MT. WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

MR. JAMIESON'S OFFICE

MARCH 10, 1944

PRESENT WERE:

Mr. Jamieson
Mr. Whitney
Mr. Bullock

The first discussion of the meeting concerned the widening of the mountain road from a point where work stopped in 1941 toward Princeton Center. Mr. Murphy told of talks he had with the state and county engineers and surveys which the Worcester District office of the Public Works Department made in Princeton during March from the Allen Home toward the reservation.

The district office estimated a Chap. 90 project with the state, county and town contributing would cost about $50,000. This would be a 24 ' highway and would necessitate the removal of numerous trees and stone walls and the relocation of the road in several places. The commissioners all agreed that this cost was prohibitive and the town of Princeton could not join in any such project.

Mr. Whitney said the town would like to have some work done on the road but there was opposition to a boulevard leading to the mountain. He said that the town would like to do the work of widening the road in certain places if the state and county would make the funds available.

It was voted to have Mr. Whitney and Mr. Murphy arrange for a meeting with Robert L. Whipple of the state public works department for a discussion of ways and means to getting funds with which to widen the mountain road.

Mr. Bullock asked for information regarding the amount of money spent in 1943 and how much was available for 1944.

Mr. Murphy explained that the 1943 appropriation was $10,000 and $300 had been transferred by the county commissioners for fire damage, a total of $10,300. Expenitures totaled $10.296. 85, leaving a balance of $4.15. Mr. Bullock asked if all bills were paid. He was told that they were. He asked how much of this amount had been spent for salaries. The amount was $7400.82. The question of how much was spemt for oil last year was raised and how much would be needed this year. Mr. Bullock suggested that we wait until Mr. Needham gets back as he knows more about the needs of the roads than anybody.

M. r. Jamieson suggested that Mr. Murphy prepare a breakdown of salaries and expenitures for last year. The meeting adjourned subject to the call of the chairman.

MT. WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE

BOSTON? MASS.

APRIL 20, 1944

PRESENT WERE:

MR.Whitney
Mr. Whipple
Mr. Raymond Coburn
Mr. Murphy

Mr. Whipple explained at the outset of the conference it would be impossible to do any new road construction until after the war, but felt that something could be done toward repairing the mountain road from Allen's corner to the present wide road along the reservation under "maintenance work".

He said he would contact Mr. Dalton or Mr. Parker of the Worcester District office and ride over the road to get first hand information of what could be done. He said he would talk with the county commissioners about putting in funds for the maintenance project and felt that the town of Princeton should contribute a small sum, if only $100, so that other towns could not complain that the work was done by the state and county without Princeton helping out. He said he realized that 90 percent of the traffic along this route went to the mountain in the Summer and Fall and the town should not be called upon to contribute any great amount.

MT. WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

MR. JAMIESON'S OFFICE

MAY 12, 1944

Present were:

Mr. Jamieson
Mr. Whitney
Mr. Bullock

Readings of the last two meetings were read and accepted.

Report was read about progress being made on the widening of the mountain road, including a communication from Mr. Robert L. Whipple. The state and county agreed to allocate $1400 for this project which is to start at the end of the present wide highway and extend as far as possible toward Princeton Center. It was agreed that no road work of a permanent nature could be undertaken until the end of the war.

The status of Mr. Rhodes and Raymond Beauchamp, former laborers of the reservation who are now engaged in other work was discussed. It was agreed that Rhodes had overstayed his leave of absence given him by Mr. Needham and was considered no longer an employee of the reservation. The status of his retirement money which he did not withdraw is a question for the County treasurer or retirement board to settle. Mr. Needham said that Beauchamp had left of his own accord, was not a co-operative worker and would probably not return. It was agreed to let Mr. Needham decide, what, if anything, should be done about the future employment of Beauchamp.

It was voted to pay Antonio Bonina 70 cents an hour and Judson Goodnow, Jr., 60 cents an hour, effective May 1, 1944. The county treasurer was notified of the vote taken as prescribed by law.

Mr. Needham gave a detailed report of the work done on the various houses on the reservation.

It was voted to pay the Melanson Company of Gardner a back bill for work done on the house occupied by Nason Arnold.

It was voted to have all work done on the various houses charged off to the individual houses so that a record of the upkeep of each house can be kept.

INSPECTION TOUR

Aug. 29, 1944

The Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission started its annual inspection of the reservation properties about 3.45 p. m. Leaving Mr. Needham's House the Commissioners went up the mountain road and stopped at a section of road above the Bowling Alley Tea Room which had been resurfaced and widened at a cost of $1400 allocated by the state and county. The next stop was at the new parking area built and resurfaced with macadam just above the Ox*bowl turn. Mr. Needham reported that this is a popular spot especially for motorists who want a good view of the country side and don't care about driving to the Summit. A short stop was made at the observation lodge(Harlowe) and then an inspection was made of the Summit House. The house has not been open to the public since 1942 and was found to be in excellent condition with the exception of the ceilings in the reception, dining room and hallways which have started to peel. Francis Harrington, a state fire warden observer was on duty in the tower.

The building housing the women's toilets was found to be in good condition. The main door to this building is left open and one toilet is available without charge, the lock having been broken. Mr. Needham pointed out that the Parker Lodge at the Summit is not available for public use at it is occupied by equipment of the State police radio department. The road leading to the mountain as well as the down road was found to be in good condition. The Commissioners then visited the house on the Westminister Road. This house at the present time is not occupied, Mr. Needham reported. He also reported that the Red and White Cottage near his home and formerly occupied by the Superintendent of Schools was vacant. The only cottage rented at this time is the White Cottage occupied by Nason Arnold. This rents for $25 a month.

The trip continued along this road to Mile Hill and then to Balance Rock Road. A stop was made at the Bullock lodge. This lodge was found to be in excellent condition. The two kitchens as well as the Balance Rock trail in the rear were looked over. Mr. Bullock suggested that something should done about cleaning out the water hole in front of the lodge. Mr. Needham said he had planned on doing this help when he had more help. All road signs and markers were found in good condition.

The trip continued along Balance Rock Road to the Town Road and then to the West Road. A stop was made at a point where the Harrington trail crosses the roadway. The party continued on to the Harrington Farm where a chicken Pie supper was enjoyed. In the party were Mr. Bullock Mr. Whitney, Mr. Needham and Mr. Murphy.

MT. WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

AT HOME OF MR. HARRY S. WHITNEY

PRINCETON? MASS

Aug. 29, 1944

Present were:

Mr. Jamieson
Mr. Whitney
Mr. Bullock

Reading of the minutes of the last meeting read and accepted.

A financial report on the expenditures and receipts of the reservation as of Aug. 1, 1944 was read and accepted. The report showed the total payments as of Aug. 1 were $5, 385. 43 as follows: Salaries, $3824.63; supplies. 1560. 80. The receipts totaled $577/ 14. The above expenditures include all operation costs for the first seven months. The balance on hand as of this date was $5614.57.

A short discussion on the insurance policies was held and it was voted to renew, the five policies totaling $10,000 which expire in December of this year with the same agency, Harry McAllister. The renewal, Mr. Jamieson pointed out would cost about $500.

The commission members were supplied with data showing the cost of other state reservation. The commission members felt that Wachusett was doing as well if not better than the others.

Mr. Jamieson called attention to a call he received from the state auditors regarding the purchase of road oil. It was pointed out that the company used the same invoice number in billing the reservation for road oil at a cost of $1300. Any purchase over $1000 must be advertised for bids. This oil was not delivered in one lot but at various times and the invoice numbers should have been different.

A report was made by Mr. Whitney on the progress made in repairing the mountain road. It was voted to have Mr. Whitney and Mr. Murphy make another trip to Boston in the hope of getting additionalk funds for next year.

It was voted to have Mr. Needham and Mr. Murphy take an inventory of all reservation properties.

It was voted to have Mr. Murphy contact the trustees of the various state reservations to find out if they would be interested in a state wide meeting.

MT. WACHUSETT STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

MR. JAMIESON'S OFFICE

Oct. 26, 1944

PResent were:

Mr. Jamieson
Mr. Whitney
Mr. Bullock

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.

It was voted to place windstorm and hurricane insurance on all properties of the reservation now insured.

It was voted to have Mr. Ralph Robbins make an appraisal of the Summit House and other houses with a view of determining a replacement value for these properties.

It was voted to hold the meeting of the trustees of state reservations at the Hotel Sheraton, Worcester, Friday, Dec. 1, 1944. It was voted to invite the superintendents of the state reservations to attend as well as the Mayor, the Commissioner of Conservation and the County Commissioners. Mr. Murphy was instructed to make arrangements for the dinner and to draft a program to be discussed later with the Commissioners.

TRUSTEES MEETING AT HOTEL SHERATON

Friday, December 1, 1944

The first "get-together" of trustees of state reservations took place at the Hotel Sheraton, Friday, Dec. 1. Dinner was served at 12 noon with 15 present.

Mr. Jamieson, chairman of Wachusett Commission presided at the short informal discussion which took place after the dinner.

Mr. Jamieson presented Mayor William A. Bennett, who welcomed the trustees and guests to the city.

Mr. Edgar Gillett, director of the state division of parks and recreation told of the work being done by the state and the postwar expansion program for state operated reservation and beaches. He said he was glad to see the Wachusett Commissioners start these gatherings as he felt sure they would prove helpful to all the trustees. He said that a large sum of money would be spent on developing state reservations and told the gathering "off the record" that Hall Nichols, of the Governor's Emergency Public Works Committee, 20 Somerset Street, was the man handling the funds. He told of many improvements to be made in Worcester County areas of Spencer, Leominster and Ashby.

Chairman Crockett of the County Commissioners was the next speaker. He said that during the past two years there had not been as much traffic up to the Mountain due to the war and the shortage of gasoline and that the appropriation had been cut because the Summit House had been closed. The time has come now to loosen up and spend some money on reservations in the county. I believe the Summit House could be reopened next year and people will find a way of getting gas if they want to go up to the mountain. People get gasoline to go to night clubs. The County Commissioners have co-operated with the Wachusett and Purgatory Commissions and I would like to see the Summit House reopened and Activities resumed on the mountain.

Commissioner Jones said he thought that the county reservations should be expanded in the county and additional fire places built. He favored the development of the swimming program on the north side of the reservation which he said would not interfere with the regular mountain activities.

Commissioner Cassidy agreed with Mr. Crockett that we should loosen up and spend some money on the two reservations which benefit family groups. The commissioners of the two reservation have always spent the money given them wisely and I am in favor of giving them more next year so that they can do some of the work which has been planned.

Mr. Wall brought the greetings of MF. Greylock, Mr. Whitin for Purgatory and Mr. Jamieson for Wachusett. Others present were A. George Kesseli, John Dudley and Arthur Dempsey of Purgatory, Harry S. Whitney and Everett Needham of Wachusett and County Treasurer Ralph Kendall.

A communication was read from Commissioner Kenney of the Conservation Department praising the Wachusett Commission for taking the iniative in this matter, as he feels there should be closer cooperation between the various state agencies providing public recreation. He said his department will co-operate in all future plans.

MT. WACHUSETT STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

MR. JAMIESON'S OFFICE

DEC. 27, 1944

Present were:

William J. Jamieson
Chandler Bullock
Harry S. Whitney

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accpted.

A financial statement as of Dec. 1, 1944, showing a balance of $2506 was read as well as a report on the pending insurance policies.

A short discussion was held regarding the amount of money carried on the various properties under the control of the commission and where the money would go and what money could be used in replacing any buildings burned. Mr. Needham said he thought it was just throwing away money to insure the buildings as the state didn't insure its property.

All three commissioners agreed that insurance should be carried on the cottages, even though they were never replaced in case of fire. They stated that the Commission was responsible for the fire insurance protection on the cottages and in case of fire could turn the proceeds over to the County Treasurer.

It was agreed by the Commission that the Summit House has served its usefulness, but as a matter of protection felt that the insurance coverage on this building should be increased from $10,000 to $15,000. It was so voted. The policy to be placed with the Brown & Soulliere Company and to include wind and storm coverage. The motion to increase the insurance from $10,000 to $15,000 was made by Mr. Whitney and seconded by Mr. Bullock. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Murphy was instructed to check the renewals which are coming up in regard to charges and dividends.

It was voted to submit a budget to the county commissioners for for $15,000. The increase will take care of expiring insurance policies, oil for the highways which were not oiled this year. The 1945 budget also includes labor costs for additional help to be used in clearing the trails, fire lanes and woods of debris. It is hoped to get discharged war veterans in the vicinity to do this work which has been neglected somewhat for the past two years because of manpower shortage. The strong winds have felled many trees and these are considered a fire menace unless cleared up

MT. WACHUSETT STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

JANUARY 24, 1945

Mr. Harry S. Whitney, a member of the Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission since December 7, 1943, died today at Hahnemann Hospital, Worcester, after a short illness.

The Commission voted to send flowers and to attend services at the Bicknell Manor, Friday, ~~February~~ January 26 at 2 p. m. Attending for the Commission were Mr. Chandler Bullock, Mr. William J. Jamieson and William H. Murphy, secretary. Also attending were County Commissioners George W. Jones and Francis E. Cassidy.

On February 2, 1945, a letter was sent to Gov. Tobin by Chairman Jamieson notifying him of Mr. Whitney's death. On Feb. 16, after an interview with Mr. Leo D. Brown of Millbury, Mr. Bullock and Mr. Jamieson sent a letter to Gov. Tobin urging him to appoint Mr. Brown to the Wachusett Commission to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Whitney.

