

COURIER

NEWSMAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



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COVER

Time and timelessness are both elements of good storytelling, and each is represented here. The Colorado County Courthouse clock (TX) on the front cover reminds us that we are all a part of time's changeableness, that even our culture, our heritage—the source of our stories—changes with time. Nevertheless, as the back cover of the Pocahontas School graphically illustrates, the act of storytelling—or in this case, photography, a kind of storytelling—stops the clock, holds an instant in memory that has long gone by.



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INTERPRETERS: A TRADITION OF STORYTELLING AND TEACHING

There are many things this organization does well, and unquestionably one of the things it does *best* is interpretation. When it comes to telling the story, the National Park Service stands apart. When visitors come to a park in the national park system, they are likely to learn about that area from site bulletins, printed matter, films, videos, slide presentations and other materials as well as from personalized, well polished presentations from NPS employees. But what they don't see is the extraordinary effort by interpreters and others that goes on behind the scenes to make the visitors' education as complete as it can be.

Frankly, knowing the story is where it all starts. If we don't know the story, we can't tell it. Our interpreters spend countless hours researching and working to become fully informed—experts on every facet of whatever they're interpreting. What makes this a particularly complex task is the vast array of subjects we interpret—what might have happened to the Anazazi at Chaco Culture NHP in New Mexico; the finest marine garden in the Caribbean at Buck Island Reef NM in the Virgin Islands; the history of prisoners of war at Andersonville NHS in Georgia; or the formation of dunes at White Sands NM also in New Mexico. Beyond knowing the stories connected with specific resources, we also provide information on subjects like recycling and major issues like biodiversity. The Service works hard to know and tell the *full* story, often providing information that visitors can use even after they leave a park. The end result is that visitors probably get a lot more information than they expect when they first arrive at a park site.

Certainly interpreters can't know everything—learning must be a continuous process. As technology changes and new information comes to light in all areas of inquiry, we have to keep pace, and to get the latest information, we work with others. Ultimately, what we want to do is get the *best* and the *latest* information to our visitors who need to know. To do this, we look not only to the experts inside this organization, but also to the experts outside. This provides us an opportunity to talk about the complexity of resource management and the invaluable role others play in preserving and protecting parks. For example, I venture to say most people would be surprised to learn that the National Cancer Institute is contributing as our partner to the recovery program for Florida panthers in Everglades and Big Cypress. The institute analyzes skin samples to determine the cats' genetic heritage. It's through this analysis that the best possible candidates are identified for the captive breeding program. The importance of preserving these animals is something we've been telling the public about for some time; this additional information about NCI gives us a chance to illustrate the importance of genetics, the sophisticated nature of some of our activities, and the role of others in preserving our heritage—the kind of partnership I plan to continue to encourage.

Obviously, it's not just a case of having the information; it takes both skill and talent to prepare the story. Having amassed much more information than we can use, we have to select what we can reasonably communicate. Sometimes an interpreter only has a few minutes to get the point across to the visiting public. This kind of time limit makes the job of the interpreter even more demanding. Interpreters must sift through the



research, decide the critical points, and determine the most memorable ways to communicate them, all the while keeping in mind the varying time constraints that they have to work within.

Getting the information and putting the story together is no easy task, but all of this is to no avail if we don't communicate it effectively, which means knowing the needs of the audience. For example, I expect that more and more interpreters will be fluent in other languages, including sign language. The increasing numbers of foreign visitors and non-English speaking Americans will challenge us to respond effectively with bi-lingual and multi-lingual interpreters and more such interpretive materials. The Harpers Ferry Design Center already has instituted captioning on visitor center films to enhance the understanding of the hearing impaired, and I'm pleased to find more and more interpreters learn-

ing to sign. It's important that we be able to communicate in a way that all visitors can understand and appreciate.

Our interpreters are already very successful in sharing the story with the public in a personalized way. Despite the large numbers of visitors, somehow we manage to avoid the appearance of *canned* presentations. Interpreters tailor their messages to whom they're speaking, and, even more importantly, their talks are generally interactive. On a number of occasions I've been told about interpreters who, when asked a question by a visitor that they couldn't answer, took the time to find the answer and sent the information along in a letter.

The Service is fortunate to have a hard-working cadre of interpreters. They, along with each and every employee, make a significant contribution to the Service. While we are looking to increase that support for interpretation through the appropriation process, we have also recently begun to increase resources for interpretation through private/public partnerships. It's an area where we are finding enthusiasm for support because it reaches people, has a tangible quality, and can be accomplished through projects of manageable cost. Several examples that come to mind and that I feel have been very successful are: the Dow-sponsored recycling program in several major parks which is receiving not only general media attention but also public attention through the production of informational materials being provided to visitors; the NPS brochure on insects and the niche they fill in the environment, funded and produced by the S. C. Johnson Company; and a generous donation from Citibank to the National Park Foundation to be used for interpretive programs.

In this year, our 75th Anniversary, it seems especially fitting to recognize the critical role that interpreters play throughout the system. The interpreters of the Service deserve our congratulations for the outstanding job they do and our appreciation for reaching the public with the park story.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "James M. Ridenour". The signature is written in a cursive style.

James M. Ridenour

FROM THE EDITOR

Recently, my son and I went to a wedding—"a large, loose wedding" as the bride described it, held in a house she said I was sure to love: "Your kind of house, Mary. Gnarled old wisteria on the columns in front and a porch that goes on forever."

But I am never very exacting when it comes to directions. Sometimes I just sniff the wind and travel, expecting my animal senses to lead me where I need to go. This time, I turned down a paved drive—the prospective bride had said it would be gravel, but obviously *she* didn't know—missing the tall trees she also had told me to park beneath, finding instead an immaculately tended house and lawn, complete with duck pond and blacktopped parking lot. Was this the house I would love? Certainly, it was restored well enough to appeal to those who wanted a hike, then dinner at a country inn, which this was. But love? For my taste there were not enough scars. Here was a house, well-turned, well-established, but without any evidence of pain or loss—too perfect for me—one that failed in honesty because the chain of events that placed it in time was gone. Its history was no longer written on its face. In its manicured state, this country inn spoke only of new money and unreal orderliness—not the kind of house that I could love.

Fortunately, I discovered that I was in the wrong place, and that the wedding—and the house—I wanted were across the street. Following directions at last, I crunched down a gravel drive, and parked beneath the well-sized trees I had been told to expect.

Now what did I see? A house to fall in love with, a house with its history written on its face. A house with a hall where guests of the Confederacy once gathered before they were interrupted by Union troops, a house that had been lived in and showed it—where the lawn was a bit shaggy, where peonies pushed up in surprising locations, where nothing was too trim, too clean, too precisely placed. Even my young son, who is slow to feel at home anywhere, went off to have adventures of his own, and to return with tales of tantalizing trips through cornfields and his first illicit taste of champagne.

It was a wonderful afternoon, because nothing was too well defined. There was room for secondary and tertiary interpretations. There was room to create individual relationships with the house and the lawn because, unlike the inn across the road, this house contained the scars of its own long history visible to all. And because it did, because it had been permitted its own extraordinary honesty, it seemed a place where relationships—and therefore history—could continue to deepen, rather than one where everything had been neatly finished off.

Places such as this, where stories can be told, influence who we are, what we do, and even with whom and how we move through the world. We remember what we hear there and go on to apply it to our lives. We even pass the stories on, becoming storytellers ourselves, hoping to share with others the sense of immediacy and instantly recognizable truth we feel we have gleaned. These stories, grounded in fact, permit us to explore the various guises that truth assumes and the way such guises relate to each other. They give integrity to our scars, whether these scars be physical or mental—the mark that history makes on the face of a house or on our own faces.

How do we preserve the multiplicity of truth that allows this storytelling to happen? Time loses things, generally what we value most—the accounts, writ large and small, of who we are and how we've lived till now—our history, our stories, in all the many forms these take. How do the storytellers assure themselves that their frames of reference—in the case of historical interpretation, the base of corroborated "fact" or "reality"—are reliable? Is it the stories themselves that give meaning or the frames of reference on which they're built and that the stories themselves give access to? And what is the responsibility of the storyteller in this slippery setting? How much is he or she allowed to bend the frame?

All of us are inclined to seek for answers that are unwavering, because the knowledge that we have them provides stability in a universe that steps lightly on the edge of chaos. Answers are certainty, and even the wrong ones help us overlook just how truly unknowable, how rough and unfinished, things really are. Answers place the period at the end of the sentence. They tidy things up, finish them off. And yet, in

so doing, they may deny the generous space around us that could be used to deepen our stories. It is an act of courage to allow for multiple truths—that generous space around us. But we are also given a choice. It is up to us, as storytellers, whether we allow access to that space—to the stories that spin on and on, drawing their long strands from the endless fabric of human history—or whether we simply stop the story with the first available period.

This issue of *Courier* concerns itself with storytelling, with the quantifiable unquantifiable elements that provide for continuity and rediscovery from generation to generation, that help us open our eyes wide to the truths about ourselves, as well as the experiences of those we have only heard about, whom we will never meet. It also deals with some of the issues revolving around the way these stories are told. Laura Feller's article focuses on the manipulative side of storytelling—the political function history can serve, depending on who's telling the story. Ed Bearss' personal account gets at the roots of good storytelling: factual accuracy paired with a wonderful ability to make information entertaining—essentially to so electrify the space between storyteller and listener that the scene enacted there with the mind's eye is the same for both. Peter Steinhart defines this same skill as the capability to become "passionately engaged with what humans do," and suggests that it is the interpreter's passionate engagement that prepares the listener to experience the "novelty and surprise" offered by park history. Kay Weeks and Lauren Meir illustrate just how immensely the work treatments we choose for historic properties effect the breadth and depth of the stories interpreters are able to tell, as well as who the cast of characters will be.

Perhaps the most profound aspect of storytelling is the recognition by the storyteller that he or she indeed is very much responsible for the story—its accuracy as well as the lesson it conveys. The act of telling—of using imagination in some way to intensify reality—involves the speaker, the writer, the dancer, the musician, the interpreter, storytellers all, no matter what form the story takes. And each of these individuals then becomes part of somebody's story. When a visitor recounts the "novelty and surprise" of park history to a neighbor, inevitably he or she must

mention the way it was presented by the artist/interpreter. *Little Big*, a book written some years ago by John Crowley, suggests just this—that we are all wound up in somebody else's story and, ultimately, because of this, in the fabric of life itself.

And so my friend's wedding has become part of the story of that old mansion in Urbana as well as the pages of the *Courier*. Stories lead our inquiries forward and back in time. They stretch us as far as we can stretch. They are our teachers. But *we* are the ones—the storytellers—responsible to future generations for the accuracy and the integrity of the stories that we tell.

THE MORE THINGS CHANGE...

William Davis

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could go back in time to attend the first interpretive program ever given by a National Park Service ranger, some 75 years ago? While the exact words may have been lost, I'd be willing to bet that somewhere in that talk, a visitor safety message was given to the "greenhorns" experiencing the a national park for the first time. "Watch your step down the trails," or "please be careful of the wildlife," or "place your campfires in a ring," all must have passed the lips of rangers in those early days. Of course, as we move towards the year 2000, we all know that modern visitors to the national park system are more aware of the safety risks they may be taking in areas that cannot be modified or controlled to eliminate hazards...right? Well, would you believe...

Summaries of accident/incident reports (DI-134s) for the past 15 years show clearly that 80% of all accidents occur as the result of unsafe acts; the remaining 20 percent result from unsafe conditions. Facility inspections to identify dangerous conditions are relatively easy, and corrective measures tend to alleviate problems for extended periods of time. Trying to prevent public accidents, however, means dealing with visitor behavior, perhaps the most challenging aspect of park management.

In the workplace, behavior modification can be achieved through a variety of management tools, such as performance

bonuses and on-the-job training. The single-most important management tool for modifying visitor behavior continues to be the interpretive program. Whether through printed materials, wayside and visitor center exhibits, or the "fireside chat," the interpretive contact continues to represent the best chance to spark the visitor's awareness of possibly unconsidered and dangerous conditions. Historically, the government has prevailed in numerous litigation claims based on the strength of the visitor safety information provided to the claimant as part of an interpretive effort.

Over the years, we have learned many things about interpretation and visitor safety: messages must be provided; they must be specific; and they must be clear for the intended audience. We have learned also that the vast majority of park visitors come with less awareness of the dangers posed by nature than did their counterparts 75 years ago. While "the medium may be the message," in this case, the message will always be the same. The more things change, the more they stay the same!

THE PERSONNEL SIDE

Terrie Fajardo

I could see my old friend, Regional Training Officer Laura Woodson, pointing to the clock at the back of the room. I was addressing my first orientation class in my new position with National Capital Region's Personnel Division, and I was really involved in the discussion.

"Well, ladies and gentlemen, I appreciate your very kind welcome but we're running out of time and I think we can only take one more question," I responded to Laura's gesture. "You, sir, in the fourth row. What can I answer for you?"

"Terrie, is it true that every employee has to serve a probationary period?"

That's a good one, I mused to myself. "Yes," I answered his question, "I'll tell you all about it!"

Poor Laura. Shaking her head, she left the classroom to go inform the next speaker it was going to be a while.

Remember, when a permanent employee comes into the government for the first time, he or she is appointed under

career-conditional authority. This career-conditional appointment lasts three years (after which time, the employee is converted to career status—but that's another story). For the first year of this appointment, the employee is considered to be "on probation." This means that if, during this first year, your supervisor feels that you should not continue to be employed because of performance or disciplinary problems, you may be terminated. This is called "Termination During Probationary Period."

Many new permanent employees do not understand the serious nature or ramifications of this probationary period. During this time, you are being evaluated by your supervisor not only on how well you do your job, but also on whether or not you come to work on time or abuse your leave. Employees are notified of this "probationary period" because it is typed directly into the remarks section of the "Notification of Personnel Action," SF-50, that each employee receives shortly after he or she enters on duty. Oftentimes, the "probationary period" is explained by the personnel staff during orientation to be sure that employees know what is expected.

"Termination During Probationary Period" does not mean that you can never work for the federal government again. But being "terminated" is a very emotional, difficult time for the employee, as well as the supervisor (no one enjoys firing anyone). It is important that new employees learn what is expected. And certainly coming to work on time and not abusing leave are as important as learning the job!

New employees should discuss the "probationary period" with supervisors or with the employee relations specialist in their personnel/administrative office. These people can help you "learn all about it!"

"Till next time, keep cool this summer."

Note: After ten years with the WASO Personnel Office, Terrie has accepted a position with the Personnel Division of the National Capital Region. She'd like to thank the folks in the divisions and offices that make up "Headquarters" for the good times they shared together and for their lasting friendship. She will continue her column from NCR.

LETTER

The staff at Casa Grande Ruins would like to correct a date that appeared on page 11 of the *Courier's* Anniversary issue. The date reported as Casa Grande Ruins' establishment as a federal land reservation was 1888. The correct date is June 22, 1892—and thus, next year, marks the monument's centennial celebration. The staff is full of enthusiasm since this will be only the fifth such celebration held in the National Park Service.

The initial European discovery of Casa Grande Ruins was by Jesuit Father Eusebio Kino in 1694. In his quest to introduce both Christianity and European influence he ventured into what we today call the deserts of Mexico and Arizona. Through his contacts with the Pima he learned of a *Hottai ki* (Rock House), and on November 27, 1694, he found it, subsequently naming it the Casa Grande (Big House).

Originally established by President Benjamin Harrison as a federal land reserve on June 22, 1906, it became a national monument on August 3, 1918, under the newly formed National Park Service. The monument was the first archeological site preserved, and is the fifth oldest unit in the park system, preceded only by Hot Springs (1832), Yellowstone (1872), Sequoia and Kings Canyon (1890), and Yosemite (1890).

The upcoming anniversary is much more than a celebration of time. It is a celebration of successful partnerships also—partnerships between federal and state governments, the academic and scientific communities, private organizations and the American people. In 1992 when a new group of friends celebrates the foresight and dedication of the pioneers who first helped preserve the monument, they will also be recognizing the partnerships that have ensured its continued preservation for future generations.

Don Spencer
Superintendent
Casa Grande Ruins NM

ANNOUNCEMENT

The George Wright Society (GWS) has begun planning activities for the next Parks and Ecological Reserves Conference

to be held in November 1992, in Jacksonville, FL. In an effort to make this upcoming event the most well attended and productive one yet, the planning committee and board members are soliciting your opinions and suggestions.

In planning for the conference, GWS hopes to: 1) increase participation by cultural resource experts; 2) increase participation by other federal and state agencies; and 3) include non-governmental organizations. Conference planners also hope to encourage greater participation by managers as well as scientists, resource managers, and cultural resource experts. The conference theme, "Partners in Stewardship," reinforces these goals. Suggestions for plenary session themes and symposia topics are welcome. Those who wish to volunteer as coordinators or session chairs should contact the program chairperson in their area of interest: Cultural Resource Program Chair Harry Butowski (FTS 343-8155); or Natural Resource Program Chair John Donahue (FTS 268-4274). These program chairpersons also may be reached at NPS MIB 1210, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013.

BOOKS

South & North Bass: Grand Canyon trail guide, published by Grand Canyon Natural History Association, is the collaborative work of authors Jim Babbitt and Scott Thybony, editor Rose Houk, photographer George H. H. Huey, and designer Christina Watkins. A 48-page publication full of interesting information, it is a valuable addition to the Grand Canyon trail guide series.

Southwest Parks and Monuments
Association has released several new publications: *Capulin Volcano National Monument*, *Curecanti National Recreation Area*, *Pinnacles National Monument* (\$2.95 each), and *Padre Island: The National Seashore*, an \$8.95 publication, which not only provides a sensitive look at this natural resource but also informs readers of the significant problem litter poses for the park. Each of these new publications is an excellent way to get a better understanding of the natural and cultural history that have shaped these areas.

THE ANSEL HALL FUND

The Service's 75th Anniversary has helped launch the Ansel Hall Fund for Education and Interpretation. A restricted account held by the National Park Foundation, it originated out of donations and licensing fees assessed for approved uses of the trademarked 75th anniversary logo. Its purpose is to provide revenue for interpretation and environmental/heritage education projects in national park system units.

Designed to be an open account that will continue to receive donations (from cooperating associations, concessioners, foundations, individuals, and others), it will be disbursed only among NPS field-level units. Applications to the fund may be made beginning in 1992, and will be judged by a panel on the merits of criteria still to be announced.

