

STEWARDSHIP ASSETS

The Stewardship Assets cared for by the Department of the Interior are as varied and diverse as the nation itself. These assets range from huge expanses of National Park Land to small artifacts from ancient civilizations.

STEWARDSHIP LAND

The Department of the Interior oversees 445 million acres of public lands. These lands encompass a wide range of resources, including energy and minerals, timber, forage, wild horse and burro populations, fish and wildlife habitat, recreational areas, wilderness areas, and archeological and historical sites.

The majority of Public Lands managed by the Department are “public domain” lands, that is large areas of territory acquired by the nation between 1781 and 1867. All areas of the nation other than the lands belonging to the original 13 colonies and the state of Texas were acquired as public domain. During this time, the Federal Government acquired land equal to 79.4 percent of the current total acreage of the United States, spending a total of only \$85.1 million.

Figure 1
U.S. Land Management

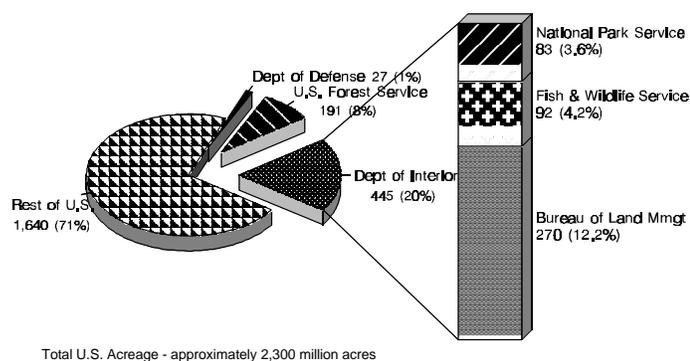
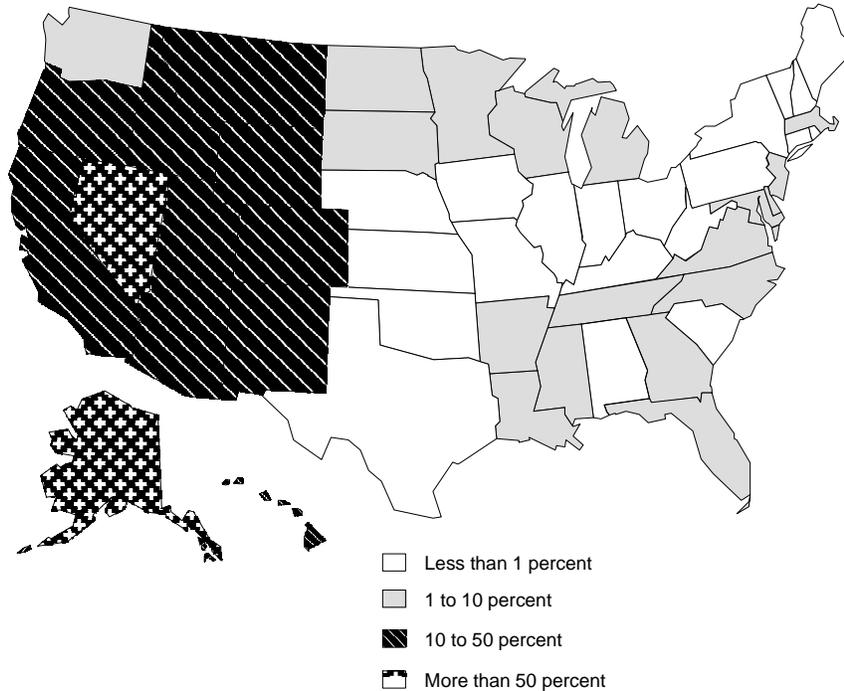


