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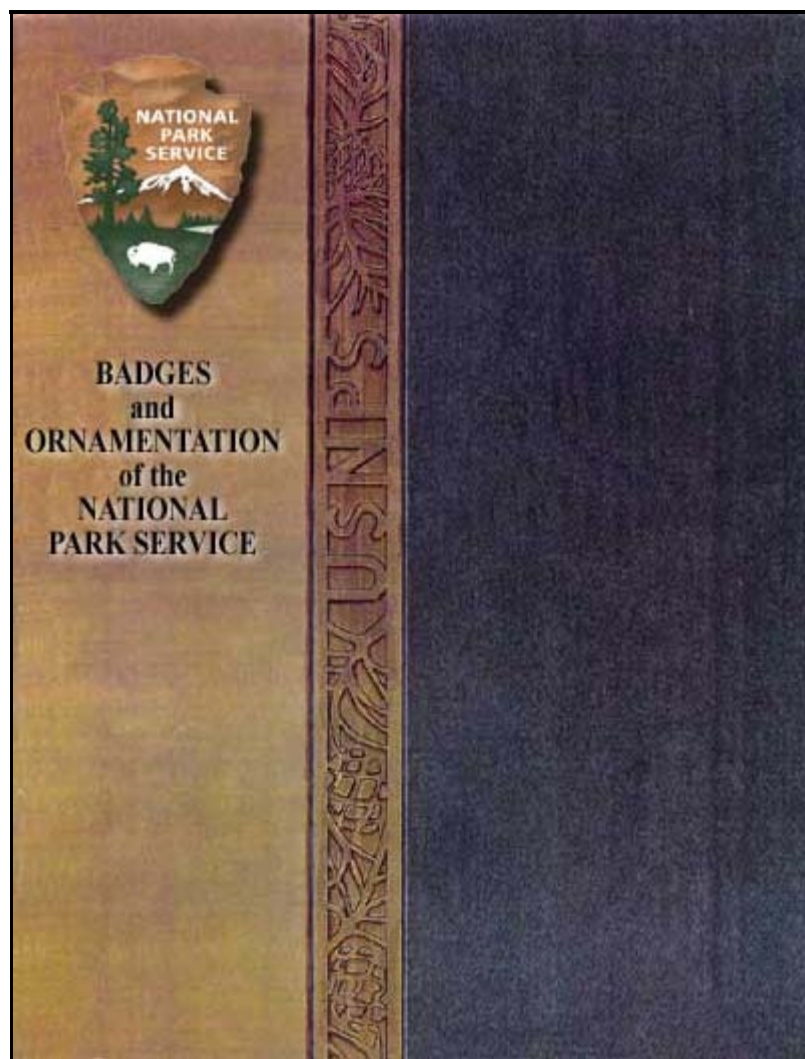
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BADGES *and* UNIFORM ORNAMENTATION *of the* NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



by R. Bryce Workman
1997

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BADGES *and* UNIFORM ORNAMENTATION of the NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Foreword

Uniforms and symbols designating units have been part of the military scene for well over two thousand years. They were first introduced to distinguish friend from foe, but later became a source of *esprit de corps* as uniformed organizations throughout the world vied with one another by wearing distinctive uniforms and unique symbols to set themselves apart and display their status to others of the same culture.

In the American military distinctive uniforms and emblems have, and still are, used to differentiate between the ranks of the personnel within the different Services. A series of metal insignia identify officers, while chevrons set the non-commissioned officers apart from the lowly private. In addition, special emblems were devised to identify those individuals with unique talents and positions.

Each branch of the Army (Infantry, Armor, Artillery, etc.) has its own special emblem and to further identify, as well as contribute to the *elan* of the organization, the various units within each branch (Divisions, Regiments, etc.) also have their own special identification in the form of a patch.

The uniform, badges and ornamentation of the National Park Service is an outgrowth of the military's presence in the Nation's parks during the early years of their existence, as Bryce Workman so ably illustrates in this volume. The Department of the Interior utilized the military example even in the early parks that had no martial presence and the National Park Service, when it was formed in 1916, attempted to follow this same military tradition of setting the officers apart from the men. The early insignia assigned to each group amply reflected this desire.

In addition, following the example of the Army, the Service instituted a system of unique symbols to reward specialists, who incidentally were all officers and just like the Army, even though the Park Service is a much smaller organization, it carried the specialists badges too far. What at first looked like a good idea went from sub-group to sub-group to sub-group, ad nauseam. This ebb and flow from general to the specific is a frequent theme in the subject of badges and devices. The present Army uniform is a perfect example. Everyone wears the same coat and then we hang special badges and devices all over it, so that one begins to look like an Edsel.

To alleviate the rapidly growing confusion, it became necessary for the Service to completely revamp their mode of operation and thinking. It would seem that we Americans must always have some sort of unique and special identity and wish everyone else to have it as well.

This volume should be very beneficial to those National Park Service employees interested in the history of the badges and ornamentation that have adorned the uniform of the National Park Ranger over the years, as well as collectors of Park Service and military memorabilia. This is the first serious study dealing with this subject and will certainly clear up a lot of myths within the National Park Service concerning this material.

It is truly amazing how quickly people forget where some of these devices came from and when they were introduced. There is many a ranger who believes that the arrow device must go back to the dawn of time or at least to the very beginnings of the Park Service. They will be stunned to discover the date that the arrowhead device was introduced to the Park Service uniform was 1952. This is but one of the many discoveries and surprises to be found in the pages of this interesting volume.

William L. Brown
Linwood, Maryland
1997





Washington Bartlett Lewis Lewis, better known as Dusty", spent his whole career at Yosemite National Park, becoming superintendent 1917-1929. One of the prime movers in the uniforming the Service, he epitomized the well dress ranger. Even in the field, he always appeared as if someone had just ran an iron over his uniform.
NPSHPC/YOSE#RL-9429

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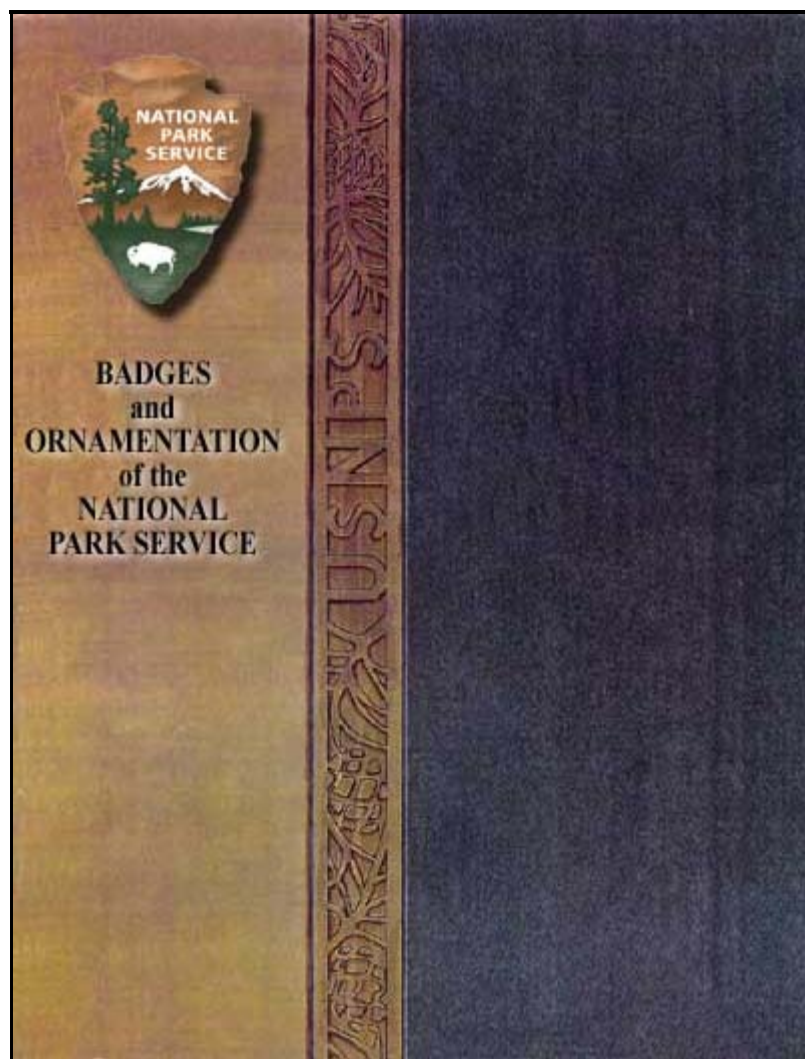
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BADGES *and* UNIFORM ORNAMENTATION of the NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Introduction

From the early days of Yellowstone National Park, there was a need to distinguish the men who would protect the national parks from those who would damage them. The early rangers, such as Harry Yount, did not wear uniforms and may or may not have carried a badge. The first clear reference to badges for rangers relates to their use by Yellowstone park scouts. The 1898 U.S. Department of the Interior badge was evidently the first universal badge to be used by the "forest rangers," as the rangers in Interior's parks as well as forest reserves were then called. From then until the first uniform came into being a decade later, badges were all that identified rangers. The uniform enabled the greater public recognition that was desired.

In the beginning, the National Park Service had the trappings of a military unit similar to the U.S. Army, which it replaced in some of the western parks. Materials and ornamentation for the officers (those who were not rangers) were of higher quality than those for the rangers. Officers wore serge instead of heavy wool and gold fill instead of nickel plate or German silver. Patches, or brassards as they were called, were worn on the sleeve to distinguish the various positions. These distinctions came to an end, for the most part, in 1928 when it was decided to raise the ranger in the field to the same level as those in administration. Rangers of the National Park Service have guarded the Nation's parks well over the years, making their mark in the history of this country in the process and as such, deserve recognition.

The following history of the various articles of adornment that have been used over the years to identify the National Park Service ranger was first published in 1991 as Number 1, "[Badges and Insignia](#)", in a series of books covering the uniforms of the National Park Service. This information was gleamed from public records as well as the National Parks Service History Collection (NPSHC) of badges and insignia that have been donated over the years by people interested in perpetuating the history of what the "man in the field" wore. So much information has come to light since that original publication, making this revision necessary in order to properly illustrate the various adornments of the ranger uniform. Past and present National Park Service employees plus a small but elite band of private collectors have helped immensely in this endeavor by opening their minds and boxes of treasured memorabilia. I would like to especially thank Tom DuRant, photo curator of the National Park Service History Photograph Collection

(NPSHPC), for his invaluable assistance in illustrating this work with its many historical images and Deryl Stone and Rick Howard for allowing me access to their collections. As with any treatise, such as this, many others, often unsung, have contributed greatly to it's success. I wish to thank David Nathanson, librarian at Harpers Ferry Center, for his assistance and inspiration, Barry Mackintosh for his superb editing of my original work, and the myriad others throughout the National Park Service, and other institutions, for their unstinting help in pulling the imagery and documentation together.

R. Bryce Workman
New Windsor Maryland
1996

Dedication

To all those men and women of the National Park Service, past and present, whose sacrifices and travails have engendered a system of national parks respected throughout the world, and of which the American people can be justly proud.



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BADGES: Metal



Harry S. Yount, c.1873. Though Yount is traditionally considered to be the first national park ranger, there were others assisting the superintendent in Yellowstone National Park before him. He worked as a "game keeper" (1880-1881) for one year before quitting, claiming the park was too big for one man to patrol. All known images of Yount were taken prior to his residency at the park. There is no evidence that he ever carried a badge. He probably worked by the old Western adage that "might makes right." *NPSHPC-HFC/91-0023*

Although Congress authorized the use of Army troops to protect Yellowstone National Park in 1883, when they started patrolling in 1886 they were only empowered to escort the offenders out of the park, not arrest them. Here and in the California national parks that came into being after 1890, the troops sometimes employed ingenious methods of coping with those that would defile the parks, such as expelling offenders from one side, while driving their flocks or casting their weapons out the opposite side. But a more regular form of law enforcement was needed. For this duty civilian rangers, or scouts as they were known in Yellowstone, were hired. These early forest rangers, as they would later be called, displayed their authority in the form of a badge, usually from some local jurisdiction, or in the case of Yellowstone, the park.



Yellowstone Park Scout Badge, c.1894-1906. This badge was issued to civilian scouts hired by the military

to help protect the park. Scouts were issued German-silver, or plated badges, while chief scouts received sterling silver. *NPSHC*

The earliest known badge attributed to a national park is that of the "Yellowstone Park Scout." It probably came in after the 1894 Lacey Act, when scouts were hired to enforce the hunting prohibition in the national parks. It was silver, round, two inches in diameter, with YELLOWSTONE PARK SCOUT stamped around the perimeter. The middle was cut out in the shape of a star with a number stamped in the center. It was made by the J. P. Cook Company of Omaha, Nebraska. The chief scout's badge was sterling and cost \$1.25. The other scouts wore badges of German silver and were charged 75 cents if they lost them, probably the replacement cost. [1] These badges were worn by rangers at Yellowstone National Park until after the separation of the Services in 1905, and new badges issued in 1906. (The Forest Service was transferred to the Department of Agriculture) Up until this time the men in both Services were considered "Forest Rangers".

It is not known exactly what the badges issued to rangers in the other parks looked like. But from correspondence and photographs we know that they were being worn. There are three extant photographs of rangers in Sequoia National Park wearing two different badges, a round badge over one with a shield configuration. Two of these photographs are circa 1902; the other one, while undatable, shows one of the rangers from the other photographs, Lew Davis, wearing the same clothes. So it can be assumed that it was taken about the same time as the others. The two 1902 photographs are of the same four rangers, taken on the same day. The images are not very clear, but from the reflections on the round badges it can be determined that they are solid, without piercing.



Rangers of Sequoia National Park near old Britten store and post office, c.1902. Rangers are wearing the 1898 USDI badge with a "patrol" (?) Badge under it. *NPSHPC/SEQU#886*

Left to right: Lew Davis, 1901-1909, 1924-1929; Ernest Britten, 1900-1905 (transferred to Forest Service in 1905); Charlie Blossom, 1901-1916; Harry Britten (nephew of Ernest), 1902-1903, 1904-1915.

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BADGES: Cloth

In addition to the metal badges, the National Park Service has authorized several cloth badges over the years. Some people think of these as patches, but because they were designed to denote the authority of the wearer they are properly considered badges.

Two of these were issued to lifeguards. The first cloth badge (1937) was made out of olive green gabardine, with U.S. PARK LIFE GUARD and an eagle and other symbols embroidered in yellow. Under the eagle is a yellow bar with NATIONAL PARK SERVICE/DEPT OF THE INTERIOR embroidered in white. This badge was to be worn on the lower right side of the bathing suit. There are no known photographs of lifeguards wearing this badge.

1937-1953 LIFE GUARD

Description: olive green shield
lettering and symbols in white and
gold

Size: 4-1/2" wide x 5-1/2" high



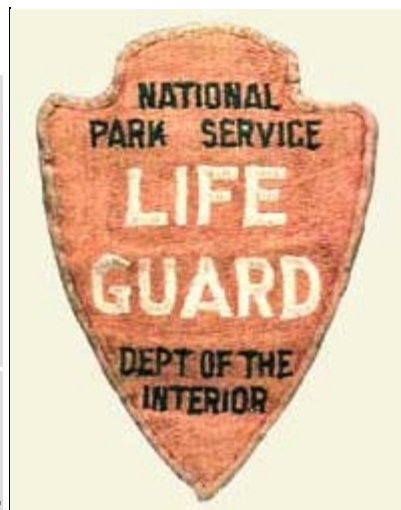
[click for an enlargement](#)

In 1953, in keeping with the Service's attempt to associate all its activities and locations with its new emblem, the 1937 badge was replaced with one incorporating a variation of the arrowhead. The new badge consisted of a light brown arrowhead with a dark brown border. At the top was NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, and below was DEPT OF THE INTERIOR, both embroidered in black. In the center was embroidered LIFE GUARD in white letters. With slight variations in size and style, this badge was worn until the swim suits were changed from orange to red in 1983.

1953-1983 LIFE GUARD

Description: fully stitched in light brown thread with black and white letters

Size: 4" wide x 5-3/4" high



[click for an enlargement](#)



Lifeguards at Cape Cod National Seashore, c.1965. Their clothing was white at this time. Note arrowhead on pith helmets. NPSHPC/HFC#91-8



"Park Service Life Guards," 1971. These lifeguards are wearing the orange swim suits. NPSHPC-Fred E. Mang, Jr. photo-HFC#71-279-9-12

After 1983, the badge was silk-screened in a golden yellow onto the wind breaker and walking shorts. Later this was expanded to include the swim suits. This practice continues today, although there is some discussion about revamping this custom in the near future.

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BADGES: National Park Service Associated

There is a final group of badges known as "National Park Service Associated Badges". These are usually a dual purpose badge, incorporating "Deputy Marshal", or some other law enforcement agency, along with a variation of "National Park Service" or "National Park Ranger", and occasionally the park name. Though not officially authorized by the National Park Service, badges of this nature were often purchased by the individual park, or the ranger himself for added authority.

Since there is no reference to these dual purpose badges in the official correspondence, nor manufacturer's marks on the back of those examined, it cannot be determined where, or when, they were made, or in most cases, used. Dating is equally difficult. Style is not a true indicator since the purchaser could have selected an old badge blank to have his new information applied. Most, though, appear to date from the earlier decades of the century.

Sequoia National Park Forest Ranger

This badge is the exception to the rule. It was probably worn by a ranger in Sequoia National Park prior to the separation of the Services in 1905, since after that date all rangers working within parks were known as Park Rangers. It is made of nickel-silver and has an ornate scroll-strap border in the shape of a stylized shield. In the center are three bars with a stippled background, of which the top and bottom bars are arched. The top bar contains the words FOREST RANGER, the middle bar, in two lines, SEQUOIA/NATIONAL PARK and across the bottom, CALIFORNIA. The pin on the back is of the safety pin variety, without safety latch. Size: 1-3/4" wide x 1-15/16" high.



Grand Canyon Constable

This is the only badge in this group with provenance. It was worn by Hubert Reginald "Bert" Lauzon when he patrolled Bright Angel Trail for Coconino County, Arizona, prior to its transfer to the Federal Government in 1928. While not actually worn after the Trail became part of Grand Canyon National Park, it is included here because of the man that wore it.

Bert was born on 25 January, 1886. He first arrived at Grand Canyon in 1910 and fell in love with the area. After working in the mines and trying his hand at farming, he went to work for Coconino County in 1919 as caretaker and toll collector for the Trail. With the transfer in 1928, it looked like Bert was out of a job, and the Canyon. But he quickly corrected the matter by becoming a member of the ranger force on 1 January, 1929. After almost 24 years of exemplary service, in which time he refused offers of promotion that might take him away from his beloved Canyon, he died on 3 November, 1951, and is buried in the Grand Canyon Cemetery. [27]

The badge is made of nickel-silver and slightly convex, with CONSTABLE/GRAND CANYON/ARIZ. in three lines. Constable and Ariz. are curved. There is also a small decoration between Constable and Grand Canyon. Size: 1-3/8" wide x 1-5/8" high.



