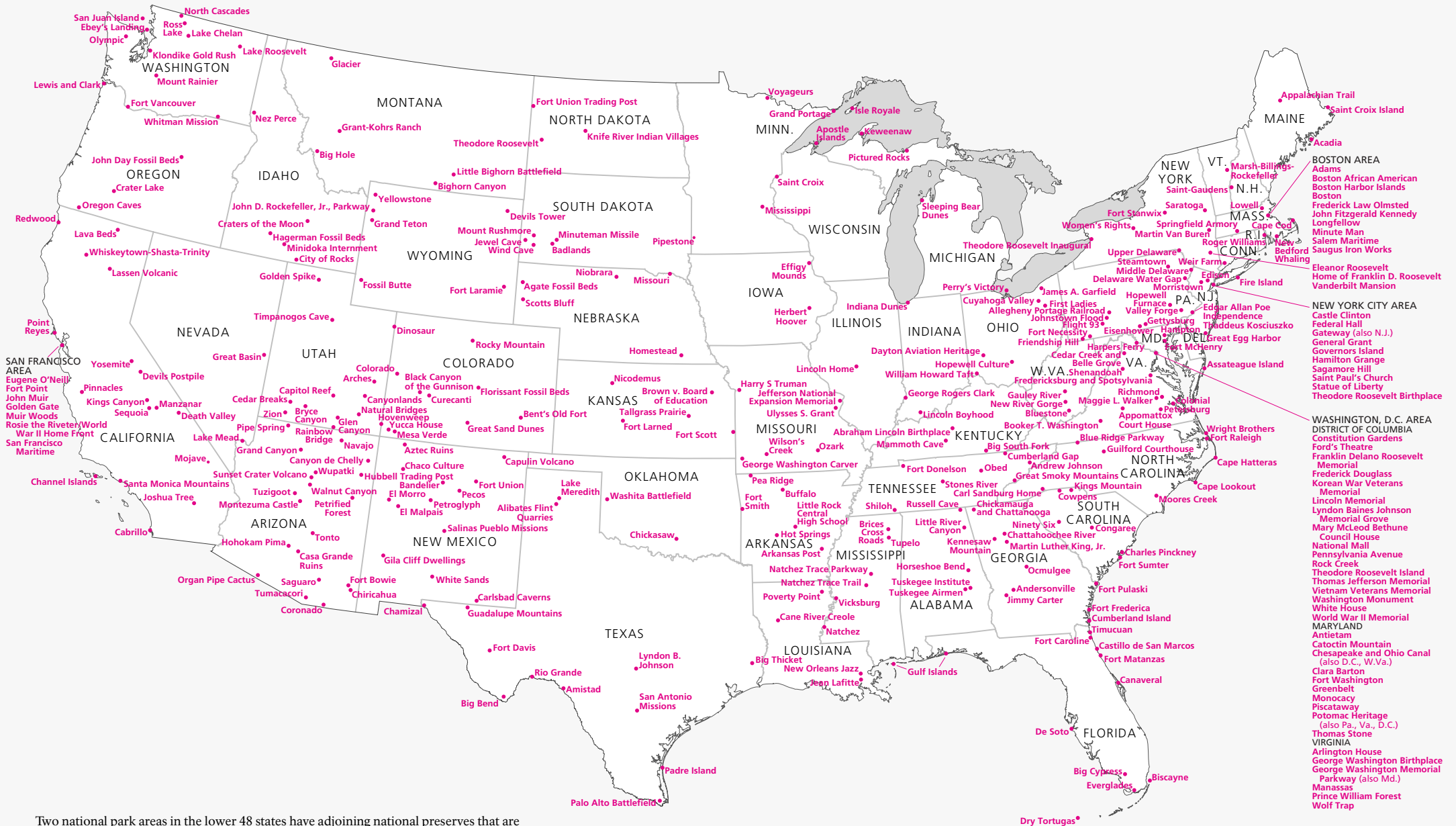
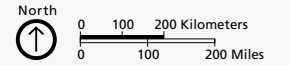




Visitors at Crater Lake National Park, Oregon, 1938.

# National Park System as of December 31, 2004



Two national park areas in the lower 48 states have adjoining national preserves that are separate units of the National Park System but managed jointly. They are Great Sand Dunes and Craters of the Moon.