Table 1
Acquisition of the Public Domain of the United States
1781 through 1867

Source	Acquisition Date(s)	Cost (\$ millions)	Land Acres Acquired (in millions)	Percent of Current U.S. Land Mass
Ceded from Original	1781-1802	\$ 6.2	233.5	10.2%
Louisiana Purchase	1803	23.2	523.4	22.9%
Red River Basin	1782-1817	-	29.1	1.3%
Ceded from Spain	1819	6.7	43.3	2.0%
Oregon Compromise	1846	-	180.6	7.9%
Ceded from Mexico	1848	16.3	334.5	14.6%
Purchased from Texas	1850	15.5	78.8	3.4%
Gadsden Purchase	1853	10.0	19.0	0.8%
Alaska Purchase	1867	7.2	365.3	16.3%
Total		\$ 85.1	1,807.5	79.4%

Figure 2

Percentage of Each State's Acreage Managed by Interior
(as of September 30, 1994)



Over the course of the last 200 years, the nation has disposed of a total of 1.14 billion acres of the 1.81 billion acres acquired. Dispositions include territory granted to states (328 million acres), land granted or sold to homesteaders (287 million), and lands sold or granted to individuals and corporations under various laws for various purposes. Land has also been transferred to the Department of Defense and to the Department of Agriculture's U.S. Forest Service. Land retained by the Department of the Interior is devoted to National Parks and Wildlife Refuges or to other purposes under the management of the Bureau of Land Management.

Table 2

Predominate Use of Land Managed by the Department of the Interior

(acres in millions)	Total Acres	Bureau of Land Management	Fish & Wildlife Service	National Park Service
Grazing	165	165	-	-
Commercial Forest Land	90	90	-	-
Recreation & Wildlife	122	10	72	40
Wilderness	68	5	20	43
Total	445	270	92	83

Wilderness is an area where humans are visitors who do not remain. These areas are generally greater than 5,000 acres which have retained their primeval character. All Fish and Wildlife Service and Park Service Lands not classified as “wilderness” are included here as “recreation and wildlife.”

One of the primary goals of land management in the Department is to preserve and maintain the health of the land. In achieving this objective, the Department monitors the land, identifying resources at risk and focusing resource protection and restoration efforts toward those lands. However, to better communicate the status of resources, the Bureau of Land Management, in collaboration with other federal land management agencies, is presently developing measurement indicators. These indicators will focus upon factors such as key indicator species, riparian areas and quality of water that in total may be used to assess the health and condition of federal lands.

HERITAGE ASSETS

Heritage Assets in the care of the Department of the Interior encompass many of the nation’s most precious natural and cultural assets. From the Grand Canyon to the Liberty Bell, from the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor to the artifacts of ancient civilizations, the assets managed by the Department reflect the depth and breadth of our Nation’s culture and history.

Museum collections: Museum collections of the Department were generated by exploration, research and resource management activities throughout the Department’s history. The 66.5 million museum objects are comprised of art, history, ethnography and archeological artifacts ranging from Native American art, to the Derringer used to assassinate Abraham Lincoln to specimens of endangered species. These collections, plus over 12 thousand linear feet of historic and scientific documents, support the interpretation of resources and significant events associated with the nation’s land and history. Museum collections are housed and displayed at over 700 Interior locations as well as several hundred non-federal institutions.

Figure 3

Types of Interior Museum Collections

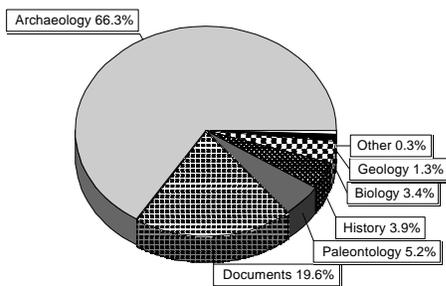
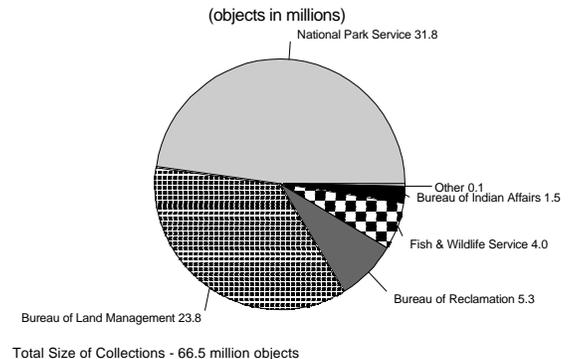