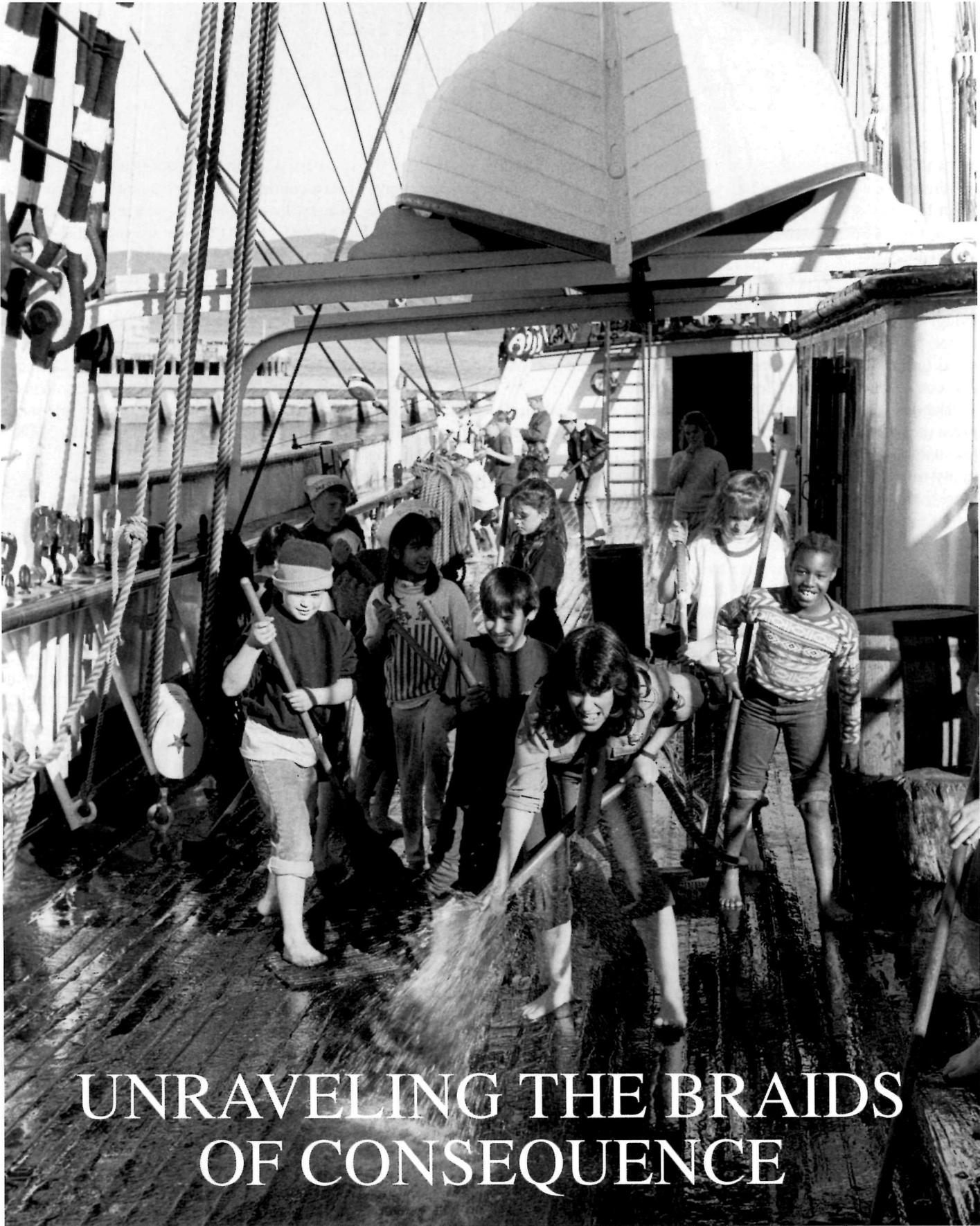
The fund was named for Ansel Hall, a pivotal force during the early years of park educational programs, as well as the first NPS chief naturalist (1923-1930). Hall began his work with the Service as a Sequoia NP ranger after graduation from the University of California in 1917. Later, at Yosemite, Hall raised private funds to build the park's first museum. He also established the first cooperating association, a concept now invaluable to interpreters and park visitors. Hall retired from the Service in 1938 to operate the Mesa Verde NP concessions.

Bill Winkler, Hall's son-in-law, commends those developing the fund: "As you pursue the development of the Ansel Hall Fund, Ansel's ghost will be riding on your shoulder, and the reason I know that to be true is he was the damndest money raiser I ever saw."

Bill Sontag

HELP WANTED

Do you know of NPS employees who died in the line of duty? The Washington Office wants to compile a list for a possible commemorative plaque in the Director's corridor. Names of employees, titles, parks, dates of death and relevant facts would be appreciated. Send information to Bob Whitman, NPS Operations, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127 or phone (202) 208-3227.



UNRAVELING THE BRAIDS
OF CONSEQUENCE

UNRAVELING THE BRAIDS OF CONSEQUENCE

I was reading last night about Francis Galton, the British thinker who coined the term "eugenics." Galton was interested in the details of things. He demonstrated that each person's fingerprints were different but unchanging through life. He explored in Africa and invented the weather map. Galton was a short man, and apparently self-conscious about his stature. Walking through London, he carried, under his coat, a brick on a string. When he came upon a crowd gathered about a sidewalk orator, he unobtrusively lowered the brick to the ground, and stood on the brick to get a better view. When he was ready to stroll on, just as secretly, he reeled in his platform.

That last detail is what I'll always remember about Galton. It gives me a visual image of the man, a human squeek to go with his sonorous reputation, one that I may play over and over again in my mind, fitting to it whatever reason I like. It is that detail, more than what I know of eugenics and its brutal misapplication by Nazis and racists the world over, that clears a path back through the silence of time to the man. It's what makes the history mine.

That I am drawn to find such a path perhaps sets me apart. Few Americans, I suspect, would be willing to read about Galton. We read about Michael Jordan or Warren Beatty, Donald Trump or Nancy Reagan, men and women of prominence but little influence on our own lives. We don't try to unravel the braid of consequence that led us to our present thought and action. We bury the dead and forget them. We do not read history or think historically.

A recent example: when Iraq invaded Kuwait, the media hardly at all focused on the circumstances which led Iraq to invade, on the drawing of middle eastern boundaries by European powers after World War I, on the nature of the territorial disputes between Iraq and Kuwait, on the reasons Iraqis felt they had rights to Kuwait's oil, or on the circumstances that led Iraq to be ruled by a ruthless dictator in the first place. Instead, the media focused on whether Saddam Hussein was a madman and whether or not we could beat him. Doubtless, our focus on the personality of the dictator helped unify us and motivate us to fight effectively. But we came away from the war with no better understanding of the region or its problems and no better understanding of what we might do to prevent such future crises.

In the past we believed in history. We told stories about the founding fathers. We compared the American republic to those of Greece and Rome. We were more interested in how things took shape, and we looked to the past to explain them.

Overleaf: Park Ranger Celeste Bernardo and her mates swab the decks on the schooner C. A. Thayer, one of the clean-up activities at the end of an environmental living program at San Francisco Maritime NHP.

In those days, we had a number of clear goals, a sense of ongoing progress, and a common set of behaviors (hard work, justice, frugality, fairness, love, patience, courage) that seemed to lead us toward those goals. I don't believe we share those behavioral values today the way we did at midcentury. Winning is now the centerpiece of our culture. In our culture, the Super Bowl and the World Series are as important as Christmas and the Fourth of July. Presidential inaugurations are even scheduled around sporting events. We focus on winners instead of creators and shapers.

In that older era of common goals, we believed in character. The heroes of midcentury, men like Earl Warren, Winston Churchill or Dwight Eisenhower, cared more what people said of their nobility than what people thought of their wealth or power. We're not so sure we have character in this narcissistic age, and we tend instead to look for wealth and power. As a result, we tend to believe more in mechanistic views of life. Today, history stresses economics. And that narrower view offers less invitation to the human imagination and creativity. It closes to us many of the halls of history.

I believe there are good historical explanations for the change. We are a more plural society than we were at midcentury, with different class, ethnic and sexual agendas. We have trouble setting common goals. We even have trouble finding the roots of this pluralism in our history. History was once largely white, middle class history. It has had a hard time recasting itself to explain and enthuse a society with such diverse views.

With conflicting purposes dividing our own society and the communities of the world we feel less in control of our destinies. In 1945, Americans felt that they had the ability to shape the fate of the world. We had triumphed in the most devastating war the world had known, we had technological advances, nuclear power, supersonic transport, instant communication, the mastery of space, that made us seem unbeatable. But even as these powers grow, our individual abilities to affect the future seem to diminish. We have less faith in our ability to control the general drift of society. We live in a time of clouded destinies. Because of that, we don't resort to history. We have to have faith in the future to have interest in the past.

Finally, we have come more and more to use history as part of the contests between rival goals. As a result, when we are given historical explanations, we are often aware that they are manipulations, rather than interpretations of the facts of the past. In the 1960s, partisans argued whether the histories of the Kennedy administration written by historian Arthur Schlesinger and aide Theodore Sorensen were really histories or hagiographies. We quarreled over whether the Gulf of Tonkin resolution was based on history or fiction. Likewise, we doubted official accounts of the Kennedy assassination and the Iran-Contra scandal. Our



At left, raising the mizzen staysail, a hands-on public demonstration aboard San Francisco Maritime NHP sailing ship Balclutha, one of many programs at the park that help preserve and pass on the colorful details of a historic period. Above, Darrell Collins shares his account of the Wright Brothers' adventure with gravity at Kitty Hawk.

common sense of history, the sense we are taught in school, is that it is a true account. But we soon came to see that political and ideological purposes can trim the truth from historical account. History becomes argument rather than elucidation. Such accounts cease to be our own history; they become the possessions of others. When they do, we lose interest in them.

It is in this context that the National Park Service has acquired a growing mission to practice and conserve American history. National Park Service history is an oddity in that its consumers tend to blunder into it in the course of a weekend vacation. It comes unexpected—neither as the history of political argument or the history chosen by an amateur off the library shelf. This is a disadvantage, in that the audience may not arrive with open ears.

But it's an advantage because it is not bound by ideological purpose. It is also an advantage because, when well practiced, park history has the power of novelty and surprise. I have drowsed during campfire programs and monument talks, only to find myself suddenly awake, listening to Darrell Collins' account of the Wright Brothers' adventure with gravity at Kitty Hawk, or David Nettles recreation of 19th century sea life aboard *A. C. Thayer* in San Francisco Bay. A tour over the Antietam battlefield with Virgil Leimer made me feel the horrors of war more deeply than anything I saw of Vietnam on television.

One quality seemed to inspire these presentations. Whatever they thought about human beings in general or particular, the interpreters were passionately engaged with what humans do. The interpreters were not partisan, urging me to buy into an endorsement of Abe Lincoln or John Muir. They asked me only

to buy into the belief that human character is lively, inventive, full of surprise and comfort. And the interpreter did so by recounting small details of human mind and character. Collins at Kitty Hawk was engaged with the intellectual and mechanical puzzles of controlling flight, Nettles with the hard work and brutal authority that went into 19th century seafaring and Leimer with the depth of character of men in battle. It was this same attention to human detail that caught my mind last night while reading about Francis Galton.

I don't know whether such presentations affect other people the way they affect me. But I suspect they do. We may live in an era that doubts history. But we remain human, always interested in the scent and shape and movement of other humans. Like dogs on the porch, we are gossipy and curious and quickly attentive to the movement of any passerby. The success of the recent Public Broadcasting Corporation series on the Civil War shows that history can, by cultivating a feeling for the range of human character and perception, still speak across the ages. The series used the diaries and recollections of the contemporaries, rather than the distant view of modern interpreters. It gave us honest details and let us take those details into our hearts and eyes, to turn and savor and think about them. It let us reclaim our history. It was immensely moving and immensely popular.

I suspect there is much more of this kind of history in our national parks. And I know from experience that when history sings, there is no need to proselytize, to convince people that it is their duty to save this history or its artifacts or the jobs of the men and women who conserve it. A good story is always worth the telling. And the eloquence of the past becomes its own best argument for historic preservation.

Peter Steinhart is a regular contributor to Audubon magazine, whose essays have considered the virtues of front porches as well as the human duality that fuels wetland loss. This article was contributed to Courier in the spirit of the Service's 75th anniversary.

INTELLIGENT INTERPRETATION

PRESERVING THE QUALITY OF THE PARK SYSTEM.

There is a good bit of healthy talk these days about quality in the national park system, with some voices arguing that there have been too many recent additions to the system that are unworthy of it. I say this is a healthy discussion because it is always good for a government agency to ask itself whether it is doing well, or even doing at all, the tasks it has been charged with. Quite rightly, national park professionals take pride in presiding over "the crown jewels" of the nation's scenic wonders and premier historic sites, and, equally rightly, there has been, as one hopes there always will be, debate about the suitability of each prospective new unit. I have elsewhere argued that the 357 units of the national park system may be viewed as branch campuses of the finest (and largest) university in the world, for I see each unit as serving a unique educational mission—whether that mission is primarily to protect and preserve or to honor and commemorate—and it follows that issues of quality are important, for one does not want a branch campus that is less than excellent.

But I think a good bit of the worry is misplaced. Some of it may be simply a feint at an old question by those who do not believe that the Park Service should have any historical properties under its management, however significant they may be. This is quite wrong, in my opinion, because the beauty, indeed the synergy, of the American system of national parks arises in good measure from the highly articulated and intelligent mix of types of resources within one administrative agency. One good way to destroy the system (that is, to destroy its consciously systematic assemblage of the nation's points of pride) would be to separate the natural from the historic units, or to push the

cultural units into some new agency. One suspects, however, that few who understand the park system would wish to go back solely to the days of the tall trees.

Of course, not everyone agrees on what is historically significant, just as not everyone is willing to wait the customary period of time (traditionally said to be fifty years) before passing judgment on significance. Even if one accepts that there should be a Man-in-Space NHP (for who would doubt the significance of such an achievement, despite the Park Service's failure to wait fifty years to make a judgment), some might doubt that Cape Canaveral is the right place. There may be someone lurking out there amongst the public who believes a Women's Rights NHP to be inappropriate, though in fact its creation was long overdue by virtually any historical judgment. Perhaps someone would like to avoid the tricky political and moral questions that arise when pressures mount to create a unit at one of the places I call "America's sites of shame," even if most would agree on the significance of such a site. In other words, political issues well beyond the control of the Park Service play an important role in judgments, and even where they do not and the debate over a site is more nearly purely scholarly in nature, opinions held with good will and in good faith may legitimately differ.

We must not forget that, in the end, it is Congress that man-

Modern view of
Cumberland Gap. At far
right is an artist's conception of
Cumberland Gap tunnel.



dates what it is we will celebrate, preserve, protect, and interpret within the national park system. At times individual Congressmen may offer up a site that is patently unsuitable, but if that is the case, education is the solution, so that Congressmen, like the public, may more fully understand the Park Service's unique mission and call to excellence. Even a unit that, at first glance, seems somewhat dubious tells us a good bit about the nation's sense of itself, of what it takes pride in, and, thus, of the political process by which we practice our democracy.

In any event, I find that those charged with interpreting units within the national park system are so skilled, so imaginative, and so intelligent, they most often can take a site that might be deemed borderline—more often these days borderline in its integrity rather than in its significance—and can turn that unit into a first-rate visitor experience. I think, for example, of Cumberland Gap NHP. When I first visited the gap I thought it far too altered, its integrity destroyed by highway and railroad, to be able to offer the visitor a genuine historical experience. The Park Service has wisely interpreted its mandate quite broadly, however, and at the park one learns not only of Daniel Boone and the first passage of settlers westward into Kentucky and Tennessee (no doubt the primary mission associated with the unit in the minds of those who mandated it), but the interpretation boldly goes on to capitalize on the great four-lane highway down upon which one looks, with the sixteen-wheelers of modern-day commerce streaming through the gap, and a railway line fringing it, both testimony to the role of transportation in the westward movement. Some might say the Park Service has too many units dedicated to the westward movement; it does have many, but each is unique, and there is no other than Cumberland Gap

which focuses so intelligently on the role of transport in transforming the landscape and the society beyond the mountains.

As I reflected on those 357 units of the park system this month (having visited 333), I recalled as many as twenty that I had thought were bad ideas when first proposed. I have visited all of those "bad ideas" recently, and at least 75 percent of them have turned into very good ideas indeed, through intelligent in-

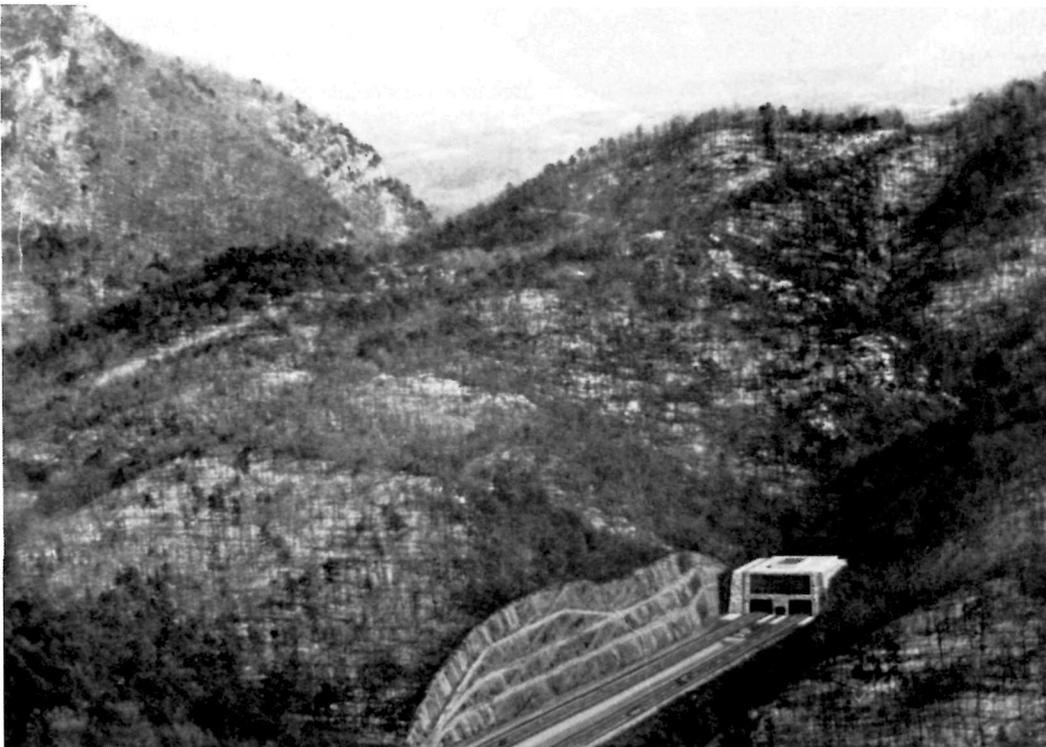
I have never met a park I didn't like, and, though vigilance is the price of quality, we need not despair.

terpretation. Some need more funding so that imagination may take flight; one or two, in my view, need to be interpreted more broadly in order to achieve their potential; conceivably three or four will not make the grade. That is hardly a decline in quality, since three of my "three or four" came into the park system more than thirty years ago. I have never met a park I didn't like, and, though vigilance is the price of quality, we need not despair.

There are rocky roads ahead, to be sure. Park units must not become exercises in economic development. The public must not expect the Park Service to provide recreational entertainment (recreation, in the original sense of re-creation of the human spirit, of course). Historic sites of merely regional or state significance must not be inflated into national significance. There must be clear criteria of quality and national significance in order to protect the park system from attacks on these three fronts. But an examination of the system as it is today suggests a

success story which, if properly understood, may itself become the instrument of defining those criteria.

Robin W. Winks, a former chairman of the National Park System Advisory Board and Townsend Professor of History at Yale University, is writing a general book for the Service's 75th anniversary year on the national park ethic in the United States.



"It's good to be an American going West" — Archibald MacLeish

REINTERPRETING THE MYTH OF THE FRONTIER

Most people, including visitors to parks, understand the significance of myths to cultural heritage. They understand the power of such narratives to unify generations around a shared past and to shape their future behavior. But myth-making is not confined to a distant preindustrial or prehistoric past. Potent and pervasive myths about the European-American experience in North America influence us all.

The myth of the frontier is one of the most influential of these Anglo-American myths. Anyone who grew up playing cowboys-and-Indians and watching westerns knows how pervasive its symbols are. In many parks, aspects of the frontier myth are among the most important interpretive emphases. From Jamestown NHS (VA) and Cumberland Gap NHP (KY) to Homestead NM (NE) and the Little Bighorn battlefield in Montana, the Service presents and interprets this myth to the American public as part of a shared national culture. What we usually don't do is talk with visitors about how this myth arose out of specific historic conditions and social and cultural circumstances, or how it changed as the United States developed from colonial and primarily agricultural beginnings into an industrialized and culturally pluralistic society. Visitors bring to parks a sense of America fundamentally shaped by frontier mythology. But they don't bring the tools to put that mythology in context.

