

## **Abolished National Monuments**

**12/1/16**

Congress abolished several national monuments created by presidential proclamations. Three of the 15 National Monuments transferred from the Forest Service to the National Park Service in 1933 (Executive Order 6166, June 10, 1933) - Holy Cross (CO), Old Kasaan (AK) and Wheeler (CO) – were later abolished. The monuments were abolished by Congress in 1950, 1955 and 1950 respectively, and the lands encompassed in them reverted to Forest Service administration.

The War Department administered ten National Monuments established by proclamation: Big Hole Battlefield, Cabrillo, Castle Pinckney, Father Millet Cross, Fort Marion, Fort Matanzas, Fort Pulaski, Meriwether Lewis, Mound City Group and the Statue of Liberty National Monuments. The monuments were transferred to the Department of the Interior by Executive Order (EO) No. 6166, referenced above. Because of some doubt as to the meaning of EO No. 6166, President Roosevelt issued EO 6228 on July 28, 1933, specifically listing War Department properties, including national monuments that were to be transferred to the National Park Service. Of these ten, Father Millet Cross National Monument was delisted in 1949. Castle Pinckney National Monument was deauthorized in 1956. Meriwether Lewis National Monument became part of Natchez Trace National Parkway by Act of Congress in 1961. Congress renamed Fort Marion as "Castillo de San Marcos National Monument" in 1942. The other six former War Department monuments remain as national monuments within the national park system

Presidential Proclamations created five other monuments that no longer exist and whose lands are not now administered by the NPS. The monuments were given over to the NPS at their origin and were administered by the NPS until their demise. The monuments and their year of abolition by Congress were: Fossil Cycad (SD) (1956), Lewis and Clark Cavern (MT) (1937), Papago Saguaro (AZ) (1930), Shoshone Cavern (MT) (1954) and Verendrye (ND) (1956).

### **National Monuments Abolished by Congressional act and their lands incorporated into a new NPS area**

Over time, Congress abolished 52 national monuments by incorporating their land into National Parks, National Historical Parks, National Preserves or other units. The count includes the 13 monuments declared by Jimmy Carter in 1978 in Alaska. The following lists these abolitions in order of the year Congress abolished the monument.

The two Forest Service-administered Cinder Cone and Lassen Peak National Monuments were transferred to the NPS when Congress incorporated the monuments' lands into Lassen Volcanic National Park in 1916.

Congress abolished the 1916 Sieur de Monts National Monument and incorporated it into the Lafayette National Park in 1919, later renamed Acadia National Park.

The Forest Service-administered Grand Canyon National Monument was incorporated into the Grand Canyon National Park in 1919.

The Forest Service-administered Munkutuweap National Monument was abolished and renamed Zion National Monument and transferred to the NPS in 1918; Congress incorporated the monument into Zion National Park in 1919.

The Forest Service-administered Bryce Canyon National Monument was incorporated into Bryce Canyon National Park in 1928.

Congress abolished the 1923 Carlsbad Caverns National Monument and incorporated it into the Carlsbad Caverns National Park in 1930.

Congress transferred the Forest Service-administered Mount Olympus National Monument to the NPS, abolished it and incorporated it as part of Olympic National Park in 1938.

Congress abolished the 1943 Jackson Hole National Monument and incorporated it into Grand Teton National Park in 1950.

Congress abolished the 1938 Fort Laramie National Monument and incorporated it into Fort Laramie National Historic Site in 1960.

Congress abolished the Meriwether Lewis National Monument and made it part of Natchez Trace National Parkway in 1961. (Congress also abolished the Ackia Battleground National Monument in Mississippi in the same act of 1961 – but Ackia Battlefield was NOT an Antiquities Act monument. Rather it was authorized by Congress in 1935 and proclaimed by Franklin Roosevelt in 1938).

Congress abolished the 1906 Petrified Forest National Monument and incorporated it into Petrified Forest National Park in 1962.

Congress abolished 1929 Badlands National Monument and incorporated it into Badlands National Park in 1968.

