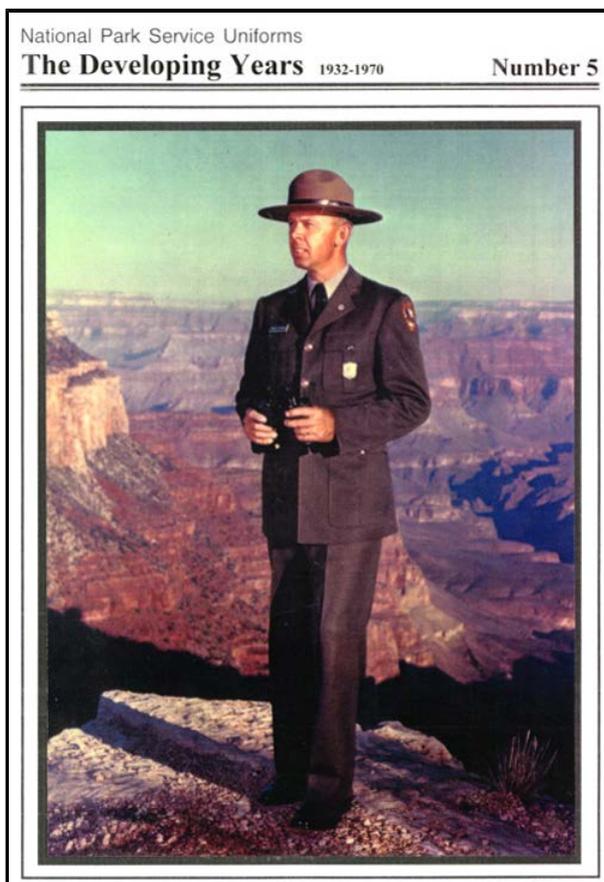


# National Park Service

National Park Service Uniforms  
The Developing Years, 1932-1970



## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE UNIFORMS

The Developing Years  
1932-1970

Number 5

By  
R. Bryce Workman

1998

A Publication of the National Park Service  
History Collection  
Office of Library, Archives and Graphics  
Research  
Harpers Ferry Center  
Harpers Ferry, WV

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

nps-uniforms/5/index.htm  
Last Updated: 01-Apr-2016

# National Park Service

National Park Service Uniforms  
The Developing Years, 1932-1970



## INTRODUCTION

The first few decades after the founding of America's system of national parks were spent by the men working in those parks first in search of an identity, then after the establishment of the National Park Service in 1916 in ironing out the wrinkles in their new uniform regulations, as well as those of the new bureau.

The process of fine tuning the uniform regulations to accommodate the various functions of the park ranger began in the 1930s. Until then there was only one uniform and the main focus seemed to be in trying to differentiate between the officers and the lowly rangers. The former were authorized to have their uniforms made of finer material (Elastique versus heavy wool for the ranger), and extraneous decorations of all kinds were hung on the coat to distinguish one from the other.

The ranger's uniform was used for all functions where recognition was desirable: dress; patrol (when the possibility of contact with the public existed), and various other duties, such as firefighting. Regular civilian clothing was authorized to be worn when doing hard physical labor, such as building roads or similar projects, where the uniform might become soiled or torn.

The rangers were required to furnish and maintain their own uniforms in a presentable manner from their low pay, placing an undue burden on their shoulders. Consequently, civilian clothing was quite often worn when patrolling the backcountry, especially in the wintertime, since the chance of meeting the public was very remote.

Whenever rangers' uniform became a little shopworn and needed replacing, many of them, no doubt, reserved their new ones for the more prestigious occasions, and kept the old ones for more arduous duties. Even so, the single-style uniform did not lend itself well to all situations.

The third decade of the Twentieth Century saw the beginning of the developing years for the National Park Service ranger uniform. Up until 1936, the uniform regulations dealt mainly with tidying up loose ends of the original 1920 regulations, such as materials and ornamentation. Beginning that year, more and more clothing found its way into the ranger's closet to cover those occasions when the standard uniform would not suffice.

Most of the early additions dealt with cold weather apparel. Heavy uniform parkas and Mackinaws, warm caps and other specialized apparel were authorized as the need arose, for such arduous duties as ski patrol, for example.

Since most of the people reading this book will have already read the previous publications, and the same people, in and out of the Park Service assisted in this volume as well, it would be



redundant to list all those individuals again, but I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to them all for their unselfish assistance in making this book possible.

---

[\*\*<<< Previous\*\*](#)

[\*\*<<< Contents >>>\*\*](#)

[\*\*Next >>>\*\*](#)

---

nps-uniforms/5/intro.htm  
Last Updated: 01-Apr-2016

# National Park Service

National Park Service Uniforms  
The Developing Years, 1932-1970



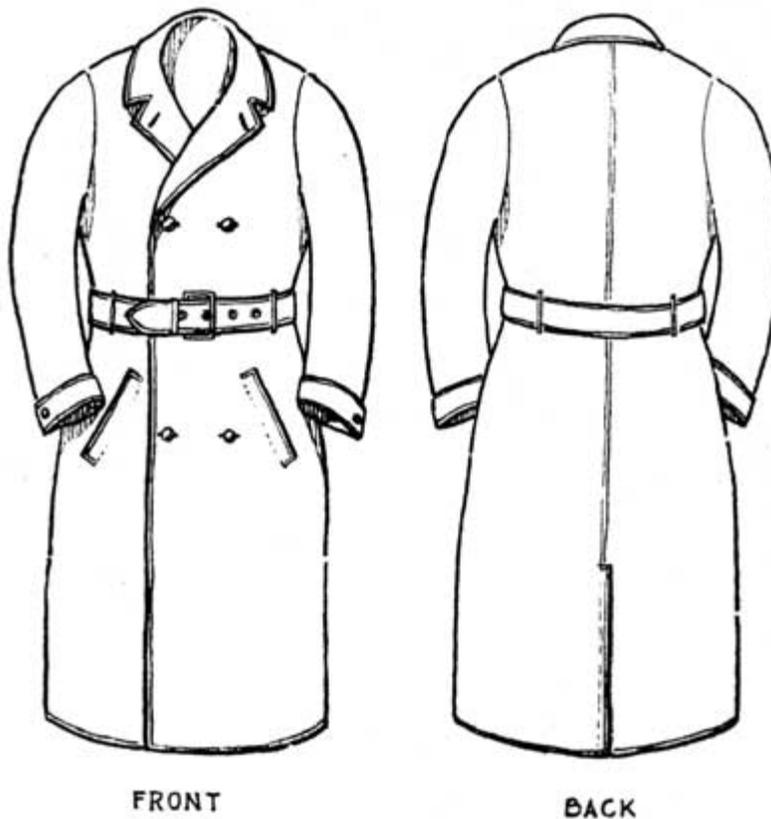
## THE DEVELOPING YEARS

Up until the 1930s, the National Park Service had been content to tinker with recognition symbols to be applied to the coat. These were added and removed as they endeavored to iron out the wrinkles and come up with a sensible, yet practical uniform. All the effort was concentrated on the basic uniform and consequently the rangers ended up with a very nice suit of clothes that worked well in most of the western parks during the spring, summer and fall seasons. The "officer and men" mentality that prevailed in those early years resulted in the "men" wearing a uniform of heavy grade material not really suited for the warmer eastern parks. This was corrected in 1928 when the rangers were authorized to wear uniforms of the same material as those of the officers.

A soft cap, based on the style worn by British army officers at that time, had been specified in 1928 for motorcycle patrol use, although this was later expanded to include warm weather parks, especially in the East. Other than the hatband authorized in 1930, the first documented addition to the ranger's wardrobe for servicewide use in this decade, was a raincoat.

The need for a raincoat had been suggested at the 1932 Conference, and in fact, an overcoat and raincoat had been specified in the 1932 Regulations when they were issued, but apparently no designs had been formulated for these items, leastwise the raincoat. For some reason, drawings were not made for this item until two years later. Owen A Tomlinson, superintendent of Mount Rainier National Park and chairman of the Uniform Committee submitted these drawings to the Director's office on June 5, 1934, where Director Arno B. Cammerer approved them on June 14. [1]

## RAINCOAT



RECOMMENDED *Arno B. Cammerer* CHAIRMAN UNIFORMS COMMITTEE DATE *June 6, 1934*  
APPROVED *Arno B. Cammerer* DIRECTOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE DATE *6/14/34* *Ar B*

**A raincoat was incorporated into the Uniform Regulations in 1932.** However, it would appear that this wasn't finalized until this 1934 drawing was signed by Director Arno B. Cammerer approved this drawing on 6/14/34.  
*NPSHC-HFC RG Y55*

---

---

Because of the dearth of correspondence and documentation from the 1930s, it is very difficult to pinpoint when some uniform articles were introduced. Some articles credited to the 1932 and 1936 regulations may have been introduced earlier, or as in the case of the raincoat, later. Office Order 204 was published in 1930 and revised on June 7, 1932, but only the revised version has been found. What little official correspondence there is alludes to several office orders concerning uniforms being published between Office Order 204-revised and Office Order 324, published on April 13, 1936, but these have not come to light. The same is true between 1936 and 1940. We must therefore assume that any changes between these dates occurred on the latter, until one of these lost office orders proves otherwise.



It took the NPS many years to shake the military mentality it had acquired during the Army's attachment to the parks. There are some vestiges of this way of thinking still around to this day. At the 1934 superintendent's conference in Washington, D.C., the uniform was on the docket, as it had been every year, and ways of sprucing it up and making it more attractive were discussed.



CHIEF RANGER



ASSISTANT CHIEF RANGER



RANGER



TEMPORARY-RANGER  
(seasonal)



RANGER-NATURALIST  
(seasonal)

**Sleeve patches (known as brassards) to distinguish rank and position were eliminated for all personnel, with the exception of those assigned to the ranger force, in the**

Sleeve brassards, or patches had been introduced between 1920 and 1926 to show the status of all uniformed NPS personnel. All of these except for those worn by the rangers were eliminated by the 1928 regulations. At the 1934 conference, it was deemed that those worn by the rangers "served no useful purpose" and it was thought their use should be discontinued.

This recommendation was apparently ignored since the Ranger Insignia remained in the Regulations, at least through 1936. They were gone by the 1940 Regulations, probably removed with the lost 1938 specifications. Even so, they continued to be worn, at least until 1946, as at least one photograph testifies. This was probably because a ranger could wear his uniform as long as it was serviceable. To have removed the patch from the sleeve of a coat several years old would have left an unbleached circle on the sleeve.

Out of these discussions came the decision to experiment with a two-tone uniform similar that worn by the Army. [2] The coat would remain the same "forest green", but the breeches were to be beige, or khaki, similar to the new summer uniform, instead of the Army's "pinks". Only superintendents and custodians were to wear it during this experimental period, but if agreed upon, it would become the Service standard.

There are no known photographs of anyone wearing this uniform, but the idea may have been around for some time. The only image showing what appears to be this combination is of Superintendent William M. Robinson and National Park Service Director Horace M. Albright and his wife Grace, during a visit to Colonial National Monument on May 14, 1933. Although the color can not be ascertained since the image is black and white, it can be seen that the trousers are a different color than that of the coat. Robinson was of the opinion that the rangers at Colonial should be wearing white uniforms instead of the khaki that had been authorized, but he was turned down.



**1928 Uniform Regulations.** The regulations state that the basic emblem for the ranger was to be the Sequoia cone, while in fact the common denominator was the wreath. The Sequoia cone, or in the case of the Ranger-Naturalist, the bear's head, served as the identifier.

*NPSHC-Artwork by R. Bryce Workman based on originals in National Archives RG 79-HFC RG Y55*

**Director and Mrs. Horace M. Albright, along with Superintendent William M. Robinson, Jr. at Colonial National Monument (later National Historical Park), May 14, 1933.** Robinson is wearing a 2-tone uniform. The matter of a 2-tone uniform was not brought forward until the 1934 Conference and although not noted in the official correspondence, Robinson may have been the instigator of its consideration.  
*NPSHPC-HFC#86-51*

---

Tomlinson made arrangements with the Fechheimer Brothers Company, uniform manufacturers of Cincinnati, Ohio, to furnish breeches made from a dark tan or beige elastique, of the same weave and quality as the uniform coats, in 18-19 ounce for \$9.50. These could also be obtained in 16-ounce material for summer wear at \$8.85 a pair. Employees could purchase material if they wished to have their own tailors make the experimental breeches for them.

Apparently all of the superintendents and custodians were urged to participate in the experiment, but it is not clear how many did. After trying the new breeches for a year, or until the next conference, they were to advise the director's office whether they considered the uniform specifications should be amended to include this new material, and if so, any changes they thought necessary. [3]



**Superintendent, Col. Tom Boles (left) Superintendent, [John R.] White (right) In the Big Room. Carlsbad Caverns National Park, February 1937.** Boles is also wearing breeches that are lighter than his coat. It can't be determined from this black and white photograph but it doesn't appear to be the "khaki or beige" color recommended at the 1934 Conference.  
*NPSHPC-CACA#7515*

---

---



**Ranger, 1934.** This dapper ranger in Class A uniform from Yellowstone National Park rivals even "Dusty" Lewis in impeccability of dress. Even his breeches have creases.  
*NPSHPC-YELL#130,151*

---

---

While the majority that responded thought that the light colored breeches with the dark coat made a pleasing appearance, most of those participating considered them too hard to keep clean, thus negating the overall sharp image that they wished to portray. Consequently, the idea was dropped.

For some time a movement had been afoot toward the "pepping up" and standardization of the National Park Service uniform. At the conference, in addition to the experimental breeches, several other suggestions were put forward regarding the rest of the uniform.

The present coat was considered to be rather drab and it was thought that it could be "sharpened" up by adding shoulder straps. In addition, it could also be made to stand out by adding red piping to these shoulder straps and the pocket flaps as well.

It was suggested that the hat brim be made wider to provide better protection from the sun. And since there seemed to be no answer to the multi-shades of green ties, it was thought the color might be changed to black. Special tan shirts were put forth, with or without shoulder straps, to be worn when not wearing a coat.

As in the past, when a uniform change was contemplated, these suggestions were offered to the field for comment. The response to the shoulder straps was lukewarm, but the red piping received a decided thumbs down. Comments like "bell boy's" and Marines lace the replies. The wider hat brim was fine, but the majority preferred the dark green tie, providing a uniform color could be obtained. Most thought that the shirt should be able to be worn with or without the coat and that tan was not a good color. It showed dirt quicker and most other organizations as well as the military wore it. They thought that the gray shirt, then in use, was more distinctively National Park Service. [4]

Without a central quality control, deviations in the style and design of the uniforms had begun to creep in. Many officers and employees were ordering uniforms from the manufacturers made differently than prescribed by the regulations. These changes included such things as: different shaped lapels; unauthorized buttons on sleeves; fewer than the prescribed number of buttons; cuffs on coat sleeves; omission of vent in back of coat; change in design of pockets; and variations in the cut of the breeches. Jodhpurs [5] were very popular during this period and many rangers thought they provided a neater appearance.

In addition, regulation hatbands were being installed on hats without removing the cloth grosgrain band that came with the hat. Feathers and "other trinkets and ornaments" were being added to the hat band, as well, making for a very cluttered head covering. Riding and full-lace boots, as well as old style puttees (spiral wound strap) were being worn instead of the regulation "field boot" (which laced at instep and outside of calf) or the new leather leggings with the spring attachment fastener.

On January 14, 1935, Director Arno B. Cammerer felt compelled to send out a memorandum to all of the field offices admonishing them to pay more attention to what was being worn in the parks. He felt that "Special attention should be given to the wearing of uniforms and it should be remembered that the purpose of a uniform is to make the ranger conspicuous." Things that were to be watched were:

"Pockets that were more ornamental than serviceable; coat should be kept buttoned, when worn; collar ornaments should be placed on collar, not on lapel; boot and shoes laces tucked in; and hats were to be worn "square" upon the head or slightly "rakish".

He ended by telling them to "Wear a uniform as if you are proud of it." [6]

On August 9, 1935, evidently, to assist the men in the field in conforming to the Office Order No. 268 uniform regulations, Acting Director Tolson forwarded a list of manufacturers and dealers in uniform equipment (Appendix A) along with blue prints showing the correct National Park Service uniform to all the field offices to be distributed to the men in the parks. [7]



**Arno B. Cammerer, Director,  
National Park Service (1933-1940)**  
*NPSHPC-HFC#268X*

---

Apparently, the move to switch from the dark green to black necktie, and the fields overwhelming rejection, caused the Uniform Committee to try again to solve the problem. Obtaining ties of a uniform shade of green had plagued the Service since they were prescribed in the 1920 regulations. It was finally decided that a dark green Barathea silk, four-in-hand necktie would fit the bill. These, hand-made with a "pure wool" lining, could be purchased from Schoenfeld Brothers, Incorporated, makers of "Fashion Craft" neckwear of Seattle, Washington, for \$7.25 per dozen, plus postage. Fechheimer could also furnish these, but no price was given. In both cases orders had to be at least a dozen or more. [8]



**National Park Service uniform button.**

This design originated in 1912 when Sigmund Eisner, the uniform supplier at that period, modeled it after the 1906 ranger badge. Early buttons had a lacquer finish which had a tendency to chip and peel.  
*NPSHC*

In the beginning of 1935, the Waterbury Button Company (today known as the Waterbury Company) of Waterbury, Massachusetts, began furnishing buttons with an "acid treated" finish. They claimed that this type of button would hold its color and wear much better than the lacquered buttons previously furnished. They cost \$7.50 per gross for the coat size and \$4.75 per gross for the vest or pocket size, as opposed to \$5.00 and \$3.75, respectively, for the lacquered variety. This process is still used today. [9]

Office Order No. 321 was sent out to the Field Offices on March, 16, 1936. The cover memorandum states "that the employees herein authorized to wear the uniform may continue to use articles of uniform authorized by Office Order No. 268, now in effect, until such articles are worn out, provided such use shall not exceed beyond December 31 1936." Without a copy of Office Order No. 268, there is no way to determine just what "articles" were deleted from the new regulations.

There is some question as to when the following uniform regulations came into being. They probably originated with Office Order No. 321, but they could have been incorporated in Office Order No. 268 or possibly some earlier unknown Office Order issued between Office Order 204 revised (June 7, 1932) and 268. Since there are no known copies of these documents, the regulations' origination date can not be determined at this time. The only thing certain is that they were in effect by April 13, 1936 when Office Order No. 324 took effect.

---

The new uniform regulations now provided for three different uniforms: Standard, Fatigue and Winter Sports Patrol. The Standard uniform remained the same except for the following:

**Hat** - the brim width was now 3" to 3-1/2" and for the first time the crown was specified to be 4" to 4-5/8", depending on what suit the wearer. And for some unknown reason, the color was changed from "belly" to "side".

**Cap** - now to be worn only by rangers on motorcycle duty.

**Coat** - could now have either a three or four button front. (probably depending on the size of the individual)

**Trousers** - cuffs to be increased from 1"

to 1-1/2".

**Field boots** - leather leggings were no longer to be worn. Shoes were to be worn when wearing trousers, but they were to be cordovan, not black, and were to be worn with dark brown socks.

**Shirt** - Gray shirt could now be gabardine or cotton, as well as flannel. White shirt was to be worn for formal occasions only. In addition a field shirt was added. It was to be steel gray and have an attached collar, shoulder straps and two large, pleated pockets fastened with buttons. It could also be made out of flannel, gabardine, or cotton.

**Tie** - Dark green barathea silk with full wool lining.

**Raincoat** - Color changed from "deep sea green" to forestry or olive green. It was to be made from 12 to 18-ounce waterproofed cloth such as "Alligator" (a forestry green cravenetted [10] gabardine).

The **Fatigue** uniform was prescribed for informal wear such as patrol or general field duty where the ranger would not be coming into contact with the public and where the standard uniform would be inappropriate. This was the introduction of the short coat, or jacket, the forerunner of that worn today. And apparently since a lot of the rangers were wearing them anyway, the Uniform Committee bowed to the inevitable and authorized the wearing of



**Temporary Ranger Cosby, Sequoia National Park, 1935.**

Cosby portrays what the well-dressed National Park Ranger was supposed to look like. Unfortunately, not all rangers managed to hit the mark.

*NPSHPC-SEKI#76-*



**Roger W.[Wolcott] Toll, Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park (1929-1936)**

Toll was an active participant in the uniforming of the Service. During off-seasons, he was chief investigator of proposed park and monument sites for the National Park Service. Toll's image was lifted from the group shot of participants at the 1934 Superintendent's Conference and superimposed on a picture of the front of the old Interior Building to make this composite photograph.  
*NPSHPC-Schutz*

the lace up boot. The fatigue uniform consisted of:

116

photo-HFC#64-244

**Hat** — regulation

**Jacket** - National Park Service field jacket: short jacket with 2" waistband with adjustable buckles at sides. Jacket fastens in the front with full-length talon fasteners (zipper). Two large plaited breast pockets with flaps fastened with small regulation NPS buttons. A double layer of material is applied from the top of the pockets, over the shoulder and the full length of back of jacket. Lower part of back provides a large pocket, (like some hunting coats) closed by zippers under each arm. Color not specified but was forest green.

**Breeches** - regulation

**Trousers** - regulation style made from canvas or any waterproof material of a forestry green or tan color.

**Shirt** - regulation wool or cotton.

**Tie** - optional, at discretion of superintendent.

**Boots** - Heavy 16" top, leather lace-up style or regulation field boot.



**Permanent Staff Naturalist  
Department 1934**

[Yellowstone National Park].  
They are standing in front of  
the famed Elk antler stack at  
Yellowstone. Crowe and

Bauer are wearing the  
regulation "puttees" while  
Kerns has on the dress boots.

*Left to right:* George Crowe;  
C. Max Bauer; William E.  
Kerns

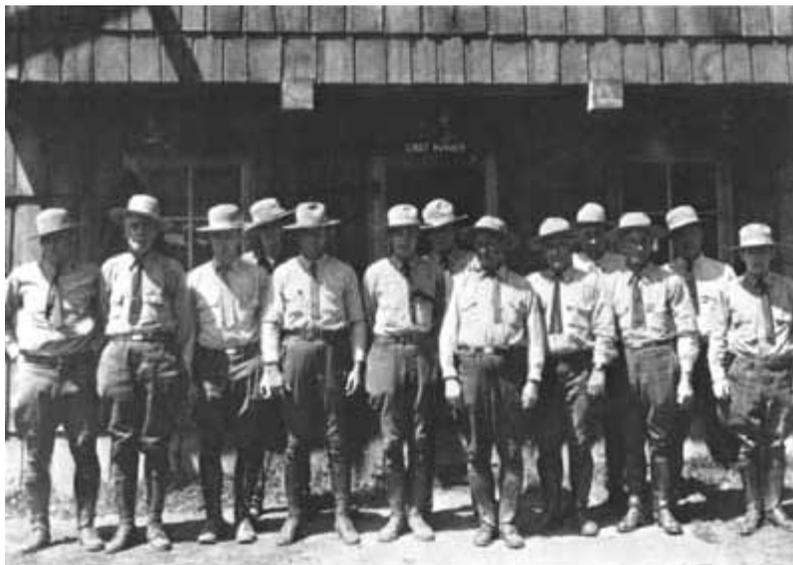
*NPSHPC-YELL#130,199*



**Jr. Landscape Architect  
Howard Baker, March 12,  
1934.** Unauthorized details,  
such as lapel buttonhole, were  
still creeping into the  
uniforms.

*NPSHPC-ROMO# 3280*

Badges, collar, and rank insignia were to be worn on the field jackets and on shirts when worn without coats or jackets.



**Rangers Force at Sequoia National Park, c.late 1920s.**

Prior to the 1936 uniform regulations, belts of all descriptions were worn by rangers. Also note the variety of ties. Davis & Brooks are wearing unauthorized footwear.

*Left to right:* Packard, Lew Davis, Kerr, Williams, Brooks, Cook, Peck, Dorr, Fry, Alles, Smith, Sprigelmyre, Gibson  
*NPSHPC-HFC#86-246*

---

---

The third uniform, the Winter Sports Patrol was for National Parks and areas with established winter sports seasons. It consisted of:

**Cap** - NPS ski style with adjustable earflaps and USNPS embroidered in gold on the front.

**Jacket** - NPS style

**Trousers** - Ski style with full length cuffs, 20", or larger leg and knit ankle cuff.

**Boots** - conventional ski boots

**Socks** - Heavy wool with dark green top or olive green or steel grey ski leggings.

**Parka** - Light weight, waterproof forestry green or steel grey material, with or without hood. It could be either waist or knee length.

The Regulations stipulated that only those "National Park and monuments employees whose duties are chiefly to attract and to



**1934 uniform shirt & breeches.** This image shows a ranger from one of the western parks without his coat. His breeches and

contact park visitors and to protect the areas administered(sic) by the National Park Service" (rangers, superintendents, naturalists, police, etc.) were to wear the standard Service uniform. No one was to wear the uniform when not on a "duty status."

Possibly because the coat was usually worn with the uniform, belts do not appear as an article covered by the regulations until 1936. Earlier photographs confirm the prior absence of any standard belt or buckle. Probably the only thing covering belts was the stipulation that all leather would be of a cordovan color. The new regulations specified that a "Forestry green, web-waist belt, 1-1/8" wide, with buckle approved by the Director, [probably the web belt style buckle being worn by the military] is prescribed for wear when breeches are worn with or without coat."

Office Order No. 321 was superseded by 324 on April 13, 1936. The new regulations resurrected the small gold badge originally worn by Directorate officials (1921-1928) and awarded it to park superintendents. Assistant superintendents continued to wear the nickel-plated badge.

The usual field inquiry system may have been instituted prior a decision being made to change the regulations in 1936. It's quite possible that the ideas for a new superintendent's badge were solicited from the field, although there isn't anything in what little official correspondence that survives to support this. There is, however, at least one sketch from this period showing a proposed model for a superintendent's badge. It utilizes a modified version of the standard shield badge design with SUPERINTENDENT on the top.

service boots show very clearly. Even the fact that his boot laces aren't tucked in.  
*NPSHPC-ROMO#11-15-1-3*

---



**The 1921 superintendent's badge (1921-1936-silver)**  
*NPSHC*

---



**Proposed(?) 1936 Superintendent's Badge.** The origin of this sketch is unknown, but since it is dated 1936, the year the superintendent's badge was changed, it was probably submitted for consideration as a possible candidate for the new badge. It is basically a modified version of the badge being worn at that time.

*NPSHC-HFC RG Y55*

---

The ranger badge had been changed in 1930 from the original two-piece (round medallion soldered to face of the shield) to a simple, less expensive one-piece badge, utilizing the same design. There was a movement afoot at this time to change the design of the badge to incorporate more information on the face and this cost cutting method was no doubt done in anticipation of this change. The 1930 style badge was retained, however, but although not covered in the regulations, it began to be dapped, or curved, so as to lie close to the coat. This is born out by extant examples known to have been worn during this period.

New hat bands and chinstraps were also prescribed in these new regulations along with a change in the Length-of-Service decorations. With some of the Service employees having been around since long before the formation of the bureau, an abundance of stars and stripes was being worn on their sleeves. To alleviate some of this clutter, a gold star was initiated in 1930 to represent 10 years of service.

But now, the mish-mash of black stripes and gold and silver stars adorning sleeves made the appearance of the uniform worst than ever. This was one of the problems addressed by the new regulations. The stars and stripes were revamped as follows:

"For each year of completed service a black braid, 1/8" wide and 2" long.

After the first star is earned, bars shall be discontinued to indicate service of less than five-year periods. For each five-year period of completed service, a silver embroidered star.

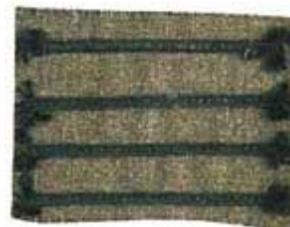
The service insignia shall be worn on the cuff of the left sleeve of the coat and overcoat, the lower stripe or star shall be placed 2-1/2" above end of sleeve. When stripes and stars are worn, stars shall be placed uppermost. When more than one star is worn, they shall be arranged horizontally up to four and triangularly when more than four stars are worn."

The "triangularly" part was to cause some difficulty later with everyone interpreting it his own way. This situation was not corrected until 1942. Another aspect of the stars that wasn't addressed in the regulations was which direction they were to point. Photographs and the later patches indicate that this was to be down, not up as one would suppose.

The new regulations also addressed the problem of stripe uniformity. Up until now, the stripes had been a 3" piece of "narrow silk braid" stitched to a 3" wide strip of uniform fabric the edges of which were to be turned under and stitched to the coat sleeve. Therein lay the difficulty. With each person turning the edges under, the regulation 2" length was seldom attained. The new stripes still came on 3" wide strips of uniform fabric, but now the 1/8" by 2" stripe itself was embroidered on it.

Another problem that had plagued the Service from the beginning was the color of the wool used in the uniforms. With each manufacturer's conception of forest green being different, the uniform committee thought it prudent to standardize on one cloth manufacturer in order that the uniforms remained uniform. Consequently, the "American Woolen Mills, Shade No. 168, forestry green" was selected and the superintendents and custodians were instructed to request this material when "ordering their elastique and tropical worsted or gaberadine(sic) cloth uniforms." [11]

The reasoning for changing the hat color from "belly" to "side" was not given, but this change in definition initially gave the John B. Stetson Company a problem. Stetson had began furnishing hats to the Park Service in 1934. How this shade differed from "belly", [12] if in fact it did, is unknown, but the color of the hats provided by Stetson apparently was not correct because Hillory A. Tolson, acting associate director, ordered all purchases of hats from that company to stop.



**A band 5/8" wide, was authorized in 1915 to denote five years service in the National Park**

**Service.** This was changed to a 1/8" piece of braid sewn on a piece of the coat material in 1920, which in turn was superseded by a 2" stripe embroidered on the material in 1936.

The stars were embroidered on the coat material from 1920 until changed in 1956.

*NPSHC*

---

---

These difficulties were corrected by September and the uniform chairman notified the field that the company had "now developed the exact color desired by the National Park Service" and that his stop order of July 7<sup>th</sup> was rescinded. Along with the color correction, Stetson also agreed to replace any hats purchased after issuance of Office Order No. 324. [13]

A special meeting of superintendents was held at Washington, D.C., in February, 1936. One of the items on the agenda was field boots. After much discussion, a recommendation was formulated and forwarded to the director's office regarding the changing of the NPS boot to "a field boot differing slightly from the conventional design, having a specially shaped leg which decreases the tendency to wrinkle".

Companies that manufactured boots were contacted and an agreement had been reached with the Teitzel-Jones Company of Wichita, Kansas, whereby they would assemble the boots to order, leaving the back-seam open. These would then be shipped to the prospective buyer to try on to insure proper fit and satisfaction. After try-on, the boots were to be returned to the factory, along with such suggestions as necessary regarding the fit of the feet and a form showing exact leg measurements. The boots would then be completed in accordance with any special instructions and leg measurement form and the finished product returned to the purchaser. Cost of a pair of boots was \$26.00, plus \$1.60 parcel post and insurance. [14] Teitzel-Jones furnished boots to the Service as long as they were included in the regulations.