Richard Slotkin's analysis of frontier mythology provides a larger context into which we can place our understanding of the push West. His *Regeneration Through Violence*, volume one of a projected trilogy, describes the development of the frontier myth, beginning with the early days of the English-speaking colonies, from 1600 to 1860. He draws on early New England war and captivity narratives, as well as sermons and other writings to show Puritan New Englanders' reaction to an environment that seemed to threaten both social order and personal spiritual salvation. For them, the North American environment became a symbol of



Frontiersman Daniel Boone

potential chaos, disorder, loss of European identity and religious sanctity. It represented seductive possibilities for a life untrammelled by European convention and responsibilities. Nonetheless, because the Puritans accused European society of decadence and other sins, they also found their new environment to be a place where they could establish society on a higher moral plane. For them, New England's forests and original peoples became a theater for moral struggle. Here, if they could subdue and conquer, they could clarify and demonstrate their faith.

Within this environment, Native Americans came to symbolize the depravity that awaited those Puritans who wandered too far from their European roots. Because Europeans also regarded the Indian as a symbol of "primitive" humanity, Indians alternatively were viewed as natural men and women endowed with a harmony, nobility, and simplicity lost to their civilized brothers and sisters. No matter which stereotype the colonists drew on, the struggle to maintain European social and cultural heritage became linked inextricably with the fight to subdue the "howling wilderness" of North America and the people they found there. Racially-oriented warfare became part of a complex of metaphors for bringing spiritual light, industry, and progress to a wild and untamed landscape. Not to tame this landscape was, for the Puritans, to accommodate darkness and chaos.

Many visitors to Jamestown Island, Fort Raleigh NHS (NC), Fort Frederica NM (GA), Arkansas Post NMem (AR), Castillo de San Marcos NM (FL), De Soto NMem (FL), and Fort Caroline NMem (FL) conceive of these sites as the first stages in this epic struggle to subdue the wilderness. Even if they do not view this process exactly in Puritan terms—as civilization battling against barbarism—they may interpret these parks as the beginning of a march of progress and productivity over a previously untapped and untamed landscape.

Dr. Slotkin traces the development of the frontier myth to the early years of the U.S. republic. The need to set Americans apart from both Europeans and Indians was a crucial cultural problem for the new nation. Thus, the potentially ennobling qualities of the wilderness experience, as well as its dangers, became part of the developing myth. This is notably apparent in the legend of Daniel Boone, the hunter/Indian fighter who became a central heroic figure in this conception of the frontier. Boone personified the tension between civilization and wilderness. As a mediator between society and the frontier, he could assume the nobility of "natural man" because of his wilderness experience, while simultaneously blazing the paths that led European-Americans deeper into the continent. With Boone as with other hunter/Indian fighter figures, there was always the possibility that the seductions of nature and solitude could lead the hunter to desert his European-American heritage altogether. Because wilderness presented possibilities for becoming a renegade as well as redemption and renewal, Boone emerged as the archetypal hero, "lover of the spirit of the wilderness [whose] acts of love and sacred affirmation are acts of violence against that spirit." (*Regeneration Through Violence*, p. 22).

In some versions of the Boone legend, the beauty of the pristine frontier landscape gives him spiritual sustenance, at the same time that it inspires him to bring whites into Kentucky. He leads them west through the Cumberland Gap, fostering the spread of civilization, in its arcadian, agricultural version. When the Shawnee capture him, they treat him with kindness. He learns from them while retaining his basic European loyalties and social values. Boone escapes when it appears that the whites in Kentucky will be threatened and he returns to Kentucky to defend them. His new insight into Indian psychology aids in this struggle. Thus, at Cumberland Gap, it is possible to show how, for European-Americans, Boone became a figure larger than life, who both loved the wilderness and helped to destroy it.

Fort Necessity is another park where visitors may arrive with the frontier myth very much on their minds. Here, George Washington, assumes the role of Indian fighter-hero when he plunges into the wilderness as a surveyor and fights in the French and Indian War. Dr. Slotkin describes how Parson Weems used the emerging Boone legend to shape his account of these years in Washington's life, and specifically his description of Fort Necessity. In popular literature, Boone and Washington became truly American heroes, illustrating the ways in which Americans were distinguishing themselves from Europeans as they fought their epic battles to subdue and civilize the wilderness.

In the second book of his trilogy, *The Fatal Environment*, Dr. Slotkin analyzes the role of the frontier myth in an increasingly industrialized society. He shows how, as Eastern cities and their economic influence grew, the frontier remained a potent symbol, a reservoir of land where America's economic and social health could be continually reinvigorated. It was also a borderland, where European-Americans operated on the fringes of law and civilization. The rough and violent qualities of the frontiersman

were admired but also feared, insofar as they could be directed against the "settled" parts of the country and their residents. As the factory system developed, prominently symbolized by Lowell, frontiersmen and freeholders as rugged individualists stood in sharp contrast to the need for a stable industrial workforce. The egalitarian ethos of the new nation had to face the undeniable division between owner and wage laborer. Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, George Armstrong Custer, and Theodore Roosevelt each had roles in the evolution of frontier mythology that helped to deal with this problem.

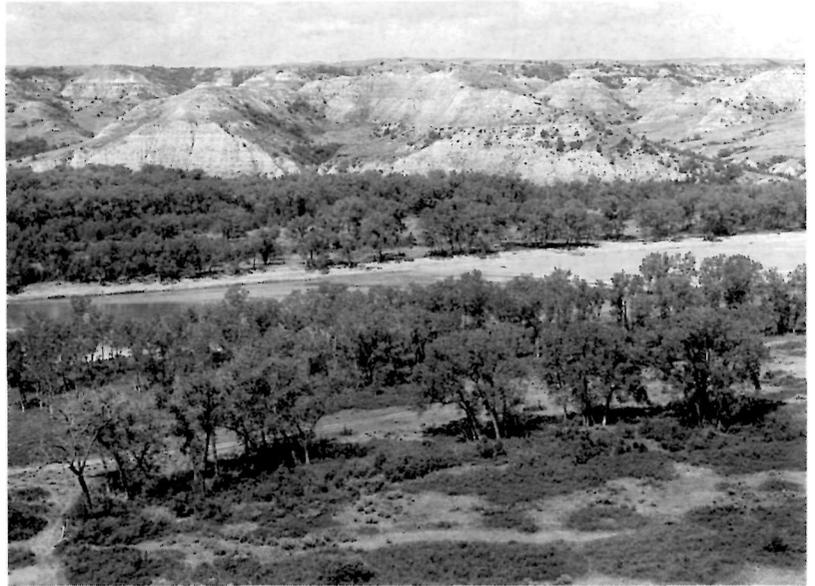
According to Slotkin, Jefferson recognized that tensions that could develop in the increasingly crowded Eastern seaboard, which lacked a cheap land to give citizens the opportunity to establish themselves as independent freeholders—one reason, he says, that Jefferson acted to buy the Louisiana Purchase. Visitors to Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (MO) and Fort Clatsop NMem (OR) who think that Frederick Jackson Turner invented the theory of the frontier as "safety valve" may find it interesting that concerns about the closing of the frontier arose long before 1890. Jefferson's expansionist plans and the Lewis and Clark expedition were in some ways a demonstration of zeal for abundant new lands as a means of alleviating social pressures in the East.

Famed as an Indian fighter, Andrew Jackson retained the aura of the rough-and-ready backwoodsman and supporter of the go-getting people of the frontier even though he also attained status as a military officer and owner of substantial lands and slaves. Thus, at Horseshoe Bend NMP (AL), it would be possible to tell visitors not only about Jackson's confrontation with the Creeks and his role in removing Native American tribes from the Southeast, but also about how his political image was manipulated in line with shifts in the frontier mythology. In Jackson, the military man, successor to Washington, a man of aristocratic achievement if not ancestry, is presented as the potential leader of the future.

The war with Mexico, represented by the Palo Alto battlefield in the national park system, challenged the idea of westward expansion as a means of ensuring the health and progress of the republic. Dr. Slotkin examines the difficulties faced by those who tried to fit the war with Mexico into the familiar mold of the Indian war. This effort failed, because Anglo-Americans ultimately had to regard Mexico as an already developed and densely populated country, unlike the lands occupied by Native Americans to the north, which they considered unclaimed territory.

In contrast, expansion into the Oregon Territory fit the familiar terms of frontier mythology. The only inhabitants of the area were Indians who, according to the mythic pattern, could be righteously displaced to make room for the white yeoman farmer. San Juan Island NHP (WA) and Scotts Bluff NM (NE) are places where the concept of white settlement as a crusade of civilization against savagery can be interpreted. Similarly, Fort Bowie NHS (AZ), Pipe Spring NM (AZ), Fort Smith NHS (AR), Fort Davis NHS (TX), Big Hole NB (MT), and others symbolize

Theodore Roosevelt's Elkhorn Ranch site where he built his second cabin in the Little Missouri River Badlands in 1885 to conduct his cattle ranching operation. This area confirmed Roosevelt's belief in the restorative powers of the "wild west."



the mythology of a march of progress and redemption over an underused and rugged continent and its "uncivilized" native peoples. Only a few parks, such as Hubbell Trading Post NHS (AZ), Pecos NHP (NM), Knife River Indian Villages NHS (ND), and Nez Perce NHP (ID), were established specifically to present to the visiting public a more objective, complex and balanced picture of the history of Indian-white relations.

Homestead NM (NE) and Golden Spike NHS (UT) reflect important facets of frontier mythology during a time of dramatic industrial and urban change. The Homestead Act embodies American belief that the country's agrarian roots should be preserved at the same time that eastern money and monopolistic tendencies were playing a major role in such operations as mining that were not easily assimilated into the agrarian ethos. The railroads, of course, were central to this development. As the 19th century wore on, industry, not agriculture, became the centerpiece of a burgeoning national economy.

Custer Battlefield NM (MT) reflects the shifts in the myth of the frontier that accompanied these economic and social changes. The move to take the Black Hills and its appeal to miners and railroad interests, a movement stimulated by reports of Custer's explorations, was indicative of the growing power of commerce and industry. The battle at the Little Big Horn came at a time when the nation was celebrating its industrial might at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, even as it was facing a severe economic depression. In a confusing and uncertain time, the battle made Custer a heroic figure linked to the epic frontier struggles of a glorious past. His mass-media image as an officer and a gentleman/frontiersman, a moderate on the "Indian question" and in some ways a sympathizer with the noble savage, made him an ideal figure to be civilization's standard-bearer. Dr. Slotkin uses the making of the Custer legend and the Last Stand as the centerpiece in his analysis of the frontier myth as revised by an industrializing and urbanizing nation. Custer became a martyr whose death, while it turned the classic white-Indian struggle upside down, produced a redemptive, inspirational message for the nation. Custer's military exploits in the West became a powerful symbol of the vision of Indian-white confrontation as part of the nation's heroic "mission to bring light, law, liberty, Christianity, and commerce to the savage places of the earth" (Slotkin, *The Fatal Environment*, p. 8).

For Theodore Roosevelt as well as Frederick Jackson Turner, the history of the frontier held important lessons for the future of the Republic and its continued economic and moral progress. The ranch at Theodore Roosevelt NP (ND) proves Roosevelt's belief in the "wild west" as a place where an Easterner could be

re-invigorated and regenerated. However, once the West could no longer provide a vast reservoir of cheap unoccupied land, how could America maintain its historic identity as a place of virtually unlimited opportunity for individual economic independence? How was an agrarian ethos to be maintained in an era when more and more people worked for wages? As the frontier became a place of legend rather than a line of settlement that could be drawn on a map, its place in mass media—first the press and then movies and television—was secured through reinterpretation and revision of frontier mythology. The idea of the frontier could be applied to resources other than farmland. It remained a powerful symbol of the nation's mission and destiny in an era when fewer and fewer people actually could attain the rewards that in the myth come from conquering the wilderness.

The national park system includes sites that vividly symbolize the myth of the frontier. In some sense, Service employees are keepers and transmitters of the mythology associated with these places. Certainly, in an era when most visitors to the parks are already thoroughly imbued with this mythology, we have the opportunity to give them more insight into the historical foundations and development of this part of our national culture, and increased awareness of its continuing influence within American society today.

Dr. Slotkin's work presents a many-faceted and sophisticated reading of frontier mythology and its ramifications, interpretations, and revisions. At the risk of oversimplifying his argument, Laura Feller has focussed mainly on NPS sites that evoke the westward movement of European-Americans. Regeneration Through Violence and The Fatal Environment also have much to say about the impact of the myth of the frontier on the whole course of American history, in the east as well as the west, and in the development of popular media that reached the entire nation. Laura is a historian located in WASO's History Division.

EDUCATION INITIATIVES— LET'S BEGIN WITH OURSELVES

On a number of occasions, Dr. Robin Winks has challenged the NPS to consider the national park system as a world-class university with 357 branch campuses. There are at least two central problems with the Service's ability to articulate a response: 1) Winks has offered a metaphor, and we risk accepting its challenge as though he has offered us a mechanism; 2) his notion of a university may be historically determined and therefore not as limited, for our purposes, as today's idea of a university.

Given interest in an NPS educational initiative, this seems a good time to think about the challenge Winks set forth. Dire threats to parks from outside their borders—deterioration of air quality, atmospheric ozone depletion, and possible global warming—make it critical for us to redefine how the NPS relates to overarching social values. Indeed, we increasingly may need to be in the forefront of the articulation of new environmental values if we are to realize the preservation in perpetuity of the resources committed by statute to our charge.

METAPHOR OR MECHANISM?

When I interviewed ecologist Carl Sharsmith in connection with writing the Yosemite National Park handbook, he provided an anecdotal history of the NPS in Yosemite. The bulk of his stories boiled down to a concept of education compatible with the medieval idea of a university.

The medieval university was basically a community of scholars where individual students could attach themselves to individual scholars. The university then was anti-institutional, except that it existed with a great deal of independence from the state. With its churchly roots, it existed as an institution parallel to the state or at least to its city of residence. At the time, it encouraged the exploration of knowledge for its own sake, and was probably much more free to establish its own directions than today's universities, with their commercial and governmental research and their development commitments.

During the 1960s federal agencies, including the NPS, were sent to explore the frontiers that remained to us. Since then we have retrenched as a society and as a federal government. Perhaps in the 1960s we had a shot at the type of personalized history of parks that Carl Sharsmith experienced and recalls. He told me of leading a naturalist's walk whose subject was alpine ecology. On

that walk was a young woman named Beatrice Willard who went on to become a foremost alpine ecologist. Coincidence? Accident? Perhaps, but less likely so if you have met and talked with Carl Sharsmith.



Illustration by Maggie Rilling

If the NPS is to produce accomplished and eloquent proponents of its cultural and natural resources missions, it must find a way to create within its superstructure the space for an educational initiative that is modeled more on discipleship than industrial-era education.

Some industries have moved in this direction with the development of *intrapreneurial* work groups. The NPS should commit itself to creating its own internal system that identifies, protects, nurtures, and propagates the aesthetic aspect of exploring and communicating values. In this way the NPS would be culturing a soul for its university. This is a tough task for a bureaucracy committed to scientific management. On the other hand, for a large organization, it is relatively simple to create a protective membrane for a statistically small population of frontiers people. We are talking about a petri dish, not a coliseum. Perhaps the Symposium to be held in Vail, CO, and the 21st Century Task Force hold prospects in this area.

As I have attempted to describe, the NPS could take advantage of the metaphoric nature of Robin Winks' challenge. We could take the metaphor of the university as our own call to educate a certain aesthetic/philosophical culture within our own ranks, whose purpose would be to sustain our analysis and exploration of overarching social values in the light of our agency mission and need for public and political support.

MECHANISM. If NPS sites are branch campuses of the world's greatest university, who are the students?

Robin Winks introduced an intriguing idea when he suggested national park areas might serve as an extension of the Elder Hostel program. The Elder Hostel model is certainly a great one for educational enrichment that does not pretend to be absolutely systematic. Face it: most retired folk on the Elder Hostel circuit, and most other park visitors, are not in the market for systematic education. They are on vacation, a lark even. They benefit most from Freeman Tilden-enlightened interpretation. They benefit most from evocation and provocation, not didacticism.

Yosemite NP exemplifies the educational role that parks could play. Yosemite offers many institutes and seminars of one-week or more duration. That sort of exposure to national parks and the top-notch exponents of their natural and cultural values cannot help but produce long-term park advocates.

BUT IS EDUCATION TEACHING? It makes me nervous to hear about the teaching role played by national parks and about NPS people as teachers. My nervousness derives from the observation that what passes for education in this country is not the "drawing out of" that the word "education" connotes, but an inculcation. I don't like the prospect of retreating from the provocation and evocation ideal of Freeman Tilden's interpretation into the delivery of messages that will make better citizens. American society seems to have lost the ability to draw things out of people and has begun, instead, to try to sustain a national life by the delivery of messages. And the messages, in turn, are degenerating into photo opportunities—mere visual messages often devised to convey a meaning counter to the intentions of those who deliver them.

If the NPS is to thrive in an atmosphere of increasing pluralism, it must address its constituency increasingly at the level of basic human, natural, and cultural values. True education can do this. Teaching, as so often practiced, will run aground of this. We are not *the* custodians of our national heritage. We are custodians of our national heritage.

NEW OR AT LEAST BETTER DEFINITIONS. Somewhere in the outermost fringes of the discipline of theoretical physics someone is probably formulating a paradigm revision that will begin to guide our thinking about natural resources in the 21st century. In our own century we have seen a product-oriented world-view of natural resources management be replaced by the process-oriented world-view of the Leopold Report in the 1960s. It is one thing to intend to preserve a product, for example a grizzly bear. It is quite another to intend to preserve the process of being a grizzly bear, as we are finding out. I wish I knew what the next paradigm is to be. I don't. But we will not choose it; it will choose us.

The new paradigm into which our definitions will have to fit doubtlessly will take into account the inevitable pluralization of our culture. We must begin to tell our national story as close to the truth as we can assess it if we are to have any hope of enfranchising the plural points of view that increasingly comprise our social fabric.

A parallel case can be made for the story of our natural resources. If we romanticize why our early parks were created—or treat them with historical revisionism—we will not create better definitions of the NPS role in our national program of conservation and preservation. If we fail to acknowledge the impact of our energy-intensive lifestyle on environmental degradation, we cannot make effective inroads into the preservation of rare and endangered species and the cultivation and maintenance of biological diversity.

NEEDED: A POTENTIAL IRRITANT AT OUR CORE. If we are to be a great university and a worthy custodian of our national heritage, we need a dangerous enzyme at work in our souls. We need a potential irritant at our very core whose machinations will make it inevitable that we produce great pearls of natural and cultural resources management wisdom and human value. The university model presented by Robin Winks offers this possibility.

The NPS benefits from an imaginative and self-critical *intrapreneurial* function protected from bureaucratic scrutiny (and from self-perpetuation). This unmanageable group should think the unthinkable and devise methodologies for the un-do-able. It should develop solutions to problems not yet identified. It should be a function aspired to by the best among us, so that it ends up inspiring us all. It should include persons able to articulate its thoughts and get its accomplishments installed in the field.

The NPS could also benefit from a programmatic routine for introducing the irritant at its core to as many of its people as possible. One example might be a scholars-in-residence program that would give us the continual influx of a distanced view of what we are. The scholars with this role would be responsible for examining the NPS mission in relation to their disciplines, and would be chosen in part for demonstrated ability to be infectious ombudspersons of penetrating perception about our areas of most unalert ignorance.

