be pumps with a 1-1/2" to 2" heel. A low heel dark brown leather walking shoe was to be worn on trails and nature walks. Glove, handbag and shoes were to match.

A variety of foul-weather gear was authorized. A new Balmacaan-style<sup>14</sup> topcoat of tan weatherproof poplin was authorized for women. It was to have raglan sleeves and a fly front with hidden buttons, and a zip-in removable lining. The large arrowhead patch was optionally authorized to be worn on the left sleeve. The men's stormcoat, with alterations, could also be used by women as a topcoat. A plain white scarf of any fabric could be worn under the topcoat at the throat.

In addition to the men's raincoat, a loose fitting, clear or opaque plastic raincoat with a detachable



**E. Elaine (Russell) Clark, Park Guide, Andrew Johnson National Monument, 1963.** Like the example shown earlier, Clark updated her 1961 pattern hat by applying a small arrowhead patch, but she is apparently wearing the 1962 pattern skirt.

NPSHPC-HFC#63-3164

hood was authorized for women. A scarf of matching material could also be worn over the hat. Galoshes or calf-length pull-up boots could be worn as overshoes. Stadium boots (heavy boots with sheep's wool lining worn without other shoes) were also specified. All of the above footwear were to be either plain black or dark brown. Clear plastic "Raindeer"(sic) boots were also acceptable.

Because of the lack of prescribed fatigue, work, or casual clothing for use by the women, it was necessary for them to select "proper and conservative" attire for duty other than that requiring wearing of the uniform.

Up until July 1, 1965, women rangers had been paid the same (\$100.00 initial and \$100.00 yearly replacement) uniform allowance that men received. That year the allowance was increased to \$125.00/\$125.00 for men and \$125.00/\$100.00 for women. This discrepancy was no doubt due to the women's uniform ensemble being less expensive than the men's, but the frequent uniform changes were not taken into account. There were a number of variables (no coat, etc.) that would reduce the allowance.

The above is for an employee required to have the entire Class 'A' kit. It wasn't until July 21, 1966 that this was increased to \$125.00, bringing it up to par with the men.<sup>15</sup>

The 1962 uniform change had done nothing for the image of women in the Service. "Early orthopedic" and "old maid dowdy" are two of the appellations applied to this uniform by personnel in the field. It was not only unattractive, but often a "source of professional frustration" to the women wearing it.

Originally designed for airline stewardesses, for whose limited activities it served well, the uniform

proved totally inadequate for the varied functions and duties of the women in the Service. This was one of the main issues Director George B. Hartzog directed the 1968 Uniform Committee, chaired by Midwest Regional Director Fred C. Fagergren, to address.

Robert Gibbs, chief of Park Operations, and a member of the Committee, was assigned the task of implementing the directive. He, in turn, asked Carole Scanlon, an interpreter from Independence

**Janet K. Seapker -  
NCFA/WHHO, 1967.**

This excellent view of the 1962 uniform shows that the cap did not always "mess-up" the women's hairdos. Seapker is wearing the "National Park Service" (Model 1960C-All uniformed personnel, except superintendents and rangers) badge.

*NPSHPC-Jack Rottier Photo-  
HFC#-NCR/WASO9997-F*



National Historical Park, to sit on the committee and represent the women in the field. It is not clear at this juncture, whether Carole was invited to join the committee, before or after, the issuance of the 1969 uniform regulations. From the subsequent changes, it would appear to be the latter.

The new uniform regulations, to become effective January 1, 1971, were drawn up and distributed to the field under Director's cover letter, dated July 2, 1969. These contain a written description, as well as crude sketches for new uniforms. The sketches appear to have been cut out of a catalogue and then outlined with pencil, or ink, in order to make them stand out, when copied.

Color was not specified, saying only that "all to be of standard basic color". It can be assumed that this refers to the "green, loden green" listed under "Basic colors" elsewhere in the general uniform regulations. A "Proper green-colored dress", for work and an optional "standard green-colored" sweater, along with white blouse and cloth accessories, are the only colors specifically listed.

The regulations specified that the women's uniform was to consist of the following:

Dress - synthetic combination wool-jersey knit "yoke shift", standup collar with the arrowhead shoulder patch.

Jacket - blazer type of synthetic combination wool-jersey knit, without collar, double breasted with gold colored NPS buttons, arrowhead shoulder patch.

Vest - V-neck type synthetic combination wool jersey knit with gold colored NPS buttons down the front and on pocket worn with nameplate.

Blouse - white Bermuda or Peter Pan type collar, roll up sleeves for wear without blazer or vest or short



**House where Lincoln died, 1967.**

This is part of Ford's Theater National Historic Site. Miss Rolle is shown wearing a 1962 pattern uniform. These uniforms were ideally suited for urban sites such as this.

*NPSHPC-M.  
Woodbridge Williams  
Photo-HFC/NPS-543-1-7*



sleeve for wear with blazer. Dacron-polyester cotton blend.

Scarf - silk or nylon with small arrowhead insignia interweave or matched motif, in various sizes for wear as muffler, scarf, in hair or as handkerchief.



**Marie K. Absalon gives Joan Riley her "Golden Eagle" Pass at Morristown National Historical Park, 1966.**

Absalon is wearing the 1961 pattern uniform with the 1962 hat. Most women, who had purchased the new uniform in 1960, when first authorized, continued to wear them, as long as they were serviceable, even after the 1962 pattern came out. The two uniforms were compatible since both were made from the same material. Only the cap insignia needed to be changed.

*NPSHPC-Jack E. Boucher  
Photo-HFC#96-1335*

Skirt - A-line with 1 inch or small waistband combination synthetic (wool material) (jacket, vest and skirt can all be of combination wool jersey or cotton just so pieces match in material weight and color—one is washable, other must be dry cleaned.

Hat - pillbox, made of material to match jacket vest, skirt and dress; similar to United Airlines Stewardess style 1969.

Straw - rough-braid with small brim, gross-grained and stitched cordovan colored plastic band insert.

Even though mini-skirts were in vogue, the hem of the dress and skirt were not to exceed 2 inches above the knee. When prescribed by the superintendent, depending on duty, any of the above could be worn in the field, except for the dress, including the substitution of culottes or slacks of the same material, for the skirt.

A "Proper green-colored dress or jumper" was also prescribed for work (apparently dirty work), along with a number of optional items.

All-weather coat - (hat to match) Balmacca features Ze Pel treated for water with or without zipper acrylic pile liner.

Sweater - standard green-colored, long sleeved cardigan style wool or nylon.

Gloves - white if cloth, cordovan if leather or plastic.

Purse (or handbag) - white if cloth, cordovan if leather or plastic.

All of the above refer you to the illustrations in back of the uniform regulations. It can be assumed that the uniform committees

original idea was to have everyone in the Service dressed in the standard forest green. Even the swim suits and terrycloth beach robe are specified to be this color. (See Appendix A)

However, when Scanlon came on board, either she, or someone else, decided to try something different. Apparently, the women's uniform portion of the regulations was to be held in abeyance until she could sort out the details, since no articles of clothing that correspond to the sketches have been found, in either photographs or artifacts.

**Experimental Hat, 1969.**

This sand-colored "stewardess" style hat was part of an experimental woman's uniform worn by Betty Otto in 1969 at Antietam National Battlefield. It now resides in the NPS History Collection at Harpers Ferry Center.

*NPSHC/HFC#6-1338*



Her duties were to assist in the coordination of determining the needs of the women; selecting a designer, as well as a practical design; and locating a manufacturer willing to produce such a relatively small quantity within the limited uniform allowances. All this, in addition to outfitting the many women stationed in parks throughout the country.

Scanlon began seeking technical assistance and ideas by conferring with the Philadelphia Textile Institute, Moore Institute of Art, Defense Supply and Support Center, and other organizations, either having or dealing with women in uniform.

Her first impulse was to hire a "name" designer, but the Service needed more than just a design. They had to have "complete coordination" of all facets for the "front line staff". Someone interested in function, as well as fashion, who would heed the unique requirements of field personnel.

This individual was discovered in the person of Mary Joan Glynn, a vice president of Doyle Dane Bernbach, one of the Nations largest advertising firms. As head of "product styling", Glynn had introduced the knit dress, as a uniform, in the early sixties, revolutionizing the dress of airline stewardesses. Assisting her was Irene Beckman, a product development associate and head of fashion styling at the same company. Both women believed that fashion is a reflection of living.<sup>16</sup>

The question now was, what will satisfy the 250 permanent and innumerable seasonal women? The answer was simple. Just ask them. The age-old system of requesting input from the field in regard to uniform changes was put into operation. Scanlon took Beckman on a whirlwind tour of the Park System, and through the medium of letters, phone calls and meetings, the wishes and requirements of women in the field began to slowly emerge

Probably the highlight of the tours was a large, intense “think tank”, conducted at National Capital Parks in Washington, D.C. Here, women of all sizes and backgrounds, gathered for a four-hour discussion of the uniform problems of the Service.

Many things were brought to light by these exchanges. Things like:

“The fitted jacket isn’t functional or comfortable. It should move easily but look smart, particularly in the city.”... “We participate in many ceremonial functions here with the military. They always wear their dress uniforms and we look pretty drab in comparison.”

“We climb hills and mountains and rocks. It’s rugged. We tried bermuda shorts with knee socks, but they didn’t protect us from poison ivy, stinging nettles or brambles in meadows. We need something more functional. Loose slacks are fine and levis are great.”

Another wanted a suitable uniform for escorting VIP’s around town, as well as flat shoes for summer wear.

The feeling was pretty unanimous in the dislike of the present hat. All thought it was “unattractive, dated, and a threat to their hairdos.”

After all the discussions, interviews and general orientation to the needs of the women in the parks were completed, the momentous



**Carole Scanlon,  
c.1960s.**

Scanlon, an interpreter at Independence National Historical Park, was asked to represent the women in the field on the uniform committee.

*NPSHPC/HFC# 96-1337*



**Several Members of a recent “think tank” discuss Park women's uniforms.** Part of the group of people that discussed the uniform needs and desires of the women in the Park Service.

Left to Right: Betty Gentry, Susan Hepler, Mary Dodd, Irene Beckman (Doyle Dane Bernbach, Inc.), Al Fields, Carole Scanlon

*NPSHPC-W.H.Spradley Photo-HFC#96-1336*

task of trying to satisfy these needs, within the scope of a budgetary constraint and a minimum number of uniforms, began to emerge. Undaunted, Glynn and Beckman began their work of designing a new image for the women of the National Park Service.

On February 25, 1970, they presented their new design sketches, fabric colors, along with swatches, to the uniform committee, who enthusiastically endorsed them.<sup>17</sup>

As Joan Glynn explained to Loretta DeLozier, associate editor, for an article in the NPS Newsletter,

“In choosing the color identification, for example, she went to the roots of our natural heritage—to the colors of earth, sand and sun. The ingredients are a warm deep beige the predominate color of most of the outfits); a clear, fresh white (used mostly for trim); and a sunny, golden orange (an accent color). Already existing in our identification symbols, these colors can serve to help unify the many elements in the natural, historical and recreational groupings within the Park Service.

“To maintain this unity of design, simple, clean lines were used—and are echoed in each of the items for easy coordination. Thus the jacket and hat may be worn not only with the dress, but also with the matching culottes and slacks. The beige coat has a zip-out lining in bright orange, which will accent the colors of the scarf.