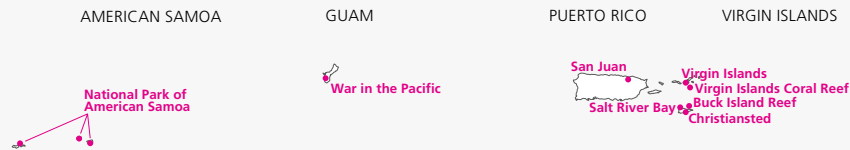
## The National Park System (continued)



Seven national park areas in Alaska have adjoining national preserves that are separate units of the National Park System but managed jointly. They are Aniakchak, Denali, Gates of the Arctic, Glacier Bay, Katmai, Lake Clark, and Wrangell-St. Elias.



### United States Territories



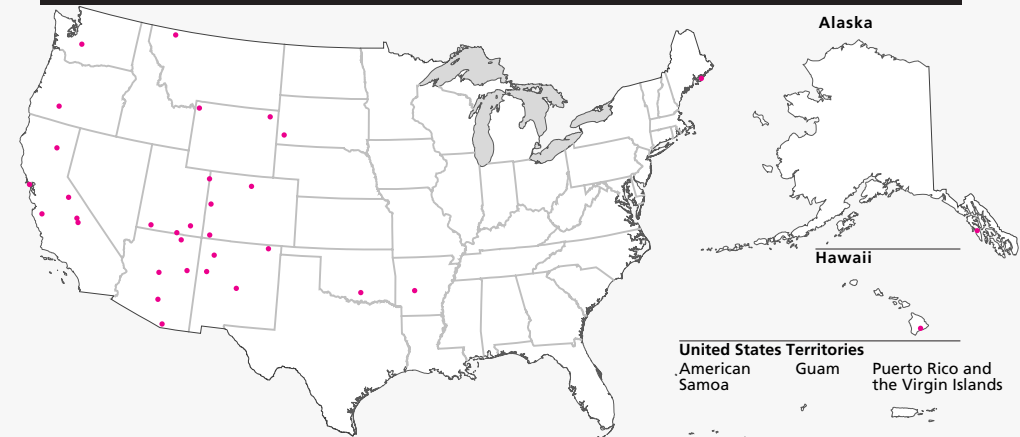
## About These Maps

As of December 31, 2004, the National Park System comprised 388 separate park areas in the United States and territories. These areas include national parks, national monuments, national battlefields, national historic sites, national recreation areas, national preserves, and a number of other designations. Complete lists of designations are shown below the charts at the end of the chapters.

All 388 park areas are shown on the maps on pages 110–112. The maps below and on pages 114–115 document the System's growth over time. They correspond chronologically with the chapters in this book; the additions from 1973 through 2004 appear on the last two maps, "1973–1990" and "1991–2004."

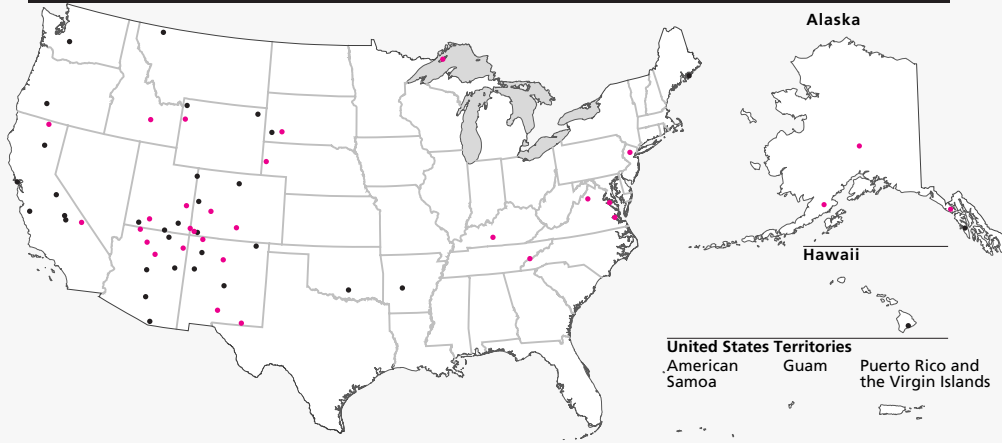
Shown in red on each map are the new additions for its time period.

