

Arches

Moab, Utah

January 29,

46

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region Three:

The following is a narrative report for Arches National Monument for the month of January, 1946:

GENERAL: This custodian was on annual leave from noon January 23rd to January 27th, inc. Ex Relief Ranger Harry Reed was in charge of the area during my absence.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES: I attended a meeting of the Associated Civics Clubs of Southern Utah which was held at Moab, Utah on December 29th. The main topic discussed was completion of the main highway from Moab to the Colorado State line. From information received from a member of the Utah State Road Commission, who was present at the meeting, this road should be completed within three years time and should be of great benefit to this area, as well as Natural Bridges National Monument.

TRAVEL: The bad weather being experienced in this section of Utah cut our travel considerably, with only 3 cars and 13 people visiting the area. One informational contact was made at headquarters and 12 people visited the Windows section.

WEATHER: The thermometer hovered between zero and 10 degrees above every night during the month and did not get much above freezing during the day. Five inches of snow fell and at this writing there are still about 3 inches on the ground. The warm sunny Moab winter did not materialize this year.

ROADS: The road to the Windows section has been passable most of the month but it has been necessary to use chains and a prayer in order to negotiate it. The snow had crusted making some of the hills almost impassable.

The Salt Valley road has been impassable at the lower end of the valley and stock men in that vicinity have had to pack supplies from the Balanced Rock area.

GRAZING: Regular patrols have been made to the Windows section and no evidence of trespass has been discovered. The outlying sections have

been checked with field glasses from Balanced Rock and no evidence of grazing by sheep has been noted.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE VISITORS: W. Drew Chick, Assistant Naturalist, National Capital Parks, and wife stepped by on December 28th, on their way back to Washington after a two months vacation in the West. It was a pleasant surprise as I had not seen him since 1938 or 1939 when he was temporary naturalist at Zion.

Ranger Sharp and wife arrived in Meab on January 23rd to take delivery on the relief ranger panel truck and equipment which was turned over to Arches when Harry Reed resigned. They spent about an hour at headquarters but did not make the trip out into the area due to road conditions and lack of time.

MISCELLANEOUS: A circulating heater was installed in the office during the month so that work could be accomplished on the filing system during bad weather.

Most of my time during the month was spent on records and files. The equipment records were brought up to date and the Arches files are getting a complete renovating. Everything is being placed under the proper heading, I hope, and under file cover. Upon completion of the Arches files these for Natural Bridges will be worked over.

(in trip.)

Russell L. Mahan
Custodian

Arches

Moab, Utah

February 25,

46

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region Three:

The following is a narrative report for Arches National Monument for the month of February, 1946:

GENERAL: Numerous requests for information have been received and answered during the month. If this is any indication, Arches should be in for its share of travel during the coming season.

WEATHER: It has been cold practically the entire month. A total of three inches of snow fell and the thermometer registered around 10 degrees above zero each night until about the 15th of February. It has warmed considerably since that time but still freezes slightly at night.

TRAVEL: A total of 33 people visited the area during the month despite the inclement weather. Fifteen people signed the Windows register, 10 people were contacted at headquarters and four people visited outlying sections. The states of Colorado, Utah, Kansas were represented, with one visitor from Alaska.

ROADS: The snow on the Windows Section road has disappeared and it is now in fair shape for travel.

The Salt Valley road has been in poor shape most of the month but believes it can now be travelled with a minimum of trouble. Will check its condition next month.

GRAZING: Regular patrol trips have been made into the Windows Section and some evidence of drifting cattle has been noted. A horseback patrol was made into the Courthouse Towers and Courthouse Wash section with no evidence of trespass having been found. The Devil's Garden and Delicate Arch sections were not covered due to cold weather and bad roads.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES: A trip was made into the Fisher Towers area, along the Colorado River, in company with Harry Reed and Wayne McCorkle, and W. McGibbney and Wm. Eldredge of Salt Lake City. These towers are an awe-inspiring site and well worth the time and effort spent in visiting them. Harry Reed contends that some of them are 1500 feet high but as near as we could check with an Abney 500 feet would be more like it.

SIGNS: New signs were completed for the Windows Section and headquarters Highway junctions. These will be installed after contacting the highway district engineer regarding right of way, etc. Informational and directional signs in the area, are being repainted as time permits.

PUBLICITY: The Utah State Department of Publicity and Industrial Development has issued a pictorial map, in color, for the State and all Service areas are represented. They have also compiled a mimeographed leaflet on the "Twenty Four Major Attractions of Utah", which includes all National Park Service areas, with a brief sketch on each.

MISCELLANEOUS: Work was completed on files for both Arches and Natural Bridges during the month. They are now set up according to the National Park Service filing scheme.

At the request of the Fish and Wildlife Service, six deer skulls were obtained from the Elk Mountain country and were shipped to Washington, D. C.

(in trip.)