At this writing, Robin Winks' challenge is more than two years old. Its relevance, however, is still timely and perhaps grows ever more so. As the historian William Tweed at Sequoia and Kings Canyon NPs has said, our parks are not saved. It is just "so far so good." And in many ways the issues of our second hundred years will be twistingly complex compared to the first hundred.

Poet and fiction writer Ed Zahniser received an Albright Fund grant to work with an international co-editions book producer in London, England, in 1989. He is a writer/editor with the NPS Division of Publications at Harpers Ferry Center and author of the Yosemite, Grand Teton, and North Cascades National Parks handbooks.

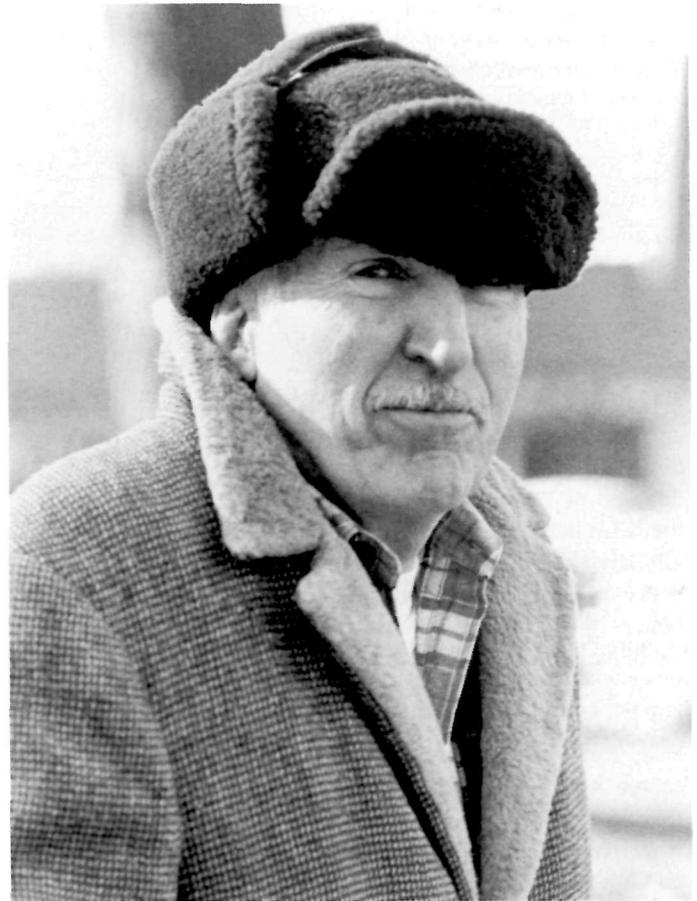
WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HISTORY

For many people, both within and outside the National Park Service, battlefield tours have become my hallmark. I welcome their interest because battlefield tours are the most rewarding, enjoyable method of interpreting some of our nation's most valuable and treasured cultural resources. On these hallowed grounds, I am able to share thought-provoking exchanges with thousands of people annually.

My introduction to walking in the footsteps of history came in July 1954 when, for the first time, I visited Civil War battlefields associated with Confederate General Patrick R. Cleburne. A student at Indiana University, working on a graduate degree in history, I had chosen the general's military career as the subject of my thesis. Shiloh National Military Park was the second stop on my tour. It was there I met park historian Charles E. "Pete" Shedd, a skilled interpreter with a droll wit. A six-hour ramble through the woods and fields of Bloody Shiloh was enriched by Pete's insights on what had happened. This walk changed my understanding of the events of that late April afternoon 92 years before. Although historians may be familiar with the literature, they cannot truly appreciate the challenges faced by our forebears until they walk the ground. Pete's interpretive skills and electrifying personality made a lasting impression on me. I became interested in a Park Service career.

My dream was realized on September 28, 1955, when I was hired as a historian at Vicksburg National Military Park. After being on duty less than a week and having gained a rudimentary knowledge of the park, I gave my first battlefield tour. The victims were Superintendent George Miller and his wife, who were returning to Big Bend National Park from the Great Smoky Mountains NP Superintendents' Conference. The ranger's car we travelled in was a battered Ford coupe operated with a stick shift. The Millers got an exciting tour, as Union Avenue in those days was unpaved and tortuous and I had not driven a stick shift since my pre-World War II Model A years.

James R. McConaghie, the long-time Vicksburg superintendent (1941-59) well known in the Service for his gimmickry, believed fervently in personal services to the visitor. The interpretive staff—one historian and a park guard until 1958 brought Al Banton, a talented interpreter, from Colonial



Ed Bearss today. Photo by Jordan Baker, *Georgetown Magazine*.

NHP—was expected to give all organized groups a battlefield tour. During the heavy school visitation season this frequently meant eight one-hour tours daily. These school groups ranged from fifth grade through high school students returning from their senior trip to New Orleans, and provided excellent and often humbling learning experiences. I had to learn to pitch my presentations to all levels of education; they had to be lively, fast moving; relevant; and site associated. Human interest stories were invaluable. Sharing information was vital too, because there are few groups from which you do not profit. In worst-case situations with tired seniors on their way home to the midwest after several nights in New Orleans, I challenged their best athletes to race a 32-year-old man up the 136 steps to the top of one of the Vicksburg park's three 90-foot observation towers. As I did this daily for exercise, I never lost, and the climb never failed to wake them up.

I have many memories of leading school groups while at Vicksburg. One series of tours that I will always treasure were the annual visits of the Louisiana School for the Blind and Deaf. In the days before integration penetrated the Deep South, the students were African-Americans. Never in my

Ed Bearss, standing at left, 1961, among a bevy of beauties at the dedication of a cannon at Vicksburg NMP.

three years as the park historian did I find a group better prepared for their visit and tour. Challenging questions were asked as we debused at various stops along the 13-mile route. These visually and hearing-impaired students understood the scene far better than many others I encountered during these years.

In 1959, still at Vicksburg, but now assigned to the Southeast Region as regional research historian, I began giving day-long and even multi-day tours of sites associated with the Vicksburg Campaign. These were presented to Civil War Roundtables, ROTC classes, noted Civil War scholars such as T. Harry Williams, E. B. Long, Otto Eisenschiml, and Alan Nolan, and VIPs to the park and the Corps of Engineers Waterway Experiment Station. Among the best remembered of these was General Maxwell Taylor, who, after commending my knowledge of the Vicksburg Campaign as well as my interpretive skills, informed me that, as a former engineer, he knew that the word I should have used was ponton, not pontoon.

In December 1956, I was assigned to the NPS team asked to visit and define the boundary for Pea Ridge National Park that had been authorized by legislation signed into law by President Dwight D. Eisenhower on July 20. Among the members of the team was Lt. Col. Roy E. Appleman, a senior staff historian from the Washington Office. Appleman, a combat historian in the Pacific in World War II and the Korean Conflict, is a dedicated man of strong opinions and emphatically not an arm chair historian. He held, correctly, that to understand a battlefield you must know it, and the only way to do that is to walk the ground, which is exactly what we did for three days. The information gained from this experience was invaluable as the team drew the boundary of Pea Ridge NMP.

An eight-year assignment as regional research historian (1958-1966) for the Southeast Region enabled me to expand my horizons. These were the years of Mission 66 and the Civil War Centennial. Research projects at the region's Civil War areas, as well as Antietam and Wilson Creek, enabled me to familiarize myself with these areas. Having learned from Pete Shedd and Roy Appleman that a good battlefield interpreter



must have two skills, I always familiarized myself with the literature and then walked the ground when I undertook projects at these parks.

In addition to reading the literature and walking the ground, a successful battlefield interpreter must be able to communicate information to the visitors in an entertaining and effective manner. The group—be they senior military officers or school children out of the classroom for a day in the country—want to be entertained while they learn. The battlefield is your classroom, and the challenge is to make history live, because, if no enthusiasm is generated in the group, your knowledge of the area and the literature will not be shared.

Popular, successful battlefield communicators have a style of their own developed, tested, and honed through the years. Since October 1958 when my position description no longer mandated giving battlefield tours, I have continued to do so, because it gets me outside, positively interacting with visitors, and instilling in them an appreciation of our history and the mission of the Service.

With many groups, I have established a close rapport. Since 1961, with only six exceptions, I have led the Chicago Civil War Round Table's annual battlefield tour. On their annual multi-day study expeditions to battlefields, a watchword I go by is never patronizing a group by reading to them. A presentation must be animated. It must make history live. I realized this in a pointed way on a cool windy May morning during the Chicago group's 1971 tour of the Shenandoah Valley. My assistant, an NPS interpreter since retired, pulled out a paper he had researched, and, in a monotone, read to the shivering audience. At the end of ten minutes, all but the hardiest had deserted for the warmth of the three buses. The tour leaders

informed me that they had retired my colleague and that I was to provide the onsite interpretation.

In the spring of 1985 I was called upon by Secretary of the Army John Marsh to assist in his campaign to re-institutionalize staff rides. Use of the nation's battlefields, most of which are Civil War-related and administrated by the NPS, for staff rides had ceased in 1940 with the pre-Pearl Harbor build-up of the armed forces. To give the program's kickoff a high profile, Secretary Marsh asked me to lead a staff ride to Antietam. In addition to Secretary Marsh, and Assistant Secretary James K. and Chief of Staff John A. Wickham, the May 4 ride had more than a score of the Army's senior generals as well as a number of staffers. The ride was a success and one of the highlights of my NPS career. At the critique following the ride, I pointed out that a Civil War artillerist as a technician usually was better educated and trained than the foot soldier. Deputy Chief-of-Staff Maxwell Thurman and several other former gunners jumped up and applauded, but General Wickham, a World War II combat infantryman, said "My friend, you just shot yourself in the foot."

Twice a year, in June and autumn since 1986, I have led Sunday tours of nearby Civil War-related sites, attended by the Department and the Service's Washington Office personnel. Over the years, these have become increasingly popular. Last October, at Antietam, there were more than 150 participants. Secretary of the Interior Manuel Lujan, Jr., and his wife were active, engaging participants in the June 17, 1990, Gettysburg tour. Former NPS Director Bill Mott participated in two of these excursions, the first in November 1986 during a driving rain storm that sent a number of younger people scurrying for shelter. Judge William Webster, then FBI director, also accompanied us on battlefield walks. The Department tours were capably organized by the Service's chief curator, Ann Hitchcock.

My participation in Ken Burns' Civil War television blockbuster has increased the number of participants in my battlefield tours. In calendar year 1990, my weekends, holidays, and annual leave were occupied with 23 tours for the Smithsonian Resident Associates program, 4 for Great Journeys (a total of 20 days on the road), and 13 for study groups (Civil War Roundtables, WETA-TV channel, seminars sponsored by Gettysburg College and American University). This has enabled me to build and develop a broad constituency that is vitally interested in preserving sites associated with this nation's history and Secretary Lujan's innovative American Battlefield Protection Program.

Edwin C. Bearss is Chief Historian for the National Park Service and a national celebrity since the television special on the Civil War first aired.

Homecoming

At first, ecologist Nate Stephenson hadn't looked forward to this unusual assignment. He was to spend his Sunday standing next to a sequoia slab talking to park visitors. It turned out, however, to be one of the most rewarding days of his NPS career.

"All my years of grubbing in the dirt or sitting in front of a computer really paid off," he said. "When I showed visitors the evidence of periodic fires in the sequoia tree rings, their faces lit up. It was just a short step from there to the role of fire in a healthy forest ecosystem."

Dr. Stephenson wasn't the only employee of Sequoia and Kings Canyon NPs who had a rewarding experience. Other employees enthusiastically passed along information on jobs as variable as tree climber, trail worker, water treatment plant operator, mule packer and superintendent. It was all part of the "People's Centennial" for Sequoia NP. Early in the Centennial planning process, staff members decided to commemorate the dedication of the park's early visionaries by extending appreciation to present-day valley residents.

The key element was a "Centennial Homecoming," to encourage valley residents to return to *their* national parks where they would be welcomed by the employees. On Sunday, September 23, 1990, two days before the actual 100th birthday, the park entry fee was waived and the employees were ready.

When visitors entered the park they received a special edition of the park newspaper with a map and a description of the day's events. They learned they could find Superintendent Tom Ritter stationed at the General Sherman Tree. "This day really had a long-term benefit," Superintendent Ritter said. "It gave us a chance to make friends for the park and it gave visitors a chance to see how a park operates behind the scenes."

Behind-the-scenes park employees also got a chance to see how the visitor operated. Personnel clerk Janet Hudson, stationed near the mule-packing demonstration and the bear technician, gave directions and answered questions. "The visitors were really having a good time," she said. "Some even asked me about my job at the park. I loved it."

Even with the addition of a few mountain showers, the day went beautifully. Ritter attributes the smooth operation to methodical planning and the use of the Incident Command System. Subdistrict ranger Dan Mason served as Incident Commander and appointed two area commanders to assist him. They conducted a series of training sessions for park employees participating in the homecoming.

"The park staff really worked together for this event," Mason said. He acknowledged that the day was a lot of work, but he has already volunteered to be Incident Commander for the "Diamond Homecoming" the park is planning this year on August 25th to celebrate the Service's 75th anniversary. "The employees really enjoyed it last year," he said, "and I know they want to do it again."

Larry Waldron

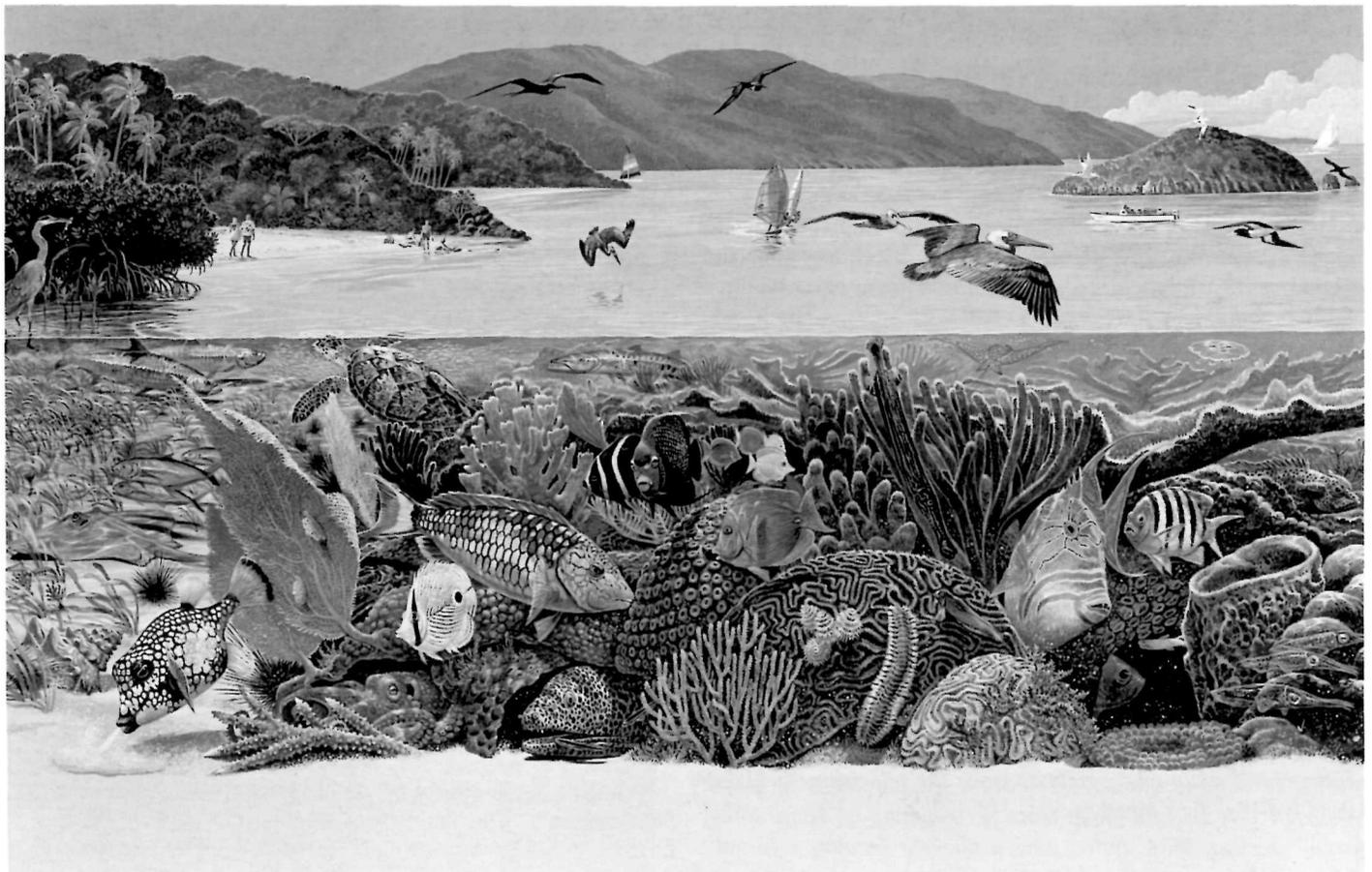
THE ART OF INTERPRETATION

Information art, as it is sometimes termed around the Harpers Ferry Center (HFC), is an ever-expanding body of imagery commissioned by media specialists for use in park interpretation. The Center awards between 50 and 100 art contracts each year, purchasing images as diverse as the resources embraced by the national park system, and as unique as the different interpretive contexts within which they appear.

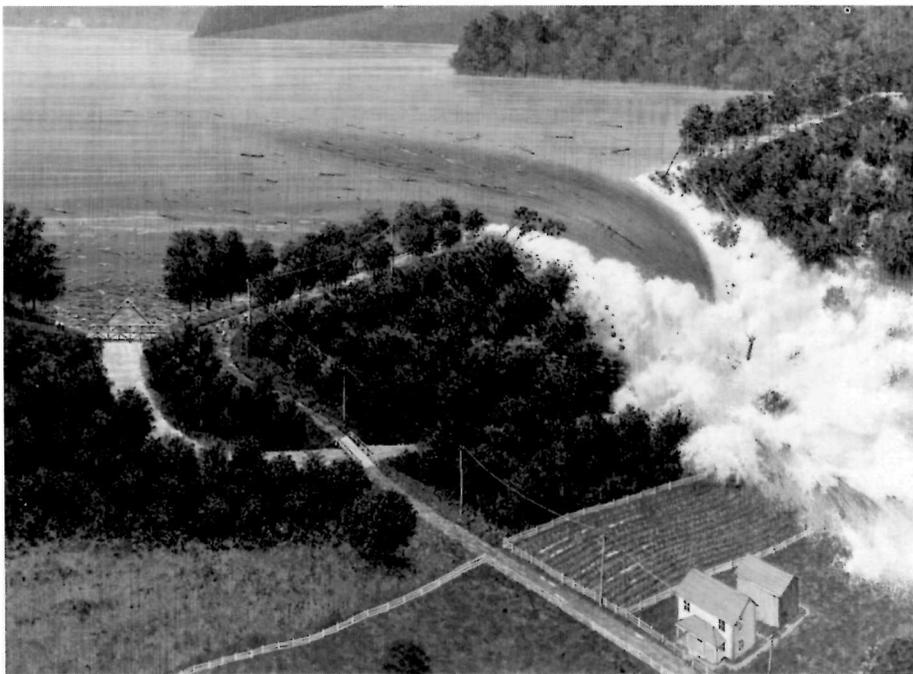
Used to re-create scenes from a prior time, or to depict life-forms, concepts or relationships not readily apparent to park visitors, information art functions to "excavate invisible truths," as publications designer Melissa Cronyn says. The artwork simplifies the graphic story, highlights details not easily seen in nature or focuses on selected features; and enlivens or lends a sense of drama to the scene. Designers may choose intentionally to distort a scene to present as much material graphically as possible, creating information-laden images like the dense underwater

scene developed for the Virgin Islands folder. Serving as a visual metaphor, information art takes the place of lengthy text in a TV-reliant society grown used to instant information.