The initial concept for the new uniforms, as it appeared in the NPS Newsletter. These designs, with slight alterations, became the foundation for the new women's uniforms.

*National Park Service  
Archives/HFC RG Y55*

"The outfit for supportive personnel is in the same beige color and in a similar design, but loose enough to fit several sizes. Park wives will have their own special short popover in sun-orange to wear over regular clothes while performing special duties or acting as hostesses. Charwomen will don a comfortable cover-up in orange and white or beige and white crinkle cotton."<sup>18</sup>

Included were guidelines for shoes, boots, gloves, jewelry, etc., as well as heavy duty pants in wheat or brown denim; knit work tops; camel beige cardigan in washable acrylic; quilted beige long-line hooded parka; butternut-beige maillot (one-piece) swimsuit with terry jacket; and a specially designed scarf with the Park Service

insignia that could also be used as a gift item.

Sample garments were produced and a private “fashion show” was held for Director Hartzog and the committee on March 20, 1970, in which Carole Scanlon modeled the various uniforms and combinations.<sup>19</sup> The Director was so impressed, he gave his immediate approval.

The Grand Public Unveiling of the “new look” for National Park Service women took place in the Rose Garden of Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia during Freedom Week,

1970. June 27th started out as a dark cloudy day with the threat of rain looming over the festivities. It is rumored that Director Hartzog took one look at the sky and in his booming authoritative voice stated that “It will not rain”, and everyone knew it wouldn’t dare, at least those in the Park Service did. And sure enough, as the morning progressed, the clouds began to break up and by time the show began, the weather was sunny with a cool breeze blowing.

Several hundred people were on hand for the occasion. Regional directors, Park superintendents and the Independent Park Advisory Board were joined by the Junior League of Philadelphia and many

Park employees, some of which had traveled hundreds of miles for this momentous event. Even a few tourists wandered in occasionally out of curiosity.

In all, seven different uniforms were modeled by Service wives and employees. After the formal presentation most of the people repaired to a tent set up with refreshments, while the models posed for the various photographers. There was even a film crew commissioned by Polaroid to cover the show for a special film on the National Park Service.

After the show was over, the new uniforms were packed up and Marion Riggs was selected to take the show on the road. On her way to introduce the line at the Southwest Regional Office in Santa Fe, New Mexico, she detoured to give President and “Ladybird” Johnson a private showing at their ranch near Johnson City, Texas. Riggs

Carole Scanlon and Betty Gentry display the new uniform in contrast with the old at the Director's private “fashion show” in Washington, DC, March 20, 1970.

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton  
Photo-HFC#70-78-26*



## The Director's private "fashion show"

March 20, 1970



The women share a joke. Could it be the hat?  
Left to Right: Betty Gentry, Irene Beckman, Mary Joan Glynn, Carole Scanlon

*NPSHPC/HFC#96-1343*

Director Hartzog was so impressed by the new fashions, he gave his immediate approval.

Left to Right: Mary Joan Glynn (Doyle Dane Bernbach, Inc.), Director George Benjamin Hartzog, Carole Scanlon

*NPSHPC/HFC#96-1341*



Mary Joan Glynn introduces and Carole Scanlon models the new women's uniforms for the Director and Uniform Committee:

Left to Right: Mary Joan Glynn, Betty Gentry, ?, ?, ?, Robert F. Gibbs, Carole Scanlon, Al Fields

*NPSHPC/HFC#96-1342*

Class D -  
Tunic and  
culottes  
-19



Coat  
-11



Class A - Basic Full  
Dress  
Jacket with  
dress  
-25

Class C - Jacket  
with tunic and  
slacks  
-18



Class D -  
Tunic and  
slacks  
-23



Class B -  
Dress  
without  
jacket  
-10



**Carole Scanlon models the many combinations of the new uniform.**

All photographs - NPSHPC/HFC#70-78



Park wives  
pop-over  
-13

states that it was one of the strangest experiences of her life. She made the trip by herself and upon arriving at the airport, discovered there was no one to meet her.

So, she rented a car and after acquiring directions, headed out to the ranch. Arriving at the gatehouse, she explained that she was there to show the new Park Service uniforms to the President and was surprised when the guard didn't ask for any identification, but simply instructed her to go down this little dirt road to one of the guesthouses, probably the Cedar Cottage, where she met the "First Couple".



Irene Beckman makes last minute adjustments to the Charwoman's smock.

Left to Right: Irene Beckman, Carole Scanlon

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton  
photo-HFC#70-78-16*

Using an adjoining room to change, she modeled each of the new uniforms, during which time no one spoke. When the last uniform had been presented, President



**Director Hartzog clowning around with new women's uniforms at Grand Unveiling at Independence National Historical Park, June 27, 1970.**

Left to Right: Lemuel "Lon" Garrison, Mid Atlantic Regional Director; (?); George B. Hartzog, Director, National Park Service; Inger Garrison; Frank F. Kowski, Southwest Regional Director; Carole Scanlon

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton Photo-HFC#70-273-12*

The 1970 uniform regulations pertaining to women brought forth a plethora of uniforms. Not only did the female rangers now have their own distinctive dress for formal occasions, but for the first time there was a whole range of other clothing for their different functions.

NPSART-  
Gilbert B. Cohen, artist-  
HFC/ARM#GR-0002-  
8 thru 10



Johnson gave no indication as to whether he liked or disliked the new appearance of Park Service women, but simply said "Thank you" and inquired as to what the other women in the Park Service thought of the new uniforms. Although Riggs, as well as many other women didn't care for them, she very diplomatically told him that they were well received. The whole affair was very casual.

Riggs had arrived in civilian attire, but it had taken so long to complete the show that she was forced to wear the last uniform modeled in order to get back to the airport in time to make her flight. Even though the President hadn't shown much interest in the new uniforms, she was bombarded with questions from people in the airport as to what department or agency she worked for. No doubt the

## **“The Grand Public Unveiling” Freedom Week, June 27, 1970**



Park Service wives and employees model the new women's uniforms.

Left to right: Marion Riggs, Carole Scanlon, Louise Boggs, Inger Garrison (wife of Regional Director Lon Garrison), Ellen Lang, Elaine Hounsell, Helen Hartzog (wife of Director George Hartzog)

*NPSHPC- Cecil W. Stoughton  
photo-HFC#70-253-53*



Left photo:  
Mrs. Hartzog, in her “Park wives Pop-on”, joins some of the guests at the refreshment tent.

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton  
photo-HFC#70-253-1*



Right photo:  
Mary Rinehart and Carole Scanlon display the “Old” versus the “New” Park Service look.

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton  
photo-HFC#70-273-106*

This informal view shows the back of most of the uniforms, especially that of Helen Hartzog's "Park wives Pop-on".

Left to right:  
Louise Boggs; Elaine Hounsell; Marion Riggs; Inger Garrison; Helen Hartzog; Lemuel A. Garrison

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton  
photo-HFC#70-253-41*



Director Hartzog shows off the new women's scarf.

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton  
photo-HFC#70-253-9*



Left photo:  
The wind assists Marion Riggs in displaying the styling of the culottes.

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton  
photo-HFC#70-259-94*



Right photo:  
Many "art-sy" photographs, such as this one of Carole Scanlon were taken to show off the new uniforms.

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton  
photo-HFC#70-273-44*



standard straw ranger hat and Park Service insignia on a uniform totally foreign to anything they had ever seen sparked this inquisitiveness.

If the President didn't approve of the new look, it couldn't have been too strenuous since these regulations remained in effect for the next five years. Photographers were not allowed, hence there are no images of this historic occasion.

It didn't take the women of the Park Service long to realize that the new uniforms were more fluff than substance. If anything they added to the woes of the women, not being as serviceable as those previously worn. The new uniforms were very stylish and chic, for duty in the offices and visitor centers, but in the field they were useless. They didn't hold up very well, and it wasn't long before all the enthusiasm of their introduction turned to ridicule. The public did not always realize that the women wearing these new uniforms were even in the Park Service. They still envisioned the ranger wearing forest green.

Not only were these new uniforms not suited for the field, under the right circumstances, they could be downright hazardous. Mary Bradford relates the story of being called out in an emergency, to help fight a brush fire. After the fire was out, she discovered that the heat had melted the hem on her dress.

In addition to the garments, the hat came in for its share of criticism. Even though it resembled the standard ranger hat, it was made of lightweight felt, like that used in women's hats. Because of this lack of body, it did not hold up under normal service and the women required to use a hat, immediately switched to that worn by the men, either felt or straw.

The question of the badge also resurfaced. Now, more than ever, with the women wearing a uniform foreign to anything the public was used to, they felt in need of a badge for recognition and to



#### **Optional woman's Centennial dress, 1972.**

Although not covered in the official correspondence, this uniform was instituted on March 20, 1972, for the Centennial of the Nation's parks. It served as a companion piece for the men's optional urban dress. There are several photographs showing women wearing this dress. It appears to match the scarf which would make it off-white with orange polka-dots.

NPSHPC/HFC#96-1334

Publicity photograph showing new "Urban" men's uniform as well as the women's 1970 uniform dress and new "Centennial" dress, 1972. Picture was taken in front of Main Interior Building.

Left to right: Frances Reynolds (Director Hartzog's secretary); Associate Deputy Director Joseph C. Rumberg; Carole Scanlon; Procurement Analyst Ray O'Dell

*NPSHPC-HFC#98-1*



illustrate their authority. However, the same old issue of the fabric of the uniform not being able to support the heavy badge confronted them.

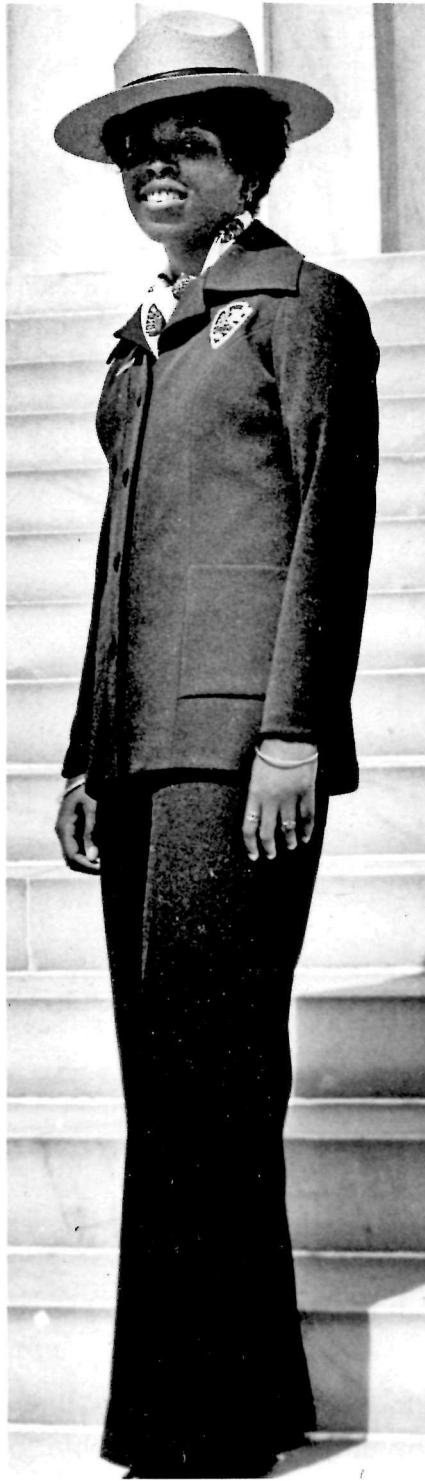
In 1972, some of the Western parks, notably Mesa Verde and Nez Perce, attempted to remedy this situation by contracting with the V.H. Blackinton Company, of Attleboro Falls, Massachusetts, to have small, one-inch high, light-weight versions of the regulation badge made. This solved the weight problem, only to have a new one arise.