Mr. James J. Marshall, member of the Governor's Council from this district was very helpful to the Commission as well as Mr. Walter J. Riley, of West Main Street, Millbury, who submitted Atty. Brown's name to Gov. Tobin urging his appointment to the Wachusett Commission. After Mr. Riley submitted Mr. Brown's name, Councillor Marshall as well as Commissioners Jamieson and Bullock were notified that Mr. Brown's name was before Gov. Tobin for consideration as a Commission member. Letters from Mr. Bullock and Mr. Jamieson followed, while Mr. Marshall had the machinery set up to have Mr. Brown's name come before the council.

Mr. Brown was appointed by Gov. Tobin on March 21 and confirmed by the Council on March 28 and immediately sworn into office by Gov. Tobin before the council and friends of Mr. Brown. Present at the ceremonies were Earl Vickery, Mr. Marshall, William H. Murphy, Rep. Michael Conway of Millville and others.

MT. WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

MR. JAMIESON'S OFFICE

Friday, March 16, 1945

This was a joint meeting of the Wachusett and Purgatory Commissions to discuss the two bills, House No. 1994 and 1595, filled on Feb. 8, 1945 by Rep. Earl Crockett of Upton to have the Commonwealth instead of the County finance the maintenance and operation costs of the two reservations.

Present were: William J. Jamieson, Chandler Bullock and William H. Murphy, representing Wachusett and Paul Whitin, Jr., Mrs. Judith Dempsey, George Kesseli and John Dudley of the Purgatory Chasm group as well as Rep. Harry MacAllister.

All present agreed they had not been consulted by Rep. Crockett of his father, County Commissioner Elbert M. Crockett, whom they charged prompted his son to file the bill.

It was agreed to attend the hearing in Boston, March 22 and to oppose the bill before the committee on harbors and public lands.

Those present termed the bill a "spite bill" and was an attempt to have the two reservations in Worcester County turned over to the state thus eliminating "home rule " over the reservations.

MT. WACHUSETT STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

STATE HOUSE? BOSTON? MASS.

March 22, 1945

Attending the hearing on House Bills 1594 and 1595 before the Legislative Committee on habbors and public lands were Chandler Bullock and William H. Murphy of Wachusett, George Hesseli and John Dudley of Purgatory.

Rep. Crockett and his father Commissioner Crockett were the only two appearing for the bill. Rep. Crockett criticized the Purgatory Commission for employing a superintendent who was also street commissioner in Sutton as well as the manner in which the commission handled the sale of lumber and wood after the hurricane of 1938.

Commissioner Crockett said he was attending the hearing only as a taxpayer, not as a county commissoner and he had no protest to make ~~xgixx~~ against the commissioners of the two reservations, but flt that the state should bear the cost of operation. He said the county commissioners had nothing to do about the bills and hiring of the help. Hw said he thought that about 1000 persons on an average Sunday attended the two reservations.~~xxxx~~

Mr. Bullock said that the two other County Commissioners are opposed to these bills and Mr. Crockett is all alone in his opposition to the county financing the two reservations. He said there are six state reservations in the state maintained by the counties of Berkshire, Hampshire, Hampden, Middlesex and Worcester, but Rep. Crockett's bills only affect the two in Worcester County.

Others registering opposition to the bills were: Mr. Dudley, Rep. Skaladian of Webster, Rep. Conway of Millville, Rep. Custance of Clinton, Rep. McAllister of Worcester and Senator Albetski of Webster.

MT. WACHUSETT STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

MR. JAMIESON'S OFFICE

April 13, 1945

Present were:

Mr. Jamieson
Mr. Bullock
Mr. Brown

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mr. Murphy and accepted.

Mr. Jamieson on behalf of Mr. Bullock and himself, welcomed Mr. Brown as the new member of the Commission.

Mr. Bullock at the outset of the meeting said he wanted it known that he was not interested in being chairman of the Commission in accordance with a vote taken by the Commission on January 3, 1944 to rotate the chairmanship among the members with Mr. Bullock to become chairman in 1945.

Mr. Jamieson was then unanimously reelected chairman and Mr. Brown, clerk.

It was voted to go on a view of the mountain on April 19th.

The question of burglary insurance was brought up on a suggestion sent in by Supt. Needham. It was voted to delay action until the next Commission meeting when Mr. Needham would be present.

Mr. Murphy gave a detailed report on the status of House Bills No. 1594 and 1595 concerning the transfer of the financial support of the Wachusett and Purgatory reservations from Worcester County to the state. It was voted to attend a second hearing on these bills before the legislative committee on counties at the State House, Thursday, April 26th

The question of reopening a part of the Summit House was deferred until the next meeting when it was hoped that Mr. Needham would be present.

It was voted unanimously to see what action could be taken toward getting additional help for the reservation if the Wachusett budget asking for $15,000 is approved by the Legislature.

The meeting was then adjourned.

MT. WACHUSETT STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

INSPECTION TRIP

April 19, 1945

Present were:

Mr. Bullock
Mr. Brown
Secretary Murphy
Supt. Needham

Supt. Needham pointed out to the Commissioners that much work had to be done on the trails as a shortage of laborers had caused these trails to be neglected for the past three years.

Mr. Bullock told Mr. Needham at the outset that they wanted to see everything. Mr. Bullock asked Mr. Needham about the souvenirs on hand and Mr. Needham said that there were approximately $300 worth in the workshop over the garage but that it would be impossible for the Commissioners to see them as they were in cartons placed high on the rafters. The Commissioners were not taken to the store house. The barn and garage were inspected and the home of Supt. Needham visited.

The inspection group then drove up the Mountain Road making a stop at the new parking area near the Ox-Bowl and at the Harlowe Lodge. There were several people at the lodge at the time.

The Mountain Road was found to be in good condition but some work had to be done on the walls and clearing away the heavy brush near the trails. Mr. Needham said he had been trying to get additional help but was unable to find any available men.

The Parker Lodge, now partly occupied by a State Police Radio station was inspected. This lodge was found to be in good condition with part of it available for the use of the general public. The stone wall near this lodge needed some repairs as someone had removed some of the stones and thrown them into the pond nearby.

The Summit House was inspected with the exception of the rooms on the second and third floor which were locked. Much repair work was found necessary on both the inside and outside of this house.

The down road was found in good condition from the Summit to the Stop sign, but from there to the Harrington Farm road it was badly in need of repairs, the winter frost having heaved it in a number of places. The Commissioners observed also that the gress was growing high along this road and needed to be cut to prevent a fire hazard.

The West Road was found in good condition. The old house on Westminister Road was visited also. The Bullock Lodge was then visited and about 40 people were using it at the time.

MT. WACHUSETT STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

HEARING AT THE STATE HOUSE

THURSDAY?, April 26, 1945

Present were:

Mr. Bullock
Mr. Murphy

The hearing on House Bills No. 1594 and 1595 before the legislative committee on counties was scheduled for 10.30 A. M. but was delayed until 11.45 due to the late arrival of Rep. Earl Crockett of Upton, sponsor of the two bills to transfer the financial support of the two reservations from Worcester County to the state.

Rep. Crockett was the only one to appear in favor of the bills and his only criticism of the Wachusett Commission was the fact that there was a fire at the reservation and that the superintendent went ahead and had the repairs made and made the insurance adjustment without consulting the County Commissioners, who he claimed are custodians of all county property.

Mr. Bullock outlined in detail the work of the Commission and said that the county commissioners had full authority over the budget for the Wachusett reservation and the commission submitted its budget to the county commissioners for their approval. He said he was perfectly willing to turn the supervision of the Wachusett reservation over to the County Commissioners but was strongly opposed to placing the reservation under state control as this would bring about "remote control" of the finest reservation in the state.

Others speaking in opposition to the two bills were Rep. Harry McAllister of Worcester who read excerpts from a speech made by Chairman Elbert R. Crockett of the Worcester County Commissioners at a meeting of the trustees of the six state reservations in the state at the Sheraton Hotel, Dec.1, 1943 in which Mr. Crockett said that it was about time that more money should be spent on the two reservations in Worcester County and that the Summit House should be opened again as people could get gas to go to the mountain, if they could get gas and "they are getting it to go to night clubs."

Rep. Michael Conway of Millville, a member of the Ways and means committee said his group were definitely opposed to appropriating any money for these projects as they were patronized and used almost exclusively by Worcester County taxpayers.

Others in opposition to Sen. Albertski of Webster, Paul Whitin Jr. and John Dudley of the Purgatory Commission. The hearing lasted one hour.

MT. WACHUSETT STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

MR. JAMIESON'S OFFICE

June 8, 1945

Present were:

Mr. Jamieson
Mr. Bullock
Mr. Brown

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mr. Murphy and accepted.

Mr. Bullock asked at this point why Mr. Needham was not present. Mr. Murphy explained that Mr. Jamieson had just returned from New York the night before and the time of the meeting had not been decided upon until this morning. He said he called Mr. Needham's house but no one answered and later at the Court House heard that Mr. Needham had been into the treasurer's office. He then located Mr. Needham's car at a service station on Commercial Street and left word with the attendant that when Mr. Needham returned to tell him there would be a meeting of the Commission at Mr. Jamieson's office at 4 p. m.

A financial report showing expenditures of $4432.49 as of June 1 was read and accepted.

Mr. Brown raised the question as to whether rent ceilings on the cottages at the reservation had ever been filed with the Area Rent office. It was voted to have Mr. Brown and Mr. Murphy investigate this matter and if no rent ceilings had been filed to do it in compliance with the law.

Mr. Bullock raised the question of the status of the $15,000 budget asked for. Mr. Murphy reported that the committee on counties had acted favorably on the Wachusett request but the matter had not come before the Legislature. Rep. McAllister. Mr. Jamieson said was keeping an eye on the budget for any changes.

It was voted to have the inventory of personal property on the reservation and appraisal of the buildings made by Mr. James Whittey and men as soon as possible. Mr. Murphy was instructed to contact Mr. Whittey at once.

At the suggestion of Mr. Jamieson the question of burglary insurance on the Summit House equipment was put off until after the inventory is made.

It was voted to defer any action on the Summit House opening until later in the month when another meeting will be held in Princeton

The meeting then adjourned.

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING AT SUPERINTENDENT.S HOUSE
WEDNESDAY? JULY 18,1945
at 7.30 p. m.

PRESENT WERE:
Mr. Jamieson
Mr. Bullock
Mr. Brown

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mr. Murphy and accepted.

A financial report was read by Chairman Jamieson for the first six months which showed an expenditure of approximately $5,100 with an estimated table of expenditures for the balance of the year. In these estimates was an item of $1,400 for road oil. Mr. Needham said that he planned on doing more oiling this year and the $1,400 figure was raised to $2,050.00. This report was then accepted with the item for additional help hire put over until the next meeting.

There was some discussion on the question of reopening the office of the Summit House, but at the suggestion of Mr. Jamieson, the Commission voted to put this matter off for a month.

A report was given by Chairman Jamieson on the personal property inventory and property apprisals made of the reservation property. It was pointed out that the prices listed in the inventory were placed at a low or trade-in value and not at a replacement figure. The inventory showed that the equipment and comtents of the Summit House amounted to approximately $5,690, while the personal property in other parts of the reservation with the exception of some of the contents of the workshop ampunted to more than $2,800. Mr. Jamieson pointed out that this was the first time that an inventory of the properties had been taken since he was on the Commission and the members had something to work with now. At the suggestion of Mr. Bullock the amount of insurance carried on the contents of the Summit House, the commission voted to increase the amount from $2,500 to $5,000 with the newpolicy for $2,500 to be placed with the Marshall Insurance Co.

Mr. Needham told the Commission he could use some additional help in the woods and clearing up along the roadside. This matter was put over to the next meeting with the understanding that Mr. Bullock was to contact Mr. Scarles in Worcester, Mr. Brown to contact service bureaus in the vicinity of Millbury, Mr. Jamieson in Holden and Mr. Needham in the towns of Westminster and Princeton.

Mr. Needham told the Commission that he was limited somewhat in using the reservation truck because he was only geeting about 130 gallons of gasoline for a three months period. He said the truck used about 10 gallons a day when hauling sand and gravel. He said that the rationing officials considered the reservation a non essential enterprise so fare as gas allocations were concerned. It was voted to have Mr. Brown explore the gas situation and see what could be done about getting additional gasoline

Mr. Brown gave a report on his assignment to file rent ceiling prices with the O.P. A. office in Worcester on the three cottages rented on the reservation. Mr. Brown said the commission was somewhat late in filing but there would be no penalty.

The resolve for the study by the State Department of Conservation of the possibilities of a Ski area and lift for Mount Wachusett was discussed and voted to take no action until the survey is completed.

A report was read from the County Building Superintendent, concerning repair and paint work on the Summit House and also other items where some of the new employes could be used. A discussion was also held in connection with this item of any new projects for outlooks or roadside pavilions which could be used by the public. After a lengthy discussion it was voted to instruct Mr. Needham to prepare a complete report as to costs, projects etc. that could be done this year and submit it at the next meeting of the Commission to be held probably Aug. 8, 1945.

It was voted to investigate the status of Echo Lake which is posted by the Metropolitan District Water Supply Commission to determine what ~~xxxx~~ restrictions are inposed on the reservation and to determine if this area could be used for picknic purposes. Mr. Murphy was instructed to contact the Metropolitan Commission.

A complete file of the original bill creating Wachusett reservation in 1899, subsequent amendments and the bill as it now reads and under which the commission operates was distributed to each member present.

