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From: FOIA, NPS <npsfoia@nps.gov>  
Sent: Wed, Jun 24, 2020 8:30 am  
Subject: 20-927 NPS history presentation FOIA Response

Your request is granted in full. During a search of our files we located one responsive record, which is attached. I trust that this information fully satisfies your request. Please do not hesitate to contact me, as the person responsible for processing your request, if you have any questions regarding this response. Additionally, contact information for the Department's FOIA Public Liaison is available at <https://www.doi.gov/foia/foiacenters>.

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Sincerely,

C.

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Please send replies to this [NPSFOIA@nps.gov](mailto:NPSFOIA@nps.gov) Address

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National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



# Overview History of the National Park Service

NPS Advisory Board Meeting  
August 27, 2019

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA



**Abbreviations for National Park System Areas**

NPS National Park  
 NRE National Recreation Area  
 NHR National Historical River  
 NHT National Historic Trail  
 NHP National Historic Park  
 NHP & PRES National Historic Park and Preserve  
 NHR National Historical Reserve  
 NRS National Natural Site  
 NLS National Lakeshore  
 NLM National Monument  
 NMP & PRES National Monument and Preserve  
 NMR National Military Park  
 NMEM National Memorial  
 NP & PRES National Park and Preserve  
 NPS National Park  
 NPS National Preserve  
 NS National Seashore  
 NSR National Scenic River/Streamway  
 NST National Scenic Trail  
 NPKW National Parkway  
 NRE National Recreation Area  
 NRR National River and Recreation Area  
 NRS National Reserve  
 NWS National Wildlife Refuge  
 WSR Wild and Scenic River

Where the Parks Are



Map depicts the 419 authorized National Park Service units.  
 ● City with National Park Service unit  
 ● Other city

For information about National Trails administered by the National Park Service, visit [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).

For Wild and Scenic Rivers information, visit [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).

Scale for all areas except Alaska  
 0 100 200 Miles  
 0 100 200 Kilometers



# Pyramid of Federal Site Recognition

**National Park System**



**National Natural Landmarks**



**National Historic Landmarks**



**National Register of  
Historic Places**

**419 units**

**599 designations**

**2,597 designations**

**95,022 listings**

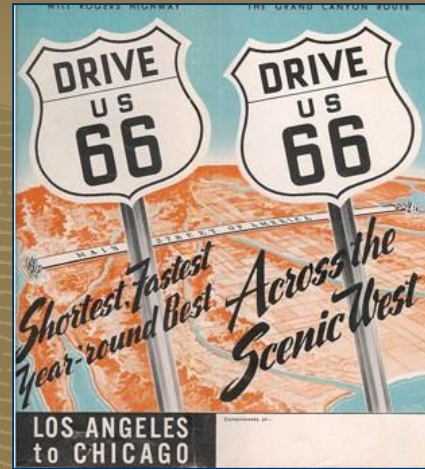
Affiliated Areas(25), Authorized Areas(9), Commemorative Sites(3),  
National Heritage Areas(55), National Trails System(30),  
National Wild & Scenic Rivers System(48)



# Community Assistance Programs

55+ National and Regional Programs for state, local, and tribal governments; non-profits, educational institutions, businesses, and the general public.

- Historic Surplus Property Program
- Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program
- Teacher Ranger Teacher program
- Historically Black Colleges and Universities Grant Program



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# The Early Years

- 1832 Hot Springs Reservation (AR)
- 1865 Yosemite Valley State Park (CA)
- 1872 Yellowstone National Park (WY)
- 1906 Antiquities Act
  - Authorizes National Monuments by Presidential Proclamation
- **Aug. 25, 1916 National Park Service**
- 1933 NPS Reorganization
  - Acquires War Department and Agriculture Department national monuments, national cemeteries, and the national capital parks



Col. Charles Young before his departure to Sequoia National Park in 1903.



The Grant Tree Trail, Sequoia National Park



# Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments Act (1935)

NPS mandate to identify, evaluate and recognize nationally significant historic properties



Old Courthouse, Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, Gateway National Arch

- System to evaluate proposed units
- Created Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments
  - 1972 National Park System Advisory Board
- Historic Sites Survey
  - National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings
  - **National Historic Landmarks**
- National Historic Site designation



# The NPS at 50

- 1956 Mission 66 Program
  - Facilities, Staffing, and Resource Management
- 1962 National Natural Landmarks Program
- 1963 Leopold Report
  - Restructures NPS natural resource management
- 1964 Wilderness Act
- 1968 Wild & Scenic Rivers Act
- 1970 General Authorities Act
  - Congress authorizes NRAs



© Judy Alderson, 2004 1<sup>st</sup> Place NNL Program Photo Contest Winner

# The NPS at 50

## National Historic Preservation Act (1966)

- Created the National Register of Historic Places
- Created the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
- Authorized Federal matching Historic Preservation Grants
- Created State, Federal, and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices
- Developed a Planning System for impacts by Federal projects



Waco Suspension Bridge, NR-listed in 1970. Photo taken August 13, 2009. Historic American Engineering Record survey HAER No. TX-13 as "Waco Suspension Bridge"



# NPS at the USA Bicentennial

Rounding Out the National Park System in American Military, Social, and Cultural History

- 1972 National Park System Plan
  - Creates a thematic historical framework for new park areas



Maggie Lena Walker National Historic Site,  
VA



Edgar Allan Poe National Historic Site, PA



World War II in the Pacific National Historical Park,  
Guam

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# NPS in the 1980s – 2000s

## 1980 ANILCA

- Addition of 47 million acres of national park lands in Alaska
  - Total of 8 NPs, 2 NMs, 10 NPRES, 2 NHP, and 1 WR

## Partnership Programs

- National Heritage Areas (1984)
- American Battlefield Protection Program (1991, 1996)
- Maritime Heritage Program (1994)
- Save America's Treasures (1998)
- National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act (2000)



Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve, AK

# NPS at the 2016 Centennial

## Toward a Second Century Vision:

- Utilizing Social Media and New Technologies
- Expanded Interpretation and Education Mission
- *Telling All American Stories*
- Advanced Workforce Initiatives
- Foster Shared Resource Stewardship

- *2001 Rethinking the National Parks for the 21st Century* (NPSAB)
- *2009 Advancing the National Park Idea* (National Parks Second Century Commission)
- *2016 Second Century Perspectives* (NPSAB)
- **2016 NPS Centennial Act**



Reconstruction Era  
National Historical Park



# NPS Park History Program

[www.nps.gov/hisnps/NPShistory.htm](http://www.nps.gov/hisnps/NPShistory.htm)



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