

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ARCHES..... NATIONAL MONUMENT

..... Moab, Utah

..... January 22, 1922

MONTHLY REPORT - JANUARY, 1942

ARCHES

By Henry G. Schmidt, Custodian
Moab, Utah

Travel this month, 63; travel year to date, 625.

Weather

The new year of 1942 brought us zero temperatures and cold winds, lasting for 6 days and an abrupt change of weather then favored us, bringing mild sunny weather with occasional winds for the remainder of the month. The nights have remained cold but warm, clear days have been in order since the cold snap of the first week in January. There is no snow in the Windows Section and very little in other parts of the monument which is quite unusual for this season of the year.

Roads

The road to the Windows section is very rough in spots but free from the usual winter mud and snow.

The company strength of Arches CCC Camp has decreased slightly within the past month and the hoped-for maintenance crew did not materialize. Necessary maintenance of the road has been carried on, however the big job of shaling the very rough sections will have to await the time when men and equipment for the job are available.

The road through Salt Valley is rough but passable.

#2

Visitors

Sixty-three people, a majority of them being from Moab and vicinity, registered as visitors during the month. This is a slight increase over January of 1941, however one cannot help notice the decided decline in out-of-state travel. Three parties with 11 people were guided through the Windows section and 5 parties with 21 people were contacted at Willow Springs ranger station. Travel for the year is 5% below the corresponding period of 1941.

Hours spent in interpretative contact - Custodian Schmidt $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

Park Service visitors included Field Supervisor Taubert, Santa Fe, New Mexico; Glenn Boyland and Jim Townsend, Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado.

Grazing

The herd of sheep belonging to Gus Morris is still using the allotment between the Colorado River and the east boundary of the Windows section. He has adhered to the grazing regulations and has not trespassed on monument lands. Several small vagabond bands have been noted near the west boundary and I have succeeded in contacting the herders and, thus far, have been able to keep them from trespassing on monument lands.

Project Progress for the month.

Maintenance, entailing minor repairs, of the Windows section road.

Patrols were made of the Windows, Courthouse Towers and Delicate Arch sections, and on the west boundary between these three sections.

A set of shelves for the Willow Springs ranger station was completed and a table rebuilt.

Manuscript for two-fold leaflet was completed and mailed to headquarters.

#3

Visitor contact was carried on in Windows Section and at the Willow Springs ranger station.

Project Program for the Ensuing Month

Continued maintenance of the Windows section road.

Special patrol of all areas to enforce grazing regulations.

Visitor contact, as necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry G. Schmidt, Custodian

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

-----ARCHES----- NATIONAL MONUMENT

-----Moab., Utah.-----

-----February 23,----- 1942

MONTHLY REPORT - FEBRUARY, 1942

ARCHES

By Henry G Schmidt, Custodian
Moab , Utah.

Travel this month, 21; travel year to date, 646.

Weather

February weather was uncommonly mild, with the exception of a five day snow-storm and blizzard that made its apperance 3 days before our Acting Superintendent, "Chuck" Richey arrived for an inspection of the area and the CCC camp, and evidently followed him out of this country to Santa Fe, New Mexico. * Six inches of snow fell in Moab valley during the storm, and the temperature dropped to 1 below; however Old Sol is now doing his best to make us forget the few days of unplesant cold, and is featuring regular Moab spring weather.

*Note- Hugh will remember his trip to Arches on January 18, 1940, and the snow and blizzard that he weathered here - also the very cold night he spent keeping up a fire in the local tourist camp, where he tried to catch a few minutes sleep.

Roads

The road tonthe Windows section is still rough, but generally speaking , is in the best shape it has been for several months. A minimum amount of maintenance has been necessary to keep the road in fair condition.

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The road down Salt Valley is passable, but very, very rough.

Visitors

Twenty-one people visited the Windows section of the monument this month. Strangely enough, most of them were local people. Only 2 parties, each with two people, registered from out of state. I am afraid the combination of rubber shortage and our rough road, is going to cut deeply into travel to the Arches this year.

Hours spent in interpretative contact - Custodian Schmidt - 4 hours.

Park Service visitors include Acting Superintendent "Chuck" Richey, Coolidge, Arizona; Glenn Boyland and Art Gilmore, Mesa Verde National Park.

Project Progress for the Month

Maintenance and minor repairs to the Windows section road.

Patrols made to the Windows, Courthouse Towers and Devil's Garden sections, and on the west boundary between these sections.

Special patrols on foot to check on the grazing situation. All bands of sheep contacted, and made certain the herders stayed outside the monument.

Visitor contact carried on as necessary.