Up until the issuance of Office Order No. 350, on June 15, 1938, National Park Service Uniform Regulations were simply four or five pages of written specifications, but beginning with that Order the Regulations were presented in a booklet format.

Until November 22, 1940, when a new manual was issued, whenever a change was ordained new pages were forwarded to the parks to be inserted in their existing manual with instructions for the parks to destroy the old sheets. This makes it difficult to follow the nuances of uniform development in some cases, during this period. We know what the final evolution is but not what was originally prescribed.

Unfortunately, because of the above, only fragmentary sections have survived. It is assumed



**Guy D. Edwards, Superintendent, Grand Teton National Park, 1936.**

Edward's boots reflect the reason for the modification. Boots from this period had a tendency to wrinkle above the ankles, especially on people with thin legs. His sleeve has two stripes and one star denoting 7 years service. This is also the year the small superintendents badge was changed from silver to gold.

*NPSHPC- George A. Grant photo-  
HFC#201-T*

---

---

that the regulations remained basically the same with only the extant change sheets in the archives being at variance.



**Interpreter guiding visitors through the fort at Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, 1958.** Even though the Pith helmet color had been changed from forest green to sand in 1940, he is still wearing the earlier forest green model. The arrowhead patch on his sleeve was authorized in 1952.  
*NPSHPC-Jack E. Boucher photo-HFC#58-JB-276*

---

The major contribution of the new method of distributing the uniform specifications was that for the first time drawings were included within the regulations, along with the descriptions of the various articles and ensembles. Prior to this the old blue print had been altered in order to accommodate the changes.

The few surviving sheets of Office Order No. 350, along with some memoranda from the official correspondence, enlighten us as to several changes that occurred before it was superceded by a new manual in 1940.

At the 1938 superintendent's conference, it was recommended that an aluminum-colored pith helmet with a large sterling silver Sequoia cone ornament be authorized for park rangers in extremely hot regions. This recommendation was passed, but when Office Order No. 350, revised was issued on April 19, 1939, the color of the helmet was changed to forestry green and there was no mention of an ornament.

This was cleared up in a memorandum from Acting Director Demaray on July 27, 1939. "It was found that aluminum colored helmets could not be purchased and no satisfactory sequoia cone has been devised for use on the helmet," he stated. "Consequently the color of the helmet was changed to forestry green and the cone ornament eliminated."



**Ranger Wilber Doudna, Death Valley National Monument, April 3, 1938.** While not covered under the Uniform Regulations,

On September 3, 1938, the regulations were amended to include tropical worsted as an acceptable shirting material for hot weather and again on November 10 a "Forestry green, 1-1/4 inches wide" leather belt with a "nickel-plated buckle" was "prescribed for wear only when the coat is worn." [15] A drawing shows a plain belt with a line tooled all around, approximately 1/8-inch from the edge. It has two retaining loops, or cinches, for the end of the belt. The buckle was a simple open-frame, single loop type.

The above begs two questions. Why, when all leather was to be cordovan, this leather belt was specified to be forest green? And why was the belt "prescribed for wear only when the coat is worn?" Since the belt would not show when the ranger had his coat on, you would think it would be just the opposite. There is no explanation as to either of these issues.

Apparently, others picked up on this enigma as well, since it was corrected by a revision to the regulations in April 19, 1939. The web belt was eliminated and the color of the leather belt was changed to conform to the standard cordovan color of the Park Service leather goods. At the same time, the width of the belt was increased to 1-1/2 inches.

In addition, the regulations contain references to Emergency Conservation Work employees, who since they were under the aegis of the National Park Service had first shown up in the 1936 Uniform Regulations. The new revisions to the 1938 regulations changed their name to read "Civilian Conservation Corps".

Also, under this same revision, a 1/2" chinstrap and a forestry green pith helmet, plus ventilator holes in the hat were added. Even though this is the first time ventilator holes had been specified, they show up in photographs since the early 1930s.

Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Southwestern National Monuments, Petrified Forest National Monument and the Boulder Dam National Recreational Area were included in the list of parks whose employees were authorized to wear trousers in lieu of breeches. [16]

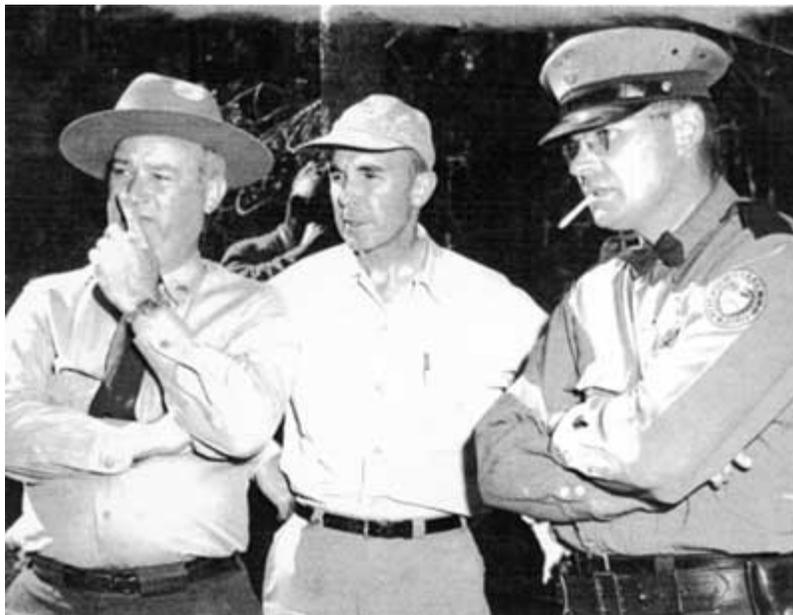
A new "Texas Ranger" style belt was designed in early 1940 as an alternative to the plain belt. This new belt was 1/8-inch thick by 1-1/2-inches wide, embossed with a design similar to the hat band. It was a billeted design, like most western gun holster belts, which utilize a secondary narrow belt, or billet, sewn on top of the wider main belt to secure it. The first company to respond to the new design was the B.B. McGinnis Company, Merced, California, who advertised the belt for \$1.00. But Fechheimer Brothers proved to have a superior product and its belt was approved by the Director. Fechheimer originally priced the belt at \$1.25, but with it becoming the authorized Service belt and no doubt a substantial order being placed, the cost was reduced to \$1.15. [17]

another popular item of apparel out West, especially at Death Valley, was a short leather jacket. These were cut on the pattern of the field jacket, including pleated pockets. It is impossible to determine the color from existing photographs, but an extant example in the NPS History Collection from another park is forest green with plain green buttons.

*NPSHPC-DEVA  
651.531#219*

---

---



**Investigating double murder at Crater Lake [National Park] 7/1952.** Wosky is wearing the very popular "billeted" belt.

*Left to right:* John B. Wosky, supt.; Thomas J. Allen, Asst. Director, Operations; unnamed Oregon State Policeman  
*Courtesy of Kettler, Herald & News, Klamath falls, Oregon*

Along with the billeted belt was one authorized for Service employees required to wear side arms. It had a strap that went across the chest and over the shoulder to help support the weight of the weapon. This style belt, known as a Sam Browne, was copied from the British military and used by the U.S. Army, as well as law enforcement agencies. This belt was not embossed. Both belts were cordovan color.

A complete Class A standard National Park Service uniform of 19-oz elastique (made by Weintraub Brothers & Company, Phila.) could be purchased at Pryor Stores concession at Yellowstone in May, 1940, for \$63.55. By September 1, 1941, the price had risen to \$65.60, less boots (Fechheimer). Boots cost approximately \$25.00.



**1940 NPS Junior Park Warden badge.**

Although officially called the "Junior Park Warden" badge, the "Junior" was deleted

With the issuance of the National Park Service uniform regulations in a manual format, uniform regulations became an entity in their own right and were no longer classed under the general heading of "Office Orders". (although the first manual was classified as Office Order No. 350)

On November 22, 1940, a new manual for uniform regulations were issued for the Service. A new badge for "Junior Park Warden" was instituted along with two new uniforms. Due to the extreme heat associated with their location, employees at Death Valley National Monument would now wear the following:

"Sun Helmet: Sand tan color [instead of forest green-author [18]] with silver Sequoia ornament.

no doubt because of lack of space on badge. It was made of nickel-plated German-silver like the other badges of this period.

*Courtesy of Deryl Stone Collection*

Shirt: Sand tan color, any acceptable material, cotton gabardine, broadcloth, or twill; collar attached, shoulder straps, two large plaited pockets with buttoned flaps and pencil openings on the left; single button cuffs.



**Park Naturalist H. Donald Curry, 1939, Death Valley National Monument.**

Although Curry is not wearing the prescribed "Sun Helmet" or belt, he does have on the regulation "Sand Tan" shirt and trousers.

*NPSHPC/DEVA651.531#522*

---

Trousers: Sand tan color, cotton gabardine, twill, or similar material; tunnel belt loops 2" on sides, 1-1/2" cuffs."

Plus regulation "new style" belt, Blucher type shoes (high-top, lace-up), socks and tie.

It may seem strange to people today that the Service would create a lightweight uniform for hot weather that retained the tie, but at that time it was considered vulgar to expose the top of the chest when meeting the public. Dispensing with the coat was a major concession.

In addition to the hot weather uniform, the regulations also authorized new uniforms for the National Park Service "navy".

The Service had expanded rapidly during the previous decade, in both territory and personnel. The matter of uniforms had become so complicated that at the superintendent's January conference it was recommended "that the whole matter of uniforms for Service personnel be studied by the Uniform Committee and a complete report thereon be submitted to the next conference."

It was further determined that the five man uniform committee was no longer adequate and that the committee should comprise Chief of Operations Hillory A. Tolson from Washington and two superintendents or assistant superintendents from each of the Service's four regions: Lemuel A. Garrison of Hopewell Village National Historic Site and Lawrence C. Hadley of Acadia National Park from Region I; David H. Canfield of Rocky Mountain National Park and Charles J. Smith of Grand Teton National Park from Region II; John S. McLaughlin of Mesa Verde National Park and Hugh M. Miller of Southwestern National Monuments from Region III; and Earnest P. Leavitt of Crater Lake National Park and Guy Hopping of , Kings Canyon National Park from Region IV. The committee members were to canvas their respective regions and submit recommendations for uniform changes to Uniform Committee Chairman John C. Preston, superintendent at Lassen Volcanic National Park. [19]

At the conference there was an element that considered the uniform inappropriate in its present form for a "seashore or maritime site, an historical mansion or some of the recreational demonstration areas." Most, however, thought that the uniform was suitable for all of the National Parks and should not be "tinkered" with. Lemuel Garrison

considered the "function of the uniform" to be "two fold--first to provide decent presentable work clothing, and second, to identify the wearer as a Park Service employee. With the far flung range of present Service areas, the visitor who has been to Olympic should be able to recognize immediately the same uniform if worn in the Everglades" and "will recognize that the areas are all under the same administration". [20]

This was a reaffirmation of the original principles upon which Horace Albright and Dusty Lewis had pushed for uniforming the Service.

In 1941, several guide positions were established at Carlsbad Caverns and Mammoth Cave national parks and the uniform committee was requested to consider issuing a "Park Guide" badge for them. Acting Director Hillory A. Tolson felt that since the uniform regulations now covered "badges of similar design for "park ranger", "park warden" and "park guard" . . . we should have a badge with the words "Park Guide"..."

Taking this request under advisement, the uniform committee decided that since the other positions were authorized specific badges for their positions, the guides should have their own badge as well and recommended that the regulations be changed to reflect this. [21]

Even though the above was authorized, there is some doubt as to it ever being implemented. Pearl Harbor may have interrupted the process since there are no known examples of a "Guide Badge" struck in the style of badge then being used.

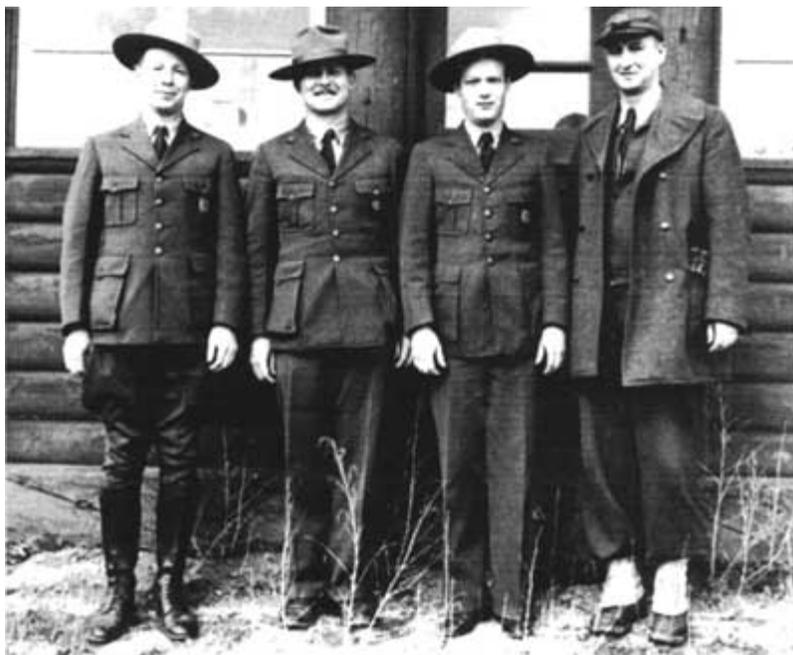
As the year progressed, there was considerable debate over exactly what changes to the uniform should be made, if any. In addition to the men's uniform question, there was also one concerning women. Fechheimer Brothers Company, Cincinnati, Ohio, had submitted a series of sketches of proposed uniforms for the women in the Park Service. It is not known whether these were requested by the Service or just a bit of entrepreneurship on the part of Fechheimer. Even though women employees in certain positions such as guides and historic aides were wearing a uniform of sorts, the official NPS uniform regulations did not cover these.



**Lemuel A. "Lon" Garrison.** This image was taken in 1957 when he was superintendent of Yellowstone National Park. Garrison later became Uniform Committee Chairman before being appointed a Regional Director.  
*Courtesy Haynes, Inc. #57044*

---

---



**Standard uniforms, 1941.** Custodians Lombard, Joyner, Mattes and Superintendent Canfield display their uniforms while attending the First Annual Rocky Mountain National Park Conference. The custodians are wearing the standard dress uniform with either breeches or trousers, while Canfield has on his ski outfit.

*Left to right:* Jess H. Lombard, Fort Laramie National Monument; Newell F. Joyner, Devils Tower National Monument; Merrill J. Mattes, Scotts Bluff National Monument; David H. Canfield, Rocky Mountain National Park

*NPCHPC-Humberger Photo-ROMO#11-5-1-18*

---

Recommendations from the field were many and varied. These suggestions, some of which were very credible, covered just about all aspects of ranger wear. For example: Coat should be less military; there should be special fire fighting clothing; wider use of hat; wider use of cap; lightweight cotton summer uniforms; badges of solid metal, not plated since plating wore off; discontinue using the USNPS collar insignia; embroider "National Park Service" on cloth and sew to coat [sounds familiar]; select an excellent uniform supplier because now when an employee orders a new uniform he usually "gets fits but not a fit." The majority seemed to center on ranger comfort, either material weight (depending on park), or cut. [22]

Unfortunately, the Japanese made all of these suggestions academic at Pearl Harbor. One of the first restrictions brought about by the war was General Conservation Order M-73-a, effective March 30, 1942. This order was implemented "To conserve the supply of wool cloth entering into the production of Men's and Boys' clothing," thereby maintaining an adequate supply of wool for military uniforms. This effected all non-military clothing production.

Upon being informed of this restriction, Uniform Committee Chairman Preston wrote to Fechheimer Brothers, the current uniform supplier asking how this new order would effect the Park Service uniforms and how much uniform material they had on hand.

In his reply, Mr. A. S. Holtman, secretary of Fechheimer, stated that only uniform parts that

were made of wool would be effected. Items such as jackets, breeches and trousers were exempt, although the cuffs on the trousers must be eliminated. Coats could not have patch pockets and the backs had to be plain without half-belt, pleats or vent. Coats could not be ordered with two pair of trousers, although they could be ordered with one pair of breeches and one pair of trousers. The belt was the only part of the topcoat effected.

Holtman further stated that at present Fechheimer Brothers had a good supply of Park Service material, but, when that ran out the Service would need to acquire a "Priority" to secure woolen fabrics from the mills. So far "none of the Government Services seem to be able to get this", although he had received "unofficial information" that morning that on "April 5 an amendment might be issued to apply against Order M-73-a, and that it might include uniforms for Police, Firemen and Government Services as essential Defense uniforms." He suggested that the Service apply for this "essential" status.

Holtman followed up this letter with another one on March 28, 1942, informing Preston that "any company, group, or service, such as defense plants, police, firemen, etc., who can secure a Priority Certificate of A-10 or better, will not be affected by General Conservation Order M-73-a." [23]

In the meantime, Preston had recommended that in view of the coat restrictions, the ski jacket be adopted as the official uniform coat for the foreseeable future and that hot areas not wear a coat in the summertime. Those with standard coats would still be able to wear them if so desired.

The Directors office concurred with Preston's suggestion that "as soon as possible the Director issue instructions that uniformed personnel entering on duty for the first time, or purchasing new equipment should purchase a fatigue jacket instead of the present regulation blouse or coat". In areas where weather conditions permitted, superintendents could authorize employees to omit wearing of the blouse or jacket, providing all uniformed personnel in each district or at each station are dressed alike.

Another difficulty was in procuring boots. Trousers and shoes, which were easier to obtain, could overcome this. "I do not believe that we as individuals or as an organization should approach the War Production Board regarding priorities on uniform materials as suggested by the Fechheimer Company, Associate Director Tolson wrote. "We can make out adequately with the items available." [24]

Acting upon a memorandum sent out by Tolson on June 26, 1942, suggesting that the uniform committee's study of uniforms be "deferred during the war period", Uniform Committee Chairman Preston thanked the committee for their "genuine interest" in the study and thought that "Following the war the Committee should again become active inasmuch as many new ideas regarding uniforms will develop during the war years." [25]



**Uniform. Short jacket & breeches. Dist. Ranger Harold Ratcliff, 1938.** Ratcliff is wearing the uniform, sans hat, prescribed for ranger wear during World War II.  
*NPSHPC-ROMO#11-5-1-8*



**Ex-FOREST RANGERS SERVE WITH COAST GUARD MUNITIONS DETAILS.** Former forest(sic) rangers in national parks, these Coast Guard officers have completed a course in handling, storing and loading of explosives at Washington, D.C, and will be assigned to duty at U.S. ports, where the Coast Guard directs loading of munitions for shipment to the fighting fronts. Left to right: Lieutenants (j.g.) Frank F. Kowski, William A. Nyquist and Wayne B. Alcorn, of YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK; Albert D. Rose, chief boatswain, of MT. RANIER(sic) NATIONAL PARK, and Carl E. Jepson, chief boatswain, of GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK. Although this image has nothing to do with NPS uniforms, it has been included here to show some of the NPS personnel that did their bit to end World War II so they could get back to the really important things, like "rangering."  
*Courtesy of Public Relations Division, U.S. Coast Guard*

---

---

Thus the National Park Service Uniform Committee officially closed shop for the duration, as far as any style changes went. There were still problems to be ironed out that the Committee had to address, such as what type of material would make a satisfactory replacement for that used in making the uniform and where it could be obtained. Different cotton fabrics were checked out, but to no avail.

Another problem arose as to what configuration the "five-year" stars should assume on the sleeve of a ranger attaining twenty-five years' service. The regulations stated: "When more than one star is worn, they shall be arranged horizontally up to four and triangularly when more than four stars are worn." This regulation left a lot of latitude in what was meant by "triangularly". It was finally decided that when five stars were to be used, there would be four across the bottom with the fifth centered above. [26] Subsequent stars would contribute to an expanding pyramid. Stars came in units of one to six. Units of one to four were arranged horizontally, while five and up were to be arranged triangularly. (seven stars were grouped in a unit of three over a unit of four; eight stars were grouped in a unit of three over a unit of five; etc.)

Since the National Park Service apparently was not going to try for a special dispensation from the War Production Board, Fechheimer Brothers did it. In a memorandum dated August 20, 1942, Acting Regional Director Herbert Maier advised Region Four field areas that Fechheimer Brothers had "obtained an A-10 Preference Rating Certificate on National Park Service uniform materials . . . will be able to supply the standard National Park Service uniform without regard to the provisions of Conservation Order M-73-a." He further stated that "The Washington Office does not think it wise to revoke the emergency modifications of the National Park Service Uniform Regulations, but uniformed personnel may purchase and wear the previously standard uniforms so long as they are obtainable." [27]



**Five rangers at the dedication ceremony of the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site, April 12, 1946.** This image illustrates that the even though the ranger's sleeve brassard went out in the late 1930's, at least two were still being worn as late as 1946. Doust must be mimicking Roosevelt with his cigarette holder.

*Left to right:* Supt. Floyd Taylor; Chief Ranger Harry "Light-horse" Doust; Rangers: Joseph Prentice; Bernie Campbell; [Edwin "Mac" Dale(?)]  
*NPSHPC-HFC#86-208*

---

The above is most interesting in light of a memorandum from Acting Director Tolson to the regional directors dated April 1, 1943. In it, Tolson quotes the purchasing officer of the Department of the Interior from a letter of March 20, 1943:

"We have your memorandum of March 3, relative to General Conservation Order M-73 for woolen materials in which you requested that we secure an A-10 priority rating from the War Production Board.

"We have been informally advised by the War Production Board that the National Park Service would be included under item 5 of paragraph (k), which reads as follows:

"Federal;, State, County, Municipal or local government policemen, guards or militia.' " [28]

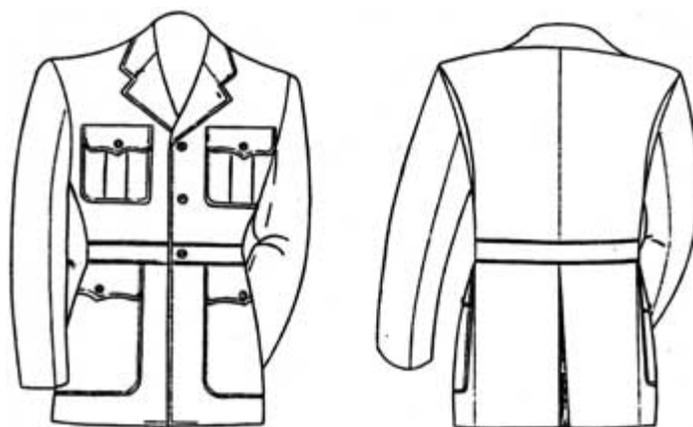
If Fechheimer had obtained an A-10 priority as was previously stated, why was Interior still

pursuing it in 1943?

After the successful conclusion of the conflict, the National Park Service, along with the rest of the country, was freed from the wartime restrictions. The uniform committee was back in business and as predicted by Preston in 1942, many new ideas had developed during the intervening years.

Among other things, returning uniformed Park Service employees were allowed to wear their military uniforms on duty, along with any decorations, for 60 days. Thereafter they had to don their Park Service uniform but were still authorized to wear "any ribbons to which they are entitled for service in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard." This allowance was loosely interpreted, because photographs show rangers wearing military medals and decorations, as well as ribbons. This practice continued until rescinded by the 1961 Uniform Regulations.

As soon as possible, the Service instituted a new uniform committee to take up where the old one had left off before the outbreak of hostilities. Among other things, the committee was looking for a new image for the Service.



**Drawing of 1947 National Park Service ranger coat from the 1947 uniform regulations.** The coat now had a full-belted waist with a bellows back like that worn by the Navy flyers of World War II.  
*NPSHC-RG Y55*

---

---

I. J. "Nash" Castro relates that he began his National Park Service career at Grand Canyon National Park in 1939, later becoming junior secretary to Director Newton B. Drury. Having been a naval aviation cadet while attending Lynchburg College in Virginia, it was only natural that he would become a naval flyer when World War II broke out.

After separation from the Navy in 1945, he married and moved to Chicago. At that time, National Park Service Headquarters was located in the "windy city" and since he had previously worked for the bureau and was looking for gainful employment, he paid his old boss a visit.



**Drawing depicting ranger wearing 1947 pattern uniform with detail of front and back of coat.**

*NPSHC, Gilbert Cohen, artist*

The clothing industry had begun to gear up again for civilian productivity but as yet had not caught up with demand and returning military personnel were allowed to wear their uniforms for 60 days after discharge. So Castro wore his undress Navy greens, or "service" uniform as the Navy termed it, to NPS headquarters and when Director Drury saw him, he became so enamored with the appearance of the coat, he requested that Castro model it for the Uniform Committee. The committee was equally impressed and the new park ranger uniform was styled around this uniform. [29] The National Park Service had returned to the military image, only this time it was the Navy instead of the Army.

When new National Park Service uniform regulations came out on April 11, 1947, what had started as a 4 page typed document in 1920, was now 69 pages long. It was still in manual form, but no longer contained the nice professional drawings and printed text of the 1940 version. Instead, it consisted of line drawings with typed descriptions of the prescribed uniforms, along with instructions about fit; wearing the different uniforms; how to salute the flag; etc., and for the first time uniforms for women appeared in Service regulations.



**Louis Schellbach at GRCA, 11/40.** This was taken at Grand Canyon National Park and while Schellbach's appearance is typical of the rangers during this period, USNPS collar ornaments were not supposed to be worn on the shirt collar when wearing the coat.  
*NPSHPC-HFC#M69-38*



**L.C. Hadley, park ranger, SHEN [Shenandoah National Park] - 1952**  
*NPSHPC*

**This comparison of the old and new 1947 uniforms shows many of the changes.** Most notable are the lack of breeches and boots in the new uniform. The new coat is not as form fitting as the old.

---

---

Photographs of the various uniforms being modeled made their appearance for the first, and unfortunately the last, time. They were included as part of Amendment No.5 on May 24, 1950.

There were a number of changes to the new uniforms, the majority of which effected mainly the standard uniform. The new standard uniform now consisted of:

Hats - The standard hat and cap remained the same, with the sun helmet becoming standard in those areas wearing the new "sun-tan" uniform.

Coat - The coat was now to be belted, with a bellows back and only three buttons; patch pockets (without bellows); two pleated breast pockets; back vent was to extend up to the belt; all outside pockets to have flaps fastened with small Service buttons; similar in style to the naval aviators'

working uniform. Coat was to be made from 16 to 22-ounce forestry green elastique cloth, except in hot climates where conditions required a lighter weight uniform for comfort. Then 12-ounce gabardine or tropical worsted cloth could be used. Padding and sleeve lining were to be eliminated in the lighter coats.

Trousers - Trousers were to be of the standard "field cut" as used by officers of the armed forces, without cuffs. Drawing shows them to be the same as previously worn, with the exception of the cuffs and the back pocket flaps being rounded instead of scallop-cut. Materials were to be the same as the coat.

Breeches & boots - Breeches and boots were eliminated as uniform articles with Amendment No. 2 on July 3, 1947. Employees possessing these articles were allowed to wear them "so long as they are serviceable and presentable," but no new ones were to be ordered. (This was not entirely true, rangers that patrolled on horse back still wore these)

Shoes, shirt, tie, overcoat and raincoats remained the same.

The "Death Valley" uniform was now classified as the "sun-tan" uniform and the regional director could authorize it to be worn in "any area administered by the National Park Service in which the summer temperatures are extreme". Each application to wear the special summer uniform was to be scrutinized very carefully by the regional directors to make sure there was sufficient justification. All uniformed employees of a given area were to be uniformly attired. The only change in the regulations governing this uniform was the change of the material name from "sand tan" to "sun-tan." The fatigue and winter sports patrol uniforms remained the same as before.

The new regulations included new badges covering everything that had been suggested up until the uniform committee had been disbanded in 1942. These included different badges for: superintendent, assistant superintendent, chief ranger, ranger, park warden, park guard, and park guide. Superintendent and assistant superintendent remained the same, and while the others retained the same design, they were now oxidized silver plated brass, instead of nickel-silver, except for chief ranger, which was gold plated brass. The plating must have been very thin, since all those examined show considerable wear over the high relief.



**Fort McHenry National Monument, Interpreting history with children, 1950's.**

This ranger is wearing the soft cap sans coat that was authorized for hot eastern parks.

*NPSHPC-WASO-R-681*

---

---



**These five badges were authorized by the 1947 Uniform Regulations.** Superintendents and Asst. Superintendents retained the small round badge in gold and nickel-plate, respectively, previously in use. The chief ranger badge was gold plated and the others were silver plated with an oxidized finish. All used brass as the base metal.  
*Left to right:* Chief ranger; Ranger; Park Warden; Park Guard; Park Guide  
NPSHC

---

An undated synopsis of the uniform regulations from around this period gives the names and addresses of two uniform manufacturers currently supplying National Park Service uniforms. Fechheimer Brothers Company, Cincinnati, Ohio and B.B. McGinnis Company, 547 Seventeenth Street, Merced, California.

The records also contain another synopsis, dated February 27, 1950, from Shenandoah National Park. It states that heavy high-top leather laced boots were recommended for the fatigue uniform and states "Fatigue uniform trousers may be of canvas or water repellent material in forest green or tan when field conditions make it desirable." It also suggests that Park Rangers have two standard uniforms, one of 13-oz. gabardine for summer and one of 16-oz. elastique for winter. The above changes must have been initiated by Superintendent Edward D. Freeland for Shenandoah's rangers only, since they are not authorized by the 1947 regulations or its amendments.

The 1947 National Park Service uniform regulations were in effect for nine years. Consequently, there were a number of amendments to them, some of which simply concerned clarification of the wording. Others, though, like those below, made small alterations to the regulations themselves.



**Rangers McLaren and Evans measuring snow pack at Snow Flat at Tioga Pass.**

**Date: 1957.** Since there isn't much chance of them meeting visitors, both are wearing a combination of NPS and personal clothing.

*NPSHPC 68-YOSE-F.652*

---

---

Amendment No.1 (June 2, 1947) - Overcoat material changed from Elastique to all wool beaver or melton cloth.

Amendment No.4 (January 13, 1950) - Dark green wool could be used for ties, as well as the barathea silk.

Amendment No.5 (May 24, 1950) - Photographs of rangers (including one of a woman) wearing the various uniforms were inserted to show how they should be worn.

Amendment No.6 (June 26, 1950) - Superintendents could now authorize the use of non-visible spring collar clip as a means of improving the appearance of the shirt collar.

Amendment No.7 (June 29, 1952) - New National Park Service arrowhead patch authorized to be worn on all uniform coats, jackets and shirts, "except on raincoat".

Amendment No.8 (September 18, 1953) - The sun helmet is deleted. At the same time 90% Orlon/10% Rayon mixed materials were authorized to be used in place of the previously prescribed forestry green elastique cloth, if such materials in the proper weave and color are available from the uniform manufacturer.

Amendment No.9. (March 24, 1954) - Rangers authorized to wear shirt with collar open when authorized by superintendent.