At the suggestion of Mr. Bullock plans were discussed for the publishing of a new folder showing the places of interest, the roads etc. on the reservation. Mr. Murphy was instructed to see what could be done about getting complete maps of the reservation while Mr. Needham said the various places could be spotted off on the maps. He showed some of the old folders which were published several years ago.

The question of the trails was then taken up and Mr. Needham was instructed to place signs along these trails for the convenience of the public.

Prior to the meeting the Commissioners had supper at the Bowling Alley Tea Room and then ~~x~~inspected the reservation, the Summit House and other places.

The meeting adjourned at 9.30 p. m.

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING AUG. 9, 1945
Mr. Jamieson's Office

PRESENT WERE:
Mr. Jamieson
Mr. Brown
Mr. Bullock

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mr. Murphy and accepted.

Mr. Jamieson read the financial report report which showed expenditures of $6,446 as of Aug. 1, leaving a balance of $8,554. The outstanding bills for July which have not as yet been paid, including oil, gravel, truck hire, insurance etc. amount to about 950. . The regular payroll for the remaining five months will amount to $4,089.65. Reservation expenses $500 and $1,500 more for road oil, gravel etc. will leave the commission with a balance of $1,514.35 for any new projects, repairs to Summit House or help hire.

At the suggestion of Mr. Jamieson, after the financial report was accepted any discussion of new work was postponed until after Mr. Needham gave his report on the suggestions made at the previous meeting in Princeton.

Mr. Brown gave a detailed report of his talk with the District OPA office regarding additional gasoline for the reservation use. Mr. Brown said that for the first quarter of the year it would appear that we were getting more gasoline than we could use while for the second quarter when the truck was actually being used our quota was low, while the third and fourth quarters were about even. Mr. Brown suggested that a change might be made in the allocation of gasoline for the first and fourth quarters so that we could get more for the second and third quarters. Mr. Needham explained that his storage tank held 285 gallons and the gas he got for the first quarter he held as a reserve to use for the second quarter. He said that this was the only way he was able to use the truck so much during May and June. He said he thought he would have sufficient gas to carry him through the balance of the year as there was nothing much to be done to require the use of the truck.

Mr. Murphy gave a report on the status of Echo Lake and said that the MDC said the signs might be taken down and the Lake used by the reservation. Mr. Needham explained that the water from the Lake was used by the reservation houses for drinking purposes and it was decided not to allow the use of the waters for bathing purposes.

In making his report on the suggestions of new projects as outlined at the previous meeting, Mr. Needham said that he was unable to get anyone to bid on the construction of the new shelter, that Hamilton and others were too busy, but thought he might be able to get the two Italian men to start the project on a day basis. Mr. Jamieson said he felt that any work on the two upper floors of the Summit House should not be done this year but thought that some work should be done on the first floor and piazza. It was voted to put this work off until the next

meeting as well as the opening of the Summit House office, when there might be some change in the war situation. It was voted to place burglary insurance on the contents of the Summit House.

Mr. Jamieson raised the question of oiling and repairing Echo Lake Road. Mr. Needham thought this would be a good project and the road would be used by many motorist. He said that he thought he could widen the road. Mr. Bullock asked if it was necessary to oil the other reservation roads at this time and if the oil could not be used on Echo Lake Road this year and the other roads oiled next year. Mr. Needham said that he had planned on putting a sealing coat of asphalt on that section he repaired starting at the Harrington Farm road.

It was voted to oil and repair Echo Lake road, the project to be started at once. Mr. Murphy was instructed to insert an advertisement in the Telegram to comply with the law requiring bids for oil in excess of $1000. Mr. Bullock suggested that Mr. Needham look into the idea of a few new fire places near Echo Lake and also about getting the new shelter started if funds were available. He said he was pleased to note that we had two new projects on the way, Echo Lake and a few fire places. If any funds are left from these two projects then they can be used for oiling the other roads or starting work on the shelter, he said. It was so voted.

The meeting was adjourned.

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING Aug. 21,1945

Mr. Jamieson's Office at 3.30 p. m.

Present were:

Mr. Jamieson
Mr. Bullock

At a meeting of the Commission this afternoon it was voted to open the Summit House office weekends starting Sunday, Aug. 26. Mr. Bullock said he had made a trip to the mountain the day gas rationing was lifted and there were more than 40 cars at the Summit. He said he talked with a number of people and was convinced the House should be open. Mr. Murphy told of a visit he made to the mountain the previous Sunday at the suggestion of Mr. Jamieson and reported about 50 cars at the Summit.

Mr. Murphy reported that he had contacted Mr. Brown who was unable to be present but that he was strongly in favor of opening the house.

The Commission instructed Mr. Murphy to write a letter to Supt. Needham instructing him to turn on the water, have the lights connected, the toilets opened and attend to any other matters which he thought necessary. Mr. Needham was to be told that plans had been made for the purchase of tonics, cigars, cigarets and candy and the only thing he would have to provide would be ice for the tonics.

Mr. Murphy was instructed to take over the operation of the office and to engage whatever help necessary for the souvenir and candy counter. It was pointed out that the funds for the purchase of the various items including new souvenirs could be taken from the balance left over after the oiling and rebuilding of Echo Lake Road.

It was agreed that some work could be done on the first floor of the Summit House while Mr. Murphy was in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned.

MT. WACHUSETT STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

MR. JAMIESON'S OFFICE

Oct. 26, 1[illegible]

Present were:

Mr. Jamieson
Mr. Brown

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.

A financial report of the expenditures and receipts of the Summit House were read by Mr. Murphy. The expenditures were $872.71 and the receipts $1329.15, showing a profit of $456.44. The Summit House was open eight Sundays from 10 to 6. p. m. , two holidays from 10 a. m. to 6 p. m. and seven Saturday afternoons in addition to pprts of 14 other good days. Of the eight Sundays opened five were either rainy or cloudy. More than 1050 people registered in the observation tower. These people came from 30 different states and three countries. However, a check showed that nearly 60 percent of the people who visit the reservation are from Worcester County.

Mr. Jamieson said that he had sent a letter to Mr. Needham instructing him to stop work at once on Echo Lake Road until the Commission had an opportunity to check its finances. Mr. Needham said that when he received Mr. Jamieson's letter there was only about two days work more to complete the road surface so continued the project.

Mr. Murphy reported a balance of $365.74 to carry on the reservation work for November and December. Mr. Needham reported it would require $800 for oil and $250 for sand to complete Echo Lake Road. It was voted to put this matter off until next year.

To keep the records clear and to prevent any overdrafts, Mr. Jamieson said he would like to have a motion in the records instructing

Mr. Needham not to spend any money for the balance of the year except for the chief incidentals in running the reservation. Mr. Jamieson made the motion and it was so voted.

Mr. Needham reported his men painted the piazza of the Summit House during the week.

Mt. Wachusett State Reservation Commision

Mr. Jamieson'S Office.

March 1, 1946

Present were:

Mr. Bullock
Mr. Jamieson
Mr. Brown

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.

Mr. Bullock was elected chairman of the commision for the year 1946 in accordance with the vote to rotate the chairmenship. The vote was seconded, and it was also moved and seconded that Mr. Brown act as clerk of the commision.

Mr. Bullock explained that he had talked with Mr. Jones concerning the budjet of $18,000. No opposition was anticipated but it would be watched carefully.

It was suggested that a burglar alarm system for the Summit House might be a good idea, and to make inquiries as to kind and cost of installation.

Mr. Murphy was to arrange to have weekly legislative bulletin sent to the chairman, Mr. Bullock.

It was also agreed that .MR. Rosseel be contacted in regard to stationery, signs for the reservation,and theprinting of a pamphlet containing information and pictures of Mt. Wachusett.

Minutes of the Meeting of the
MT. WACHUSETT COMMISSION
April 26, 1946
Chamber of Commerce 3:00 PM

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bullock. Present were Mr. Jamieson, Mr. Bullock, Mr. Brown and Mr. Needham, Superintendant. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Letter from Mr. Murphy, secretary of the board, read by Mr. Jamieson contained a report on progress of the printing of pamphlets, etc. for the reservation. The anticipated expenditure of $800 for oil for the reservation roads was not agreed to by Mr. Needham. He said that Echo Lake Road had not been oiled and that this work should be finished before heavy travel started. The budget report indicated an average of $3000 for the reservation expenditures and approximately $3500 to be expended for the maintenance of the Summit House.

The discussion of changes to be made in the hotel office and kitchen was held and it was agreed that the office counter should be removed and that space made servable for the sale of tonic, souvenirs and light luncheons.

It was moved and unanimously voted to invite John White Fellows, County Commissioner to the next meeting of the commissioner and that notice of said vote be contracted to Mr. Fellows.

Mr. Needham stated upon inquiry that $1050 was needed to complete the sanding and oiling of Echo Lake Road and that the Up and Down roads could be repaired at a cost of $600. Motion was made to authorize Superintendent Needham to expend a sum of $1000 on Echo Lake Road to complete the final work and that he be further authorized to resurface the Up and Down roads with a coat of asphalt at a cost of $600. Upon motion it was unanimously voted to increase the base pay of the present employees at the reservation from $.70 per hour to $.85 per hour and to employ two men for the entire year at that pay rate and to engage as many more as were needed at the same rate of pay during the summer months. As part of the same motion, it was voted that Merton O. Linquist be employed on the reservation starting May 1, 1946 to work on the reservation and to assist at the Summit House when needed and to be paid under the newly adopted pay schedule, said employment to be on year-round basis.

Chairman Bullock suggested that an estimate of expenses presently contracted be prepared by the secretary for the next meeting with the thought that further improvements within the budget limit may be planned and put into operation.

Superintendent Needham was instructed to clean and paint all toilet facilities on the reservation and to prepare the Summit House for an early opening. The date of the next meeting was tentatively set for 2 weeks.

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

May 22, 1046

Present were:

Mr. Bullock
Mr. Brown
Mr. Jamieson
John W. Fellows

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mr. Brown and accepted.

Mr. Murphy reported that a supplementary budget for Wachusett had been sent in by the County Commissioners for $720, making a total for the year of $18,720.

On motion of Mr. Jamieson the Commission voted to rescind its vote of the previous meeting for the expenditure of $600 for oil for the up and down road, because the commissioners had all driven over the road and were of the opinion that this work could be put off for another year. It was also voted to instruct Mr. Needham of the vote taken today. It was agreed that the expenditure of $1000 for Echo Lake Road voted at the previous meeting be carried out.

It was the unanimous vote of the commission that the operation of the Summit House for 1946 be placed under the supervision of Mr. Murphy. It was also voted to have Mr. Murphy get separate prices for drapes for the East Room and the recovering of the cushions formerly used in the East Room.

It was voted to instruct Mr. Needham to have his reservation men clean up the toilets, the outside and inside of the Summit House, turn on the water preparatory to the opening of the Summit House for Memorial Day.

It was also voted to instruct Mr. Needham that Merton Lindquist, the new employe be used by Mr. Murphy working around the Summit House and helping Mr. Murphy with the operation of the house on busy days or in the opening hours of the morning.

It was agreed that no action be taken on a pay increase for the help until the next meeting of the Commission, which it was voted should be held at the Harrington Farm, Princeton, Wednesday, June 5th at 6 p. m.

Mr. Brown was instructed to further investigate the costs of an A. D. T. burglar alarm and report at the next meeting. Mr. Brown said he thought the project could be done for $150 if it were not necessary to lease a private wire.

MEETING OF THE WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

SUMMIT HOUSE, JUNE 19 - 1946

PRESENT WERE:

Mr. Bullock
Mr. Brown
Mr. Jamieson

This was one of the few morning meetings held by the Commission and it was decided to inspect the grounds before starting the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted:

The first question discussed was that of cutting the shrubbery at the Summit so that people would have a better view from the top of the mountain.

It was unanimously voted that the shrubbery question be given priority and that Supt. Needham be instructed to do this work at once. It was voted to have the chairman write both Mr. Needham and Mr. Murphy telling each what his responsibilities were so far as having certain work done.

Among some of the things designated for Mr. Needham's men to do were:

1-- Cut or trim shrubbery--- Put cold tar patch in holes near the East lense, bring up fire exteinguishers, radio and spy glass from the storehouse, bring up wood for the fire places and Summit House, clean out pond and repair seats in the Parker Lodge.

2-- It was agreed that Mr. Murphy's responsibility was anything that had to do with the Summit House and grounds, such as getting out tables now in the garage, getting rubbish cans out of garage and painted, painting the inside of the Ladies Rest Room, having grass around the Summit House cut, toilets cleaned etc

3-- The question of putting caustic soda in the toilets was then taken up. On motion of Mr. Jamieson it was unanimously voted to have Needham's men put the soda in and show Lindquist how they did it so that in the future he could take care of it. It was agreed that the handling of caustic soda by an inexperienced person might cause serious trouble to their eyes.

It was voted to buy police uniform equipment for Merton Lindquist so that he could be used on holidays and Sundays for traffic work and other times patrolling the reservation especially in the forest fire season.

The question of providing some means of transportation for the Summit House so that privately owned cars would not have to haul the supplies up the mountain was discussed at length. It was suggested that some arrangement could be made for the use of Mr.

Needham's car especially Saturday and Sundays. It was agreed, however, that no action be taken today and the matter be allowed to remain as is for the present.

On the question of doing the work as outlined today Mr. Bullock suggested that Mr. Needham could call upon Lindquist to help him with the brush cutting etc., if he wasn't needed by Mr. Murphy. It was so voted.

It was voted to rescind the order for the oiling of Echo Lake Road and that no money be spent for oil this year.