Hubert R. "Bert" Lauzon, ranger, Grand Canyon NP, on his horse Comet, 1929. Lauzon patrolled the Bright Angel Trail for Coconino County, Arizona, before hiring on with the National Park Service. The hat must be a holdover from his old days on the Trail. *Courtesy of Richard Karch*

Gettysburg National Military Park/ Assistant U.S. Marshal

At first glance, this badge appears to have been used in Glacier National Park (G.N.P.), but in fact was issued at Gettysburg prior to the park being transferred from the Army to the National Park Service. The badge is made of heavy gauge nickel-silver and



slightly convex with nine unprotected points, the odd point down. Across the face in four lines are the words ASSISTANT/U.S./MARSHALL/G.N.P. in light blue enamel. The words are alternately 3/16" and 1/4". Size: 2-1/2" wide x 2-1/2" high.

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ORNAMENTATION: Arrowhead Patch

From the first, the men guarding our parks looked for an identity. They wanted a uniform and all of the trappings that would let the world know who they were. When the National Park Service was inaugurated as a bureau in 1917, an "officer and men" mentality prevailed, with the basic rangers being the "men" and everyone else "officers." This was reflected in the first insignia allocated to each. In succeeding years many different things were tried, polished, and in some cases abandoned before the great "leveling" of the 1928 uniform regulations. The following is a breakdown of the various insignia that have been used, or proposed for use in some cases, by Service personnel.

For years there had been agitation within the Park Service for some emblem that would identify the Service as the shield did the Forest Service. A contest was held in 1949 because it was thought at that time that the only emblem used by the Service, the Sequoia cone, did not adequately symbolize the bureau. The winner of the contest, Dudley Bayliss, collected the fifty dollar prize, but his "road badge" design was never used. Conrad L. Wirth, then in the Newton B. Drury directorate, served on the review committee that made the winning selection. He thought that Bayliss' design was "good and well presented, but it was, as were most of the submissions, a formal modern type." They had expected something that would have symbolized what the parks were all about. [28]



Emblem used by the National Park Service prior to the Arrowhead being adopted in 1952. NPSA/HFC RGY55

Shortly after the contest was over, Aubrey V. Neasham, a historian in the Region IV (now Western Region) Engineering Division in San Francisco, in a letter to Director Drury, suggested that the Service should have an emblem depicting its primary function "like an arrowhead, or a tree or a buffalo." [29] With the letter Neasham

submitted a rough sketch of a design incorporating an elongated arrowhead and a pine tree. Drury thought the design had "the important merit of simplicity" and was "adequate so far as the symbolism is concerned." [30]



Dudley Bayless' "open road" design, winner of the 1949 National Park Service Emblem Design Contest. NPSA/HFC RG Y55



Dr. Aubrey Neasham's suggestion for the National Park Service emblem. NPSA/HFC RG Y55

When Wirth became director in 1951, he turned Neasham's design over to Herbert Maier, then assistant director of Region IV. Maier's staff, including Sanford "Red" Hill, Cecil J. Doty, and Walter Rivers, were all involved in the design process and ultimately came up with the arrowhead design in use today. [31]

The arrowhead was authorized as the official National Park Service emblem by the Secretary of the Interior on July 20, 1951. While not spelled out in official documents, the elements of the emblem symbolized the major facets of the national park system, or as Wirth put it, "what the parks were all about." The Sequoia tree and bison represented vegetation and wildlife, the mountains and water represented scenic and recreational values, and the arrowhead represented historical and archeological values. [32]



Official 1952 National Park Service Arrowhead emblem. This design was also used to make the shoulder patch for the uniform. NPSA/HFC RG Y55



1954 revision of Arrowhead emblem. NPSA/HFC RG Y55

Starting in 1952, the arrowhead began to be used on the cover of park information folders with the first probably the one published in April of that year for Oregon Caves National Monument. It soon gained public recognition as the Service symbol and became widely used on signs and publications. Instructions for its use on signs were first sent to the field on September 25, 1952. [33]

Amendment No. 7, July 29, 1952, to the 1947 uniform regulations prescribed the use of the arrowhead as a patch for the uniform. Enough of these patches were sent to each area so that each permanent uniformed employee received three and each seasonal uniformed employee received one. The patch was to be "sewn in the center of the sleeve, with the top of the insignia 2 inches below the shoulder seam, so that the arrowhead will appear perpendicular when the ARM is held in a relaxed position at the side."



Arrowhead was probably first used on this information folder for Oregon Caves national Monument published in April 1952.
NPSA/ORCA

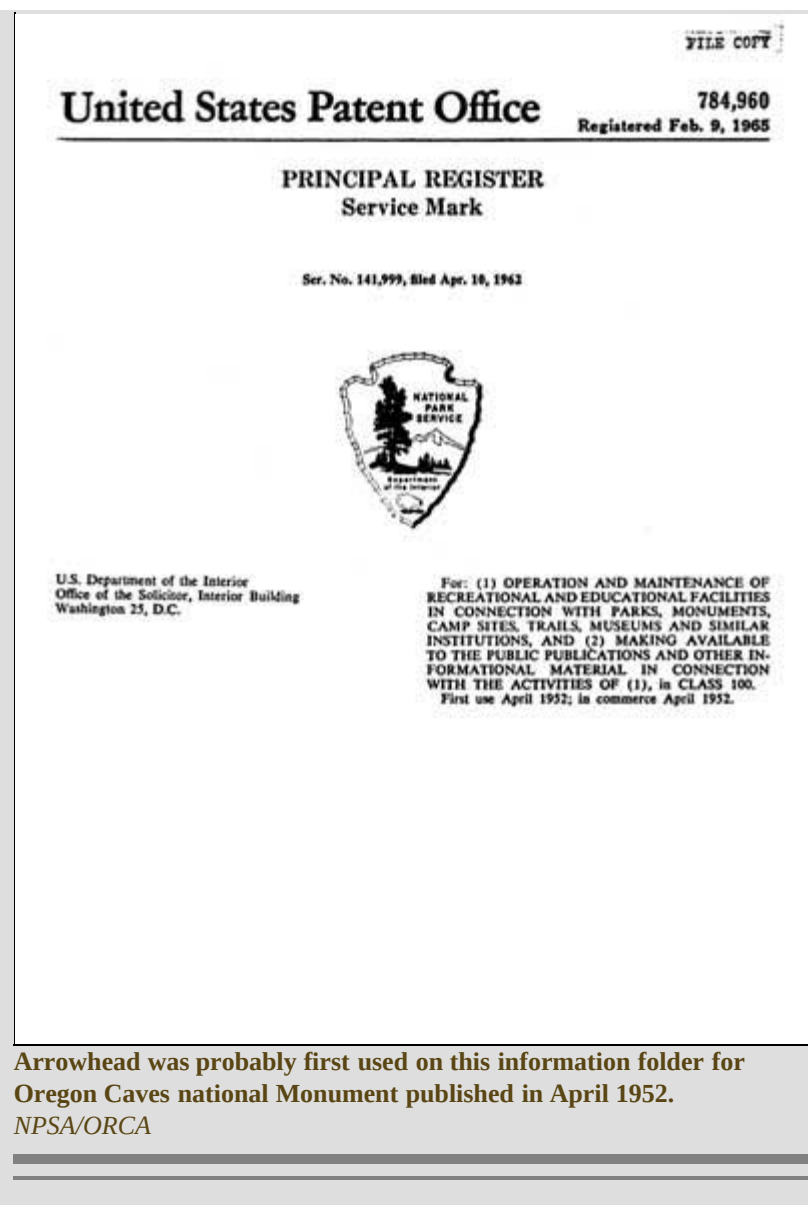
The patches were extremely unpopular with uniformed employees when first issued, but quickly "grew" on those wearing them.

At first there was only one size of patch, 3-3/4" high by 3" wide, but it was soon realized that a reduced version was needed for women. These smaller patches, 2-1/2" x 2", subsequently also made their appearance on hats and the fronts of jackets for both men and women.



Park Naturalist [Ernest L. Karlstrom] in Acadia National Park shows two park visitors species of sea life found in the park. 1961.
NPSHPC-Jack Boucher photo-HFC#586-5

To forestall unseemly commercial uses of the arrowhead design, an official notice, approved March 7, 1962, was published in the Federal Register of March 15, 1962 (27 F.R. 2486), designating it as the official symbol of the National Park Service. [34]



Prior to World War II, the majority of visitors to national parks, especially those out West, came by train. But during the war, visitation dropped off drastically and a number of the parks were used by the military as training grounds or rest areas. During the War, park appropriations had been cut to the bone and ten years after the cessation of hostilities were still a million dollars under that of 1940, even though a number of new parks had been established. The automobile had come into its own and visitation was up three fold. Time and traffic were turning the Nation's parks into a shambles and because of the lack of finding, sanitation was deplorable and the other utilities were taxed to the utmost.

This was the park system confronting Wirth when he became director. In 1956 Wirth initiated a ten year program, entitled MISSION 66, to revitalize the parks. This was to be completed for the 50th anniversary of the National Park Service.

In 1966, to celebrate the Service's birthday, an exhibit entitled PARKSCAPE was erected. This

exhibit featured a conservation logo designed by the New York firm of Chermayeff and Geismar Associates consisting of 3 triangles enclosing three balls. The triangles represented the outdoors (trees and Mountains) with the 3 balls being the standard symbol for preservation.



In addition, the same firm designed a new seal for the Department of the Interior. Secretary Stewart L. Udall had attempted to change Interior's name to either Department of Natural

PARKSCAPE U.S.A. logo. Hartzog wanted to replace the arrowhead with this emblem.

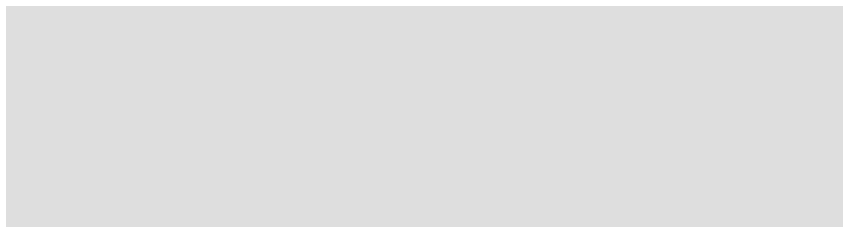
Resources or Department of Conservation, but this met with great opposition. He did, however, manage to have the seal changed from the buffalo to a stylized pair of hands holding a circle (sun) over two large triangles (mountains) which in turn were over nine small inverted triangles symbolizing water. The hands motif had been suggested by Vince Gleason as an abstract symbolizing that the Nation's natural resources were in good hands.

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. Among its facets was one that dealt with the upgrading and modernization of the image of the Service itself. Hartzog had become enamored with the logo of the PARKSCAPE exhibit and adopted it for his new program.

Hartzog used the occasion of an article in the July, 1966, issue of the National Geographic Society Magazine concerning the National Park System to launch his new program. He assured employees that the triangle symbol would supplement rather than supplant the arrowhead.

In 1968, however, when Secretary Udall adopted the new Interior seal (designed by Chermayeff and Geismar Associates), 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 nevertheless unenthusiastic, for the representational arrowhead was far better liked than the abstract Parkscape symbol.

Nevertheless, boards were made up by Chermayeff & Geismar showing how the new symbols would look on the various pieces 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. *NPSA/HFC RG Y55*

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. Before this unpopular directive could be implemented, Secretary 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. [35]

The first patches were filly stitched, creating a 2-dimensional appearance. They were embroidered on a non-sanforized material and consequently could only be used on coats. Subsequent orders corrected this problem. As new orders were placed over the years, the patch slowly evolved into a solid stitched, self edged patch with heavy top stitching, where the various elements were layered onto the field, giving an almost 3-dimensional effect. This, in turn, has given way to the various elements being layered directly onto the base material, thus substantially reducing the cost. This is the arrowhead most often seen today. Lion Brothers, Baltimore, Maryland, have been involved with the development and manufacture of most, if not all of the arrowhead patches made for the Service.

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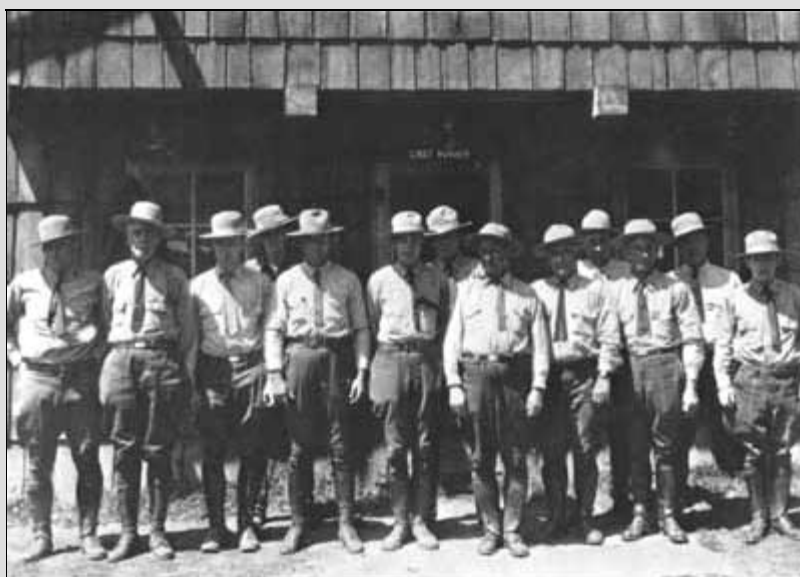
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BADGES *and* UNIFORM ORNAMENTATION *of the* NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ORNAMENTATION: Belt

Possibly because the coat was usually worn buttoned up 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 cordovan color.



Ranger force at Sequoia National Park, c.late 1920s. Prior to the 1936 regulations, belts of all descriptions were worn by rangers. Also note the variety of ties. Davis & Brooks are wearing unauthorized footwear.
NPSHPC/HFC#86-246

Left to Right: Packard, Lew Davis, Kerr, Williams, Brooks, Cook, Peck, Dorr, Fry, Alles, Smith, Sprigelymyre, Gibson.

In Office Order No 324, National Park Service Uniform Regulations, April 13, 1936, a web belt was stipulated. In 1938, Office Order No. 350 added a leather belt. The order states:

A-1 BELT

Forestry green, web-waist belt, 1-1/8 inches wide, with buckle approved by the Director, is prescribed for wear

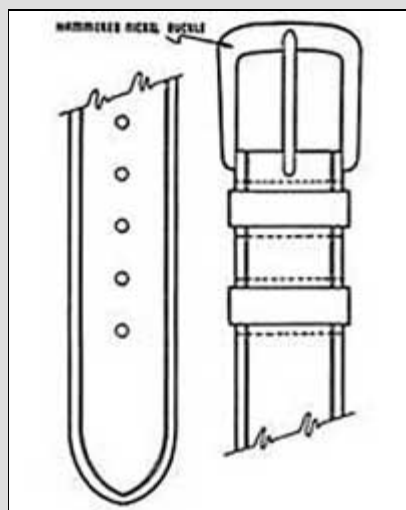
when breeches are worn with or without coat.

A-2 LEATHER BELT

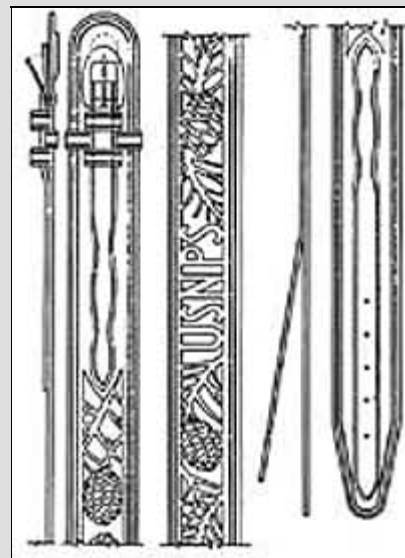
Forestry green, 1-1/4 inches wide, with nickel-plated buckle approved by the Director, is prescribed for wear only when coat is worn.

Apparently the original order did not contain the above description of the leather belt, because on November 10, 1938, Office Order 350 was amended to include a description and a sketch of the leather belt. The 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 style. The web belt probably utilized the standard military type of slip-lock buckle.

Office Order 350 was again revised on April 19, 1939. This time the web waist belt was eliminated and the color of the leather belt changed to the standard cordovan color of Park Service leather goods. The width was also increased to 1-1/2 inches.



Plain leather belt, 1938. Belt was 1-1/4" wide, forestry green in color. Belt width was increased to 1-1/2" in 1939 and the color changed to cordovan. *NPSA/HFC RG Y55-Office Order 350 (1938) & Office Order 350 revised (1939)*

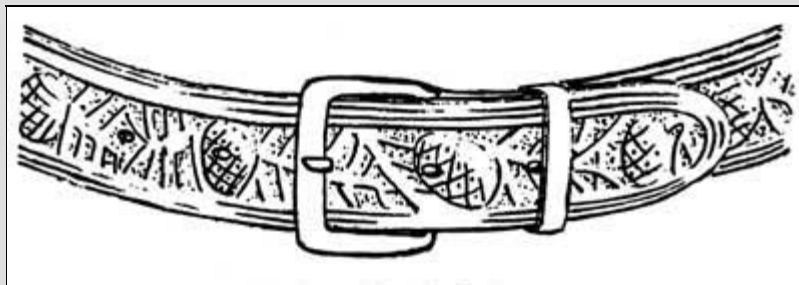


Embossed leather belt, 1940. 1-1/2" wide, cordovan color. *NPSA/HFC RG Y55-1940 Uniform Regulations*

The 1940 uniform regulations brought with them two additional optional belts. Besides the standard belt, ranger could now wear a 1/8-inch-thick by 1-1/2-inch-wide belt embossed with a design similar to the hat band. This belt was of the "billeted" or "western gun holster" style, which has a secondary narrow belt sewn on top of the wider main belt. The narrow belt was used to secure the larger one. In addition, Service employees required to wear side arms could wear a belt with a strap over the shoulder to support the weight of the weapon if they desired. 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. Both of these belts were to be cordovan.

The 1961 uniform regulations changed the embossed belt. It remained 1-1/2 inches wide, but now the buckle was the full width of the belt and the "USNPS" was eliminated. This became the standard belt for the National Park Service and continues to this day.



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

A number of NPS buckles have been suggested or made over the years, but they are all unofficial and usually not allowed to be worn with the uniform.