## Parks Authorized Before August 25, 1916

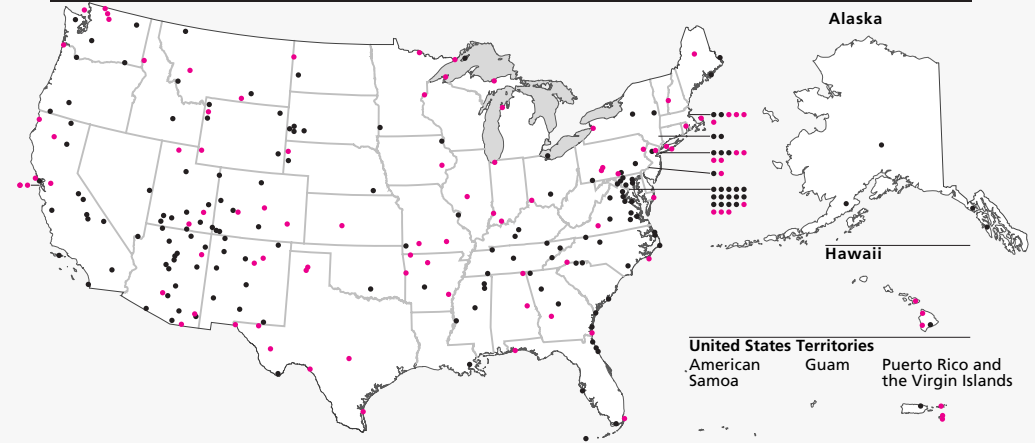




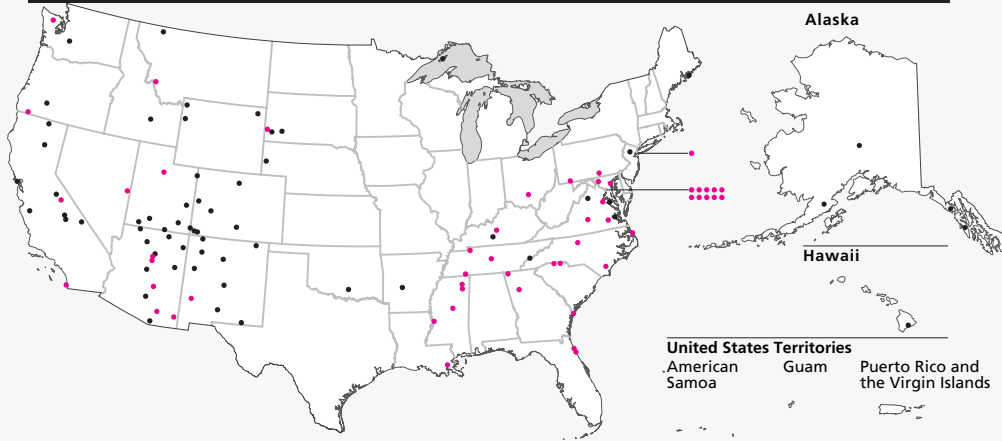
**Parks Authorized 1917–1933 (in color)**



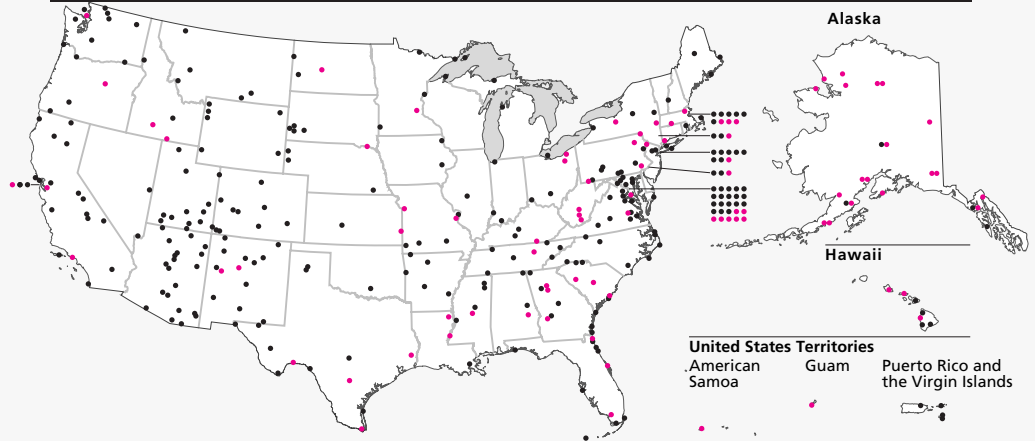
**Parks Authorized 1952–1972 (in color)**