Since February 19, I have been acting as foreman at CCC Camp NP-7-U, working wherever services are needed.

Project Progress for the Ensuing Month

Patrols to Windows and Devil's Garden sections.

Visitor contact as necessary.

Continued work as CCC foreman 5 days each week.

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General

Acting Superintendent Richey paid us a visit on the 15, 16 and 17th of this month. Much of his time was used checking affairs at the CCC camp with Alden Newell who is now acting Superintendent of the camp. Regular monument affairs were discussed and plans made to carry on as efficiently as possible during the periods of our financial emergency.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry G Schmidt,
Custodian.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

-----ARCHES----- NATIONAL MONUMENT

-----Moab , Utah.-----

-----March 25,-----, 1942

MONTHLY REPORT - MARCH, 1942

ARCHES

By Henry G Schmidt, Custodian
Moab , Utah.

Travel this month, 7; travel year to date, 653.

Weather

Rain, sleet, snow, blizzards and sandstorms have been the program for the month, with an occasional break of good warm "Moab" weather, and sunshine. This severe weather is , of course, very unusual for this time of the year. Temperatures have been below normal, and the amount of precipitation slightly greater than normal for this month of the year.

Roads

The road to the Windows sections is in surprizingly good condition, considering the number and severity of the storms experienced during the month. A minimum amount of maintenance was necessary to keep it open for travel. Maintenance work, with the assistance of the State Highway Department, was carried on for a period of 3 days, and resulted in ditching and grading, another short section of the road near Courthouse crossing.

The road through Salt Valley has been impassable since the first of the March rains set in.

Page 2.

Visitors

LOST - 190 of the 197 visitors who saw the Arches in March, 1941. In other words the total, registered travel (and that is the only kind that is counted at Arches) for the month of March, is 7 people as compared to 197 visitors for March, 1941. The bad weather may have had something to do with the abrupt decline in travel to this area, but I have a hunch that other reasons, aside from weather, have contributed to our loss of visitors. All of the visitors were from out-of-state; 3 from California, 1 from Colorado, 1 from New Mexico, 1 from Kansas and 1 from Tennessee.

Hours spent in interpretative contact - Custodian Schmidt 4 hours.

Park Service visitors include George Horgard, Region 3, Santa Fe New Mexico, and Tom Williams, Assistant Superintendent, Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado.

Project Progress for the Month

Patrols were made to the Windows, Courthouse Towers and Devil's Garden sections of the monument.

Visitor contact carried on as necessary.

Maintenance and minor repairs to the Windows section road, with particular attention to the work in cooperation with the Utah State Highway department.

All filing and clerical work current.

Approximately 20 days have been used in working on CCC projects, with most of this time being used in building a dry-laid rock wall along the Navajo sandstone slope on the north and east side of the headquarters area.

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Project Progress for the Ending Month

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Patrols to all sections of the monument.

NATIONAL MONUMENT
Visitor Contact as necessary.

Continuation of work on CCC projects, utilizing as much of
my time not spent on regular patrols, as will be practicable,
in CCC work.

Minor maintenance on Windows section road.

General

One illustrated lecture was given before 48 Lions and their
wives at their Ladies Night program on March 9. The lecture
of brief explanations of various National Parks and Monuments
in the west and southwest, illustrated with kodachrome slides of
the respective areas.

Please - someone send me some visitors. Our Sandroak road
is not very hard on tires.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry G Schmidt,
Custodian.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

-----ARCHES----- NATIONAL MONUMENT

-----Moab, Utah/-----

-----April 22,----- 1942.

MONTHLY REPORT - APRIL, 1942.

ARCHES

By Henry G Schmidt, Custodian
Moab, Utah

Travel this month, 276; travel year to date, 929.

Weather

We haven't, to date, had our share of what the local people call "real old-fashioned" spring weather, and we have had but little ideal "tourist" weather. Fruit trees in the valley and flowers on the desert are blooming a month behind schedule, and the occasional warm, sunny days have been quickly dissipated by the cold rains that have fallen each week during the month. At this moment a severe rain and electrical storm is in progress, and from the way the lights are flickering, either the lightning or the high wind is raising a bit of trouble in the vicinity of the local power plant.

Roads

The heavy rains, during the month, has caused considerable damage to the Windows section road. New washouts have appeared, culverts were clogged with debris, fills melted into the surrounding landscape, the numerous ruts have been widened and deepened; and briefly speaking, the road is not in the best of condition.

The road through Salt Valley is still impassable, and will continue

Page 2.

in this condition until after the spring rains.