Russell L. Mahan
Custodian

Arches

Moab, Utah

March 26,

46

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region Three:

The following is a narrative report for Arches National Monument for the month of March, 1946:

GENERAL: Travel is starting to increase over Highway 450 and if we can just keep the road to the Windows section open, we should get a good percentage of these people into the monument. Moab townspeople have reported increasing interest in their contacts with people going through.

TRAVEL AND INTERPRETIVE SERVICES: Travel increased considerably over last month with a total of 28 cars containing 90 people visiting the area. Twenty cars and 71 people visited the Windows and 8 cars and 19 people were contacted at headquarters and received information. Six parties of 20 people were contacted in Moab and given information regarding the monument.

WEATHER: Heavy wind started blowing on February 29th and it has been blowing intermittently since that time. Rain fell on several days and helped to keep the sand down. It is staying unusually cool for this time of year and fires are still necessary at night. The early fruit trees are beginning to blossom in the valley.

PUBLICITY: On Sunday, February 24th the rotogravure section of the Denver Post carried a full page picture of the "Double Arch" in the Windows. It was an excellent picture by a former resident of Grand Junction, Colorado and rated page one of this pictorial section.

The Lion's Clubs of Moab and Monticello have initiated a project for the publication of a folder, in color, depicting the scenic areas of Southeastern Utah. It will be fine publicity and the Service areas in this section of Utah should come in for some good advertising.

ROADS: The road into the Windows Section was in good condition during the first part of the month but during the last week the highwinds have

drifted sand over the road in the Courthouse Wash, causing considerable trouble. Willowes have been hauled and placed on the road in the worst sections and at this writing it is passable, with caution.

MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION: Work on the fence at quarters has been carried on as time permitted. With the installation of pickets on a 40 foot section north of the house, the job will be complete and will only lack a good paint job.

A new mileage sign was installed at the junction of the highway and the Windows road. All mileage and directional signs in the area have been repainted.

Five shade trees, donated by people in Meab, were planted on grounds at quarters. Three of these were large trees and we should get some benefit from their shade this summer.

The high wind of February 23th snapped our flagpole off at ground level and necessitated a new installation. It is now welded and reinforced and hope that it will withstand our heavy winds.

The floor of the pump house has been made ready for a bitudobe floor by the placing of a heavy layer of coarse river sand.

(in trip.)

Russell L. Mahan
Custodian

Arches

Moab, Utah

April 30,

46

MEMORANDUM FOR the Regional Director, Region Three:

The following is a narrative report for Arches National Monument for the month of April, 1946:

GENERAL: The custodian was absent from the area, on annual leave, from March 29th to April 1st, inc, on an emergency trip to Salt Lake City, Utah.

TRAVEL: The travel to this area increased with a bang during April with a total of 300 people visiting the area in 72 cars. Our total travel for the year to date is 634 people, as against, 556 people for total travel year of 1945. It looks like a banner year for Arches, if old man weather will be kind to us and have mercy on our entrance road.

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES: Two parties of school children were accompanied to the Windows section during the month. One party of 26 people consisted of the senior class of the Fruitvale, Colorado high school and another party of 40 people were from the Moab grade school. One party of 2 people were accompanied into the Devil's Garden section on April 10th. The monument slides were shown to a party of 4 people at headquarters. A total of 33 people were contacted at headquarters and given information regarding this and other areas. Four parties containing 17 people were contacted in Moab and furnished information. Total contact time was 26½ hours.

WEATHER: Heavy rain fell on April 2nd and light showers occurred on April 7th and 8th. There were several days of heavy wind during the month. Warm weather has been the rule and it reminds us that the hot weather is just around the corner.

MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR: The Arches pickup was given a general overhaul during the month in preparation for the coming season, the 2KW light plant is now in the process of being overhauled and the Natural Bridges pickup is having a reconditioned transmission installed and various minor repairs made.

EQUIPMENT: A used 3 h. p. direct current electric meter was received from Handellier National Monument during the month. This will be used to replace

the old 5 h. p. Fairbanks-Morse gas engine now being used as a power unit on our water pump.

ROADS: The Windows road was closed from April 2nd to April 5th, inc due to heavy rain which caused Courthouse Wash to become very soft. Two days were spent on minor repairs to washed out places on the road. It has been passable the balance of the month. I have been advised by the maintenance foreman at Meab that the State should finish their patching job on the highway shortly after May 1st and that they will then have time to give the entrance road some attention.

The road in Salt Valley to the Devil's Garden and Delicate Arch sections is in fair condition and has been negotiated by visitors on three occasions during the month.

SIGNS: Carved and painted two approach signs for the Windows road junction and received permission from the State to install them. Many visitors miss this junction despite the new sign recently installed. The State has not yet installed the new directional signs at Crescent Junction, on Highway 50, but I have assurance that it will be done in the near future.

Six metal boundary signs were delivered by Custodian Sowers of Chase Canyon National Monument and these will be installed at advantageous points as time permits.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES: The custodian was again absent from the area from April 21st to 27th, inc to attend the Region Three Fire Training meeting held at Zion National Park. It was a very successful meeting and much benefit was received by this custodian.