Mr. Bullock raised the question of more signs for the reservation. He thought that signs designating Echo Lake , the Harlow Outlook and other signs be placed in their proper places, especially on the up and down road.

Mr. Brown reported that the question of installing a burglar alarm would cost to much money as the line is owned by the telephone company.

The question of adjusting the pay of the men so that they would received a flat pay rate of $1 an hour was again discussed. In view of the fact that the treasurer's office or the Commission has any knowledge at this time as to what the state is to recommend as a base pay for the men it was voted to wait until the new revised schedule as approved by the Legislature came out on Aug. 1 for the month of July. It was agreed, however that all were in favor of the men getting $1 an hour.

It was voted in executive session of the Commission that the base pay of Mr. Murphy be increased $500 a year due to increased responsibilities and that of Mr. Needham increased also that the salaries for the remaining year would be the same.

Needham's care especially Saturdays and Sundays. It was voted

MASSACHUSETTS MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING? AUG. 12, 1946

Summit House, 5 p. m.

Present were:

Mr. Bullock
Mr. Brown
Mr. Jamieson

A report was given by Mr. Murphy on the expenditures as of Aug. 1, showing an expenditure of $9,435.48 thus far with an anticipated expenditure for salaries, Summit House and oil, etc. of approximately $8000 for the balance of the year leaving an estimated balance of $642.32 for the reservation expenses for five months.

Mr. Jamieson asked about some of the instructions which were supposed to have been given Mr. Needham about work to be done on the top of the mountain. Mr. Murphy said no instructions had been sent and Mr. Jamieson asked Mr. Needham then to note some of the things to be done right away, including the soda in the toilets, the cleaning of the pond, the trimming of the brush, the patching of the holes, repairs to the benches in the Parker lodge.

It was voted unanimously to allocate $800 for the oiling and sanding of the up road. .

The commission recorded itself as in favor the motion," To record ourselves in favor of the acceptance of 64 acres of land adjoining the reservation, now owned by Everett M. Needham in exchange for the white cottage house and 1½ acres of land which the reservation would transfer to Mr. Needham. It was voted to send a letter to F. A. Haynes and have him contact the attorney general to see if such a transfer could be made. In the event it cannot the commission said it might file a bill for special legislation to give them the right to make the transfer.

The commission then took up the discussion of employes working during the winter and the status of Merton O. Lindquist. At this point Mr. Murphy and Mr. Needham were excused and the commission went into executive session.

Later the Commission had dinner at the Harrington Farms.

Mr Peelham gave a
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Mt. Wachusett State Reservation Commission

Mr. Bullock's Office

March, 1947

Present were: Mr. Bullock
Mr. Jamieson
Mr. Brown

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.

Mr. Brown was elected chairman of the Commission for the year of 1947 in accordance with the vote to rotate the chairmanship.

Mr. Jamieson was elected clerk of the Commission for 1947.

After a brief discussion the meeting was adjourned subject to the call of the chairman.

Signed,

William J. Jamieson

Mt. Wachusett State Reservation Commission

Mr. Needham's House

May, 1947

Present were: Mr. Brown
Mr. Bullock
Mr. Jamieson

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

After a brief discussion about the operation of the Summit House for the season of 1947, it was decided that we should engage the services of an operator for the Summit House from May 15, to October 15. At this time we interviewed Mr. and Mrs. Connor of Princeton, and after outlining the work required we engaged Mr. and Mrs. Connor for the season at $85.00 a week.

No further business being discussed, the meeting was adjourned.

Signed,

William J. Jamieson

Approved
May 19

Mt. Wachusett State Reservation Commission

340 Main Street

September 6, 1947

Present were: Mr. Brown
Mr. Gest
Mr. Jamieson

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

On motion duly made and seconded, Mr. Brown was elected chairman for the balance of 1947. Mr. Jamieson was elected clerk for the balance of 1947.

Motion was made to welcome the new commissioner, Mr. Richard C. Gest.

Motion was made to record our appreciation of the fine work and time donated by the retiring commissioner, Mr. Chandler Bullock.

At this time a report was read of the 1947 operation of the Summit House.

It was voted to record our appreciation of our retiring superintendent, Mr. Everett W. Needham, and further voted to have a testimonial prepared and presented to Mr. Needham. This matter was left in the hands of commissioner Gest.

The matter of the appointment of a superintendent to succeed Mr. Needham was discussed and it was decided to hold the appointment in abeyance until a later meeting.

It was voted to adjourn subject to the call of the chairman.

Signed,

William J. Jamieson,
Clerk

Approved 11/3

Mt. Wachusett State Reservation Commission

County Treasurer's Office

April 2, 1948 4:00 p.m.

Present were:

Chairman Brown
Commissioner Guest
Commissioner Jamieson

#1 The meeting was called to order by the chairman. Motion was made by Commissioner Guest and seconded by Commissioner Brown that we appoint Earle R. Vickery, Jr. of Worcester as a working superintendant to the Mount Wachusett State Reservation on the following conditions: That the superintendant begin his duties on or about the 15th of April, 1948; that he have charge of the complete reservation including the Summit House under the supervision of the Commissioners. His salary to be as follows: $250.00 per month plus the superintendant house on the reservation, the use of the state car for reservation business, telephone, lights, and fuel from the mountain. This was voted by two commissioners. Commissioner Jamieson refrained from voting.

#2 It was voted and motion made by Commissioner Guest, seconded by Commissioner Brown, that the Chairman notify Mr. Everett W. Needham, retired superintendant, to vacate the superintendant house on the reservation on or before April 15, 1948.

#3 After some discussion as to the duties of the new superintendant and the plans of the work to be done this season on the reservation, and also after some discussion as to the bill now in the General Court regarding the exchange of property between Mr. Needham and the state, it was voted to adjourn, subject to the call of the Chairman.

Signed,

William J. Jamieson,
Clerk

April 9, 1948

Mr. Everett W. Needham
Princeton, Massachusetts

Dear Everett:

As you know, the Commission has appointed a new Superintendent of the Reservation to commence his duties April 16,1948.

Upon your retirement last summer, although the Commission decided not to rent you the house you occupied as Superintendent, you have continued to occupy the premises without rent as you were not then asked to vacate.

This is to notify you to vacate on or before April 15,1948 the premises now occupied by you on the Mountain Road known as the Superintendent's House on the Wachusett Mountain State Reservation, consisting of an eight-room single family house together with attic and cellar, the garage and barn adjacent thereto.

Wachusett Mountain State Reservation

Commissioners

William J. Jamieson

Richard C. Guest

Richard C. Guest

Mt. Wachusett State Reservation Commission

County Treasurer's Office

March 8, 1949 3:00 p.m.

Present were:

Chairman Brown
Commissioner Guest
Commissioner Jamieson

The meeting was called to order at 3 o'clock in the office of the Treasurer of Worcester County, Court House, Worcester, Massachusetts, with the Superintendent present. The Minutes of the meeting of April 2, 1948 were read and approved.

First order of business was the election of officers for the coming year. Mr. Brown was re-elected Chairman, and Mr. Guest was elected Clerk.

The Annual Report of the Superintendent was read, discussed and certain changes recommended, which he was instructed to make prior to the submission of the report to the County Commissioners.

An insurance appraisal report of the Reservation's buildings to the Commission by Frederick L. O'Brien was read and discussed. It was decided to adjust the insurance program as follows:-

Building	Present	Insurance Additional	Total
Superintendent's Cottage	$10,000.	$8,000.	$18,000.
Garage & Shop	1,000.	2,000.	3,000.
(contents)	none	500.	500.
Barn	3,000.	none	3,000.
Employee's Cottage (Rice)	4,000.	3,000.	7,000.
Cottage (Brooks)	4,000.	3,000.	7,000.
Cottage (Newton)	2,000.	(Not to be renewed)	none
Parker Lodge	none	none	none
Bullock Lodge	none	none	none

Insurance (con't)

Summit House	11,250.	none	11,250.
(contents)	2,812.50	none	2,812.50
Summit Garage	none	none	none
	$38,062.50	$16,500.	$52,562.50

The possibility of a fire in the Summit House during the Summer season was discussed and it was decided that the construction of the building, together with the absence of emergency exits in the Observation Tower, made the continued use of this facility by the public dangerous. It was unanimously voted to close the tower to the public until further notice. The Superintendent was, however, instructed to draw up plans for the use of the second floor of the Summit House as a public observatory, to be presented to the Commission at the next meeting.

A discussion was held on the absence of public liability insurance on the Summit House and the Superintendent was instructed to investigate this matter and report to the Chairman as soon as possible.

It was voted unanimously to lease the first floor of the Summit House to John Connor of Princeton for the 1949 season for a rental of $500.00, Connor to furnish the Commission with a statement of his gross business at the close of the season.

Meeting was adjourned at 5 o'clock.

Signed,

Richard C. Guest,
Clerk

Mt. Wachusett State Reservation Commission

January 9, 1950 3:00 p.m.

Present were:

Chairman Brown
Commissioner Guest
Commissioner Jamieson

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Brown. It was voted that the Clerk cast one ballot for Mr. Jamieson as Chairman for the ensuing year and Mr. Guest as Clerk for the ensuing year. The Minutes of the meeting of March 8, 1949 were read and approved.

Mr. Vickery discussed the budget for the year 1950, the disposal of the annex of the Summit House, and his proposal to make certain alterations in the Summit House. He was instructed to report back to the Commission on the disposal of the annex and it was agreed that consideration of the alterations on the second floor of the Summit House would be postponed until after approval of the budget.

It was voted that for the calendar year 1950 the salary of Superintendent Earle R. Vickery, Jr. be increased to $3,500.

It was voted that during the year 1950 the Superintendent's Chevrolet car be turned in for a new car, this transaction to be consummated after approval of the budget.

At the request of the Commission the Superintendent agreed to complete his inventory of equipment and to prepare such an inventory annually hereafter.

It was voted to leave the present contracts outstanding covering the rental of pay toilets on the summit of the mountain.

The Superintendent was authorized to prepare rules for the issue of licenses to hunt fox and wildcat on the reservation in order to improve the protection of the bird life.

It was voted that the first floor of the Summit House be again rented to Mr. Connor on a basis to be decided after Mr. Connor and Mr. Vickery had discussed figures related to his business of the previous year.

The meeting was adjourned.

Signed,

Richard C. Guest,
Clerk

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

EARLE R. VICKERY, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT

January 19,1950

Mr. Alexander G. Lajoie
County Treasurer
3 Court House
Worcester, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Lajoie:

At the meeting of the Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission at 3:00 P.M., January 9,1950, in your office, the Commission unanimously voted as follows -

> "Voted that for the calendar year 1950 the salary of Superintendent Earle R. Vickery,Jr. be increased to $3,500."

The Commission voted this because Mr. Vickery has demonstrated that he is doing an outstanding job. Moreover, in view of the recent increases in the salaries of the employees on the Mountain working under Mr. Vickery, it seemed highly inappropriate that his salary should stay at its 1949 level.

I hereby attest that the above quoted vote is a true copy of the action taken by the Wachusett Mountain State Commission.

Attest:

Richard C. Guest, Clerk
Wachusett Mountain
State Reservation
Commission

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

January 13, 1951 1:00 PM.

Present were:

Mr. Jamieson, Chairman
Mr. Guest, Clerk
Mr. Brown

The meeting was called to order at the Superintendent's house by Mr. Jamieson. The report of the Superintendent for the year 1950 was heard and accepted. A copy is attached.

It was voted that the Clerk cast one ballot for Mr. Guest as Chairman for the ensuing year and Mr. Brown as Clerk for the ensuing year. The minutes of the Meeting of January 9, 1950 were read and approved.

The Commission was notified that the Superintendent had arranged to have a picture taken and sent this picture to the U. S. Coast Guard Cutter Wachusett on October 11th, 1950. A suitable frame of oak,cut on the Reservation and with the Cutter's name carved on the bottom rail was made for the picture. In return, a picture of the Cutter has been received and is now on display at the Superintendent's home.

It was voted to have a 2-way radio installed in the Superintendent's car for a sum not to exceed $450.00

It was voted to renew the present contracts covering the rental of the pay toilet locks and the rental of the first floor of the Summit House to Mr. Connor at the same terms as last year.

It was announced that the budget for the year 1951, which had been approved by the Commissioners, had been filed with the County Commission on December 18th, 1950.

It was moved to invite the County Commissioners and State Department of Conservation members to inspect the Reservation and have dinner with the Wachusett Commission at the Reservation's expense.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM.

Signed
Leo D. Brown
Leo D. Brown,
Clerk

January 1, 1951

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners
Worcester, Massachusetts

Gentlemen;

The program of tar road maintenance was continued this year with the entire length of Administration Road, 2.3 miles, being honed and sealde. Results were excellent and attracted favorable comment from many of our regular visitors. The Summit Road, which has now had two season's wear, is still in good shape and should stand up with no surface maintenance until we reach it again in 1952. Early in the year we were fortunate in obtaining the front wheel and yoke of an old 15-ton steam roller. This was arranged for towing behind the Reservation's truck and was used to compact both the honing and sealing on Administration Road as well as all of our gravel roads, the driveways and hard standing at Headquarters.

Considerable headway was made in our thinning and cleaning operations of hurricane down timber, which is being harvested for cordwood. It is believed that there is still approximately 1000 cords of wood to be salvaged in the area that we are now working, and this will provide the Reservation with all it's cordwood needs for a number of years to come.