Visitors

Wretched roads may come and go, and tire rationing stay, but there will still be plenty of "hardy souls", who consider it worth while to make the trip to the Arches, regardless of present conditions. The travel for the month is well under last years corresponding period, but the jump from 7 visitors in March to 276 in April is gratifying. Most of our visitors were from Colorado and Utah, with a small representation from California, New Mexico, Kansas and Illinois. The largest number of visitors in two parties were students of Grand Junction and Fruita, Colorado highschoools who chose to make Arches the scene for their annual "ditch day" festivities. One hundred and 63 students were included in these two parties.

Hours spent in interpretative contact - Custodian Schmidt 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

Park Service visitors include George Norgard, Jerry Miller and J. R. Lassiter, Region 3, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Tom Williams, Mesa Verde Nat'l. Park And Custodian McKinney and HCWP Carolie , Chaco Canyon National Monument.

PROJECT Progress for the Month

The minor maintenance of the Windows section road, almost developed into a seige of major maintenance. It was necessary to use a CCC dump truck and 3 enrollees for 2 days to put the road into a condition where I could continue minor maintenance without help from the much depleted ranks of our CCC camp. All bad washout have been repaired, and unless the present storm causes additional heavy damage, I will be able to have this road in a fair condition within the next few days.

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Patrols were made in the Windows and Courthouse Towers sections of the monument.

Visitor contact was carried on as necessary.

All filing and clerical work is current. Some extra hours have been spent during the month to bring the files to a neater and more efficient state of operation.

Approximately 9 days have been used in cooperation with the CCC camp, by working on current CCC projects. This work included painting and rough work with the carpentry crew.

Projects for the ensuing month

Patrols to all sections of the monument.

Visitor contact as necessary.

Continuation of cooperation with the CCC camp, by working as many days as possible on the CCC projects.

Continued maintenance of the Windows section road, with some emphasis on cooperation with the State Highway department, in an effort to place this road in as good condition as possible, in anticipation of more visitors during the summer months.

To conscientiously do as much on my job as the "Outfit" on Corregidor are doing on theirs, and to not forget that it is your country and my country that they are fighting to save.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry G Schmidt,
Custodian.

ARCHES

Moab, Utah

May 24

42

MONTHLY REPORT - MAY, 1942

ARCHES

By Henry G. Schmidt, Custodian
Moab, Utah

TRAVEL this month, 219

Travel Year to date, 1148.

Weather

This month has been the reverse to April - dry and dusty and the rains which often appear with clocklike regularity in the month of May have failed to materialize. The first part of the month was cool and windy; the last two weeks have brought a change to very warm weather but still very windy. Regardless of the degree of warmth, one can always depend on experiencing numerous sand and wind storms at this time of the year.

Roads

The road to the Windows Section again has been repaired to the extent that we are not quite so ashamed to refer to our truck train as the "road". The sandy sections are beginning to unravel and are the subject of some comment from the visitors, but, then, adverse comment on this road is fast becoming a tradition at Arches and such trifles as additional oripitic remarks about the "sand trail" can't worry us in the least. The the car of a visitor is stuck in the sand, we lend a hand, show them the particular features of the monument they are interested in and suggest that, perhaps, sand isn't quite as annoying as mud when

#2

one's car is stalled.

The road through Salt Valley remains as last reported -- impassable to visitors, and barely navigable to an old "sand hog" like the custodian.

Visitors

Travel for this month dropped to 219 visitors as compared to 553 for May, 1941. Colorado and Utah, again, head the visitor origin list, with California, Oregon, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Kansas, Louisiana, New York and Massachusetts also represented by visitors.

Hours spent in interpretative contact - Custodian Schmidt, 30 3/4 hrs.

Park Service visitors include Chuck Richey and Vince Ellis, Southwestern National Monuments, Coolidge, Arizona; and George Morgard and S. T. "Stu" Carlson, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Project Progress for the Month

Word was received on the last day of April that our CCC camp would move out on May 31st, and since that date I have assisted in "rust" work in order to hasten the completion of the projects before the camp closes. My work with the CCC included painting and carpentry on the custodian's residence, cleanup of the headquarters area, construction of a warehouse (temporary) and work on the water and sewer systems.

One trip, of 4 days duration, was made to Aztec Ruins, Walnut Canyon and Navajo National Monuments, distributing materials and picking up various other materials needed to complete some of our projects.

Patrols were made each week in the evenings after close of work on the CCC projects, and although not many visitors linger on the monument at that time of day, a few contacts were made, thus accounting for a showing, at least, in the visitor contact column.

#3

Filing and correspondence is not quite current. If the electricity doesn't fail, this matter will be brought up to date the first free evening I have to spend on it.

Projects for the Ensuing Month

Patrols to all sections of the monument.

Visitor contact as necessary.