POLICE PROTECTION: On April 3rd two young hitch-hikers, 13 and 14 years old, from San Francisco, broke into the quarters during a short absence to check road conditions. Upon my return I found them leaving the area and upon checking it was found that they had broken a glass in one of the rear doors and had appropriated various personal property, including some cash. They had thrown everything away when I approached. I questioned them and turned them over to the Grand County sheriff. Their folks were notified and they were returned to San Francisco, where the juvenile authorities will handle the case. This was not their first offense.

INSECTS AND TREE DISEASES: Tent caterpillar were noted on two of the Lombardy poplars on the grounds at quarters and proper measures were taken to eliminate them. The infestation is heavy on the trees in certain sections of Meab.

(in trip.)

Russell L. Mahan
Custodian

Arches

Moab, Utah

NAAGJ
June 27,

46

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region Three:

The following is a narrative report for Arches National Monument for the month of May, 1946:

GENERAL: During the month of April a visitor to the Courthouse Towers section lost a Leica wide angle lens, value \$95.00, while changing same. It was the day before I left for the fire training meeting at Zion and I was unable to make the trip to assist him in searching for it. Harry Reed and another Moab man accompanied him into the area the next day but were unsuccessful in their search. The visitor, Ralph Badger of Salt Lake City, returned on May 19th and we made a trip into this section to look for it. I was lucky enough to stumble over the rock on which he had laid it while changing and he was very much elated over its recovery and very profuse in his thanks. It was certainly luck as it was like looking for a needle in a haystack in that area.

TRAVEL: Travel for the month ran behind that for April but was still more than double that for the same month last year. We had a total of 192 visitors in 67 cars, of which 173 visited the Windows and the balance visited other sections of the monument.

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES: Ten parties containing 36 people were accompanied on trips to the various sections of the monument. Fifty nine people were contacted at headquarters and furnished information, etc. Total contact time was 67½ hours. One hundred and seventy three people visited the Windows section during the month unattended. More parties are requesting guide service for trips to the outlying sections and it looks like we are going to have to set up regular scheduled trips to the Devil's Garden and Delicate Arch sections, if these requests continue.

RANGER SERVICE: Authority was received on May 16th for the employment of a temporary ranger for the 1946 season at this monument. One application was received with the authority and have written the applicant regarding his availability. The transportation strike slowed up the mail and I have had no reply. Have two or three local men who might qualify for the job. Hope to have it filled by June 1st.

WEATHER: Weather continued fairly cool but high winds blew consistently

all month. Rain fell on two occasions and we had snow on May 11th with near freezing weather. Some of the crops in the valley were effected by this cold snap.

VISITORS: Mr. Jack Breed, photographer of Swampscott, Massachusetts arrived in Meab on May 6th for the purpose of taking color shots of Arches for an article for the National Geographic Magazine on this area. Due to rain and overcast skies we were unable to get good photographic weather until the afternoon of May 10th and during the next three days we covered all areas except Klondyke Bluffs. The weather closed in again and postponed further work. It is his hope that he can get back here later in the summer to finish with shots of the surrounding country.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE VISITORS: Regional Soil Conservationist Paul L. Balch, accompanied by Howard Young of Regional Office who is enjoying a postman's holiday, arrived at Arches on the 23rd for a check-up on soil and moisture conservation problems. On May 24th and 25th we visited the Windows, Courthouse Towers, Devil's Garden and Delicate Arch sections of the monument. They departed on May 26th.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES: A trip was made to Blanding, Utah on May 8th regarding employment of man at Natural Bridges National Monument for the coming season and again on May 22nd to deliver the truck and equipment to be used at this monument for the season.

ROADS: The road into the Windows section has been passable all month. Two days were spent with the State of Utah maintenance crew hauling shale to the sandy spots and most of these stretches are now in good condition. They will make a trip over the road with a patrol in the near future.

SIGNS: Approach road signs were installed one half mile on either side of the Windows road junction and it is hoped that this will help the visitors on their trip into the area.

Custodian Sowers of Chase Canyon painted a much needed sign for the area which will be installed at Courthouse Wash so that visitors will be warned of the sandy crossing and take the necessary precautions.

(in trip.)

Russell L. Mahan

Russell L. Mahan
Custodian

Arches

Moab, Utah

June 25,

46

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region Three:

The following is a narrative report for Arches National Monument for the month of June, 1946:

TRAVEL: Travel picked up again this month with a total of 150 cars and 573 people, as compared with 120 people for June, 1944 and 40 people for June, 1945. This brings our total travel for the year to date to 1154 people as compared with 556 people for the full travel year of 1945. With 3 months still to go, we have hopes that this will be the biggest travel year that Arches has ever witnessed.

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES: Two parties consisting of 5 people were accompanied into the Devil's Garden and Delicate Arch sections and one party of 2 people was shown the Courthouse Towers, during the month. Fifteen parties containing 57 people were contacted in the Windows Section and 32 parties with 78 people visited headquarters and were furnished information, etc.