Instead of providing the desired credibility, the public thought the new badges were “cute”, some even asking where they could be purchased, thinking they were souvenirs for children. Washington also frowned upon the issuance of the new badgettes and requested their recall. The short-lived experiment ended with the badges being turned in and removed from park property books.

With 1972 being the Centennial year for the national parks<sup>20</sup>, a new optional uniform was authorized on March 10, by Director George B. Hartzog for those employees of the Washington and Regional Offices, as well as those in the Service Centers who frequently represented the Service in external affairs, events and meetings. It was also to be used by Park employees in interpretation, administration or other positions which involved frequent contact with the public.<sup>21</sup>

An article in the July 10, 1972 NPS Newsletter goes into great detail as to the color of each article of the new men’s uniform, but fails to mention anything about the woman’s attire other than it was called the “optional women’s Centennial dress.” From photographs showing women wearing this dress, the colors appear to match those of the standard scarf. If this is the case, then the dress would be white with orange polka dots.

In the summer of 1973, realizing the impracticability of the “A line” uniforms for performing even routine ranger duties, several of the women seasonals, Marilyn Hof and Lyndel Meikle among them, at Yosemite National Park, ordered “men’s” uniforms from Alvord &



**Marsha Wood, 1975.**

Wood is modeling the new Class B (pants suit) uniform.

*NPSHPC-Dan Hughes Photo-  
HFC#1777-1-7*

**Linda Balatti, 1975.**

Balatti is wearing the 1974 pattern Class A uniform with cardigan jacket.

*NPSHPC-Clare C. Ralston  
Photo-HFC#75-2097-21*



Ferguson's in Merced, California. Meikle thought that a green ascot would look better than a tie on the ladies, an idea that didn't command too many followers. Lynn H. Thompson, then superintendent at Yosemite, photographed the two women in their new uniforms and forwarded the pictures to Washington.

In the meantime two of the summer seasonals who were offered winter employment at Everglades National Park because of their good work record, tendered their resignations out of concern that they would not be issued badges and would be required to wear the women's dress uniform. This incident, along with the Yosemite photographs and no doubt

**Showing off the new polyester uniforms, 1975.**

Left to right:  
Front - Roselyn Grey,  
Marsha Wood  
Rear: - Cheryl Kiatta,  
Linda Balatti

*NPSHPC-Dan Hughes  
Photo-HFC#75-1777-1-35*





NPSHPC-HFC#98-2



NPSHPC-HF#98-5

1974 women's Class 'A' uniform, with and without jacket.

The 1974 uniform regulations brought forth the fourth uniform change for women in fourteen years, negating their clothing allowance "catch-up" factor. However, along with the "MacDonalds" uniform was one that harbingered things to come. One based on the men's style of uniform.

NPSART-  
Gilbert B. Cohen, artist-  
HFC/ARM#GR-0002-  
11 thru 14



other complaints, prompted the Service to consider revising the uniform regulations covering women.<sup>22</sup>

This change occurred the following year. Unrealized at the time, though, an extremely important battle for equal rights had just been won.

1974 saw the uniform change once again, although not entirely as the women had desired. The new uniform was to still be the "A-line" style of double-knit polyester, although now it was to be dark green. Some women quickly christened it the "McDonald's" uniform because it reminded them of those worn by fast food workers.

In the new NPS uniform regulations, the dress uniform was to consist of dark green dress and cardigan jacket; brown pumps and bag; Neutral hose and a white scarf with NPS arrowhead motif. The gold nametag with the rounded edges that was introduced in 1970 was retained and a small arrowhead patch was worn where the badge normally went. Dress options consisted of white or matching green sweater, raincoat, dress coat and straw or felt Stetson hat. This ensemble was to be used for formal occasions, in or out of the park and whenever in contact with the public, such as at information desks, in visitor centers, or on speaking engagements.

A second uniform, classified as the "Basic pant-suit" was authorized as alternate wear in all of the same circumstances, with the exception of formal occasions. It consisted of the same articles except tunic and pants replaced the dress. The options were the same, except now the scarf was also optional.

Undoubtedly to placate some of the dissatisfied women in the field, a third uniform was added. It was classified as the "Women's Traditional Uniform". This was in essence the standard men's uniform, with a couple of exceptions. An ascot replaced the tie, which was optional, a black turtleneck could be worn in cool weather and coats were not required but fell under the optional category. Those women that did opt to wear the coat, wore a short jacket they termed an "Ike" jacket, although it was cut on a different pattern than the true Second World War variety. It had a round collar similar to that on the 1962 Airline Stewardess uniform, only smaller, a zipper front and no pockets.

Other options were forest green skirt, Parka and raincoat. It would seem that this uniform was an alternate for the pantsuit since



**Marjoie M. "Mike" Hackett, superintendent, Fort Point National Historic Site, 1976.**

Hackett is wearing what some people consider the most attractive uniform designed for women in the Park Service, the "Woman's Traditional Uniform" authorized in 1974. She also has on the short jacket, sans pockets which appears to have been the standard coat for women. This jacket is often called the "Ike Jacket", attributed to General, later President Eisenhower, but that jacket has large breast pockets and didn't come into being until later. She is also wearing the black turtleneck in lieu of a tie.

NPSHPC/HFC#76-80-3

The young ranger shown here at Padre Island National Seashore in 1978, is assuring this little endangered Ridley turtle hatchling a safe passage, at least on the first leg of it's long journey. Along with her shorts and cap, she is wearing all the insignia identifying her Park Service affiliation.

*NPSHPC-Fred E. Mang, Jr.  
photo-HFC#78-465-6-15*



the regulations specify that it was for those “employees whose primary duties on a day-to-day basis require direct contact with the park visitors”. All three uniforms were to be worn as prescribed by the park superintendent.

In some of the parks, however, notably Yosemite, women had already started wearing this uniform the year before, but it took William Henderson, acting director, Southeast Region, to start the equality ball rolling. He suggested to Washington that women, when working with their male counterpart and performing equivalent work, should be allowed to wear the traditional uniform.

Upon reviewing the situation, John Cook, at that time in charge of park operations in Washington, went one step further and directed there be only one uniform for both men and women. He also recommended the Uniform

Regulations include a skirt for those women that preferred it.

In 1977 the Service decided to officially change the women’s uniform to conform more closely to the men’s. As a result women uniformed personnel were cautioned about ordering new uniform parts due to the impending change. This also effected their only authorized outerwear, the Lady Danton raincoat made by London Fog. Due to the impending lack of future orders, it went out of production. This forced women in need of coats to try to either secure something similar, which resulted in various shades of tans, or to wear their personal coats creating an even wider range of hues.

With this change, employees who were required to have both Class A (traditional dress) and Class B (work) uniforms, began receiving \$400.00-/\$200.00 uniform allowances.<sup>23</sup>

Although written in October of 1977, it wasn’t until the Spring of 1978 that the long awaited uniform regulation change came through, authorizing the women to wear the same gray and green, in all of its configurations, as their male counterparts. The only differ-



**Golden Gate National Recreation Area, California. Park Ranger Margaret Brooks with group of children, 1981.** Brooks is wearing the women's cross tie.

*NPSHPC-Richard Frear  
photo-HFC#8123570231*

ences were that the women were to wear a cross tie style tie instead of the four-in-hand, and they had the option of wearing a skirt, but most preferred the trousers. Along with this, for the first time, they were authorized to wear the complete assortment of special duty clothing. Field, maintenance, Alpine ski, etc., in essence everything available to the men.

The changeover was anticipated to be completed by early summer. But alas, it was not to be. Supply problems plagued their efforts from the beginning, resulting in it being late fall before all of the women could be outfitted with the basics. Even then there was no dress



**Dawn Baumstark, Fort Sumter National Monument, 22 May, 1995.**

Baumstark is wearing a new maternity "Jumper" and shirt. This is just one of the several styles of new maternity uniforms available to women now.

*NPSHPC-R. Bryce Workman  
photo-HFC#98-7*

blouse or winter parka and the raincoat wasn't available until the following Spring.

In addition, the \$125.00 annual uniform allowance was established on a prorated basis to cover the ranger's uniform requirements over a period of years. But with this being the fourth total uniform change for the women rangers in fourteen years, the catch-up factor had not been realized. With the allowance being insufficient to cover the cost of the new uniform, along with their low pay, a serious financial hardship was imposed on most of the women.<sup>24</sup>

Fashion World Career Apparel, Inc. had the contract to furnish women's uniforms, but their inability to supply the needed garments exacerbated the problem. The Service also contributed to the bugbear by authorizing clothing for the male rangers from companies that did not



The 1980s brought the women into the mainstream of the National Park Service by furnishing them all the various uniforms needed to accomplish their mission. Plus a couple of extras not authorized for men. Notably, skirts and maternity clothing.

NPSART-Gilbert B. Cohen, artist-HFC/ARM#GR-0002-15 thru 19

*Gil Cohen*

have equivalent styles and sizes for women and in general taking, what the women felt was a rather cavalier attitude toward remedying their uniform difficulties.<sup>25</sup>

Consequently, in the fall of 1979, discussions began between the Federal Women's Coordinator at Independence National Historical Park and the Director's office in an attempt to reconcile the women's uniform difficulties. The lack of progress at these meetings, at least in the minds of the women, culminated in a class action suit being filed against the National Park Service on December 21, 1979.

However, through intense discussions over the next couple of months these differences were resolved and the suit was withdrawn on February 23, 1980.<sup>26</sup>

One of the things the women requested was a regulation maternity uniform. In the past, when these were ordered, they usually received a makeshift arrangement such as an extra large man's shirt and a pair of trousers with a stretch panel replacing the fly. Now, instead of looking like they were wearing their father's cast-off clothing, they had an attractive piece of wearing apparel that still denoted them as a ranger.

This crusade not only brought the women rangers parity with their male counterparts, but also had a direct effect on the Class A uniform coat worn by men. Up until now, the Service had dealt with two uniform suppliers. The one for men supplied traditional men's style uniforms, while the other furnished the more stylish garments for women, neither of which carried clothing for the other.

As this sampling of uniforms from a R & R Uniform catalog of the 1980s shows, women could now fill their closet with uniforms to cover all occasions, just like the men.

1. Coat and trousers Class "A" dress uniform.
2. Parka for Class "A" uniform.
3. Cardigan sweater.
4. Reversible raincoat (Forest Green on one side, International Orange on reverse).



1.



2.



3.



4.

5. Maternity top and slacks.

6. Long sleeved shirt with skirt.

7. Twill work jacket and cap.



5.



6.



7.