Although a fairly severe dry spell was experienced through the Summer and early Fall it was not thought necessary to close and areas of the Reservation to the public as the water supply in our water holes did no drop below 65 to 75% of capacity. Excellent cooperation by both the public and local police officers enabled us to go through this period with no fires on the Reservation, although there were several in the vicinity.

About ten acres of brush and saplings were clered at the Oxbow, opening up a panorama that is probably without parallel in this section. This is another step in a program that will provide outlooks from a number of spots on the Summit Road, Down Road and North Road.

In response to popular demand, several new picnic tables were built during the winter and placed in strategic spots

for the summer season. We now have about twenty individual picnic areas on the Reservation, equiped with tables and rubbish barrels, and it is difficult to find one open on a pleasant week end. It is impossibe to provide fireplaces at most of these spots because of the heavily forested areas adjacent and no feasible plan has yet been found to increase the number of fireplaces available to the public. However, a number of plans have been studied and research on this subject is still underway.

A freak wind storm late in November caused considerable damage on the Reservation, Most of the Buildings withstood the attack with little actual loss, but the life expectancy of several roofs were severly shortened, making replacement necessary in the coming year. A number of trees were felled including a section of a hemlock grove on West Road near the Harrington trail. Cleaning up operations have already started with the damaged trees being made into saw logs and the brush being burned. One of the trees measured over three feet across inside the bark and had over 165 rings. This tree probably started as a seed about 1750.

Nearly four inches of rain fell during the twelve hour storm and the resulting runoff washed out a number of sections of the gravel roads. To date about forty loads of gravel have been rough graded back into the washed out areas and it is estimated that about one hundred to one hundred fifty loads remain to be hauled before all the roads will be in usable shape. However, we expect to have all our gravel roads in their usual excellent shape of the coming summer season.

About three hundred Boy Scouts and their leaders, from the Wachusett Council, Boy Scouts of America, held their fall Camporee an the Reservation one weekend. The threedday affair was enjoyed by all in spite of a persistent drizzle the first night and plans have been made for the Council to return for their spring Camporee. This is the first time that the Wachusett Council has held their outing on the Mountain. The boys did an excellent job in preparing their campsites and cleaning them up after use.

No actual count was made of the visitors to the Reservation during the year, as this would be nearly impossible, but it is estimated that over 60,000 people spent one or more days in it's pleasant surroundings. During the fall season a count of the automobiles visiting the top on several successive Sundays was made and it was found that between the hours of 1:00 PM and 5:00 PM over 1100 cars reached the top on each of the three busiest Sundays. According to the police attendants,

traffic has been heavier this year than in any other year in their experience. It is anticipated that this increased enjoyment of the Reservation's facilities will continue, and we are looking forward to a busy and useful year in 1951.

Respectfully submitted

Earle R. Vickery. Jr.
Superintendent

15 November 1951

Mr. Alexander G. Lajoie
County Treasurer
3 Court House
Worcester, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Lajoie:

On 19 January 1956, Mr. Guest, then clerk of this Commission, wrote you a letter concerning the salary of Mr. Vickery, Superintendent of the Reservation. Through error, this was worded to indicate that his new rate was to be for the calendar year 1950 only.

Please be advised, therefore, that the paragraph refering to the salary is revised to read as follows:-

> "Voted that for the calendar year 1950, and thereafter, the salary of Superintendent Earle R. Vickery. Jr. be increased to $3,500."

We trust that this will clarify your records.

Very truly yours,

Leo D. Brown, Clerk
Wachusett Mountain
State Reservation
Commission

LDB/rv

Wachusett Mountain
State Reservation Commission

Worcester County Treasurer's Office
January 21, 1952

Present Were: Richard C. Guest, Chairman
Leo D. Brown, Clerk
Kenneth G. Trinder

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 PM by the Chairman and the minutes of the meeting of January 13, 1951 were read and approved.

The Superintendent's annual report for the year ending December 31, 1951, a copy of which is attached, was read and approved. The Superintendent further reported that toilet facilities at the Summit will be improved to the best of his ability and an earnest effort will be made to improve the sanitary conditions and cleanliness of the same.

The budget estimate for the year 1952 was reported as filed with the County Commissioners and tentatively approved by them.

Steps were taken and plans made to oppose a legislative bill to remove the control of the Reservation from the present Commission and place it under the State.

It was agreed that the Superintendent make a determined effort to clarify the insurance coverage now placed on the Reservation property and that no bill be approved until a complete statement of coverage and cost be obtained from Mr. Prout of Webster, the present agent.

The question of rebuilding the present water system and the advisability of drilling an artesian well was discussed and the Superintendent instructed to investigate the cost of the artesian well further and report at a later meeting.

It was voted to renew the present contracts covering the rental of toilet locks and the rental of the first floor of the Summit House at the same terms as last year.

Construction of a new lodge and agreements covering the same to be read into the minutes of the next meeting.

Voted to approve the employment of Francis Harrington on a permenant basis starting during this year.

It was voted that the Clerk cast one ballot for Mr. Brown as Chairman and Mr. Trinder as Clerk for the ensuing year.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Leo D. Brown
Clerk

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION
COMMISSION

EARLE R. VICKERY, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT

January 23, 1952

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners
Worcester, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

As stated in one of our previous reports, it was planned to resurface approximately one-third of the Reservation's paved roads each year and the first complete cycle of tar road maintenance was completed this year with the resurfacing of the Down Road. Because of the increased cost of tar products, it was decided to retread the Down Road entirely with asphalt, and this process, new to the Reservation although widely used in the Commonwealth, has apparently given us a better and heavier surface than the old method of honing with tar and sealing with asphalt. If our spring inspection confirms this, we will continue with this type on maintenance on all the paved Reservation roads.

The damage done to the gravel roads by the severe rains of November 1950 was repaired in the spring and early summer by the installation of three new culverts and the spreading and grading of about 1000 cubic yards of new gravel. By mid-July all the gravel roads on the Reservation had been scraped and rolled and were in their usual excellent condition for the summer traffic. Considerable cleaning of exsisting culverts was necessary due to the storm and a number of critical drainage ditches were widened and deepened in an effort to guard against similiar damage in the future.

Work continued on the Summit House roof and we are pleased to report that the Main and porch roofs have all been completely replaced, as well as all sidewall shingles above the eaves of the main roof. A severe sag was discovered in the porch roof directly above the main entrance and it was necessary to jack up this section of the roof and brace it before the roof could be classed as safe. Plans now call for the removal of the Annex and the painting of the main building during the coming year. The roofs on the Superintendent's cottage and the Reservation's shop, damaged during the storm of November 1950, were also replaced this year.

Our cordwood harvesting was continued through the winter months in the hurricane lot on the east side of Administration Road. Some difficulty was experienced in drawing the wood out

of the lot, due to the wetness of the summer and it was necessary to corduroy nearly a quarter of a mile of our main wood road. This slowed up the operation somewhat, but the improved road will give better access to this area for future cutting and in the event of fire.

In March, the Reservation Commission was approached by the State Department of Public Works for permission to install a two-way radio station on the Summit as a major link in their State-wide radio system. This system is designed to be used in directing the deployment of their equipment during storms or other emergencies and for traffic control in the event of an attack on the United States. Permission was granted and the installation is now complete and in operation. According to reports from officials of the Department, it has already proven its worth during the snow storms so far this year.

In cooperation with the Departments of Conservation, Public Safety and Public Works, the Reservation engaged the Princeton Light Department to rebuild the power line serving the Summit. Extensive clearing work was done along the line and all new poles, crossarms, insulators and wire was installed. This reconstruction has eliminated a serious hazard to life and property inasmuch as the line carries 2300 volts and in places was only six or seven feet off the ground. In addition, many of the old poles were completely rotted off at the base and were easily blown over during the winter months.

Several miles of roadside were mowed to keep them clear of brush and about ten acres below and in front of the Oxbow were also hand mowed to keep the sumac down. The problem of keeping our roadsides clear of brush and weeds and of adequately trimming, pruning and releasing our extensive plantations of spruce and pine is still with us and it has been found impossible for the Reservation staff to accomplish all of this work in addition to the other necessary maintenance. A request is now pending for an additional man to be used exclusively for this. We cannot stress too strongly the importance of such work in protecting and improving our natural forest resources, and it is hoped that our request will be granted.

A further increase in the number of visitors to the Reservation was noted during the past season, It is estimated that upwards of 75,000 people visited some part of the Mountain during 1951 and the parking problem at the Summit on most pleasant weekends was such that several hundred cars had to be turned away. In an effort to alleviate this situation land has been cleared for the construction of a new parking lot that should give us from 150 to 200 additional spaces.

Annual Report - Wachusett Mountain 1951

A new system of traffic routing on the Summit is also contemplated, and it is expected that this, together with the enlarged parking facilities, will enable us to better serve the public in the comming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Earle R. Vickery. Jr.
Superintendent

Bills Propose Overhaul Of Conservation Dept.

Worcester Sunday Telegram, Jan. 20, 1952 C7

CONSERVATION

Continued from Page One

thority is "almost meaningless" because the governor and council appoint the directors of the operating divisions, the 13 commission members maintained.

"The results are wasteful assignment of manpower, duplication of equipment and overhead costs, inter-agency jealousy, and conflicts of policy," they said in their report. "Under the present system, the development of all of our natural resources for full, multiple use is impossible."

First Telecast Today

In an effort to obtain public backing of the commission's recommendations for re-organizing state agencies, a sub-committee will make the first of a series of television broadcasts today at 1.30 p. m. The commission already has called for changes in the state's administrative policies, and the Department of Labor and Industries, Education and Industrial Accidents. Their proposals are awaiting action by the Legislature.

In the report on the Conservation Department, the commission declared that opposition from sportsmen's groups made it "impracticable" for the present to integrate the division of Fisheries and Game completely with other departmental functions.

"Recognition of the inter-relationship program between the sportsmen's special interests and the whole conservation program is unlikely until the rest of the Department is unified and a comprehensive program is put into effect." the report said.

The commission's report does not propose the establishment of any Bureau of Ocean Beaches, as has been proposed from time to time in the Legisalture. Neither does it refer to Governor's Dever's recommendation for the creation of a state recreation authority which he renewed in his annual address to the legislators two weeks ago.

"The fact is," the commission said, "that the state owns part of Salisbury Beach, and nothing more. The first job is to see whether Salisbury Beach can be developed for the purposes for which it was originally required, and to put it on a self-supporting basis. For the present, existence of Salisbury Beach by itself does not justify either the transfer of the existing division or the creation of a new one."

The commission also referred to the Province Lands on Cape Cod and said they are now in the process of improvement through the erection of bath houses by the Department of Public Works.

"When construction is completed, and the place is ready for wider use as a recreation area, favorable consideration should be given to transferring control to the Department of Conservation," the report held.

Special Group Moves To Effect Economy

By CHARLES E. CURRIER

BOSTON, Sunday—The Baby Hoover Commission will call for a complete overhauling of the state's Conservation Department to effect an estimated saving of $900,000 a year in six bills to be filed tomorrow with the Massachusetts Legislature.

In the eighth report to Bay State lawmakers since its inception two years ago, the commission proposes:

1. Dividing the department's functions among four divisions directly under the commissioner—Parks and Forests, Marine Fisheries, Conservation Service, and Fisheries and Game.

2. The commissioner to have sole power of appointing division heads with the exception of the Fisheries and Game director who would continue to be appointed by the Fisheries and Game Board.

3. Elimination of one present division by combining the Parks and Recreation Division with the Forestry Division.

Expand Law Division

4. Expansion of the functions of the Law Enforcement Division, now headed by Alfred B. Cenedella Jr., of Milford, under the new name of the Division of Conservation Service to include:

An "adequate force of uniformed, armed conservation officers,"

Establishment of an "in-service training program as soon as possible" for conservation officers.

Possible transfer at the discretion of the commissioner to the division of the department's fire watching and fire fighting units.

Information Bureau

Creation of a Bureau of Information to establish a public education program through the use of conservation officers who also would be responsible for all conservation laws and regulations regardless of the division under which they come.

5. Abolition of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Board and the Advisory Committee on Forestry.

6. Transfer the duties of the director of fisheries and game with respect to water pollution to the Public Health Department.

7. An increase in license fees of the Marine Fisheries Division to bring in an additional $50,000 a year.

8. Transfer to the Public Works Department the responsibility for the construction and maintenance of automobile roads in state parks, forests, and reservations.

Under Parks, Forests

9. Placing of the management of state-owned reservations at Mount Greylock, Mount Everett, Purgatory Chasm, Wachusett Mountain, Waiden Pond, Deer Hill, Mount Tom and Mount Sugar Loaf under the Division of Parks and Forests.

10. Institution of a five-year state-wide program for the eradication of the gypsy moth by authorizing the commissioner to require cities and towns to contribute each year an amount equal to one-half what they spent for insect control in 1951. At the end of five years the program would result in annual savings of $700,000 to municipalities and $200,000 to the state.

Includes City Man

The Baby Hoover Commission, headed by former Senate Pres. Chester A. Dolan Jr., and which includes Rep. John M. Shea (D-of Worcester) as a member, sharply criticized the present organization of the Conservation Department.

Comsr. Arthur T. Lyman's au-

Turn to CONSERVATION, Page Seven

Wachusett Mountain State Reservation

MEMORANDUM

From: Office of the Superintendent

To: Commissioners

Subject: Request for Radio Transmitter on the Summit

We are in reciept of a request from the Department of Public Works of Massachusetts to install a 250 watt radio transmitter on the Summit of the Mountain. This transmitter is to be used for State highway maintenance purposes.