RANGER SERVICE: Billy Walker, ex-service man from Moab, Utah, entered on duty as temporary ranger on May 28th, for the summer season.

WEATHER: The weather turned very warm on June 3rd and has been hovering between 90 and 100 degrees since that date. Light showers have occurred on three occasions but did very little good. One fire occurred on the La Sal Forest during the month, but was quickly extinguished. The Colorado River has been at the high water mark most of the month.

GENERAL PUBLICITY: At the request of Mr. Devereaux Dutcher, Editor of the National Parks Magazine, a descriptive article on Arches National Monument was written and submitted for use in the October issue of the above named magazine.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES: On June 8th, while in Moab for the mail, a fire occurred at a local residence and I helped the volunteer fire department, of which I am a member, extinguish the blaze, which destroyed

the garage. The house, which was very near, was saved, thanks to the modern fire truck recently purchased by the City of Moab. This equipment will be available for use at monument headquarters, if needed.

Just before midnight on June 10th a local resident called by and asked for directions for reaching Landscape Arch. He advised me that two local families had left that morning to visit this arch and had not returned. He had never been in this section so I accompanied him on the trip to locate them. About 1:15 a. m. we located them in the upper end of Salt Valley. They had been having car trouble and were without water. Luckily I had brought along a canteen and they made short work of this water. They had not located Landscape Arch but had driven practically to the Turnbow cabin in the Delicate Arch Section. I advised them that I would be glad to give them directions on any future trips into the area. I returned to headquarters at 2: 30 a. m.

SIGNS: A new sign was installed at the headquarters junction. Warning and picnic area signs installed at the Windows parking area and arrows were placed along the trail in the Devil's Garden Section from Salt Valley to Landscape Arch.

MAINTENANCE: Increased visitor use has caused considerable trouble in keeping the Windows parking area in a presentable condition. Picnicker's lunch all over the area and scatter their paper, etc, despite the warning sign at this point. To try to overcome this we have installed a picnic table and constructed a dry masonry fireplace near the area, with a sign designating picnic area. One more similar unit will be installed when time permits.

INSPECTIONS: An inspection was made at Natural Bridges National Monument on June 3rd and 4th. Redd has the area in presentable shape and is working on the trails and signs. Travel to the area has been way above normal for the month.

VISITORS: Mr. J. Fred Pingree, Commissioner of Finance and Commissioner and Executive Secretary of the Land Board, State of Utah, visited the Devil's Garden and Delicate Arch sections during the month.

INSECTS AND TREE DISEASES: An inspection was made of a portion of the Devil's Garden Section to check on porcupine deparadations which were so noticeable last fall in the vicinity of Pine Tree Arch. No fresh evidence was noted but most of the trees worked on last fall are dead.

(in trip.)

Russell L. Mahan
Russell L. Mahan, Custodian

Arches

Moab, Utah

July 31,

46

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Regional Three:

The following is a narrative report for Arches National Monument for the month of July 1948:

GENERAL: The custodian was on annual leave from July 15th to 18th.

TRAVEL: Travel held up well during the month despite the excessive heat being experienced in this section. A total of 107 cars with 323 people visited the area during the month. This is a heavy gain over the 45 people who visited the area during the same month last year. Total travel for the season to date is 1477 people.

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES: Fifty six parties containing 153 people were contacted at headquarters and furnished information, etc. Two parties with 7 people were contacted at the Windows and 25 parties consisting of 229 people visited this section during the month. Three parties with 6 people were accompanied into the Devil's Garden Section and 1 person was taken to Delicate Arch. Total contact time was 62 hours.

WEATHER: The weather has been unusually warm during the month with the thermometer registering from 88 to 105 degrees. Light rains fell at headquarters on two occasions with a heavy rain in the vicinity of the Windows section on the 18th.

INSPECTIONS: An inspection was made at Natural Bridges National Monument on June 27th in company with Messrs. Davis, Reed and Grant. A trip was also made over the White Canyon road to the Colorado River.

H. P. S. VISITORS: Assistant Regional Director Davis, Regional Archaeologist Reed and Photographer Grant inspected the area on June 28th and 29th. A trip was made to the Devil's Garden Section so that they could view Landscape Arch. Problems of an urgent nature were discussed with Mr. Davis.

PRIVATE LANDS: Action has again been started on exchange of State lands within the monument. This was started in 1940 but has been at a standstill during the war. It is hoped that this exchange will be consummated in the not too distant future.

ROADS: The Windows road was in fair condition most of the month but on July 14th a heavy rain hit in the vicinity of Courthouse Wash and washed out the fill at one culvert and cut up the road in several places. The road was closed on the 15th but was repaired on the 16th with the help of the State maintenance crew.

The Salt Valley road has been good to the Devil's Garden Section but beyond toward Delicate Arch the road down the gorge is sandy and soft. A good rain would certainly help matters .

(in trip.)