Maintenance of the Windows section road.

Clean up and completion of odds-and-ends jobs that are certain to remain after, and possibly as a result of, the abandonment of the CCC Camp .

Respectfully submitted,

Henry G. Schmidt, Custodian

ARCHES

Moab , Utah.

June 24,

42.

MONTHLY REPORT - JUNE 1942.

ARCHES

By Henry H Schmidt, Custodian
Moab , Utah.

Travel this month, 286; travel year to date, 1434.

Weather

The weather throughout June has continued dry and dusty, with more wind and a good deal more heat added to it. The local weather station has reported temperatures of 104, 105 and 106 degrees on several days, and with the high winds prevailing, this heat mixed with clouds of hot sand has been pretty tough at times.

Roads

The Windows section road is in fair shape, though rough and sandy in many spots. Several sand dunes have started to advance across the road east of Willow Springs, but I have caught them before they had progressed to far, and saved a few tourists from the necessity of shoveling their cars out of these sand banks.

The road through Salt Valley to the Devil's Garden and Delicate Arch sections is reported to be passable, but in very rough and sandy condition.

Visitors

Travel for the month has increased over May, but is running a poor second to June, 1941. 286 people visited the Windows section this month as compared to 472 visitors a year ago June. The present world conditions that have affected travel are of course the main cause for the drop in visitation; however I can cheerfully report that for the travel year to date Arches is still ahead of travel year 1940. California and Colorado head the list of visitor origin, with several eastern and mid-western states and Utah sending us the balance of our travel.

Hours spent in interpretative contact - $24\frac{1}{2}$ hours Custodian Schmidt.

Park Service Visitors include, Carolie and L.T. "Mac" McKinney, Chaco Canyon National Monument; Carl Taubert, Santa Fe, New Mexico; Williard Bradley and son and Walter Widman, Santa Fe New Mexico; Jess Nussbaum, Tom Williams, Ruth Byrd and Glenn Boyland, Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado.

Project Progress for the Month

Patrols were made to the Windows and Courthouse Towers sections of the monument.

Visitor contact was carried on whenever time allowed (which incidently was very little).

Little time was spent on maintenance of the Windows section road, and what maintenance was accomplished was carried on in conjunction with routine patrols of this section.

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About 90% of my time has been spent in the contracting or rather I should say "building game", trying to complete the custodian's residence. Two carpenters and a painter were hired to assist with this work, and if the money holds out we will have this nice new house in condition for the McKinneys before July 1.

Filing and correspondence are not current. Other work has made it necessary to do my paper work by the light of the moon and a Coleman lantern, and I haven't been in town often enough to settle down to some good old fashioned filing.

Projects for the ensuing month.

If I receive notification of approval of my transfer to Kings Canyon National Park, I will be there, and no doubt find plenty to keep me busy. If I am still at Arches I will be carrying on as usual, and you can read about it next month.

Respectfully submitted,

HenryG Schmidt,
Custodian.

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1528
147
1675

were missing,

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

and materials to do the

The only visitor I sent out to see the Arches National Monument

go out and pull him out after he had walked

is not so bad, just a bit of sand where he happened to
July 25, 1942

19

We have one or two summer showers back on the high country

the Court House Towers wash, but it is pretty good and passable. Some of the

soil has washed from the road between Willow springs and the Window section
Southwestern National Monuments,
Coolidge, Arizona
but the road is O.K.

Dear Chuck;

Visitors for the Month, 94 registered. Travel year to date, 1528.

Most of this month has been pretty rushed for me and I don't have much for the Arches report. We (the family moved in the new residence at Arches on the evening of July 12th, but I had to return to Chaco on the 15th and returned to Arches on the 21th. Since I returned to Arches I have been busy making the propane installation for the Custodian's residence. Several fittings were missing, so I had to do a lot of hunting to find the necessary things and materials to do the job.

The only visitor I sent out to see the Arches got stuck and I had to go out and pull him out after he had walked some 12 miles. The road, however is not so bad, just a bit of sand where he happened to miss the road completely.

We have one or two summer showers back on the high country which run the Court House Towers wash, but it is pretty good and passable. Some of the soil has washed from the road between Willow springs and the Window section but the road is O.K.

The weather has been quite warm since we reached the Arches. 110° in the shade and no shade near the residence. Those red rocks on three sides of the residence gets so hot through the day that they don't have time to cool during the night.

The water pump and the water system is sure swell after fighting the one at Chaco for so many years. We still have plenty of sand in the lines, which require new gaskets about ever foar or five days in the water faucets. However there seems to be less all the time, so I guess it willall be out within a few months.