Although the request indicated that the transmitter would be housed in a concrete block building, it appeared that this might be an opportunity to obtain the greater part of the construction of a new lodge for the exclusive use of the public. With this thought in mind, a meeting of Lt. O'Brien, State Police Radio: Mr. Furrier and Mr. Twombly, Dept. of Public Works Radio and Prof. Radford of M.I.T., radio consultant for both departments, was arranged and held on April 6th.

Subject to the approval of the Wachusett Commission and the Commission of the Dept. of Public Works, the following was agreed upon;

1. That the Dept. of Public Works be granted permission to erect a fifty foot wood mast near the Eastern end of Parker Lodge, and to install thereon a 30 watt pole type transmitter for temporary use, the mast to be used for the support of their permenant antenna when their complete installation is made.

2. That the Dept. of Public Works be permitter to use the open portion of Parker Lodge for the installation of their permenant transmitter, and the public to be denied the further use of this lodge, providing that the Dept. of Public Works shall build for the Reservation a lodge for the exclusive use of the public and to be called Parker Lodge, at a place on the Reservation to be designated by the Wachusett Commission and to be substantially as shown on the attached sketch.

S/ Earle R. Vickery. Jr.

VERIFIED
L. D. B.
W. J. J.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Public Works

100 Nashua Street, Boston, 14

May 10, 1951

Earle R. Vickery, Superintendent
Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission
Princeton, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Vickery:

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Commisioners of this Department have voted to participate to the amount of $2500. for the construction of a new Parker Lodge with the understanding that half of the existing Parker Lodge will be turned over to this Department for Radio purposes.

Mr. Twombly of this Department has been instructed to arrange with you as to the means of constructing the new lodge. It would seem desirable to have the work performed in kind without the transfer of actual funds, and I believe this can be accomplished easily.

If the above agreement is satisfactory to your Commission, I request that you so notify this office immediately, so that the installation of the radio equipment can be started as soon as possible.

The Board also voted to participate to the amount of one-fourth of the cost but not exceeding $2500. for the construction of a new power line up the mountain, provided your Commission, the Department of Conservation, and the Department of Public Safety agree to do likewise and provided further that the pole line shall be completed not later than September 1, 1951. As Professor Radford is the Radio Consultant for all three agencies using radio communication, it is recommended that he be designated as the common intermediary to complete the arrangements for the installation of the pole line.

Very truly yours,

S/ Mary E. McMorrow

Mary E. McMorrow
Secretary

EFC:Co
CC:Prof.WHR

Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission
Room 7, Worcester County Court House, December 16, 1952

Present were: Mr. Richard C. Guest, Chairman
Mr. Leo D. Brown, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 2:40 PM and the minutes of the meeting of January 21, 1952 were read and approved.

The Superintendent's report for the year ending December 31, 1952 was read and apporved. A copy is attached.

It was voted to build new chemical tank toilet buildings at the Summit and to remove all toilet facilities from the Summit House. The Superintendent was instructed to proceed with this project as soon as possible. Construction of the new buildings to be of concrete and wood, with no wood closer than six inches above the floor on the outer walls, and the walls themselves to be covered on the interior with an impervious material.

Insurance coverage on the Reservation's buildings was discussed and it was decided that the values, as shown below, should be a part of these minutes.

Summit House	$ 44,000.
Superintendent's Dwelling	23,100.
Superintendent's Barn	10,230.
Superintendent's Garage & Shop	2,310.
Parker Lodge	4,400.
Bullock Lodge	4,950.
Frame Cottage (Cornor of Echo Lake Rd)	12.100.
Employee's Cottage (In front of barn)	11,990.

Voted to remove old kitchen ell and porch of the Employee's cottage and to put same in condition for rental. Reconditioning to include new chimneys, clapboarding, trim and paint. Rental and occupancy of the cottage to be left to the discretion of Mr. Guest and the Superintendent.
(Cottage was rented to Mr. & Mrs. Santon for $30. per month, starting June 1st)

Voted to proceed with the drilling of an artesian well to furnish water to the Headquarters area and to discontinue the use of Echo Lake for this purpose.
(A 196 foot well was drilled in August, obtaining over 25 gallons of water per minute with a static water level of about 50 feet)

Voted to release the first floor of the Summit House to John Connor for the same rental as in previous years and to renew the coin lock contract.

Voted to pay the police officers at the same rate as the

town now pays them, namely $1.50 per hour.

It was voted that the Clerk cast one ballot for Mr. Guest as Chairman and Mr. Brown as Clerk for the ensuing year.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Leo D. Brown

Leo D. Brown
Clerk

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

EARLE R. VICKERY, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT

December 31, 1952

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners

Gentlemen:

Our tar road maintenance program was continued this year, as usual, with the Summit Road being given a new surface. The Spring inspection of roads showed that the asphalt treatment, given the Down Road last year, had stood up well through the winter months and it was decided to make this the standard method of retreading for the Reservation. Although somewhat more difficult to handle than tar, it has been found that an asphalt retread yields a considerably thicher surface than tar and has the added advantage of being self-sealing. It is, therefore, possible to do the entire resurfacing job in one operation and with only one curing period, enabling us to open the road to traffic about one week earlier than was previously possible.

The purchase of a general purpose agricultural type tractor for use in the woods proved to be very fortunate indeed. In addition to enabling the staff to handle our usual winter's crop of cordwood with a minimum of trouble and effort, it was also found that this piece of equipment could be used to pull the grader on both gravel and blacktop roads, thus releasing the Reservation's truck for auxillary work during the resurfacing operations. In an effort to gain the maximum return from this investment, the tractor has been equipped with a snow plow for winter use and it is planned to purchase a roadside cutter bar for use in helping control weeds and brush along the immediate right of way.

The State Department of Public Works asked for and received permission from this Commission to plow the Down Road during the winter months for the use of their service personnel. In return they agreed to do sufficient work on this road to offset and frost damage that might occur as a result of the plowing. This they have done and it is not felt that the road has received and permenant damage because of this plowing. It was found that an additional dividend accrued to certain of the Citizens of the Commonwealth, due to the plowing, since mant of those skiers who use our two excellent trails formed car pools and ferried each other to the Summit, thus eliminating the long, tedious climb between runs. It is planned to erect a sign at the foot of the Down Road stating

that the road is officially closed and that persons using it do so at their own risk, thus eliminatin the responsibility of the Reservation Commission, the County and the Commonwealth in the event of an accident caused by adverse weather conditions.

The removal of the Annex and the finishing off of the kitchen wing at the Summit House was accomplished during the summer months. Because of the type of construction and the material used in this building, very little lumber was salvaged, however, most of the frame was usable and has been set aside for sale of use on the Reservation. A start was also made on the major project of painting the Summit House. To date about ninety-five percent of the building has been scraped and cleaned and given a primer coat of paint. This work will be continued in the spring and it is expected that the job will be completed during the early summer.

Although some parts of the Commonwealth were extremely dry during the fall months, at no time did the available supply of water in our small ponds and water hols drop below 80% of capacity. Tis is laid, in part, to our program of allowing some of the previously swamp areas on the Reservation to revert to their original condition, inasmuch as the Swamp is Nature's method of combating alternate flood and drought. In time, it is expected that there will be from thirty to fifty acres of swamp land in key spots throughout the Reservation and this will problbly give us a much more even flow of water through our surface system.

As in the past several years there has been no let-up in the use of the Reservation's facilities by the citizens of the Commonwealth and the Nation. Considerable police work is necessary on most Sundays and Holidays to prevent traffic snarls and parking confusion. We are proud of the fact that our local police force has been able to handle this increased traffic on the existing road net and at the same time maintain their enviable record of efficiency and courtesy. It is expected that we will be able to assist them in their problem and make the Reservation's facilities available to more of the public by the completion of the additional road and parking areas now in progress on the Summit.

Respectfully submitted,

Earle R. Vickery. Jr.
Superintendent

Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission

County Commissioner's Office, Court House, Worcester, Massachusetts

October 5, 1953

Present were: Mr. Brown
Mr. Trinder
Mr. Morgan

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Brown 3;10 PM by Mr. Brown and the minutes of the meeting of December 16, 1952 were read and approved.

The Superintendent gave a verbal report on the work completed and being done on various projects on the Reservation at the present, together with work remaining to be done and future projects. Included in this was the fact that the Employee's Cottage has been completed and rented, the foundation for the first toilet building at the Summit has been completed and is ready to have the building constructed, the Summit House painting was progressing at a favorable rate and a start at the remodeling of the second floor of the Summit House has been made with all partitions having been removed and replaced with posts and beams.

The purchase of a new truck, a cutter bar for the tractor, the replacement or repair of the furnaces in the two cottages that are rented,and the rebuilding of the old truck into a forest fire truck were discused. It was decided to table the above items to the next meeting with the provisions that the Superintendent could include these items in his budget estimate for 1954.

The Superintendent reported on the dryness of the season and the lack of water in the Reservation's water holes. No fires had been reported on the Reservation to date, however, it has been necessary to close off portions of the Mountain twice during the summer months.

Voted Mr. Trinder as Chairman and Mr. Brown as Clerk for 1954.

Suggested that the Commission meet after the 1954 budget estimate and the Annual Report were completed.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Leo D. Brown
Clerk

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION
COMMISSION

EARLE R. VICKERY, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT

January 1, 1954

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners

Gentlemen:

As usual, the problem of maintaining the Reservation's roads occupied the Staff's time through a considerable portion of the summer months, with the installation of several new culverts in critical areas on the gravel roads as well as the resurfacing of 2.3 miles of the paved roads. We are also using some calcium chloride on a section of the gravel roads to determine the optimum amount necessary to control "dusting" and "washboard". To date this problem has not been completely solved, but has shown considerable progress.

A front end shovel-loader was purchased for the tractor and found to be extremely helpful in handling material for the usual resurfacing of the gravel roads as well as digging culvert ditches and moving heavy equipment and stone. Well over two hundred loads of gravel and other material were handled by this loader during the summer season, effecting a considerable savings in power shovel rentals.

One of the cottages at the Headquarters area was extensively repaired during the early spring, including the removal of a large porch and an unused shed-type room on the rear, complete rebuilding of two old, unlined, chimneys, two coats of paint on the outside, the addition of heavy fieldstone steps and walks and the complete regrading of the lawn. With the exception of the roof, which will require replacement in about four or five years, this building is now in reasonably good shape.

The painting of the Summit House, started last year, was continued and is now nearly complete. A small portion of the northwest corner of the porch and the porch floor remaining to be done. A start was made on the remodeling of the second floor of the Summit House so that this area can be used as an observatory. All the partitions have been removed and replaced with beams and other supports. During the coming year it is planned to replace all the present windows with picture-type windows and to build a second stairway to the first floor. It is expected that this project will be completed within the next two years and

opened to the public.

Other construction included the pouring of a concrete foundation for a new chemical-tank toilet building at the Summit. Some idea of the difficulties of construction in this area may be obtained when it is noted that there is a slope of over eight feet in height in the width of this building, which is twelve feet. Over a hundred bags of cemen t were required for the construction of the footings, foundations and floor. A frame building is to be constructed on this foundation in the spring and it is hoped that it can be put into use during the early summer. Plans then call for another building of the same type to be constructed nearby, thus giving us completely new, and adequate, toilet facilities in this area.

A severe dry spell was experienced during the summer, and the Reservation's water holes dropped to the point where several were completely dry. We had, at that point, less than 25% of our normal water capacity. However, only one fire was found on the Reservation, and that one was quickly extinguished with little damage. The usual precautions of closing all gravel roads to the public, restricting parking and picnicing, and patroling the Reservation were observed during this dry spell. and probably accounts for the small fire damage experienced.

Some indication of a possible gypsy moth infestation have been found and it may be necessary for the Reservation to participate in the State-wide moth control program that is contemplated for the coming year. This is the first indication of a serious infestation in this area for the past seven or eight years.

In spite of the fact that Mountain Road from Princeton to the Reservation was under construction during the entire summer, and extensive detours were necessary, there was no letup in the number of visitors to the Reservation. Each year the problem of handling this traffic seems to increase, however, the Reservation Commissioners and the Staff are pleased to find that the facilities of the Reservation are so widely known and enjoyed.

Respectfully submitted,

Earle R. Vickery. Jr.
Superintendent

Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission

County Commissioner's Office, County Court House, Worcester, Mass.

June 22, 1954

Present were: Mr. Trinder, Chairman
Mr. Brown, Clerk
Mr. Morgan

Meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 12:10PM and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Sealed bids for the season's requirements of tar and cut-back asphalts were opened after reading of the specifications. The following bids were submitted:-

Mystic Bituminous Products Co., Inc.
All MC, RC and SC asphalts . . . $0.1554/gallon
All RS, MS and SS emulsions. . . $0.1540/gallon
Above delivered and applied in full truck load lots.

Barrett Division, Allied Chemical & Dye Corp.
All SC, MC, OA and RC asphalts . $0.1554/ gallon
All SEMC and CERC emulsions. . . $0.172 / gallon
"Tarvia" road tar . . . . . $0.19 / gallon

Moved by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Brown that the bid be awarded to Barrett Division. Voted unanimously to do so.

Bids for the purchase of a 2-ton truck were then opened after the specifications were read. The following were submitted:-

Hubbard's Garage

Price complete as per specfications . . $2,869.70

Reo Motors, Inc.

Price complete as per specifications, less 10 ply tires and ¼ cab protector. . . . $3,456.00

10 ply tires, extra . . . .0. . . . . 79.50
¼ cab protector 47.00

Motion made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Morgan to accept the Hubbard's Garage bid. Voted unanimously to do so.