HFC has contracted repeatedly with the artists featured here and with many others whose work is not shown. Each of the images presented out of context on these pages was conceived within a larger interpretive framework. Each grew out of an initial vision developed by HFC editors, planners and designers who then refined the imagery at many points during its creation. Park staff and, in some cases, outside specialists, participated in the process, evaluating the effectiveness and accuracy of the material depicted. Although each artist responds to a job in his own style, all of these information artists share the ability to adhere to the requirements of graphic accuracy and are adept at working within a milieu where revisions and refinement of detail are standard practice.



The Division of Publications hired John Dawson to illustrate the diverse wildlife of Virgin Islands NP for the cover of the new park folder to be made available this summer. In this composite cutaway of the endangered coral ecosystem, Dawson focuses on the bountiful underwater life not readily evident to park visitors.



L. Kenneth Townsend's paintings of South Fork Dam are part of the exhibitry at the Johnstown Flood Visitor Center. One view explains how the dam was originally engineered. Another shows the 1889 collapse.

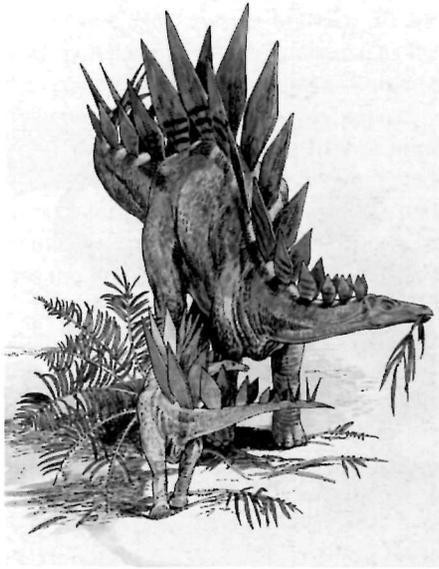


Charles Hazard's pen and ink drawings appear on wayside exhibits interpreting the Edge of Woods Trail at Rock Creek Park. The waysides focus on plants and animals found on the trail that are common to the urban environment. One exhibit titled "Basement Dwellers," shows an enlargement of the hard-to-see salamander.

Virgin Islands — Artist: John Dawson
 Graphic Designer: Melissa Cronyn
 Writer/Editors: Carolyn deRaismes,
 Bruce Hopkins
 Park Consultants: Chuck Weikert,
 Caroline Rogers

Johnstown Flood —
 Artist: L. Kenneth Townsend
 Planner: Ben Miller
 Designer: Mitch Zetlin

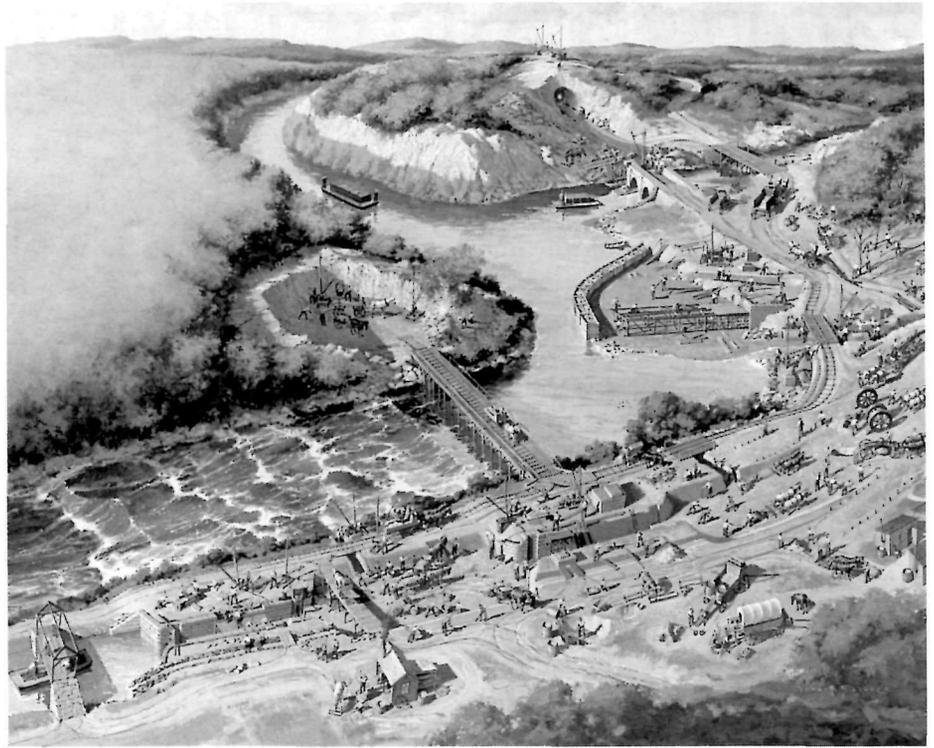
Rock Creek — Artist: Charles Hazard
 Planner: Winnie Frost
 Art Director: Olin Nave
 Park Consultant: Clark Dixon



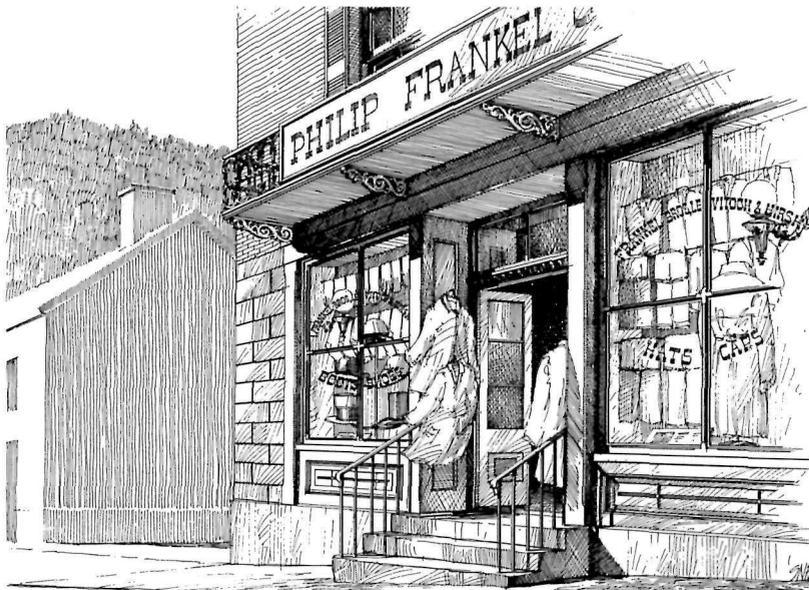
Artist John Dawson rendered a series of murals for the Dinosaur Quarry Visitor Center. This "Stegasaurus" family is one of a series showing the eight kinds of dinosaurs found in the quarry. Fossilized bones—skull, teeth, tibia, fibia—are exhibited near the mural, along with scale models of each dinosaur.

Dinosaur —Artist: John Dawson
 Planner: Julia Holmaas
 Designer: Richard Strand
 Park Consultant: Dan Chure

C&O Canal —Artist: Donald Demers
 Graphic Designers: Bruce Geyman,
 Nick Kirilloff, Elizabeth Ehrlich
 Writer/Editors: William Gordon,
 Edward Zahniser
 Park Consultants: Lee Struble,
 Gordon Gay



Artist Donald Demers created this hypothetical Potomac River scene to show the construction of the C&O Canal and its features. In the companion piece Demers depicted the same scene with the construction completed and boats moving through the canal. To the knowledge of the publications staff, who commissioned this work, such detailed information graphics about a canal have never been done before. They will be prominent features in a new C&O Canal handbook scheduled for release this summer.



Harpers Ferry —

Artist: Steven Patricia
 Planner: Carol Petravage
 Researcher: Karen Gladding

Fossil Butte —

Artist: Robert Hynes
 Planner: Julia Holmaas
 Designer: Phil Musselwhite
 Consultants: Lance Grande;
 Paul Buchheim

Gettysburg —

Artist: Gil Cohen
 Planner: David Guiney
 Art Director: Olin Nave
 Historical Consultants: Kim Roach,
 Kathleen Harrison, Scott Hartwig,
 Paul Shevchuk, Bill Brown

Steven Patricia's renderings of the storefront and interior of Frankel & Co.'s ready-made clothing store form the graphic component of the furnishing plan for re-creating this 1850s store in the lower town of Harpers Ferry NHP. Patricia worked closely with the historic furnishings planner to compile countless pieces of historic evidence into graphic form.



Robert Hynes' Fossil Lake is one of three paleo re-creations commissioned by the exhibit planning and design staff for Fossil Butte NM, and installed last year. The photomurals provide an environmental context for fossil specimens exhibited in front of the murals.



The wayside exhibits staff hired Gil Cohen to depict "The Defense of Little Round Top" and "Farnsworth's Cavalry Charge" for two exhibits at Gettysburg, part of a new parkwide wayside program now in production. By putting figures into the historic landscape, Cohen's images provide impressions of the battle action from the point of view of the exhibit site. Historic photos of the commanding officers, narratives of the battles, and quotations from survivors accompany Cohen's full color paintings on the wayside exhibits.

REACHING AMERICA'S PLURALISTIC SOCIETY

No matter what direction we head as a nation, I think people will always have a deep need to get in touch with their natural and cultural roots. But as interpreters, we are just scratching the surface of possibilities. We need to do more to help people see different ways of relating to our world—ways that will help us, and our world, survive the next millennium.



Michael T. Smithson
Asst. Chief Naturalist
Olympic NP

Interpretation should be more of a marketing tool, so that visitors know in advance what kinds of experiences they could have at a park. Too many people fly in, rent a car, and feel like they have to see everything on their checklist in a couple of hours. One way our park is curbing that urge to get in and get out is by having roving interpreters near the most visited areas. That way, people can at least get a short, on-the-spot, one-to-one look at the park.

Richard Rasp
Chief Park Interpreter
Hawaii Volcanoes NP (HI)

We're not reaching everybody. Interpretation gets compromised too many times because other everyday tasks preclude it. As a result, people aren't walking away with as much as they could. The interpreter-to-visitor ratio is not at a level where we can touch everybody.



Laurretta Cole
Interpretative Ranger
Statue Of Liberty NM (NY)



Every interpretive situation is unique. But no matter how unique the situation might be, the challenge should always be to provide a message—whether it is environmental, historical, law enforcement oriented, whatever. Everybody should be touched in some way, and I don't think we're quite there yet.

Dave Buccello
Law Enforcement Officer
Zion NP

We feel that everybody who comes to our site is already united by one thing—the interest in Martin Luther King. Starting from that point, we don't see diversity as a problem.

Dean Rowley
Historian
Martin Luther King, Jr., NHS (GA)



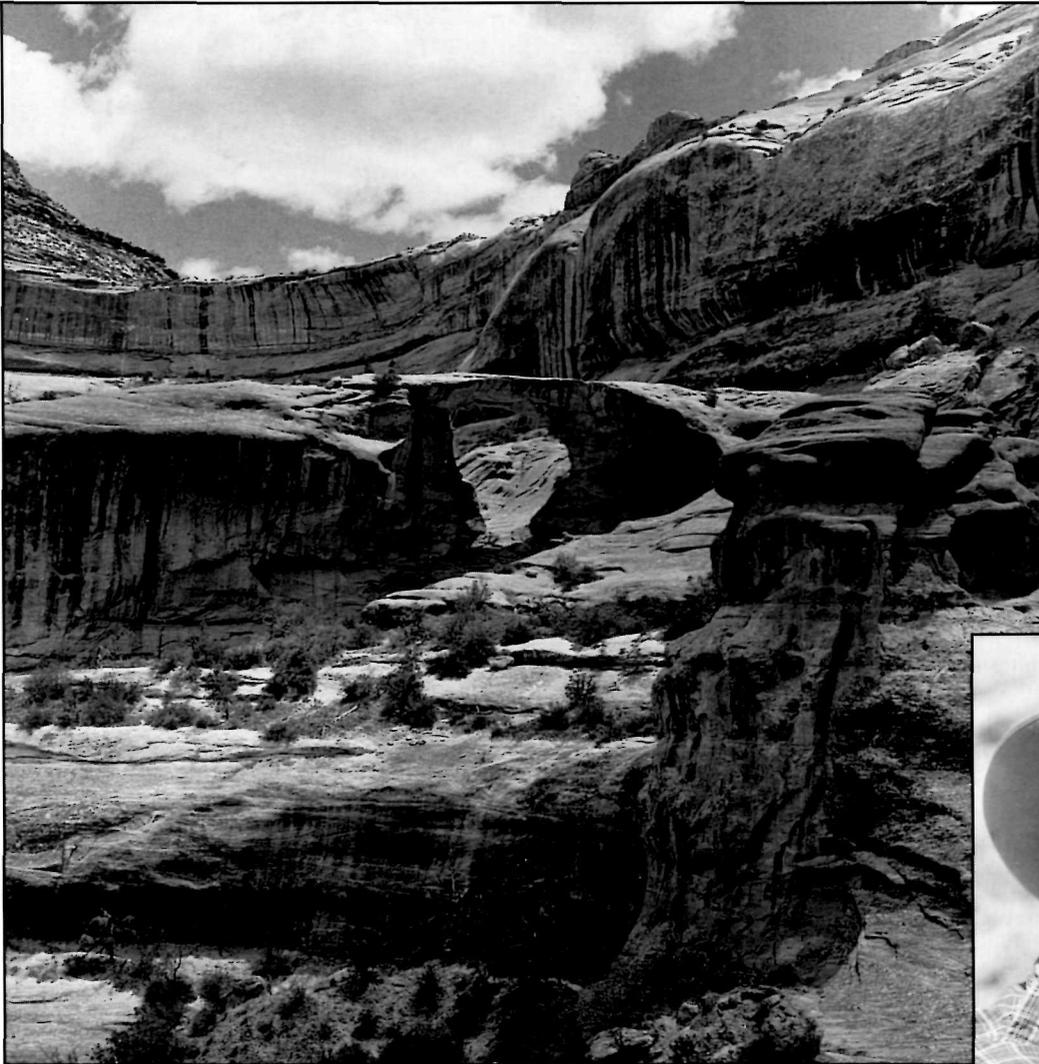
Everybody is not being reached. The visitor profile is changing so quickly that it's put the U.S. on the world stage. Everybody is watching us, and the credibility of our country is on the line. We need to consider not just the visitors who set foot in our parks, but also those who visit through books and other means. They're the ones that are the hardest to convert to the ideals we stand for.

Debbie Leggett
Chief Interpreter
Everglades NP

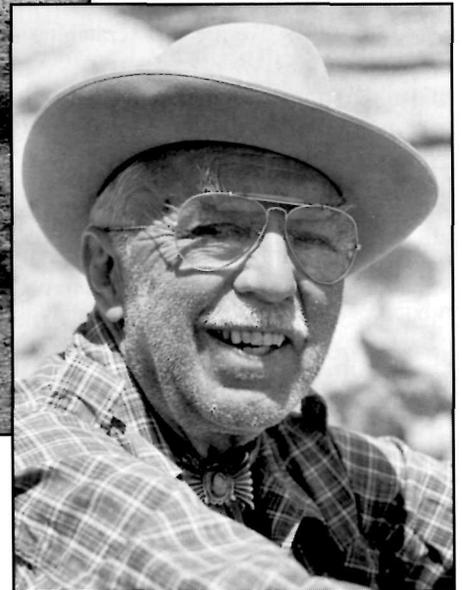


Interpretation is improving and expanding, but there are still some problems. Accessibility to a park unit, and the fact that we don't always know a person's background are obstacles. If an entrance booth kept a log of the state or country a person was from, that might help. Also, some people don't feel comfortable approaching a ranger or interpreter. We need to let them know we're here to help, without being rude or too aggressive.

Douglas Keller
Interpretative Ranger
Pea Ridge NMP (AR)



At left is Fisheye Arch, named for Frank Masland. (Below) Frank Masland at Canyonlands in 1962 as seen through the camera of M. Woodbridge Williams.



FRANK MASLAND REMEMBERS – PROFILE IN PRESERVATION

In the state of Pennsylvania, Frank E. Masland, Jr., 95, is a respected industrialist and retired president and board chairman of the family carpet business, C.H. Masland & Sons, in Carlisle.

But here in Washington, DC, we know Frank as friend, councilor, and former three-time chairman of the Advisory Board on National Parks.

Under such hats, he recently received the National Parks and Conservation Association's Marjory Stoneman Douglas Award for his "awesome" contributions over a period of 50 years to the national park system.

And, yet, down in slickrock desert around the Arizona/Utah line, such kudos once escaped his local guides and Indian friends. Unlike the more decorous ways in which he was addressed in Eastern environmental circles, Masland acquired the nickname, "Fisheye," and later "Archie" in the leveling West.

Now who wouldn't wish to write a "story" about a chap who bridged the gap between guide, cowpoke and easterner; between industry and environmentalists? But first let's get one thing straight. The above wilderness monikers had nothing to do with Frank's topography. Indeed, when I tailed Frank with my camera in Canyonlands, I saw in the finder an executive



Masland warms tea during a blizzard.

who rode straight in the saddle with the aplomb and style of an English explorer, straight out of Central Casting or the Explorers Club—neatly trimmed mustache, glasses, stetson, and all.

But Frank never mounted his high horse when it came to dealing with national parks. A poet at heart and in pen, his conviction that God rides herd on both parks and men had much to do with this industrialist's success. He carried such "music" from soil to board-room—a kind of Johnny Apple Seed, strewing parks in his wake.

Although Mellon and Rockefeller interests and money—especially that of Laurance Rockefeller—led to sizeable additions to the park system, Masland took a uniquely hands-on approach.

Remember, Frank? The 1962 spring flash flood in Canyonlands that poured through our sleeping bags? Or Panorama Point, overlooking the Maze, where we warmed on tea in the face of a blizzard? Or at trail's end when leader Bates Wilson's call to dismount reverberated from crag to crag? Time for a nip before story-telling time, beneath huge spires and fins that were loath to tell their own.

Obviously Frank is not quite the age of Canyonland's standing rocks; he is merely pushing 100 years; but for a moment he was a bit leery about releasing his own tale. "What are you going to do with all this stuff?" he growled when I pressed my questions.

An understandable concern.

This last winter Frank Masland cut short his annual trek in the Everglades because of a "minor stroke."

"I've been in wonderful shape—up until this confounded stroke," he informed me when I asked. Still, his voice was firm, memory excellent. And he seemed even stronger a few days later when we talked again.

"Anything you want," he finally agreed.

So here goes:

During his teens, Frank's parents sent him for ten consecutive years to a summer camp in Maine. "There's no question that [camping] furthered my love of the out-of-doors and things wild," he said. No doubt western travel further enhanced such interests.

Masland "first saw the Colorado in 1939...at the South Rim....My interest in national parks began here....At a glance, somehow, it captured me, but then also did a war," one that led Masland on a serendipitous course.

While in the Navy, he got a look at the Outer Banks of South Carolina and the islands to the South in the Gulf of Mexico. His recommendations to the Board, no doubt, supported the later skillful business and political negotiations of then Director George Hartzog in establishing Cumberland Island and Gulf Island National Seashores.

In 1947 Frank found his beloved Everglades, assisting Superintendent Dan Beard in establishing "viewpoints for visitors," the park's first interpretive plan. In laying out the system, he walked, rowed, and paddled an Indian dugout "brought down from Isle Royale." Some years later, after pressing an "assistant superintendent" several times, Frank got permission to lay out the popular water trail between Flamingo on Florida Bay and Florida City, with the help of a ranger.

So it is befitting for Frank Masland, in the name of Marjory Stoneman Douglas, to receive recognition by NPCA and The Faultless Starch/Bon Ami Co. for his park work, especially because Douglas, 100, has devoted her literary life to promoting the cause of the Everglades, Biscayne Bay and coral reefs.