Figure 4

Total Size of Interior Museum Collections

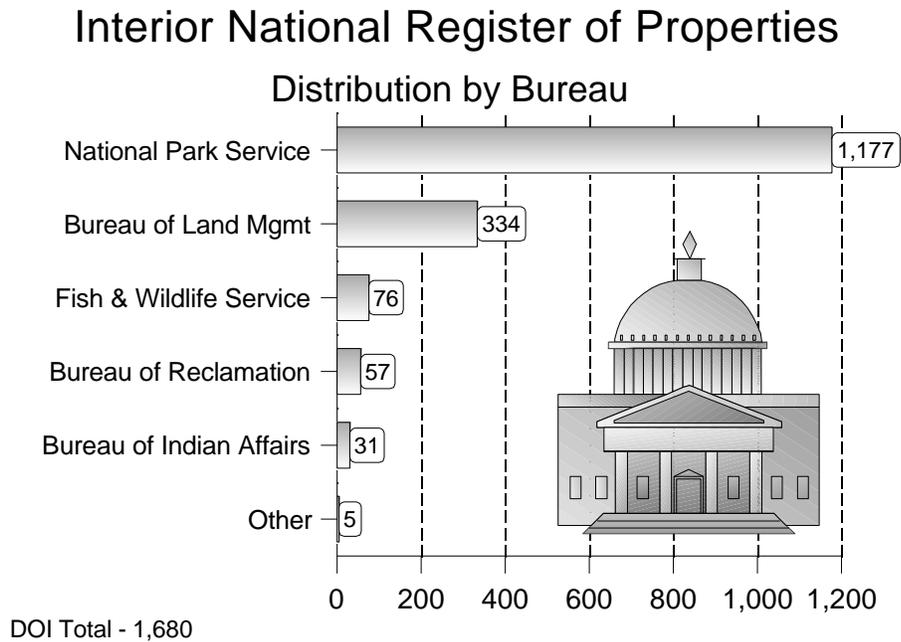


Historic Structures: The Department is custodian of over 23 thousand historic structures located in the 369 parks of the National Park System and throughout the Department. These structures include our nation’s most significant buildings, forts, monuments and statuary. In total, these structures commemorate the great people and events of our nation.

Historic structures are often exposed to harsh environments and high levels of visitation and use, with the major forces of decay being weather, age and erosion. The goal of Department’s preservation effort is to save the very fabric and fiber of these important structures. To meet this goal, the National Park Service regularly inventories and assesses the condition of historic structures under its management, with 70 percent of historic structures inventoried in the past three years. In total, approximately 45 percent of historic structures are rated at moderate to high risk of deterioration. In spite of this, over 85 percent of all structures are in good or fair condition. Unfunded costs associated with the treatments that have been approved for inventoried structures total \$936 million.

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the nation’s cultural resources worthy of preservation. Interior’s National Register properties are distributed as follows:

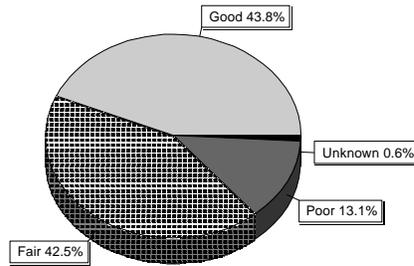
Figure 5



(Note: This information reflects properties at the time of nomination to the National Register. Subsequent transfers of ownership are not recorded.)

Figure 6

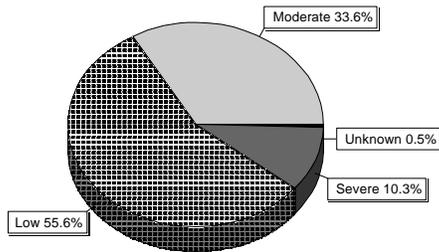
Condition of Historic Structures



Total of 15,923 Structures

Figure 7

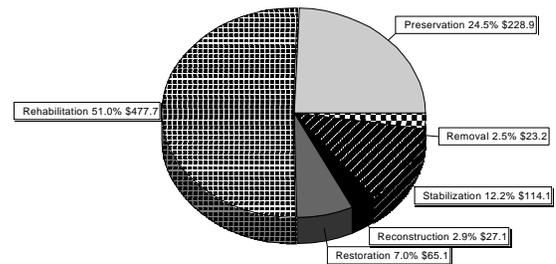
Levels of Impacts on Historic Structures