Russell L. Mahan
Custodian

Arches

Moab, Utah

August 31, 1946

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region Three:

The following is a narrative report for Arches National Monument for the month of August, 1946:

GENERAL: Travel to this area during the month was adversely affected by the temporary closing of highway US 50 and heavy storms. On July 30th one span, about 160 feet, of the bridge across the Green River, near Greasriver, Utah, collapsed due to the excess weight of a truck, trolley and bulldozer which was being transported to Lasal, Utah. This road was closed from that time until 4 p. m. on August 14th, at which time traffic was resumed. All travel was rerouted at Cortez, Colorado and Salt Lake City, Utah. On the same day that US 50 was reopened a heavy storm struck in the vicinity of Courthouse Wash and Willow Spring causing extensive damage to our approach road.

The custodian was on leave from August 6th to 23rd inc.

TRAVEL: Our travel for the month was good despite the adverse conditions, with 65 cars and 255 people entering the area. This is a large increase over August of last year, at which time we had 14 cars and 60 people. The total travel for the year, to date, stands at 1732 people.

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES: Thirty parties totaling 90 people were contacted at headquarters during the month and six parties of 15 people were contacted in the Windows section. Sixty three parties containing 185 people visited the Windows section unattended. Several parties made the hike to the Courthouse Towers section and one party was accompanied to Delicate Arch. The excessive heat reduced requests for guided trips into the outlying sections of the monument.

WEATHER: The weather was extremely warm during the first part of the month. Light showers occurred on August 6th and 12th, with a heavy storm on August 14th. The weather during the latter part of the month was much cooler.

NEWSWORTHY VISITORS: P. H. Metzger of San Jose, California covered the Delicate Arch, Devil's Garden and Window sections during the month, taking 33mm color shots for the San Jose school system.

INSPECTIONS: An inspection was made at Natural Bridges National Monument on July 27th and 28th by Ranger Walker.

MAINTENANCE: Ranger Walker experienced trouble with the power unit on the water pump during my absence on leave and it was found that repairs could not be made. He installed the 3 h. p. DC electric motor received from Bandelier National Monument and it is functioning very well.

Our corral, which was in close proximity to the office, was removed during the month and a new one constructed in a wash some distance away, where it is less conspicuous.

Scrap lumber from the old Arches CCC camp, of which we have considerable, is being sawed up for fire wood as time permits.

PUBLICITY: At the request of the American Automobile Association, a check was made of the copy on Arches National Monument in their travel booklet. Corrections were made and it was submitted through the Regional Director.

Word was received from Mr. Jack Breed, photographer of Swampscott, Massachusetts, to the effect that the pictures he made in the monument during the early part of the season turned out very well. He stated that they were now in the hands of the editor of the National Geographic Magazine, for consideration and possible use in an article on Arches National Monument. Mr. Breed was responsible for the article on Monument Valley which appeared in the above mentioned magazine during the latter part of 1945.

ROADS: Heavy storms which struck this vicinity between August 12th and 15th raised havoc with the approach road into the Windows section. The fill at two culverts between the highway and Willow Flat, a distance of about 6 miles, were completely washed out and the entire road for this distance was badly eroded and made very rough. The State maintenance crew, with the help of Ranger Walker, constructed detours where needed and the road is now passable but very rough. The State motor patrol is out of commission but we hope to have the Grand County patrol grade the road in the near future, as soon as they can take care of the flood damage along Mill Creek in Moab. It will probably be some time before the two culverts are repaired as the State crew is busy with repairing the highway damaged by the storms.

A trip was made over the Salt Valley road to Delicate Arch on July 29th. At that time the section near Valley City was in poor shape due to previous rains but the balance was in fair condition.

PRIVATE LANDS: Word has been received from the Utah State Land Board that they had approved the request to have them exchange the State lands within the boundaries of the monument. They stated that arrangements

for the exchange of these lands would be made the next time they applied to the Government for a selection.

RESEARCH AND OBSERVATION: A request was recently received from Professor D. Eldon Beck of the Brigham Young University for permits to collect specimens of the plant and animal life of Arches National Monument. It is his intention to bring a group of graduate students and professors into the area during October for the purpose of making a survey of plant and animal life.

(in trip.)

Russell L. Mahan
Custodian

Arches

Moab, Utah

September 26,

48

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region Three:

The following is a narrative report for Arches National Monument for the month of September, 1948:

GENERAL: This area has just completed one of the best travel years since it acquired monument status in 1929, with a total of 2,129 visitors to the area in 720 cars. From remarks left on the visitor register, practically all thoroughly enjoyed their stay in the area even though the approach road, was at times, in rather poor shape.

WEATHER: Cooler weather has been in evidence most of the month with the first frost of the season occurring on September 20th. There was no rainfall during this period.

TRAVEL: The travel for the month was the heaviest of the season with a total of 117 cars and 397 people. A good percentage of this travel was out-of-state and we had visitors registered from Alaska and France.

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES: Four conducted trips were made into the Windows section with a total of 18 people, and in addition, 10 parties containing 30 people were contacted at this point. Forty six parties consisting of 123 people were contacted at headquarters and received information and instructions regarding the area. No trips were made into the outlying sections during the month with parties.