Amendment No. 7 was especially significant. A contest had been held in 1949 in an attempt to come up with a symbol for the National Park Service. Even though the winning design was never used (see Book No. 1, *Badges and Insignia*), the idea of using a tree and the arrowhead was brought forth. After much refinement, the Arrowhead became the official emblem of the National Park Service on July 20, 1951. It was first used the following year in static situations, such as folders and park signs. Then on June 29, 1952, with the above amendment, it began to be used on



**One of the first arrowhead shoulder patches.** Three were issued to each permanent and one to each temporary ranger.

Unfortunately, these first patches were not sanforized and could only be worn on the coat. This was corrected on future orders.

*NPSHC*

uniform coats. It has graced the ranger's uniform ever since.

Rangering was, and still is, a vocation, not a job. Rangers worked long hours for low pay, from which they had to buy their uniforms. This was alleviated, somewhat on September 1, 1954, when the Federal Employees Uniform Allowance Act (Public Law 763) was approved, authorizing a clothing allowance for federal employees that were required to wear a uniform. Uniformed members of the National Park Service began receiving their clothing allowance for the first time on May 3, 1955, under FAO-19-55. The allowance was computed at \$0.274 for each day the individual was employed, or \$25.00 per quarter, for a maximum of \$100.00 per year. [30]

---

In 1956, the National Park Service revised its entire format for uniform regulations. Uniform Regulations were no longer a separate entity, but were now Part 160 of the National Park Service Administrative Manual. These new regulations went into effect on September 11, superceding all of the previous regulations. Specifications were back to text only, with the drawings and photographs utilized in previous editions eliminated.

These regulations remained basically the same as previously in effect, although there were a couple of minor changes. Amendment No.1 of the 1947 was incorporated giving employees their choice of having their overcoat made of either all-wool beaver or melton cloth instead of elastique. As in the past, anyone having the elastique overcoat could wear it as long as it was presentable and serviceable. The fatigue uniform now became a "field" uniform with the option of having a single or a double layer back. With single back, yoke effect did not appear on front.

At the same time, chief park naturalists, historians, and archaeologists were authorized to wear the same gold badge as used by chief rangers.

The length-of-service insignia was further refined. Until now, the service stars had been embroidered on a continuous roll, same as the stripes. When cut and applied to the sleeve, the serge material often unraveled and took on a ragged appearance if not sewn properly. Charles C. Sharp suggested that the stars be made up on neat cloth panels of from one to six each with a border around them, like the arrowhead patch. This suggestion was incorporated in the new regs. In addition because of the long service of some personnel, it was decided that when seven stars were worn, the bottom row would contain five, instead of the customary four.



**One of the six-star Length-of-Service panels suggested by Charles C. Sharp.**

On March 20, 1957, Amendment No.3 authorized the use of 12-ounce Dacron-wool material for summer uniforms, as well as a new cap for the Winter Patrol Uniform. The new cap, similar to a hat bearing the "North King" trade name, was for wear in areas of extreme cold. This cap was fur lined in a "beaver brown" color with adjustable earflaps and embroidered NPS insignia on the front. The standard ski cap was retained for use in less extreme areas.

Badges were to be worn on the pocket flap of the shirt when a coat was not worn. Amendment No.5 (May 9, 1958) changed this location to above the pocket. Unfortunately, the badge proved to be too heavy for the lightweight material used for the shirts, so the design of the shirts was changed to incorporate a reinforcement above the pocket to accommodate the badge. Old style shirts could be worn until the following June 1, creating a situation where badges were being worn on shirts in two different locations, even in the same park.

Apparently the incorporation of the uniform regulations in the NPS Administrative Manual was not satisfactory, because in 1959 a new format was inaugurated. On December 2 the National Park Service Uniforms Handbook was issued. It was to become fully effective on January 1, 1961. The new regulations not only gave the regulations (when, what and how to wear) and specifications for uniform dress, but a somewhat abbreviated history of National Park Service Uniforms; definitions of terms; hints on the care and maintenance of uniforms (use clear nail polish to retard buttons from tarnishing); posture (protruding stomachs and slumped shoulders constitute being out of uniform); list of current uniform suppliers; etc.



**Conrad Louis Wirth,  
Director, National Park  
Service, 1951-1964**  
*NPSHPC-Abbie Rowe photo-  
HFC#1960A*

The Regulations and Specifications section begin with a message from Director Conrad L. Wirth. This set the tone for the in-depth detail of the following instructions.

"Despite the excellent appearance our uniformed force makes at many areas, there does exist a casual attitude about the wearing of the National Park Service uniform at many other areas. We find people (including superintendents) who should be in uniform not wearing the uniform. We find others not wearing the proper uniform, or wearing it carelessly. We find them worn with ornaments, tie pins, and various unauthorized lapel buttons or other insignia. We have said very little about this in the past, but now we are beginning to get criticism from people outside the Service.

"It is time to correct the uniform situation throughout the Service, and to follow through and see that it stays corrected. The uniform identifies us. It can and should be worn proudly and, now that annual uniform allowances help bear the costs, added emphasis should be given to wearing it properly.

"I wish to point out that it is the responsibility of the superintendents to scrutinize the uniform of each individual to see that every detail is correct in accordance with regulations; that it is worn when required; and that it is worn properly, without unauthorized additions or decorations. Superintendents have authority to decide when the uniform dress coat shall be worn.

"We realize there will be problems, nevertheless we are expecting superintendents to meet the

situation and emphasize it by individual inspections and comments. The wearing of the uniform is an official--not a personal matter. Regional directors will observe the situation at each area and assist when necessary. I feel certain of your complete cooperation."

The manual goes on to denote responsibilities and various methods to achieve uniformed employee compliance to the regulations.

The history section ends with "In the words of former Superintendent Frank Pinkley, "The National Park service Uniform can and does build morale in the man who wears it, and prestige in the eyes of the public--when it is worn by the right man."

Some of the definitions in the new manual are interesting.

Standard was no longer used since all uniforms authorized were standard for the circumstances.

Uniform denoted only men's uniform. Women's uniforms were described separately.

Dirty-Work Clothing meant no prescribed uniform. Civilian clothing devoid of any official NPS garments or accessories that would identify wearer as a park employee was to be worn when doing dirty or messy work, including small fire suppression duty. (The work uniform was to worn when fighting large fires, where NPS recognition was desired.)

This last one is especially fascinating. It would seem the Service didn't want the public to know the rangers got their hands dirty.

Since the employees purchased their own clothing, the handbook went into great detail as to the style and material of the various uniform articles. Suppliers were required to attach a "guarantee label" on the clothing and equipment they furnished to Service personnel, certifying that the article met NPS standards. Another innovation was the mention in the specifications of various suppliers names whose uniform articles were judged to set the standard.

The "handbook" brought with it a number of changes and a few new articles of clothing. The hat remained the same, except that now the "dents" were being blocked in at the factory. This made for a more uniform appearance. In addition, a new straw hat was added to be worn with the summer uniform in extreme heat or very hot and humid climates. The life expectancy of the straw hat was one or at the most two years. A transparent plastic hat-covering (similar to Eldon Rain Hat Protector No. 3000) for protecting both styles of hat was included.



**Ranger with hikers along trail of Mt. Le Conte, Great Smoky Mts NP, 1960.** Ranger is wearing his badge on his shirt above his left pocket. He is also wearing the pith helmet although it had been eliminated from the regulations on September 18, 1953.

*NPSHPC-Jack Boucher photo-HFC#C60-JB-387*

---

---



**Roger Allen, superintendent, Everglades National Park, 1967.** Allen is wearing the standard ranger straw hat with the pine cone version of the hatband.

*NPSHPC-HFC#91-5*

---

---



**Ranger James E. Putman and a friendly opossum, c.1968.** Putman is wearing the rain cover for his hat. He is also wearing the 1960 nametag and 1968 badge.

*NPSHPC-HFC#96-1347*

---

---

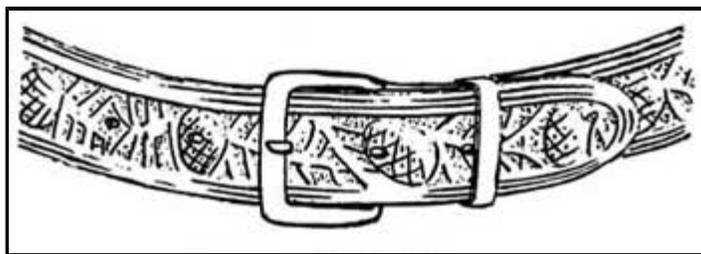
Although neither the regulations or previous amendments address it, the dress cap was not included in the 1961 regulations. Apparently the straw hat superceded it.

The fur hat for extreme cold areas was changed from brand name "North King" to "Alaska Cap". (Eddie Bauer, Seattle, Washington, or its equal) The new cap was specified to be "Forestry green with beaver mouton fur [31] trim, down insulated. Mouton fur trim to turn down to protect neck and ears. Concealed drawstring to provide exact adjustment of head size."

The coat, while appearing to be the same, had several changes as well. A badge holder (two silk corded loops 3/8" wide, sewed to left breast pocket pleat, 1-1/4" apart, lower loop 2" from bottom of pocket) were sewn to the left breast pocket pleat. The pockets now had three pointed flaps (earlier flaps were rounded on outside corners) and the top pocket flaps were stitched down all around so pockets could not be used. All buttons were to be removable, fastened with bodkin, [32] ring or similar device.

Trousers remained the same with the exception of the back pocket flaps having concealed buttons. (no stitching was to show on flap)

A new "embossed" belt was specified for uniformed personnel. Unofficially, it was felt the billeted belts accented "ranger pots" and the new style cut a "trimmer" figure. The new belt remained 1-1/2 inches wide, but now the buckle was the full width of the belt and the "USNPS" was eliminated. This, with minor alterations remains the same belt used today.



**Embossed leather belt, 1961.** Color, cordovan.  
*NPSHC-HFC RG Y55-1961 Uniform Regulations*

---

---

Overshoes were added to the dress uniform. They could be either plain black rubbers or plain black galoshes type with four buckles or zipper.

The white shirt was eliminated as part of the dress uniform. All shirts would now be gray. A reinforcement was added above the left pocket to accommodate the badge. Three different styles of pocket flaps were authorized with a pencil pocket in left pocket. (Lavigne, Miami, Florida - #950ff or #950jr (short sleeves) A crease resistant, nylon fortified rayon, topical weave shirt was optional for wear with dress uniform when coat was not worn. (B.B. McGinnis)

Official four-in-hand necktie was now dark green (Wembleytown shade 3Z61 or equal) worsted wool, 3 inches wide at widest point. It is interesting to note that even though the regulations specify a "four-in-hand" tie, in Care and Maintenance they suggest using a Windsor knot.

A new waterproof raincoat with optional rain leggings was introduced. Both were made of forest green nylon fabric with Butyral [33] (or equal) covering on inside. Coat was a 3-button fly-front design (buttons do not show) with raglan [34] shoulders, slash pockets cut through and a one-piece detachable outer jacket with set-in sleeves and badge holder. (Jacket resembles a cape with sleeves) Leggings were without cuffs but with straps and loops for attaching to trouser belt. Both came with their own carrying case.

The overcoat and trench coat were replaced by a storm coat. This coat resembled the trench coat in design with a cape attached to the back. But instead of waterproof gabardine, the new coat was constructed of Zelan treated forest green nylon canvas. For warmth, a removable all-wool liner was attached to the inside by means of a Talon zipper. Coat also had a badge holder attached to the center of the left breast.

Plain cordovan-colored leather gloves or mittens were now optional wear. They had to be "without conspicuous ornamentation, buckles, or fancy stitching."

Unlike the dress uniform, the field uniform was to be worn where public contact was secondary, but where ready identification of the wearer as a National Park Service officer was necessary. It was designed to achieve uniformity, as well as withstand hard usage with the greatest degree of comfort possible, yet retain the advantage of quick identification of the wearer.



**Camp Schurman Dedication 8-18-63.** Butler is wearing quilted jacket and field cap with the applied USNPS patch.

*Left to right:* Rev. Victor McKee; John Simac, Protection Assistant; William J. Butler, Gorder Rasmussen

*NPSHPC-HFC#99-1*

---

In situations where no public contact was likely and the work was of an extremely dirty nature, or of a character in which identification was not desirable, the employee was to remove their uniform and wear completely nonuniform garments. Worn out or frayed items, no longer serviceable for uniform wear, could be worn for dirty-work clothes as long as they were devoid of any National Park Service identification. But items readily identifiable with the NPS, such as the hat (felt or straw), even though unserviceable, could not be worn.

Field uniforms were to be worn for assignments requiring rough work, such as back country or inner canyon patrol, hiking, rescues, horseback trips, research, fish planting, boundary, hunting season, or boat patrol, as well as supervisory fire fighting duties.

Uniformed employees now had two field jackets from which to choose. A lightweight (8.5-oz. twist twill cotton suiting - J.P. Stevens, style 2955 or D.S. Lavigne, No.4506) "Eisenhower" [35] style or a heavier (16 oz. orlon whipcord) one for colder weather. Both jackets had two patch pockets with button-down flaps (no pleats). The "Eisenhower" jacket had two buttons on belt for size adjusting.

The corresponding trousers were made from the same forest green material as the coats. They were without cuffs and had slit rear pockets. (no flaps) Trousers now began utilizing zipper flies.

Footwear became more liberal. Cordovan colored oxfords, or shoes; or work shoes, boots or hiking boots of any



**Frank [F.] Kowski, Director,  
Yosemite Training School,  
Yosemite National Park**

reasonable type, as the occasion demanded, could be worn. Cordovan or dark brown cowboy boots of conservative design were also authorized for horseback patrols.

In addition, any of the items pertaining to the dress uniform (overcoat, overshoes, gloves, etc.) could be worn as the situation dictated. Any of the parkas from the Winter Activities Uniform could also be worn when authorized by the superintendent.

Uniformed employees in parks with well established snow seasons, which attracted large numbers of visitors, performed duties involving public contact as a primary function in connection with patrolling ski slopes. Inspecting lifts, rendering first aid, transporting injured on ski slopes, as well as giving information, parking cars, directing traffic, etc. Specialized garments prescribed for wear by uniformed employees assigned to such duties had to be carefully considered to achieve uniformity in appearance, comfort, practicality, as well as availability at a reasonable cost.

The Winter Activities Uniform was to be used when made appropriate by weather conditions where public contact duties were an important element of the assignment, regardless of whether skiing is a part of the activities. On long cross-country ski trips when public contact was not a factor, the uniform was not required to be worn. Shirt, tie, and other garments regularly worn under the parka were optional. Style and material of ski trousers were optional as long as they were forest green to match the cap and parka.



**Irwin Wentz,**  
**maintenance,**  
**Everglades National**  
**Park, 1969.** Wentz is  
wearing the service  
cap with the inline  
white USNPS cap  
patch.  
*NPSHPC-HFC#69-*  
*308-80*

---

The cap was changed to a cotton and nylon pima, same material as parka. It had a 2-1/2 inch visor and a two piece top that fit the head snugly. For cold weather it could be ordered with cotton flannel lined flaps that turned up inside the hat when not used. There were to be no buttons, bows or other nonfunctional decorations on cap. USNPS in 3/4 inch gold letters was embroidered on the front above visor. Prior to the regulations becoming effective, Amendment No.1 July 13, 1960, changed the color of the letters from gold to silver (white) in order to conform to the color of the other ornamentation used on the uniform.

The ski parka was to be made from a moisture repellent processed (Zelon or equal) cotton pima [36] blend forestry green material. The unlined body was skirted (approximately coat length) with a waist drawstring. A full hood was permanently attached inside the collar with drawstring face opening and snaps at the throat. Elastic sleeve wrists provided a snug fit. Two zippered slash pockets were on the breast and a 9 inch zippered opening on each side of the double thickness back formed a large pocket or compartment extending down to the drawstring. Material, style and color was to conform to U.S. Forest Service specifications as manufactured by Sports Caster.

Commercially available trousers could be used as long as they were forestry green and of a wool or wool blend stretch fabric and of a conventional "downhill" design.

The peripheral articles of the dress uniform (raincoat, storm coat, etc.) could be worn with this

[now Albright Training Center, Grand Canyon National Park], 1960. Kowski is wearing the new green laminate nametag along with the older [1946-1960] badge.  
*NPSHPC-Jack E. Boucher*  
*photo-YOSE#60-1172*

---

---

uniform as needed, although socks were not to be visible above the footgear. The badge was to be worn only on the shirt when wearing the Winter Activities Uniform.

There was also optional Foul Weather Gear consisting of a nylon taffeta or heavyweight or insulated knee-length parka. These could be authorized by the superintendent to be worn with field uniform when required by conditions.

The 1961 regulations condensed the seven current badges to three: superintendent, rangers, and other uniformed personnel requiring a badge. Gone were the small round badges of the superintendent and assistant superintendent. Instead theirs and the ranger badges were of the same design, with the former being gold filled and the latter oxidized sterling silver. Sterling silver had been used to alleviate the unsightly appearance presented when the plating wore off the brass as before. Both had NATIONAL PARK RANGER on the top. Chief rangers now utilized the same badge as the rangers.



**These 3 badges were authorized by the 1961 Uniform Regulations, although they probably began to be issued in 1960.** They replaced the 7 styles being used at that time by rangers in the NPS. While at first glance they appear to be the same design as those issued previously, there are subtle differences.

*Left to right:* Superintendent & Asst. Superintendents (gold filled); Rangers (oxidized sterling silver); All other NPS personnel requiring a badge (oxidized sterling silver)

*NPSHC-HFCA Y55*

---

---

The third badge only had NATIONAL PARK SERVICE on the top and was used to replace all of the other badges utilized by uniformed personnel requiring this insignia.

At first glance, the new badges appeared to be the same as those previously used. However, now the eagle faced to the right and the circle surrounding it read UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR instead of NATIONAL PARK SERVICE/DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.



**Department of the Interior Length-of-Service pins.** All of the pins have a bronze finish with a colored enamel background.

The new regulations were approved in November, 1959, but were not released to the field until December 2, 1959, becoming effective on January 1, 1961. All of the above badges were probably introduced in the interim year.

Some of the uniform ornamentation came in for change as well. Even with the new star panels, the sleeves of the older employees had a very cluttered appearance. So it was

10 years-white; 20 years-red;  
30 years-blue; 40 years-green;  
50 years-black  
*NPSHC*

---

---

decided to eliminate all current National Park Service length-of-service decorations and replace them with a lapel pin used by the Department of the Interior. This pin came in ten-year increments with each advance having a different color as well as numerical designation. (10 = white, 20 = red, 30 = blue, etc.)

The intervening year between the issue of the new regulations and their taking effect brought forth questions and suggestions from the field. Most covered small items such as a word change or clarification of some passage, things that could be easily remedied. Other changes, however, required the approval of the Director. For instance, the regulations allowed the wearing of short-sleeve shirts without ties in "very hot and humid climates" and specifically mentioned the Southeast and the Everglades as illustrations. Two regional directors thought this uniform should also be allowed in the hot but dry southwestern desert areas. A medium-weight uniform was suggested to cover the areas whose climate and temperature fell between the lightweight and heavy uniforms then specified. [37]

To insure that uniformed employees did not "mix" uniforms, the old 19-oz. field jacket had been replaced by a new "Eisenhower" type made from Orlon and cotton. The theory was that since this material did not match that of the Class A uniform (wool elastique), the rangers would be less inclined to wear it for dress. However, Orlon and cotton are not moisture-repellent nor is the material warm enough for winter clothing. And since it was not practical to wear the uniform coat under a parka, especially when the assignment involved a great deal of activity, such as skiing, woolen ski trousers were authorized but not a jacket.

A number of parks brought this situation to the attention of Acting Regional Director Herbert Maier, who forwarded their comments to Lawrence F. Cook (Chief of Ranger Activities). He considered their arguments valid and thought that while "It would probably be desirable to specify some wool material other than elastique to insure obvious contrast . . . most permanent uniformed employees already have it in elastique." These jackets were rather expensive and readily available. Director Wirth approved the reinstatement of the wool jacket on April 6, 1961. along with its use restrictions. The regulations, however, were not amended until October 5, 1961. [38]

As with past regulations, these were also modified over the years to clarify and incorporate changes. Following are changes that directly effected the clothing worn by uniformed employees.

#### Amendment No.1 (July 13, 1960)

-Authorized the use of the field cap while in open boats, but it was to be replaced promptly by a regulation hat upon reaching land.

#### Amendment No.3 (October 5, 1961)

-Field jackets were now to all be made to "Eisenhower" style and could be made out of either cotton (8.5-9.5-oz.), orlon (16-oz.), dacron-rayon (8-9-oz., 55% dacron - 45% rayon) or wool elastique (16-19-oz). Field uniform use was extended to include winter activities and out-of-door activities during periods of cold and damp weather outside normal season of intensive visitor use. It was not to be worn while on official duty inside public offices, visitor centers, etc. except at ski or other similar sites. All

employees had to be dressed alike. (dress and field coats could not be mixed)

-Cap could now be made from wool or cotton and nylon.

-Sportscaster was the only company that furnished the parka used by the U.S. Forest Service. It would not take individual orders, only group orders submitted on official stationary.

Amendment No.4 (January 30, 1962)

Added a medium-weight (13-14-oz. all worsted gabardine Hamberger shade #813-1) uniform and trousers for those areas where the seasonal climate conditions make the regulation heavyweight (19-oz.) or light-weight (8-8-1/2-oz.) uniform impractical.

Release No.3 (April 17, 1962)

Approved personal protective clothing and safety equipment mandated for all employees engaged in work determined to be of a hazardous nature. Aluminum hardhats were issued under this order. They were painted a fluorescent orange with an arrowhead decal applied. A stripe or bar of a contrasting color could be applied to differentiate between the various divisions. (maintenance, construction, etc.)



**Harlan F. Daniel, [Dinosaur National Monument] 1965.**  
*NPSHPC-M. Woodbridge Williams photo-HFC#5768-35A*

---

---



**Park technician explaining prehistoric bone formations to Park Guide at Dinosaur National Monument. 1960's.**  
Technician is wearing a hardhat with the NPS arrowhead decal, although the hat appears to be either silver or white

rather than the fluorescent orange prescribed.  
*NPSHPC-HFC#5780-2-6*

---

---

#### Amendment No.5 (April 1, 1963)

Encouraged the wearing of the uniform at outside functions when NPS recognition was desirable, including meetings at which representatives of other agencies were in uniform.

As the required articles of clothing increased, so did the expense, so in early 1966 the uniform allowance was increased from \$100 to \$125. Now permanent rangers (with dress coat) would receive an initial \$125 when they were hired and \$125 (\$100 for women) [39] replacement allowance each year thereafter while in a position subject to the same uniform requirements. Rangers not required to have the dress coat received \$125.00 if men and \$100 if women, with replacement allowances of \$90 and \$80 respectively. Permanent employees authorized to wear the uniform on an occasional basis received a proportionally reduced amount of the annual allowance (25% for 1 to 65 days, 50% for 66 to 130; etc.). Less-than-full-time employees were paid their replacement allowance on a modified quarterly basis, as of the 15th or 30th day of the month, whichever occurred following their return to duty. [40]

On July 2, 1966, allowances were increased again. Now all rangers with dress coat received an allowance of \$125 with \$125 replacement; those without dress coat received \$125 with \$117 replacement if men and \$104 replacement if women. [41]

The year 1968 saw a huge emblematic shakeup in the National Park Service as well as the Department of the Interior.

Prior to World War II, while there was a steady stream of hardy visitors that drove to the national parks, a large number visited the western parks by railroad. Even though the parks, for the most part remained open with reduced staffs during the war, [42] the hostilities and resultant restrictions on pleasure travel, cut visitation drastically. Some of the parks were even used as training grounds or rest areas, with Yosemite having a hospital for the wounded GIs.

During the War park appropriations were slashed to the bone. Ten years after the war they were still a million dollars below the 1940 level, even though a number of new parks had been established. The automobile had come into its own and visitation to the park system was up three-fold. Time and traffic were turning the nation's parks into a shambles, sanitation was deplorable and the other utilities were taxed to the utmost.

This was the park system confronting Conrad L. Wirth when he became NPS director in 1951. Wirth initiated a ten-year program in 1956, entitled Mission 66, to revitalize the parks. This was "a comprehensive, long-range program undertaken to assure the American people that their priceless heritage of national parks, monuments, and historic shrines would be developed in a manner in keeping with their greatness, yet fully protected for the enjoyment and inspiration of future generations." [43] Facilities and exhibits showing the history and rationale of the parks were standardized. The target date for the completion of these improvements was 1966, the fiftieth Anniversary of the National Park Service.



**These two emblems were designed by Chermayeff & Geismar, Associates, New York.** The top one was used in an exhibit entitled PARKSCAPE designed to celebrate the NPS' 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and completion of MISSION 66 in 1966. Director Hartzog attempted to replace the arrowhead with this emblem. Secretary Udall adopted the bottom emblem as the new Department of the Interior seal in 1968. Both proved to be very unpopular in the field and only lasted until 1969.

*NPSHC-HFC RG Y55*

---

---

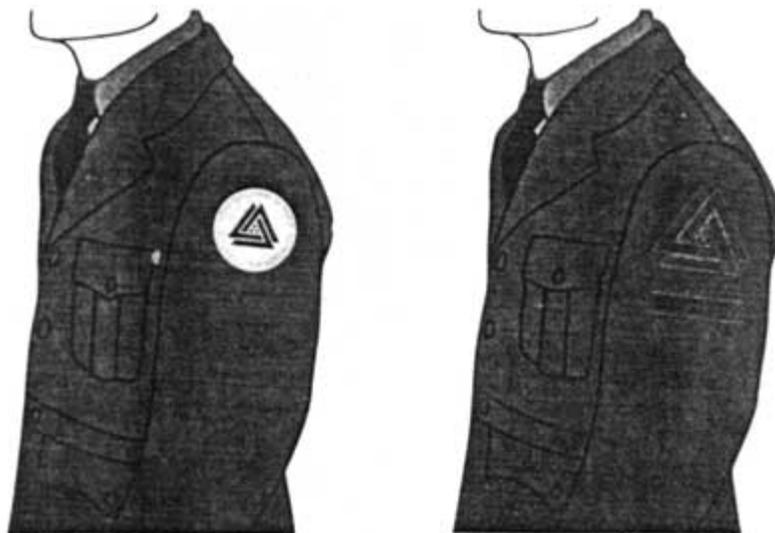
An exhibit entitled PARKSCAPE was erected in 1966 to celebrate the Service's birthday. This exhibit featured a conservation logo designed by Chermayeff and Geismar Associates, a well known New York design firm. It consisted of three triangles enclosing three balls. The former represented trees and mountains and the latter cultural remains. The same firm later designed a new seal for Interior with which Secretary Stewart L. Udall later supplanted the buffalo.

Following closely on the heels of Mission 66, Director George B. Hartzog, Jr. (1964-1972) came forth with a new agenda titled Parkscape U.S.A. One of it's facets was the upgrading and modernization of the image of the National Park Service image. Hartzog had become enamored with the logo used in the Parkscape exhibit and adopted it for his new program.

Hartzog used the occasion of an article in the July, 1966 *National Geographic* about the National Park System to launch his new program. At the time he assured employees that the Parkscape symbol would supplement rather than supplant the arrowhead.

However, when Secretary Udall adopted the new Interior seal in 1968, Hartzog seized the opportunity to replace the arrowhead with the Parkscape symbol. With the buffalo gone from the Interior seal, he rationalized, the arrowhead with its buffalo was no longer relevant. Field reaction to this move was unenthusiastic. The representational arrowhead was far better liked than the abstract Parkscape symbol.

Nevertheless, boards were made up by Chermayeff & Geismar showing how the new symbol would look on various articles of clothing, as well as on vehicles and signs.



**Design boards made by Chermayeff & Geismar to illustrate the appearance of the new emblem on the National Park Service ranger uniform.** Two styles were proposed.

*NPSHC-HFC RG Y55*

---

---

When these uniform drawings were shown around, the favorite response seemed to be that they would make the ranger look like a "Trekkie." [44]

On March 3, 1969, Acting Director Edward Hummel sent a memorandum to all regional directors ordering the removal of the arrowhead shoulder patch. "In keeping with the Director's desire to act positively on field suggestions, it has been decided that effective June 1, 1969, Service emblem shoulder and cap patches will not be worn on any National Park Service garments," he wrote.

However, before this unpopular directive could be implemented, Secretary Walter J. Hickel reinstated the buffalo seal. Hartzog thereupon reinstated the arrowhead as the official NPS emblem and continued its use as a patch in a memorandum dated May 15, 1969. Perhaps as a gesture to the few supporters of the Parkscape symbol, he simultaneously ordered its retention as the official NPS tie tack.

Since then the arrowhead has continued to be worn on the uniform and to enjoy strong acceptance among Service employees.

The eagle had been used in one form or the other as the center-piece for the ranger badge since 1906. When Interior changed to the "good hands" or "Allstate" [45] seal, the 1968 ranger badge was changed accordingly. The badges of the superintendents were still gold filled and the rangers sterling silver, although both were now of the same design.



**This "good hands" design badge (1968-1969) came about as a result of the 1968 change in the USDI seal.**

Neither that badge, nor the Department seal were ever very popular and both were changed to the buffalo in 1970. The materials remained the same as for the 1960 issues, gold fill and sterling silver respectively.

*NPSHC-HFC*

---

---

When the Department of the Interior reverted to the buffalo seal, the NPS badges were changed once again, but this time instead of an eagle the Interior buffalo seal was utilized and there was only one badge, gold, to be used by everyone requiring one.



**National Park Service  
Ranger Badge 1970-  
present**  
*NPSHC-HFC*



**National Park Service  
Nametag 1969-1981**  
*NPSHC-HFC*

The switch from the "good hands" USDI logo back to the buffalo seal affected the NPS badge as well. Now there was only one badge and it was to be worn by all NPS personnel requiring identification as a member of the National Park Service. The new regulations also changed the nametag. Now it was to be gold colored metal, 2 inches by 7/16 inches, with cordovan-colored letters.

---

---

Other than the emblem controversy, the decade of the 1960s was one of relative stability, for the men, if not for the women. (see Book No. 4 - "*Breeches, Blouses, and Skirts*"). It was a period of "tweaking" the regulations to better aid the ranger in filling their closets with apparel best suited for the performance of their duties.



**James L. Riddle, Virgin Islands National Park, 1970.**

Apparently, the new 1970 badges had not been issued yet, since he is still wearing the 1968 version. He is also wearing the 1960 green laminate nametag and small arrowhead patch on his cap.