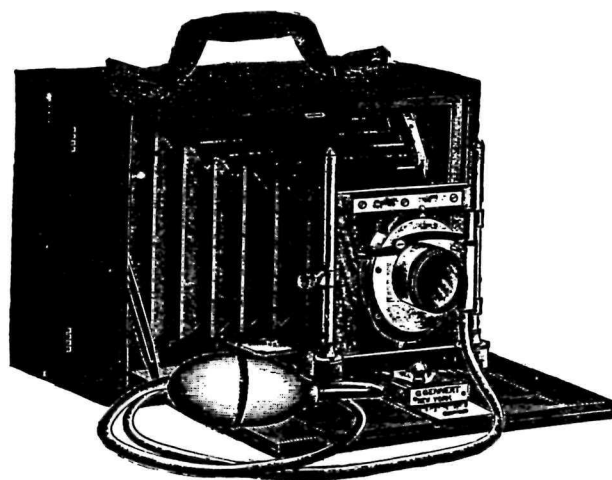
In 1980, R&R Uniforms was awarded the contract to furnish uniforms to both men and women in the National Park Service. The first item of business was to reconcile the size and cut of the various articles of clothing to fit the women. This didn't create a problem until it came to the dress coat. It wasn't thought that the large pleated pockets presented an appropriate appearance, especially on the more endowed women. Consequently, the coat was eliminated from the 1981 catalog while the company strived to create a style of coat that would look good on both sexes, while carrying on the traditional image.

This was resolved by removing both upper and lower patch pockets from the coat and substituting fake pockets consisting of only a pocket flap and button. The coat became available again the following year. This is the coat used today.

Women now had at their disposal all the same uniforms, and accessories as their male counterparts, in all its variations, as well as a couple of items denied the men, namely skirts and maternity uniforms.

# Photo File

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**Clare Marie Hodges, 1918**, temporary ranger, Yosemite National Park. There are three known images of Hodges during her stint in the Park Service, of which this is the most common. It is difficult to distinguish in this photograph, but she has her badge pinned over her left pocket.

*NPSHPC-HFC/74-1934*

**Nine mounted rangers  
at Yosemite National  
Park, c.1918.**

Clare Hodges (3rd from  
right) is one of the first  
women to be hired to  
work as a ranger in a  
national park.



*Left to Right:*

Washington Bartlett Lewis, superintendent; Forrest S. Townsley, chief ranger; Andrew Jack Gaylar; James V. Lloyd; (?); Charles F. Adair; Clare Marie Hodges, temporary ranger; Henry A. Skelton; George R. McNabb.

*NPSHPC-HFC#92-0006*



**Freida B. Nelson, woman ranger. 1926.**

Nelson was a ranger at Yellowstone National Park. This is probably the most famous image of Nelson, one in which she shows off the braces (suspenders) holding up her breeches. Her breeches show that even though her uniform is styled after the men's, it is cut on the woman's pattern.

*NPSHPC-HFC/WASO #70-53-1*



**Frances Pound.**

Permanent Ranger at North Entrance, Yellowstone National Park. Here is another photograph showing the A-typical coat worn by Pound. Photograph was probably taken around 1925.

*NPSHPC-YELL/130,378*



**Ranger Frieda B. Nelson on horseback, 1925.**

Here is another image of Frieda B. Nelson.

*NPSHPC-YELL/3606*

**Marguerite Lindsley,**  
**Yellowstone Park Ranger,**  
**feeding her pet antelope**  
**"Jimmie". 1926.**  
 She married Ben Arnold in  
 1928.

*NPSHPC-L.A. Nicholson*  
*photo-Yell/F.4016*



*NPSHPC-YELL/8043-7*



*NPSHPC-YELL/130,095*

**Herma Albertson, 1929.**

These two images show Albertson at Mammoth Hot Springs, Yellowstone National Park.



#### **Women's uniform, c.Mid-1920s.**

The coat is of the standard man's style, but cut on the woman's pattern. The skirt with the row of buttons down the front is especially interesting. The uniform is being modeled by Susan Marcus.

*Courtesy of the Andrew Beck Collection-  
Photo by Andy Beck*



#### **Dinosaur tracks at Moenkopi: June [Hall - Ansel Hall's wife] and Polly Mead, 9-30-1930.**

Polly is wearing her badge and a set of USNPS collar ornaments on a civilian vest.

*NPSHPC-Ansel Frederick Hall  
photo-HFC/AFH#18*



#### **Clara J. "Ann" Lausten, typist, Pinnacles National Monument, 1942.**

Lausten purchased some forest green wool and had a friend's mother make her 2 skirts. Those skirts, along with gray men's shirts and an overseas cap were her uniform for the 3 years she worked at Pinnacles. She has USNPS collar ornaments on her collar and the pin on her cap is one that showed she had a member of her family (husband) in the armed forces. It was white with a red border and blue star in the center.

*NPSHPC/HFC#96-1350*

**Olive M. "Johnny"  
Johnson, guide at  
Carlsbad Caverns  
National Park, c.1947.**  
Johnson is wearing the  
1947 WAAC style uniform.  
Note the USNPS collar  
ornament on the front of  
her cap.

*NPSHPC-CAVE#86CAR*



**Information Desk at Fort Pulaski National Monument, 1958.** Receptionist is wearing what is probably a gray shirt with a bow tie. Apparently women's uniform regulations were still somewhat lax at some locations.

*NPSHPC-Jack E. Boucher Photo-HFC#58-JB-195*



**Seasonal Park Naturalists and Information Receptionist on duty at the Headquarters Visitor Center.**

Everglades National Park. All three are wearing the 1961 pattern uniform. This color print shows that the USNPS was changed to silver (white) prior to the uniform change.

*NPSHPC-EVER*



**Anne L. Bowes, Biscayne National Park, c.1964.**

Bowes shows that even though trousers were not authorized for women, they were worn on occasions when needed. She is also wearing the arrowhead pin "in lieu of" badge.

*NPSHPC-M. Woodbridge Williams  
photo-HFC#64-BIBA-?-11*



**Historian Guides, Independence National Historical Park, 1961.**

These three women were the first of the new breed of women interpreters, known as "Historian Guides." They joined the ranks of the other women in the National Park Service wearing the 1961 Pattern uniform.

Left to Right: Judith Rhodes, Margaret "Peg" C. Ciborowski, Ruth Friday

*NPSHPC/INDE#12856*



**Louise Meekins, Cape Hatteras National Seashore, 1970.**

Since the 1962 uniform change didn't appreciably alter their appearance, a lot of the women wore their older 1961 pattern dress until the 1970 uniforms were introduced.

*NPSHPC-Fred E. Mang, Jr.  
Photo-HFC/WASO#70-53-3*



National Park Service Park rangers now serving at Walnut Canyon National Monument include, from left to right: Art Clark, Tempe, Arizona; Bryan Pittman, Ackerman Mississippi, Kenneth A. Walker, Flagstaff, Arizona; James L. Ellis, Flagstaff, Arizona; Marion J. Riggs, Park Ranger (Archeologist), permanent employee at Walnut Canyon; Phillip L. Jones, San Diego, California; John W. Ray, Supervisory Park Ranger, permanent employee at Walnut Canyon; and Robert R. Buckner, Flagstaff, Arizona. Seasonal Rangers Pittman, Jones, and Buckner live at the Monument. Riggs is wearing the 1962 uniform with the green plastic nametag, small Arrowhead patch and small Arrowhead pin "in lieu of badge".

NPSHPC-HFC#98-15

**Park naturalist explains life of the marsh from interpretive display on the Anhinga Trail.**

Anne L. Bowes, Everglades National Park, 1964. The striping stands out clearly on her "Mae Hanauer" hat. She is also wearing the green plastic 1961 nametag, along with small arrowhead pin.

NPSHPC-M. Woodbridge Williams  
photo-HFC64-EV-99TW





**Camille Elias, c.1963.** Elias is wearing the 1961 "airline stewardess" style woman's uniform. The USNPS insignia was embroidered on a piece of material, then sewn on hat. She is also wearing the large Arrowhead patch on her coat which wasn't authorized for women until 1962. A lot of women had purchased new uniforms prior and during the new regulation period (1960-1961) and like their male counterparts, were allowed to wear them as long as they were serviceable, and since their duties were less strenuous, some lasted a very long time. Her hat is the second version ("Buffalo chip") that came out just before the uniform change in 1962. Many women updated their old hats by removing the USNPS and replacing it with the small Arrowhead patch.

*NPSHPC-HFC#WASO G.337A*



Left photo:  
**Miss Ceborowski,**  
**Independence Hall,**  
Independence National  
Historical Park,  
Philadelphia.  
Ceborowski is wearing  
the 1961 women's uni-  
form.

*NPSHPC-HFC#98-17*

Right photo: An inter-  
preter at Ford's Theater  
National Historic Site  
relates the tragic event  
that occurred there.  
She is wearing the  
1962 version of the "air-  
line stewardess" uni-  
form.

*NPSHPC-M. Woodbridge  
Williams photo-HFC#98-18*

As these two images  
illustrate, there was  
very little difference in  
the appearance  
between the 1961 and  
1962 uniforms, espe-  
cially since both were  
made from the same  
material.

**Jamie S. Petitti** with children at Platt National Park (now part of Chickasaw National Recreational Area), 1970. Petitti is wearing the 1962 uniform, but her blouse has a notched collar (1961?). She also has one of the ParkScape pins (1968-1970) on her jacket. This photograph was taken prior to the 1970 uniforms coming out.

*NPSHPC-Fred Mang, Jr.  
photo-HFC#70-175-7-26a*



**Miss Susanne Twight, age 23, Seasonal at Crater Lake [National Park], 1961.** This snapshot shows her in the new 1961 uniform.

*NPSHPC-HFC#98-19*



**Olive M. "Johnny" Johnson, guide/nurse at Carlsbad Caverns National Park, C. 1960.** Johnson is wearing the complete 1961 women's uniform.

*NPCHPC-HFC#CAVE 1830CAR*

## The Director's private "fashion show" March 20, 1970



The new uniforms are discussed after the show.

Left to right: Mary Joan Glynn & Irene Beckman, both with Doyle Dane Bernbach, Inc.; Carole Scanlon; Betty Gentry; Douglas H. Hubbard, Assistant Director, Harpers Ferry Center.

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton photo-HFC#70-78-4*



Director Hartzog discusses new women's hat. Although it resembled the men's hat, it did not have the NPS hatband and was made of much lighter weight material. Consequently, it was not as serviceable and most women that wore hats with the new 1970 uniforms preferred either the men's straw or heavier "flat hat".

*NPSHPC-HFC#96-1340*

## “The Grand Public Unveiling” Independence National Historical Park Freedom Week, June 27, 1970



The crowd begins to clap as the models parade the “New Look” for women in the National Park Service. In the background can be seen the crew commissioned by Polaroid to film the fashion show for a feature on the National Park Service. Left to right: Marion Riggs; Elaine Hounsell; Carole Scanlon.

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton-HFC#70-256-2-26*



Marion Riggs models the coat over her tunic and culottes, at the same time showing the audience how the scarf can be used to protect her head.

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton photo-HFC#70-253-6*



Scanlon clowns around as Director Hartzog chats with Joan Glynn and some of the models.

Left to right:  
Director Hartzog, Mrs  
Garrison, Mary Joan  
Glynn, Mrs. Hartzog,  
Carole Scanlon

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton  
photo-HFC#70-253-47*



Carole Scanlon and Geraldine Bell pose for one of the better "Style Shots" that were taken during the fashion show.

*NPSHPC- Richard Frear photo-HFC#518001*



The models line up for a group photograph beside the fountain.