ROADS: Considerable interest has been in evidence recently regarding the improvement of the approximately 7 miles of approach road to the Windows section. Mr. David H. Mann, in charge of publicity for the Department of Publicity and Industrial Development for the State is trying to interest his department in making \$10,000 available for this project. Mr. Arthur Crawford, commissioner of the above mentioned department visited the area on September 17th and was favorably impressed. The Moab Lion's Club have delegated Grand County Senator Mitchell Malich to contact the members of the commission regarding the possibility of making funds available for this purpose.

The Windows section road is still in poor condition, very rough, but passable. The State has been unable as yet to make the necessary

repairs but have hopes that this will be accomplished during the early part of October. The Grand County motor patrol made a trip over the section from the highway to the boundary on August 27th and 28th and smoothed out the roughest spots. Lack of moisture has caused considerable trouble.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES: A wage survey was conducted for both Grand and San Juan counties during the month. Wage rates paid by the various federal, state and county agencies were compiled and a wage board survey report was submitted.

An official trip was made to Hite, Utah on September 16th and 17th for the purpose of attending the ceremony celebrating the completion of the road connecting Natural Bridges and Capitol Reef National Monuments, and the beginning of ferry operations over the Colorado River at Hite (Old Dandy Crossing). There were about 300 people present, including Governor Law of Utah and various officials of the State Road Commission, Department of Publicity and Industrial Development and State Land Board. Service personnel present were Superintendent Smith of Zion National Park, Custodian Kelly of Capitol Reef National Monument and Zeke Johnson, former custodian of Natural Bridges.

MAINTENANCE: A new roof was placed on the old office building, now used for the storage of hay. Fifteen pounds felt was used as a covering and a good heavy coat of tar was applied.

The project of picket fence construction at quarters was completed during the month and it is hoped that we will be able to give same a coat of white paint during the winter months.

✓ RANGER SERVICE: Seasonal Ranger Walker was terminated on September 21st and Arches is again a one man area.

PUBLICITY: The Buick Magazine, September 1948 issue carried a very interesting and informative article on Arches, by Mr. Richard B. Freeman. It was unusual in that all the information it contained was substantially correct.

INSPECTIONS: Inspections were made at Natural Bridges National Monument on August 30th and September 17th and things were found in good shape, with travel holding up exceptionally well.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE VISITORS: Mr's. Carlson, Balch and Dr. Gill made a short visit on September 10th, while on their way to a forestry meeting at Salt Lake City, Utah.

Ranger Smith and wife from Colorado National Monument visited the Windows section on September 25th and stopped in to say hello.

Superintendent Charles J. Smith and wife of Zion National Park were accompanied on a trip into the area on September 18th.

Mr's. Bradley and McNeil, on their way from Mesa Verde to Colorado National Monument, paid us a short visit on September 10th.

Regional Highway Maintenance Engineer Miller visited the area on September 15th and was taken over the Windows section road for an inspection of same.

NEWSWORTHY VISITORS: Miss Madine Berton, of the staff of the French Consul at San Francisco, California was shown over the Windows section on September 15th.

Miss Maurine Whipple, author of "Giant Joshua" and "This Is The Place, Utah", was an interested visitor on September 1st and was accompanied on a trip into the Windows section.

Dr. Arthur Crawford and Mr. David H. Mann of the State Department of Publicity and Industrial Development, Mr. Gordon Taylor Hyde, Chairman of the Utah State Finance Commission, Mr. Fred J. Pingree and Mr. Charles Schmidt of the State Land Board, and Senator Elgreen of Salt Lake County were shown over the Windows section on September 18th.

(in trip.)

Russell L. Mahan
Custodian

Arches

Moab, Utah

October 28,

48

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region Three:

The following is a narrative report for Arches National Monument for the month of October, 1948:

GENERAL: Travel has been very good to this area with the advent of cooler weather and several photographic parties covered the area during the month, with more to come in the near future.

TRAVEL: A total of 185 people in 70 cars visited the area during the month. The bulk of the travel was from Utah, with California and Colorado running a close second. Sixteen states and the District of Columbia were represented. Most of the visitors entered only the Windows section but several parties made the hike from headquarters to Courthouse Towers, which section is becoming very popular.

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES: Twenty six parties containing 69 people were contacted at headquarters and 11 parties consisting of 28 people were contacted in the Windows section. Two parties totalling 3 people were accompanied into the Windows section and one party of one visitor was taken to Delicate Arch. Total contact time was 44 hours.

WEATHER: Light rain fell on October 1st, with heavy showers during the night and intermittently on October 2, 4, and 5th. High winds were experienced on several occasions and frost occurred frequently during the month.

ROADS: The Windows road was badly washed by the storms of October 1st and 2nd and was closed from that time until October 9th, when the State finished temporary repairs. The State spent three days in getting the road back in shape and at this writing it is passable, but very rough in sections. They also graded the roads in the headquarters area at this time.

The Salt Valley road to Devil's Garden and Delicate Arch was washed to some extent by these same storms but the road down the floor of the Salt Gorge was greatly improved by them. It is now possible to drive the full distance to the Turnbow cabin.