*NPSHPC-Cecil W. Stoughton photo-HFC#70-142-3*

---

[<<< Previous](#)

[<<< Contents >>>](#)

[Next >>>](#)

# National Park Service

National Park Service Uniforms  
The Developing Years, 1932-1970

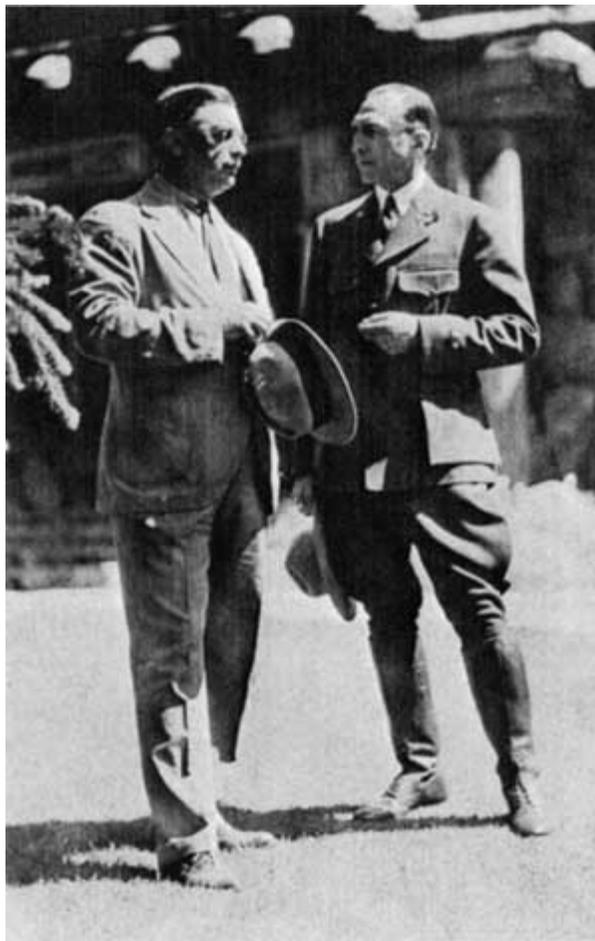


## PHOTO FILE



**"Asst. Ch Rangers Fred Johnson [left] and George Miller [center] and Forest Ranger Edwards [right] — W. Yell Fire, 1933."** Johnson is wearing a leather jacket and trousers, but Miller is in full dress, sans coat, while fighting the big 1933 fire at Yellowstone National Park. They look rather clean for such a dirty job, so they were probably only supervising the various details.

*NPSHPC-YELL#130,147*



**Director [Arno B.] Cammerer (1933-1940)**  
**and Superintendent Owen A. Tomlinson**  
(1923-1941) at Mount Rainier National Park,  
1933. Tomlinson is wearing 2 stars on his  
sleeve for his 10 years service.

*NPSHPC-Natt Noyes Dodge Collection-  
HFC#86-235*

---

---



**Ranger force at Yellowstone National Park, 1936.** This image was probably taken when Edmund B. Rogers (1936-1956) went to Yellowstone to become superintendent, taking over from John W. Emmert (Act'g Supt-2/25/36-5/24/36).

Emmert (4<sup>th</sup> from right) is wearing his small round superintendent's badge, while Rogers (4<sup>th</sup> from left) has yet to put his on.

*NPSHPC-YELL#130,346*

---

---



**Oregon Caves National Monument, Oregon. R[ichard].  
W. Rowley, Oregon Caves' head guide from 1910 to  
1951, at cave entrance. October 1, 1936.** Rowley must  
not be expecting to meet any visitors as he cuts a "chaw"  
off his plug. The only NPS clothing he's wearing is his hat  
and possibly breeches.

*NPSHPC-ORCA#7*

---

---



**Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming. 38<sup>th</sup> President of the United States Gerald Ford as a seasonal NPS ranger, summer 1936.**  
*NPSHPC-HFC#73-603-3*

---

---



**This unidentified ranger from Death Valley National Monument is wearing khaki breeches, white shirt and plaid tie. January 15, 1936.**  
*NPSHPC-DEVA#3187*

---

---



**Superintendent Edmund B. Rogers, Yellowstone National Park — 1939.**  
Rogers is wearing the NPS green raincoat and cap.  
*NPSHPC-Thomas J. Allen collection-HFC#R.2*

---

---



**Group at Tunnel Tree.** This photograph from the early 1940s shows some of the GIs that trained in Yosemite National Park. The ranger in the foreground is wearing his Class A uniform. The length-of-service insignia on his sleeve (3 stars) denotes at least 15 years of service.

*NPSHPC-HFC#AA17*



**This badge was submitted by Frank F. Kowski in response to the Bureau's solicitation to the field for new designs for a possible badge change in**

**1955.** Three examples were produced, but Washington decided to remain with the then current design.  
*NPSHC-HFC*

---

---



**The Mission 66 Committee.**

*Left to right:* Howard Stagner, naturalist; Bob Coates, economist; Jack Dodd, forester; Bill Carnes, landscape architect and chairman; Harold Smith, fiscal; Roy Appleman, historian; Ray Freeman, landscape architect-land planner  
*NPSHPC-HFC#98-29*

---

---

A committee was selected in 1956 to implement National Park Service Director Conrad L. Wirth's program for upgrading the Nation's parks and formulating a system of continuing growth for the future. This was a ten year program with a target date of 1966, the 50th Anniversary of the National Park Service. Wirth felt that "it would be a good golden anniversary if everything was in acceptable condition by that time." They also reasoned that everything they had in mind was contained in two words, "Mission 66." The exhibit, entitled "Parkscapes of America", that was set up to celebrate the anniversary and the end of the program inadvertently caused the Brou-ha-ha over the NPS emblem when Director George B. Hartzog became enamoured over the exhibit's triangle and ball logo and attempted to have it replace the arrowhead.



**A wide-angle shot of the "Parkscapes" exhibit that was set up in a hall at the Department of the Interior.**  
*NPSHPC-Frank Schelle photo-HFC#M/A 0025-2*

---



**Ranger Uniform, Crater Lake National Park, 1960.** This is a good illustration of a ranger wearing the 1947 uniform.  
*NPSHPC-Jack E. Boucher Photo-HFC#60-JB-945*

---

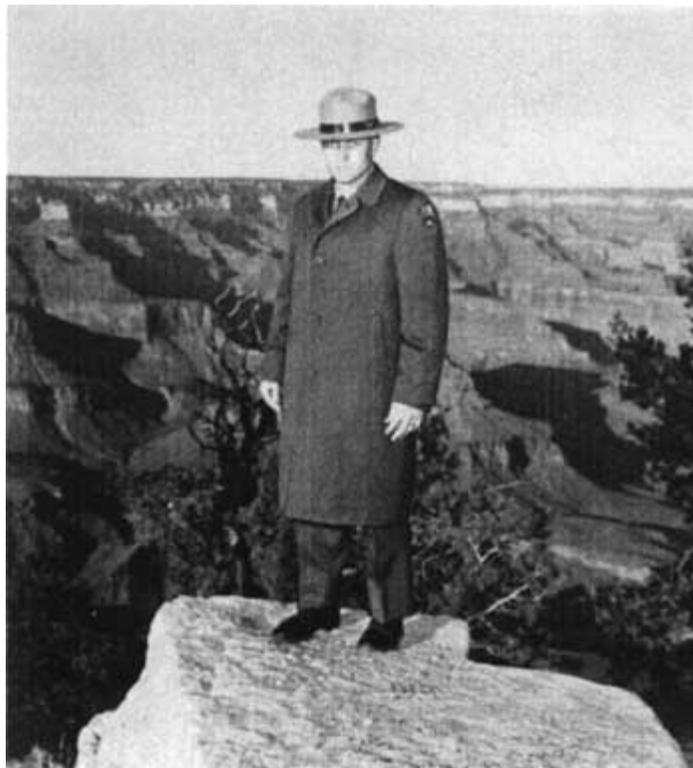


**Park Ranger on Patrol, Sequoia National Park, 1960.** Most rangers no longer wore breeches, even on horse patrol and the jacket had become standard.

*NPSHPC-Jack E. Boucher Photo-HFC#C60-JB-684*

---

---



**Ranger wearing overcoat, 1967.** This unidentified ranger is wearing the 1960 overcoat at the Horace M. Albright Training Center at Grand Canyon National Park.

*NPSHPC-HFC#HOAL-NU-B*

---



**Jefferson National Expansion Memorial  
Dedication of the Gateway Arch, St. Louis,**

**Missouri with Vice-President Humphrey officiating on May 5, 1968.** These two rangers attending the ceremony are wearing the official raincoat and hat cover.

*NPSHPC-JEFF#68-JEF-P&E-889-S-19A*

---

---

---

[<<< Previous](#)

[<<< Contents >>>](#)

[Next >>>](#)

---

nps-uniforms/5/photofile.htm  
Last Updated: 01-Apr-2016

# National Park Service

National Park Service Uniforms  
The Developing Years, 1932-1970



## NOTES/BIBLIOGRAPHY

---

### Endnotes

---

1 Drawing: National Park Service History Collection, Record Group Y55, "Raincoat", Harpers Ferry Center, Harpers ferry, West Virginia (Collection hereinafter cited as HFC/Drawings).

2 The Army dress uniform at this time consisted of a dark green coat with light colored trousers with a pinkish tint, commonly called "pinks".

3 Memorandum, Cammerer to all superintendents and custodians, Feb. 23, 1935, National Park Service History Collection, Record Group Y55, Harpers Ferry Center, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, General uniform correspondence (Collection hereinafter cited as HFC/GC).

4 Monthly reports, 1934: March, pp. 142-145; April, pp. 203-207; May, p. 260, Southwestern Monuments Monthly Reports, National Park Service Archives, Record Group Y55, Harpers Ferry Center, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. (Collection hereinafter cited as Southwestern)

5 Jodhpurs originated in India (c.1899) and became popular through their use by the British Army. They are a riding breeches cut full through the hips and close fitting from the knee to the ankle.

6 Memorandum, Cammerer to All Field Offices, Jan. 14, 1935, HFC/GC.

7 Memorandum, Tolson to All Field Offices, Aug. 9, 1935, *ibid.*

8 Memorandum, Hillory A. Tolson to all National Park Service Offices, Mar. 2, 1935, *ibid.*

9 Monthly report, April, 1935, p.208, Southwestern.

10 Fairchild's Dictionary of Textiles, 1979, defines cravenette as a "Registered trademark of Crown Metro Inc., The Cravenette Company Division, for a durable and renewable water repellent treatment applied to woolen and worsted fabrics and apparel. The term was coined by a Bradford, England, manufacturer named Wiley who, for want of a better name, used the street on which he lived, Craven Street, London. The original method was discovered about 60 years ago."

11 Memorandum, Arthur E. Demaray to All Field Offices, May 26, 1936, HFC/GC.

12 This was a shortening of "Belgian Belly", named after the beautiful pastel reddish buff color of the underfur of the Belgian hare from which some of the finer hats were felted.

13 Memorandum, Tolson to all Field Offices, Sept. 16, & Oct. 8, 1936, *ibid.*

14 Memorandum, Tolson to All Field Offices, Oct. 9, 1936, *ibid.*

15 Memoranda, Demaray to all field officers, Sept. 3, 1938, *ibid*; Tolson to all field officers, Nov. 10, 1938, HFC/GC.

16 Memorandum, Washington Office to All Field Offices, July 27, 1939, National Park Service History Collection (Record Group Y55), Harpers Ferry Center, National Park Service uniform regulations (Collection hereinafter cited as Regulations/(date)).

17 Letter, John W. Emmert to Preston, April 10, 1940, National Park Service History Collection (File 455) Yellowstone National Park, "Rangers-Misc Reports, Part 2, Jan. 1, 1940-Dec.31, 1943" (Collection hereinafter cited as Yellowstone/MR); Memoranda, Preston to Emmert, April 15, 1940, & July 18, 1940, *ibid*.

18 The color change was probably due to the realization that the darker color would negate much of the insulation qualities afforded by the pith helmet.

19 Memorandum, John C. Preston to Lemuel A. Garrison, 21 May, 1941, National Park Service History Collection (Record Group Y55), Harpers Ferry Center, National Park Service Uniform Committee, Personal file of Lemuel A. "Lon" Garrison, File A-66 (Collection hereinafter cited as Garrison)

20 Memorandum, Garrison to Lawrence C. Hadley, May 28, 1941, *ibid*.

21 Letter, Tolson to Preston, May 7, 1941, *ibid*; Memorandum, Preston to Director, NPS, May 28, 1941, *ibid*.

22 Letters, Region I parks to Garrison, Oct. to Dec., 1941, *ibid*.

23 Memorandum, Preston to Uniform Committee, Mar. 27, 1942, *ibid*; Letters, Fechheimer Brothers Company to Preston, Mar. 24, 1942, *ibid*; Fechheimer to Preston, Mar. 28, 1942, *ibid*.

24 Memoranda, Preston to NPS Uniform Committee, Mar. 27, 1942, *ibid*; Tolson to Preston, Mar. 31, 1942, *ibid*.

25 Memorandum, Preston to Director, NPS, July 2, 1942, *ibid*.

26 Memorandum, Preston to NPS Uniform Committee, Oct. 20, 1942, *ibid*.

27 Memorandum, H. Maier to All Region IV areas, Aug. 20, 1942, *ibid*.

28 Memorandum, Tolson to Regional Director, Apr. 1, 1943, Yellowstone/MR.

29 Conversation between Nash Castro and author, June 23, 1998.

30 Memorandum, Tolson to All Field Finance Offices, June 19, 1956, National Park Service History Collection (Record Group Y55), "Federal Employee Uniform Allowance", Harpers Ferry Center, Collection hereinafter cited as FEUA)

31 Processed sheepskin that has been sheared and dyed to resemble beaver or seal.

32 Webster defines a bodkin as "A blunt needle with a large eye for drawing tape or ribbon through a loop or hem." However, I believe in this case, they refer to the wire clip used quite often to secure buttons on coats.

33 An acetal (waterproofing compound) of butyraldehyde.

34 Raglan is a coat with sleeves that extend to the neckline with slanted seams from the underarm to the neck.

35 This jacket was based on a similar style made popular by General Dwight David Eisenhower while he was supreme commander of allied forces in Europe during World War II.

36 Pima cotton is a fiber of exceptional strength and firmness that was developed in the southwestern U.S. by selection and breeding of Egyptian cottons.

37 Memoranda, Lawrence F. Cook to Director, NPS, March 10, 1960, HFC/GC; Cook to Director, August 30, 1960, *ibid*.

38 Memorandum, Cook to Director, NPS, March 20, 1961, HFC/GC.

39 This disparity was due to the woman's uniform, at that time, being less expensive than that of the man.

40 Memorandum, Clarence P. Montgomery to All Field Offices, Jan. 13, 1966, FEUA.

41 Memorandum, Robert R. Lovegren to All Field Offices, Jan. 13, 1966, FEUA.

42 As in 1918, women were hired to fill the vacancies left when the men joined, or were drafted into the military. These were usually the wives of rangers or locals. A number of women were employed as fire guards throughout the Park system.

43 Pamphlet, MISSION 66 in Action, National Park Service, 1957.

44 This term was used to denote a member or fan of "Star Trek", a popular TV program of the period.

45 Vince Gleason, then chief of Publications, National Park Service had suggested the hands motif as an abstract symbolizing that the Nation's natural resources were in good hands. The derogatory appellation "Good Hands" or "Allstate" badge resulted from its resemblance to the Allstate Insurance's showing an open pair of hands with the slogan, "You're in good hands with Allstate."

46 Memorandum, Hillary A. Tolson to All Field Offices, Aug. 9, 1935, National Park Service History Collection, (Record Group Y55) General Correspondence.

## **Bibliography**

---

*The information contained in this volume was gleaned mainly from the National Park Service History Collection (NPSHC) housed at the Harpers Ferry Center Library. This collection contains many textual sub-collections, such as monthly reports, personal histories, published and unpublished materials, etc., as well as an extensive collection of artifacts, all relating to the history and culture of the National Park Service. Definitions extracted from dictionaries covering specific subjects, along with personal interviews served to flesh out the information obtained from the NPSHC.*

Fairchild's Dictionary of Textiles, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, 1979, Dr. Isabel B. Wingate, Fairchild Publishing Co., New York

National Park Service History Collection, Document Group Y55, "Uniforms of the National

Park Service", Harpers Ferry Center, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

National Park Service Pamphlet, "MISSION 66 in Action", 1957

Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary, 1987, Merriam-Webster Inc., Springfield, Massachusetts'

---

[<<< Previous](#)

[<<< Contents >>>](#)

[Next >>>](#)

---

nps-uniforms/5/notes.htm  
Last Updated: 01-Apr-2016

# National Park Service

National Park Service Uniforms  
The Developing Years, 1932-1970



## APPENDIX A

*The following list of uniform manufacturers and dealers in uniform equipment was included in a memorandum sent by Assistant Director Hillory A. Tolson to All Field Offices on August 9, 1935. Those marked by an astrick (\*) are known to have furnished uniform equipment to the National Park Service.*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Uniform Manufacturers and Dealers in Uniform Equipment**

(As of August, 1935)

Artvogue Neckwear Company	San Francisco, CA
R. Break, Tailor	Livingston, MT
Brooks Clothing Company	Los Angeles, CA
Browning King Corporation	New York, NY
J. Cohen & Sons	Seattle, WA
The Craddock Company	Kansas City, MO
Crown Uniform Company	New York, NY
Desmonds	Los Angeles, CA
A. Dubois & Sons	New York, NY
*Fechheimer Brothers Company	Cincinnati, OH
M.L. French	Bangor, ME
*Gemsco	New York, NY
Glickman & Company	Los Angeles, CA
G.K. George Uniform Company, Inc.	New York, NY
Geraghty & Company	Chicago, IL
J.T. Hardeman Hat Company	Seattle, WA
Harding Uniform & Regalia Company	Boston, MA
Hart, Schaffner & Marx	Chicago, IL
*Hastings Clothing Company	San Francisco, CA
H.L. Hines	Washington, DC
Hirsh, Weintraub & Company	Philadelphia, PA
Kirkendall Boot Company	Omaha, NE
D. Klein & Brother, Inc.	Philadelphia, PA
*Lilley-Ames Company	Columbus, OH
Maier-Lavaty Company	Chicago, IL
B.B. McGinnis	Merced, CA
Nifty Uniform Company	Perkasie, PA

Pettibone Brothers Manufacturing Co.	Cincinnati, OH
Phillips Tailoring Company	Klamath Falls, OR
E.V. Price & Company	Chicago, IL
Jacob Reed's Sons	Philadelphia, PA
Rosenfield Uniform Company	Boston, MA
Juster Brothers, Inc.	Minneapolis, MN
Prom Shirt Company	New York, NY
Bernard Schrag & Company, Inc.	New York, NY
*Sigmund Eisner Company	Red Bank, NJ
H. Singer Company	Baltimore, MD
*Smith-Gray Corporation	New York, NY
Storrs-Schaefer Company	Cincinnati, OH
Sydmaur Uniform Company	Philadelphia, PA
Tegarden Uniform Company	Los Angeles, CA
Western Manufacturing Company	San Francisco, CA
Wherrie Tailoring & Woolen Company	Portland, OR [ <a href="#">46</a> ]

---

[<<< Previous](#)

[<<< Contents >>>](#)

[Next >>>](#)

# National Park Service

National Park Service Uniforms  
The Developing Years, 1932-1970



## APPENDIX B

*The following is the only complete set of National Park Service Uniform Regulations, other than Office Order 204, revised, June 7, 1932, found from the 1930s. They are shown in their entirety, as printed. No corrections, punctuation, spelling or otherwise has been made, to give the flavor of the period.*

\*\*\*\*\*

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE UNIFORMS REGULATIONS

OFFICE ORDER NO.324

April 13, 1936

The fundamental purposes of the uniform are to symbolize the National Park Service and to identify the wearer to Park visitors. Accordingly, its use must be limited to the service field personell whose chief duties are to contact visitors and to protect the parks and monuments. The director, however, may approve specific exemptions with respect to the wearing of the uniform.

The following officials and employees of the National Park Service, whether permanent of temporary, shall wear the standard uniform when assigned to duty in any of the National Parks as well as all Historical Parks, National monuments, and other open areas that are open to tourists and visitors.

Superintendents, Assistant superintendents, Custodians rangers, Naturalists, Ranger-Naturalists, Military Park Guards, Museum attendants, Hot Springs National Park Policemen, and other National Park and national monuments employees whose duties are chiefly to attract and to contact park visitors and to protect visitors and to protect the areas adminstered by the National Park Service.

The Uniform is not to be worn by an official or employee when he is not on a duty status.

Emergency Conservation Work and other Emergency employees, when assigned to regular Public Contract service shall wear the Uniform when specifically authorized by the Director.

No other employees of the National Park Service shall wear the Standard Uniform.

ECW supervisory personnel shall wear the ECW authorized uniform. Other temporary employees or members of other Branches of the National Park Service may wear the special uniform Authorized by the Director, but shall not wear the standard uniform or Insignia prescribed for permanantly appointed or regular

National Park Service officials and employees.

## I. STANDARD UNIFORM

The standard uniform consists of the following garments and the authorized accessories is prescribed for all formal wear and ordinary usage:

- A. Hat            Stiff brim 3 to 3-1/2 inches wide, and 4 to 4-5/8 inch crown, side color. Hat to be worn with the approved leather. Hat band and two silver Sequoia cones.
- Width of brim and hieght of crown of hat may be varied, within these dimensions, to suit the size or conformation of the wearer.
- B. Cap            The approved NPS cap of the same material as uniform with approved chin strap fastened with two silver Sequoia cones is prescribed for Rangers assigned to Motor Cycle duty
- C. Coat            Three or four button Military sack having open collar, Pinch back, two breast pockets, pleated, and two side pockets, bellows type; all outside pockets to have flaps, fastened with small service buttons.
- The coat shall be worn on all normal occasions. It may be dispenced with only in hot weather when the superintendent or the custodian authorizes it.
- D. Breeches      Of the same material as coat; full peg with two side or top pockets, two hip pockets ; and one watch pocket ; buttoned at the knee openings, with or without knee reinforcement, and double seat of the same material.
- Breeches are considered as essential part of the formal uniform.
- E. Trousers      Of same material as coat, straight leg, with I-1/2 inch cuff, two side, two hip, and one watch pocket ; may be worn in lieu of breeches;
- (1) In such eastern National Parks, Military Parks, National Monuments, and in other areas when extrememly warm weather prevails for considerable periods.  
                         (2) Policemen at Hot Springs National Park.  
                         (3) By superintendents, Custodians, and other members of the field personnel on informal occasions.
- F. Field Boots    Leather field boots of medium weight, with laced instep and laced side at top shall be worn with breeches.
- F-1. Shoes        Oxford type with plain dark brown socks and they may be worn with trousers.
- G. Shirts          Collar attached type of flannel, Wool; Gabardine: or of cotton material, steel gray color, for all normal duty.
- A white shirt and collar is authorized for formal occasions only.
- A field shirt with collar attached, shoulder straps, two large plaited breast pockets fastened with buttons, steel grey, is prescribed for wear without coats, Such shirts may be flannel, Gaberiadine or cotton material.

- H. Tie Four in hand baratheia silk, full wool lined, dark green.
- I. Overcoat Double breasted, four button Mackinaw type with convertaible collar, two side patch pockets and sewed on half belt in back.
- Coat may be unlined or lined with fleece, or any other materail.
- J. Raincoat Double breasted, full belt, set-in-sleeves, calflength of light weight weather-proof material such as alligater cloth or olive green color is authorized.
- J-1. raincoat Double breasted, calflength, trench coat style with raglan sleeves, full belt and diagonial pockets of forestry green, Weather-proof Gaberiadine.

For all formal occassions such as inspections, official receptions, etc. the standard uniform for Superintendents, shall consist of : Hat, Coat, Breeches, Field Boots, steel grayor white shirt, Dark green tie, and all proper insignia and assessories.

The overcoat shall be considered and essential part of the formal when the weather conditions require its use.

## II. FATIGUE UNIFORM

The fatigue uniform is prescribed for informal wear such as patrel and general field duty, fatigue use, and when the purpose of the service is other than public contact, or when the nature of the duty is such that the standard uniform would be inappropriate. It shall consist of;

- A. Hat The regulation hat and hat band.
- B. Jacket The National Park Service Field Jacket is slightly longer than the conventinial cossack, but shorter than the cruiser type jacket. It has a waist band approximately two inches wide with adjustable buckles at the side. The Jacket fastens in the front with full length talon fasteners, and has two large plaited breast pockets with flaps fastened with small regulation buttons. From the top of the breast pockets over the shoulder s and full length of back, material is double. The lower part of the back provides a large pocket, closing with talon fasteners on each side under the arms.
- C. Breeches The regulation breeches
- D. Trousers Regulation trousers. Acanvas or any other waterproof material trousers of forestry green or light tan may be authorized when field conditions make this type of garment desireable.
- E. Shirt The regulation shirt, either of wool or of cotton.
- F. Tie The necktie may or may not be worn as diricted by Supt.
- G. Boots Heavey leatherlace boots -10 -16 inch top or standard field boot.

Badges or collar ornaments, and rank Insignia shall be worn on the field jacket and on shirts when worn without coats or jackets. In the same position as prescribed for the coat and o vercoat of the standard uniform.

## III WINTER SPORTS PATROL UNIFORM

For the antional parks and ither areas haveing established winter sports seasons the following articles of uniform are prescribed for wear by rangers and other employees whose duties require thier presence with visitors at snow sports activities and who are designated to wear

them by the supt. Or custodian.

- A. Cap            Ski cap type of NPS design, haveing adjustable ear flaps and with embriodered NPS insignia on the front.
- B. Jacket        The NPS field or fatigue jacket.
- C. Trousers      Ski Trousers with full length cuffs, 20 inches or larger leg and knit ankle cuff.
- D. Boots         Ski boots of leather of conventional design.
- E. Socks         Heavey wool with dark green top, or in lieu of socks, olive green or steel grey ski leggings or spats.
- F. [this is supposed to be Parka]         With or without hood, light wieght weather-proof material either waist or Knee length, of forestry green or steel grey.

#### IV. MATERIALS

Forestry green elastique cloth, I6 to 22 ounce weight is prescribed for cap, coat, breeches, trousers, and jacket of standard, fatigue, and winter sports uniforms. All articles of a suit shall be of the same weight material.

For use in the areas where climatic conditions require a lighter weight uniform for comfort, light weight gabardine or tropical worsted cloth of about I2 oune weight is authorized for the various articles of the standard and fatigue uniforms, subject however to approval of the director for each field unit concerned.

For stry green elastique cloth, 22 to 30 ounce weight is prescribed for overcoat material.

Forestry or olive green patened waterproof cloth such as Alligator, -forestry green cravenetted gaberadine, I2 to I8 ounces wieght are also prescribed for raincoat material.

Flannel, wool Gabardine, twill, broadcloth, or poplin cloth of steel grey color are authorized for shirts or shiting materials.

Dark green Barathea silk with full wool lining is prescribed for the necktie,

First quality calf skin or horsehide leather is recommended for field boots, shoes, hat bands and chin straps. All leather articles and accessories shall be uniform cordovan color.

#### V. BADGES, BUTTONS, COLLAR ORNAMENTS, INSIGNIAS, HAT\*BANDS CHIN STRAPS, AND BELTS

A. BADGES Prescribed for use by Superintendents, Custodians Rangers, and fire guards as follows.

(1) Superintendents and Custodians, Round badge, made of gold.

(2) Chief rangers and assistant Chief rangers, Shield Badge, gold plated.

(3) Park Rangers, Ranger Naturalists guards, and Park Rangers (temporary) shield badge, (Nickel plated)

(3-a) Park guards, same as Park Ran. With word guard

instead of "Ranger".

(4) Fire Guards -- Shield badge, Bronze metal, numbered serially.

Park Naturalists may be issued ranger badges when they enforce Park regulations.

Superintendents, Custodians, rangers, and fire guards shall wear thier badges on thier uniforms at all times, The badge shall be worn ove rthe left the pleat of the left breast pocket, Immediately below the button on coats and fatigue jackets, It shall be worn displayed on approximately the same position on field shirts and overcoats.

ALL BADGES SHALL REMAIN THE PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT

A deposit of [\$]5.00 will be required of temporary rangers and fire guards to whom the badges are issued. This sum will be returned-----Upon surrender of the badge for which it was deposited. If the badge should be lost, an additional deposit of \$5.00 will be required before another badge may be issued.

- A.-1 BELT      Forestry green, web-waist belt, 1-1/8 inches wide, with buckle of a design approved by the Director, is prescribed for wear when breeches are worn without coat.
- B. BUTTONS    Buttons of three sizes, large for overcoats, meium for coats, and small for pocket flaps, of bronze, and of a design as approved by the Director are prescribed.
- C. COLLAR      Of rolled gold or gilt of a design approved by the Director shall be
- ORNAMENTS    worn on coats, overcoats, fatigue jackets, and field shirts, one device shall be attached in a horizontal position to each side of the collar.
- D. RANGER      Indicating the various grades, is prescribed for wear by Rangers
- INSIGNIA       only. The Sequoia cone and foliage have been adopted as the basic sleeve insignia and the differentiation in rank is indicated by the number of cones, as follows:

Chief Rangers	Three cones with foliage
Assistant Chief Rangers	Two cones with foliage
Rangers (Permanent)	One cone with foliage
Rangers (Temporary)	Foliage only
Ranger-Naturalist	Bear with foliage

- E. SERVICE    Indicating length of service as a member of the National Park
- INSIGNIA       Service is prescribed as follows:

After the first star is earned, bars shall be discontinued to indicate service of less than five-year periods. For each five-year period of completed service, a silver embroidered star.

The service insignia shall be worn on the cuff of the left sleeve of the coat and overcoat, the lower stripe or star shall be placed 1-1/2" above end of sleeve. When

stripes and stars are worn, stars shall be placed uppermost. When more than one star is worn, they shall be arranged horizontally up to four and triangularly when more than four stars are worn.

- F. HAT BANDS      Of calf skin, cordovan color, 1-1/8 inch wide, embossed with evergreen twigs and cones and the letters "U.S.N.P.S." and ornamented with two silver Sequoia cones, is prescribed for wear on the hat.
- G. CHIN STRAP      Of calf skin or same design as the hat band, cordovan color, embossed with evergreen twigs and cones, and the letters "U.S.N.P.S." with silver Sequoia cone fasteners, is prescribed as a part of the uniform cap.

## VI. RESPONSIBILITY FOR CORRECTNESS OF ARTICLES AND PROPER USE OF UNIFORM

Employees designated to wear the National Park Service uniform shall, at their own expense, provide and wear uniforms as herein prescribed. They are responsible for compliance with the material and pattern specifications and for the proper use of their uniforms as required in these regulations and by the superintendent or custodian in charge of their field unit.

Superintendents, custodians, and supervisory officials shall, by frequent inspection, see that all members of their organizations required to wear uniforms are properly equipped with all necessary articles of clothing and accessories, and that they wear same in accordance with these regulations. They are responsible for the type of material used, and for the uniformity of all members of their organization. They shall prescribe conditions for the use of the field and winter sports uniforms, and for all seasonal changes. No employee required to wear the standard uniform shall be permitted to remain on duty improperly dressed.

All articles of uniform prescribed herein shall be in accordance with designs and specifications approved by the Director.

Articles of uniform authorized under the provisions of office order number 268 may be continued in use until worn out, Provided such use shall not extend beyond December 31, 1936, when these regulations cancel and supercede all previously issued uniform regulations.