I haven't had time to make the Natural Bridges this month, yet. But plan to go down the day after tomorrow if everthing works out O.K. I just received a letter from Wiley Redd, with his visitor count and enough material to make the report for Natural Bridges.

L would like to borrow some ones uniform, Maybe Earl Jackson's, since I have lost 19 pounds within the last 90 days. If I keep up the good work I will have to put a ruffle in my trouser waist.

Respectfully,

Lewis T. McKinney
Custodian

NATIONAL MONUMENT
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES

101-075
Arches

Moab, Utah

September 29

The Superintendent,
Southwestern National Monuments,
Coolidge, Arizona

Dear Sir;

Visitors for the month 131; Travel year todate 1,659.

Nothing much unusual has happened to report on this month. Just another dry and pretty warm month. The old Colorado River is mostly sand bars now. The sand still drifts in and around the Custodian's residence, just as if it was out in the middle of Death Valley. We will have to do some type of planting to hold the sand just south and west of the residence or get Carolie some COLORBAC. She can sweep and dust four times a day and by dinner time we have to scratch around in the sand on the table to find our knives and forks. We are all smooth mouth now so there is no need of trying to tell our age by our teeth.

Most of the visitors are taking little longer hikes since it has cooled off a bit. For a while most of them would only get a little ways beyond the Double Arch and turn back. A few have hiked from the Custodian's residence over the new Road site into Courthouse wash. I know of seven that hiked from the highway up the wash to the Court house towers. Two groups have hikes from the end of the road at the Window section, into Delicate Arch. This is a little more than a nine mile round-trip.

The road down Salt valley into the Turnbow cabin is pretty rough and sandy. I have advised visitors against the use of it.

(2)

The Window section road is about the same. Dry and dusty of course. We certainly need some type of maintainer to work this road with. A little blading at the right time would certainly help a lot.

A lot of our visitors have expressed their wishes for some type of shade out near the Window section. Comfort stations are also needed ver badly out there. And a garbage can would come in handy.

There are about 20 head of wild horses running loose on the Monument which will have to be disposed of in some manner. The Grazing Service said they would help get the out as they were doing damage to the grazing land near the Monument.

I have started a little grass around the residence but it isn't doing very well. I had the County agent to come out and look it over and advised the addition of Amonia Sulphate to the soil. this has been done, but I can't tell much difference.

Respectfully,

Lewis T. McKinney
Custodian

COOFIDGE' ARIZONA
HEADQUARTERS' SOUTHWESTERN MONUMENTS
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES

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Archesb

Moab, Utah

October 26th., 1942

The Superintendent
Southwestern National Monuments
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Sir;

Visitors for the month, 103., Travel year todate 103:

I guess winter is getting near for the old La Sal mountains are covered with snow on the high peaks. Some snow on the on the Blues and Elks. It is cloudy this morning and looks as if we may have a little falling weather here at the Monument. We have had a couple of wet spells already this months.

Three days was spent the first part of the month with the Fox Movietone making colored movies of the Arches National Monument. They took 450 feet of film and should be ready to be shown within about six weeks. We took in the Delicate Arch and Mr Kuhne spent most of his time just looking at the Arch and remarking what a wonderful thing it is. Mr O'Brien, with the Utah State Tourist Bureau was also with us on this trip and stated that the Arches National Monument had more wonderful and colorful scenery than any other part of the four joining states. I readily agreed. I wanted them to go to Dead Horse point for a few feet of film, but Mr Kuhne said there was enough here at the Monument for him.

Mr Norman Nevill and Mr Tompkins spent 6 days in the Garden section and left for the Natural Bridges on the Morning of September 30th. Mr Kuhne and party were to make a trip through the Canyon with Mr Nevill, but the weather would not permit.

(2)

Horse-back and pack-up patrol has been carried through out the month on the Area. Horse-back is the only way to see the Arches and really see as it should be seen. You can ride along and let your legs hang down while you use your eyes to look over everthing in detail. You don't have to worry about getting stuck, running out of gasoline or your tires.

This business of driving 18 miles to contact your visitors isn't all it is supposed to be. After driving over the last 12 miles of this road and making a couple of hiking trips your day is over a couple of hours before you can start back to headquarters. Then you feed and water your horse, eat your beans and bread, Corn bread) (that is all we have or can afford at the POOR FARM any more.) Then start working where the CCCC's left off. Of course there is nothing to a Custodian's job, just doll-up and contact your visitors and your day is done.

After making the Annual wildlife report I have noticed several tracks in Court House wash that look like Mountain Lion. From the number of tracks I have seen, I believe there are two or three different ones.

Respectfully,

Lewis T. McKinney
Custodian