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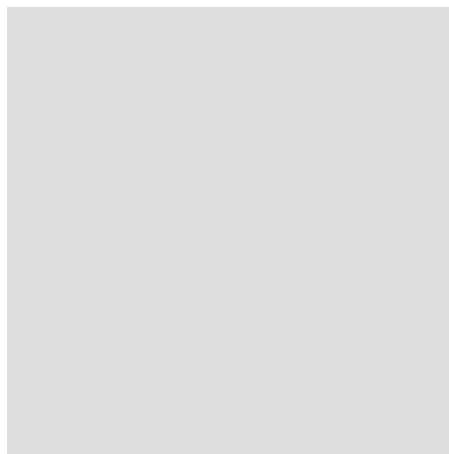
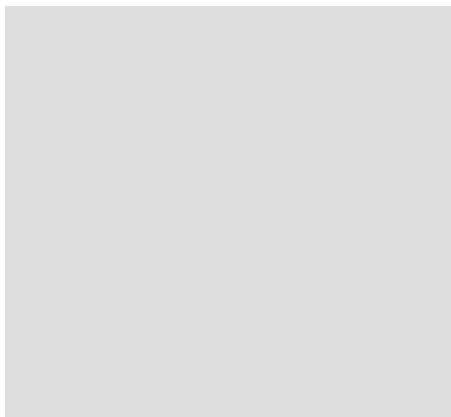
BADGES *and* UNIFORM ORNAMENTATION *of the* NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ORNAMENTATION: Buttons

U.S. Army buttons were doubtless used occasionally by rangers prior to the introduction of civilian uniforms. The first button known to have been used by a ranger on a uniform in the Interior Department's "park service" is the 1907 Forest Service button. This button shows up in a photograph of Karl Keller, a ranger in Sequoia National Park, taken in 1910. It has a pine tree in the center, with the words Forest on top and Service underneath.

In 1911 the first uniforms were officially authorized, sanctioned would be a better word, for use by rangers in the park service. These uniforms were purchased from Parker, Bridget & Company of Washington, D.C. [36] The matter of special park service buttons was broached, but the department concluded that: "inasmuch as we would have to have a die made for the special buttons for the park service which would cost about \$28, we had best drop the matter of the special buttons until the future of the national park service is definitely determined. If the Bureau of National Parks is created, another design of button might be necessary. The uniforms are now equipped with United States Army buttons." [38]

That winter, Sigmund Eisner of Red Bank, New Jersey, began negotiating with the department to furnish new uniforms for the park rangers. In his correspondence, he offered to have "buttons made to any design for the service for which they are intended. I would keep these buttons in stock subject to your orders." [39] At a subsequent meeting with Chief Clerk Clement Ucker in Washington in December or early January 1912, Eisner was apparently shown one of the park service badges as a possible pattern for the new buttons. [39]





Karl Keller, c.1910. Keller was a ranger at Sequoia National Park (1908-1917?). His uniform has 1907 Forest Service buttons on it. Also note the Army officer's U.S. on his collar and the sprig of Sequoia on his sleeve. Photograph given to Lawrence F. Cook (NPS) by his daughter, Erma Tobin. *NPSHPC-Hammond Photo-HFC#WASO D726A*



First authorized National Park Service uniform, Glacier National Park, c.1911. This uniform, made by Parker, Bridget & Co., Washington, DC, was delivered with 1910 U.S. Army buttons on it. Man on left is wearing a Model 1910 US Army uniform, minus military insignia. *NPSHPC-1915 Anderson photo album GLAC/HPF#9638*

Soon after the interview, Assistant Secretary Arno Thompson wrote Eisner requesting drawings of the proposed uniforms, together with "advice as to whether bronze buttons bearing the eagle design surrounded by the words "National Park Service, Department of the Interior," as used upon the park ranger service badge shown you, will be purchased and placed upon the uniforms." Eisner agreed to this and stated that he would "have die made for these buttons in all sizes."badges as a possible pattern for the new buttons. [40]

Subsequently, not only were these buttons used on the uniforms made by Eisner, but the department also purchased them for uniforms the rangers had made by other manufacturers and to replace those lost through attrition. Even though the rangers had to furnish their own uniforms, the buttons were given without charge.

These buttons were stocked and sold to the department by Eisner. The early buttons were made by the Waterbury Button Company of Waterbury, Connecticut, but were back-stamped SIGMUND EISNER/RED BANK, N.J. Later buttons carry the Waterbury back stamp. As stated above, they were modeled after the 1906 badge and were finished in what was classified as a "bronze" finish. This appears to be a sort of heavy coating. This coating was the subject of much controversy in later years because of its chipping and flaking.

Walter Fry, the ranger in charge at Sequoia National Park, has long been credited with suggesting that the "National Park Service" badge be used as the model for this button.



Walter Fry, 1920. Fry was Ranger-in-Charge at Sequoia in 1911 when he wrote the letter that supposedly credited him with suggesting the badge be used as a model for the new NPS button. But this appears to be a misunderstanding of his intent. He merely wanted to be sure his new (1911) uniform had the Army buttons with the eagle instead of the Forest Service buttons he had previously worn. This image was taken while he was guiding the House Appropriations Committee during its visit to Sequoia. He is wearing the 1920 NPS uniform with Army wrap-leggings. *NPSHPC-J. W. Good Album-HFC#92-40-1*

This may or may not be partially correct. In a letter he wrote to the Secretary of the Interior requesting authority to purchase "Forestry green winter uniforms." he also requested that they be "equipped with the bronze Army buttons, bearing design of eagle, same as our badges now worn, instead of the Forest Service button." [41] The rangers at Sequoia National Park had worn the forest green uniform with Forest Service buttons since 1909, and Fry probably only wanted the new uniforms to have "bronze Army buttons" like the new uniforms then being made. It is possible that his statement "bearing design of eagle, same as our badges now worn" may have influenced the department when they considered a design for the new buttons, but there is no documentation to substantiate this.

In a letter dated May 14, 1915, Mark Daniels, general superintendent of national parks (a position roughly equivalent to the later director), proposed that a "bright" button replace the "bronze" buttons then being used on the service uniforms. [42] He included a sample button with his request, which the department forwarded to Sigmund Eisner, requesting prices. Eisner responded with prices of \$5.00 and \$2.50 per gross for large and small buttons respectively, whereupon the department ordered a gross of each. [43]

The 1926 Uniform Committee (to report at the 1927 meeting) voted four to two to change the uniform coat buttons from bronze to gilt. They believed that gilt buttons would set off the forestry-colored cloth to a greater advantage and added "distinctiveness and snappiness" to the uniform. This recommendation was included in

Delivery lagged for months, with the department requesting the buttons, and Eisner promising them any day, until finally in October he wrote the secretary that he was unable to make the manufacturer (Waterbury) understand what was requested and needed another sample. [44] This

request was forwarded to Daniels, the proposed changes for the new uniform regulations. Upon reviewing the committee's evidence that these buttons were suggested regulation changes, ever made.

Horace Albright, then Yellowstone superintendent and assistant director (field), found several of the proposed revisions was a trade term meaning polished "particularly objectionable." brass with a lacquer finish. There is Among them was the change to a brass button in the NPS History gilt buttons. He recommended that Collection that was never plated, but the current regulations be it is without provenance. continued in force for 1927 and that the revisions be submitted to the superintendents for their comments. [45] Albright must have done his work well, for nothing else was heard of "gilt" buttons.

Complaints were still being heard about the lacquered finish on the buttons flaking and coming off. In the mid-1930s Waterbury started using an "acid treated" process. This insured that the button was clean and the resulting chemical coloring was bonded securely to the metal, obviating the use of heavy lacquers. This process is still used on the National Park Service buttons today. [46]



Mark Roy Daniels, general superintendent of parks, 1914-1915.

Daniels designed a new NPS uniform in 1915 and wanted to replace the bronze, Army style buttons with "bright" (unplated) ones, but a series of mishaps and the formation of the new bureau cancelled this out.

Portland Journal, 15 April, 1915

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ORNAMENTATION: Cap Insignia

Wearing the standard hat was inconvenient for those rangers assigned to motorcycle duty. So the soft, or "English" army officer, cap was authorized in 1928 for rangers assigned to that function. This was expanded to include "hot summer" parks in the east. The initial authorization did not include any decoration on the cap, but this was changed by Office Order No. 204, revised, in 1932. This order specified that a "modified form of the National Park Service band" was to be worn with the cap. This consisted of a chin strap, with some of the same elements found on the hat band impressed on it. It also had USNPS tooled on the front center. It was held at the sides by two sterling silver Sequoia cones, like those used on the hatband. Although subsequent uniform regulations still specified the cap to be the "English Army Officer" style, the design was changed sometime soon after its introduction to that used by police officers. (faceted rim)

Even though no ornament was specified for the front of the cap, photographs show several rangers sporting what looks like a large eagle on the front of their caps. There had been some discussion concerning this back in the late 1920s, when the cap was initially proposed, but the matter of the ornament had been dropped at that time. There are photographs showing Tex Worley, of Yellowstone, wearing his ranger badge on the front of his cap.



Rangers from Sequoia National Park, 1930s. Hines is dressed for

motorcycle duty and is wearing a large eagle on his cap, along with his Sam Browne belt. *NPSHPC/HFC#86-243*

Left to right: Hines, Cook. (?), Spigelmyre, Parkes, (?), Hamilton

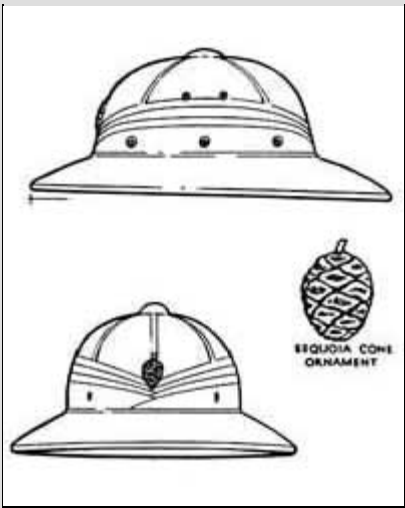
The 1938 superintendents' conference had recommended an aluminum-colored pith helmet, with a large sterling silver Sequoia cone ornament. But when Office Order No. 350, revised, was issued on April 19, 1939, the color of the helmet was changed to forestry green and there was no mention of an ornament. 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 core ornament eliminated."

The 1940 uniform regulations changed the color of the helmet again. This time it was to be of a "sand tan color." And apparently, because of availability, the sterling silver Sequoia cone was reinstated, but this time it was to be the same size as those worn on the hatband. On September 18, 1953, the sun helmet was eliminated from the uniform regulations and the Sequoia cone reverted to being used solely on the standard hat and cap.

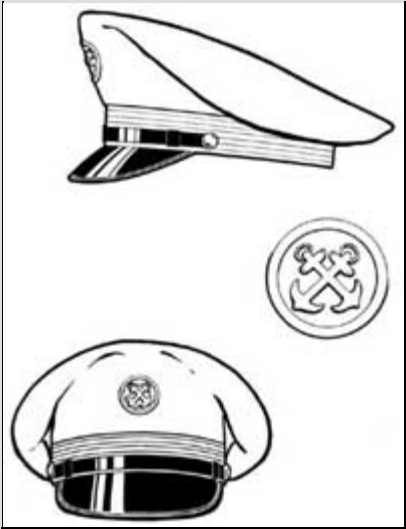
The 1940 regulations also introduced a new uniform for those rangers, or boatmen, that worked on boats of the National Park Service. The wording is somewhat odd. It states, "...the following articles of uniform are prescribed for wear by the boat captain, engineer purser or other employees [*italics added*] of the boats." This could be construed to mean everyone working the boat, unless of course the hands were simply assigned from the ranger force by the parks.



Motorcycle messenger at South gate, Yellowstone National Park, 1932. He is wearing his badge on his cap. *NPSHPC/YELL#130,141/FONT*>



National Park Service pith helmet, 1940. This drawing shows the large Sequoia cone originally authorized for the helmet. *NPSA/RG55Y/1940 NPS Uniform Regulations Manual*



National Park Service Boatman's hat, 1940. These were designed after the U.S. Navy Chief Petty Officer's hat. *NPSA/RG 55Y/1940 NPS Uniform Regulations Manual*



3 Boatmen from Isle Royale National Park wearing the new boatman's uniform, 1940.

Left to right: Edwin C. Johnson, Charles R. Greenleaf, George T. White NPSHPC/ISRO#40-342



John G. Lewis, superintendent, Isle Royale National Park, 1958. Lewis, probably better known by his alter ego, "Onelick Evergreen", is wearing the 1936 pattern ski cap with the embroidered USNPS on the front. Also note the 20 year Length-of-Service patch on his sleeve. *NPSHPC/ISRO#*

The uniform was to be Navy blue, including the cap, which was modeled after those worn by Chief Petty Officers in the U.S. Navy. The regulations do not address the issue, but this uniform was probably

intended strictly for the Service's deep water "Navy", like the boatmen that crewed RANGER's II and III on Lake Superior for Isle Royale National Park, since this is the only location that apparently received them. The 1947 uniform regulations authorized a summer uniform of white duck. The style and decoration were to be the same.

The cap was to have a distinctive ornament on the front. It consisted of an 1-1/2" circle with crossed anchors in the center. All embroidery was to be gold thread on navy-blue cloth.

Although the uniform remained in the regulations until 1961, it apparently wasn't too popular since few photographs exist showing it being worn. There are no extant examples known.

The 1961 Uniform Regulations changed the Boatmen's dress back to the standard ranger uniform, less badge, including standard hat when ashore. However, when on board the boat, officers were to wear the Chief Petty Officers style cap, only now it was to be forest green. same as the uniform, with the emblem being gold thread. The hands were to wear the standard service cap.

A photograph of Charles R. Greenleaf, captain of the Ranger, shows the emblem on his hat to be larger and more ornate than that previously used. It is still the crossed anchors, but now they are "fouled." Even though the regulations now specify that only the crews out of Isle Royale were to wear the Petty Officer cap, there is a photograph of Gene F. Gatzke from Lake Mead Recreation Area wearing one with this emblem. In addition to the patch, he has what appears to be a small round metal disc with NPS on it fastened at the top between the anchors.

Regulations must not have been too strict, later photographs show Greenleaf wearing caps with various emblems on them. Even occasionally the service cap.

A ski cap was introduced in 1936. [47] This was the first of a series of caps bearing an embroidered USNPS. The letters were to be gold and 3/4-inch high. The 1961 regulations specified that women's "airline stewardess" hats were to have USNPS embroidered on them in 1/2-inch gold letters. The letters were either embroidered directly on the hat or on a piece of material matching the hat. However, prior to these regulations becoming effective, the color was changed to silver to be consistent with the collar insignia and badge. [48]

The National Park Service History Collection has an example of the



Camille Elias, 1963. Elias is wearing the 1961 pattern uniform. Her pillbox hat has a patch with the USNPS

USNPS embroidered on a piece of uniform material for the women's hat. But since it is gold instead of silver, it can be assumed to be a sample made before the color change. Since most of the photographs from this period are black and white, the color cannot be identified. There is, however, a color photograph from Everglades National Park showing 3 women wearing hats with white USNPS on the front which confirms that, at least in their case, white was used in place of gold. The embroidered USNPS on the women's hat was replaced in 1962 by the "reduced" size (2-1/2-inch) arrowhead patch.

embroidered on it.
NPSHFC#WASOG.337A

As in the case of the women's hat, when the new style ski cap, now called a service cap, was adopted in the 1961 regulations, it was specified to have USNPS embroidered on the front, like the previous cap, but this was also changed to silver in 1960. Now, though, the USNPS was embroidered on a piece of the cap material, all on one line, and sewn to the front of the cap. Sometime prior to 1969, at which time it was eliminated in favor of the arrowhead, the USNPS began to be embroidered in 2 lines on a two inch square forestry green patch with a silver (white) border and sewn to the cap. No evidence has uncovered as to when these patches were authorized.



Irwin Wente, maintenance, Everglades National Park, 1969.

Wente is wearing the service cap with the white 1960 USNPS cap patch.
NPSHPC/HFC#69-308-80



Olive "Johnny" Johnson, Guide/Nurse, Carlsbad Caverns National Park, 1947.

Johnson is wearing the 1947 "WAAC" style uniform with a USNPS collar ornament on her "Overseas" cap.
NPSHPC/CACA#86CAR

Prior to the adoption of the "stewardess" hat, uniformed women employees had been wearing a uniform copied from the Women's Army Auxillary Corps (WAAC), complete with overseas cap. Although not covered in the regulations, a USNPS collar ornament was usually

attached to the front of this cap. There is photographic evidence that this hat began to be worn during World War II.

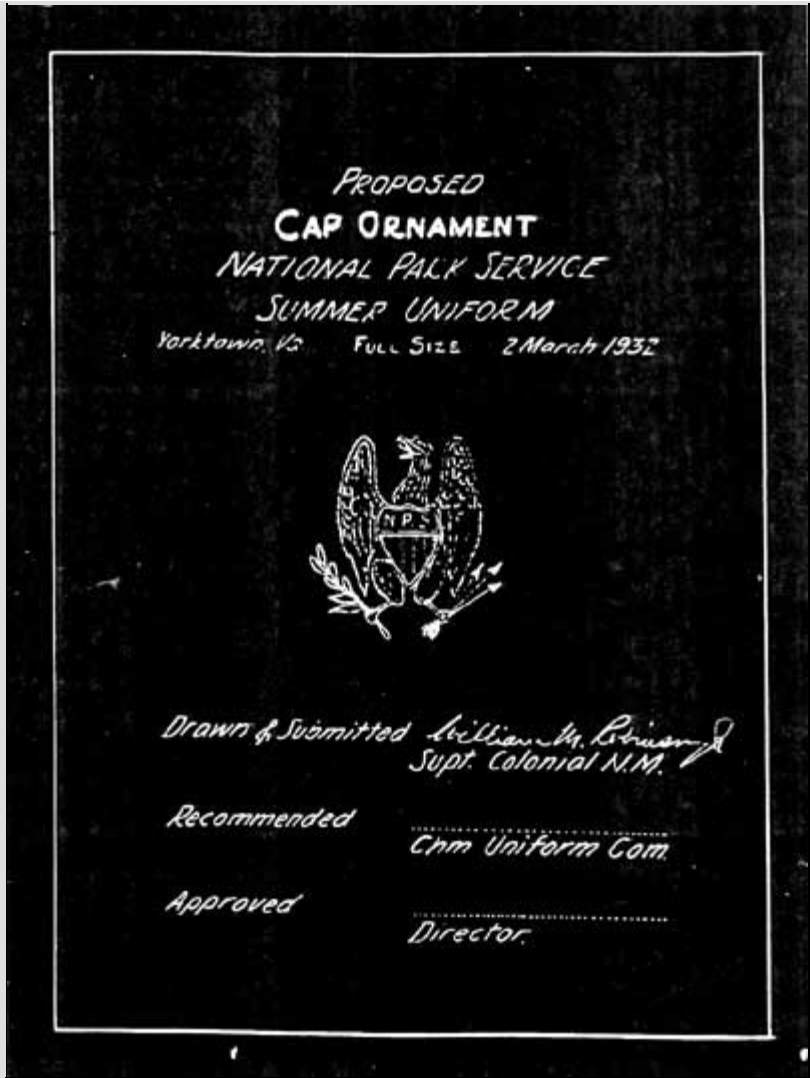
The small arrowhead patch was officially removed from the women's hat in 1969 but continued to be worn until the uniform change of 1970. At that time, it replaced the USNPS patch on the men's service caps. Since 1974, the arrowhead has seen service on many different types of hats, either as a patch or a decal. It was used on baseball caps, "Black Watch style" (ski) caps, and mouton-trimmed caps, to name a few. When the soft cap worn by the motorcycle patrol rangers gave way to the safer hard helmets, arrowhead decals were affixed to them to denote the wearer's status.