No persons submitting bids were present.

The business meeting was then opened and the Annual report of the Superintendent was read and unanimously accepted and approved. A further statement on work progress was also given by the Superintendent and the near completion of the new toilet facilities was noted.

Meeting of June 22, 1954 (Con't)

Mr. Morgan reported on a suggestion from the Department of Natural Resourses, Division of Parks and Recreation of the Commonwealth that the Commission could improve the Facilities of the Reservation by the installation of a swimming and bathing beach. Echo Lake was suggested by the Parks Commissioner as a possible site.

It was voted to hold the matter in abeyance and await further developments inasmuch as the present budgett was clearly inadequate to finance such a project.

A New water hole to be constructed off the new Mountain Road near the residence of Mr. Rice was approved. A new cable will be installed in the Summit House, and a tractor cutter bar will be purchased. These items were held over from the last meeting of the Commission, October 5, 1953, and were included in the budget for 1954.

Moved by Mr. Morgan that all items passed over at the previous meeting and later included in the budget be pruchased or completer and any items not included, viz. the conversion of the old truck into a fire-fighting truck, be continued at the discretion fo the Superintendent, using whatever means he has at his disposal. Motion seconded by Mr. Brown and unanimously voted.

Voted to meet on the Reservation at the Superintendent's residence at 4:00 PM on Thursday, July 8th, 1954, and to make an inspection of the Reservation.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 PM.

Leo D. Brown
Clerk

Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission

Superintendent's Dwelling, Wachusett Mountain State Reservation, Princeton, Mass

July 8, 1954

Present were: Mr. Trinder, Chairman
Mr. Morgan, Clerk pro tem

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 PM at the Superintendent's dwelling and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Since the purpose of the meeting was to inspect the Reservation, the Commissioners together with the Superintendent left in the Reservation car on a tour of the Mountain.

An inspection was made of the Echo Lake area and the Bolton Pond area with respect to the possibility of swimming facilities at one of the areas and it was unanimously decided that the only area at which it would be possible to set up adequate facilities was at Bolton Pond. The Superintendent pointed out that this would require that some arrangement would be necessary to secure the water rights of this pond which are held by a Vaito Niemi of Westminster.

The newly completed toilet facilities at the Summit were examined and approved by the Commission as were also the remodeling projects in the Summit House.

After touring the roads and the general area the Commissioners and the Superintendent adjourned to Harrington Farm for dinner.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Paul B. Morgan, Jr.
Clerk pro tem

Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission

Superintendent's Dwelling, Wachusett Mountain State Reservation
Princeton, Massachusetts

September 21, 1954

Present were: Mr. Trinder, Chairman
Mr. Brown, Clerk
Mr. Morgan

Special meeting of Commissioners to inspect damage caused by hurricanes Carol and Edna and to determine the disposition of the old Newton Cottage. Weather was rainy and cold.

Meeting was called to order at 2:15 PM at the Superintendent's dwelling and adjourned to the Reservation for a tour of inspection.

The Newton cottage was thouroughly inspected as were the gravel roads and ways.

Considerable damage in the way of washouts was noted and the repairs made by the Superintendent were inspected and approved. Future planning to avoid a repetition of washouts in subsequent emergencies has been made by the Superintendent and these measures were approved by the Commissioners.
(Measures included the installation and changing of culverts and provisions for making temporary watercourses across certain strategic spots in the gravel roads.)

On motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously voted to develop the Newton cottage area as a public campsite with necessary sanitary facilities and to utilize the present Newton cottage as an administration center provided that the cost of remodeling the building does not exceed the sum of $2500. and it was further voted to authorize the Superintendent to expend up to #2500. for materials and supplies for this purpose.

It was decided to meet next when the Superintendent had completed the Budget Estimate for 1955 and the Annual Report.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM

Leo D. Brown
Clerk

Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission

Library of the Morgan Construction Company
Worcester, Massachusetts

December 20, 1954

Present were: Mr. Brown, Clerk and Chairman pro tem
Mr. Morgan

The meeting was called to order at 3:52 PM by Mr. Brown and the minutes of the meeting of September 21st were read.

After Mr. Morgan moved and it was voted to amend the minutes of the previous meeting by adding a unanimous vote of thanks to Mrs. Vickery for the refreshments served at that meeting, the minutes were approved.

The annual report of the Superintendent was read and it was voted to accept the report as submitted and transmit it to the County Commissioners. A copy of the report is included as an annex to these minutes.

The Superintendent's Budget Estimate for the year 1955 was examined and approved by the Commissioners as submitted with the exception of the following change:-

> Duly moved and unanimously voted that the salary of Superintendent Earle R. Vickery. Jr. be increased to $4,420. per year, starting January 1, 1955.

A letter from Mr. Benjamin S. Keyes of Harvard, Massachusetts, offering a parcel of land adjacent to the Reservation for sale to the Commission was read and it was voted instruct the Superintendent to thank Mr. Keyes for his offer and inform him that the Commission was not interested in the parcel due to the nature of the property and its location.

A letter from Mr. John T. Monahan of 44 Englewood Avenue, Worcester, Massachusetts requesting the loan of a small plot of land on which to construct a small cabin for the use of a group of Explorer Scouts was read and it was voted tb instruct the Superintendent to inform Mr. Monahan that such a loan was without the province of the Commission but that he was welcome to use any of the facilities of the Reservation providing he erected nothing more permenant than a tent.

It was brought to the attention of the Commission that Representative Philip Howard of the General Court had filed a bill for the next session providing for the construction of swimming facilities at Echo Lake. Inasmuch as this was contrary to the recorded opinion of the Commission, (minutes of meeting of July 8, 1954) it was decided that Mr. Morgan would write Mr. Howard in an effort to persuade him to alter his bill to read "Bolton Pond" instead of "Echo Lake".

After a general discussion of the condition of the Reservation and the projects now in progress and the planning stage the meeting was adjourned at 5:34 PM

Leo D. Brown
Clerk

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

EARLE R. VICKERY, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT

January 1, 1955

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners
Worcester, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

Road maintenance occupied a large percentage of our time during the summer months as usual, with nearly all the attention being given to the gravel roads. Just as we were preparing for our annual tar road maintenance, we were visited by hurricane Carol. The resulting damage, due principally to washouts caused by the more than 5 inches of rain that fell, cost us two weeks of time and several hundred dollars for truck rental and material. Repairs were completed on a Friday and the roads were reopened for the weekend traffic only to be closed the next day by hurricane Edna, which did more damage than Carol. Over half a mile of our gravel roads were completely washed out, in many places down to ledge and for the entire width of the road. Efforts by the Superintendent and several members of the staff who volunteered their services during the storm, did little to halt or reduce the amount of wash. Insofar as we could observe, there were no blocked ditches or culverts, just too much water in too short a period of time. Plans have been made for the installation, enlargement and relocation of some of our culverts, and for provisions to make temporary water courses across the roads in strategic spots, in an effort to prevent similar damage in the future.

In all, five weeks were spent in repairing hurricane damage and the tar road maintenance had to be put off until next year, due to the lateness of the season and the expense of regraveling.

The new Ladies' Rest Room at the Summit was completed and opened early in the summer and the old building removed. The area has been prepared for the construction of a similiar structure for a Men's Room and it is planned to start this new building as soon as we can pour cement in the spring.

Approximately fifty thousand board feet of lumber was harvested during the winter months for use in the various construction and maintenance projects on the Reservation, and some of this material has already been used in the construction of a new bridge replacement on Balance Rock Road, replacement of some exterior finish on the Superintendent's dwelling, construction of the Ladies' Room at the Summit, and the manufacture of ten new picnic tables. The remainder has been properly stacked in the Reservation's storage yard

and is being held for future use. An adequate supply of cordwood was also harvested during the winter months to cover our requirments for the coming year.

A new 2-ton combination dump and platform truck was purchased to replace the 1942 model then in use, and arrived in time to do yeoman service during and after the hurricanes. We also purchased a side mount cutter bar for the tractor to be used in roadside mowing and general open area maintenance.

During the late summer, a cottage on the Northwest corner of the Reservation was vacated. After an inspection by the Commissioners, it was decided to use this building and the surrounding area for public campsites with the cottage to be remodeled for use as a utility center for the area. Much of the cleaning out and cleaning up has already been done and in the near future it is expected that we will be able to add about a dozen individual, family-sized campsites to the recreational facilities of the Commonwealth. Approximately 300 Boy Scouts and their supervisors from the Wachusett Council held their fall Camporee at our new campsite and were very enthusiastic in their comments, although there are no improved facilities in the area as yet.

Due to the popularity of the Reservation, it was again necessary to increase the police detail at the Summit to control traffic. As usual the well trained squad, under the direction of Princeton's Chief Gendron, did a splendid job of handling a difficult problem. While there are no exact figures on the number of visitors to the Reservation, it is estimated that we draw at least 100,000 during the year, with the two heaviest periods being in the early spring to view the Azalea nad Laurel and in the early fall to view the foliage.

With the addition of adequate campsites and the continued improvement of our exisiting recreational facilities it is expected that the use and enjoyment of the Reservation will continue to grow and expand.

Respectfully submitted,

Earle R. Vickery. Jr.
Superintendent

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION
COMMISSION

EARLE R. VICKERY, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT

December 21, 1954

Board of County Commissioners
Court House
Worcester, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

At a meeting of the Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission at 3:52 PM in the libary of the Morgan Construction Company, the Commission took the following action:-

"Duly moved and unanimously voted that the salary of Superintendent Earle R. Vickery. Jr. be increased to $4,420. per year, starting January 1, 1955"

I hereby attest that the above quoted vote is a true copy of the action taken by the Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission.

Attest:

Leo D. Brown, Clerk

Wachusett Mountain State
Reservation Commission

Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission

Library of the Morgan Construction Company
Worcester, Massachusetts

February 21, 1955

Present were: Mr. Trinder, Chairman
Mr. Brown, Clerk
Mr. Morgan

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 3:12 PM and the minutes of the previous meeting(December 20th 1954) were read and accepted.

Nominations for officers for the ensuing year followed and Mr. Morgan was duly elected Chairman and Mr. Trinder was elected Clerk. The new officers immediately took over their duties.

The action of the County Commissioners on the Reservation's budget estimate for 1955 was discussed and it was voted to have the Chairman write a letter to the County Commissioners requesting a hearing on the budget. The other members of the Commission agreed to make every effort to be present at such a hearing.

The Superintendent gave a verbal report on the progress of work on the cottage at the new camping area. Possible charges for the use of this area and rules to govern it were discussed and it was voted to have the Superintendent draw up a tentative set of rules and regulations to be submitted to the Commission at its next meeting.

Moved and voted that the contract with Mr. Connor for the use of the Summit House be renewed at the same rental as last year.

Considerable progress was reported on the new fire truck being constructed on the old dump truck chassis and the Superintendent stated that it should be ready to be put in service in about a month.

The water rights of Bolton Pond and the possibility of having swimming there was discussed. Mr. Brown gave a report on the hearing which the Committee on Conservation held February 2nd at the State House in Boston on Rep. Howard's bill to establish swimming at Echo Lake. At the hearing, Rep. Howard spoke for the bill with the provision that it be amended to read "Bolton Pond" instead of "Echo Lake". It is Mr. Brown's opinion that the bill had a favorable hearing.

It was decided to have the next meeting of the Commission at the Reservation and to include an inspection and dinner, subject to the call of the Chairman.

Voted to adjourn at 4:15 PM.

Kenneth G. Trinder
Clerk

23 February 1955

Chairman, Worcester County Commissioners
Board of County Commissioners
County Court House
Worcester, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

At a meeting of the Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission held Monday, 21 February 1955, I was asked to get in touch with you in regard to our 1955 budget. Until last year, our Commission has always been given a hearing in connection with each year's budget, and we request, this year, such a hearing to discuss our figures with the Worcester County Commissioners.

Very truly yours

Paul B. Morgan, Jr.
Chairman, Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission

PBMJr:lr

c.c. - Mr. Vickery

C.C. - L. NICKELS

Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission

Superintendent's Cottage
Princeton, Massachusetts

July 27th, 1955

Present were: Mr. Morgan, Chairman
Mr. Brown, Clerk pro-tem

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 3:30 PM and the minutes of the last meeting read and accepted.

Sealed bids for a new vehicle for the use of the Superintendent in his duties were opened and read. The net bids are as follows:

Harry I. Cutler, Southbridge	$1660.00	
Heywood-Brunmark Motor, Worcester	1588.00	
Hubbard's Garage, East Princeton	2040.00	(less tax)
Chaffin's Garage, Holden	1535.66	

It was moved, seconded and voted that the bid be awarded to the low bidder, Chaffin's Garage of Holden.

Sealed bids for the season's requirements of tar and/or asphalt were opened and read. Bids were as follows:

Cut-back asphalts delivered and applied or pumped into Reservation containers:-

Barrett Division, Allied Chemical & Dye Corp.	15.64¢/gal.
Trimount Bituminous	15.64¢/gal.

It was voted to award the bid on road oil to the Barrett Division.

No other bids were received.

Meeting was adjourned to inspect the Reservation at 4:00 PM after which those Commissioners present and the Superintendent had dinner at Harrington Farm.

Leo D. Brown
Clerk pro-tem

Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission

Library of the Morgan Construction Company
Worcester, Massachusetts

January 17, 1956

Present were: Mr. Morgan, Chairman
Mr. Brown, Clerk pro-tem

The Meeting of the Commission was called to order at 12;00 o'clock noon and the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as read.