---

[<<< Previous](#)

[<<< Contents >>>](#)

[Next >>>](#)

# National Park Service

National Park Service Uniforms  
The Developing Years, 1932-1970



## APPENDIX C

*National Park Service Uniform Regulations began to be issued in the form of a manual in 1938. While the text was still typewritten, the accompanying illustrations were professionally executed. This procedure was only followed for the regulations of 1938 and 1940. With the change of uniform in 1947, the illustrations accompanying the regulations were simple little line drawings, supplemented by photographs in changes issued in 1950. Starting with the 1961 regulations, illustrations or photographs no longer accompanied the text.*

*Unfortunately, no complete copy of the 1938 regulations has come to light. Only a few amendment sheets to this manual, dated 1939, remain in the archives to indicate that it used this format. Instructions state that when revisions were issued, the old pages were to be discarded and the new one inserted. Apparently, the revision sheets in the archives were never inserted in the regulations resulting in their being saved when the manual was destroyed.*

*However, there is a complete, unaltered copy of the 1940 NPS regulations in the archives. It is bound with heavy gray-green papers utilizing a two-prong fastener. Because of its uniqueness, it has been included here in its entirety.*

\*\*\*\*\*

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON

November 22, 1940.

MEMORANDUM for the Washington Office and all Field Offices.

### **NATIONAL PARK SERVICE UNIFORM REGULATIONS**

The fundamental purposes of the uniform are to symbolize the National Park Service and to identify the wearer to park visitors. Accordingly, its use must be limited to the Service field personnel whose chief duties are to contact visitors and to protect the parks and monuments. The Director, however, may approve specific exemptions with respect to the wearing of the uniform.

The following officials and employees of the National Park Service, whether permanent or temporary, shall wear the standard uniform when assigned to duty in any of the national parks, military parks, historical parks, national monuments, national parkways, and other areas open to visitors:

Superintendents, assistant superintendents, custodians, park rangers, junior park

wardens, naturalists, ranger-naturalists, military park guards, museum attendants, national cemetery superintendents, and other national park and national monument employees whose duties are chiefly to contact park visitors and to protect the areas administered by the National Park Service.

Officials and employees at Death Valley National Monument who are required to wear a uniform shall wear the special type of uniform approved by the Director, as follows:

Sun Helmet: Sand tan color with silver Sequoia ornament.

Shirt: Sand tan color, any acceptable material, cotton gabardine, broadcloth, or twill; collar attached, shoulder straps, two large plaited pockets with buttoned flaps and pencil opening on the left; single button cuffs.

Trousers: Sand tan color, cotton gabardine, twill, or similar material; tunnel belt loops 2" on sides, 1-1/2" cuffs.

Belt: Regulation, cordovan color, new style.

Shoes: Blucher type, cordovan color, shoes or oxfords.

Socks: Regulation brown.

Tie: Regulation green.

The uniform is not to be worn by an official or employee when he is not in a duty status, but the superintendents and custodians may wear the uniform on important occasions outside of the park at their discretion. Other members of the field personnel may wear the uniform on important occasions outside of the park when authorized to do so by the superintendent or custodian.

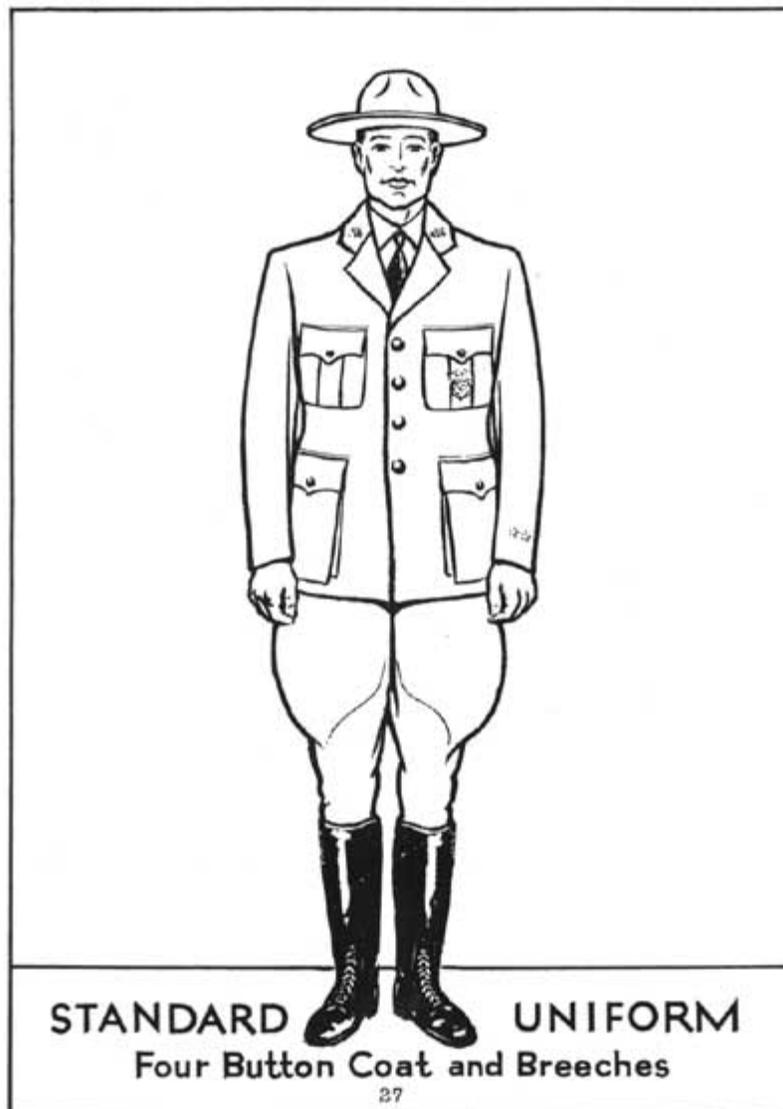
Civilian Conservation Corps and emergency employees, when assigned to regular public contact service, shall wear the uniform, when specifically authorized by the Director.

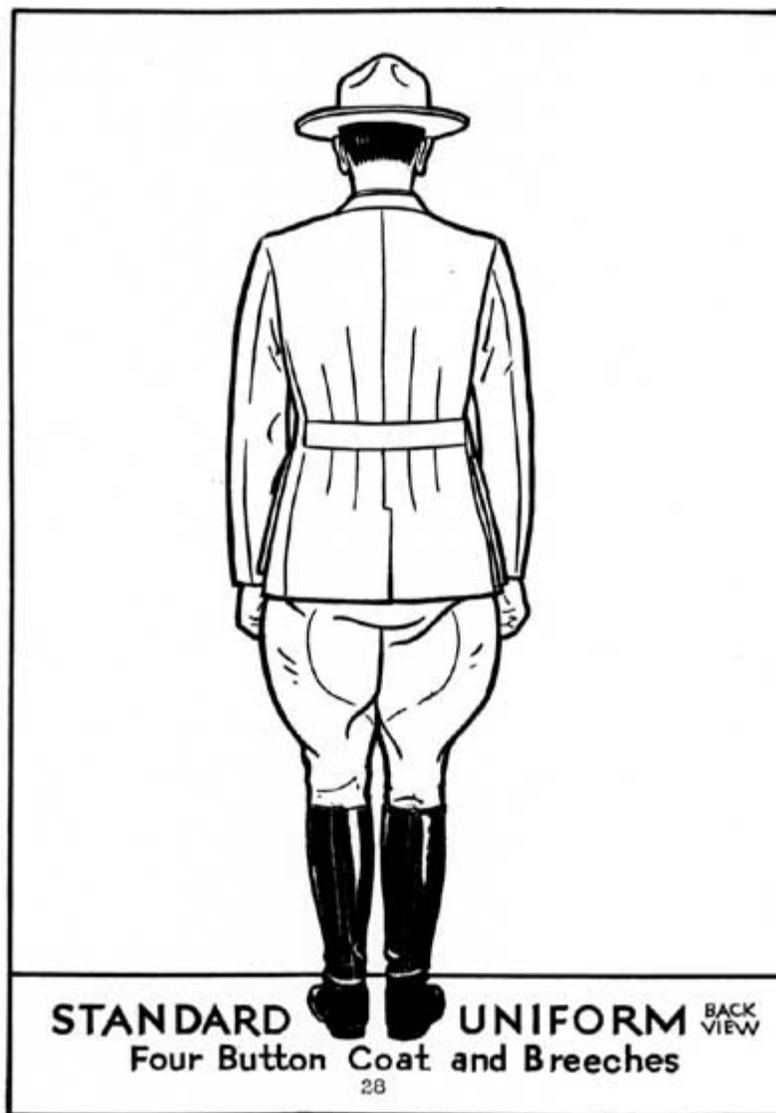
No other employees of the National Park Service, including policemen in the National Capital Parks, shall wear the standard uniform prescribed by this memorandum.

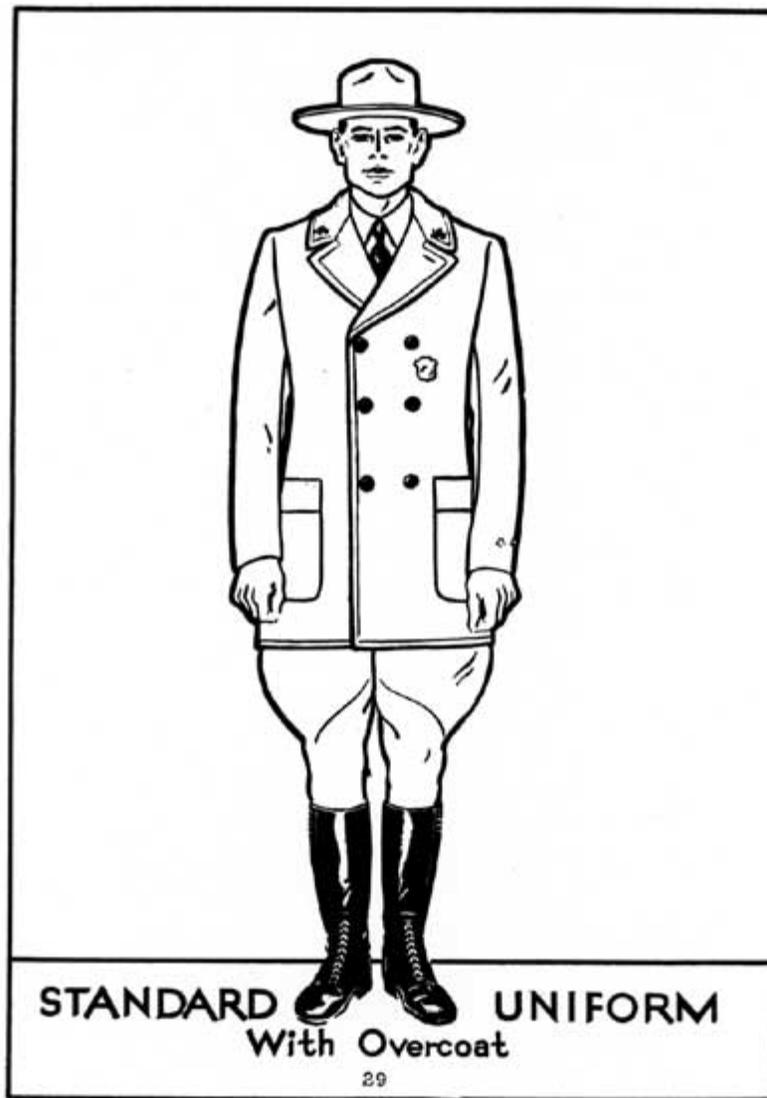
CCC supervisory personnel shall wear the authorized CCC uniform. Temporary employees or members of other branches of the National Park Service may wear any special uniform authorized by the Director, but shall not wear the standard uniform or insignia prescribed for permanently appointed or regular National Park Service officials and employees.

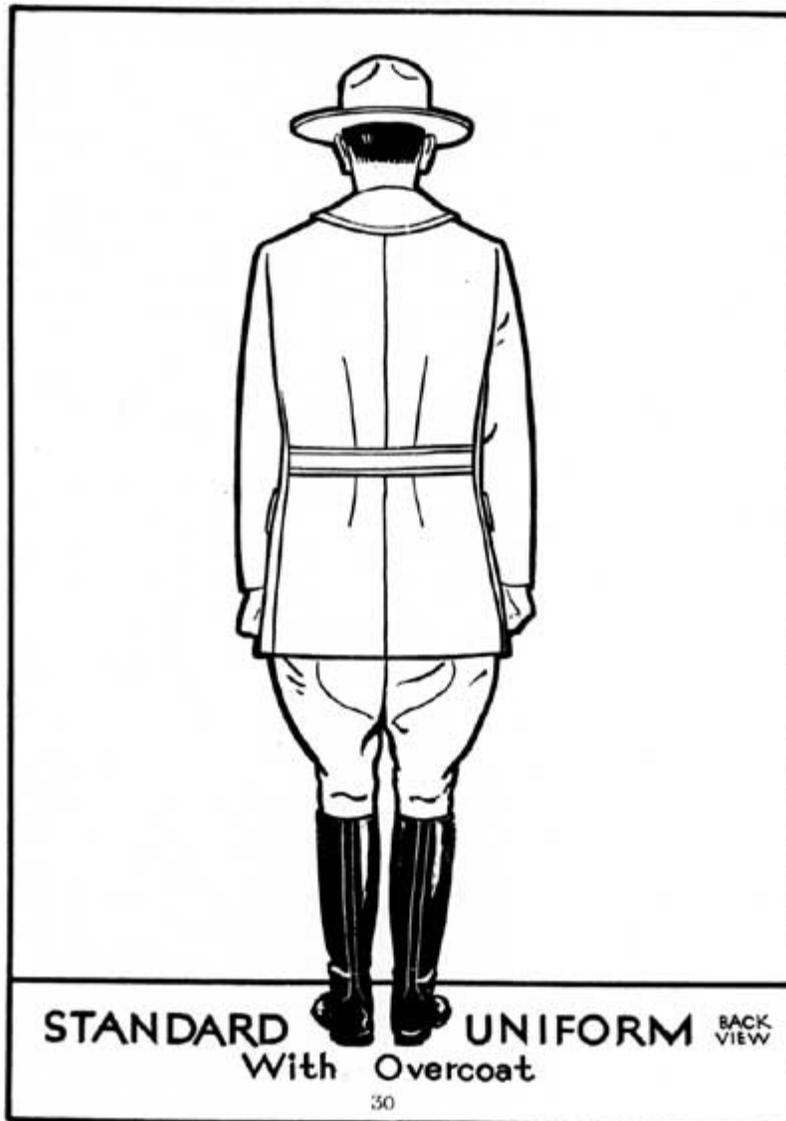
For all formal occasions, such as inspections, official receptions, etc., the standard uniform for superintendents shall consist of hat, coat, breeches or trousers, shoes or field boots, steel gray or white shirt, dark green tie, and all other proper insignia and accessories.

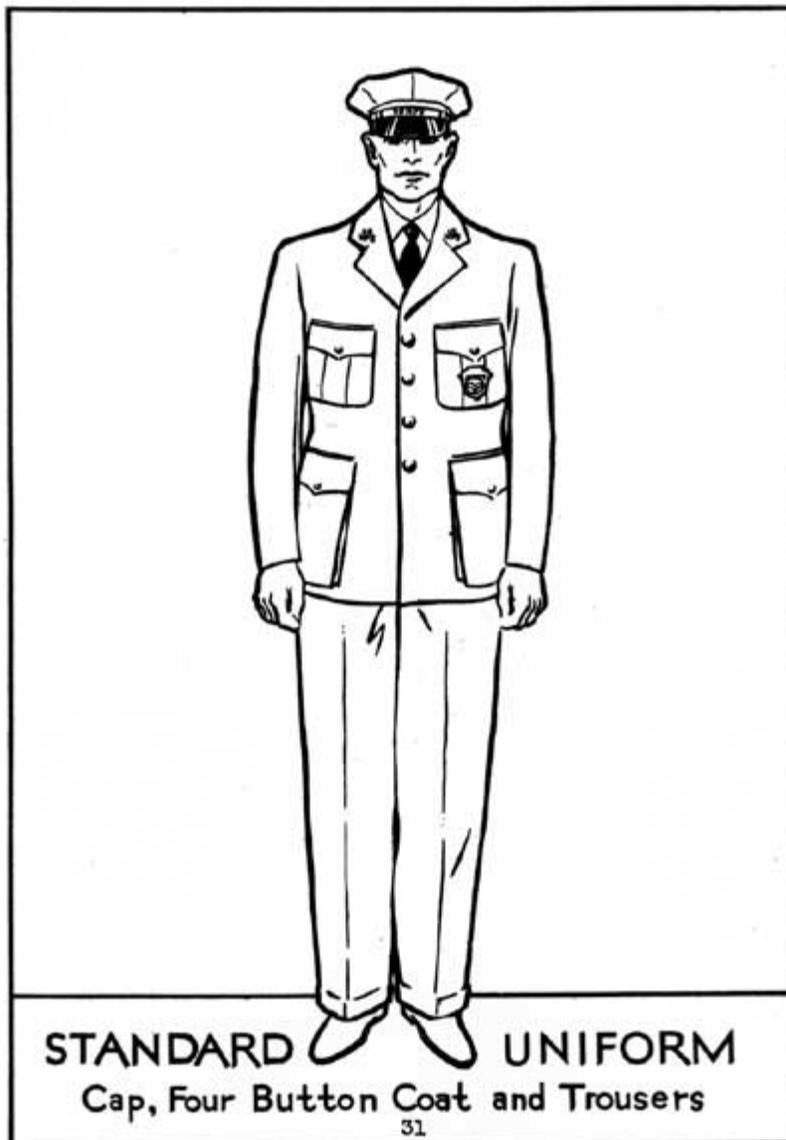
The overcoat shall be considered an essential part of the formal uniform when weather conditions require its use.





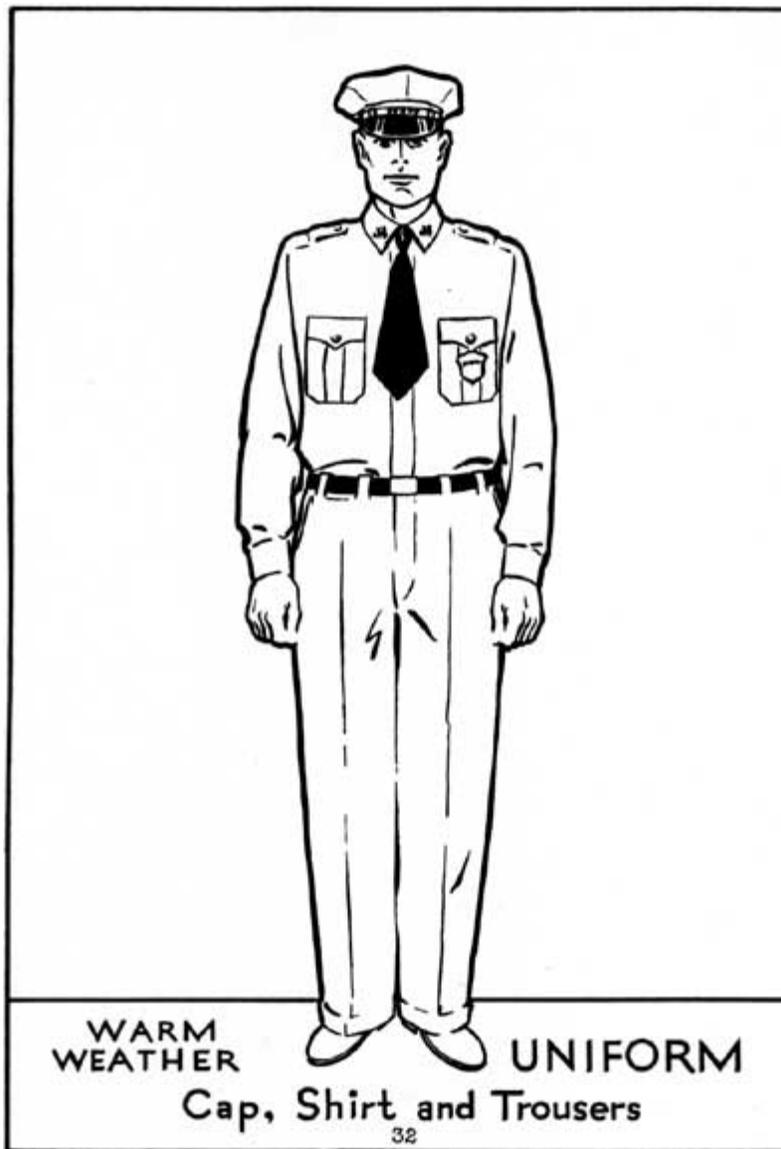


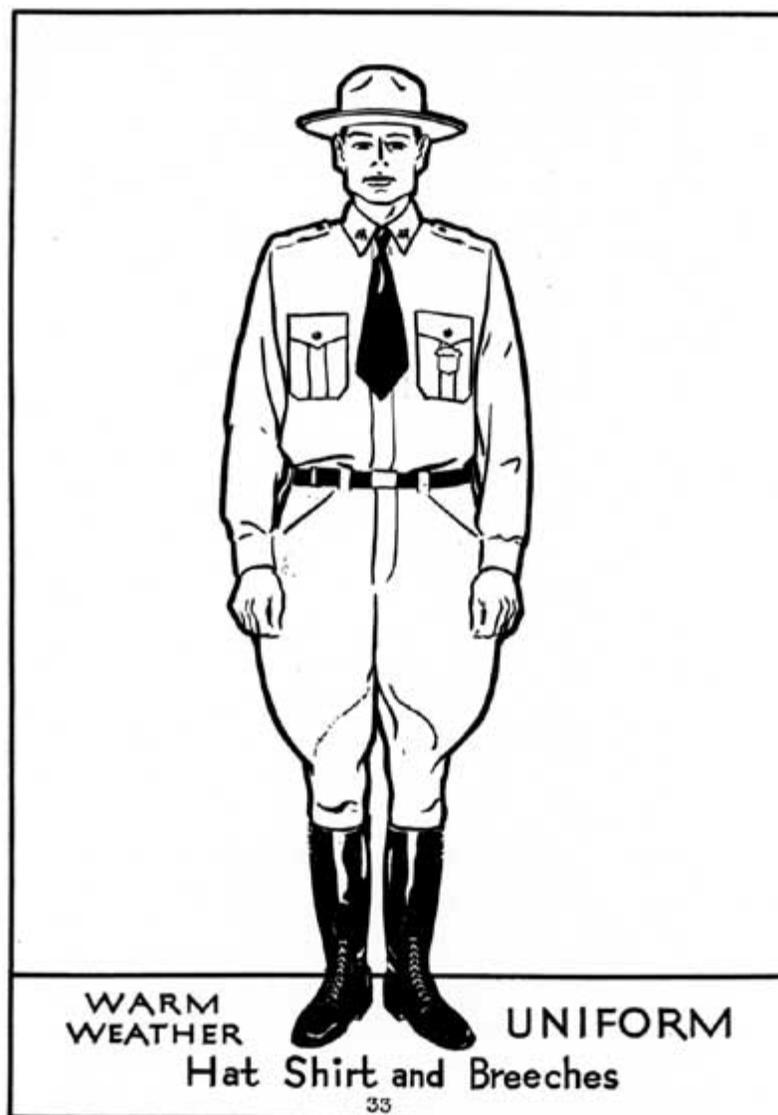






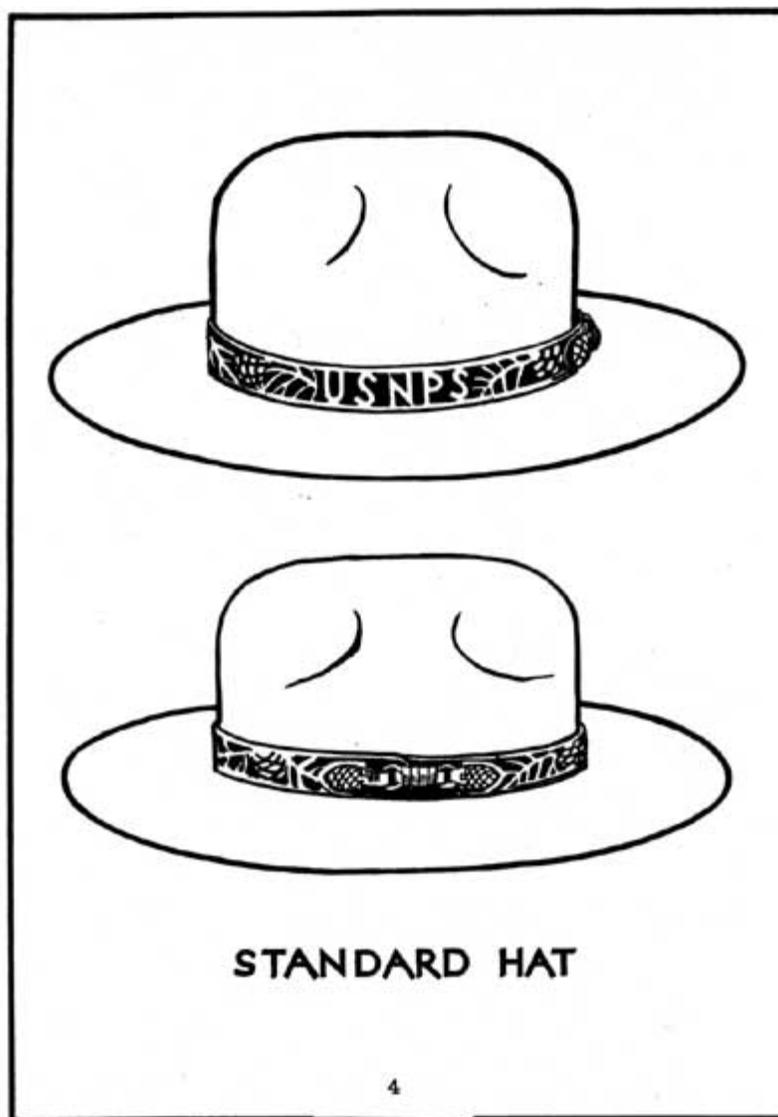
STANDARD UNIFORM  
With Rain Coat





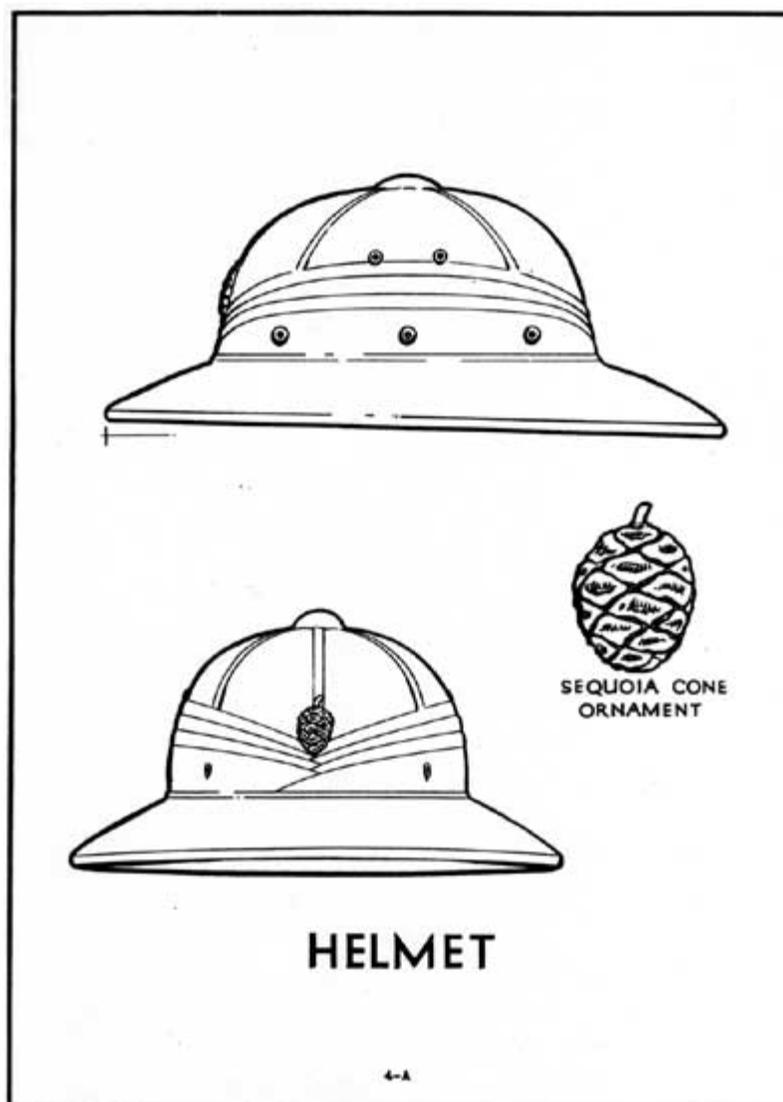
### I. STANDARD UNIFORM

The standard uniform, consisting of the following garments and authorized accessories, is prescribed for all formal wear and ordinary usage:



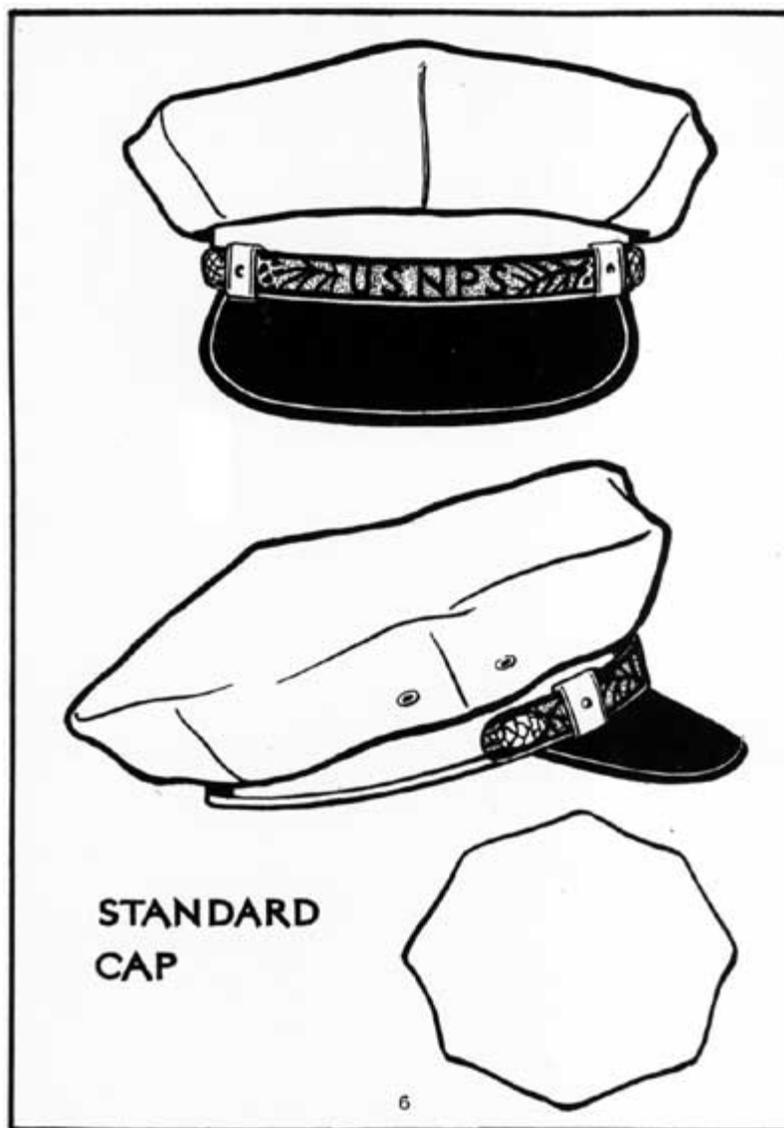
A-1. HAT

Stiff brim, 3 to 3-1/2 inches wide and 4 to 4-5/8 inch crown, Belly color, with three ventilator holes, arranged in the form of an equilateral triangle, bottom leg of triangle 1-1/2 inches above brim, legs of triangle 1 inch, on each side of the hat. Hat to be worn with the approved leather hat band and two silver Sequoia cones. Width of brim and height of crown of hat may be varied, within these dimensions, to suit the size or conformation of the wearer's head. Plain leather head straps, 1/2 inch wide, cordovan color, may be worn if desired.