Miss E. Elaine (Russell) Clark, park guide, Andrew Johnson National Monument, 1963. Clark updated her 1961 pattern hat to 1962 standards by applying the arrowhead on the front. *NPSHPC/HFC#63-3164*



Jim Randall, Rocky Mountain National Park, 1971. Randall is wearing a ski cap with the USNPS patch. *NPSHPC-Ben Butterfield Photo-HFC#71-187-2*



Drawing proposed by Superintendent William M. Robinson, Colonial National Monument, for the park's summer ranger uniform cap, 1932. Robinson had suggested that Colonial's rangers wear a white uniform in the summer, but this was turned down. *National Archives RG 79*

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BADGES *and* UNIFORM ORNAMENTATION of the NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

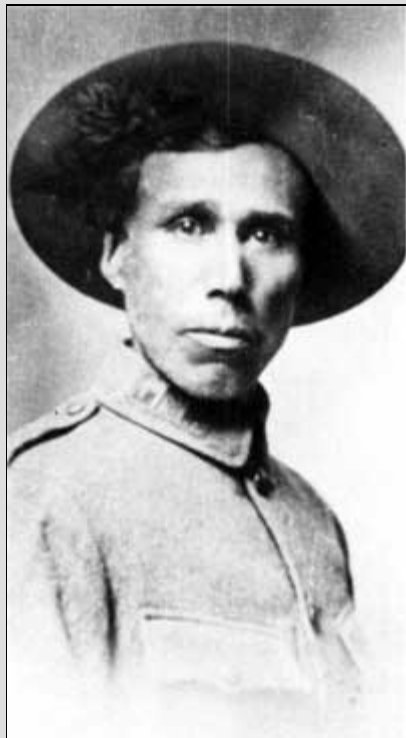
ORNAMENTATION: Collar Ornaments

The first documented collar ornament to be worn on the uniform of a park ranger was the US from the collar insignia of Army officers. This shows up in two portraits of rangers in Sequoia National Park circa 1910 and 1912-16. It was easy to obtain and dressed the uniform up to look official.

Although the Secretary of the Interior had authorized the use of a uniform in the parks in 1911, nothing was said about distinctive insignia. Consequently, the various parks were left to their own devices.



Charles W. Blossom, Sequoia National Park, 1901-1916. Charlie is wearing the 1912 National Park service uniform with an Army Officer's U.S. collar insignia. (Image is reversed) He was killed in an automobile accident on April 22, 1916. *NPSHPC/SEQU#08838*



In 1916, Washington Bartlett "Dusty" Lewis, then supervisor at Yosemite, had Meyer's Military Shop in Washington, D.C., make up several NPS insignia. [49] When Lewis proposed that the National Park Service adopt an ornament for the new 1920 coat, he offered one of these as a possible model. From the correspondence, it would appear that these were simply letters attached to a bar, which could be pinned to the collar. Responding to Lewis, Acting Director Cammerer wrote, "There

Joe Cosley, c.1911. Cosley was a ranger at Glacier National Park, 1910-1914, and was one of the first recipients of the new 1911 uniforms. Photograph was taken prior to the arrival of his uniform. He is wearing a 1910 US Army coat with GNP on the collar. The park solicited the department to allow them to have this applied to their new uniforms, but it was denied.
NPSHPC/GLAC#HPF1987

are a number of serious defects in the design, which is a stock-cut proposition put out in the cheapest possible way for the largest gain." [50]

No examples of this ornament have been found, but it shows up in a couple of photographs depicting Yosemite rangers from around 1919. One is of Forrest Townsley, taken while he was on temporary duty at Grand Canyon National Park and the other is of William "Billy" Nelson, from the Ansel Hall Collection. If stock, as Cammerer states, the letters would probably be 1/2".



1919 National Park Service uniform. This coat is forest green wool with NPS buttons, backstamped "Sigmond Eisner", and N.P.S. embroidered on a patch attached to the collar. *NPSHC/YELL Cat#1648*

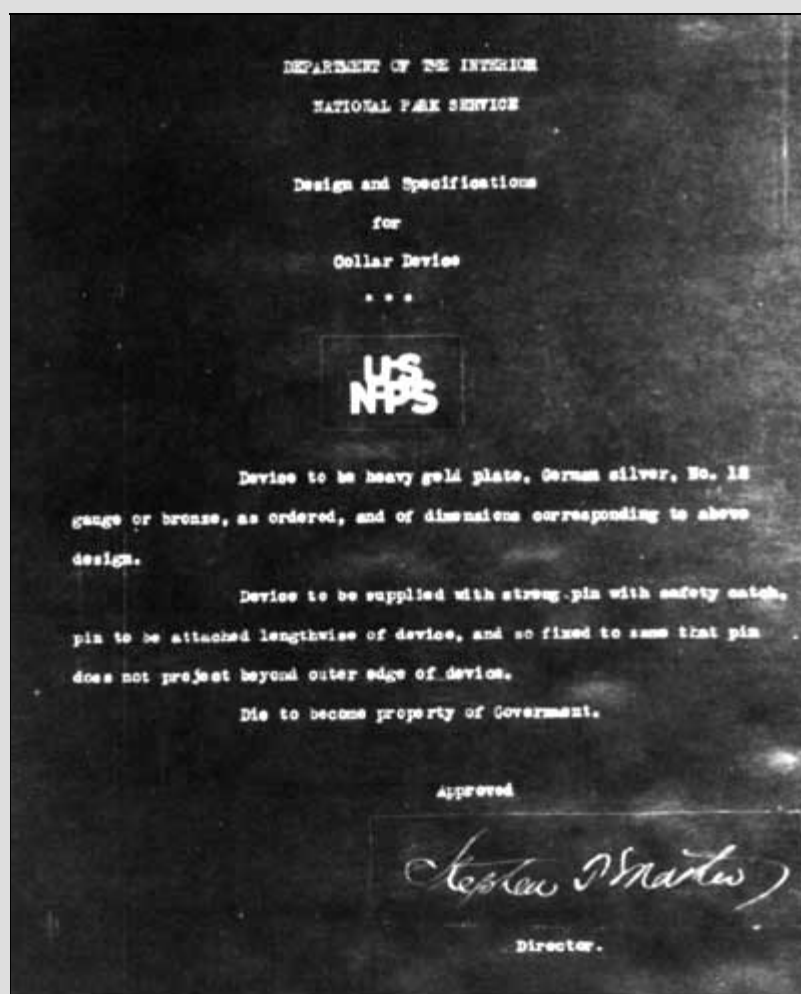


The Old Information Office with Rangers Billy Nelson (left) and Jimmy Lloyd, ca.1920. Nelson is wearing a pair of Lewis' N.P.S. collar ornaments. *NPSHPC/YOSE#346*

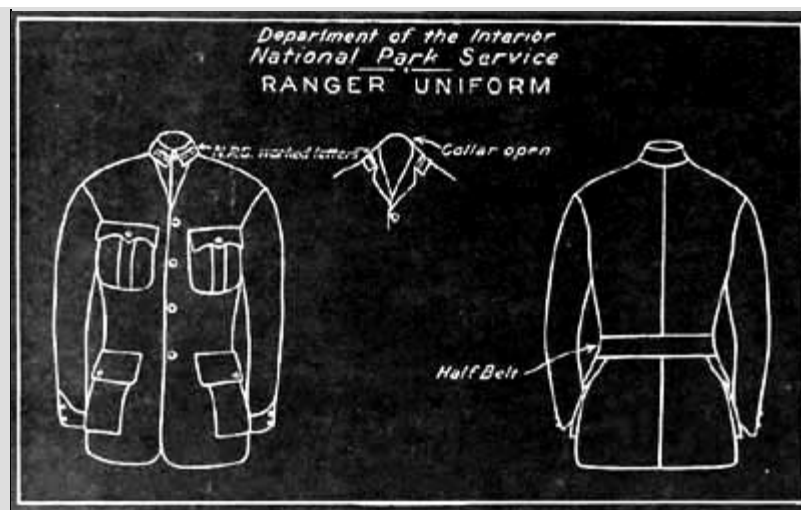
In late 1917 or early 1918, Service headquarters started requiring "N.P.S." to be stitched on the collar of the uniform in bronze thread, "to match the buttons." [51] There is a 1919 forestry green cloth coat in the Yellowstone collection with NPS on the collar. [52] In this case the N.P.S. is embroidered on a piece of coat material and then stitched to the coat collar. The original bronze-colored thread has faded to an orange. This coat would indicate that the NPS was used from its introduction until the new metal USNPS collar insignia came in with the 1920 regulations. Glacier had earlier requested that G.N.P. be applied to their collars, but this was turned down.

The 1920 uniform regulations ushered in what was to become the second oldest insignia still in use by the National Park Service: the USNPS collar ornament. Only the button is older. Building on Lewis's suggestion, the Service finally decided to use the NPS but with US over it. A drawing of the ornament shows that the letters were to be 1/4-inch high and states: "Device to be supplied with strong pin with safety catch, pin to be attached length wise of device. and so fixed to same that pin does not project beyond outer edge of device. Die to become property of Government."

Officer's ornaments were to be heavy gold plate. ranger's. No. 12 gauge German silver, and temporary ranger's, bronze (plated brass). The die was retained by the Service and loaned to the successful bidder whenever new ornaments were required. From the appearance of the extant examples of this early pin, the die must have been rather crude in comparison with later ones.



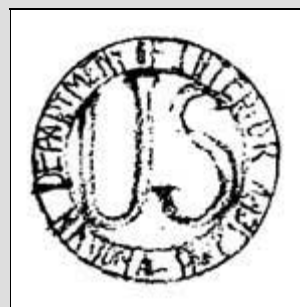
Original drawing for the 1920 collar ornaments. *National Archives RG 79*



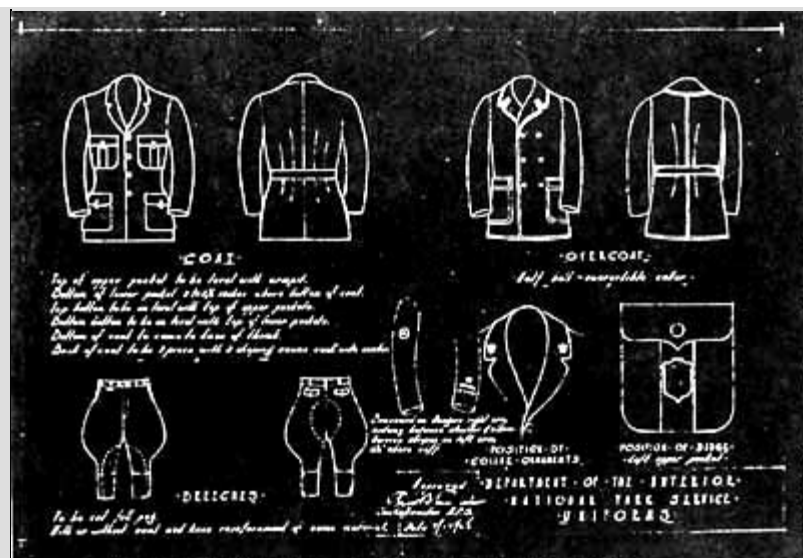
Drawing of 1917 coat that has been altered to conform to the new 1920 uniform regulations. It was sent to suppliers for new coats, the only change being the elimination of the embroidered N.P.S. on the collar. It was replaced by the metal USPNS. *National Archives RG 79*

The USNPS collar ornament was a source of much ridicule since few outside the Service understood the significance of the letters. As a result of this, it was decided at the 1926 superintendent's conference to replace it with a new insignia consisting of the Interior Department or National Park Service seal or words superimposed with the letters US. The Landscape Engineering Division was assigned the task of coming up with design recommendations and the field was invited to send ideas to the chief landscape engineer for consideration. [53]

The first offering returned by Thomas C. Vint of the Landscape Division was a pencil sketch of a circle with a large US in the center surrounded by DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR/NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. [54] Shortly thereafter, a blue print was forwarded to the Washington office. After examining the blueprint, Acting Director Cammerer returned it suggesting that the US be made smaller, so as not to fill the entire circle. The following months brought forth a number of drawings of suggested collar devices. Unfortunately, none of these have been found with the correspondence. The favorite seems to have been a shield-shaped device. Apparently the draftsman thought that this design had the inside track, as well, for he included it on one of the initial drawing of the 1928 regulation uniform.



Sketch of new collar ornament proposed by Thomas C. Vint, chief landscape architect. It was returned with the suggestion that the US be made smaller. It was but one of many designs submitted but not approved. *National Archives RG 79 208.30*



An early drawing of the 1928 National Park Service uniform. The draftsman must have thought the proposed shield design collar ornaments had the inside track since he included them on the drawing. NPSA RG 55Y



Willard M. Danielson. The USNPS collar ornaments show very clearly on his uniform. NPSHPC/HFC#FC2102

It was decided at the superintendents' conference in 1928 to dispense with the silver and bronze collar devices and to have everyone wear gold ornaments. But no agreement could be reached on the design, so the ornament revision was tabled. In January 1931 it was decided that because of the lack of "inspiration," the Service would keep using the old ornaments until "something really appropriate can be devised." [55] And that is where it stands today.

While retaining the same basic design, the ornaments have undergone minor changes over the years. In the late 1930s the fastening device was changed to a screw post like that used by the military. This

was changed again in the 1960s to the popular and much more convenient bayonet pin with spring fasteners. In the 1961 handbook, released in November 1959, the colors were changed again. Now only the superintendents and assistant superintendents were to wear gold collar ornaments and everyone else was to wear silver. With the 1971 uniform regulations, gold devices once again became the standard for all uniformed personnel. They remain so today.

For a while in the 1980s, plastic collar ornaments were being sent with the uniforms. It was difficult to distinguish these from the metal ornaments, although they would scratch and break if handled roughly. The current ornaments are again of metal.

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BADGES *and* UNIFORM ORNAMENTATION *of the* NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ORNAMENTATION: Hat

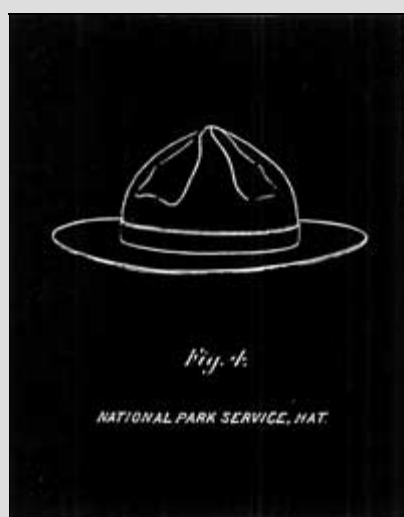
While technically not an insignia, the ranger hat has become synonymous with the ranger service. Even though Smokey is actually a motif of the Forest Service, most people think of the Park Service when they see him. Similar police hats are also called "Smokey the Bear" hats.

It would appear that this "Stetson" style of felt hat evolved from John B. Stetson's first "Boss of the Plains," which he marketed in 1863. [56] This style has long been known as the "ranger" hat, no doubt from being used previously by the Texas Rangers. This style of hat was so popular in the West that "Stetson" became a generic term, like Fedora in the East.

The first hats worn by rangers in the Park Service were "Stetsons" like those of the Army. These were usually creased fore and aft, but there were no regulations on the subject and it was left to the ranger to do whatever styling he wished.

When the first "authorized" uniforms were ordered in 1911, they included a "felt camping hat after the Stetson style." [57] It can be assumed that this was a continuation of what the rangers were familiar with. With the ordering of uniforms in 1912, though, an "Alpine" style hat was specified. [58] From the drawing submitted by Sigmund Eisner, it would appear that this was the forerunner of the current stiff-brimmed hat. Photographs bear this out. They show a hat similar to what the rangers wear now, except for a higher "Montana" peak, or pinch. This would seem to prove that when Mark Daniels attempted to formalize the Park Service uniform in 1914, the hat was already being used. [59]

The hat was first formally specified in the 1920 uniform regulations. They stated that it would be "Stetson, either stiff or cardboard brim,



Sigmund Eisner drawing of the
"Alpine" hat ordered by the
department in 1912. NPSA/YELL

'belly' color", 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. Here again, this was more than likely a ratification of what was already being worn by the rangers. [60]



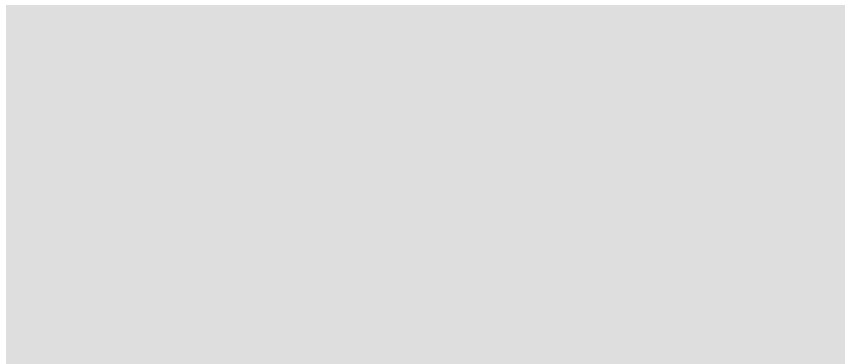
**Richard G. Doyel, Guide,
Mammoth Cave National Park,
1941.** Doyel is wearing the soft cap
worn by rangers assigned to
motorcycle duty and in some of the
Eastern parks and monuments.
National Archives/RG 79-SM-32

The 1932 regulations specified that the "Stetson hat" was to have a "three inch stiff brim," was to be equipped with the "prescribed National Park Service leather hatband," and was to be considered the standard headpiece for use in all National Parks and National Monuments." There were exceptions to the "all." Employees in the eastern parks and monuments and rangers assigned to motorcycle duties were authorized to wear an "English Army Officer" style, of the same material as their uniforms.

In 1935, there was some agitation from the field, especially the western parks, for a wider brim to help protect the head from the sun and rain. Office Order No. 324 of April 13, 1936, changed the hat specifications to call for a "Stiff brim 3 to 3-1/2 inches wide, and 4 - 4-5/8

inch crown, side color." Why the color was changed from "belly" to "side" is not known. The John B. Stetson Company, which started selling hats to the Park Service in 1934, initially had trouble with the "side color," and the Service ordered all purchases from the company to stop. In September 1936 the company notified the Uniform Committee chairman that it had "developed the exact color desired by the National Park Service" and was in a "position to manufacture hats and fill orders." It also agreed to replace all hats of the wrong color previously ordered at no charge. The Service rescinded the stop purchase order. [61]

Office Order No. 350 of June 15, 1938, changed the color back to "belly" and added three ventilator holes on each side. They were to be arranged in the "form of an equilateral triangle. bottom leg of triangle 1-1/2 inches above brim, legs of triangle 1 inch."





Ranger force at Mesa Verde National Park, 1929. Prior to 1959, when blocking was done at the factory, rangers were only instructed to "put four small dents in the crown," resulting in all sorts of variations.