NEWSWORTHY VISITORS: Bill Sears, photographer for a syndicate at Tucson, Arizona, spent three days in the area getting shots of the features in the Windows, Courthouse Towers and Devil's Garden sections.

Mr. Ray Garner and party of Phoenix, Arizona spent two days in the vicinity of the Windows, shooting movies. Mr. Garner represents the Harman Foundation and stated that he would return shortly to shoot 5000 feet of movies for this foundation.

Mr. Joseph Maenck, photographer, of Santa Barbara, California visited the area on October 22nd. He was accompanied into the Windows and Delicate Arch sections. Arches has received considerable publicity from black and white pictures he took in the area some years ago and he is now trying to get full coverage of the area in color. The primary purpose of this visit was to get a shot of Turret Arch through the North Window, at the request of the Standard Oil Company for their series of colored pictures of scenic areas. He was shooting 4 x 5 black and white and color, as well as 35 mm color and intends to return in the spring to complete his shooting.

Bernard B. Freeman and party of Los Angeles, California arrived on October 25th for at least a weeks stay to fully cover Arches in 4 x 5 and 35 mm color. Mr. Freeman contributed the article "Land of Many Arches" which was contained in the September 1946 issue of Buick Magazine.

GOVERNMENT VISITORS: Mr. H. E. Thomas, U. S. G. S., Salt Lake City, Utah visited the area on October 16th. He was checking on water wells in this section and was furnished with the required information on the Arches well.

RESEARCH AND OBSERVATION: The contemplated survey of plant and animal life by Dr. D. Elden Beek and party of the Brigham Young University, which was scheduled for October 19th and 20th, was postponed indefinitely due to inclement weather.

On September 29th, while on contact work in the Windows section, I discovered a 60' ladder in an cut of the way cove, between the Garden of Eden and the Windows parking area, which had evidently been used to gain access to the top of the ledge above the Cove of Arches and Double Arch. From the base I noted a ranged ladder at the top of the ledge, which ran for a short distance, and a rope strung out through a notch above this, evidently for use as a hand hold to gain the top. The ladder is, without doubt, quite old as the lower 10' of the pole has rotted away, and is unsafe, so I did not try to gain access to the top. I have made inquiries of several parties in Moab, but as yet have been to learn who went to all the work of constructing this ladder, etc. I have scouted this ledge, for possible access to the top, but have never found a passable route.

INSPECTIONS: A trip was made to Natural Bridges National Monument on September 30th for the purpose of closing the area for the season and again on October 24th and 25th to check travel, etc.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES: A trip was made to Blanding, Utah on October 13th with Boy Scout officials of the Southeastern Division, Utah National Parks Council, which has recently been organized. I have been appointed Vice-President of this division representing Grand County and also Vice-Chairman of the Grand and San Juan County district.

A kodachrome and movie get-together was held at the quarters on the night of October 26th. Mr. Ralph Badger of Salt Lake City showed some very interesting slides covering his trip from Hite to Lee's Ferry in a rubber boat. Mr. Wayne McConkie of Moab showed his movies of San Juan and Colorado boat trips with Nevill's expeditions. There were 15 people in attendance and the show was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

(In trip.)

Russell L. Mahan
Custodian

Arches

Moab, Utah

November 26,

46

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region Three:

The following is a narrative report for Arches National Monument for the month of November, 1946:

GENERAL: The regular visitor travel has fallen off considerably with the advent of cooler weather but good photographic weather has now set in. Several parties have been in for this purpose with more to come in the near future.

WEATHER: Heavy winds were experienced throughout the month and cloudy days were the rule. Heavy rains fell on October 29th, November 7th, 8th, 14th, 23rd and 24th, with 1" of snow falling on November 2nd. The LaSal Mountains are a beautiful sight with a heavy blanket of snow. Frost and freezing weather occurred nightly during the latter part of the month.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES: From October 30th to November 7th I was kept busy on contact work with photographer Bernard B. Freeman and party of Los Angeles, California. We covered all sections of the monument and he photographed it in 4 x 5 color and black and white and 35 mm color. This is the most complete coverage of the area by a photographer since I have been stationed here.

TRAVEL: Travel for the month dropped off sharply from last month but showed a slight increase over that for November, 1945. A total of 32 cars and 94 people entered the area during the month, with representation from 11 states and one foreign country, Brazil.

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES: Trips were made with parties into the Delicate Arch, Devil's Gardens Piery Furnace, Klondike Bluffs and Windows sections of the monument during the month. Twenty two parties containing 55 people were contacted at headquarters and one illustrated talk was given to a party of 15 people at quarters. Total contact time was 57 hours.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE VISITORS: Custodian Brent Finch of Colorado National Monument stopped by on November 23rd, while enroute from Mesa Verde National Park to the monument.

GRAZING: The cattle and sheep are starting to move on to the winter range allotments outside the boundaries and the winter sport of trying to eliminate trespass is about to begin.

