



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL PARKWAY
C/O TURKEY RUN PARK
McLEAN, VIRGINIA 22101

IN REPLY REFER TO:

D6223-GWMP

JAN 7 1982

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, National Capital Region
From: Superintendent, GWMP
Subject: Scope of Collection Statement, Great Falls Park

We are submitting the attached statement for your review and approval. This statement delineates the National Capital Region's policy for the preparation, storage, handling, and use of the artifacts for Great Falls Park, Virginia.

Attachment

Prepared by:

Brian R. Adams
Chief, Visitor Services, Great Falls Park

12/30/81
Date

Reviewed by:

James Murphy Jr.
Site Supervisor, Great Falls Park

1/4/82
Date

Recommended by:

John Byrne
Superintendent, GW Memorial Parkway

JAN 7 1982
Date

Concurred by:

Michael T. Vice
Regional Curator

JAN 18, 1982
Date

Approved by:

Robert Stanton
Regional Director
Acting

2/5/82
Date

SCOPE OF COLLECTION STATEMENT

GREAT FALLS PARK, VIRGINIA GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL PARKWAY

INTRODUCTION

Great Falls Park is a unit of the George Washington Memorial Parkway authorized by the Capper-Cramton Act of 1930 with amendments (P.L. 699, 79th Congress), established to assure "the protection and preservation of the natural scenery of the gorge (Mather Gorge) and the Great Falls of the Patowmack and the presentation of the historic Patowmack Canal." Of secondary importance, although not legislated, is the protection, preservation and interpretation of the natural and human history of the area.

The collection will be supportive of the above themes, both primary and secondary. Items not deemed essential in support of these themes will be eliminated from the collection, and the parkway Curator, Regional Curator, and Museum Clearing House will be informed of this action.

The collection is divided into four interpretive themes, two primary and two secondary: (1) the natural history of the Great Falls and Mather Gorge, (2) the history of the Patowmack Canal and associated settlement of Matildaville and construction of manufacturing industries along the canal, (3) the natural history of the area, and (4) the human history of the area from American native prehistorical use of the area up to the establishment of the unit in 1966. All themes will be interpreted through exhibits in the visitor center and through wayside exhibits, with themes 1 and 2 receiving primary importance. All other objects are housed in a study collection located in appropriate storage areas in the site visitor center.

ACQUISITION

All outside acquisitions to the collections will be handled through the Superintendent on the advice of the Site Manager or his representative, the Site Curator, and the Parkway Curator. Specimen collection within the site will be approved by the Superintendent on the advice of the Site Manager or his representative, Parkway Resource Management Specialist, Site Curator, and Parkway Curator. All outside acquisitions required to complete these themes will either be accomplished through purchase or by unconditional donation. Recognition of donation will be accomplished through Superintendent's letter of donation acceptance and through appropriate display explanation material.

MUSEUM AND STUDY COLLECTION

The following types of artifacts will be collected, preserved, exhibited and properly stored by Great Falls Park, George Washington

Memorial Parkway.

1. Natural specimens directly related to the natural history of the Great Falls and Mather Gorge of the Potomac River.
2. Artifacts and documents, both written and pictorial, directly related to the construction and history of the Patowmack Canal and Patowmack Canal Company.
3. Artifacts and documents, both written and pictorial, directly related to George Washington's involvement with the construction of the Patowmack Canal Company system of canals along the Potomac River.
4. Artifacts and documents, both written and pictorial, directly related to the settlement of Matildaville and associated industries and General "Light-Horse Harry" Lee's involvement in the settlement of Matildaville.
5. Artifacts and documents, both written and pictorial, directly related to the overall human use of the area, from native American prehistoric use of the area, up to 1966.
6. Artifacts and specimens directly related to the natural history of the area.
7. Paintings and photographs directly related to all themes, but only as necessary to emphasize or complete the interpretive message of the themes.

All objects not on display will be housed in a study collection. This study collection and a reference library will be maintained and utilized for the purpose of research.

USE OF COLLECTION

1. For exhibit
2. For scholarly research
3. Education and orientation of park employees
4. As a permanent documentation of site resources

It is assumed and understood that the use of the collection by any person would not result in the abuse or degradation of it through improper use, storage, inspection, study or handling.

RESTRICTIONS

Artifacts, documents, pictures, or photographs will not be removed from the site for any other reasons than through their transfer to

the Harper's Ferry laboratory and through loan or disposal by the Museum Clearing House. Artifacts, documents, pictures, or photographs may be removed from the site for outreach interpretive programs with the permission of the Site Manager or his representative, with the consent of the Site Curator, by National Park Service employees only, if their use is imperative in fulfilling the interpretive goal for the program and their protection from theft or damage can be assured.

CONCLUSION

Any alteration, or addition to this scope of Collection Statement must be recommended by the Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway and be approved by the Regional Director, National Capital Region. Any exceptions to the Scope of Collection Statement must be approved by the Regional Director, National Capital Region, and only on the advice of the Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway, and his representatives.