Left to right: Marion Riggs, Carole Scanlon, Louise Boggs, Inger Garrison, Ellen Lang, Elaine Hounsell, Helen Hartzog

*NPSHPC- Cecil W. Stoughton photo-HFC#70-253-53*

## The Southwest Regional Presentation Santa Fe, New Mexico

Frank Kowski, Southwest Regional Director, insisted the new uniforms be presented to his region and Marion Riggs was selected to do the introduction. She made a stopover in Texas and gave a private showing to President and "Ladybird" Johnson before continuing on to the Southwest Regional Office at Santa Fe, New Mexico. After the presentation at the Regional Office, she toured the entire Southwest Region showing the uniformed women their new wear. The uniforms had all been made to her specifications and local employees her size were enlisted to aid with the presentations.

Regional Director Frank Kowski introduces the women at the Southwest Regional Office to the models showing the new uniforms. Marion Riggs is on the right.

*NPSHPC-HFC#70-308-2-3A*



From the expressions on the women's faces, they apparently had mixed emotions about the "New Look".

*NPSHPC-HFC#70-308-2-15A*





**Gary Matlock with Hispanic and Native American seasonal guides at Pecos National Monument [now Pecos National Historical Park], 1971.** The guides found the blouses and skirts of the 1962 uniform to be totally unsuitable for their duties, especially that of climbing in and out of the Kivas. Since the new 1970 uniforms featuring the pants were not yet available to the Park, Superintendent Thomas F. Giles authorized them to purchase these sand colored pants suits from the J.C.Penny Department Store in Santa Fe, to which they applied the Arrowhead patch and their name tag. These were worn until the new uniforms became available the following year.

Left to right: Gary Matlock; Sarah Yepa (Navaho); Emma Plume "Pinky" Herrera (Sioux); Virginia Pecos (Navaho); Loretta Ortiz [Lujan] (Hispanic)

*NPSHPC-Fred E. Mang, Jr. photo-HFC#71-371-1-*



This female ranger is working with her male counterpart checking in vehicles at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, 1972. Uniform regulations must have been rather lax at this park since she is wearing the 1970 uniform, including hat, but has on a civilian style brown leather coat while meeting the public even though the uniform had been out for four (4) years.

*NPSHPC-Richard Frear-  
HFC#74-2004-23*

The 1970 woman's uniform was well suited for duties required of a receptionist at a Visitor's Center or interpreting a building or fort like Castillo de San Marcos, pictured here in 1974...



*NPSHPC-Richard Frear photo-HFC#75-1513-110*

...or even guiding visitors along the paved pathways of history, like this interpreter at Petersburg National Battlefield in 1974, but...



*NPSHPC-Richard Frear photo-HFC#75-1669-39*

...they proved to be totally inadequate for duties that required the ranger to work off the beaten path among the flora of the park, as Birdie Richards is doing here at Saguaro National Park in 1974.



*NPSHPC-Fred Mang, Jr. photo-HFC#74-1593-2*



An interpreter explains the history of "La Sibila" (The Prophetess) to visitors at Castillo de San Marcos, 1974. While not part on the regulations, she is wearing an apron to protect her uniform.

*NPSHPC-Richard Frear  
photo-HFC#75-1513-114*



This interpreter is wearing the 1970 tunic with jeans. Tunic and "brown" jeans were authorized that year as a Class F uniform and although these jeans are the specified color, it can not be ascertained if these are in fact those listed in the specifications due to the absence of drawings or other corroborating images.

*NPSHPC-HFC#76-81-9*



**Cathie Cartwright, Fort Point** (National Historic Site, 1974). This is probably a posed photograph since Cartwright is wearing her Class A uniform with a white sweater. It is interesting to note that she is also wearing the 1960 green plastic nametag instead of the correct 1970 brass one.

*NPSHPC-Rollie Hawkins photo-HFC#74-1769-8*

Mr. Campanella receives  
a miniature of the Arch  
from Superintendent Ivan  
D. Parker

Left to right: Mrs. Ruth  
Danielson; Joe  
Campanella; Ivan D.  
Parker; Sandra Dove;  
Frank Joachensthaler

*NPSHPC-B.T. Ramsport  
photo-HFC#98-20*



These two photographs were taken when Mr. Joe Campanella, Star of TV Series the "Bold Ones" visited St. Louis Gateway Arch, Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, St. Louis, during the National Parks Centennial (1872-1972). Ruth Danielson and Doris De Marce are wearing the new "Centennial" dress and Superintendent Ivan D. Parker has on the men's "Optional Urban" uniform. Both were introduced in 1972.

Mr. Campanella listens to  
the costumed interpreter  
at the Old Court House  
giving a spinning and  
weaving demonstration

Left to right: Mrs. Ruth  
Danielson; Joe  
Campanella; Doris De  
Marce; Charles A. Ross;  
Sandra Dove

*NPSHPC-B.T. Ramsport  
photo-HFC#98-21*





As this photograph illustrates, there were some functions, such as horse patrol, for which the 1970 Woman's uniform was totally inadequate. This image shows a mounted woman ranger at Point Reyes National Seashore, California, in 1972, the year the Seashore was established. She is wearing a man's short jacket and trousers. The saddle blanket cover is also interesting. It is green and white with "NPS" in the lower rear corner.

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton photo-HFC#72-499-24*



**Dene Pritchett, Mesa Verde National Park, 1974.**

This poor quality photograph is the only image found showing the 1972 Woman's "small badge" being worn. It can just be made out on the left side of her blouse. This picture must have been shot just prior to the badges being recalled and stricken from the books. She is holding a "Johnny Horizon" banner. This program was instigated by the Department of the Interior to spruce up the country for the upcoming American Bicentennial in 1976.

*NPSHPC-HFC#98-22*

Three of the new 1974 green polyester women's uniforms.

Left to right: Roselyn Grey – white turtle neck, tunic and pants; Linda Balatti – scarf with dress; Marsha Wood – white turtle neck, jacket and pants.

*NPSHPC-Clare C. Ralston  
photo-HFC#75-2097-25*



Joan Anselmo and seasonal ranger talk to Ron Highnote, Audio Visual Specialist while manning the National Park Service Information booth at Union Station (train) during the Bicentennial in 1976. It is interesting that Anselmo is wearing the Arrowhead patch the right shoulder of her sweater. The Uniform Regulations state that it should be on the left.

*NPSHPC-HFC#98-23*



A young interpreter in her 1974 Class A uniform relates the history of the Liberty Bell to a group of guests visiting the Liberty Bell Pavilion at Independence National Historical Park during the Bicentennial, 1976.

*NPSHPC-HFC#98-24*



This young ranger is displaying the 1974 Class C uniform with skirt.

*NPSHPC-Clare Ralston photo-HFC#76-211-17A*



A woman ranger wearing her 1974 Class A uniform, complete with hat, assists NPS Director Gary E. Everhardt (1975-1977) lay a wreath at the Lincoln Memorial during the Bicentennial.

*NPSHPC-Fred R. Bell  
photo-HFC#76-39-4-23*



This female ranger is wearing the 1974 Class C uniform, without the jacket.

*NPSHPC-HFC#74-1980fr16*

**Margaret Brooks,  
Golden Gate National  
Recreation Area, 1980.**

Brooks is showing some  
young visitors what  
appears to be a compass.  
She is wearing the ranger  
parka.

*NPSHPC-Richard Frear  
photo-HFC#80235476-9*



**Rose S.N.  
Manibusan prepares  
her equipment for  
the first underwater  
survey to be con-  
ducted at American  
Memorial Park on  
Saipan, 1984. Civilian  
wet suits were used  
for work like this.**

*NPSHPC-HFC#98-25*



**Susan Ford, Horace  
Albright's  
Granddaughter,  
adjusts her tack  
prior to patrol, 1980.**

Women were now  
authorized uniforms  
suitable for this type  
of duty.

*NPSHPC-Richard Frear  
photo-HFC#8027854510*





**Nancy Medlin, Denali Nat. Park [National Park], 1988.** Medlin is dressed in the work jacket and jeans.

*NPSHPC-HFC#98-28*



In this staged photograph, 1980, Vicky White shows a park folder to a "visitor" (Gretchen Fieker, also a park employee) while "VIP" interpreter Dale Barnett in period costume of a First Sergeant of Coastal Artillery looks on. White is wearing the hip length parka with jeans, along with a pair of "Famalari's", a popular shoe of the period.

*NPSHPC-Richard Frear photo-HFC#98-27*



**Developmentally disabled visitors, ready for a hike through a Spruce-Fir Forest, receive direction from a Park Ranger. c.1985.** Ranger is wearing one of the smock/pants maternity uniform combinations.

*NPSHPC-HFC#ROMO*



**Barbara A. Booher, Superintendent, Custer Battlefield National Monument** [now Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument], **1991**. Booher, first female Native American park superintendent, is shown in front of an exhibit displaying photographs of Native Americans. She is wearing the National Park Service 75th Anniversary pin.

*Courtesy of Doug Struck/Baltimore Sun*

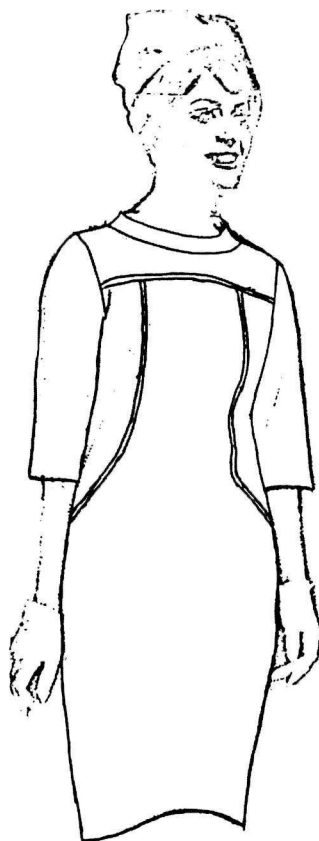


# Appendix

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## Appendix A

The following drawings appear in the July 2, 1969, National Park Service Uniform Regulations. It is not believed that these uniforms for women were ever manufactured. All items, with exception of blouse collar and accessories, were to have been loden green (forest green).



### Dress

Orlon, acrylic, wool jersey knit  
yoked shift. Welt seams, standup  
collar. Long back zipper.  
(Cost \$18/25) Dry clean

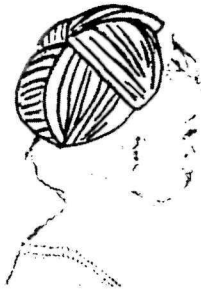
Nameplate in gold and cordovan



### Hat

Pillbox in matching color of dress and made of same material orlon-acrylic knit with contrasting gross grained cordovan colored ribbon trim.

Cost \$3.50/5.00)



**DRAPED. PILLBOX** comes in wool jersey or rayon satin. Lovely design has soft petal effect. Combs hold hat securely in place. Fits all headsizes.



### Blouse

White bermuda or peter pan-type collar. Dacron-polyester and cotton broad cloth, roll-up or sleeveless.

Machine wash—tumble dry, perma-press no ironing.