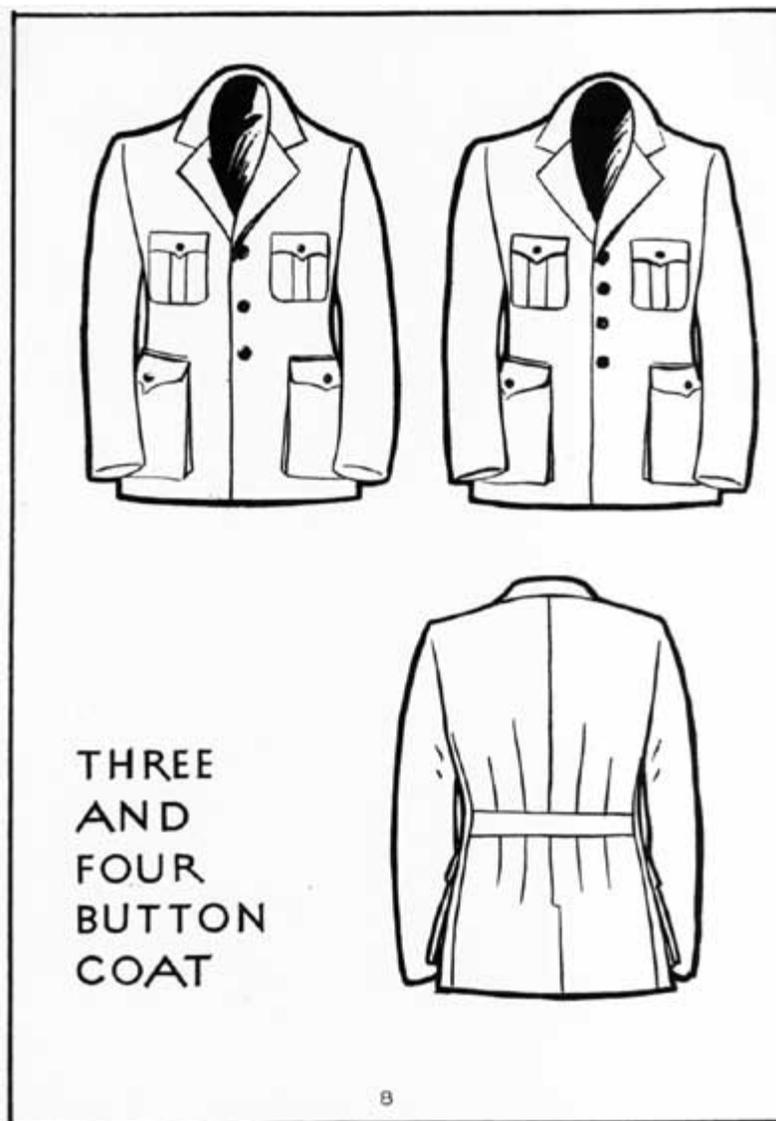
A-2. HELMET

A sun-tan helmet is prescribed for wear in those areas using sun-tan uniforms and the aluminum helmet in those areas using the standard uniform. A silver sequoia cone the same size as those ornamenting the hat band is to be worn vertically on the front of the helmet.



B. CAP

The approved NPS cap of same material as uniform, with approved chin strap fastened with two silver Sequoia cones, is prescribed for rangers assigned to motorcycle duty, and for general uniform purposes in military and historical areas.

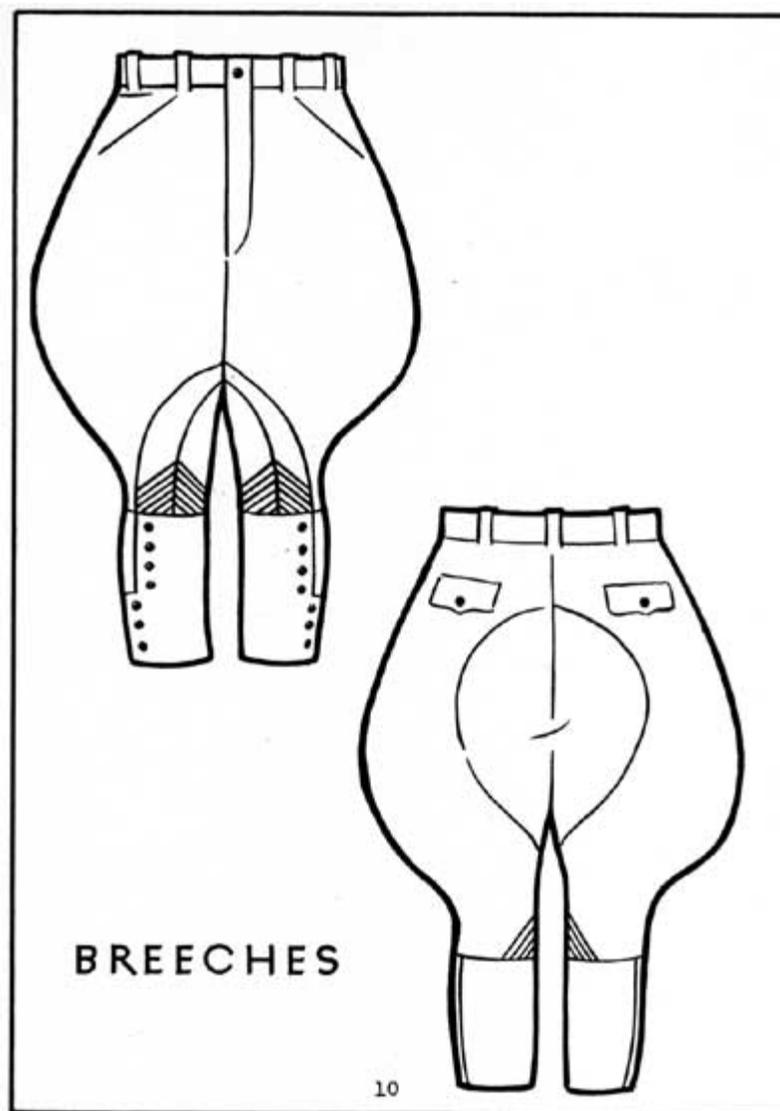


### C. COAT

Three- or four-button military sack, having open collar; pinch back; two breast pockets, plaited, and two side pockets, bellows type; all outside pockets to have flaps, fastened with small Service buttons.

The coat shall be worn on all normal occasions. It may be dispensed with only during hot weather when the superintendent or custodian authorizes it.

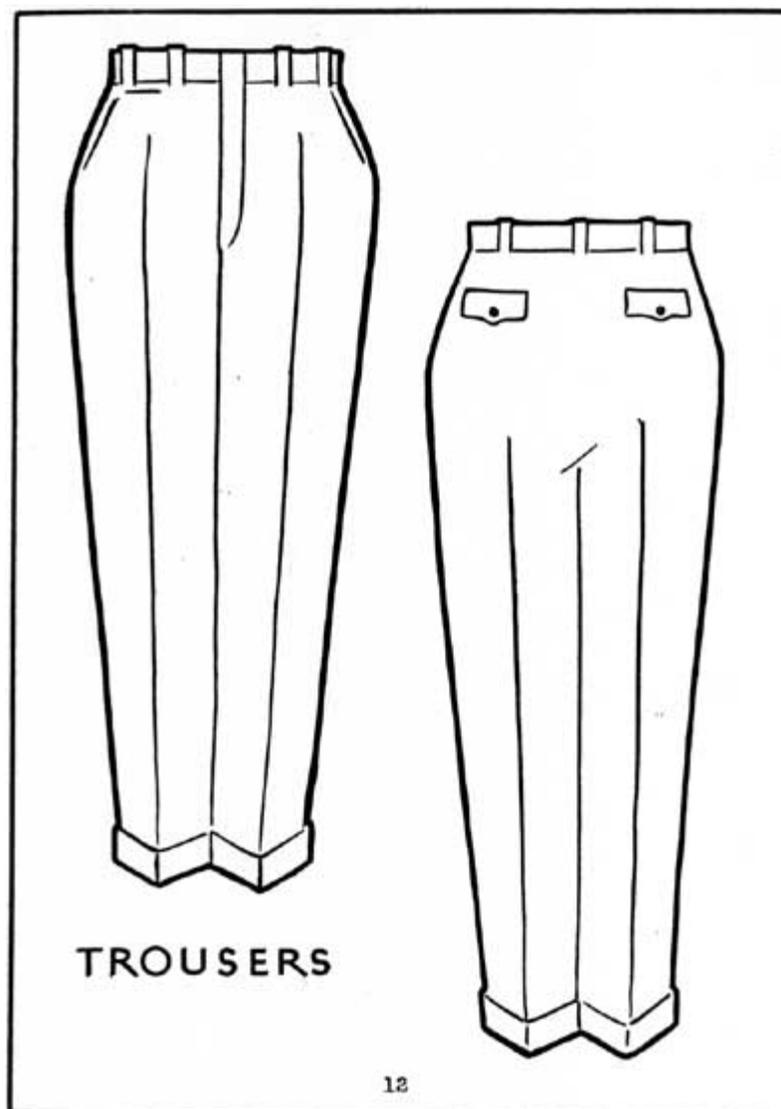
In areas where the climate is warm and humid, officers and employees are authorized to wear tropical worsted coats of the same style and cut as the coat described above, except to be without padding and without lining in the sleeves.



#### D. BREECHES

Of same material as coat; full peg with two side or top pockets; two hip pockets, and one watch pocket; buttoned at knee openings, with or without knee reinforcement, and double seat of same material.

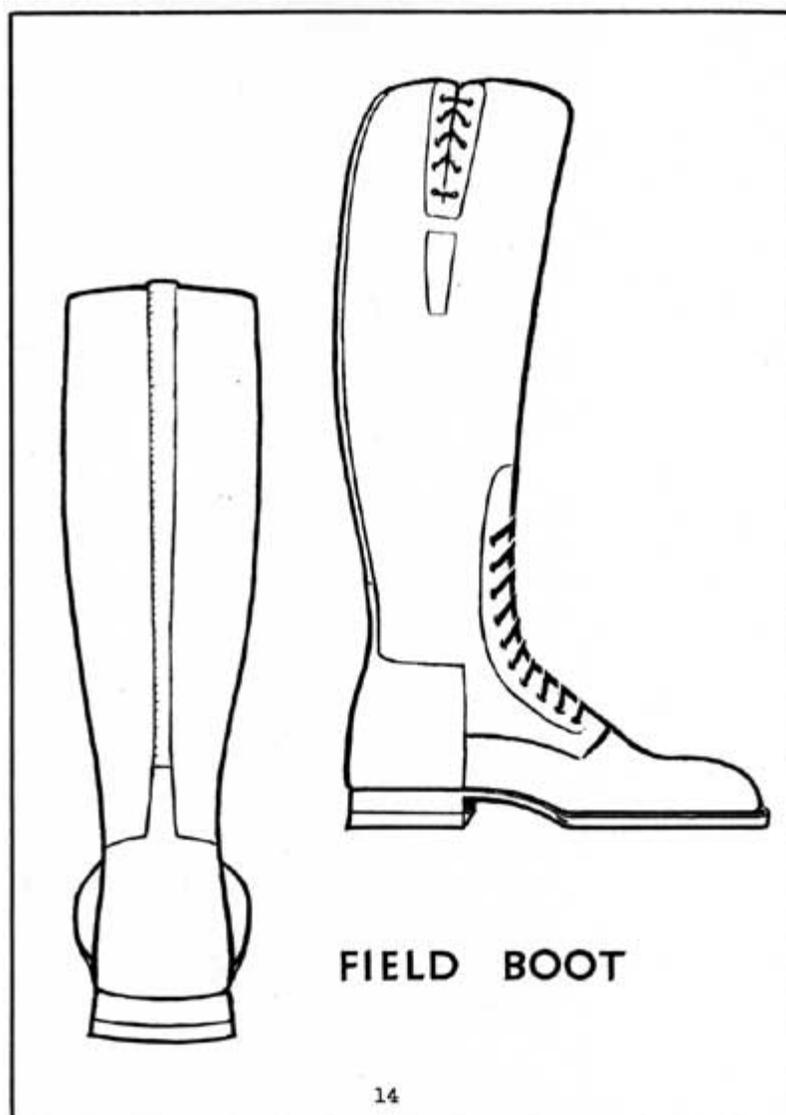
Breeches are considered an essential part of the formal uniform.



### E. TROUSERS

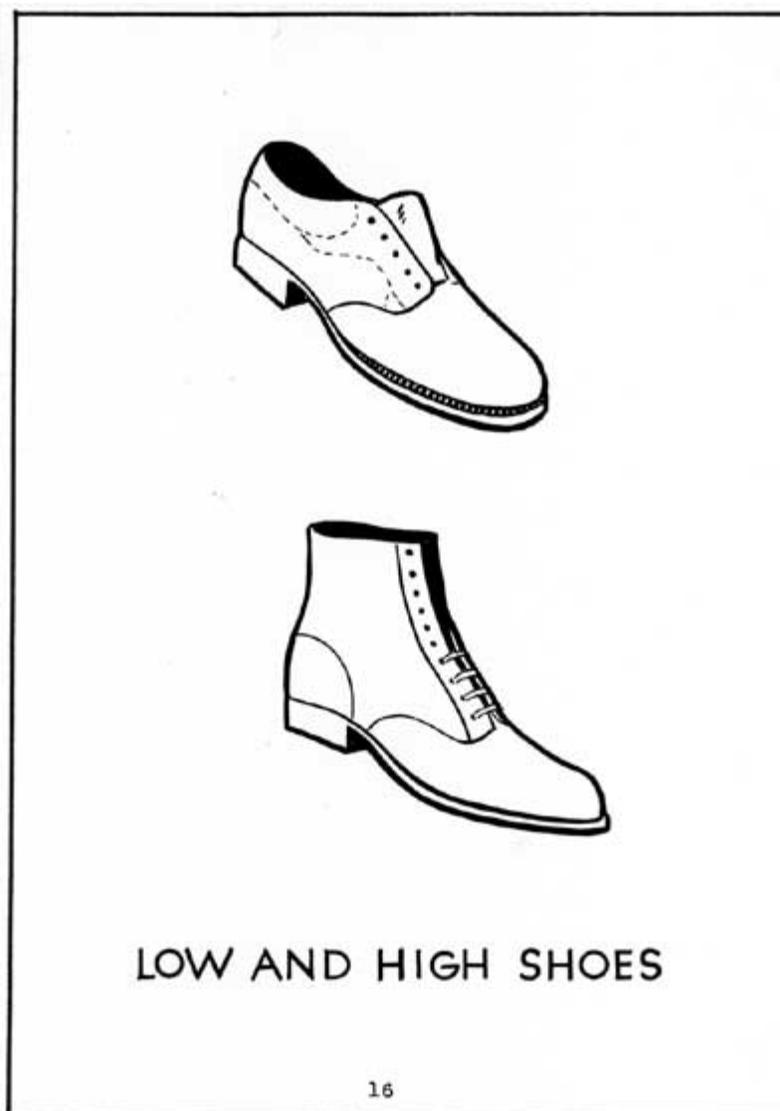
Of same material as coat, straight leg, with 1-1/2 inch cuff, two side, two hip, and one watch pocket; may be worn in lieu of breeches:

- (1) In Eastern national parks, parkways, military parks, national cemeteries, and national monuments, and in other areas when extremely warm weather prevails for considerable periods.
- (2) Park rangers at Hot Springs National Park.
- (3) In the Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Southwestern National Monuments, Petrified Forest National Monument and Boulder Dam National Recreational Area.
- (4) By superintendents, custodians, and other members of the field personnel on informal occasions in other parks and monuments.



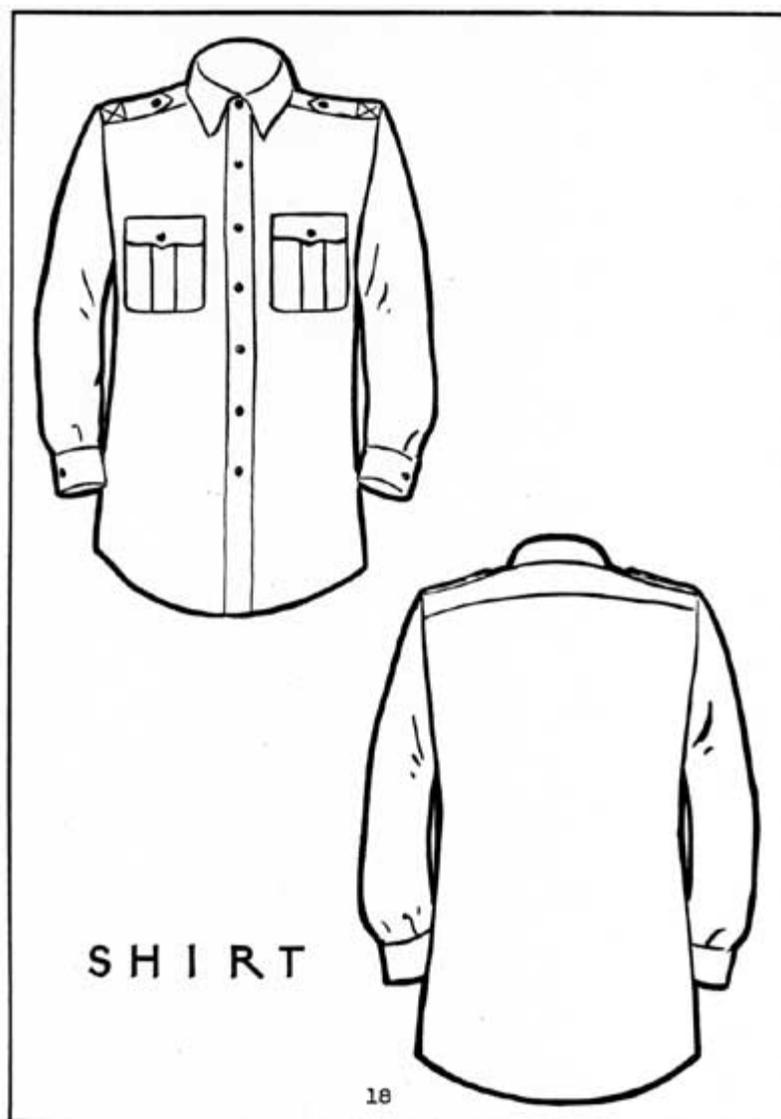
#### F. FIELD BOOTS

Leather field boots of approved design, medium weight, with laced instep and laced side at top, and of uniform cordovan color, shall be worn with breeches.



### F-1. SHOES

Lace shoes or Oxford type shoes of uniform cordovan color, with plain dark brown socks, may be worn with trousers.

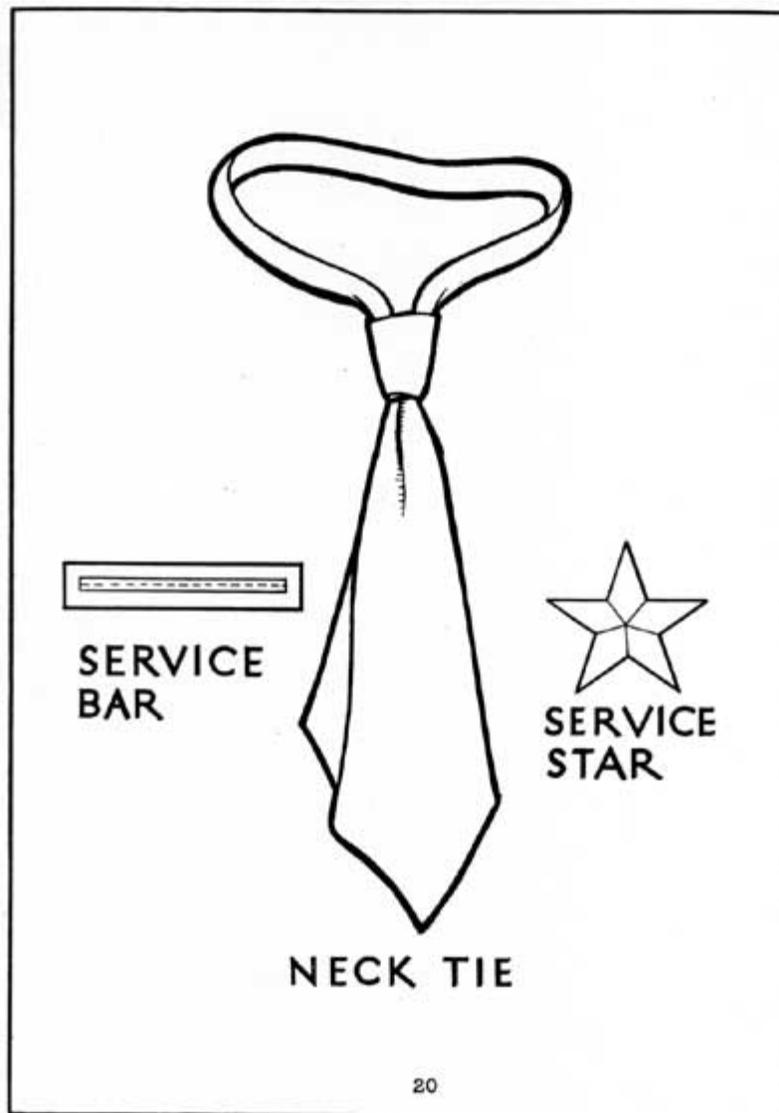


### G. SHIRTS

Collar-attached type of flannel, wool gabardine, tropical worsted, or of cotton material, steel gray color, for all normal duty.

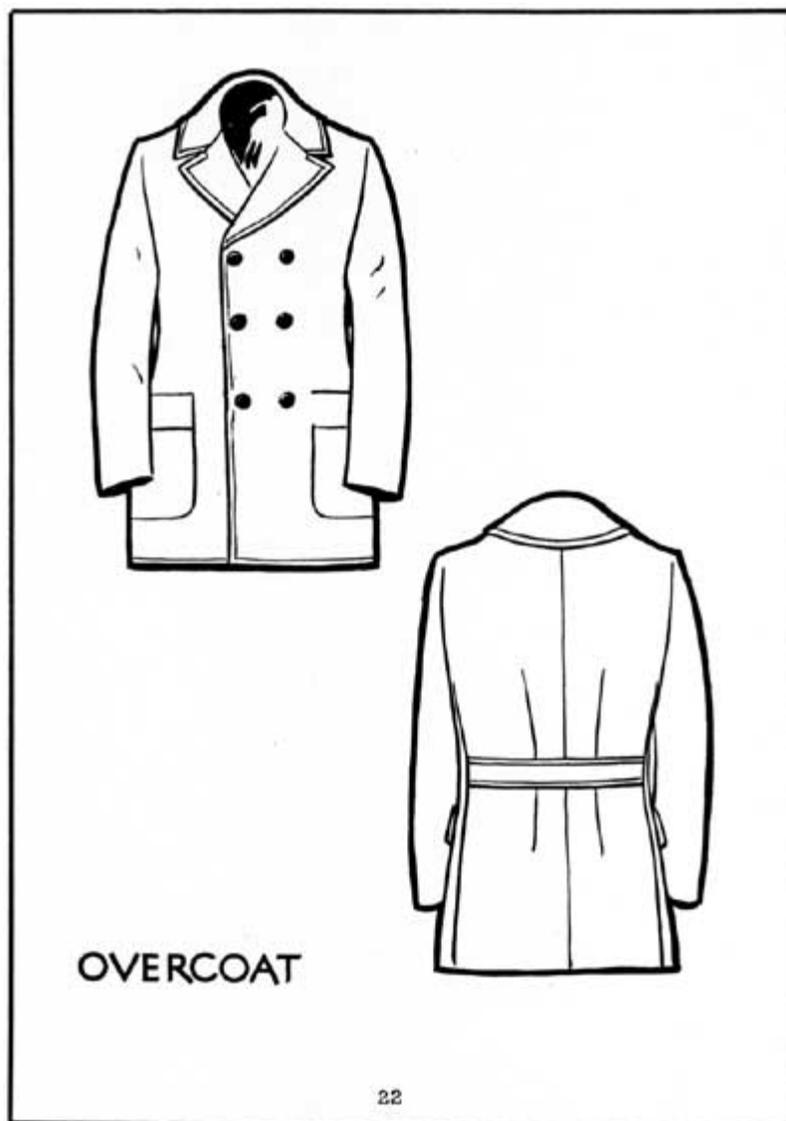
A white shirt and collar is authorized for formal occasions only.

A field shirt with collar attached, shoulder straps, two large plaited breast pockets with pocket flaps fastened with buttons, steel gray, is prescribed for wear without coats. Such shirts may be of flannel, gabardine, tropical worsted, or cotton material.



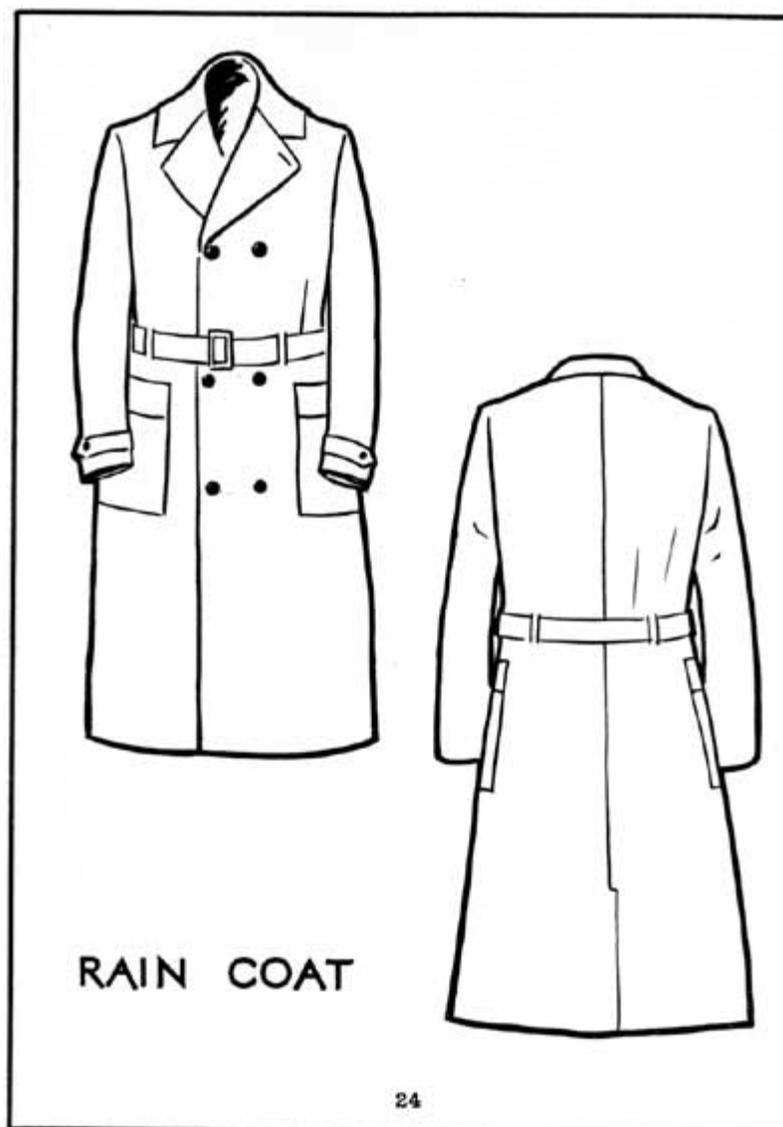
H. TIE

Four-in-hand barathea silk, full-wool lined, dark green.



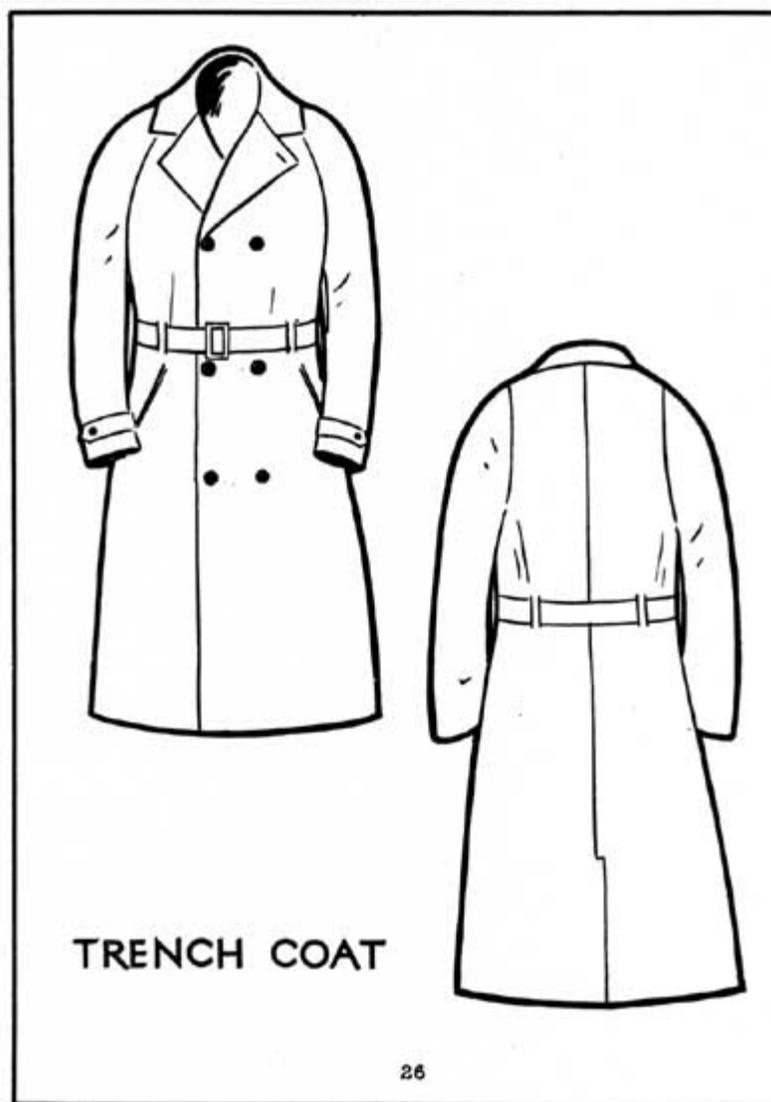
### I. OVERCOAT

Double-breasted, four-button mackinaw type with convertible collar, two side patch pockets and sewed-on half belt in back. Coat may be unlined or lined with "fleece," or other material.