Congress abolished the 1929 Arches National Monument and incorporated it into Arches National Park in 1971.

Congress abolished the 1937 Capitol Reef National Monument and incorporated it into Capitol Reef National Park in 1971.

Congress abolished 1961 Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Monument and incorporated it into C&O Canal National Historical Park in 1971.

An abolished monument has a more curious history. Proclaimed in 1939, the Santa Rosa Island National Monument in Florida was abolished by Congress in 1946. These lands are now part of the Gulf Islands National Seashore, established by Congress in 1972.

Congress abolished the 1932 Grand Canyon National Monument and 1969 Marble Canyon National Monument by incorporating these two into an expanded Grand Canyon National Park in 1975

Congress abolished the 1918 Katmai National Monument and incorporated it into Katmai National Park in 1980 (ANILCA).

Congress abolished the 1925 Glacier Bay National Monument and incorporated it into Glacier Bay National Park in 1980 (ANILCA)

Congress abolished all 13 of the 13 national monuments proclaimed by President Jimmy Carter in Alaska in 1978 and established these areas as national parks, preserves or monuments by congressional charter in 1980 (ANILCA). These are: Bering Land Bridge, Denali, Gates of the Arctic, Glacier Bay, Katmai, Kenai Fjords, Kobuk Valley, Lake Clark, Noatak, Wrangell-St. Elias, Yukon-Charley. Congress repealed the proclamations but kept the “national monument” title for Aniakchak and Cape Krusenstern.

Congress abolished the 1938 Channel Islands National Monument and incorporated it into Channel Islands NP in 1980.

Congress abolished the 1968 Biscayne National Monument and incorporated it into the Biscayne National Park in 1980. (One of three examples of a congressionally-created national monument that was subsequently abolished by incorporation into a larger and renamed unit).

Congress abolished the 1907 Chaco Canyon National Monument and incorporated it into Chaco Culture National Historical Park in 1980.

Congress abolished the 1922 Lehman Caves National Monument and incorporated it into Great Basin National Park in 1986.

Congress abolished the 1907 Gran Quivira National Monument and incorporated it into the congressionally-designated Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument in 1988.

Congress abolished the 1976 Congaree Swamp National Monument and incorporated it into the Congaree Swamp National Park in 1988. (Second of three examples of a congressionally-created national monument that was subsequently abolished by incorporation into a larger and renamed unit).

Congress abolished the 1965 Pecos National Monument and incorporated it into Pecos National Historical Park in 1990. (Third of three examples of a congressionally-created national monument that was subsequently abolished by incorporation into a larger and renamed unit).

Congress abolished the 1908 Tumacacori National Monument (administered by DOI – General Land Office) and transferred to NPS (unknown date) when it created Tumacacori National Historical Park in 1990.

Congress abolished the 1935 Fort Jefferson National Monument and incorporated it into Dry Tortugas National Park in 1992.

Congress abolished the 1933 Saguaro National Monument and incorporated it into Saguaro National Park in 1994.

Congress abolished the 1933 Death Valley National Monument and incorporated it into Death Valley National Park in 1994.

Congress abolished the 1936 Joshua Tree National Monument and incorporated it into the Joshua Tree National Park in 1994.

Congress abolished the 1933 Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument and incorporated it into the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park in 1999.

Congress abolished the 1932 Great Sand Dunes National Monument and incorporated it into Great Sand Dunes National Park in 2000.

Congress renamed the 2002 addition of 410,000 acres to Craters of the Moon National Monument as Craters of the Moon National Preserve in 2002. No net gain or loss of number of units that are NPS “national monuments” because the original Craters of the Moon National Monument (proclaimed 1924) remained untouched.

Congress abolished the 2001 Minidoka Internment National Monument and converted it to Minidoka National Historic Site in 2008.

Congress abolished the 1908 Pinnacles National Monument and designated it a national park in 2013.

Congress abolished the 2103 First State National Monument in Delaware and renamed the area as the First State National Historic Park in 2014.

Congress incorporated the 2013 Harriet Tubman – Underground Railroad National Monument into the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park in 2104.

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