Left to Right: front row: Bert Hart, Paul R. Franke, James Dalton (US Commissioner), Dwight W. Rife, Horace M. Albright, Jesse L. Nusbaum, C. Marshall Finman, Richard D. Hager, Lyle Bennett; back row: Raymond Devlin, Paul Rice, Norris Bush, Stephen J. Springarm, Proctor L. Dougherty, David H. Canfield, James Armstrong, Virginia Jessip (secretary), (?) *NPSHPC-George Grant photo-HFC#3-179*

Until 1959, the only instructions to employees concerning the blocking of the hat was to put four small dents in the crown. Thereafter the dents were blocked at the factory for uniformity.

Uniform regulations issued in November 1959, effective January 1, 1961, were contained within a National Park Service Uniforms Handbook. This handbook contained uniform specifications and other information pertinent to the wearing and care of the various garments. Under the heading of hats, it stated: "Care should be used in selecting the correct size and head shape. Width of brim should be chosen to suit shape of face and physical appearance. Generally, average sized individuals should wear 3 1/4" brim, short stocky persons or those with long thin faces should wear the 3" brim. The felt hat is available in "long oval," "regular oval" and "wide oval." If the hat fits the head properly, it will be more comfortable, look better, and will not be easily dislodged by sudden gusts of wind. The average life expectancy of a felt hat is three years. It should be worn at a slight angle to the right side and not tilted forward over the eyes or worn on the back of the head. The cloth hat band that comes with new hat should be removed and never should be worn under the uniform leather hat

band."

Regarding hat care and maintenance, the handbook stated: "Excessive sweating or the use of hair oil will quickly ruin the appearance of the felt hat. Accumulations of oil around the sweatband and brim will also penetrate the hatband. For this reason, care should be used in placing an old hatband on a new hat or the new hat will be soiled. Clean the hatband with saddle soap. A compound of carbon tetrachloride "Carbona" is available for cleaning hats and the inner surface of hatbands. French chalk may be used to remove fresh grease stains. If the hat becomes wet it can be satisfactorily dried by turning the sweatband outward and allowing the hat to stand on the sweatband until thoroughly dry. Sandpaper or a nail file can be used to remove accumulations of dirt and grease.

The Stetson Company will recondition felt uniform hats for \$7.50 if the hat is not too far gone."



Barton Herschler, custodian, Muir Woods, 1933. As this photograph attests, ventilation holes had been used in the hat for many years prior to their becoming specified in the regulations. *HPSHPC-George Grant photo-HFC/MUWO#6a*



Roger Allen, superintendent, Everglades National Park, 1967. Allen is wearing the standard ranger straw hat with the pine cone version of the hat band. *NPSHPC/HFC#91-5*

In 1959, a straw version of the standard hat was inaugurated for warm weather wear. Its specifications were as follows:

Style--"National Park Service" ventilated milan braid material, Belgium Belly color, crown specifications same as for the felt hat. Stiff brim, flat set, average width 3-1/4", marine service curl, leather sweatband and hat [sic]. Indentations in crown, same as for the felt hat.

A transparent plastic hat cover was made available for the protection of both the felt and straw hats.



Carole Scanlon, 1970. Scanlon is wearing the 1970 women's version of the standard hat at the unveiling of the new women's uniforms at Independence National Historical Park, Freedom Week, June 27, 1970. It was of a softer, lighter grade of felt, similar to that worn by other women, and could not stand up to the rigors of even moderate use. Consequently, most women preferred the standard men's hat when one was needed. *NPSHPC-Cecil W Stoughton-HFC#70-249-5*



Ranger James E. Putman and a friendly opossum, c.1968. Putman is wearing the rain cover for his hat. He also is wearing the 1960 name tag and 1968 badge. *NPSHPC/HFC#96-1347*

The 1970 regulations concerning women's uniforms brought with it another version of the standard hat. Unfortunately, it was more a victim of style than function. It closely resembled the standard men's hat and while made from a quality felt, it was nevertheless of light-weight material like other women's hats, instead of the heavier men's grade. Because of this lack of body, the brim didn't remain stiff, nor the hat in general, hold up to the rigors of everyday use. Most women that were required to wear a hat, opted for the man's felt or straw, depending on where they worked.

These hats have carried over to the present time. Down through the years there has been an array of other headgear, but nothing has stood out as a symbol of the National Park Service like the regulation "Smokey the Bear" felt hat.

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BADGES *and* UNIFORM ORNAMENTATION *of the* NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ORNAMENTATION: Hatband & Straps

Through the 1920's, ranger hatbands were either the plain grosgrain bands that came with the hat or individualistic replacements by the rangers. At the San Francisco National Park Conference in 1928, the subject of a special band for the ranger hats was brought to the floor for discussion. One design was submitted (description unknown), and another proposed design included a "pressed" style of hatband. There was considerable criticism of the Sequoia cone because it was significant to California alone. It was felt that the design should be more emblematic of the Park Service as a whole. A ranger on a horse, buffalos, and geometric designs were among the motifs suggested. A pack horse drew the most interest because it dealt with park work and had the essence of the tourist and out-of-doors in it.

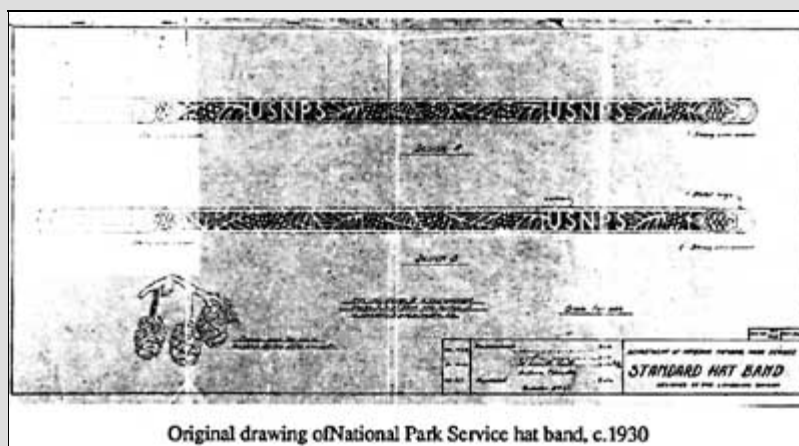


Three naturalists at First Chief Naturalist Conference, 1929. Since there wasn't a regulation covering the hatband at this time, rangers wore whatever caught their fancy. Hall is wearing the hatband, grosgrain, that probably came with the hat. Yeager's hatband appears to be made of fabric, while Harwell is sporting a tooled leather one, similar to that later adopted by the Service. *NPSHPC/CPR#B-126*

Left to right: Ansel F. Hall, Dorr G. Yeager, C.A. "Bert" Harwell

At the 1929 superintendents conference at Yellowstone, the Uniform

Committee recommended that a band more in keeping with the identity of the National Park Service be adopted for the ranger hat. Chief Landscape Architect Thomas Vint had a sample hatband prepared. This consisted of Sequoia cones and foliage tooled onto a leather band secured at the left side by ring fasteners. The front had a blank space where the name of the park could be impressed, if desired. This was sent to the chairman of the Uniform Committee, Superintendent Owen A. Tomlinson of Mount Rainier, who forwarded it to the director with the committee's recommendation that it be adopted. The committee thought, though, that USNPS should be stamped on the front instead of the park name, which would have to be done by hand and complicate matters at the various parks. The manufacturer of the sample had provided silver acorns as ornaments, but the committee thought that Sequoia cones would be more appropriate. Nickel silver ornaments could be had for fifty cents each in lots of two hundred, and sterling silver for sixty cents. The total cost of the hatband would be \$2.10 with the sterling ornaments. [62]



Original drawing of National Park Service hat band, c.1930

Original drawing of National Park Service hatband, 1930. This drawing shows what the band would look like with a small die (2 passes) or the larger, more expensive die utilizing a single pass. The uniform committee opted for the larger die, thinking it more appropriate. *National Archives RG 79 208.30*

The hatband was approved on January 16, 1930, with the proviso that the sterling ornaments be used. Associate Director Cammerer thought that the added cost of the silver ornaments was "well worth while" and that they should be mandatory. "The hat band is therefore approved with the ornament of the National Park insignia as an integral part of it," he wrote. [63]

When estimates were obtained, it was found that the hatbands, with silver ornaments, could be purchased from a manufacturer in San Francisco in lots of 150 for approximately \$2.00 each. [64]

The sample hatband was returned to Tom Vint, along with the changes required, so he could make a drawing. The drawing incorporated two styles, utilizing the same information. One style had USNPS on the front only, while the other had it on the front and the back. The

advantage of the latter was that it would require a die half the size, at considerably less cost, than the former. The die would make two revolutions to imprint the band, instead of the single needed to make the former. The committee thought that, despite the extra cost, the larger die should be used. [65]

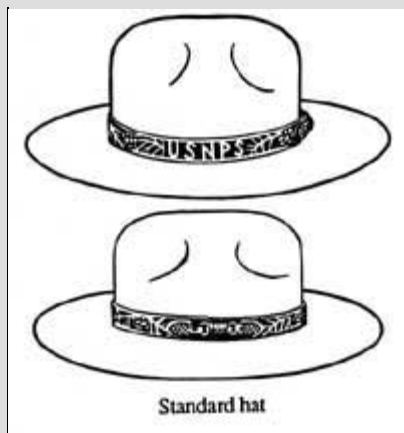
In order to reduce the cost to the employees, the Service decided to purchase the die and lend it to the successful bidder whenever new hatbands were required. [66]

Since the hatband was paid for by the individual, it could be retained after termination of employment. As Acting Director Cammerer stated it: "This hatband is not an emblem of authority such as the Police Badge worn by rangers and other field men, which must be returned in order such emblems of authority will not be scattered promiscuously throughout the country. On the other hand, it is realized that the desire for retention of some souvenir of employment is uppermost in the minds of many, if not most, of the temporary rangers, and by making them pay for the band it will enable them to retain it along with their hats and collar ornaments." [67]

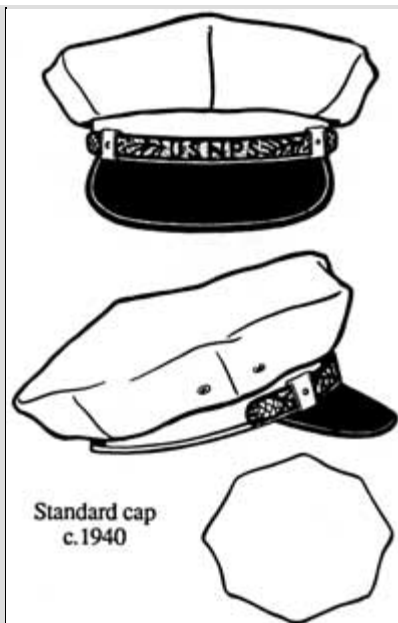
The hatbands were to be made out of four-to-five-ounce "Tooling Vealskin," with a two-ounce cinch strap. The Sequoia cone ornaments and the rings were to be sterling silver.

Superintendent Tomlinson received the first consignment of hatbands on May 26, 1930. These were made by a Mr. Brown. It is not known if he made the hatbands personally or just represented the company that did. The finished product made such a striking appearance that the first thought was to restrict them to working employees. However, the director had already authorized that they be personal property, and prohibitions that could not be rigidly enforced would only weaken the regulations already in force. [68] So this idea was dropped.

New hat bands and cap chin straps were prescribed in the 1936 regulations (Office Order No. 324, April 13, 1936). "Pending approval of a new design and manufacture of a new die" the existing silver Sequoia cone ornaments were to be used. It is not known at this time what the intended changes, if any, were to be to the hat band ornaments. From drawings and photographs, it would appear that the only change in the leather hat band was to widen it from its original 15/16" to 1-1/8". It was recommended that "at least one new hat band be purchased immediately by each field unit so the standard cordovan color prescribed for all leather articles of the National Park Service will be available." [69]



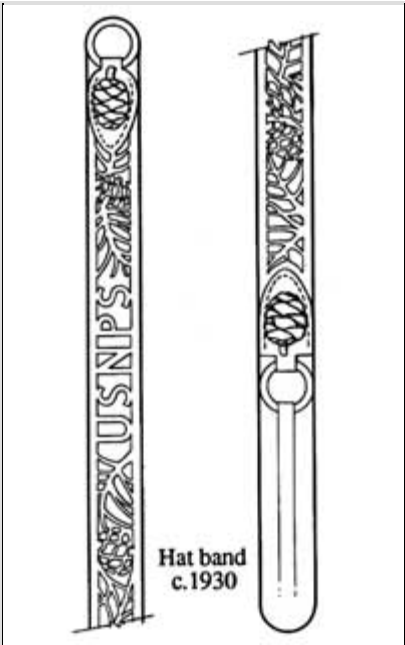
Standard hat showing hatband, 1940. NPSA/1940 NPS Uniform Manual



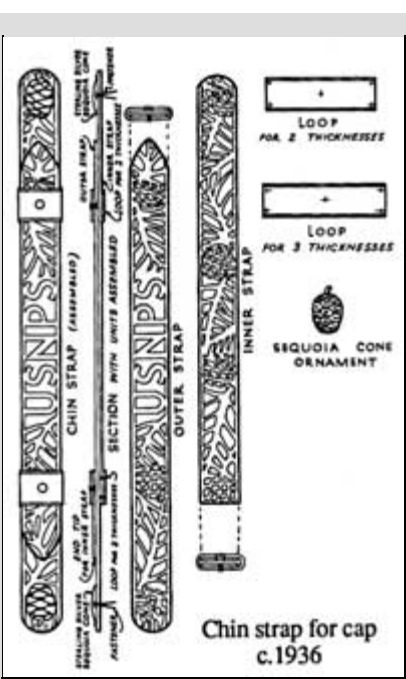
Standard cap showing embossed chin strap, 1940. NPSA/1940 NPS Uniform Manual

There was a slight variation in the design in the 1970s, when the manufacturer supplied its own die. These hatbands are made of heavier leather and have a much deeper embossing and the cones have the appearance of pine cones instead of the approved Sequoia cones. With a change of suppliers in the late 1970s the hat band reverted to the original design. Unfortunately, the new bands were of a very inferior quality. They were very thin, with shallow embossing. After a couple of years a new die was cut, and the hatbands once again became something employees could be proud of. With the change of uniform suppliers in the late 1970s or early 1980s the Sequoia cones were changed to gold plate. This was probably to bring them into line with all the other metal on the uniform, which had gravitated to gold over the years. In 1984 they became solid brass. [70] But because the hatbands did not wear out and were usually transferred to new hats, there are still many older rangers sporting the original sterling cones on their hats.

Head and chin straps were authorized for the hat in Office Order No. 324 of April 13, 1936. The head strap was to be plain 1/2-inch leather, but the chin strap could be either plain calf-skin or "same design as the hat band," with silver Sequoia fasteners. The 1961 uniform regulations eliminated the chin strap but retained the head strap, although it was now only 1/4-inch wide and to be "worn only in sustained windy conditions." This regulation is still in effect.



Hat band for standard hat, 1930.
NPSA/1940 NPS Uniform Manual RG 55Y



Chin strap for cap, 1936.
NPSA/1940 NPS Uniform Manual

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ORNAMENTATION: Law Enforcement Insignia

Although not officially authorized by the Service, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Atlanta, Georgia introduced a large 4" x 10" patch in 1984 to be worn on the back of "raid" vests and jackets in conjunction with a new [cloth badge](#) on the front. This was inaugurated in order to present a more visible identification for rangers participating in law enforcement activities. This patch consisted of the words "U.S. RANGER/FEDERAL OFFICER" embroidered in a golden yellow on a dark forest green background. As with the accompanying cloth badge, it was an outgrowth of a vest issued to the 1983 class with these two elements stenciled in yellow on it. This patch was phased out with the issuance of the 1991 badge patch, although it still shows up occasionally.

The new raid vest has the badge/patch sewn on the left front, with NATIONAL PARK/SERVICE silk-screened on the right in 1/2" gold letters. Instead of a patch, the back has reverted back to having the wearers identification silk-screened on the back, also in large gold letters, although it now says "NATIONAL/PARK RANGER/POLICE." The first two lines are 1-3/4" with POLICE being 4-1/8".

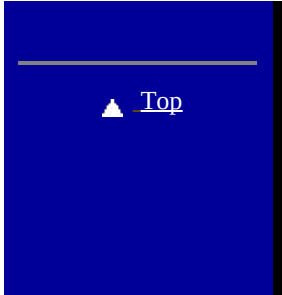
**1984-1991
LAW
ENFORCEMENT
PATCH**

Issued by FLETC to be worn on the back of raid vests by during special operations.

Description: dark green material with bright yellow gold letters

Size: 4" high x 10" wide





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BADGES *and* UNIFORM ORNAMENTATION
of the NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ORNAMENTATION: Length-of-Service
Insignia



Forest [Forrest] S. Townsley
wearing decoration given him for
horsemanship by King Alvert
[Albert] of Balgium [Belgium] at
GCNP [GCNP] Oct., 1919.

Townsley was sent to Grand Canyon National Park to assist in setting up it's ranger force when it came into the System. The medal is next to his small 1917? badge. The 3 black

The first Length-of-Service (LoS) designation was authorized at the national parks conference held in San Francisco on January 9, 1915. It consisted of a stripe on the sleeve for each five years with the park service. The correspondence authorizing these stripes does not specify color, size, material, nor location, but a photograph of Forrest Townsley taken in 1919 at Grand Canyon National Park shows him wearing three dark bands of tape, presumably black, around the top of the cuff of his left sleeve. These appear to be similar to that worn by Army staff officers. If so, they are probably 1/2" wide. Since Townsley entered the park system in 1904, giving him fifteen years service in 1919, it can be assumed that these three stripes are those mentioned in the above communique.

With the 1920 uniform regulations, the single black stripe was regulated to one year of service, with a silver star taking its place for five years. These insignia were to be sewn on the left sleeve of the coat, as well as the shin, with the lowest device being 2-1/2 inches from the end. The stripes were originally to be "narrow black silk braid 3 inches long" but when the regulations were issued they specified "A service stripe of black braid 1/8" wide by 2 inches long" The stars were to be "embroidered white" (silver). Both

stripes above his left cuff are the Length-of-Service stripes authorized in 1915 at the park conference. He is also wearing a pair of Lewis' N.P.S.s on his collar. *Courtesy of Elaine Townsley*

Some employees had been around since long before the formation of the National Park Service, entitling them to an abundance of stars and stripes. "A man with fifteen or twenty years of service looks like a rear admiral," Frank Pinkley commented. [71] This situation was alleviated in 1930 by Office Order No. 204, which introduced gold stars to represent ten years of service. They lasted only until Office Order No. 324 of April 13, 1936, revamped the stripes and silver stars 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 embroidered stars and the applied braid were issued on long, three inch wide strips of unbound forest green serge, which may account for the earlier discrepancy. Apparently the edges of the material were to be turned and basted onto the coat sleeve, and in the case of the stripes, leaving two inches of the braid exposed. However, photographs show stripes of varying lengths resulted when left to the individual. Trying to turn the soutache (braid) and keep it neat was also a trick. Although not specified in the regulations, photographs show that the normal practice was for the stripes to be below the stars when worn together, with the stars pointing down.