A trip was made up lower Courthouse Wash with Edd Prevonska, cattlemen of Moab, who was moving 120 head to his range between the Windows section and the Colorado River. This herd was taken over what is called the "Slickrock" trail, just outside the boundary of the monument. This is the first time a large herd has been taken over this trail, due to the hazardous climb, but the drive was made without any trouble.

Frank Paxton, sheepman, who ranges in the vicinity of Salt Valley and Balanced Rock, moved his sheep into the country about November 1st. Contact was made with his representative in Salt Valley on November 7th and the subjects of boundaries and trespass were discussed.

No contact has as yet been made with Henry Revoir and Emmett Elizondo, sheepman, who range in the Yellow Cat and Dry Mesa sections, but this will be accomplished at the first opportunity.

ROADS: Additional funds have been allotted for maintenance of the road within the boundaries in the Windows section. Arrangements have been made with the State of Utah to furnish equipment and perform this work. At this writing all equipment is on the job and work will be started in the next few days.

The Salt Valley road to the Devil's Garden and Delicate Arch sections is in poor condition, with one section of about 1/2 mile completely washed out in the vicinity of Valley City. It has been necessary to travel via Thompson's on trips made into the above areas during the month. This road is maintained by Grand County and they hope to have it in good condition during the coming month.

NATURAL BRIDGES NATIONAL MONUMENT: No inspection was made at this monument during the month. Snow fell on the Elk Ridge on November 8th and 9th, closing the road to the area. The storm of November 23rd and 24th, no doubt added considerable snow to that already on the ridge and I believe the road will be closed for the balance of the winter.

(in trip.)

Russell L. Mahan

Russell L. Mahan
Custodian

Arches

Moab, Utah

December 26,

43

*Study List of
Arches National Monument
December 26, 1946*

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region Three:

The following is a narrative report for Arches National Monument for the month of December, 1946:

WEATHER: We have had cloudy weather during most of the month with freezing temperatures at night. Rain fell on December 6th and 7th and at this writing we are experiencing a good rain with a promise of snow tonight.

TRAVEL: Travel held up well for this time of year with a total of 30 cars and 91 people visiting the area. Ten states were represented on the visitor register.

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES: No guided trips were made during the month. Twenty nine persons were contacted at headquarters and 81 people visited the Windows Section unattended.

NEWSWORTHY VISITORS: Jack Broad, photographer of Tucson, Arizona was a visitor at the area from November 29th to December 2nd. He advised me that the National Geographic Magazine had accepted his pictures on this monument and would make a 16 page color spread of the area, which will include a double page feature of "The Spectacles" (North and South Windows). He had the dummy proofs with him and it looks like a very good color portrayal of the interesting features. It should be excellent publicity when it is finally run.

Mr. D. L. Leisher of the Bureau of Public Roads at Santa Fe, New Mexico stopped by for a visit on December 12th.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES: Two horseback trips were made into the Courthouse Wash area with District Grazier Kimeman and Mr. Edd. Prevensha, cattleman of Moab for the purpose of locating possible sites for fences to control the drift of cattle into the monument in this section. Two sites were selected and approval was received from the Regional Director for construction of fences by Prevensha.

ACQUISITIONS: Received 24-3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x4 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 4x5 negatives, 4-3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x4 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 4x5 transparencies and 18-35 mm transparencies of the Delicate Arch,

Devil's Garden (including the Fiery Furnace) and Klendike Bluffs sections which were taken for the Service by Richard B. Freeman of Los Angeles, California.

A 10 KW power unit was received from the War Assets Administration during the month.

EMPLOYMENT: Billy Walker of Moab entered on duty as Laborer, Leadman on December 23rd to work on road maintenance for the balance of the month.

ROADS: Work was started by the State of Utah on road maintenance of the Windows Section road on November 27th and completed on December 11th. On the portion in the monument curves were widened, one 30" culvert installed and shale hauled to rough and sandy spots. The parking area at the end of the road was also improved. On the approach road two line changes were made to eliminate rough sections and shale was hauled on a slick-rock portion near Willow Spring. This work has placed the road in good shape for the winter. Temporary signs were installed at a new highway junction.

COOPERATING GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES: A request was received from the Utah State Department of Publicity and Industrial Development on December 24th for data on the condition of the approach road into the monument, an estimate of funds necessary to put same in good condition and information on travel trends, present and potential. It looks like this department is seriously considering appropriating money to improve this road. Will contact them in Salt Lake City while on annual leave this month and furnish them with the required information. I will also try to interest them in a showing of ketchchromes representative of the scenery in this section of Utah.

STATUS OF PRIVATE LANDS: I learned during the month that the 180 acres of private land in the monument had changed hands. Mrs Susie Turnbow of Moab has sold this land to Emmett Elizondo, sheepman of Fruita Colorado.

NATURAL BRIDGES NATIONAL MONUMENT: No travel at this area during the month as the approach road over the Elk Ridge has been closed since early in November.

(in trip.)

Russell L. Mahan
Custodian