(Cost \$3.50/5.00)

### Skirt

A-line, small waistband, no pleats. perma-press, dacron-polyester and cotton blend

or

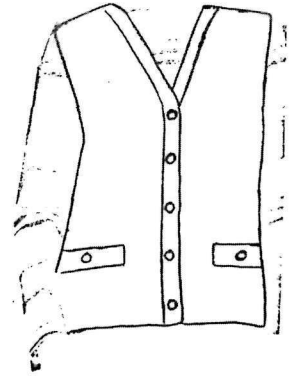
orlon acrylic wool jersey double knit  
Machine washable, tumble dry, no ironing.

### Jackets

Blazer-type of 100% orlon acrylic double knit V-neck jacket, double breasted with gold colored ladies size NPS button. Dry clean.

(Cost about \$25/30)

Ladies name pin and arrowhead insignia on left sleeve.



V-neck vest - same color as above, 100% orlon acrylic double knit to acetat tricot. Buttons gold NPS.

Dry Clean.

(Cost about \$15)

Ladies name pin.



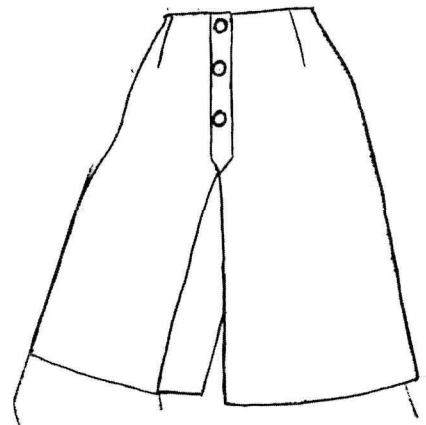
### Culottes

Perma-press, dacron-polyester and cotton.

3-button placket closing or plain.

Machine washable, tumble dry.

(List about \$6.00)





### Sweater

Cardigan type - Light wool  
or nylon knitted, long sleeves.



### Slacks

Perm-press dacron-polyester and  
cotton blend, french waistband,  
side zipper.

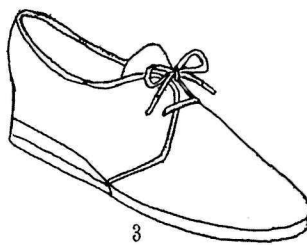
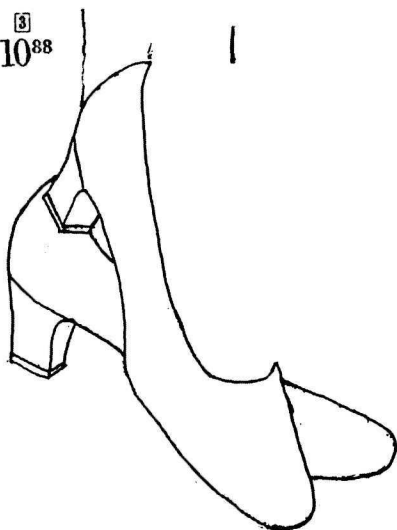
Machine washable, tumble dry.  
No ironing.

(Cost \$5.00)

### two types of shoes

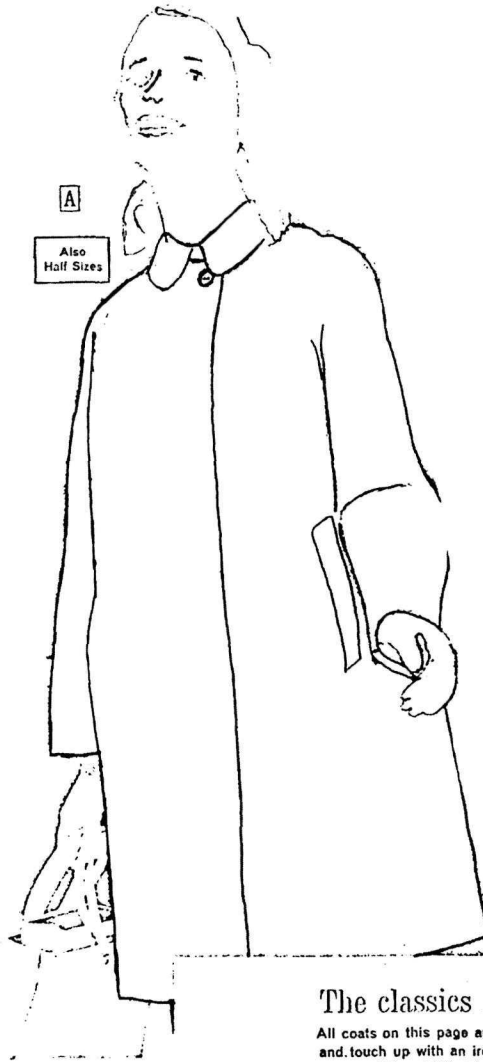
(should be cordovan colored)

3  
10<sup>88</sup>



### Soft, Grain-Leather Wedge 888

3 LEATHER-COVERED WEDGE-HEEL OXFORDS.  
Good looking, extra-comfortable—perfect for  
all-day wear on the job. Rich, grain-leather uppers.  
Springy and long-wearing cushion-crope rubber  
outsoles. Styled with the popular softly-rounded  
square toe. Shpg. wt. 1 lb. 6 oz.



### All-weather coat

Arrowhead insignia on left shoulder.

### Hat

to match color of coat



### The classics . . . ready for rain or shine!

All coats on this page are in polyester-and-cotton blend. Just machine wash and touch up with an iron. ZE PEL® treated for water- and stain-repellency.

[A] and [C] with or without acrylic pile (cotton-backed) liner.

**A** BALMACAN features classic styling for year 'round, rain- or-shine wearability. With or without zip-out liner. Deep yoke lining of self fabric. Dry clean liner. Charge it—see p. 479.

*Misses sizes: 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20. State size.*

*Colors: 17 maize yellow; 33 ice blue; 37 navy blue; 15 oyster (an off-white, slightly gray-beige). State color number-and-name.*

*A 261-0384 D—With Zip-Out Liner. Wt. 3 lbs. 5 oz. . . . . 21.90*

*A 261-0434 D—Without Zip-Out Liner. Wt. 2 lbs. 1 oz. . . . . 15.90*



### Silk scarf

White with very small arrowhead insignia in cordovan colored motif. Large, medium and small size for wear with dress, hair or as handkerchief.





Ladies summer straw hat.

Similar color to men's straw hat.  
Rough straw braid hat with small  
brim, gross-grain and stitched  
cordovan colored plastic band.

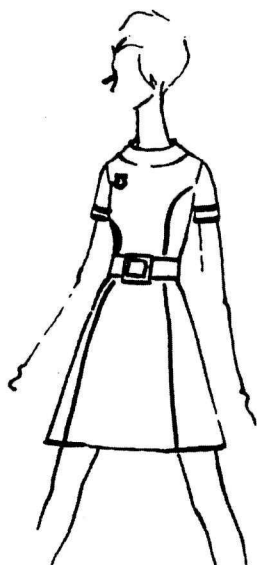


DESIGNED EXCLUSIVELY FOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

by

MARY JOAN GLYNN  
DOYLE DANE BERNBACH, INC.



Work Uniform

A-line dress; tan with white  
neck and sleeve trim; white  
self belt; unlined; 100%  
Polyester doubleknit; washable.

\$30.20



Long sleeve jacket; tan;  
tan buttons; lined; 100%  
Polyester doubleknit;  
washable.

\$37.40

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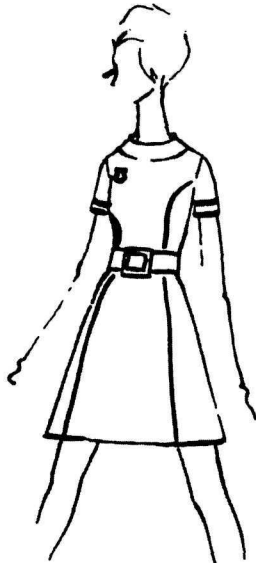
## Appendix B

These are the original drawings and prices for the new 1970 uniforms submitted by Mary Joan Glynn of Doyle Dane Bernbach, Inc.

DESIGNED EXCLUSIVELY FOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

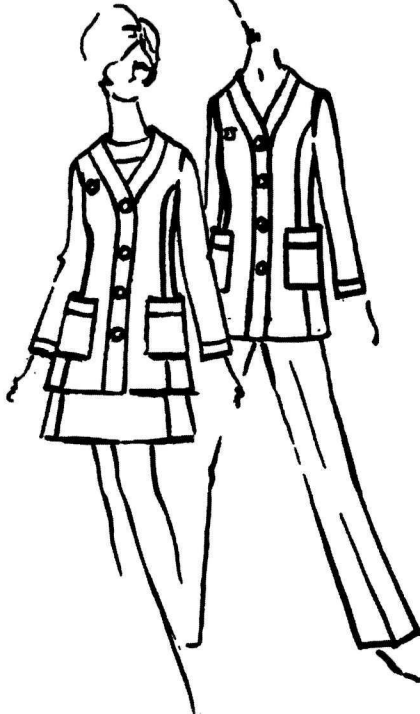
by

MARY JOAN GLYNN  
DOYLE DANE BERNBACH, INC.



A-line dress; tan with white  
neck and sleeve trim; white  
self belt; unlined; 100%  
Polyester doubleknit; washable.

\$30.20



Long sleeve jacket; tan;  
tan buttons; lined; 100%  
Polyester doubleknit;  
washable.

\$37.40

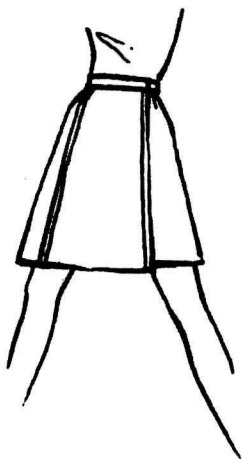


Tunic with side zipper; tan with white neck and sleeve trim; unlined; 100% Polyester doubleknit; washable.

\$24.20

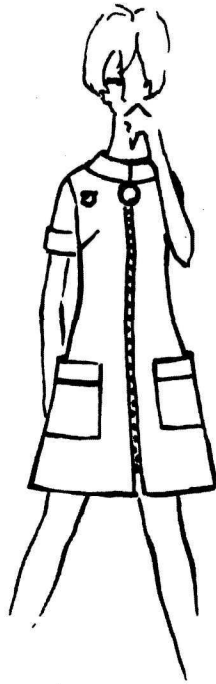
Straight leg pants; tan; unlined; elastic waistband; 100% Polyester doubleknit; washable.

\$22.80



Culotte with front and back side panels; tan; unlined; 100% Polyester doubleknit; washable.

\$24.60



Supportive Personnel's Zip-up Smock

Front zipper; tan with white neck, sleeve, and pocket trim; unlined; 100% Polyester faille; washable.

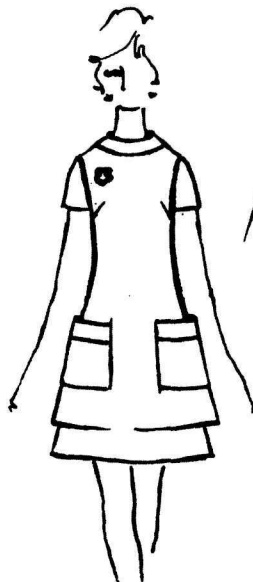
\$17.20



Domestician's Work Smock

Zipper fly front; tan; unlined; 65% Kodel/35% cotton seersucker; washable.