Forrest Townsley, c.1929. Even though this image is purported to have been taken in 1929, Townsley appears to be wearing LoS insignia for 16 years on his sleeve, which would make it 1921. It is, however, the only image of anyone wearing their LoS insignia on their shirt. It would be interesting to know if he also has his chief ranger brassard on his other sleeve, per the regulations. *Courtesy of Virginia Best Adams (Mrs. Ansel Adams)*

The new regulations also addressed

the problem of the stripe uniformity as well. They were still applied on long 3 inch wide rolls of unbound forest green serge, but now, the stripes, instead of tape, were embroidered 1/8 inch by 2 inches long on it.

The order also stated that "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 caused some problems later until it was decided that the fifth star would be centered over the bottom four and 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 - unit of four and a unit of three; eight stars - unit of five and unit of three; etc.)

Until 1956 the service stars were made up 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. That year, Charles C. Sharp suggested that they be made up on neat cloth panels, of from one to six stars each. This solved the problem. [72] Also in 1956, with some personnel reaching very long service, it was decided that when seven stars were worn, the bottom row would contain five stars.

The 1961 uniform regulations eliminated all the stars and stripes, replacing them with Department of the Interior (USDI) pins for service in ten-year increments from ten to fifty years. These pins, worn at the discretion of the employee, featured a buffalo with U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR in an arc over the top and the year designation across the bottom. They were all bronze, but each year had a different background color.

In 1972 the Service switched to pins supplied by the General Services Administration (GSA). These consisted of an eagle over a shield containing the years, with DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR on a ribbon underneath. They were bronze for ten years, silver for twenty years, and gold for thirty years and above, again with different colored backgrounds.

The pins changed again in 1987. This time they came from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and consisted of the national eagle



Guy D. Edwards, superintendent, Grand Teton National Park, 1936.

Edwards has LoS insignia for 7 years on his sleeve. He is wearing his superintendents badge. This was the year the badge was changed from silver to gold for supts. *NPSHPC-George grant photo-HFC#201-T*

emblem, complete with wreath of stars over the top. Again they came in bronze, silver, and gold, but there was no wording on them, only the years designation at the bottom. All of the designations had a blue background.

In 1990 the Service reverted to the Interior pin. These are now considered personal adornment and discouraged from being worn on the uniform. As in previous cases, the earlier pin continued to be issued until the stock was depleted.



Educational Dept. Staff - Summer '35, 1935. Ranger in front seems to have his own idea as to how to wear his 8 year LoS insignia.
NPSHPC/ROMO#4564

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BADGES *and* UNIFORM ORNAMENTATION of the NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ORNAMENTATION: Nametags

Although name tags had been used prior to 1961, that was the first year they were included in the uniform regulations. As with the other items prescribed, they actually came into use the year before. [73] They were not mandatory, though. The 1961 uniform regulations stated, under Name Tags:

"A plastic identification tag is authorized to be worn at the discretion of the superintendent. It shall be of plastic, with two pin-through fasteners with spring keepers on the back. The tag itself shall be approximately 3/4" x 3", with dark green background, and white letters. The individual's name should be in letters 1/4" or 3/8" high, and the employee's title (optional) 3/16" high, below the name. The name tag when worn shall be centered over the left breast pocket flap of coat or shirt."

Uniformed employees name tags were to have first name, middle initial and surname only.

However, Director Wirth thought that all uniformed employees should wear a name tag when meeting the public. So it was recommended that the uniform regulations be changed to reflect this. It was thought impractical to wear the name tag on field uniforms but consideration might later be given to a "pliable leather" or cloth name tag, similar to those used by the U.S. Air Force, to be sewn on the field uniform. (Many Service helicopter pilot's were later to adopt the sewn on leather name tags on flight coveralls)

The location provided for the badge and name tag (for men) was not very becoming to women, it being too low. Besides women did not have



This image is from a slide presentation on the proper dress and etiquette of National Park Rangers. This particular photograph illustrates the what not to do, smoking and carrying cameras around, but it also shows the leather name tags that were sometimes worn prior to the green laminate tags prescribed in the 1961 regulations. *NPSHPC/HFC#96-1348*

breast pockets in their coat (jackets). It was recommended that the name tag be raised to 2" below the notch of the lapel on the right side of the jacket and in a similar location on the blouse. These recommendations were approved by Wirth on October 20, 1960. [74] When the jacket with shawl collar was adopted in 1962, this same general location was still used.

Left to right: J. Gifford; Reg L. Wilson(?)



Felix Hernandez, III, Big Bend National Park. Hernandez is wearing the 1960 green laminate name tag, 1960 style badge and summer straw hat. *NPSHPC-M. Woodbridge Williams photo-HFC#2775-5*



Park Ranger Paul Fodor preparing to leave on a medical evacuation in Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks, Sept. 8, 1978. Fodor is wearing a military style leather name tag on his coveralls and an arrowhead decal on his helmet. *Courier, December, 1978*



Phipps Bourne, Blacksmith Demonstrator, Blue Ridge Parkway, 1973, is wearing the green laminate name specified in 1962 for non-uniformed



Beatrice Lunt, Colonial National Historical Park. Lunt is wearing the Model 1962 stewardess uniform with the 1960 green laminate name tag and Arrowhead pin ("in lieu of badge"). The "regs" called for the USNPS to

employees that deal with the public. *NPSHPC/HFC#73-456-5*

be worn on the blouse collar, if worn outside, but she has hers on her coat lapels. *NPSHPC/HFC#96-1332*

A suggestion was put forward that wearing the name tag, as approved for uniformed employees did not serve the purpose adequately. It was thought that a more descriptive identification should be used. This could be accomplished by several ways. Add (1)(a) "National Park Service" (this was thought to be redundant since it was already on the arrowhead patch): (b) name of park, monument, or other specific area (preferable); or (2) his or her employment category (if feasible on a single line). Wirth considered (a) the best and even though he approved it on December 12, 1961, there are no amendments to the regulations or photographs to show that it was ever implemented. [75]

Amendment No.4, January 30, 1962, changed the discretionary part of the above to make it mandatory for all uniformed employees when in dress uniform and meeting the public to wear the name tag. However, it was still optional, at the superintendents discretion, to be worn on uniforms during winter activities, boatmen's uniforms or on the stormcoat. Its location was changed as well. It now was to be worn above the right breast pocket flap on coat or shirt.

Also included in the amendment was an identification badge (name tag) for nonuniformed employees who met or dealt with park visitors in the normal course of their work. This badge served to identify them as members of the National Park Service. The badge was to be made out of the same material (dark green plastic laminate) as the ranger name tags. It was to be 3" x 1-1/4" with a 1" arrowhead insignia on the left side and three lines of text. The first line consisted of "National Park Service" in lower case; the second line was the employees employment category, i.e., PARK ENGINEER, ROAD FOREMAN, SECRETARY, etc.; third line was for employees name in lower case. (first, middle initial, surname) These name tags were made by the Yosemite National Park Sign Shop for \$2.00, with name, or \$1.50 without name.



Entire Maintenance Crew of Lassen Volcanic National Park, Jan 17, 1969.> Crew is showing off it's new maintenance uniforms with the sewn on name tags. The supervisors are wearing the 1960 green laminate tags. Also note the man in the front row, second from right, is still wearing the old name tag. *NPSHPC=John Mohihenrich photo-LAVO#109*



Vincent Ellis, superintendent, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, c.1972. Ellis is wearing the 1970 nametag on the optional urban uniform that was authorized in 1972.
NPSHPC/HFC#96-1348

A similar name tag was also used by park maintenance personnel. The badge was made out of the same material as above along with the arrowhead on the left and "National Park Service" on top, but "Park Maintenance" in lower case was on the bottom. with the employee's name in green embossing tape between them.

The above tags were worn until 1969, when the style of the ranger name tag was changed to "gold metal plate with cordovan colored block letters; corners rounded." This tag also had the two pin keepers, but now it was to be worn over the right pocket. This tag was also issued to maintenance supervisors as well. Although the 1974 uniform regulations first specified a new name tag for uniformed maintenance

personnel, photographs show this had been introduced in the late 1960's. Instead of being detachable, this new name tag was embroidered and sewn on the uniform centered above the right breast pocket with the bottom flush with the top of the pocket flap. It consisted of white block lettering on a green background with a brown border.

However, though not addressed in the regulations, there were actually two cloth name tags, one over each pocket. The one over the left pocket contained NATIONAL PARK SERVICE in 1/2" white block letters, per the regulations, while the other contained the first initial and last name of the employee in white script. Sometime in the late 1970s or early 1980s, the arrowhead patch was added to the shirt, making the National Park Service patch redundant and it was eliminated. The name patch is still worn today. These name patches were and still are, furnished by the Lion Brothers Company of Owings Mills, Maryland. The name patches are sent to the uniform supplier blank and the name is stitched in there.

In 1981 the name tag was changed to the larger rectangle style used today. It retained the gold finish. In keeping with the Service's goal of trying to assist all visitors, new name tags were issued to sign and foreign language interpreters. These were the same as the standard name tag, only expanded to accommodate the additional lettering. Language interpreter tags had been worn before this, but they were separate from the employee's name tag and usually purchased locally by the park. This was the first time that they were made part of the uniform regulations.



Claude S. Fernandez, 1970.

Fernandez is wearing a "HA BLO ESPANOL" identification tag under his 1970 name tag. Also note the PARKSCAPE tie tack.

NPSHPC/HFC#91-4

Included with these tags was one for non-uniformed personnel. This consisted of the same gold badge, but it had the NPS arrowhead emblem on the left side. Under the employee's name was NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. This name tag was not to be worn with any uniform, although in the mid-1980s it was worn by rangers in some parks. These badges were made by the Reeves Company, Inc. of Attleboro, Massachusetts.



Park Technician Rochelle Perucca enjoys a conversation with a group

member. Rocky Mountain National Park, 1982. Perucca is wearing one of the 1981 sign language interpreter name tags. *NPSHPC-H. Robert Case (deaf photographer) photo-HFC#91-1*

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BADGES *and* UNIFORM ORNAMENTATION
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ORNAMENTATION: Sleeve Brassards

The 1920 uniform regulations brought forth a plethora of insignia. In addition to the three USNPS collar ornaments, there were 14 patches for the sleeve. These sleeve insignia, or brassards, were to identify the rank and position of the various park employees. They were to be worn between the elbow and the shoulder on the right sleeve. These insignia were embroidered on the same material as their respective uniforms: forest green serge for officers and forestry green wool cloth for rangers. All were to be 2-1/4 inches in diameter with a 1/8-inch "light green" border.

There were three categories of brassards: for directors, officers, and rangers. The basic device for directors was four maple leaves. These were to be embroidered in "golden green," with a star in the center. The only difference between the director and assistant director was that the former had a gold star and the latter a silver one.

The basic device for officers was oak leaves, three for chiefs and two for assistants. The oak leaves were a "shaded golden yellow" with "dark brown" branches. Superintendents and assistant superintendents had "golden brown" acorns with "darker brown" cups and branches, three and two, respectively, as their identifying devices. All other officer identifiers were embroidered in



white. These identifiers were:

- Clerk: ink bottle and quill (only two oak leaves)
- Electrician: lightning bolts
- Engineer: triangle and square
- Forester: crossed axes (on three colored Sequoia cones)

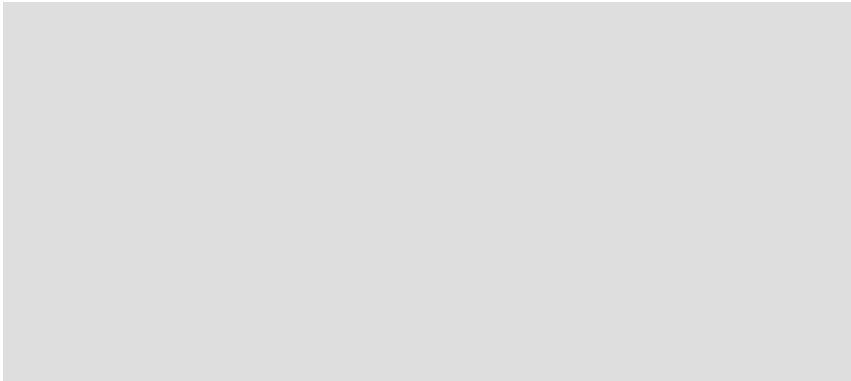
Lew Davis, 1925. Davis was a chief ranger at Sequoia National Park. The identification brassard was prescribe to be worn on the right sleeve (LoS insignia on the left), but Davis wore one on each sleeve.
NPSHPC/HFC#93-327



Director Stephen T. Mather at the North Entrance (Antler Gate), Yellowstone National Park, 1928.
His director's brassard shows very clearly, although the gold star is difficult to distinguish.
NPSHPC/HFC#91-11

Although foresters were considered to be officers, their brassard did not have the customary oak leaves. Instead, for some unexplained reason, the chief ranger patch was utilized with white crossed axes.

The basic device for the rangers was stated as being the Sequoia cone, while in actuality the common denominator was a wreath. Sequoia cones denoted the relative positions of the various permanent rangers. The chief ranger had three, the assistant chief ranger two, and the ranger one. All of these were within a "dark green" wreath. Temporary rangers had only the wreath. Sequoia cones were "light brown" with "dark brown" details and branches. [76]





Mount Rainier National Park Rangers, early 1930's. The appearance of these rangers is what all of the parks were striving for, even though Brown has on no-regulation boots. Their ranger brassards show very clearly.

Left to right: Front row: Carl Tice, Charles Brown, Harold Hall, Herm Barnett Back row: Oscar Sedergren, ?, Preston P. Macy, Frank Greer, Davis
NPSHPC/HFC#91-12

Although the 1920 regulations listed supervisors and assistant supervisors as officers, no special sleeve device was assigned to them. The 1922 order for sleeve insignia corrected this oversight and added four more officers to the fold:

- Park supervisor: wheel
- Chief clerk: inkwell and quill (three oak leaves)
- Park physician: PARK PHYSICIAN on bar beneath circle (two oak leaves)
- Park Naturalist: PARK NATURALIST on bar beneath circle (two oak leaves)
- Chief Buffalo Keeper: CHIEF BUFFALO KEEPER on bar beneath circle (brassard to be same as chief ranger)

GAME WARDEN could also be added in white beneath the circle on any brassard.



John W. Emmert, chief electrician, Yosemite National Park, 1922.

Emmert's chief electrician brassard can be seen on his sleeve. The lightening bolts can readily be seen, but the oak leaves are hard to detect. *NPSHPC-Jimmy Lloyd photo HFC#87-35*

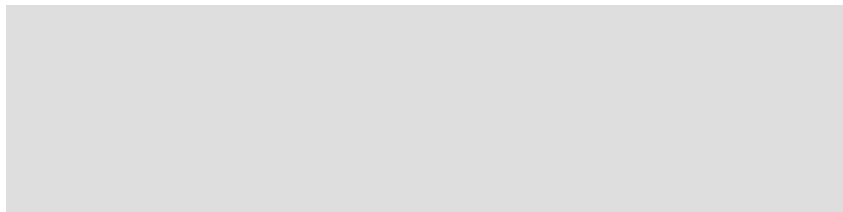


Gabriel Sovulewski, c.1920's.

Sovulewski was a supervisor at Yosemite National Park. The white wheel on his brassard can be seen in this image. *National Archives/RG 79-SM-28*

When the contract for insignia was drawn up in 1924, a new sleeve brassard was added. This insignia, designated "unclassified," was to be used by all uniformed officer personnel not otherwise covered under the regulations. It consisted of two oak leaves on a branch.

Because of resistance to the park naturalist sleeve brassard, no new ones were ordered in 1924. The park naturalists preferred to wear the "unclassified" insignia instead. Since the park physicians also wore the unclassified insignia, it can be assumed that they objected to their insignia as well.





Ranger force at Sequoia National Park, c.1926. Chief Ranger Milo S. Decker (kneeling in front row, left side) is wearing his LoS stripes on his right cuff. Apparently Lew Davis wasn't the only one that marched to his own drummer at that park. *NPSHPC/HFC#93-338*



Visitors eating lunch on meadows at summit of Logan Pass during highway dedication, July 15, 1933.

Ranger is wearing the bear's head ranger naturalist patch on his sleeve.
NPSHPC-George A. Grant photo-GLAC#785

A design for a new park naturalist sleeve insignia was submitted by Ansel F. Hall, chief naturalist of the Service, in March 1925. Hall's original design has not been located, but correspondence indicates that it was based on an eagle. It was considered too intricate to be embroidered on the small patch and a simpler design was worked up, following the standard practice of the other sleeve brassards.

Two samples were sent to Hall, both contained the three oak leaves of supervision. but one had a bird on it and the other a bear's head. Correspondence states that due to a lack of brown thread, the supplier worked the bird and bear's head in white, but more than likely, this was

just a continuation of the practice of embroidering the identifier in that color. Hall approved the bear, but objected to the shape of the bear's head as being too round. He drew a corrected version and returned it to Washington. Thus, by 1926 the park naturalists had their own distinctive insignia. Park ranger naturalist, a temporary, or seasonal position, fell under the ranger category and as such wore a bear's head, worked in shaded brown, surrounded by foliage.

As the Service diversified, holders of new positions clamored for their own sleeve identification. Because the majority of these positions were not in the ranger field, they considered themselves officers. This situation was rapidly getting out of hand until the 1928 regulations resolved the matter. The matter of the officer badge had been decided in 1921 by declaring that only those officers having a command function were to wear it. Now it was determined that those same individuals

were the only ones to be considered officers. All others, with the exception of the rangers, were classified as employees. This resulted in the rangers being elevated to a position within the Service more equitable to their duties and responsibilities in the field. At the same time it was decided to eliminate the sleeve insignia from all but the ranger force.



These are the two sleeve identification patches that were sent to Ansel Hall as substitutions for the eagle design he submitted. Hall chose the bear's head but thought the shape incorrect. His sketch of the correct design can be seen pinned to the bird patch.

Left: National Archives/RG 79 208.30 Right: NPSHC

At the 1934 superintendents' conference, it was decided that the sleeve brassard on the ranger uniform was an unnecessary expense and served no useful purpose. Even so, they remained in the regulations for several more years. Although there is photographic evidence that the sleeve brassards were worn as late as 1946, patches would not officially return to the National Park Service uniform for many years.

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BADGES *and* UNIFORM ORNAMENTATION of the NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ORNAMENTATION: Tie Ornaments & Pins

In the early years the coat was usually kept buttoned, negating the need for a tie tack or bar. Occasionally, a stick pin or other such ornament shows up in a photograph, but for the most part, nothing was used to hold the tie down even when the coat wasn't worn.

The first tie ornaments were authorized on February 13, 1956. Amendment No. 12 to the 1947 uniform regulations states, "If a tie clasp is used the National Park Service emblem tie clasp is suggested." This first Service tie clasp consisted of a hidden bar with a chain looped over the tie and a small arrowhead emblem, in gold or silver, suspended from the middle of the chain. This was only a suggestion, and photographs show that a lot of employees used plain chain ornaments as well as bars. As fashion changed, so did the ornaments. The arrowhead was next put on a bar, then a tie tack. One did not necessarily succeed the previous style. In 1965 all three were available from Balfour Supply Service, Inc.



