

**Joshua Tree National Monument
Twenty-nine Palms, California**

June 1, 1961

Memorandum

To: The Director
From: Superintendent, Joshua Tree
Subject: Annual Report - 1960

Attached are subjects covering the most important items for 1961
Fiscal Year in Joshua Tree National Monument.

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Wm. R. Seymour
Superintendent

PERSONNEL

Personnel actions during the year were:

Secretary, Jean Furlka - Resigned 3/24/61

Secretary, Anna Lacher - E.O.D. 3/14/61

Park Ranger, Arthur Hathaway - Transfer to C. & G. Canal MFP Project
10/16/60

Park Ranger, Wayne E. Welch - E.O.D. 11/7/60 Reassigned from Branch
of Wildlife Refuge, Hollandale, Miss.

Caretaker, Paul E. Hatz - Temp Appointment to Career Appointment
7/26/60

Ranger Naturalist, Donald Miller - Resigned 11/19/60

LAND

Threat of development on private property continues to be the most serious problem concerning the Monument. While no sub-division of property has as yet begun, some owners are showing interest in this direction.

Several 5 and 10 acre plots in the Pinto Basin were placed under option with a few purchases completed.

The Pinto Basin road was surveyed for centerline location and owners of the property through which the road passes were contacted as to purchase of their lands. So far, two owners have accepted the \$15. per acre that has been established for that area.

IMPROVEMENT

The greatest improvement in protection was the establishment of a range district in the Last Horse section of the Monument. This was made possible by the final release of the State Property previously purchased by the Government. The rangers are living on the Area and are providing protection and service not formerly possible from Headquarters.

With campground use increasing rapidly, protection of the over-burdened campgrounds presents a situation requiring much more time from the protection division.

INTERPRETATION

Conducted trips were started in November, a month earlier than before and continued through May, a month later, to meet the increasing demands for this type of service as travel to the Monument increased. The popular Trip-of-the-Month, inaugurated last year, was expanded to make this advanced interpretive activity available to more people throughout the heavy travel season.

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RESEARCH & COOPERATION

The agreement with Long Beach State College was continued, with ecological studies being carried on in the Monument. The work is proving valuable to the interpretation of Joshua Tree, since many interesting features are beginning to emerge from such studies. Excellent cooperation has been ^{now} played with this group who are doing work beyond their requirements to build up information and study collections for the Monument.

The California Department of Mines continued their study of all old mines within the Monument. This is adding to the historical and geological information for our records.

GENERAL ASSOCIATION

The Joshua Tree Natural History Association was organized and began functioning on September 30, 1960 with the first meeting of the Board of Directors.

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