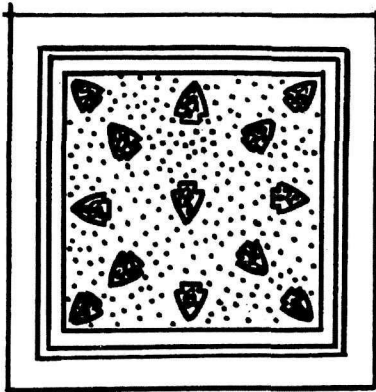
\$12.60



Pop-on

Sleeveless; back neck closing; burnt orange with white neck and pocket trim; unlined; 100% Polyester faille; washable.

\$12.00



Scarf

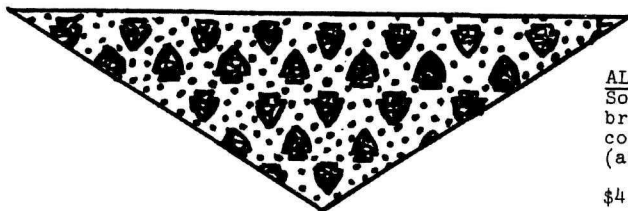
32" x 32" square;  
100% Polyester twill;  
white ground with NPS  
motif/burnt orange border;  
washable.

\$6.25

Ranger Dress Hat

Hard-brimmed; tan felt  
with grosgrain band and  
detachable chin strap.

\$8.00



ALL WEATHER HAT

Soft Beret; 100% cotton  
broadcloth with vinyl  
coating; NPS print motif  
(as on scarf).

\$4.50

## Appendix C

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WOMEN UNIFORM STANDARDS

DECEMBER 1970

*[The first part of these regulations pertain to both men and women. Apparently, 'A' related to the history portion of the original (1969) uniform regulations and wasn't included when these were issued]*

#### B. Why a Uniform

A distinctive uniform worn with pride, dignity, and demeanor promotes the ideals of the organization it represents. The National Park Service uniform immediately identifies the wearer as a representative of a Service whose employees have dedicated themselves to preserving the superlative natural, cultural, and recreational areas of the United States and presenting them in a manner which brings appreciation and enjoyment through understanding.

The performance of the people who have worn this uniform for more than a half a century had earned the Service an enviable reputation, nationally and internationally.

The roles of the Service are now projected into many large cities, and the public image there should reflect the many fine traditions, which have been established and are associated with the present uniform. Thus, the image would be the same whether it be in Alaska, Wyoming, or New York.

The reputation and the tradition symbolized by the uniform has created a cohesive organization with a high esprit de corps, and the wearer will find a public recognition which will facilitate doing his job in an effective, efficient manner.

#### C. Who Shall Wear a Uniform

The Director, Directors of the Regions, and Superintendents shall determine which employees may wear the uniform and shall specify the items which are to be worn and under what conditions, locations, and circumstances. In general, this may include any employee who has direct contact with the visiting public.

D. When is a Uniform Worn

The uniform is worn whenever an employee who is designated to wear one is on duty within a park area or National Park Service Office. The uniform may be worn on other occasions in or out of a park area where taste and judgement indicate it would be appropriate to do so, particularly when such appearance would enhance public knowledge, understanding, and support of the National Park Service, its policies, and programs. When the uniform is worn, it shall be as prescribed in these standards, or as prescribed by the Superintendent to meet local needs. Variations from these standards should be minimal.

E. Standards of Appearance When Wearing the National Park Service Uniform

The National Park Service is a people serving organization, managing our Nation's natural and cultural heritage for their inspiration, benefit, and enjoyment, now and in the future. Our uniform is a badge of our identity by which the visitor may seek services and information from our receptionists, interpreters, and maintenance personnel who are regularly working in the "public eye." For this reason, everyone who wears the uniform should wear it with pride and should make every effort to maintain a neat appearance

The NPS training booklet, Say Ranger, says this about wearing the uniform:

"your uniform tells people you are a member of the National Park Service. It gives you a sort of 'foundation personality' to build upon.

"One can't slouch attractively in a uniform. So Don't try. Somehow, uniforms seem cut for individuals who hold heads up and shoulders back. Strangely enough, humans look better that way. Especially you. Poised. Vital.. Ready for Come-what-may.

"Uniforms do save a lot of decisions about what to wear. But they do not save on

(a) cleaning and laundry bills;

(b) personal grooming.

"To speak more pointedly: while with his ears the visitor hangs on to your every word, he's also zeroing in with eyes

and nose. Under certain circumstances, honest sweat is encouraged. It's the aftermath that cause people to sidle away from you. As the TV commercials say, "Never risk offending." It is easy to offend without knowing. Keep a clean shirt on hand at the shop for emergencies.

"Nothing fits with a uniform except the articles listed below in the National Park Service Uniform Standards. No feathers, no white socks, please. Conversely, what's worn must be worn right; fabric pressed and unfrayed, tie straight, leather gear and metalwork gleaming.

"Obviously, since uniform allowances are provided, they are to be spent, but only spent on uniforms. You may love that battered old Stetson, but the public will never understand what you two mean to each other. Get a new one.

"Try to see yourself through the visitor's eyes, and be sure that self-regard doesn't dull the critique.

Your appearance in uniform will be satisfactory when standards are maintained as follows:

Hat: The Stetson hat is the hallmark of the Park Ranger. Since the woman's hat is made in the same style, the same extra care is required to keep this item in proper condition. The brim must be kept flat and free from oily fingerprints. It should be professionally cleaned and blocked at regular intervals.

Dress, Tunic, Slacks, and Culottes: must be clean and neat. If washed properly, the fabric should not require ironing, but may need "touch-up" pressing to remove wrinkles. Care should be exercised to prevent getting makeup on the white neckline trim. All garments must be the prescribed length as stated in the uniform standards below. All fastenings must be closed when the garment is worn.

Hose: must be worn with all prescribed uniforms. Should be beige neutral tone stockings or panty-hose.

Shoes and all leather: must be kept clean, polished, and in good condition.

Accessories: Those items prescribed as optional accessories must conform to the prescribed color and style. They must be kept clean and in good repair. Care must be used in the selection of jewelry as allowed in the

standards. Conspicuous or ornate rings are not consistent with the intent of the standards.

WOMEN (age25 and over)

WEIGHT IN POUNDS (in indoor clothing)

| (in shoes)<br>2" Heels | <u>Small<br/>Frame</u> | <u>Medium<br/>Frame</u> | <u>Large<br/>Frame</u> |
|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 4 10                   | 92-98                  | 96-107                  | 104-119                |
| 4 11                   | 94-101                 | 98-110                  | 106-122                |
| 5 0                    | 96-104                 | 101-113                 | 109-125                |
| 5 1                    | 99-107                 | 104-116                 | 112-128                |
| 5 2                    | 102-110                | 107-119                 | 115-131                |
| 5 3                    | 105-113                | 110-122                 | 118-134                |
| 5 4                    | 108-116                | 113-126                 | 121-138                |
| 5 5                    | 111-119                | 116-130                 | 125-142                |
| 5 6                    | 114-123                | 120-135                 | 129-146                |
| 5 7                    | 118-127                | 124-139                 | 133-150                |
| 5 8                    | 122-131                | 128-143                 | 137-154                |
| 5 9                    | 126-135                | 132-147                 | 141-158                |
| 5 10                   | 130-140                | 136-151                 | 145-163                |
| 5 11                   | 134-144                | 140-155                 | 149-168                |
| 6 0                    | 138-148                | 144-159                 | 153-173                |

Each employee authorized to wear the uniform must be well groomed and ensure that her personal appearance at all times reflects credit upon herself and the National Park Service. Supervisors are responsible for the general appearance of their uniformed personnel. Employees may be denied the privilege of wearing the uniform when their personal appearance reflects adversely upon the Service or other uniformed personnel.

Although not a uniform item, sunglasses are often desirable in many outdoor situations. To avoid undue public criticism and to present a more sophisticated appearance, the wearer should select conservative style frames and lenses. Reflective lenses shall not be worn because this prevents the eye-to-eye contact with visitors and fellow employees.

Hair should be neat and simply styled to go with the hat. Makeup should convey a healthy natural appearance. Every uniformed

employee will endeavor to maintain her weight in an appropriate ratio between height and weight as recommended in the weight chart. Every uniformed employee in the Service will be weighed every six months. The distribution of weight over the frame of any individual should be such that it does not detract from the appearance of that person while in uniform. This could mean that the weight of the person might correspond to the height-weight chart and yet the appearance could be such to require counseling by the Superintendent concerning her overall appearance. An individual exceeding the maximum weight standards might because of her weight distribution, possibly attributed to physical activity or body conditioning, present an acceptable appearance while in uniform. Normally this should not exceed 10 pounds over the maximum considering the body frame. All other employees who do not fall within the weight chart except as indicated above will be counseled by the Superintendent, and if appropriate, the employee would consult her personal physician for medical advice.

The appearance and dress of uniformed employees are the responsibility of both the employee and her supervisor and any problem in these areas should be resolved at the supervisor-employee level.

Superintendents may take employees out of uniform when, in their opinion, the employees's personal appearance detracts from the uniform and what it symbolizes.

## II. Uniform Standards - Women

### A. Purpose

1. To provide uniformity in the appearance of National Park Service personnel who are in direct contact with and/or in view of the visiting public.

### B. General Guidelines

1. A Uniform Committee, appointed by the Director, shall periodically evaluate suggestions and recommendations concerning the uniform.
2. The items of uniform an employee shall possess and wear shall be based upon:
  - (1) the duties to be performed.
  - (2) the climate conditions encountered or the work situation of her assignment.

## C. Women's Dress Uniform

The women's dress uniform is a departure from the traditional forest green and now embraces the environment—the colors of earth and sand, air and snow, and the sun. The dress hat serves as the link to the past and the male counterpart and as initial identification for the park visitor.

All permanent personnel authorized to wear the dress uniform will possess all items of the basic dress uniform as a minimum.

### 1. Basic Dress Uniform

- a. Dress, tan with white trim, small arrowhead patch on right front bodice.
- b. Jacket, tan, small arrowhead patch on right front bodice.
- c. Hat, felt.
- d. Shoes, tan to light brown, simple comfortable style with 1-1/2 or higher heel.
- e. Nametag, gold, to be worn above arrowhead patch.

### 2. Classes of Uniform

The following classes of uniform are intended to provide flexibility by prescribing the appropriate uniform for each area and climatic conditions. Superintendents may prescribe in their local uniform code any class of dress uniform which best fits the needs of his personnel with regard to appearance, comfort, and duty assignment. Where possible, all uniformed personnel of an area should be in the same class of dress uniform. This may not always be practical.

#### a. Class A (Basic)

The Class A dress uniform is the basic uniform. It shall be worn for all formal and semiformal occasions, at social functions, for all official contacts outside the area, and on other occasions as prescribed by the Superintendent. On ceremonial occasions, the scarf and gloves will be worn. If carried, a handbag should meet the criteria as prescribed in these standards. (Note: Discretion is urged in determining the use of

---

the hat. It is not recommended for indoor use.)

b. Class B (Warm Weather)

The Class B dress uniform shall consist of the basic uniform without the jacket. The straw hat may be authorized in lieu of the felt hat. The Class B dress uniform may be worn for all occasions when climatic conditions dictate. For ceremonial occasions, the scarf and gloves will be worn.

c. Class C (Cool Weather)

The Class C dress uniform consists of the basic uniform as described above except that the tunic-slacks or tunic-culottes may be worn in place of the dress and boots may be worn in place of shoes. The Class C uniform may be worn for all occasions within the park as prescribed by the Superintendent.

d. Class D (Warm Weather)

The Class D dress uniform will consist of the same items as the Class C except that the jacket will not be worn.

e. Class E

The Class E dress uniform consists of the tunic-slacks, insulated parka, boots, and scarf hat. The Class E dress uniform may be authorized for those areas subject to persistent winter conditions. It may be worn for all occasions except those prescribed for the Class A dress uniform.

f. Class F

The Class F dress uniform will consist of the tunic-jeans, felt, or straw hat, depending upon the seasons, shoes or boots, depending upon the terrain. The Class F dress uniform will be worn only in those situations where rough terrain or hazardous conditions exist. The parka may be worn in cold weather.