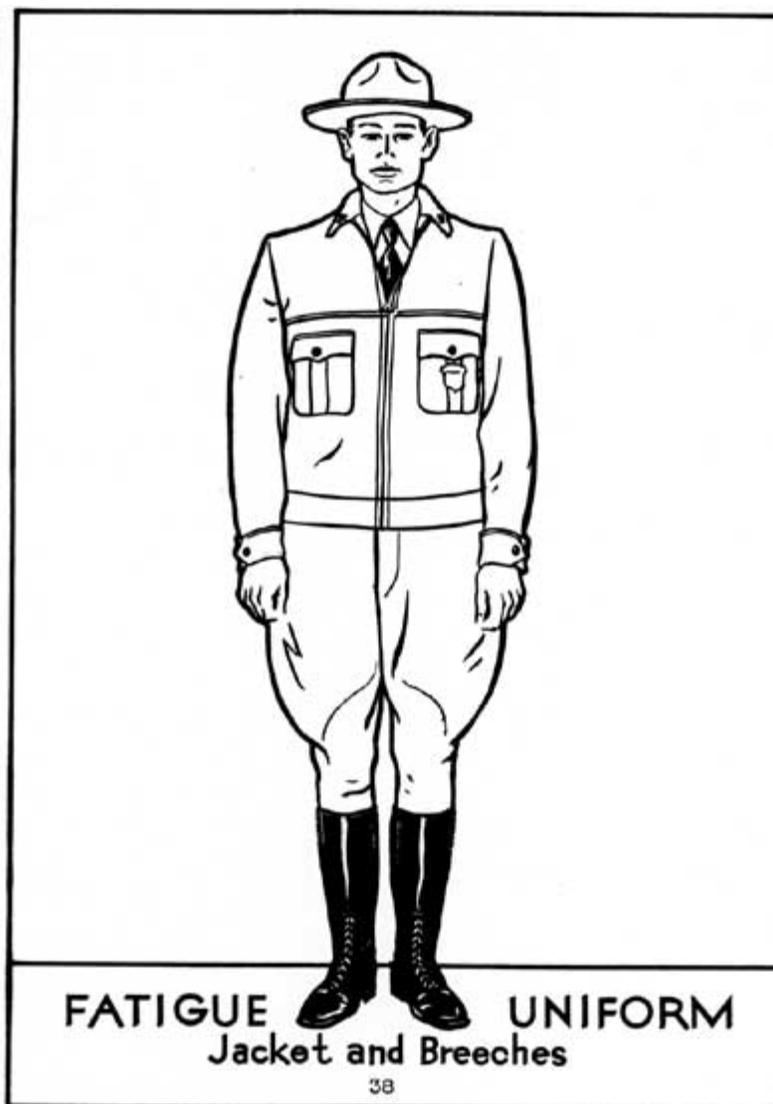
### J. RAINCOAT

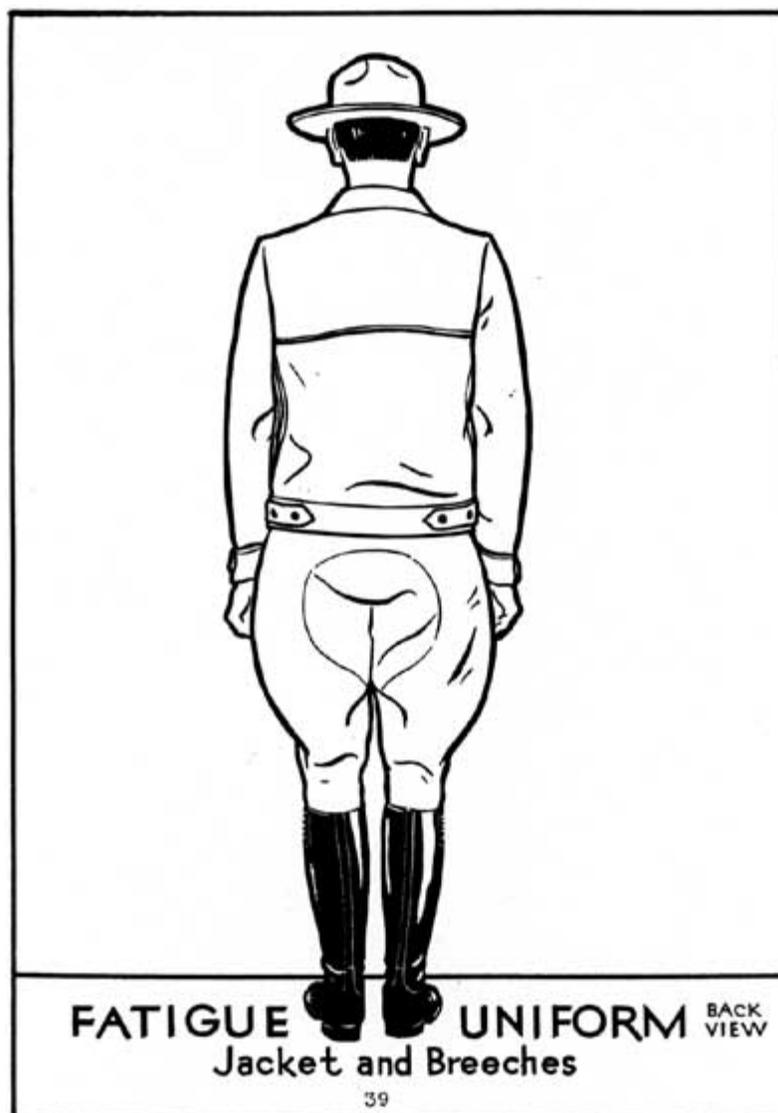
Double-breasted, full belt, set-in sleeves, calf length of light weight weather-proof material such as "Alligator" cloth, forestry or olive green color, is authorized.



### J-1. RAINCOAT

Double-breasted, calf length, trench coat type with raglan sleeves, full belt and diagonal pockets of forestry green, weather-proof gabardine.



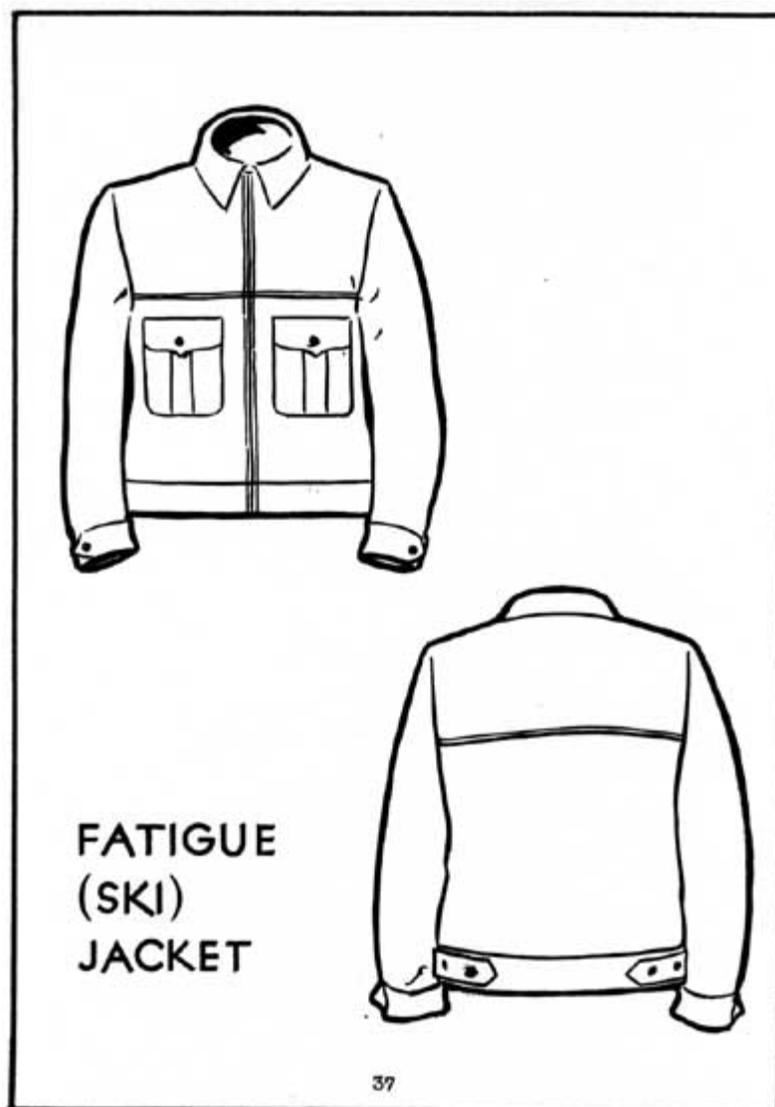


## II. FATIGUE UNIFORM

The fatigue uniform is prescribed for informal wear, such as patrol and general field duty, fatigue use, and when the duty to be performed is other than public contact, or when the nature of the duty is such that the standard uniform obviously would be inappropriate. It shall consist of:

### A. HAT

The regulation hat and hat band.



#### B. JACKET

The National Park Service field jacket is slightly longer than the conventional cossack, but shorter than the cruiser type, jacket. It has a waist band approximately two inches wide with two adjusting buckles at sides. The jacket fastens in the front with full-length talon fasteners, and has two large plaited breast pockets with flaps fastened with small regulation buttons. From the top of the breast pockets over shoulders and full length of back, material is double. The lower part of the back provides a large pocket, closing with talon fasteners on each side under arms.

#### C. BREECHES

The regulation breeches.

#### D. TROUSERS

Regulation trousers. A canvas or water-repellent material trousers of forestry green or light tan may be authorized when field conditions make this type of garment desirable.

#### E. SHIRT

The regulation shirt, either of wool or cotton.

#### F. TIE

The necktie may or may not be worn as directed by superintendent.

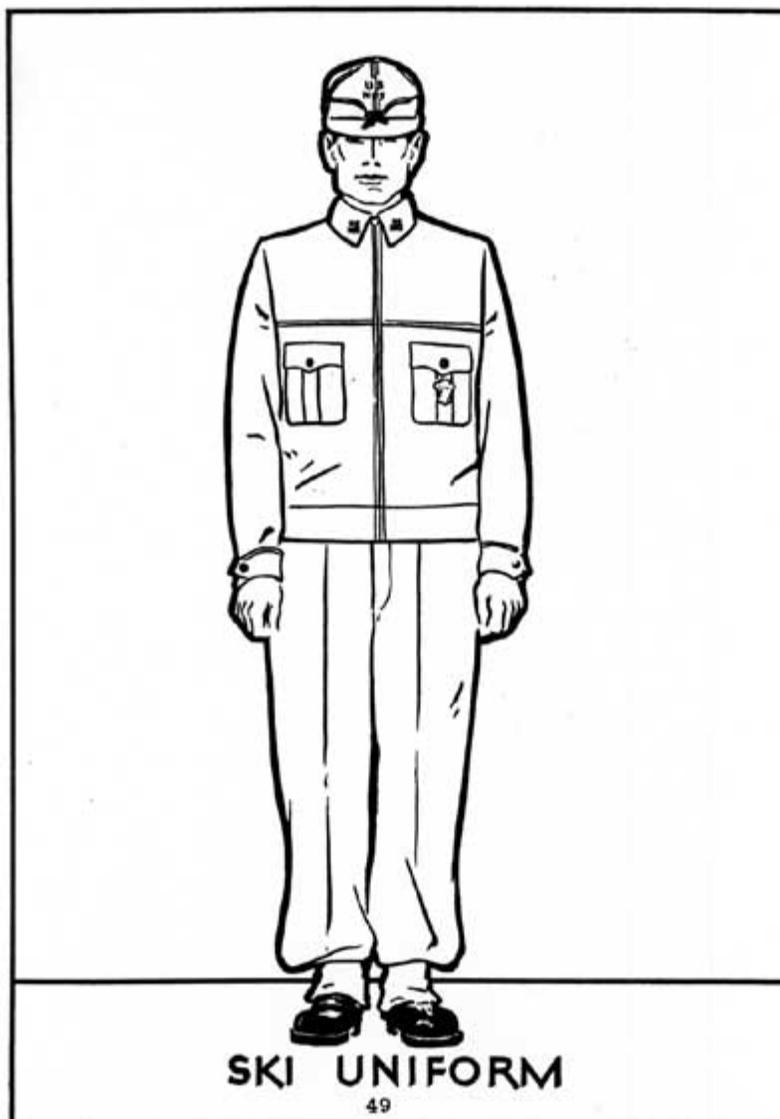
#### G. BOOTS

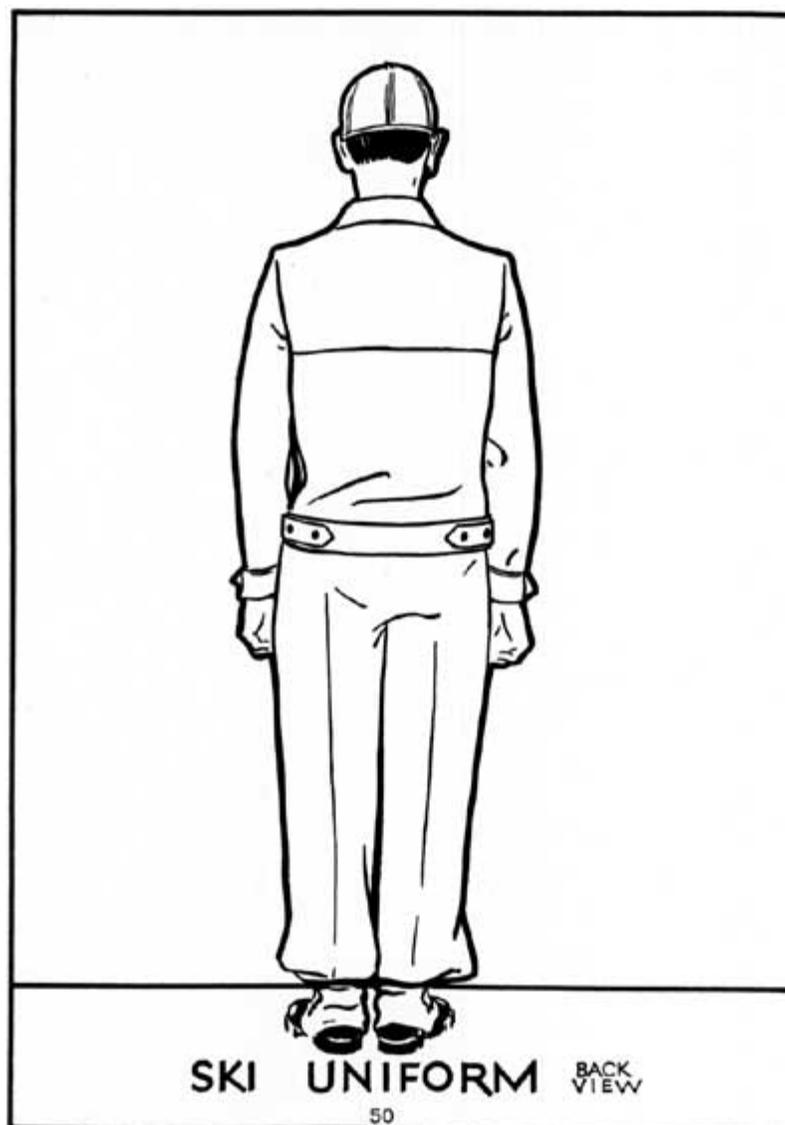
Heavy leather lace boots from 10 to 16-inch top, or standard field boots.

#### H. SHOES

Low shoes, or Oxfords, shall be worn with trousers.

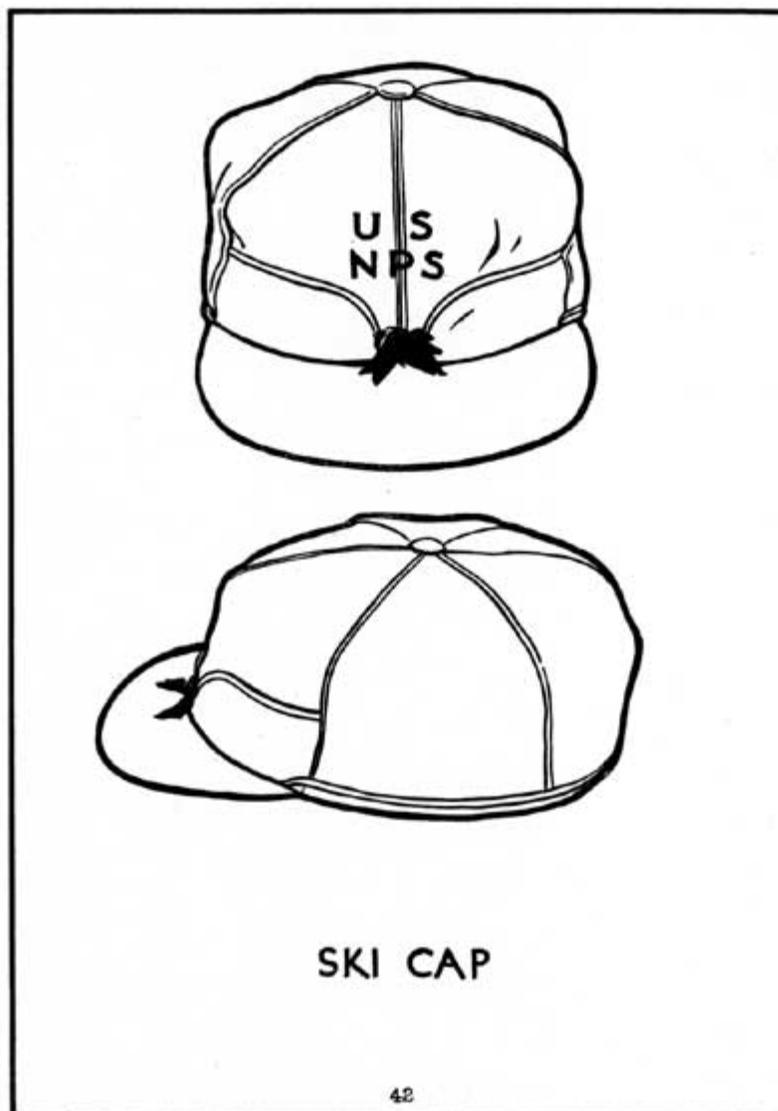
Badges and collar ornaments shall be worn on the field jacket and on shirts when worn without coats or jackets, in the same position as prescribed for the coat and overcoat of standard uniform. Boots and shoes shall be of uniform cordovan color.





### III. WINTER SPORTS PATROL UNIFORM

For the national parks and other areas having established winter sports seasons, the following articles of uniform are prescribed for wear by rangers and other employees whose duties require their presence with visitors at snow sports activities and who are designated to wear them by the superintendent or custodian:

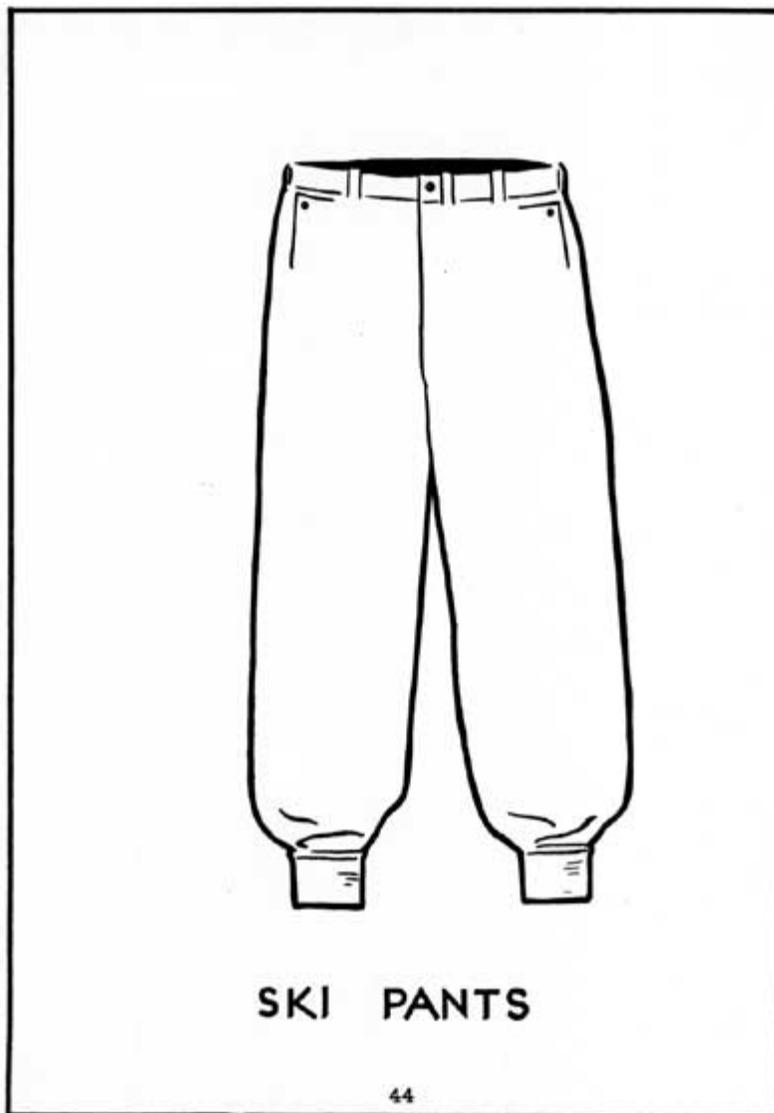


A. CAP

Ski cap of NPS design, having adjustable ear flaps and with embroidered NPS insignia on front.

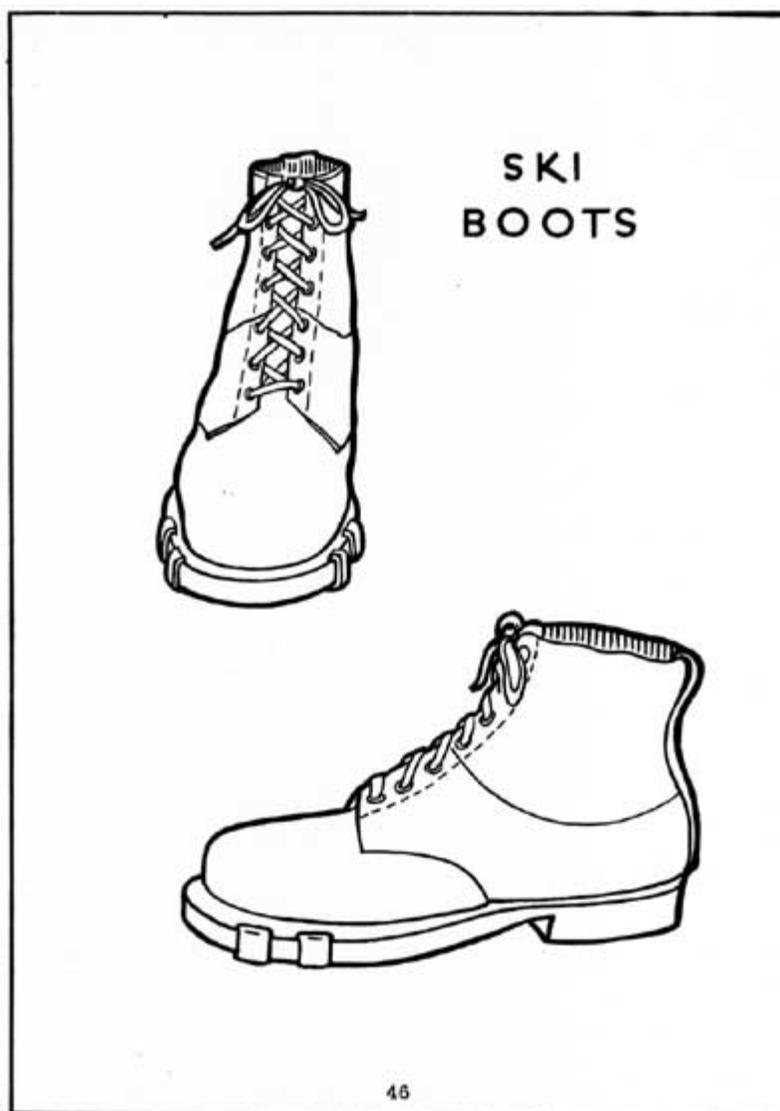
B. JACKET

The NPS field or fatigue jacket.



C. TROUSERS

Ski trousers with full-length 20-inch, or larger, leg and knit ankle cuff.

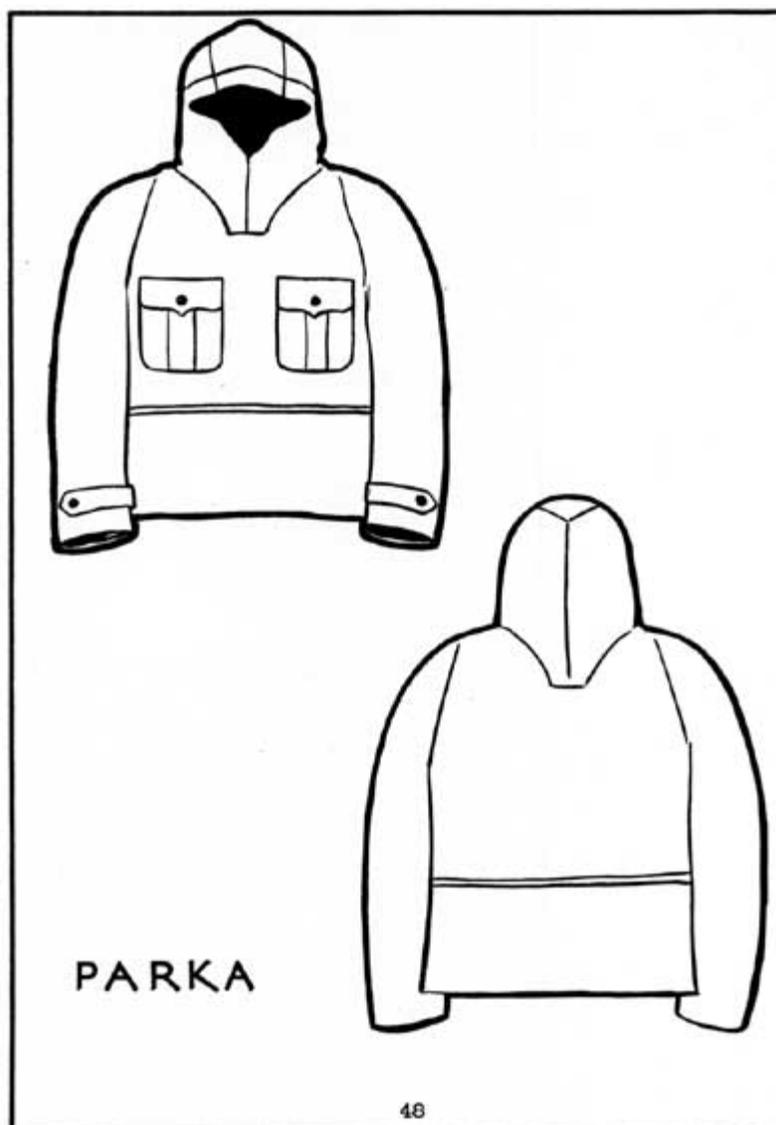


#### D. BOOTS

Ski boots of leather and of conventional design, the color to be determined by the superintendent of each park where ski boots are worn.

#### E. SOCKS

Heavy wool with dark green top, or, in lieu of socks, olive green or steel gray ski leggings or spats.



F. PARKA

With or without hood, light weight weather-proof material, either waist or knee length, of forestry green or steel gray.

#### IV. MATERIALS

Forestry green elastique cloth, 16 to 22-ounce weight is prescribed for cap, coat, breeches, trousers, and jacket of the standard, fatigue, and winter sports uniforms. All articles of a suit shall be of the same weight material.

For use in the areas where climatic conditions require a lighter weight uniform for comfort, light weight gabardine or tropical worsted cloth of about 12-ounce weight is authorized for the various articles of the standard and fatigue uniform, subject, however, to approval of the Director for each field unit concerned.

Forestry green elastique cloth, 22 to 30-ounce weight is prescribed for overcoat material.

Forestry or olive green patented waterproof cloth, such as "Alligator", forestry green cravenetted gabardine, 12 to 18-ounce weight, also are prescribed for raincoat material.

Flannel, wool gabardine, twill, broadcloth, or poplin cloth of steel gray color, are authorized for shirting materials.

Dark green barathea silk with full wool lining is pre scribed for the necktie.

First quality calf skin or horse hide leather is recommended for field boots, shoes, hat bands, and chin straps.

As indicated above, all leather articles and accessories shall be of uniform cordovan color, except ski boots, the color of which shall be determined by the superintendent of each park where ski boots are worn.

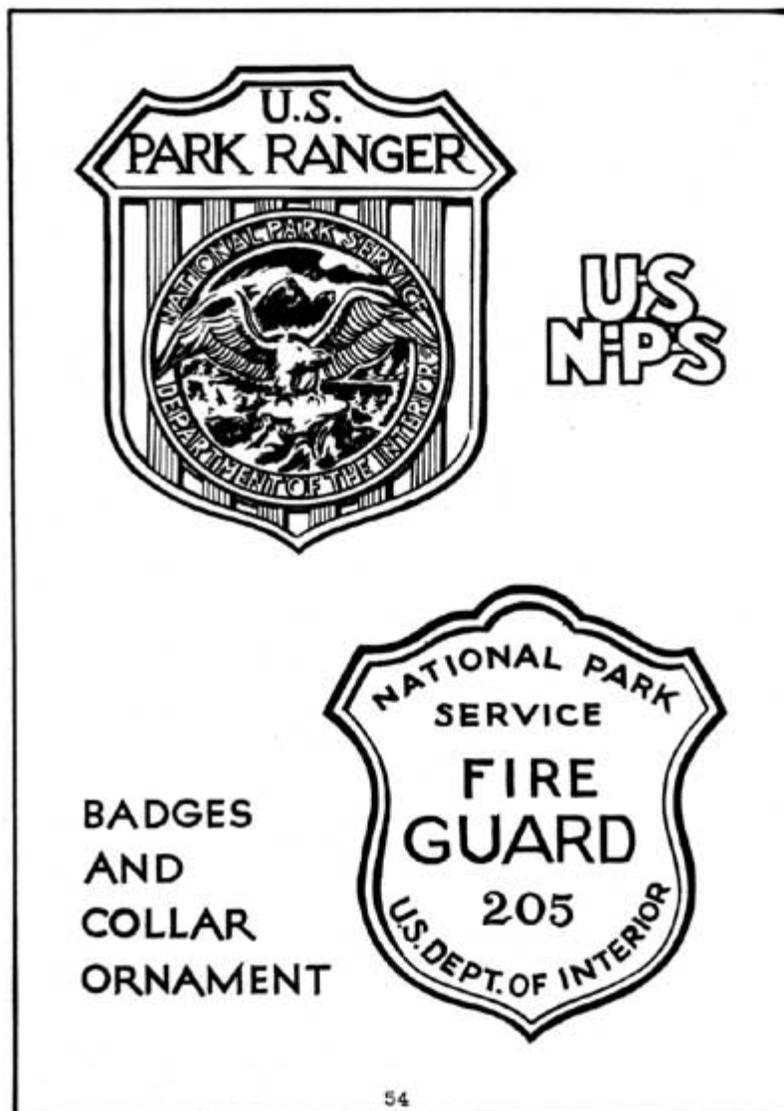
**V. BADGES, BUTTONS, COLLAR ORNAMENTS, INSIGNIA, HAT BANDS, CHIN STRAPS, AND BELTS**



*GOLD* : Superintendent and  
Custodian

*SILVER* : Assistant Supt.