In 1948 Frank renewed his fascination with the Colorado *close-up*.

This "dude" lay belly down, head over the stern of a cataract boat to better sense the grandeur of the Colorado. But since a cataract boat enters the rapid stern first, Masland disappeared in the first great rapid (standing) wave contacted below Lee's Ferry.

"After two or three such underwater runs," he acknowledged, "my companions began talking about the 'fisheye view' and soon ergo, I was it." But like a fish ensconced in sedimentary rock, "Fisheye" was later preserved in stone. The process began in 1962.

One of the missions of the Canyonlands Expedition of that year was to seek out on foot an arch in South Salt Creek drainage that Bates Wilson had first spotted from the air. He poked up one side canyon and then another until, above a rise in a side-canyon head, he came upon a graceful, medium-sized arch without a name.

I don't remember when we first learned of the "fisheye sobriquet" as Frank termed it. Perhaps it was around one of Bates' Dutch oven feasts. At any rate, because of Frank's obsession for discovering new arches and bridges in the sliprock, and his financial support of the expedition, Bates and I thought it would be proper to name the arch after Frank Masland.

But the rules of the Board of Geographic Names under Interior say that the name of a living person cannot be used for a geographical feature. Thus we used the euphemism "Fisheye Arch" in our suggestion. Today the roar of the Colorado may be implied in the name of this delightful arch in the south end of Canyonlands NP.

Enthusiastic Linda Kuehne, park interpreter, says: "Tell Frank Masland he is not forgotten. We quote him in our talks: 'Since I was present [at the birth of Canyonlands], I feel like a father with his first child.'" Conception of that "child" took about ten years.

In the 1950s Frank organized several expeditions into the land of the ancient Anasazi, which sweeps away from Navajo Mountain to the Colorado and San Juan rivers. Within this "unknown" area he discovered the largest arch reported up to that time.

In July 1952, while camped south of Navajo Canyon, Masland viewed in the glow of sunrise 30 miles to the north "a horseshoe cave against the wall of Cummings Mesa." In the crystalline air, he said, "light broke through [the cave] flooding the dark interior," but only for a moment. He called his companions to view the stunning sight but already it had faded into the background of the mesa. Later, reporting in the *Explorers Journal*, he said, "It was the search for this arch that led me into country where is no record that white man had been."

Masland inquired of the Museum of Northern Arizona as well as trading posts on the Navajo Reservation about the presence of a massive arch on Cummings Mesa. No one had heard of it, "just rough country over there," they said.

"By this time," wrote Masland in *Anasazi*, a private booklet, "my traveling companions...were no longer attempting to

hide their cynical conviction that I was suffering from *Fallen Arches*. In fact they dubbed me 'Archie.'"

But two years after the sighting, one of his companions, Frank Bradley of the Navajo Tribal Council, supported Fish-eye Archie's view.

"Frank," said Masland, "that arch we saw two years ago—did we imagine it?"

"No," said Bradley, "that arch is there. It was there two years ago and nobody moved it...I flew over it in a helicopter not more than six months ago..."

In September, 1954, Buck White Hat, a distinguished Navajo who had been to the arch, led the Masland party over rough terrain to the feature in the red wall at the southeast corner of Cummings Mesa (named for the discoverer of Rainbow Bridge). It stood out "like a giant horseshoe magnet" through which streamed the sun, wrote Masland. It measured on the inside 177 feet high and 230 feet wide. Since the arch "seemed to be hanging in the sky, the door to the temple of the sun," Frank named the arch, "Arch in the Sky." Later, in justifiable irony, he named his estate near Carlisle, "Fallen Arches," and so it is today.

Masland attempted to interest Stuart Udall in setting aside all this little-known country from about Navajo Canyon north to the confluence of the San Juan and Colorado as a "primitive area." But it was not until the 1960s that the National Park Service would generate secretarial action—but in a better known area around Moab, Utah, one called "Canyonlands."

"I went into Canyonlands three times before the Park Service got interested in it," said Masland. "Then Stu Udall finally became genuinely interested in the prospect of a Canyonlands National Park. He called me in to the office one day and said: 'Frank, the Canyonlands have come to life. I want you to draw up the boundaries.' I did and submitted a million acres. Stu's reaction was, 'That's a hell of a lot of acres, but we'll see what we can do.' As I recall, we got 250,000, but today the entire million acres is protected by one means or another."

On a smaller scale, Frank went on to discover Florissant Fossil Beds in Colorado, with its remarkable assemblage of fossil plants and animals; and, in the 1970s, joined Emil Haurry, formerly of the Advisory Board, in the massive Alaska Task Force studies of the D-2 lands, that later came into the system as a variety of park and preserve areas.

Now he says, "we should round out the size of NPS..."

Elsewhere, Director Ridenour has observed, "There are limits [to expansion]...I would not want to see our crown jewels suffer further deterioration at the expense of adding new parks..."

Obviously, Masland agrees. The spirit of ol' Fisheye Archie lives on.

Woody Williams, former photographer for the National Park Service, lives in Dickerson, Maryland. He has written on a variety of topics for Courier.

PLAYING WITH TIME

INTERPRETATIVE CONSEQUENCES FOR OUR GREAT GRANDCHILDREN.

Prescribing, then undertaking work on our nation's historic properties today has far-reaching implications for how these places will be understood tomorrow. This is because historical interpretation is inextricably tied to the selection of work treatments. And even in the absence of written, graphic, or spoken explanation, what we choose to repair, replace, or demolish ultimately shapes how the property's history exists in time and is perceived by the viewer.

The professional decisionmakers—architects, historians, architectural historians, and archeologists—in actuality perform a powerful function as history's editors. They decide which physical aspects of the past should be retained and which expunged. They are "powerful" because changing or re-arranging a property during the treatment stage determines to a great extent how the property will be interpreted historically: what people were present, what they did or said, and what they left behind. The property, as treated, reveals an important attitude about who historians believe should be remembered and who should not. Developers may not fully understand the resulting inequities of manipulating our physical past, but certainly those in the business of historic preservation should.

A quick review seems in order. Well known to Park Service administrators are the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation Projects. These treatments—in hierarchical form according to levels of intervention—include protection, stabilization preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, and reconstruction.

In addition, an intrinsic timeline controls the direction of four main work treatments—preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction—and also separates these treatments from one another philosophically. In this article, the timeline is illustrated and explained to underscore certain interpretive consequences that result from choosing one set of standards rather than another to guide work done on a historic property.

The first two treatments, *protection* and *stabilization*, may be considered pre-interpretive treatments, and thus are not illustrated. While protecting extant materials and features against further damage or deterioration, they suspend the property in time until a thoughtful research decision can be made as to whether preservation, rehabilitation, or restoration is appropriate. For an archeological project, protection or stabilization may be a permanent treatment; for buildings and landscapes these treatments are usually more temporary in nature.

As the first of four interpretive treatments, then, *preservation*

acknowledges the property, as evolved, with its continuum of growth and change—in other words, its "historic character." Without adding to it or subtracting from it, preservation simply holds this character in the present time. A retain-and-repair approach is the preferred treatment for a historic property that is not severely damaged or deteriorated, because it stresses maintenance over replacement and change. But what if preservation is selected as the overall treatment goal, but some improvements are required (i.e. replacement of a historic building's mechanical systems or introduction of contemporary materials to stabilize paths in an historic landscape)? Purists would argue that when intervention moves beyond the treatment definition, the entire project changes direction. However, the broad interpretive goal of a project—how the property will exist in time—is what controls it, rather than one discrete area of work.

The second interpretive treatment, *rehabilitation*, has a more

Four Treatment Scenarios For The Same History

This diagrams four treatment scenarios for a hypothetical historic property. A small farmstead was initially built in 1810. In 1886, the property was purchased by a wealthy businessman who proceeded to make substantial improvements: the house was significantly transformed into a victorian masterpiece in 1888. In 1905, a stable was built on the foundation of the early barn, and a greenhouse was added. The property changed hands thereafter. It was acquired in 1908 by a well-known composer, who also had a fondness for gardening. During the composer's lifetime, the gardens were developed and a chauffeur's house was constructed (1915). In 1920, following the composer's death, his wife added a head house to the greenhouse and reduced the size of the garden; the west porch was removed from the main house, and a kitchen wing added. Her last change was a major new porch added in 1930. Subsequent family members had difficulty maintaining the property. The complex drives and paths were substantially reduced and the greenhouse taken down in 1960 because of maintenance costs. In 1991, the property existed as described above, reflecting the changes of the composer's wife and family. By 2050, however, the property had been neglected and victimized by fire and vandalism, leaving the remnants of the c. 1860-1960 period in complete ruin.

complex goal. While retaining the property's historic character, changes may make possible an efficient, contemporary use. Within this most common work category, existing historic features can be repaired or, if damage and deterioration are extensive, replaced in kind or with appropriate substitute material. As an interpretive approach, rehabilitation is the only treatment that encourages development of a property to meet new uses. Thus, new additions and alterations are often integral components of project work.

According to the Standards, the third interpretive treatment, *restoration*, is appropriate only when the property's earlier history is so significant that it justifies demolition of features that ordinarily would be retained within protection, stabilization, preservation, and rehabilitation. Although restoration often involves extensive preservation work in the form of repairs to existing historic features, the overall project goal is still to try to make the

property look and feel the same way it did during its period of greatest significance. Because the historic, sequential timeline is reversed in restoration, documentation requirements are stringent.

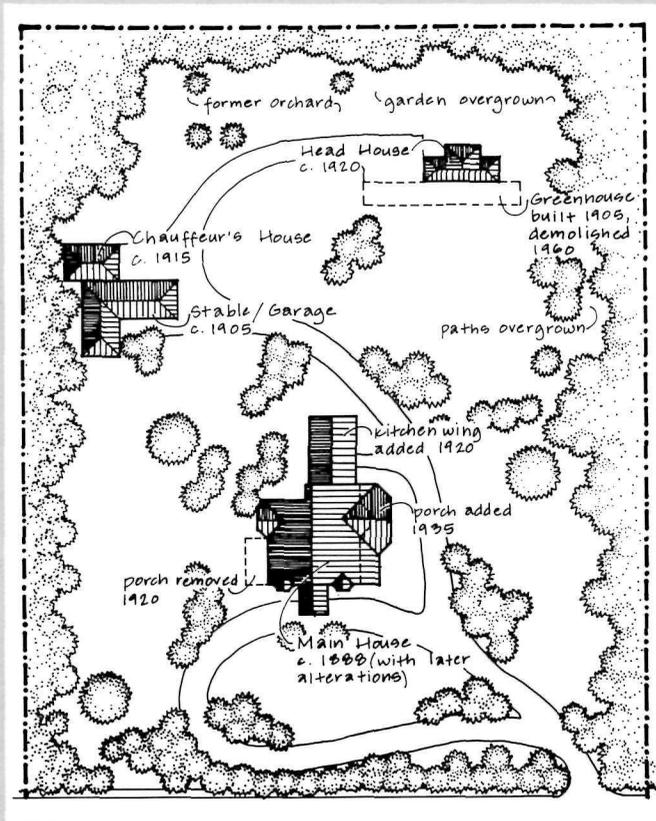
Reconstruction of an entire property (or portion of a property) that has vanished is the least used treatment and the fourth and final interpretive approach. Because the product is all new construction that looks old, there is no historic preservation component. Thus, reconstruction is undertaken only when no other property of its type or association has survived and only when adequate documentation exists to permit accurate execution. The



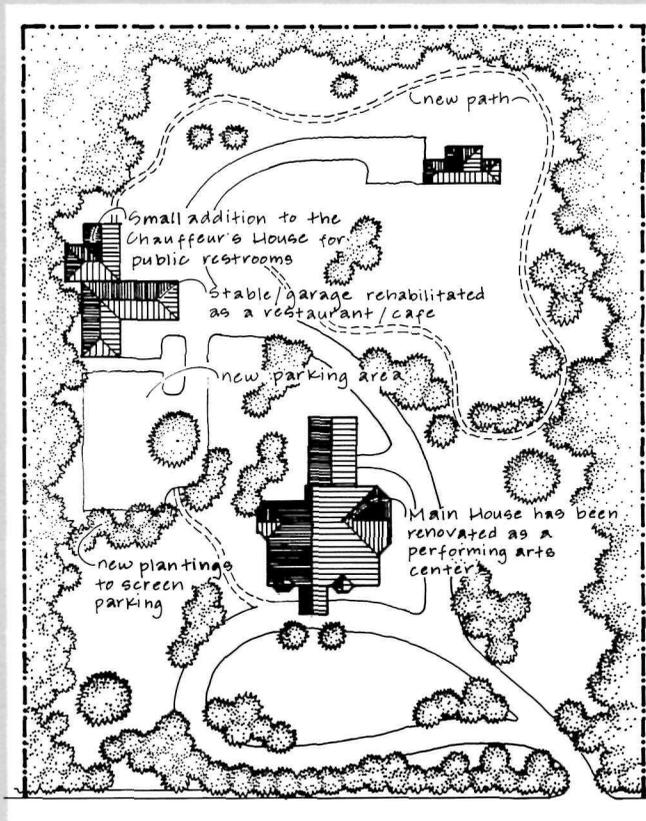
Choosing Preservation. *The goal of preservation is to maintain and repair historic material and features of a property in a way that sustains their existing form and integrity.*

The choice to preserve requires that an entire historic property be maintained in its present configuration. Features built or created throughout the property's history,

such as the 1905 stable/garage, the 1915 chauffeur's house, and the 1888 Victorianized main house with its 20th century additions, are all retained. Features demolished or disappeared in one period of occupancy, such as the main house's 1920s porch, the 1905 greenhouse, and the orchard, are not reconstructed or replanted. Growth, loss and change are thus fully acknowledged.



PRESERVATION



REHABILITATION

National Park Service's documentation requirements set forth in the Standards for Reconstruction are most exacting.

In summary, preservation holds a property in the present; rehabilitation moves it forward in time; restoration moves it backward in time; and reconstruction re-establishes it in time.

One conclusion that can be drawn from this "interpretive timeline" is that the treatment of historic properties has serious public consequences. If choosing a treatment also means choosing how a property exists in time in relationship to the viewer, treatments should be as consistent as possible.

Realistically, since no man-made or living thing can withstand the effects of time, the methodical repair, replacement and updating of historic properties are legitimate components of historic preservation programs globally. Randomly applying treatments is another matter. To date, facadism yields the most startling "time-warp." When the exterior walls of a building are

retained and a brand new building is constructed behind, above, or around it, the old evokes the past while the new denies it. Usually employed in cities, both to appease sentimentalists and support aggressive economic growth, this treatment follows no known rule or philosophy for historic preservation. Yet, there does seem to be some consistency; it is often proposed by developers to maximize commercial gain, then endorsed by historians who view saving something better than saving nothing.

Another example is the practice of building historic designs that had never existed except as a drawing. This is often done to "realize" a designer's intent or, conversely, to solve a modern-use need. Although appealing, this solution fails to recognize the historical events that led to discarding the original design. Building historic designs that never existed is not preserving history; it is an approach that changes history to satisfy curiosity or infatuation with a designer's idea on paper. Rather, new and creative

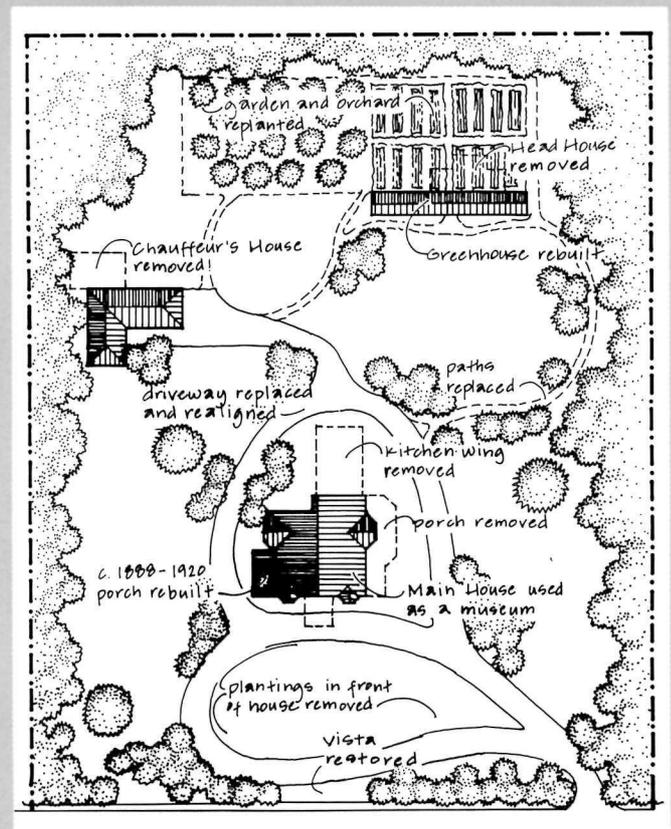
Choosing Rehabilitation. *The goal of rehabilitation is to make an efficient contemporary use possible for a historic property. Work may involve repair and replacement of historic materials as well as new construction in the form of alterations and additions that may be necessary for the new uses. Portions or features of the property that are significant to its historical and cultural values are retained and the overall historic character preserved.*

The choice to rehabilitate means the property will be "updated" to serve a variety of uses. Some buildings such as the main house are sensitively altered to create a performing arts center; an existing stable/garage is turned into a restaurant. New parking is added as well as new plantings to screen the cars. Finally, new paths are developed for summer jogging and winter cross-country skiing. Like preservation, rehabilitation makes no attempt to erase or modify loss and change over time. The property is able to meet present needs, while leaving room to consider possible future public need.

Choosing Restoration. *The goal of restoration is to alter a property to make it appear as it did at a particular period of time. In order to backdate a property to its earlier historic appearance, demolition of some features and replacement of earlier missing features with new material may be necessary.*

The decision to restore the property to its 1910 appearance was based on the desire to interpret that period of the composer's occupancy considered to be more his-

torically significant than all others. To achieve a consistent earlier appearance, extensive demolition and reconstruction must be undertaken. For example, the 1935 porch and 1920 kitchen wing will be removed and the earlier missing left porch replaced. Missing drives and paths, as well as the greenhouse, will be rebuilt to simu-



RESTORATION

solutions should be sought that meet contemporary needs without erasing or changing the evidence of history-as-found.

History may be rearranged in a number of other ways in the name of interpretation. Interior rooms or gardens restored to different historic periods within a single property tell a confusing story, since the resulting experience never existed in time. From time to time, museums of American history may present thematic exhibits that draw on materials from various historic periods; these exhibits, behind glass and in a museum setting, make their interpretive intent clear because they are physically separated from the outside world and from time and place. On the other hand, treating an entire historic property as an exhibit composed of a mixture of historic periods can confuse and deceive unless the differing, yet simultaneously presented, historical scenarios are carefully interpreted.