### 3. Dress Uniform Chart

The following chart indicates the various items to be worn with each class of the dress uniform. Assessory items must be of the prescribed type.

Class of Dress Uniform

| <u>Dress Uniform Items</u> |                  | <u>A</u>                         | <u>B</u> | <u>C</u> | <u>D</u>    | <u>E</u> | <u>F</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|----------|----------|-------------|----------|----------|
| a.                         | Dress            | X                                | X        |          |             |          |          |
| b.                         | Jacket           | X                                |          | X        |             |          | X        |
| c.                         | Tunic            |                                  |          | X        | X           | X        | X        |
| d.                         | Slacks           |                                  |          | O        | O           | X        |          |
| e.                         | Culottes         |                                  |          |          | O           | O        |          |
| f.                         | Shoes            | X                                | X        | O        | O           |          | O        |
| g.                         | Boots            | O'                               |          | O        | O           | X        | O        |
| h.                         | Hat              | X                                | X        | X        | X           |          | X        |
| i.                         | Handbag          | O                                | O        | O        | O           | O        |          |
| j.                         | Gloves           | O                                | O        | O        | O           | O        | O        |
| k.                         | Scarf            | O                                | O        | O        | O           | O        |          |
| l.                         | Scarf Hat        | O'                               | O'       | O'       | O'          | X        |          |
| m.                         | Coat             | X (as needed for warmth or rain) |          |          |             |          |          |
| n.                         | Sweater          | O                                |          | O        |             | O        | O        |
| o.                         | Parka            |                                  |          |          |             | X        | O'       |
| p.                         | Jeans            |                                  |          |          |             |          | X        |
| q.                         | Umbrella         |                                  |          |          | (as needed) |          |          |
| r.                         | Hosiery          | X                                | X        | X        | X           | X        | X        |
| s.                         | Rainhat Cover    |                                  |          |          | (as needed) |          |          |
| t.                         | Nametag          | X                                | X        | X        | X           | X        | X        |
| u.                         | I.D. Card (USDI) | X                                | X        | X        | X           | X        | X        |

X - required

O - optional, but prescribed type

O' - When climatic conditions dictate and all employees are the same

a. Dress - A-line style, tan double knit polyester fabric with white neckline and sleeve trim. A white belt of the same fabric is optional by the individual employee; long back zipper; a small arrowhead patch is sewn to the right front of the bodice. Hemline to be worn in moderate, conservative style, subject to fashion changes. Present length to be no shorter than one (1) inch above the knee.

b. Jacket - tan double knit polyester fabric with self-trim button front with matching buttons, fully lined. Small arrowhead patch to be sewn to the right front bodice.

c. Tunic - tan double knit polyester fabric with white neckline and sleeve trim. A full length zipper opens

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down left front. A small arrowhead patch to be sewn to the right front bodice.

- d. Slacks - tan double knit polyester fabric. Elastic waistband. Slack length should slope from front instep to about 1-1/4 inch from ground at heel.
- e. Culottes - tan double knit polyester fabric with front and back side panels. Length to be no shorter than one (1) inch above the knee.
- f. Shoes - should be simple in styling and have a comfortable heel. Color should be beige or tan to light brown in same color family as basic uniform, smooth or lightly grained leather (not suede or reptile.)
- g. Boots - should be simple in styling, comfortable and for winter should have warm lining. Again, color should be beige or tan to light brown in same color family as basic uniform in smooth or lightly grained leather (not suede or reptile). Work boots should coordinate as nearly as possible.
- h. Hat - Tan hard-brimmed felt with grosgrain band and detachable chin strap, also of grosgrain. (Straw hat description to be provided at a later date; specifications not firm at this time.)
- i. Handbag - Matching color to shoes — leather for winter, straw or fabric for summer.
- j. Gloves - White or beige short gloves should be worn with Class A, Class B, and Class C dress uniform when prescribed. Warm gloves in dark brown may be worn with Class E dress uniform and when the coat is worn.
- k. Scarf - 32" x 32" square; 100 percent polyester twill; white background with National Park Service motif and orange border. It is worn as prescribed for ceremonial affairs. It is also an optional accessory and may be worn at the neckline or as an extra head covering for warmth or in windy weather.
- l. Scarf Hat - Soft beret, 100 percent cotton broadcloth with vinyl coating with National Park Service motif. To be worn for bad weather head cover. It is packable and dries rapidly.

- m. Coat - A beige poplin classic coat with a zip-in liner. No other outer coat may be worn with the uniform items except as noted in Class E and F uniforms.
- n. Sweater - A cardigan in white or dark brown to be worn only when needed for additional warmth and prescribed by the local uniform code.
- o. Parka - Quilted parka in white or dark brown to be worn only as prescribed with Class E or F dress uniforms.
- p. Jeans - Camel or wheat beige to be worn only as prescribed with Class F uniform.
- q. Umbrella - Gold or light brown to be carried with any class uniform as needed for protection.
- r. Hosiery - Beige neutral tone panty-hose or stockings are required with all classes of uniform.
- s. Rainhat Cover - Clear vinyl to fit hat size to be worn on hard-brimmed hat for rain protection.
- t. Nametag - Gold nametag to be worn with each class of uniform above arrowhead patch. Should not be worn on parka, coat, or sweater.
- u. Identification card - A USDI identification card shall be carried by each person authorized to wear the dress uniform to identify her as an employee of the National Park Service.
- v. Jewelry - Simple pearl or gold earrings, and a watch may be worn. Judicious use of the American Indian craftwork in silver and turquoise is also permitted.

#### D. Women's Work Uniform

Consistent with the standards developed for a man's work uniform, the new design for women's uniforms included a specific garment for women employees where the wearing of the dress uniform would be clearly inappropriate because of the nature of the duty assignment. The work uniform serves the same basic purpose as the dress uniform in that it identifies the wearer as an employee of the National Park Service and a person from whom a visitor may obtain necessary service or assistance.

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## 1. Work Uniform Items

The work uniform consists of the following items:

- a. Domesticians work smock - tan, orange and white striped; Kodel-cotton seersucker with full length zipper fly front; pocket and sleeve self-trim; arrowhead patch to be sewn on right front bodice.
- b. Shoes or boots - Here the emphasis is on comfort and suitability to the duties; color should be beige or tan to light brown to coordinate with the work smock.
- c. Handbag - If carried, should be of matching leather in winter or of fabric or straw in summer.
- d. Scarf - Same scarf as prescribed for the Basic Dress Uniform should be worn when needed as a head-covering.
- e. Scarf Hat - May be worn optionally as prescribed with the dress uniform.
- f. Coat - The beige poplin class-style coat with zip-in liner as prescribed for the Dress Uniform should be worn when a top coat or raincoat is needed. No other outer garment is authorized with the work uniform.
- g. Sweater - White or dark brown cardigan may be worn when needed for additional warmth.
- h. Nametag - Gold nametag should be worn over the arrowhead patch.
- i. I.D. Card - A USDI identification card shall be carried by each person authorized to wear the uniform to identify her as an employee of the National Park Service.
- j. The Class F Dress Uniform - without hat may be authorized in limited situations where most of the duties occur outside in extreme weather conditions.

## 2. Who May Wear the Work Uniform

Any employee authorized by the Director, Director of a Region, or a Superintendent may be authorized to wear the work uniform. Normally, seasonal employees should not be so authorized unless their duties are such as to make the

wearing of the uniform clearly advantageous. Employees authorized to wear the dress uniform are automatically authorized to wear the work uniform while performing duties inappropriate for the dress uniform.

#### E. Women's Special Uniforms

1. Co-operating association employees in a park may be authorized to wear the zip-up smock if identification with the Service is important to their duties or part of their time is spent supplementing regular park staff. It may also be worn as a maternity uniform or for seasonal employees if prescribed by the Superintendent.

This item is listed as Supportive Personnel's Zip-up Smock. It has a full-length front zipper. It is tan with white neckline, sleeve and pocket trim. The fabric is 100 percent polyester faille.

2. Volunteer Personnel - Anyone assigned on a volunteer basis within the park to public contact duties is authorized to wear the Pop-on.

The Pop-on is sleeveless with a back neck closing; in burnt orange with white neckline and pocket trim; 100 percent polyester faille.

3. Lifeguards - The lifeguard uniform will be worn by all persons assigned to lifeguard duties at beaches or pools operated by the Service.

The uniform will consist of a one-piece classic swimming suit in bright orange; bright orange nylon shell jacket; bright orange baseball type cap. Swimming suit to be marked with standard American Red Cross lifesaving emblem on lower left side of suit. Arrowhead patch should be sewn on right top of jacket. Nametag should be above arrowhead patch.

4. Nurse

The nurse uniform will be worn by registered nurses while performing nursing duties in any National Park Service facility.

The uniform will consist of the traditional white nurse uniform of white dress, white cap, white stockings, and white shoes. The standard gold National Park Service nametag will be worn on the right front of the dress; small arrowhead patch on the left sleeve of the uniform.

A white or navy blue sweater may be worn. The traditional nurse's navy blue cape may also be worn when weather conditions dictate.

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## Notes

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As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering wise use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people. The department also promotes the goals of the Take Pride in America campaign by encouraging stewardship and citizen responsibility for the public lands and promoting citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

Publication services were provided by the graphics staff, Resource Planning Group, Denver Service Center.  
NPS D-1310 / November 1998

A Publication of the National Park Service History Collection  
Harpers Ferry Center  
Office of Library, Archives and Graphic Research  
Harpers Ferry, WV  
1998

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

# United States Department of the Interior

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Harpers Ferry Center

P.O. Box 50

Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425-0050

WASO-99090

28 April, 1999

### MEMORANDUM

To: Barry Mackintosh, History Division, WASO

From: R. Bryce Workman, Reference Services, Harpers Ferry Center

Subject: National Park Service Uniform Series, Number 4

Barry,

Here are five (5) copies of Book No.4, Breeches, Blouses and Skirts. Thanks for all your help in making it a success. It appears that No.5, The Developing Years, MEN'S UNIFORMS 1932-1970 and No.6, They Also Serve, ANCILLARY UNIFORMS 1920-1991 won't be making the grade. No.5 is basically finished, but they say there isn't any money, a common complaint these days. Anyway, at least 4 managed to slide through and maybe someone in the future will pick up the baton and run with it. I only have 138 more working days before I pack up my quill and close the ink bottle, so this will in all probability be my last one unless the powers-that-be should decide that NPS history is worthwhile. Thanks again for all your assistance in the making of this series and its been a pleasure working with you.

Enjoy.

Sincerely,

R. Bryce Workman  
Technical Information Specialist

Enclosures