Total of 15,923 Structures

Figure 8

Treatment Costs for Historic Structures



Total Number of Structures - 15,923
Estimated Treatment Cost - \$936.1 million

National Parks: The National Park System encompasses resources of national significance which possess exceptional quality in illustrating the natural or cultural themes of our nation's heritage and which offer superlative opportunities for recreation, public use and enjoyment, or scientific study. The units of the National Park System can be loosely categorized into natural resources including National Parks, National Monuments and National Reserves; cultural sites including Memorials, Battlefields, and Historic Parks and Sites; and recreational areas including National Seashores, Wild and Scenic Rivers and National Recreation Areas.

Table 3

National Park System and National Wildlife Refuge System
Units as of September 30, 1995

	Parks Monuments & Reserves	Historic Parks & Sites	Memorials & Battlefields	Recreation Areas	Other Park Units	Total National Park Units	National Wildlife Refuges
Alabama	2	1	1	-	-	4	8
Alaska	20	2	-	1	-	23	21
Arizona	15	3	1	-	-	19	10
Arkansas	1	1	2	1	-	5	9
California	15	5	-	4	-	24	33
Colorado	9	1	-	1	-	11	6
Connecticut	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
District of Columbia	-	4	7	-	5	16	-
Florida	7	-	2	2	-	11	27
Georgia	3	3	2	2	-	10	11
Hawaii	2	4	1	-	-	7	10
Idaho	2	1	-	1	-	4	7
Illinois	-	1	-	-	-	1	11
Indiana	-	1	1	1	-	3	2
Iowa	1	1	-	-	-	2	7
Kansas	-	3	-	-	-	3	3
Kentucky	1	2	-	-	-	3	1
Louisiana	1	2	-	-	-	3	16
Maine	1	1	-	-	-	2	8
Maryland	1	4	2	1	4	12	5
Massachusetts	-	11	-	3	-	14	9
Michigan	1	1	-	-	-	2	6
Minnesota	3	-	-	1	-	4	17
Mississippi	-	1	3	1	-	5	12
Missouri	1	2	2	1	-	6	8
Montana	2	2	1	1	-	6	25
Nebraska	4	-	-	2	-	6	7
Nevada	1	-	-	1	-	2	9
New Hampshire	-	1	-	-	-	1	4
New Jersey	-	2	-	1	-	3	7
New Mexico	10	3	-	-	-	13	7
New York	3	10	3	3	-	19	10
North Carolina	-	2	3	3	-	8	11
North Dakota	1	1	-	-	-	2	24
Ohio	-	4	1	1	-	6	3
Oklahoma	-	-	-	1	-	1	10
Oregon	3	-	1	-	-	4	25
Pennsylvania	-	8	4	2	-	14	3
Rhode Island	-	-	1	-	-	1	6
South Carolina	2	2	2	-	-	6	6
South Dakota	3	-	1	-	-	4	8
Tennessee	1	1	3	2	-	7	7
Texas	4	4	1	4	-	13	15
Utah	9	1	-	1	-	11	3
Vermont	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Virginia	3	3	5	1	2	14	13
Washington	3	3	-	4	-	10	25
West Virginia	-	1	-	3	-	4	2
Wisconsin	-	-	-	2	-	2	9
Wyoming	4	1	-	1	-	6	5
Multi state	-	-	-	3	-	3	-
PR & Virgin Islands	2	3	-	-	-	5	7
Pacific Islands	1	1	-	-	-	2	6
	142	110	50	56	11	369	508

Note: In many cases, Parks and Refuges cross state boundaries. To avoid double counting, park and refuge units have been tallied in one state only. Certain National Trails that cross a large number of states, with no one stated being predominant, have been classified as "multi-state."