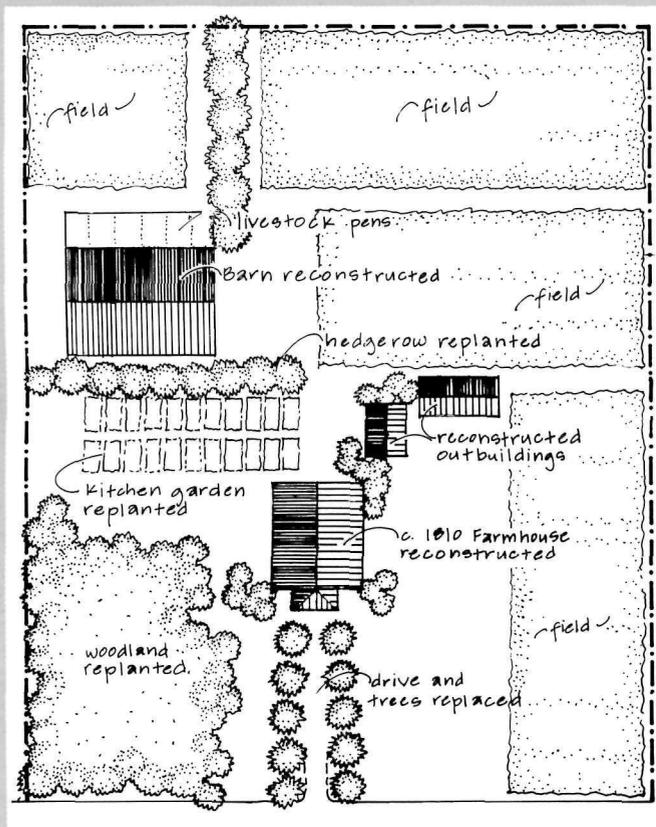
Certainly, there are degrees of historical editing. Rearranging

time by demolishing seemingly extraneous "moments" to make a single intellectual point is a potent educational tool. Too often, however, history is both glorified and vilified for some softer, romantic or financial goal—to make us comfortable in the present and to protect us from the pain of the *real* past.

Radical "mix and match" work treatments may serve some current social needs, but they also may confuse future interpreters—our children's children and beyond. In our absence, these historians will have to ask and try to answer the toughest questions of all—why, and to what end was history's chronometer so violently manipulated?

Kay Weeks is a technical writer/editor. Lauren Meier, ASLA, is a landscape architect. Both are with Preservation Assistance Division.

late the earlier appearance. The head house will be demolished, and the garden and orchard replanted. Through a combination of new construction and demolition, the restoration illustrates the way the property looked during its narrow period of interpretation.



RECONSTRUCTION

Choosing Reconstruction. *The goal of reconstruction is to make a vanished property reappear on its original site by reproducing its exact form, features, and details through new construction. One specific period of time is selected to be recreated and interpreted.*

In this scenario, the entire property was neglected by three subsequent owners, then left unoccupied for five years. Fire, vandalism, and flooding took their toll. The property was in ruinous condition in 2050 when acquired by new owners. The choice to reconstruct the property to its original circa 1810 configuration is based on new information that confirms the exceptional significance of this early farmstead, the fact that no other similar property has survived in the area, and adequate documentation exists to accurately reconstruct all elements. Thus, the original farmhouse, outbuildings, barn, and vernacular landscape have been recreated by means of new construction, based on archeological findings and surviving written records from the period. No other period of occupancy is interpreted.

Illustrations by Lauren G. Meier

THOSE WHO LISTEN...

A big plantation house with gnarled wisteria climbing the porch columns and a large dining hall where the Virginia reel was danced conjures wonderful images. Generations must have grown to maturity in this house, aging along with the wisteria. You are a guest at a wedding here today and you wander through the rooms, imagining yourself at one of those forgotten dances. Your understanding of plantation life obtained from your study of history or perhaps from a television series help to shape your thoughts. Your memories of a square dance class in junior high school also help conjure images of ladies in hoop skirts and gentleman in polished boots moving through the rooms, dancing to the sounds of a fiddler. The house provides the setting, but the story is woven in the mind.

Each of us approach situations and events—a trip, a class, the birth of a child, the death of a friend, life in general—from a personal history and perspective composed of elements selectively retrieved from the past. We look, touch, smell, listen and make connections in our heads based on such experiences. When something happens on a street, the angle at which we stand and what we are thinking about at the time of the event determines how we perceive it. Therefore, as listeners to stories, we hear them from a specific perspective: our own. They become our own history, our story.

This issue of *Courier* has focused on the various approaches to storytelling taken by NPS professionals as they recount Civil War battles, reinterpret America's myths, or educate visitors at the more than 350 branch campuses of one of the world's great "universities." The stories Service professionals tell are varied and abundant. They are told not only by employees and the interpretive materials they use but also by the sites themselves.

Those who listen to these stories are as individualized as the stories themselves, perhaps more so. Each listener brings along a personal body of knowledge and experience that the storyteller has no way of knowing anything about. Thus the act of storytelling becomes infinitely and richly complex. As storytellers, we can never assume that we possess all the information. We must also understand that the way the story was told in the past may not be relevant to today's audience. NPS sites have been established for a variety of reasons, and sometimes their value is not so much the events they recognize as the ideas and attitudes they preserve.

Independence Hall in Philadelphia is significant because it was the setting for the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. More significant, however, are the ideas debated there, ideas as relevant today as they were more than two hundred years ago. Roger Williams NHS in Providence, RI, is important not for the colony first established there, but for the idea of religious freedom that the U.S. Constitution preserves today.

Great Smoky Mountains NP provides the visitor with a beautiful, wild experience. This park, authorized in 1926, was re-

claimed from an area that was well populated prior to its establishment. Now the lifeways of those who once lived here are less evident as natural processes take over. Nevertheless, as one sits on a hilltop it is possible to call the past to mind and imagine the mountain people going about their chores on a warm spring day.

I rode the cable car to Fisherman's Wharf early one Saturday morning and took the first tour boat of the day to Alcatraz. It was a foggy morning, and I couldn't see that massive rock outcropping in the middle of the San Francisco Bay. As the tour boat drew closer the island rose out of the mist. Behind me the city and its sounds faded away. Once off the boat, I joined a group of other visitors on a tour that conjured for me images of the "Bird Man" and of American Indians taking over the island. The tour guide discussed life in this maximum security federal prison and the famous prisoners who once had resided here.

But as the tour continued, the sun came out and burned off the haze. Walking through the bleak corridors, I heard San Francisco coming awake: cable cars clanging along the streets, boats moving through the harbor. For me, being inside Alcatraz and hearing the city come to life was a far more important experience than all the audible storytelling that went on that day. The city was close. You could hear it, smell it when the wind blew in the right direction, and see it rising on the hills. Its presence must have been a constant torture, a constant punishment to those locked away from life. On this occasion, my experience of the place mingled with my earlier perceptions to make the story whole for me.

Each of us experiences parks and historic sites and monuments and battlefields and seashores and all the units of the national park system from our own individualized perspective. We select only what interests us from among the many stories these areas have to tell. Those who manage the sites and are responsible for telling these stories must recall that audiences come with their own stories, their own perceptions and understandings. Audiences have certain biases and points of view that are legitimate for them and must be taken into consideration as park stories are told. Audiences also must be allowed to make their own connections and explore the meaning of these places from the vantage points of their own history and perspective. In this way, their visit will be enriched. It will make a lasting impression and become part of their own individual story.

Chris Soller is an outdoor recreation planner in Washington, DC. Ideas, stories, and ramblings fill his mind. This is one of them applied to paper.

PARK BRIEFS

The first of many birthday parties (for the NPS 75th anniversary) was held in the big ballroom at the Hilton Hotel East.... Not a tie'n tux affair...but rather, a symposium on research being conducted in **Saguaro NM** (AZ), both the East and West units.

Bill Paleck, the park's superintendent, was the genial host of the two-day affair. He and his staff put on a great party...no cake or balloons, but rather, a presentation of papers by many of the world's best scientists, telling the audience of 130 what's right...and what's wrong...with one of the West's most revered national monuments....

Frankly, I thought this whole symposium would be a really dry and boring re-hash of studies started back in 1935...figured maybe I could nap through a couple of the presentations...but boy, was I ever wrong!

Part of the new image of the

National Park Service is to "talk to...and listen to...the People." The speakers cut out a lot of the sixteen-cylinder words they are wont to use. Rather, they were asked to "present their data in understandable language so that laymen wouldn't have to be rocket scientists to understand the papers and conclusions."

This two-day birthday party told us just about everything anyone could ever want to know about the plants, the animals, the air, the soils, the snakes, the birds, bees and yes, even the people in and around Saguaro.

The papers presented evidence of more than a few problems associated with the protection of Saguaro NM. As you might suspect, most of those problems are associated with the "human animal."

Most of the scientists agreed that the biggest problem associated with the loss of Saguaro in both units of the monument

was air pollution. Not a whole lot can be done to correct this problem...unless we correct our love of cars and trucks and the fuels used to propel them....

The proximity of the monument to the city of Tucson offers scientists a unique opportunity to really dig in and study the effects of urbanization on the monument. With a sharp eye on the past studies, these scientists told their audiences some things they didn't really want to hear. They described just how the entire monument (and Tucson) is affected by pollution....

There were surveys of everything. Every square inch of the 84,000-acre monument has been measured, sifted and roped off into grids for just the kind of studies that will tell the National Park Service how to best protect our heritage. And, best of all, this symposium was an inter-governmental affair. Not just one agency, presenting their side

of the story, but rather, all agencies cooperating. Plots once used by one agency, were then turned over to another agency for their studies...wherever possible, the second agency had the benefit of the initial studies....

The staff at the Hilton made sure everything went smoothly and there was a feeling that perhaps a new day is dawning. Land developers were on hand, listening to the papers and trying to learn how they can best make their projects work...without wiping out the monument. Two years ago, most developers did not seem to care...today they're taking notes. Hmmm.

David L. Eppelle
On The Desert



The diamond anniversary of the National Park Service got off to an early start at **Ozark NSR** on December 10, 1990. The crowd attending the annual parade responded enthusiastically to a float commemorating 75 years of public service and preservation. Local artist and park maintenance worker Jack Burrus designed and constructed the eight-foot replica of the anniversary logo that was paraded through

Ozark NSR Chief Ranger Tom Graham with NPS children.

Van Buren, MO. When all was ready, Chief Ranger Tom Graham escorted the float and a group of NPS children down Main Street.

Other anniversary events include the display of banners at each park entrance, an outreach program focusing on NPS jobs and the people who perform them, a special edition of the park's newspaper and a traveling exhibit depicting the diversity of Missouri parks.

Peggy O'Dell

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the Gateway Arch at **Jefferson National Expansion Memorial** (MO) arrived October 28, 1990. As part of the celebration, the staff developed an exhibit examining the ways the arch has been used as a symbol early on. Tee-

shirts, ash trays, business cards, letterheads, jewelry, ink pens, baseball caps, and coffee mugs represent some of the predictable contributions of businesses, collectors, and hobbyists. But there is also a purse with silver Arch-shaped handles, an Arch-inspired whiskey decanter, a dog contest

trophy with the same emblem, and chocolate bars using powdered sugar to commemorate the shape of the arch.

The exhibit idea came about as the result of a smaller exhibit. Staff expanded on the concept of the arch as part of St. Louis' popular culture. All divisions as-

sisted, from the idea stage to the actual exhibit construction, and even publicizing efforts. It was a team effort the park takes pride in during its silver anniversary year.



For some, a trip to a national park means more than it does for others. The impact of recent visits is likely to linger awhile for Andrea Brisben's students. An art and science teacher in suburban Chicago, she has participated in the environmental education programs offered by **Indiana Dunes NL** for a number of years. Following this year's visit, her class was moved to express their experiences and learning graphically, through

creation of a large mural on their classroom wall. The beach, with "living dune," buried chestnut trees, a sampling of the varied vegetation, inter-dunal pond, and even a glimpse of the Chicago skyline are well depicted in their scenic painting. Has Ms. Brisben and her students seen enough of the Indiana Dunes? Nope. They returned in May for the park's "Secrets of Succession" program.

Jack Arnold

World War II Japanese bunkers on Guam may receive a much needed facelift this year. Carolyn Searls, project manager with the consulting and engineering firm of Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., and WRO Historical Architect Craig Kenkel visited **War in the Pacific NHP** as part of a project to stabilize the park's concrete pillboxes and gun emplacements, many of which were hastily constructed by the Japanese prior to the American invasion of Guam in July 1944, often using forced Chamorro (Guamanian) and Korean labor. In fact, Superintendent Rafael J. M. Reyes was himself a Chamorro forced to construct the pillboxes

and gun emplacements. Reyes recalls that not only were the structures built rapidly, but the Japanese also used unconventional techniques for mixing the concrete—for example, the use of salt water and fresh sand. After the cement had been poured, it was given an inadequate amount of time to cure, causing sections of the concrete to crumble when the forms were removed. Nevertheless, some of the fortifications have survived their 50 years in good condition. Ideally, stabilization should enable the others to weather another 50 years successfully.

Sean Cahill



"Do you know why all the members of a family on St. Thomas used to wear the same color clothes? Well let me tell you," said Mr. LaPlace, and off he went, explaining life in the Virgin Islands when he was a child.

Mr. LaPlace, a long-time fisherman and farmer, was one of about a dozen people who gathered at the Annaberg Sugar Plantation ruins in February to recall Virgin Islands history for visitors. The setting was suited for the purpose, for it was in the shadow of the plantation walls that early inhabitants made the transition from slavery to subsistence living. Elderly islanders tell of the days when they were up before dawn to go out to the fields to plant and tend the animals before heading off to market to sell ex-

cess produce. Those who didn't make the trip kept busy creating crafts or working the fields.

In addition to Mr. LaPlace, the event featured noted handcrafters, as well as **Virgin Islands NP** stonemasons Reginald Callwood, Mario Benjamin and Winston Daniel, along with cultural demonstrators Felicia Caines, Idalia Penn, and Edwin Foy. The event grew out of hard work and planning by park employees Elba Richardson and Denise Georges. During the day, Ranger Georges donned her apron and fired up a coal pot to "lick up" a local favorite, boiled fish and fungi. "It is important to have a coal pot," she explained to students after one of them remarked that his mother didn't have one. "Tell yo' mam-mie," Georges teased, "de ranger say she definitely need a coal pot!"

NPS PEOPLE

NEWS

John (Jack) Morehead is on the road again. He leaves the position of Associate Director, Operations, in Washington to serve as the new regional director for Alaska.

Guilford Courthouse NMP welcomed new superintendent **Mark Woods**, who came to the park from the position of assistant chief ranger at Cumberland Island NS. Woods also has served at **Andrew Johnson NHS** and **Kings Mountain NMP**. Woods follows long-time superintendent **Willard W. (Dan) Danielson**, who retired in 1990.

DSC planner **Mary Gibson** has been named deputy assistant regional director of SWRO's Division of Planning. She comes to the assignment after serving as the senior team captain for an extension of the **Blue Ridge Parkway (WV)** and the general management of planning for **Manhattan Sites (NY)**. A Los Angeles native, she began her NPS career at **Santa Monica Mountains NRA** where she worked as an outdoor recreation planner.

Five new faces have been added to the **Assateague Island NS (MD)** staff: **Clay Bunting**, who goes from seasonal to permanent full-time ranger; **Ann Bell**, who fills the new position of **Sinepuxent District Naturalist**, and who has worked at **New River Gorge NRA (WV)** and **Obed Wild & Scenic River (TN)**; **Doug Beuhler**, who has transferred to the seashore from **Mt. Rainier NP (WA)**; **Danielle Winslow**, a cooperative education student in the administrative division, and **Alan Whalon**, the seashore's new management assistant, who served previously as the superintendent of **Hovenweep NM (CO)**.

AWARDS

Rita Kaufmann, an Austrian student studying zoology and ecology at the University of Vienna, has come to **Buffalo NR (AR)** through the Student Conservation Association (SCA) program to learn about



America's national park system. At this time Austria does not have a national park, though there are plans to designate a portion of the Danube River in 1994. Rita hopes to be involved in the establishment and management of the park.

In partial preparation for achieving that goal, she chose to live and work at **Buffalo NR** for the duration of her 12-week, SCA training program.

"Before I came to the USA, to Arkansas, I was not sure what I should expect from this experience, because we have no national park in Austria yet," she said. "But now, after 8 weeks, I know that this time here...has changed my life and I will never forget the place...and the people and friends who helped me do this."

Making that extra effort paid off for **Bernard Chavez**, the Southwest Regional Office's information receptionist. The



outstanding administrative support he's provided through the years resulted in his receipt of the annual **Alda and Weldon Brown Award**, established to recognize an employee whose work has supported the NPS mission. Being the first contact a visitor makes, Chavez is in a position to give precisely that kind of support. He has assisted visitors from California to Maine and from such faraway places as Japan and Switzerland. "This is given to you based on your attitude toward true public service," said SW RD **John Cook** in presenting the award.

Horseshoe Bend NMP (AL) superintendent **Judy Forte** has been chosen to receive the **National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education's 1991 Distinguished Alumni Award**. She was nominated by her alma mater, **Tuskegee University**, in recognition of her accomplishments since graduation in 1980. Objectives of the award



focus on recognition and appreciation of alumni for contributions made to the economic strength of the nation, as well as recognition for the important role of historically black colleges and universities as centers for education.

The Department of the Interior hosted its annual **Honor Awards Convocation** on May 8, the 46th anniversary of **V-E Day**, a date that prompted Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget **John Schrote** to recognize the **World War II veterans** in the audience. On hand to receive the Department's **Distinguished Service Award** were **John W. (Jay) Bright** and **Alan E. Kent**. Jay's award

cited his contributions to park planning and landscape architecture. Alan's recognized his contributions to interpretive planning and education.

Valor awards went to the following NPS employees: **Michael H. Bureman** for rescuing a woman from a burning automobile; **Michael J. Falzone, Raymond M. Rapp, Rachael R. Luce, Lisa A. Dunlap** and **Norman Scott Hinson** (son of Norm and Merrie Hinson) for actions connected with the San Francisco earthquake; **Katherine P. Heller** for actions that saved her partner's life; Daniel K. Horner for a heroic rescue at El Capitan; **Terry G. Swift** for a rescue at Stinson Beach; **Mark J. Macina** (son-in-law of Rita Daugherty whose husband was the superintendent of Albright Training Center before his death in 1980), **Dale J. Antonich**, and **Terry L. Harris** for saving visitors at Death Valley NM (CA); and **Iain (Al) Brown** and **Carolyn P. Brown** for the rescue of three fishermen at Fort Jefferson NM (FL).

Betty Debman, creator of the *Washington Post's* section "The Mini Page," was the recipient of the Public Service Award for Mini Page issues she has focused on national parks and resource conservation. **Jeffrey Judd** received the Secretary's Stewardship Award for War on Drugs in Hawaii Volcanoes NP. Park Police officer **Peter W. Markland** also received the Stewardship Award for the Metropolitan Washington War on Drugs effort. **Douglas Keller**, a RMRO museum technician, was recognized as the Department's 1990 Outstanding Federal Employee with Disabilities. Meritorious Service Awards went to: **Richard K. Anderson, Jr.**; **Kenneth D. Bachmeyer**;

Rowland T. Bowers; Stanley G. Canter; Robert D. Chamberland; Mario R. Fraire; Roger K. Haney; Gary L. Hume; Richard W. Marks; Edgar P. Menning; Carroll W. Ogle; Nan V. Rickey; Michael P. Rogers; Michael D. Shields, and Ronald N. Wrye.

■
The prestigious Pinchot Institute for Conservation, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and Yale University's School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, named Glacier NP Superintendent **Gil Lusk** as its first Grey Towers Conservation Fellow.

Lusk was selected for a host of environmental initiatives, including "his work in raising the concept of regional ecosystem management and developing productive working relationships with neighboring national forests," according to John Gordon, dean of Yale's School of Forestry. The program begins with a visit to Grey Towers, Pinchot's 102-acre home in Pennsylvania, and includes a week of faculty and student seminars at Yale. It is designed to encourage natural resource decisionmakers to refine their knowledge and understanding of conservation issues in an atmosphere fostering creativity, learning, and personal development.

■
Several years ago, staff at Assateague NS (MD) began studying ways to heighten the park's visibility. They decided to build a travelling exhibit that they could enter in

parades. A float was created around a surplus boat trailer, complete with wayside panels. But this year, the NPS is celebrating its 75th anniversary at the same time the park is celebrating its 25th. Something special needed to be done.