**BADGE**







#### A. BADGES

Prescribed for use by Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Custodians, Park Rangers, Fire Guards, and Life Guards, as follows:

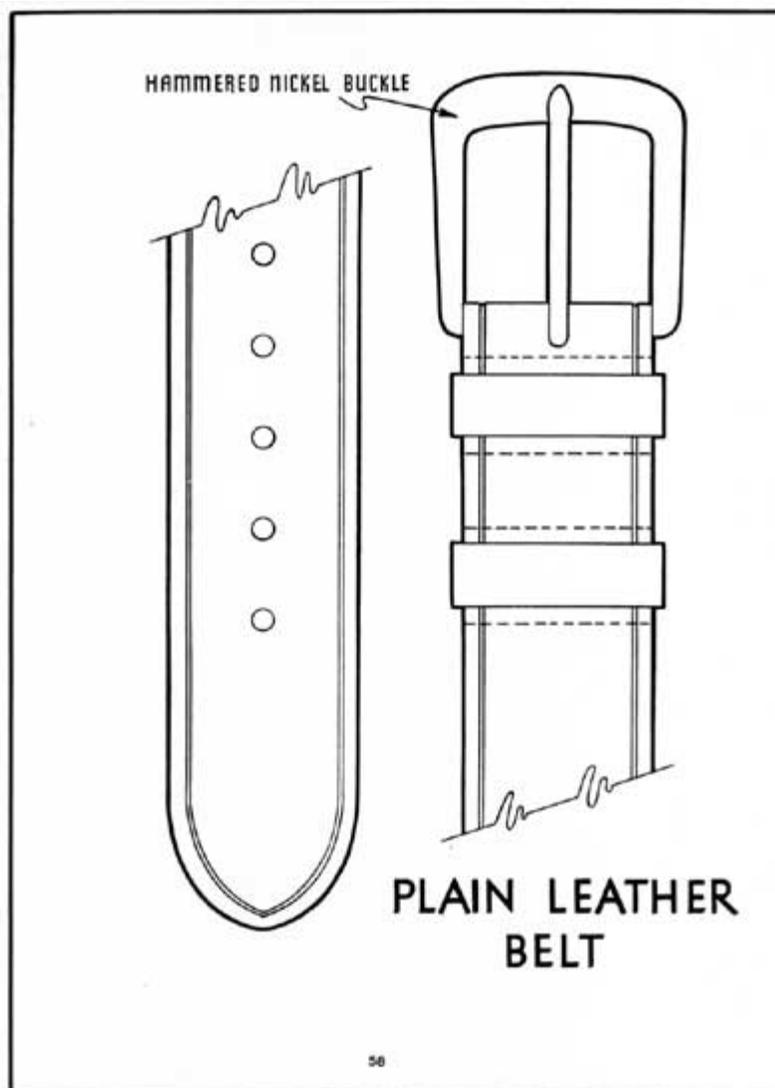
- (1) Superintendents and Custodians--round badge, gold.
- (2) Assistant Superintendents--round badge, silver.
- (3) Chief Rangers and Assistant Chief Rangers-- Shield badge, gold-plated.
- (4) Park Rangers, Ranger-Naturalists, Guards, and Park Rangers (temporary)-- Shield badge, nickel-plated.
- (4a) Park Guards, same as Park Rangers with the word "Guard" instead of "Ranger".
- (4b) Junior Park Wardens, same as Park Rangers with the words "Park Warden" instead of "Ranger".
- (5) Fire Guards--Shield badge, bronze metal, numbered serially .
- (6) Life Guard--Shield cloth badge of approved design with yellow letters embroidered on olive green background of gabardine, Size 5" x 6".

Park Naturalists may be issued park ranger badges when such employees are to enforce park regulations.

Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Custodians, Park Rangers, Junior Park Wardens, and Fire Guards, shall wear badges on their uniforms at all times. The badge shall be worn fastened to the plait of the left breast pocket, immediately below the button on coats and fatigue jackets. It shall be worn displayed in approximately the same position on field shirts and overcoats.

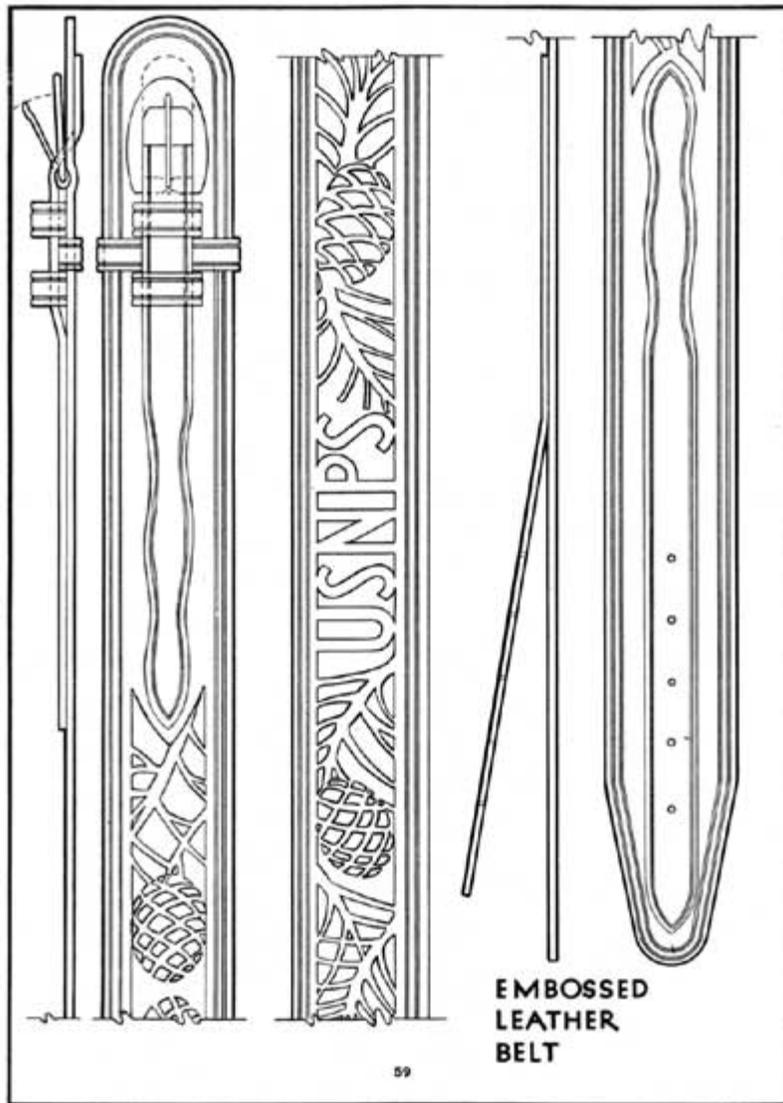
All badges shall remain the property of the Government.

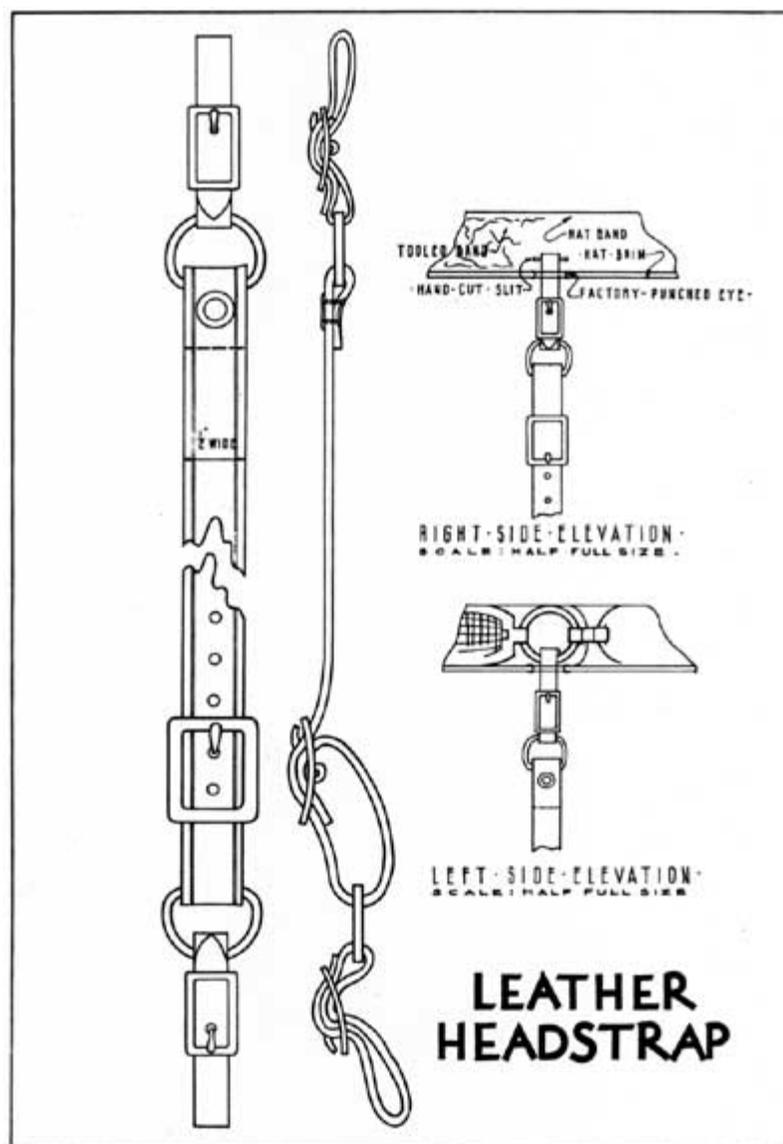
A deposit will not be required for the safe-keeping of badges and collar ornaments. Each temporary ranger and/or fire guard, however, must be informed that unless the badge and collar ornaments are returned in good condition, a deduction of \$5.00 will be made for each badge which may be lost. This regulation should be particularly impressed upon temporary rangers and fire guards.



A-1. LEATHER BELT

Cordovan color, 1-1/2 inches wide, 1/8 inch in thickness, with rectangular nickle-plated buckle.



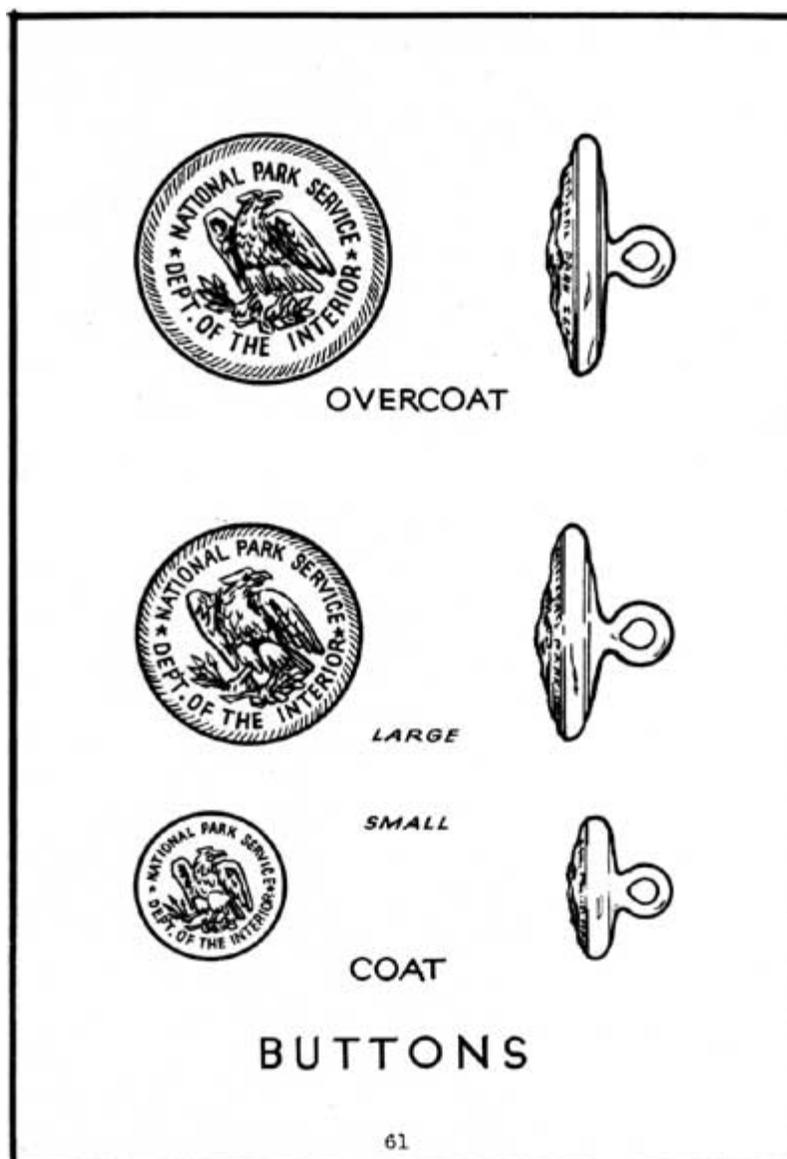


### A-2. EMBOSSED LEATHER BELT

A belt of leather, 1/8 inch in thickness and 1-1/2 inches wide, embossed with a design similar to the hat band, and having sewed on cinches and a nickel-plated buckle, may be worn if desired.

### A-3. SAM BROWNE BELT

National Park Service employees required to wear side arms may wear a Sam Browne Belt of cordovan color.



## B. BUTTONS

Buttons of three sizes, large for overcoats, medium for coats, and small for pocket flaps, of bronze, as approved by the Director, are prescribed.

## C. COLLAR ORNAMENTS

Of rolled gold or gilt as approved by the Director shall be worn on coats, overcoats, fatigue jackets, and field shirts. One device shall be attached in a horizontal position to each side of the collar. (NOTE: Draw an imaginary horizontal line across the upper edge of the collar. Place collar ornament in the center of the triangle formed by the imaginary line and the two edges of the collar, the ornament to be worn in a horizontal position).

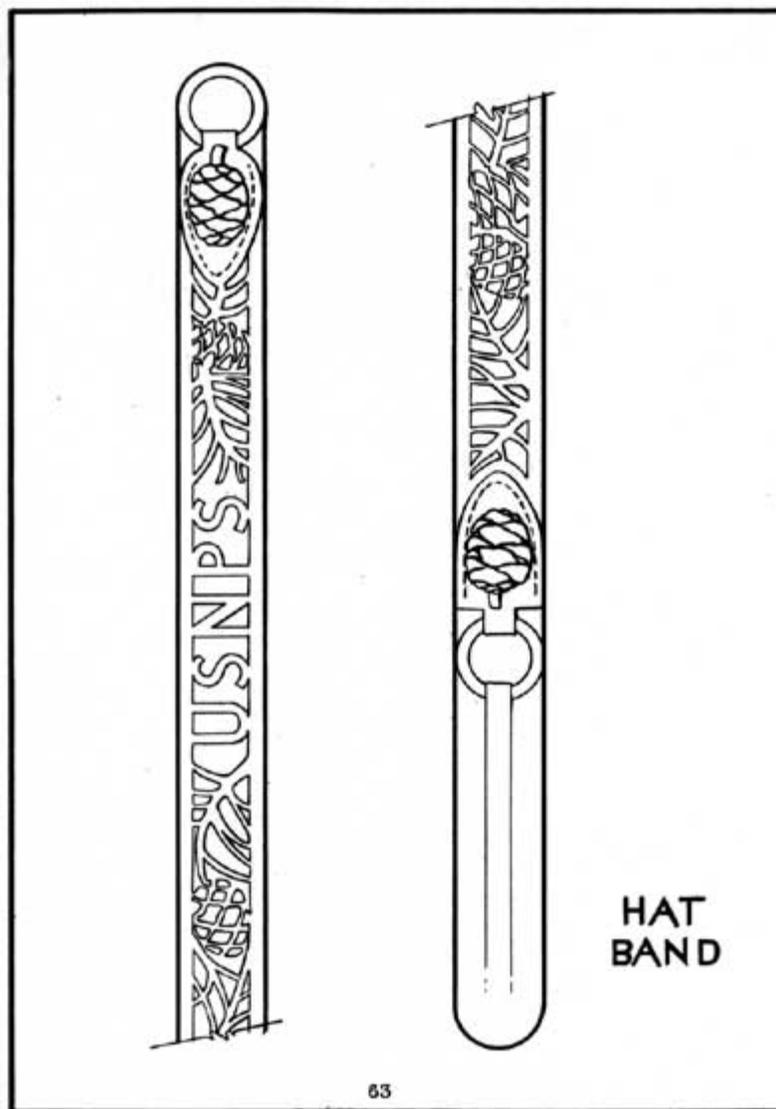
## D. SERVICE INSIGNIA

Indicating length of service as a member of the National Park Service is prescribed as follows:

For each year of completed service a black braid, 1/8" wide and 2" long.

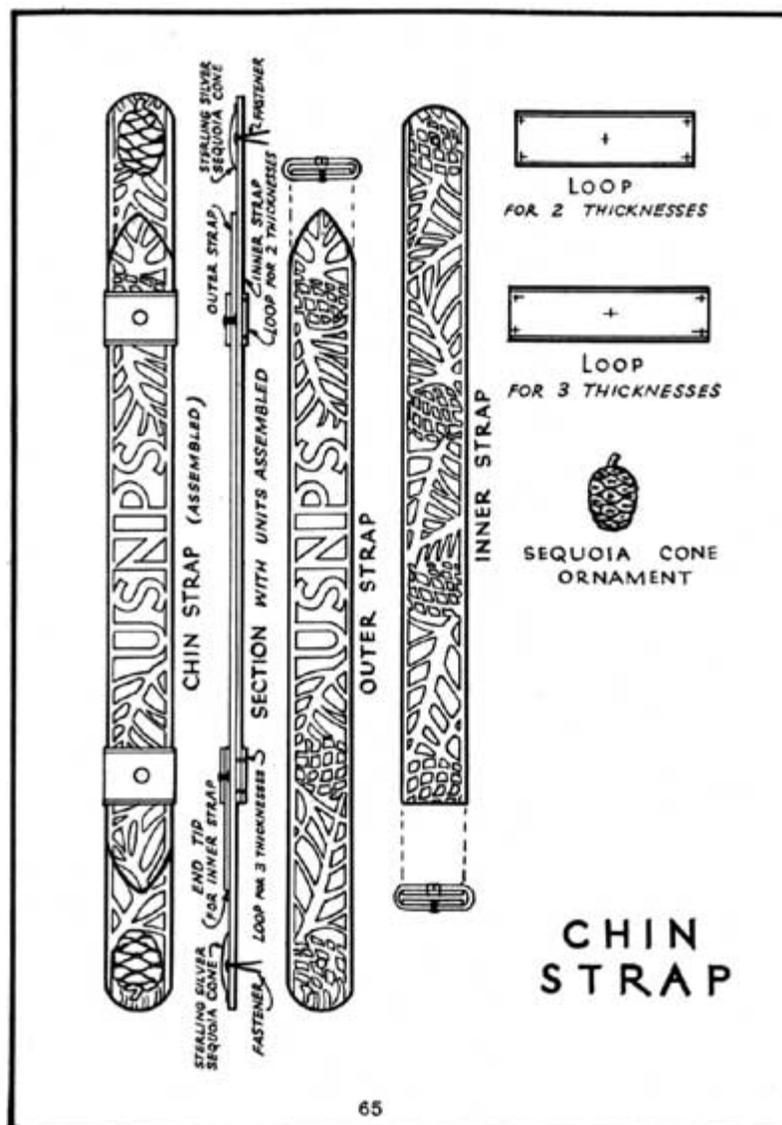
For each five-year period of completed service, a silver embroidered star. After the first star is earned, bars shall be discontinued to indicate service of less than five-year periods.

The Service insignia shall be worn on the cuff of the left sleeve of the coat and overcoat, the lower stripe or star shall be placed 2-1/2" above end of sleeve. When more than one star is worn, they shall be arranged horizontally up to four and triangularly when more than four stars are worn.



#### E. HAT BANDS

Of calf skin, cordovan color, 1-1/8 inch wide, embossed with evergreen twigs and cones and the letters "U.S. N.P.S." and ornamented with two silver Sequoia cones, is prescribed for wear on the hat.

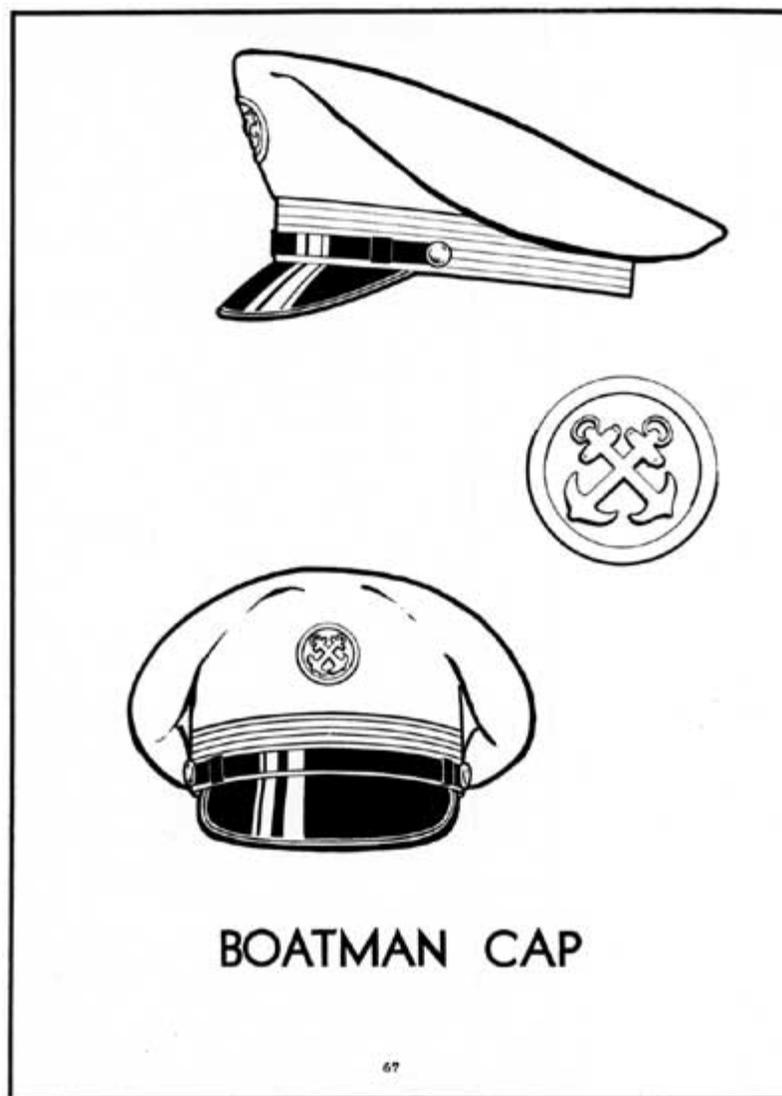


### F. CHIN STRAP

Of calf skin, or same design as the hat band, cordovan color, embossed with evergreen twigs and cones, and the letters "U.S. N.P.S." with silver Sequoia cone fastners, is prescribed as a part of the uniform cap.

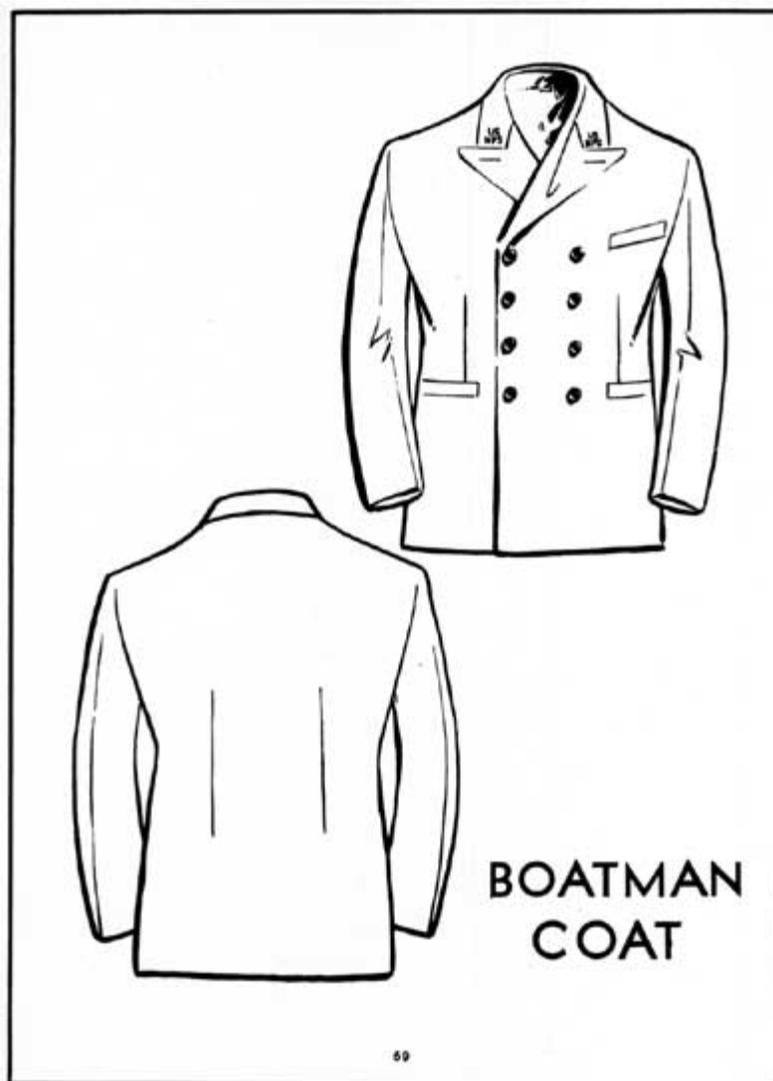
## VI. BOATMEN UNIFORM (winter)

For the National Parks and other areas where park employees are assigned to boat operation the following articles of uniform are prescribed for wear by the boat captain, engineer, purser or other employees of the boats.



A-1. CAP

Cap of the style worn by Chief Petty Officers of the U. S. Navy, of blue material, black visor, black visor strap, black ribbon band and with cap ornament, gold anchors crossed, sewed on front.

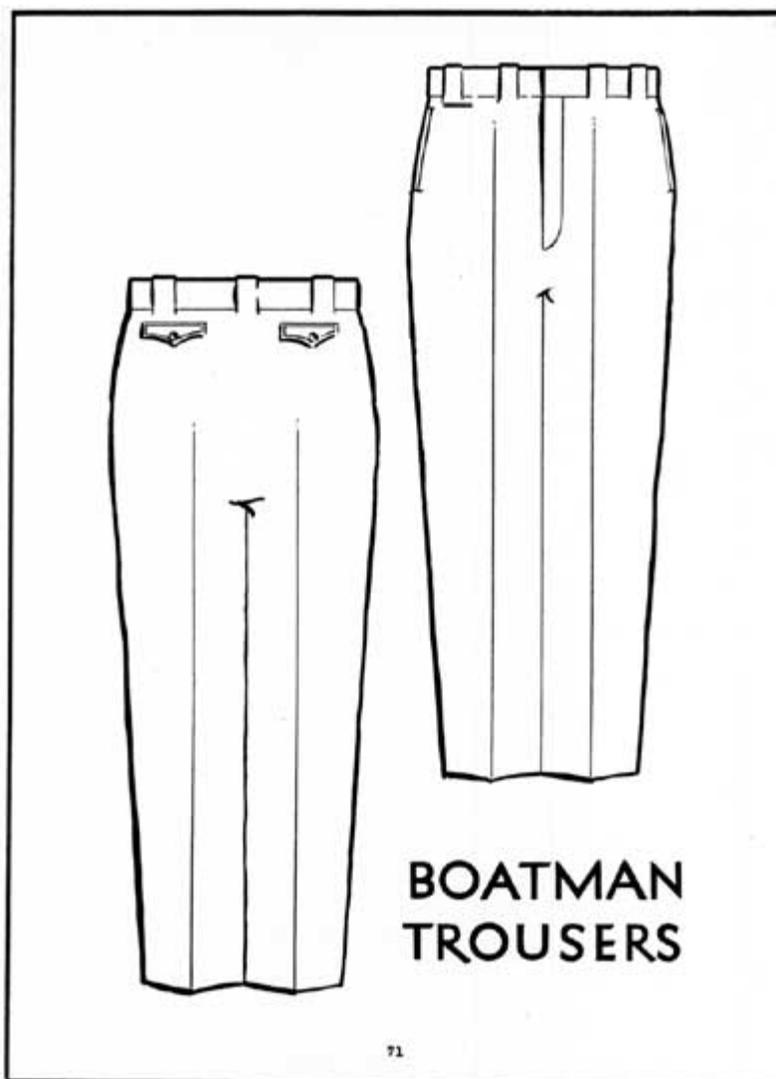


### B. COAT

Coat, dark blue, double-breasted, four button, similar in style and cut to that of a Chief Petty Officer of the U. S. Navy.

The regulation insignia USNPS shall be worn on the coat in the same manner prescribed for the standard uniform.

The coat shall be worn on all normal occasions, it may be dispensed with only during hot weather when the Superintendent or Custodian authorizes it.



#### C. TROUSERS

Of same material as coat, two side pockets, two hip pockets, and one watch pocket; similar in style and cut to that worn by the Chief Petty Officer of the U. S. Navy.

#### D. SHOES AND SOCKS

Black lace shoes or oxford type, with plain black socks shall be worn with trousers.

#### E. SHIRT

A white shirt and collar is prescribed for all occasions.

#### F. TIE

Four-in-hand barathea silk, full wool lined, black.

#### G. BUTTONS

Regulation park service.

#### H. SUMMER UNIFORM

Same style as the winter uniforms, except they shall be white and of duck or other suitable material. Shoes and socks white; tie black; and shirt white. Cap, white.

## VII. RESPONSIBILITY FOR CORRECTNESS OF ARTICLES AND PROPER USE OF UNIFORM

Employees designated to wear the National Park Service uniform shall, at their own expense, provide and wear uniforms as herein prescribed. They are responsible for compliance with the material and pattern specifications and for the proper use of their uniforms as required in these regulations and by the superintendent or custodian in charge of their field unit.

Superintendents, custodians, and other supervisory officials shall, by frequent inspection, see that all members of their organizations required to wear uniforms are properly equipped with all necessary articles of clothing and accessories and that they wear the same in accordance with these regulations. They are personally responsible for the type of material used and for the uniformity of all members of their organization.

Where these Regulations provide for a choice of materials or colors, it shall be the duty of the official in charge of a park area to decide which material or color shall be used in order to maintain complete uniformity of dress in each area administered by the Service.

They shall prescribe conditions for the use of the field and winter sports uniforms and for all seasonal changes.

No employee required to wear a National Park Service uniform shall be permitted to remain on duty improperly dressed.

All articles of uniform prescribed herein shall be in accordance with design and specifications approved by the Director.

The National Park Service uniformed personnel shall salute the American Flag with the right hand when it passes.

These regulations cancel and supersede all previously issued Uniform Regulations.

Newton B. Drury,  
Director.

---

<<< [Previous](#)

<<< [Contents](#) >>>