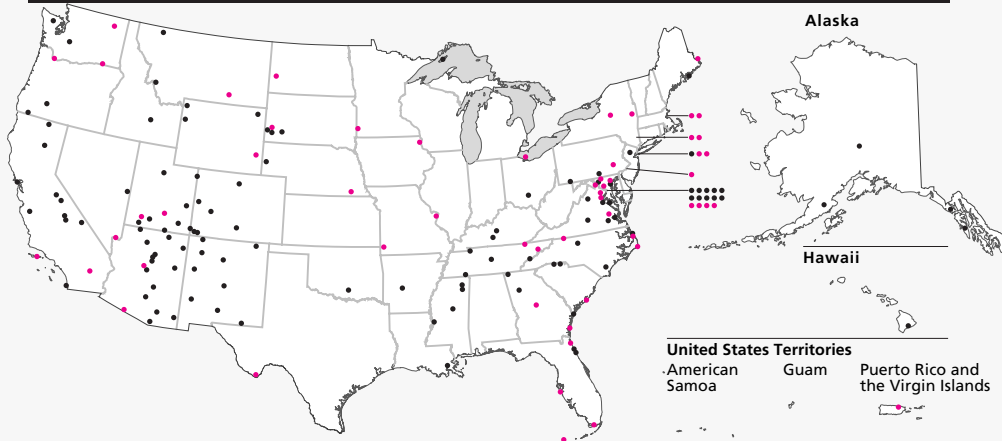
**Parks Transferred August 10, 1933 (in color)**



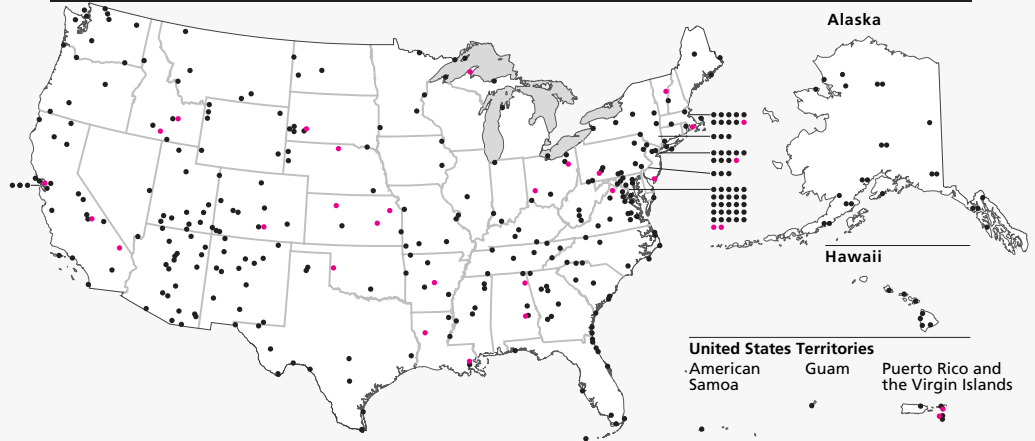
**Parks Authorized 1973–1990 (in color)**



**Parks Authorized 1933–1951 (in color)**



**Parks Authorized 1991–2004 (in color)**



## National Park Service Directors

Stephen T. Mather	May 16, 1917 - January 8, 1929
Horace M. Albright	January 12, 1929 - August 9, 1933
Arno B. Cammerer	August 10, 1933 - August 9, 1940
Newton B. Drury	August 20, 1940 - March 31, 1951
Arthur E. Demaray	April 1, 1951 - December 8, 1951
Conrad L. Wirth	December 9, 1951 - January 7, 1964
George B. Hartzog, Jr.	January 9, 1964 - December 31, 1972
Ronald H. Walker	January 7, 1973 - January 3, 1975
Gary Everhardt	January 13, 1975 - May 27, 1977
William J. Whalen	July 5, 1977 - May 13, 1980
Russell E. Dickenson	May 15, 1980 - March 3, 1985
William Penn Mott, Jr.	May 17, 1985 - April 16, 1989
James M. Ridenour	April 17, 1989 - January 20, 1993
Roger G. Kennedy	June 1, 1993 - March 29, 1997
Robert G. Stanton	August 4, 1997 - January 20, 2001
Fran P. Mainella	July 18, 2001 -