This image of the Ranger Force at Lake Mead. c.1947, is unusual since it shows almost everyone with some sort of device securing their tie, all different. Most rangers didn't wear any sort of ornament on their tie since the coat was usually worn, negating the need. *NPSHPS/HFC#LAME 3a*

With the 1956 uniform regulations, the wearing of a tie clasp remained optional but if one was worn it had to be the National Park Service emblem (arrowhead).

The 1961 uniform regulations still listed tie ornaments as optional, although now it was specified that if one were worn, it would be the "official National Park Service silver (gold for superintendents) tie tack." When worn, tie tack was to be "centered at third button down, starting with the neckband button, the clutch pin piercing both tie ends and the anchor chain bar secured through the shirt buttonhole."

As stated previously under badges, in January 1962 a silver "tie tack style" pin was authorized as an option for women employees, in lieu of the regulation badge. Although this pin conforms to the size and design of the men's tie tack, it was stamped from a different die. All surface features are either raised or diked, as if the pin was originally designed to be enamel-filled. Word from the field is that they were crudely constructed and the pin on the back was in constant need of repair.



Before the advent of a regulation governing the wearing of a tie tack, some rangers, such as Ranger Jack Nealis at Death valley. 1939, just tucked they tie into their shirt, Army fashion...
NPSHPC/DEVA653.531#518



...while others, such as Park Naturalist, H. Donald Curry, also 1939, let theirs blow with the wind.
NPSHPC/DEVA651.53 1#522

In late 1963, authorization was given for the wearing of enameled tie tacks, or "pinettes", as they were called, instead of the plain gold or silver. These were of gold or silver with a multi-colored enamel fill. Either color metal could be worn, but superintendents were to designate

which, in order for their entire park staff to be uniform. [77] In 1964. V. H. Blackinton and Co. began making these tie tacks in "HiGlo" (enamel) and "Rhodium" (enamel) for \$2.25 and \$2.50, respectively. These enameled tie tacks could be used by both uniformed and non-uniform employees.

As stated in the Arrowhead section, in 1966, the National Park Service initiated a service-wide program entitled MISSION 66. An outgrowth of this, and a pet project of Director George B. Hartzog, Jr., was another project called, PARKSCAPE USA. It's emblem was three intertwined angles surrounding three round dots. This emblem was also converted into a tie tack and authorized to be worn in place of the arrowhead, if so desired. Most uniformed personnel, however, preferred the arrowhead, with it's symbolism, to the abstract PARKSCAPE design.



This image from Yosemite National Park, 1960, shows the early placement of the name tag over the left pocket. Kowski (the designer of the experimental 1955 badge) is wearing one of the early arrowhead tie tacks. This tie tack came in with the 1961 regulations, but like a lot of items in those provisions, was purchased in the intervening year. *NPSHPC-Jack E Boucher photo-HFC#60-JB-1173*

Left to right: Myron Sutton, Frank Kowski, Ted Thompson

With the design change of Interior's seal in 1968 and Director Hartzog's pressing his PARKSCAPE USA agenda, one of the casualties was the arrowhead tie tack. The small triangular pin became the official tie tack of the National Park Service.

With the Interior seal reverting back to the buffalo in 1969, the attempt to



This photograph is one of a series that were taken in 1974 to illustrate the different ranger uniforms and the proper way to wear them. This particular image shows the summer shirt. The 1970 name tag and badge are shown as well as the gold tie tack. *NPSHPC/HFC#74-1599-13*

replace the Arrowhead with the PARKSCAPE symbol was abandoned. The Arrowhead shoulder patch was reinstated, but the latter was retained for the official tie tack. The little triangles, now gold and green enamel, remained in use until 1974, at which time the arrowhead once again came back into use.

In 1976, the country's Bicentennial brought forth a number of decorations for the uniform. One ornament was an adaptation of the standard arrow head tie tack with "American Bicentennial" on a curved bar across the top. These were made by Blackinton. This tie tack was authorized as a replacement for the standard tie tack in a Memo by Acting Director Raymond L. Freeman on April 16, 1976, and continued until December 31, 1977. Its use was not mandatory, but, nevertheless, strongly encouraged. Cost was \$3.25 per 100.

Service uniforms were becoming very cluttered. After the Bicentennial fanfare was over, reaction set in and the uniform was stripped of extraneous paraphernalia. Only the basics were retained: collar ornaments, badge, arrowhead patch and tie tack. The uniform remains in this condition today.

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BADGES *and* UNIFORM ORNAMENTATION of the NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ORNAMENTATION: Miscellaneous

After World War II, returning uniformed Park Service employees were allowed to wear their military uniforms on duty, along with any decorations, for 60 days. After which time, 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." [78] Apparently this allowance was loosely interpreted, because photographs show rangers wearing military medals and decorations, as well as ribbons. This practice continued until rescinded in the 1961 uniform regulations.

The 1956 uniform regulations authorized those employees who had received Departmental Awards either for "distinguished service" or "meritorious service" to wear the appropriate lapel emblem as part of the official uniform. The Department length-of-service emblem (USDI) was also authorized to be worn. The 1961 regulations state that these emblems are to be worn in the left lapel buttonhole, but the sketch that accompanies it shows the length-of-service pin above the button on the right top pocket flap. Apparently the pin placement was changed prior to the regulations being issued and the sketch overlooked.

The 1961 uniform regulations also authorized the wearing of temporary buttons: "At the discretion of the superintendent, temporary fund drive buttons for charities and public benefits recognized by the National Park Service may be worn on the uniform on the left lapel on jackets or on the flap of the left pocket on shirts."

Although the 1961 regulations were the first to address the issue, pins



Ranger Wolfrum "Bill" Joffe is the first Yosemite ranger to come from among the war veterans discharged from the armed forces after being hospitalized at the U.S. Naval Convalescent Hospital in Yosemite National Park, Calif., c.1945. Joffe is wearing his military ribbons on his uniform. NPSHPC-Ralph H. Anderson photo-HFC#91-7

and tags that adorned the uniform from the early years. The most notable occasion was the American Bicentennial and its myriad symbols. But there were many others. The Centennial of the National Park System saw a stylized geyser emblem, in the form of a pin, receive much wear. There were also several environmental programs under way at the time with their own symbols.

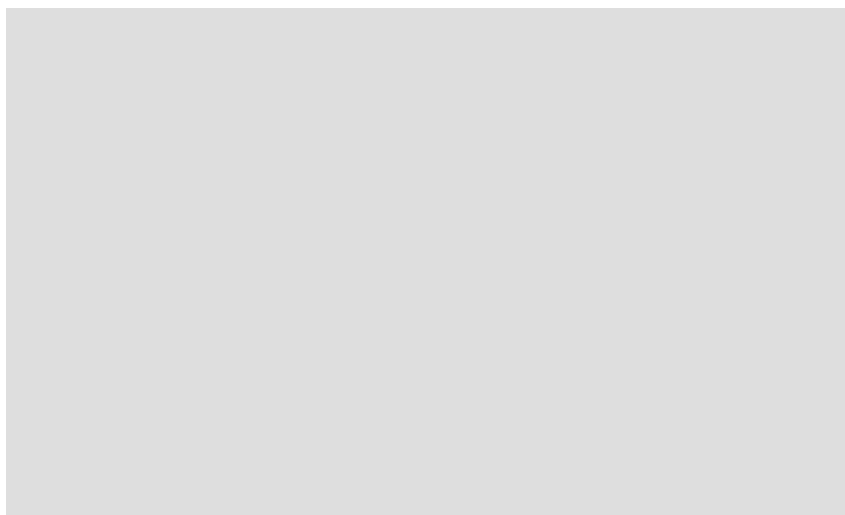


Gerald Banrick, ranger, Fort McHenry National Monument, 1958. Banrick apparently was one of those that applied a liberal interpretation to the regulations governing the wearing of military insignia. Even though this snap-shot is rather fuzzy, his Combat Infantry Badge shows very clearly. He is also wearing the soft cap. *NPSHPC-FOMC/HFC#96-1352*



Tom Curry, administrative support clerk, Harpers Ferry Center, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, 1991. Curry is wearing the. NPS 75th Anniversary pin. *NPSHPC/HFC#91-98438-15*

This practice is continued today with pins for special occasions such as the Service's 75th anniversary in 1991 still periodically authorized. There are too many of these pins to be treated in detail here, but the following small assortment is representative of this type of decoration.





The early 1970's seem to have been the "Hey-Day" of wearing the round tin button-pin on the uniform. This is a small sampling of pins worn on Park Service uniforms. *NPSHC* A. 1972-National Parks Centennial pin

B. 1976-American Bicentennial lapel pin

C. 1974-Urban Youth Program, Richmond National Battlefield

D. 1972-Environman pin (environmental program)

E. 1973-Year Of The Bike pin

F. 1973-Flag pin authorized by Director Ron Walker

G. 1991-75th Anniversary pin

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Conclusion

As can be seen, the National Park Service, like any viable organization, has attempted to change with the times&3151;not always for the better. The uniform today is basically the same as that envisioned in 1920. Even though it now has shoes and trousers, instead of boots and breeches, there are still far more similarities than differences. The cut of the dress coat has been altered somewhat, to accommodate the women in the Service, but the color remains the forest green laid down in the early years and the buttons and collar ornaments have survived long enough to become a tradition. Old hands like Walter Fry or Dusty Lewis would still recognize a park ranger if they were to run into him to day. The old saying "the more things change, the more they remain the same is nowhere truer than in the National Park Service.

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Photofile



Nine rangers at Yosemite National Park, c.1917. Their coats have something on the collars, probably the specified N.P.S., either stitched or of metal (furnished by Lewis). They are all wearing the small badge, except for the third man from the left, who appears to be wearing the large 1906 "eagle" badge. *Courtesy of Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley*

Left to right: (?), Forrest S. Townsley, (?), Billy Nelson, Jack Gaylar, Ansel Hall, (?), Charlie Adair, (?)

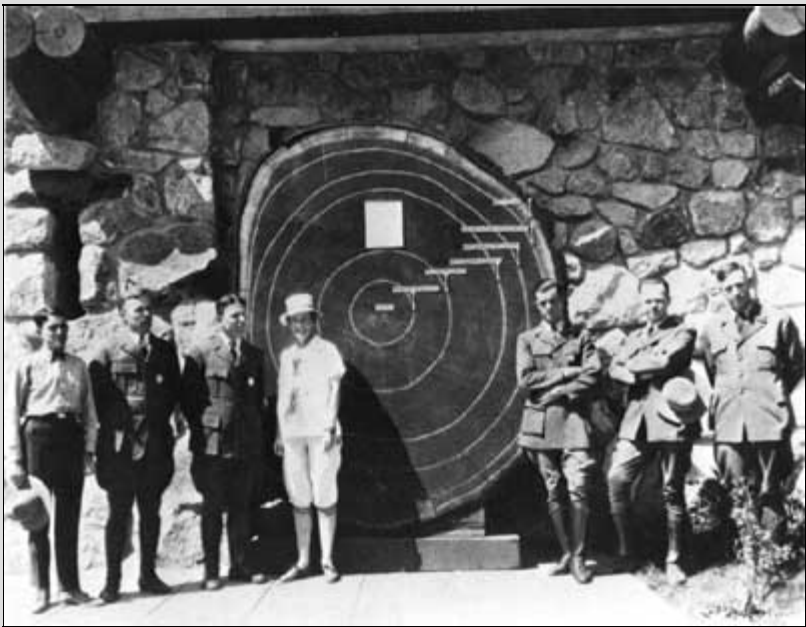


Motorcycle patrol at Yellowstone National Park, 1919. Scoyen's (Assistant Director 1956-1962) small badge can be seen partially hidden under his left pocket flap. *NPSHPC/YELL#31*

Left to right: John Tyler, Elvind Scoyen, Clyde Roney, Emmett Matthews, Hollis Matthews



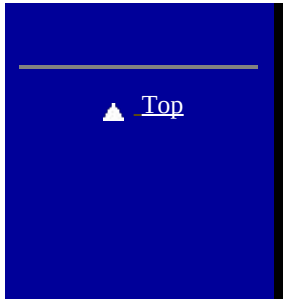
Ranger force at Yosemite National Park, c.1924. They are all wearing the 1920 badge that was first issued in July, 1920. Chief Ranger Forrest Townsley is on the right. *NPSHPC/HFC#YOSE 909*



Nature guides in front of a section of Sequoia gigantea at museum in Yosemite Valley, Yosemite National Park, 1926. Michael, though employed for several years as a nature guide and ranger-naturalist, never wore a uniform. The other guides are still wearing the 1906 badge even though it was supplanted by the 1920 badge six years earlier. *NPSHPC/HFC#88-1*

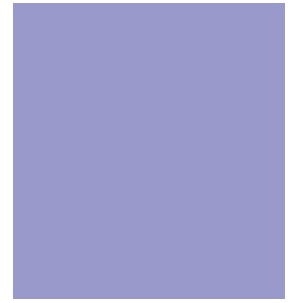
Left to right: E. Rett, R.D. Harwood, G.C. Ruhle, Enid Michael, D.D. McLean, C.P. Russell, Dr. H.C. Bryant

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Appendix

The first comprehensive uniform regulations for the National Park Service were formalized in 1920. These regulations specified the clothing to be worn by the various classes of employees and though ornamentation was covered rather extensively, there was no mention of a badge, although correspondence from the period indicates that a badge had been designed and was in the process of being made. Amendments were made in 1921 authorizing a additional badges and later changing who was to wear them, but the first time badges were incorporated into the regulations was 1923.

Forester was considered an officer position and even though the 1920 and all subsequent uniform regulations, up until 1928 when officers' sleeve insignia were discontinued, described it as having the basic officer insignia of "Three leaves [oak leaves] with crossed axes superimposed", the drawing accompanying the 1921 contract for sleeve insignia indicate it was to be the "Three cones with foliage" of the Chief Ranger with white crossed axes superimposed.

Following are the two regulations that set the standards for the early uniform decoration.

1920

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE UNIFORM BY OFFICERS AND RANGERS OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

(1) The standard uniform for officers of the National Park Service shall consist of:

(a) Coat of forestry serge 12 to 14 oz.; four button sack; either open or English convertible collar*; pinch back and half belt in back; two breast pockets, pleated; two side pockets, bellows; all outside pockets with flaps fastened with Service buttons.

*It had been agreed at the 1919 conference that the coat would be "four button sack; either open or English convertible collar". However, after the Regulations were drawn up, but prior to their adoption, it was decided that the coat would not be convertible, only open collar. In spite of this change, when the Regulations were issued, the term "English convertible collar" was incorporated in them and remained in subsequent Regulations until 1928, even though "convertible collars were not allowed.

(b) Riding breeches of same material; two side and two hip pockets and watch pocket; a double seat; with or without leather reinforcement inside knees; buttoned at knee opening.

(c) Leather puttees and shoes to match, tan or cordovan color, latter preferred, except on dress occasions, when leather puttees are prescribed. Either spiral puttees or tan riding boots may be worn as a part of uniform.

(d) Service hat — Stetson, either stiff or cardboard brim, "belly" color.

(e) Shirt — grey wool or white shirt and collar.

(f) Tie — dark green four-in-hand.

(g) Collar ornaments, sleeve insignia and service stripes as herein-after prescribed.

(h) Overcoat of forestry cloth 16 to 20 oz.; five button ulster type, double breasted, English convertible collar; diagonal side pockets, pinch back with half belt and back vented from waist.

(2) Officers in the field service of the National Parks to whom are referred in these regulations as authorized to wear the officers uniform of the service are those employees holding appointments under the following designations;

Superintendents,	Assistant Superintendents,
Engineers,	Assistant Engineers,
Supervisors,	Assistant Supervisors,
Foresters,	Clerks.

and such other employees as the Director of the National Park Service may from time to time authorize.

(3) The standard uniform for Park Rangers shall be the same as prescribed for officers with the following exceptions:

(a) Coat and riding breeches to be made of forestry cloth 16 to 18 oz. instead of forestry serge.

(b) Overcoat of forestry cloth 16 to 20 oz., four button mackinaw type, English convertible collar, half belt in back.

(4) While temporary rangers are not required to equip themselves with

the standard ranger uniform, its use by them is encouraged. In lieu of the standard uniform all temporary rangers, before reporting for duty, or as soon afterward as practicable, will provide themselves with the following prescribed temporary ranger uniform.

Riding breeches — Dux back.

Puttees — leather, tan or cordovan color, preferably latter.

Shoes — to match puttees.

Shirt — grey wool.

Tie — dark green four-in-hand

Hat — Stetson — either stiff or cardboard brim, "belly" color.

Collar ornaments and sleeve insignia as prescribed under paragraphs 5 and 9.

(5) The collar ornament prescribed for all officers and rangers of the Service shall be the standard NPS service device containing the letters US, the various NPS service units to be differentiated as follows:

(a) All officers, device of gold,

(b) Chief Ranger, device of silver,

(c) Asst. Chief Rangers, device of silver,

(d) Park Rangers, device of silver,

(e) Park Rangers, Temporary, device of bronze.

(6) The sleeve insignia for the Director of the National Park Service shall consist of a single gold star surrounded by four maple leaves, the whole surrounded by a circular frame. The entire device to be embroidered on forestry serge, the star in gold, the leaves in dark green, and the circular frame in light green silk.

(7) The sleeve insignia for the Assistant Director of the National Park Service shall be the same as that prescribed for the Director except that the star shall be of silver color instead of gold.

(8) Oak leaves have been adopted as the basic insignia of the field service other than Rangers, for sleeve insignia. Upon all are superimposed devices designating the particular division of the field service to which the officer is attached. The various designations shall be as follows:

Superintendents — Three leaves with three acorns superimposed

Asst. Supts. — Two leaves with two acorns superimposed

Engineers — Three leaves with T-square and triangle superimposed

Asst. Engineers — Two leaves with T-square and triangle superimposed

Foresters — Three leaves with crossed axes superimposed

Chief Electricians — Three leaves with lightning bolt

superimposed

Asst. Electricians — Two leaves with lightning bolt

superimposed

Clerks — Two leaves with ink bottle and quill

superimposed

(a) Officers' sleeve insignia shall be embroidered on forestry serge.

(9) The Sequoia cone and foliage have been adopted as the basic insignia for the Park Ranger Service for sleeve insignia, the differentiation in rank being indicated by the number of cones. The various designations shall be as follows:

Chief Ranger — Three cones with foliage,

Asst. Chief Rangers — Two cones with foliage,

Rangers — One cone with foliage,

Temporary Rangers — Foliage only.

(a) Sleeve insignia of the Ranger Service shall be embroidered on forestry cloth.

(10) All Rangers shall be in uniform when on duty at park headquarters during the tourist season, when on official business either inside or outside of the park, and on any other occasion as directed by the Superintendent of the park to which they are attached. In addition to this the use of the uniform is encouraged on all occasions where contact is had with the public either on or off duty where the nature of the duties being performed makes it practicable.