That turned out to be a float that includes a real boat and a working lighthouse. The rotating lighthouse beacon and boat running lights make the float an attention-getter, and the gaff-rigged sail, actually a banner heralding the park's 25th anniversary, completes the aura of realism. Special awards went to **Robert Schenck, Frank Mobley, Lewis Budd, Charlie Ralph Turlington, George R. Turlington, and Ish Ennis.**



■
Thomas B. Shelton of Harpers Ferry NHP (WV) won the 1991 Regional Director's Safety Achievement Award. He has been part of the Maintenance Division for ten years and served on the park's safety committee four years.

■
The first ranger scholarship to Clemson University has been awarded to **Lisa M. Powell** of Camden, SC, to cover undergraduate study at Clemson's Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management. It also provides guaranteed NPS summer employment while Powell is a student. She will be assigned to different areas in the Southeast Region each summer and receive on-the-job training. "To accomplish the mission of the National Park Service, we



Assateague staff launch mobile exhibit

must have high quality employees in our ranger workforce," Southeast RD Bob Baker said when he presented the scholarship in Atlanta.

RETIREMENTS

Closing out a career filled with many accomplishments, SWRO's **Bill Brown** retired in March with 35 years of federal service. Staffs of Columbus Quincentenary parks in the region have been most familiar with Bill's driving force and creativity since his arrival here in 1989, but his work elsewhere has had lasting impact also.

After a stint in the Air Force as a weather observer, Bill began his federal career in 1955 as a departmental intern with the U.S. Navy. He transferred to the NPS Washington Office as a writer/editor in 1957, serving as a regional publications officer and information officer in former Region Five (Philadelphia), then assigned to SWRO (1962-1975). He served as historian, environmental education coordinator, and regional historian, wrote *People of the Stone Villages*, and established the compliance program for the National Historic Preservation Act. During a break in service he wrote the classic *Islands of Hope*, which received a national book award and catalyzed dialogue on environmental education.

Bill served in the Alaska Region for two years as keyman and task force historian for Yukon-Charley Rivers NPre, then prepared studies on the North Slope for the University of Alaska. He returned to the Alaska Region in 1979 where he served until 1989 as a supervisory historian, regional historian, and chief of the cultural resources division. During this time he wrote the *Denali Historic Resources Study*, *Alaska National Parklands*, and *Gaunt Beauty, Tenuous Life*, the encyclopedic history of Gates of the Arctic NP & Pre. He also served on the advance team that set protocols leading to the Beringian Heritage Reconnaissance Study.

A listing of Bill's assignments does not begin to reveal the extent to which his thinking has influenced the Service. Twice he served on national task forces to reexamine the mission and objectives of the Service. His essays on Service operations, influencing forces, and needed ethos have appeared in numerous professional journals and publications. Likewise, as a forceful speaker, Bill has championed and articulated

the values and implications of preservation and appropriate public use.

Bill and his wife, Carolyn, and their two boys, are moving to Gustavus, Alaska, where he will volunteer with the staff at Glacier Bay NP and continue to work as a consultant on the Beringian park project.

Glen Kaye

■ **George W. Glen, Jr.**, received a special achievement award, among other gifts, in recognition of his 23 years of seasonal employment as a protection ranger at Gettysburg NMP and Eisenhower NHS (PA). Of course, the word seasonal does not adequately describe George's tenure, which equates to approximately 15-1/2 years of actual service. Although he is retiring from seasonal service, George plans to continue as an elementary school teacher, a position in the Gettysburg school district that he has held for 29 years.

Randy Phiel

■ Capulin Volcano NM superintendent **Ralph Harris** recently retired after a 30-year NPS career. "I feel fortunate to have come up in the National Park Service from the seasonal ranks to superintendent. My family and I have lived and worked in some of the most scenic places in the United States and the many friends made during our 30-years made the work even more enjoyable," Harris said. Harris' career took him from Lava Beds NM (CA) to Lake Mead NRA (NV), Haleakala NP (HI), City of Refuge NHP (HI), Glacier NP (MT), Guadalupe Mountains NP (TX), and finally Capulin Volcano NM (NM).

DEATHS

■ **James Dee (Jim) Hanson** passed away at his parents' home in Harrison, NE, on February 28, following a courageous three-year fight with cancer. Of Jim's 36 years of active outdoor life, the last thirteen were devoted to his responsibilities as a maintenance worker at Agate Fossil Beds NM (NE). Trained for a career in teaching, he chose instead to take care of this monument, and became part of it in the process. No matter how busy he may have been, Jim always took the time when he was

on duty by himself to accommodate visitors at this remote site, thus lending truth to the idea that we are all park rangers in the eyes of the public. We never knew him to speak an unkind word to anyone, and whenever his skills were needed on short notice, he would set aside whatever he was doing to carry us through the crisis.

Like his peers throughout the NPS, Jim's value as a maintenance worker simply could not be measured in dollars. He knew every aspect of the seasonal needs of this area, always found a way to accomplish new tasks that reflected his pride in his park, and made a contribution, through his cabinetmaking skills, that will serve the staff for years to come.

Jim loved to hunt and fish, from Colorado to Alaska, and, even after nine brain surgeries, could still hit the bull's eye of a target with his bow and arrows from a hundred feet away. He went on to endure three more surgeries, and came back to work every time. To say that he was an inspiration to the staffs of Agate Fossil Beds and Scotts Bluff NMs is a modest assessment of his legacy. As for those who might tell you that the idea of the NPS family is little more than a romantic myth, we know this much to be true: Jim Hanson truly was a brother to us all.

M. Reid Miller

■ **Margaret Ann Donovan**, 43, a House Administration Committee staff member and founder of the Friends of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, died of cancer February 24. She had worked on House information systems assignments since 1980. In addition, she volunteered at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, assisting visitors and providing information on wall rubbings. She also traveled as a volunteer interpreter with the Moving Wall, a scale replica of the memorial. Survivors include her parents and one brother.

■ **H. Chandlee Forman** died March 18 at the age of 86. A fellow of the Explorers Club and the American Institute of Architects, he held the institute's Presidential Award and an honorary doctorate from St. Mary's College. He did archeological work during the 1930s at Jamestown (VA) and St. Mary's City, Maryland's first permanent Colonial settlement. His work at Jamestown preceded development of a major historic site there. Among his other accomplishments he also

counted serving as the first editor of the Historical American Building Survey records of the Library of Congress. He was also the author of 14 books. Forman is survived by his wife, a daughter, a son, and eight grandchildren.

■

Jane Simmonds, wife of DSC employee Bob Simmonds, died February 3. The Simmonds family resides at 7652 S. Spotswood Court, Littleton, CO 80120.

■

Mary J. Eaton, 91, died February 21 in St. Augustine, FL. She was the widow of Edward J. Eaton, Fort Matanzas NM superintendent from 1942 to 1953, who died in 1984. She is survived by a daughter, a son, two grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

■

Glenn D. Gallison, 68, died March 13 in Sequim, WA, after a long battle with cancer. He was raised in Yosemite, where his father was an NPS employee. His family had long been associated with the park, where his grandfather had driven cattle prior to Yosemite's establishment. As a teenager, Glenn worked for many park concessioners, including photographer Ansel Adams. Later, his education at the University of California was interrupted by a three year stint as a B-29 pilot during World War II. Returning to Berkeley, he made the university ski team. This skill served him well when he was became Ski Ranger at the Badger Pass Ski Area of Yosemite. He and Elizabeth Wardell, a nurse at the Yosemite Hospital, were married May 26, 1951, in the Yosemite Chapel.

Glenn was one of the first NPS employees appointed to the Department of Interior Training Program. After completing it he returned to Yosemite as a park biologist. In 1957 he became chief park naturalist at Olympic NP. Arriving just as Mission 66 was unfolding, he planned and developed facilities that became the backbone of the park's present interpretive program. In 1966 he was appointed chief park naturalist at Rocky Mountain NP, then, in 1967, regional chief of interpretation, Midwest Regional Office.

In 1971, Glenn returned to the northwest as chief of management evaluations in the new Pacific Northwest Regional Office. Promoted to associate regional director for planning in 1973, he led many key efforts in Alaska.

After his retirement in 1982, Glenn settled

in Port Angeles, WA, the headquarters of Olympic NP, where he served as a VIP. He devoted much of his time to a variety of conservation-related causes.

In addition to his son, Chris, he is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, three other sons (Mark, Jim and Eric), four grandchildren, a brother, and a sister. Remembrances may be made to the Glenn Gallison Memorial Scholarship Fund, 3709 Canyon Edge Drive, Port Angeles, WA 98362.

■

Florence Hawley Ellis, well known Southwestern archeologist, passed away April 6 in Albuquerque. Many NPS archeologists were schooled by Dr. Ellis, a professor at the University of New Mexico, and an attendee at the first Pecos Conference in 1926. A scholarship fund has been established at Ghost Ranch near Abiquiu, NM, to continue her research work.

■

Paul Albert Judge, 87, an NPS retiree living in Albuquerque, also passed away on April 6. During his career, he was superintendent of Bandelier, Organ Pipe Cactus and Saguaro NMs. He is survived by son Jim, former chief of the Chaco Center; son Ned, a network news reporter; and wife Frances (17 Casa Hermosa Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112).

■

Malcolm E. (Mac) Gardner, 86, a 35-year NPS careerist, died February 15 of cardiac arrest in Arlington, VA. The year 1932 was an important one for him. He earned a master's degree in history at the University of Virginia, where he received the Virginia Society of the Cincinnati award for a study on George Rogers Clark. During that same year, he also joined the Park Service as a seasonal, serving at what is now Colonial NHP (VA). Gardner went on to become superintendent of Natchez Trace Parkway (MS). In 1965 he received the Department of the Interior's Meritorious Service Award. He is survived by a son, a daughter, four sisters, and a brother. His wife passed away in 1975.

■

Clarkson B. Human, 75, died March 2 in Arlington, VA. Over the years he was a cartographer and topographer with the U.S. Geological Survey, then a civil engineer with NASA and NPS, from which agency he

retired. He worked on such projects as the installation of satellite tracking stations and the refurbishing of the equestrian statues on Memorial Bridge. In retirement, he taught classes to immigrants and recorded books for the blind. Survivors include his wife, Grace, three sons, a sister, and four grandchildren.

■

Robert N. McIntyre died October 8, 1990, in Seattle, WA. He was born in Illinois in 1910, moving with the family first to Idaho, then to Washington after a forest fire burned much of their property. McIntyre was a 37-year federal employee, first serving with the Forest Service, where his main interests were forest fire control and employee training. Later, as an NPS employee, he became a charter member of E&AA. He was proud to be a part of the National Park Service family as well as a 50-year member of the Society of American Foresters.

McIntyre joined the NPS in 1942. He worked in Yosemite, Mount Rainier, and Yellowstone NPs as a ranger, photographer, naturalist, management assistant and training officer. He served as the Blue Ridge Parkway's assistant superintendent, and Yellowstone's chief naturalist during the 1959 earthquake. He was also the Midwest Region's chief of public affairs and supervisor of what was then the Stephen T. Mather Training and Research Center. After his retirement in 1969, he and his wife, Mamie, enjoyed numerous trips with other NPS alumni, as well as Yellowstone's "Old Timers" reunions. Bob died less than a month after attending the 1990 Mount Rainier and Yellowstone reunions.

He is survived by his wife, Mamie, a daughter, a son, two grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. Contributions in his memory may be sent to the Education Trust Fund, E&AA, P.O. Box 1490, Falls Church, VA 22041.

■

Mary Steen, wife of NPS retiree Charlie Steen, died February 1. Active in the American Association of University Women for many years, she also wrote and published poetry. In addition to her husband, Charlie, she is survived by a daughter, a son, and four grandchildren. The family may be reached at 739 Madison Avenue, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110. Memorial contributions may be made to the Arthritis Foundation of New Mexico, 124 Alvarado Drive, SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108.

BUSINESS NEWS

The Washington DC employees and the 1916 Society of the Employees and Alumni Association (E&AA) plan a gala 75th anniversary celebration in the form of an old-fashioned NPS picnic on the Mall in front of the Lincoln Memorial on August 25, 1991, from 2:30 to 8 pm. A number of activities are scheduled to recognize employees, alumni and their families, whose support and commitment to the Park Service have made the organization what it is. Those wishing to travel to Washington for the event should contact the Savoy at 2505 Wisconsin Ave NW (202/337-9700) or the Carlisle at 1731 New Hampshire Ave, NW (202/234-3200) for room rates of \$49 plus tax per night for the weekend of August 23 through August 25. When making reservations, indicate that you are a member of the Park Service family and wish the reduced rate of \$49. A number of rooms have been set aside for NPS employees and alumni. For information contact Terry Wood at 202/208-4481 (FTS 268-4481).

The Education Trust Fund is easily the most popular and rewarding program administered by E&AA. But beyond Trust Fund management, what's the challenge? Keeping up with alumni and providing up-to-date information on their whereabouts undoubtedly ranks up there with management of the Education Trust Fund. Recently a park staffer called E&AA's executive director to obtain current addresses for four former superintendents. In less than a few minutes, the caller had the addresses he needed.

So, if you're retiring, please be sure to join E&AA. That way, when someone is looking for you, you can be confident that E&AA knows your whereabouts and can put old friends in touch with you.

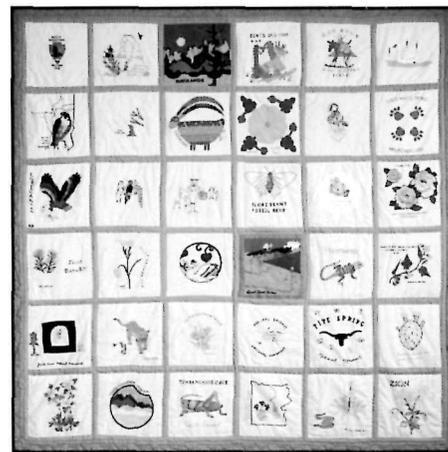
Excitement is building as the date of E&AA's 36th anniversary celebration at Great Smoky Mountains NP gets closer. The Blue Ridge Parkway alumni plan to kick off the reunion in Gatlinburg with its alumni meeting on Sunday, September 22, at the Mount Pisgah Inn on the parkway. Then, on Monday, September 23, guests will be arriving at the Holiday Inn on Airport Road. Remember to make your room reservations directly with Reservation Manager Peggy Carver by calling

1-800-435-9202 for in-state calls and 1-800-435-9201 for out-of-state calls. Visa (especially your E&AA Visa Card), Mastercard, Diners Club, American Express and personal checks are accepted. The mailing address for the Holiday Inn is 333 Airport Road, P.O. Box 1130, Gatlinburg, TN 37738. One night's lodging must accompany your reservation.

The deadline for room reservations is September 5. Those made after September 5 will be provided on a space available basis. Don't forget the services of Travel Square One when you make your arrangements. They can be reached at 303/233-8457.

One of the special events of the reunion is sure to be NPS Chief Historian Ed Bearss' account of E&AA's progress since its creation on September 25, 1955. Incidentally, the date of E&AA's inception coincides with Ed's entrance on duty at Vicksburg NMP. Ed's narrative will be a feature of the barbecue planned for Tuesday evening, September 24.

A gala reception and banquet are planned for Wednesday evening, September 25, E&AA's official 36th anniversary date. Director Ridenour and E&AA Chair Lorraine Mintzmyer plan to attend.



The National Park Women of the Rocky Mountain Region raffled off a beautiful quilt at the April Superintendents Conference held in Mesa Verde NP (CO). Each park in the region provided a completed square, and NPW Chair Carolyn Welch completed the work, which was won by Diane Elmer of Capitol Reef NP. Other items were also raffled, and a check for \$4,426, sent to E&AA's Education Trust Fund to be used toward college loans for NPS children.

Travel Square One has discontinued its toll-free number service but not its excellent travel services. Please continue to call on their expert staff when making any and all travel plans. Remember, three percent of their net profit on such arrangements is returned to the Education Trust Fund in the traveler's name. Then, at tax return time, the traveler is notified of his or her tax-deductible contribution. Travel Square One can be reached by calling 303/233-8457 or by writing to 608 Garrison Street, Suite H, Lakewood, CO 80215.

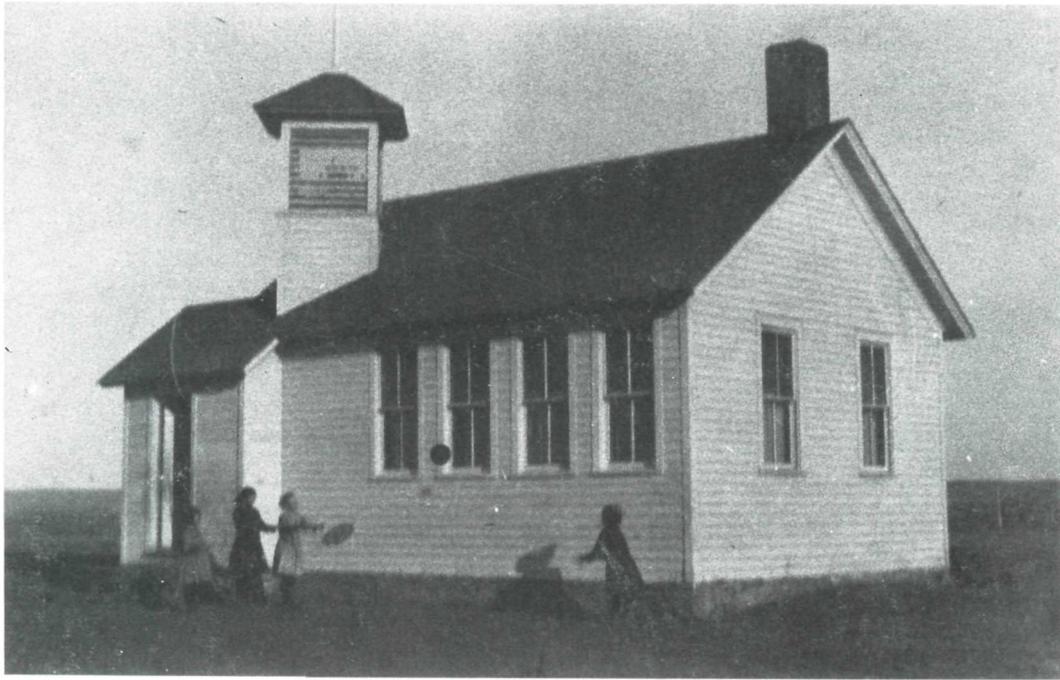
MEMBER NEWS

Former NPS Director Conrad L. Wirth was honored by the White House Historical Association on April 24 with an award naming him Director Emeritus in appreciation for his years of service on its Board of Directors.

Association Chairman Robert Breeden presented him with an inscribed silver bowl. Former NPS Director George B. Hartzog, Jr., presented the bowl and read the inscription. Association Executive Vice President Bernard R. Meyer read Connie the resolution appointing him Director Emeritus.

N. Doyal Yaney serves as professor emeritus of Purdue University and spends half the year in the Yellowstone-Bozeman area. He assists his wife who is in charge of lodging at Canyon Village. They spend the winter in Arizona and currently are looking for condos in the Bozeman area.

Jay and Twinsa Sahd are celebrating. The last of their children has graduated from college, a milestone the Sahds commemorated with a bottle of champagne ("a cheap one," Jay says). The children now are on their own, Cheryl working at Sciencetech, David in business for himself, Debbie the choral director at Cibola High School, and Gerald with the First National Bank—all of them based in Albuquerque. Gerald just advised his parents that they will be grandparents in August. Twinsa says she is too young to be a grandmother, but Jay claims he's always been old.



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