Horace M. Albright (*left*) and Stephen T. Mather, Los Angeles, California, 1928. Mather was the first director of the National Park Service; Albright was the second.





George Wright, ca. 1929



Freeman Tilden, 1969



Frederick Law Olmsted, ca. 1900

The national parks you visit today owe much to individuals who worked from both inside and outside the System to shape its landscape and philosophy. Among these were Frederick Law Olmsted, George Wright, and Freeman Tilden.

Frederick Law Olmsted (1822–1903) is the acknowledged father of landscape architecture in the United States. Well known for his naturalistic design for New York City’s Central Park and many other urban parks, Olmsted was instrumental in the setting aside of Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa sequoia grove as the nation’s first natural reservation in 1864. Yosemite became a national park in 1890. Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site in Brookline, Massachusetts, honors his life and work.

Working as a naturalist in Yosemite National Park in the 1920s, George Melendez Wright became increasingly concerned about the impact of humans on wildlife. As the Service’s first chief of its wildlife division, he instituted formal studies of wild species, evaluating threats and proposing solutions for endangered species. In 1936 Wright died in an automobile accident at age 32. His holistic view of park management—that parklands are inseparable from the world around them—lives on through the George Wright Society.

Born in 1883 near Boston, Massachusetts, Freeman Tilden was a prolific writer from a young age. In the 1940s, at the urging of NPS director Newton Drury, Tilden began to write about national parks and their value to America’s heritage. His focus soon shifted to the presentation of a park’s story to visitors; he advocated not just a recitation of facts but the forging of a connection between the visitor and the park. Tilden’s 1957 book *Interpreting Our Heritage* sets forth the guiding principles for how the National Park Service shapes the visitors’ experience. Tilden died in 1980.



## Suggested Readings

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Decals on the windshield of this car in 1922 reveal a love of travel through the American West.

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*All photos and illustrations used are from the National Park Service archives.*

# National Park Service

The mission of the Department of the Interior is to protect and provide access to our nation's natural and cultural heritage and to honor our trust responsibilities to tribes. The National Park Service preserves this heritage unimpaired in the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world. To learn more about national parks and National Park Service programs in America's communities, visit [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).



monuments, 10 national preserves, two national historical parks, and a wild river. Mount McKinley National Park was renamed Denali National Park after the Indian name for the mountain, which remained officially Mount McKinley, and was joined by a Denali National Preserve. The park and preserve together are more than four million acres larger than the old park. The old Glacier Bay and Katmai monuments became national parks, with adjoining national preserves. The Glacier Bay park and preserve gained some 478,000 acres over the old monument, while the two Katmai areas exceed the old Katmai monument by more than 1,300,000 acres.

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park contains 8,323,618 acres. Adjacent Wrangell-St. Elias National Preserve encompasses 4,852,773 acres. Together they are larger than the combined area of Vermont and New Hampshire and contain the continent's greatest array of glaciers and peaks above 16,000 feet—among them Mount St. Elias, rising second only to Mount McKinley in the United States. With Canada's adjacent Kluane National Park, this is one of the greatest parkland regions in the world. Gates of the Arctic National Park, all of whose 7,523,898 acres lie north of the Arctic Circle, and the 948,629-acre national preserve of the same name include part of the Central Brooks Range, the northernmost extension of the Rockies. Gentle valleys, wild rivers, and numerous lakes complement the jagged mountain peaks. Adjoining Gates of the Arctic on the west is Noatak National Preserve. Its 6,570,000 acres, drained by the Noatak River running through the 65-mile-long Grand Canyon of the Noatak, contain a striking array of plant and animal life and hundreds of archeological sites in what is the largest undeveloped river basin in the United States.