(11) Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Engineers, and Assistant Engineers shall wear the uniform at all times when on duty during the tourist season and shall be required to transact all business either inside or outside of the park in uniform except when on duty in the District of Columbia, or as may be otherwise directed by the Director of the National Park Service.

(12) Other officers of the field service will not for the present be required to supply themselves with or wear the uniform but its use by all above included is urged so far as practicable.

(13) Collar ornaments shall be worn in pairs, one device on either side of coat or shirt collar.

(14) Sleeve insignia shall be worn on the upper right arm of coat or shirt.

(15) A service stripe of black braid 1/8" wide by 2 inches long, shall be allowed for each completed year of service, and a silver embroidered star for each completed five years. Service insignia shall be worn on the cuff of the left hand sleeve of coat, overcoat or shirt.

(16) Collar ornaments and sleeve and service insignia will be furnished by the Service upon requisition of the various park superintendents.

(17) These regulations shall be made applicable to officers and employees at Hot Springs Reservation with such modifications as in the discretion of the Director of the National Park Service may be appropriate.

(18) The above regulations shall but all officers and rangers are complete uniform equipment at become effective on July 1, 1920, urged to supply themselves with the earliest possible date.

Approved:

(sgd) Stephen T. Mather
Director, National Park Service
March 20, 1920

1923

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR National Park Service

(1) Each regularly employed officer of the field units of the National Park Service as hereinafter designated and each ranger, whether employed on a permanent or temporary basis, shall provide himself at his own expense with a regulation uniform as hereinafter specified and shall wear the same in such manner and at such times as specified in these regulations.

(2) The standard uniform for officers of the National Park Service shall consist of —

(a) Coat of forestry serge or whipcord 12 to 14 oz.; four-button sack; either open or English convertible collar; pinch back and half belt in back; two breast pockets, plaited; two side pockets, bellows; all outside pockets with flaps fastened with Service buttons.

(b) Riding breeches of same material; two side and two hip pockets and watch pocket; double seat; with or without leather reinforcement inside knees; buttons at knee opening.

(c) Leather puttees and shoes to match, tan or cordovan color, latter preferred. Except on dress occasions, when leather puttees are preferred, either spiral puttees or tan riding boots may be worn as a part of uniform.

(d) Service hat, Stetson, either stiff or cardboard brim, "belly" color.

(e) Shirt, grey wool or white shirt and collar.

(f) Tie, dark green four-in-hand.

(g) Collar ornaments, badge, sleeve insignia, and service stripes as hereinafter prescribed.

(h) Overcoat of forestry cloth 16 to 20 oz.; five-button ulster type, double breasted, English convertible collar; diagonal side pockets, pinch back with half belt and back vented from waist.

(3) Officers in the field service of the National Parks who are referred to in these regulations as authorized and instructed to wear the officers' uniform of the service are those employees holding appointments under the following designations:

Superintendents,
Assistant Superintendents,
Engineers,
Assistant Engineers,
Supervisors,
Assistant Supervisors,
Foresters,
Clerks,
Chief Electricians,
Assistant Electricians,

and such other employees as the Director of the National Park Service may from time to time authorize.

(4) The standard uniform for Park Rangers shall be the same as prescribed for officers with the following exceptions:

(a) Coat and riding breeches to be made of forestry cloth or whipcord 16 to 18 oz. instead of forestry serge.

(b) Overcoat of forestry cloth 16 to 20 oz., four-button Mackinaw type, English convertible collar, half belt in back.

(5) The collar ornament prescribed for all officers and rangers of the Service shall be the standard Park Service device containing the letters U.S., the various service units to be N.P.S. differentiated as follows:

(a) All officers, device of gold.

(b) Chief Ranger, device of silver.

(c) Assistant Chief Park Rangers, device of silver.

(d) Park Rangers, device of silver.

(e) Park Rangers, Temporary, device of bronze.

(6) The badge prescribed for all officers and rangers of the Service shall be of the design designated below:

(a) Director and Assistant Director, round form of badge, gold plated.

(b) Superintendents and Custodians, round form of badge, nickel plated.

(c) Chief Ranger and Assistant Chief Rangers, shield form of badge, gold plated.

(d) Park Rangers and Park Rangers, Temporary, shield form of badge, nickel plated.

(7) The sleeve insignia for the Director of the National Park Service shall consist of a single gold star surrounded by four maple leaves, the whole surrounded by a circular frame. The entire device is to be embroidered on forestry serge, the star in gold, the leaves in dark green, and the circular frame in light green silk.

(8) The sleeve insignia for the Assistant Director of the Service shall be the same as that prescribed for the Director except that the star shall be of silver color instead of gold.

(9) Oak leaves have been adopted as the basis insignia of the field service other than Rangers, for sleeve insignia. Upon all are superimposed devices designating the particular division of the field service to which the officer is attached. The various designations shall be as follows:

Superintendents — Three leaves with three acorns superimposed

Asst. Superintendents — Two leaves with two acorns superimposed

Engineers — Three leaves with T-square and triangle superimposed

Asst. Engineers — Two leaves with T-square and triangle superimposed

Foresters — Three leaves with crossed axes superimposed

Chief Electricians — Three leaves with lightning bolt superimposed

Asst. Electricians — Two leaves with lightning bolt superimposed

Clerks — Two leaves with ink bottle and quill superimposed

(a) Officer's sleeve insignia shall be embroidered on forestry serge.

(10) The Sequoia cone and foliage have been adopted as the basic insignia for the Park Ranger Service for sleeve insignia, the differentiation in rank being indicated by the number of cones. The various designations shall be as follows:

Chief Ranger — Three cones with foliage.

Asst. Chief Rangers — Two cones with foliage.

Rangers — One cone with foliage.

Temporary Rangers — Foliage only.

(a) Sleeve insignia of the Ranger Service shall be embroidered on forestry cloth.

(11) All Rangers shall be in uniform when on duty at Park headquarters during the tourist season, when on official business either inside or outside of the Park, and on any other occasion as directed by the Superintendent of the Park to which they are attached. In addition to this the use of the uniform is encouraged on all occasions where contact is had with the public either on or off duty where the nature of the duties being performed makes it practicable. Coat shall always, when worn, be kept fully buttoned.

(12) Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Engineers, and Assistant Engineers shall wear the uniform at all times when on duty during the tourist season and shall be required to transact all business either inside or outside of the Park in uniform except when on duty in the District of Columbia, or as may be otherwise directed by the Director of the National Park Service. Coat shall always, when worn, be kept fully buttoned.

(13) Other officers of the field service will not for the present be required to supply themselves with or wear the uniform, but its use by all above included is urged so far as practicable.

(14) Collar ornaments shall be worn in pairs, one device on either side of coat or shirt collar.

(15) Sleeve insignia shall be worn on the upper right arm of coat or shirt.

(16) A service stripe of black braid 1/8 inch wide by 2 inches long shall be allowed for each completed year of service, and a silver star embroidered star for each completed five years. Service insignia shall be worn on the cuff of the left-hand sleeve of coat, overcoat or shirt.

(17) Each officer and ranger upon entrance on duty will be furnished, free of charge, two complete sets of collar ornaments, sleeve insignia, and service stripes. Each year thereafter one set of sleeve insignia and service stripes, or one new set for each uniform ordered, will be furnished by the Service. Any additional collar ornaments, sleeve insignia, or service stripes desired by employees will be furnished at cost prices.

Upon entrance on duty each Superintendent, Custodian and Ranger will be furnished with a badge for which a deposit of \$5 will be required. This sum shall be returned upon surrender of the badge for which it was deposited. If the badge should be lost a new deposit of \$5 will be required before a new badge may be issued. All employees now in the Service shall be required to make a like deposit for the badge now in their possession.

Badges are not to be sold or otherwise disposed of. They are issued to show authority and should not be allowed to fall into the hands of unauthorized persons.

(18) These regulations shall be made applicable to officers and employees at Hot Springs Reservation with such modifications as in the discretion of the Director of the National Park Service may be

appropriate.

(19) The above regulations shall become effective March 1, 1923, but all Officers and Rangers are urged to supply themselves with complete uniform equipment at the earliest possible date.

(20) The foregoing regulations supersede all regulations previously issued on the same subject.

ARNO B. CAMMERER,
Acting Director,
National Park Service
Approved: February 16, 1923.

E.C. FINNEY,
First Assistant Secretary, Interior Department.

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Notes

1. [Jack R. Williams](#), "History of the National Park Service Uniform," 1968, p.21.
2. [Frank F. Leibig](#), "Early Days in the Forest Service," *USDA FS Northern Region*, Missoula, Montana, 1944, Vol.I,p. 130.
3. [Memorandum](#), Secretary's Office to P.& M. Division (P&R 664-06) June 1906, "Early park correspondence 1890-1919", Sequoia National Park Archives, Microfilm File, Roll #5.
4. [Letter](#), John E. Kell to Jack R. Williams, 12 July, 1965. Record Group Y55, National Park Service Archives, Harpers Ferry Center, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia (hereafter cited as HFC/Y55).
5. Letter, Carmi A. Thompson to Sigmund Eisner, 4 January, 1912. National Archives, Record Group 79, "Uniforms of the Park Service 1907-1925" (hereafter cited as NA/RG 79)
6. [Letters](#), Stephen T. Mather to Washington B. Lewis, 14 June, 1920; Stephen T. Mather to Horace M. Albright, 15 June, 1920. NA/RG 79.
7. [Memorandum](#), Sam T. Woodring to Horace M. Albright, 27 December, 1922. NA/RG 79.

It was customary for the uniform committee to request input from the field whenever a uniform change was contemplated. Often these requests were forwarded by the superintendents to the rangers for answers. In the questionnaire dated December 2, 1922, question 5 asked: "Are the various insignia specified in the present regulations in your opinion satisfactory as to:

- (a) Superintendent's Badges
- (b) Ranger's Badges
- (c) Collar Devices
- (d) Sleeve Insignia
- (e) Service Insignia"

8. [Williams](#), p.22

9. [Letter](#), Stephen T. Mather to Horace M. Albright, 15 June, 1920. NA/RG 79.

10. Letter, George E. Goodwin to Director, NPS, 7 January, 1921. NA/RG 79.
11. Ibid.
12. Specification sheet forwarded with contract to F.J. Heiberger, Washington, DC, 28 April, 1922. NA/RG79.
13. Letter, Jesse Nusbaum to Director, NPS, 28 April, 1922. NA/RG 79.
14. Letter, Stephen T. Mather to Washington B. Lewis, 13 April, 1921.
Custodians were site managers at Southwestern parks that didn't warrant a superintendent due to their size or visitation.
15. Directive, Stephen T. Mather to all NPS personnel, 13 June, 1922. NA/RG 79.
16. Letter, Arno B. Cammerer to George R. Dorr, 16 June, 1922. NA/RG 79.
17. Ibid.
18. Minutes, 12th National Park Conference, p.91, NA/RG 79. This conference was held at Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas, 3-8 April, 1932.
19. Memorandum, Hillary A Tolson to John C. Preston, 7 May, 1944. "National Park Service Uniform Committee Records, 1941-1942", Lon Garrison - File #A66. HFC/Y55.
20. Memorandum, John C. Preston to Director, NPS, 28 May, 1941. HFC/Y55.
21. Williams, p.24.
22. Letter, Lawrence F. Cook to Director, NPS, 12 October, 1960. NPS/RG Y55.
23. Williams, p.30.
24. Telephone conversation, R. Bryce Workman to Rick Hall, V.H. Blackinton, 19 July, 1995. HFC/GC.
25. Letters, Gilbert R. Wenger to Bryce Workman, 2 July, 1995; Jack R. Williams to Bryce Workman, 8 July, 1995. HFC/GC.
26. Obituary, Press Release No.70, Grand Canyon, Arizona, 4 November, 1951.
27. Letter, Conrad L. Wirth to David Nathanson, 30 March, 1985. NPS/RG Y55.
28. Williams, p.28.

29. David Nathanson, "The Arrowhead Symbol of the National Park Service" 1989.
30. Ibid
31. Ibid
32. National Park Service Administrative Manual, Release No.41, 12 June, 1963, p.1.
33. Ibid
34. National Park Service Uniform Regulations, 1969.
35. Letters, Carmi A. Thompson to Walter Fry; W.F. Arant; Major Lloyd M. Brett; Major W.W. Forsyth; William J. French; Edward B. Linnen, 20 April, 1911. NA/RG 79.
36. Letter, Clement S. Ucker to Major William R. Logan, 2 June, 1911. NA/RG 79.
37. Letter, Sigmund Eisner to Secretary, USDI, 13 December, 1911. NA/RG 79.
38. Letter, Carmi A. Thompson to Sigmund Eisner, 4 January, 1912. NA/RG 79.
39. Letter, Sigmund Eisner to Secretary, USDI, 10 January, 1912. NA/RG 79.
40. Letter, Walter Fry to Secretary, USDI, 22 October, 1911. NA/RG 79.
41. Letter, Stephen T. Mather to Mark Daniels, 3 November, 1915. NA/RG 79.
42. Letter, Bo Sweeny to Sigmund Eisner, 12 June, 1915. NA/RG 79.
43. Letter, Sigmund Eisner to Secretary, USDI, 6 October, 1915. NA/RG 79.
44. Memorandum, Horace M. Albright to Arno Bertholt Cammerer, 17 March, 1927. NA/RG 79 208.30.
45. Telephone, Bryce Workman to David Ebersole, 11 January, 1991. NPS/RG Y55.
46. There were at least three (3) other Office Orders issued between the revision of Office Order 204, revised (1932) and Office Order 324 (1936), but since none of these have come to light, it can not be determined with certainty just when the new items that appear in Office Order 324 were introduced.
47. Memorandum, Lawrence F. Cook to Director, NPS, March 16, 1960. HFC/GC.

48. Letter, Washington B. Lewis to Director, NPS, 5 September, 1919. NA/RG 79.
49. Letter, Arno B. Cammerer to Washington B. Lewis, 20 September, 1919. NA/RG 79.
50. Letter, Horace M. Albright to Thomas W. Brazell, 24 April, 1919. NA/RG 79.
51. This style of coat was first authorized in 1917. The color was Olive Drab (Army color), but this was changed to forest green in 1919.
52. Letter, Arno B. Cammerer to D.R. Hull, 13 December, 1926. NA/RG 79 208.30.
53. Letter, Thomas C. Vint to Director, NPS, 12 January, 1927. NA/RG 79 208.30.
54. Telegram Owen A. Tomlinson to Director, NPS, 13 January, 1931. NA/RG 79 208.30.
55. Letter, James E. Neal to Jack R. Williams, 26 January, 1966. NPS/RG Y55.
56. Letter, Carmi A. Thompson to Edward S. Hall, 10 April, 1911. NA/RG 79.
57. Letter, Clement S. Ucker to Sigmund Eisner, 16 January, 1912. NA/RG 79.
58. Williams, p.1.
59. "Stetson" became a generic term for a wide brim hat in the west, like "Homburg" was used for a dress hat in the east. The John B. Stetson Company did not furnish hats to the National Park Service until 1934.
60. James E. Neal, "History of the Ranger Stetson", April 1967, California State Ranger Uniform Manual, Supplement B.
61. Memorandum, Hillary A. Tolson to all field officers, 8 October, 1936. NA/RG Y55.
62. Letter, Owen A. Tomlinson to Director, NPS, 23 December, 1929. NA/RG 79 208.30.
63. Letter, Arno B. Cammerer to Owen A. Tomlinson, 16 January, 1930. NA/RG 79 208.30.
64. Memorandum, Owen A. Tomlinson to all park superintendents, 23 January, 1930. NA/RG 79 208.30.
65. Letter, Owen A. Tomlinson to Director, NPS, 13 February, 1930. NA/RG 79 208.30.
66. Letter, Arno B. Cammerer to Owen A. Tomlinson, 25 February, 1930. NA/RG 79 208.30.

67. Ibid

68. Letter J. Ross Eakin to Owen A. Tomlinson, 31 May, 1930. NA/RG 79 208.30.

69. Memorandum, Arthur E. Demaray to all superintendents and custodians, 7 May , 1936. HFC/GC.

70. Memorandum, Stanley T. Albright to regional directors, NPS, 9 March, 1984. HFC/GC.

71. National Park Service Uniform Handbook, 1959, Chapter 2, p.18.

Although this handbook was written in 1959, its provisions were not to be fully implemented until January 1, 1961. Even so, many of items were instituted in 1960. (name tags, badges, etc.)

72. Memorandum, Lawrence F. Cook to Director, NPS, 12 October, 1960. HFC/GC.

73. Ibid 22 November, 1961.

74. Letter, Samuel F. Ralston to Secretary, USDI, 15 September, 1915. NA/RG 79.

75. Questionnaire response, Frank Pinkley, 18 December, 1922. NA/RG 79.

76. Williams, p.30.

77. Contract, between National Park Service and F.J. Heilberger & Sons, Inc., 5 April, 1922. NA/RG 79.

78. Williams p.31.

79. National Park Service Uniform Regulations, 1947, Chapter 6, section 2, p. 1.

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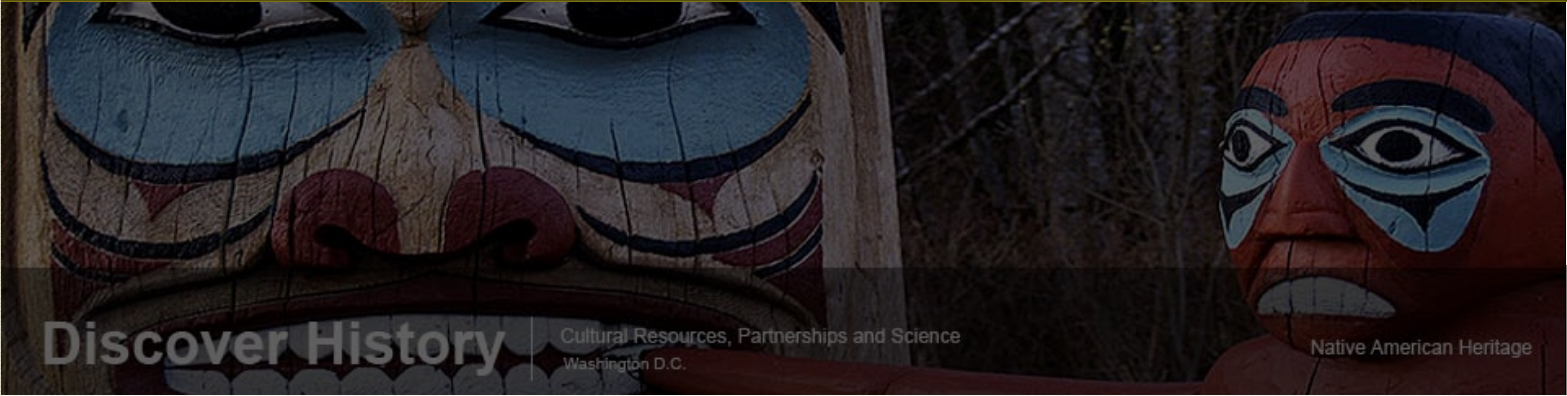
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