Kobuk Valley National Park, another Arctic area of 1,750,737 acres, adjoins the south border of Noatak National Preserve. Its diverse terrain includes the northernmost extent of the boreal forest and the 25-square-mile Great Kobuk Sand Dunes, the largest active dune field in arctic latitudes. Archeological remains are especially rich, revealing more than 10,000 years of human activity.

Cape Krusenstern National Monument, north of Kotzebue on the Chukchi Sea, was the single 1978–80 Alaska addition of predominantly cultural rather than natural significance. Embracing 650,000 acres, it is by far the largest such area in the System. One hundred fourteen lateral beach ridges formed by changing sea levels and wave action display chronological evidence of 5,000 years of marine mammal hunting by Inuit peoples. Older archeological sites are found inland. Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, with 2,698,000 acres on the Seward Peninsula, covers a remnant of the isthmus that connected

North America and Asia more than 13,000 years ago. Modern Inuit manage their reindeer herds in and around the preserve, which features rich paleontological and archeological resources, large migratory bird populations, ash explosion craters, and lava flows.

The 2,619,859-acre Lake Clark National Park and the 1,410,641-acre Lake Clark National Preserve are set in the heart of the Chigmit Mountains on the western shore of Cook Inlet, southwest of Anchorage. The 50-mile-long Lake Clark, largest of more than 20 glacial lakes, is fed by hundreds of waterfalls from the surrounding mountains and is headwaters for an important red salmon spawning ground. Jagged peaks and granite spires inspire the nickname "Alaskan Alps."

Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve protects 115 miles of the Yukon and the entire 88-mile Charley River basin within its 2,526,509 acres. Abandoned cabins and other cultural remnants recall the Yukon's role during the 1898 Gold Rush. The Charley, running swift and clear, is renowned for whitewater recreation. Grizzly bears, Dall sheep, and moose are among the abundant wildlife. Kenai Fjords National Park contains 670,643 acres. On the Gulf of Alaska near Seward, it is named for the scenic glacier-carved fjords along its coast. Above is the Harding Icefield, one of four major ice caps in the United States, from which radiate 34 major glacier arms. Sea lions and other marine mammals abound in the coastal waters.

The smallest of the new Alaska parks, preserves, and monuments is Aniakchak National Monument, whose 137,176 acres lie on the harsh Aleutian Peninsula south of Katmai. It is adjoined by the 465,603-acre Aniakchak National Preserve. Their central feature is the great Aniakchak Caldera, a 30-square-mile crater of a collapsed volcano. Within the caldera are a cone from later volcanic activity, lava flows, explosion pits, and Surprise Lake, which is heated by hot springs and cascades through a rift in the crater wall. ANILCA also designated 13 wild rivers for NPS administration. Twelve are entirely within parks, monuments, and preserves and are not listed as discrete NPS units. Part of the remaining one, Alagnak Wild River, lies outside and westward of Katmai, so it is counted separately. It offers salmon sport fishing and whitewater floating.

Overall the Alaska park additions are as superlative in quality as they are in quantitative terms. Although political and economic arguments were raised against them, there was little argument about the inherent natural and cultural merits that made the lands so clearly eligible for the National Park System. They have enriched it immeasurably.



## Shaping the Arrowhead

For much of its history the National Park Service was represented by a sequoia cone (*figure 1*). In 1949 a contest was held to develop an official logo. The winner of the contest, Dudley Baliss, was awarded a \$50 prize, but his “modern type” design was never used (*figure 2*). Shortly after the contest, National Park Service historian Aubrey Neasham suggested in a letter to Director Newton Drury that the Service needed an emblem that expressed its primary function, “like an arrowhead, or a tree, or a buffalo.” With his letter Neasham included a rough sketch of an elongated arrowhead with a pine tree appearing within it (*figure 3*). When Conrad Wirth became director in 1951, he turned Neasham’s design over to Herbert Maier, then assistant director of what is now the Pacific West Region. Maier’s staff helped develop the arrowhead that was first used in 1952 (*figure 4*). In 1954 minor modifications were made to the logo, strengthening the bison and refining the edge of the arrowhead form (*figure 5*). In 2001 additional modifications were made by Harpers Ferry Center, digitizing the artwork, and making the arrowhead suitable for a wider range of media (*front cover*).