There was no old or unfinished buisness to be considered.

Under the heading of new business the annual report of the Superintendent was read and approved and is included as a part of these minutes.

Chairman Morgan stated, for the record, that he and Mr. Brown consulted with County Commissioners Aspero and Cassidy on January 16th relative to a proposed increase in salary for Superintendent Vickery and had recieved assurance that the increase would be approved by them.

The members present unanimously voted to increase the salary of the Superintendent to $4,420.00 per year starting January 1, 1956. This increase was previously voted for 1955 but the increase was not approved by the County Commissioners.

The Superintendent's budget estimate was approved and he was authorized to submit the same to the County Commissioners.

The request of the Appalachian Mountain Club to rename the Echo Lake Trail and assume the responsibility for the maintenance of the same, was approved. Henceforth, the trail will be known as the "Jack Frost Trail" in memory of Doctor Jack Frost who was extremely active in the activities of the Appalachian Mountain Club.

The Superintendent was authorized to arrange a joint meeting with the County Commissioners for an inspection of the Reservation to be followed by a dinner. It was suggested that the dinner be an outdoor affair at the Brown Recreation Area. This meeting to be sometime in the Spring.

The campsite fees were considered and it was voted to devote further study to this question.

It was moved, seconded and voted to request funds of the Commonwealth to carry out some of the worthwhile projects under consideration at the Reservation. Bathing at the Bolton Pond Area would be considered as one of these.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM and the members of the Commission and the Superintendent proceeded to the Worcester Club where a splendid lunch and general discussion was enjoyed by all, as guests of Chairman Morgan.

Leo D. Brown
Clerk pro-tem

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION
COMMISSION

EARLE R. VICKERY, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT

January 1, 1956

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners

Gentlemen:

As in the past, the maintenance of our roads occupied a major portion of the Reservation Staff's attention during the past year. Our tar road maintenance, the retreading of the Down Road, was accomplished with the complete co-operation of the weather man who gave us several clear, hot days for the application, mixing and spreading of the asphalt. The gravel roads, on the other hand, will present for several years a somewhat more difficult problem due to the extensive regraveling that was necessary after the hurricanes of 1954. This fresh gravel does not "shape up" or "stand up" under traffic as well as the old, hard-packed gravel did. However, experience has shown that in four or five years, if we can keep this new material in place that long, it will be just as suitable and durable as the original. In an effort to prevent further washing of our roads, both gravel and tar, we are enlarging, relocating and replacing our critical culverts as rapidly as possible. Approximately one-hundred and fifty feet of culvert was replaced during the year and plans have been made to continue this activity until we have adequate culvert area in the proper places to control the extraordinary rainfall we are experiencing in the County.

During the two most severe storms of the past year, it was necessary for the Reservation Staff to patrol and clear culverts and waterways. The plans made during and after 1954's hurricanes, concerning critical spots and emergency waterways across roads. were put into actual operation and saved most of our roads from severe washing. Eighty to one-hundred loads of gravel will probably be sufficient to replace all that was lost all season.

Cordwood operations were continued during the winter months and an adaquate supply was harvested, dried and distributed to carry us through the coming winter. Among our other inclement weather projects, we built some twenty new picnic tables which were added to the more than fifty already in use on the Reservation. It was noticed on several Sundays during the summer season, that in spite of the seventy-odd tables distributed along the roads, an "open" table was the exception. Material for additional tables is on hand in the Reservation's storage yard, and it

is planned to manufacture twenty to twenty-five more tables during the remainder of the winter.

Work was continued, when other duties permitted, on the building at the campsite area, and with the straightening up of the sills and foundations, replacement of much of the trim and clapboards, manufacture and installation of all new window sash and frames, installation of new floor joists and floors, reconstruction of two fireplaces and chimneys and a complete outside paint job, it is felt that we have made a good start on our project. Weather and other duties permitting, it is hoped that we may be able to see the completion of the interior of the building this year.

Attendance is a subject that is very interesting to both the Reservation Commission and Staff, as this is the only way in which we can gauge the value of our service to the public, and considerable effort is made to arrive at an accurate estimate of the number of visitors that we have during the year. Through the cooperation of the State Department of Public Works we were fortunate in obtaining the use of a traffic density counter for approximately two weeks, and are able to base our estimate for this year on its results. Our season is from the first of May to the last of November, with probably the greatest density of visitors coming during the months of June, September and october. It is estimated that we drew approximately 40,000 cars this year and a sampling indicates that there was an average of three people in each car, giving us a grand total of 120,000 visitor days.

With the increased importance that the Commonwealth is placing on outdoor recreation, and the public response, it is anticipated that we will enjoy an even greater popularity during the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

EARLE R. VICKERY. JR.
Superintendent

Washington - Seattle
Oregon - Portland
California - Sacramento
Idahoo -

Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission

Luncheon meeting at the Worcester Club
Worcester,Massachusetts

February 20, 1956

Present were: Mr. Morgan, Chairman
Mr. Campbell, Clerk pro-tem

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 o'clock noon by the Chairman and Mr. Campbell was congratulated on his recent appointment to the Commission vice Mr. Brown.

The minutes of the previous meeting, January 17, 1956, were read by the Clerk and approved.

There was no old or unfinished business to be considered.

The Reservation budget estimate for 1956 as mutilated by the County Commissioners was discussed and it was suggested that a meeting be requested with the County Commissioners to discuss these cuts. The Superintendent submitted a draft of such letter (attached to these minutes) and was detailed to send this letter to the County Commissioners over his signature, for the Commission. (letter mailed in Princeton,February 20th at 4 o'clock)

Superintendent was authorized to attempt to obtain copies of the report made by Mr. Egbert Hans on his visit to the Echo Lake and Bolton Pond areas on July 8th, 1954. It was decided that direct, personal contact be used in this matter.

Moved and voted that a letter of appreciation be sent to Mr. Leo D. Brown of Millbury, Massachusetts,by the Chairman, for his long, devoted and valued service to the Commission and the Reservation.

The Superintendent was enjoined to keep in constant touch with the Chairman concerning any action on the letter to the County Commissioners, mentioned above, and/or the return of Mr. Trinder from the South.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM.

Charles B. Campbell
Clerk pro-tem

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION
COMMISSION

February 20, 1956

Worcester County Commissioners
Court House
Worcester, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

In the past, with other Boards of County Commissioners, it was the custom to confer with each Department on its budget requirements for the coming year. This custom resulted in a complete agreement and understanding between the Board and the Department. Conversely, we are completely stunned by the abruptness and severity of the cuts which your Board made in our budget estimate for the year 1956.

In accordance with the present recreational trend in the Commonwealth, and our own observations at the Reservation, we have endeavored to improve and extend our facilities to better serve the needs of an ever increasing number of visitors. A cut of 68% in the funds requested for other than personal services, causes us to wonder what type and extent of program you wish us to attempt to carry out at the Reservation, since the residue is not even inadequate to maintain our existing facilities.

We request, therefore, a meeting with your Board to discuss the following:-

1. Scope and type of program to the offered to the More than 100,000 visitors we annually attract.

2. Methods and means of maintaining the $113,080. worth of buildings on the Reservation.

3. Methods and means of maintaining the nearly ten miles of black-top and gravel roads on the Reservation.

We trust that you will give the above matters your most careful consideration.

Very truly yours,

Earle R. Vickery. Jr.
Superintendent

Areas and expenditures in the Commonwealth 1952 - 1955

Area	County	Acreage	Expenditures 1952	1953	1954	1955
Mt. Greylock Res.	Berkshire	9,000	27,523.	25,788.	30,828.	32,740.
Mt. Tom Res.	Hampden	1,800	26,656.	29,235.	30,998.	26,933.
Mt. Wachusett Res.	Worcester	1,600	27,823.	29,181.	33,211.	31,035.
Mt. Everett Res.	Berkshire	1,200	3,079.	2,321.	2,464.	4,275.
Deer Hill Res.	Hampshire	259	4,693.	5,114.	5,401.	4,739.
Purgatory Chasm	Worcester	180	12,196.	11,705.	15,619.	16,390.
Walden Pond Res.	Middlesex	150	58,590.	56,756.	59,297.	64,170.
Mt. Sugarloaf Res.	Franklin	81	3,899.	3,266.	3,032.	3,650.
Gay Head Res.	Dukes	unknown	650.	323.	523.	3,600.
Indian Burial Ground Res.	Dukes	unknown	368.	134.	347.	400.

Breakdown of expenditures since 1940

Year	Salaries	Other	Total	Purg. Chasm
1940	10,808.	9,186.	20,995.	5,920.
1941	10,960.	10,835.	21,795.	6,000.
1942	9,759.	4,578.	14,338.	6,348.
1943	7,400.	2,896.	10,296.	4,328.
1944	7,104.	2,635.	9,740.	5,198.
1945	8,522.	6,457.	14,979.	5,500.
1946	11,542.	6,819.	18,361.	6,231.
1947	8,325.	9,599.	17,924.	6,999.
1948	7,188.	11,469.	18,657.	7,724.
1949	10,750.	11,381.	22,132.	8,118.
1950	12,322.	11,199.	23,532.	8,928.
1951	12,739.	12,082.	24,821.	9,514.
1952	14,167.	13,654.	27,828.	12,196.
1953	16,670.	12,511.	29,181.	11,705.
1954	17,155.	16,056.	33,211.	15,619.
1955	17,304.	12,807.	31,035.	16,390.
1956	17,920.	16,230.	34,150.	15,500.
		5,565.	23,485.	

FIGURE LEFT BY COUNTY COMMISSION

9 March 1956

Worcester County Commissioners
County Court House
Worcester, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

On 20 February 1956 our Superintendent, Mr. Vickery, wrote you, requesting a meeting to discuss the drastic cut you have made in the Wachusett Reservation's budget for this year. In an earlier meeting between Messrs. Aspero and Cassidy of your Board and Mr. Brown and me, there was no intimation that you contemplated any such action. Are we to infer that some, good reason has come up since the middle of January to justify such a cut? If so, would it not have been expedient as well as courteous to have informed us as the vitally affected body?

If a general curtailment in Parks and Reservation budgets has been indicated for this year, we are fully prepared to do our share. However, we do feel that we are entitled to information that will permit us to plan intelligently how to preserve and maintain the Reservation.

May we have a reply to what certainly seems a not unreasonable question?

Very truly yours

Paul R. Morgan, Jr., Chairman,
Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission

PRMJr:lr

7 March 1956

Honorable J. Philip Howard
Smith Avenue
Westminster, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Howard:

I understand that you recently sponsored a bill to authorize the development of swimming facilities at Echo Lake on the Reservation and that the matter was the subject of a hearing before the Committee on Counties. Since this is a matter of concern to the Wachusett Mountain Commission, I could wish that we had been consulted, or at least notified of the hearing.

This project came up previously, at least a year ago; at which time we consulted the Parks Commissioner, Mr. Arthur T. Lyman. He sent an engineer to the area, copies of whose reports I enclose. From them you will see that Echo Lake would provide only limited facilities and the water supply would probably be inadequate during the months of greatest demand. Furthermore, to create the necessary parking area and other accommodations would be to destroy a strikingly beautiful and natural feature of the Reservation which is much admired by local and other county residents.

Another factor is the extremely heavy traffic over the mountain proper during the summer season, which, if this small cross-road became an object of general attraction, would be seriously and dangerously hampered. Coupled to limited parking and bathing facilities, we cannot favor this location for the purpose.

Bolton's (or Trout) Pond, however, does seem to meet the specifications required and we would favor such a project, which could provide bathing for both Princeton and Westminster residents, as well as transient visitors.

Please may we hear from you as to your thinking in this matter.

Sincerely,

Paul B. Morgan, Jr., Chairman
Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission

PBMJr:lr

Enclosure

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

Luncheon meeting at Putnam & Thurston's Restaurant
Worcester, Massachusetts

March 15, 1956

Present were: Mr. Morgan, Chairman
Mr. Trinder, Clerk
Mr. Campbell

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 12:45 PM and the minutes of the previous meeting, February 20th, read and accepted unanimously.

Mr. Trinder nominated for Chairman for 1956 by Mr. Morgan but declined and, in turn, nominated Mr. Morgan to continue as Chairman. Mr. Morgan accepted, reluctantly, and was duly elected.

Mr. Campbell nominated Mr. Trinder for Clerk for 1956 and he was elected.

A letter from a Mr. Seth Heywood of Newton, Massachusetts requesting permission to remove a stone from a wall at the Summit of the Mountain on which one of his ancestors had carved his name, was read and discussed. It was agreed that Mr. Heywood might remove the stone providing that he replaced it with suitable stonework and without materially altering the appearance of the wall in which the stone lies.

It was voted to renew the contracts with Mr. John Connor for the use of the Summit House for the coming season, and with the Coin Lock Company for the use of the locks on the toilets. It was further decided to have the Superintendent make whatever arrangements are necessary to have new optical viewers installed on the Summit, and to enter into an agreement with the installer for the use of these instruments.

Moved, seconded and voted to permit the Superintendent to use the Reservation car for personal transportation during his tour of Military duty at a rental of 5¢ per mile used, the Superintendent to provide whatever gasoline, oil and grease might be needed, in addition to the rental.

Mr. Morgan mentioned Representative Howard's bill that was submitted to the General Court this year on providing bathing facilities at Echo Lake on the Reservation and stated that he had written a letter to Mr. Howard calling him to task for not keeping the Reservation Commission properly informed on this item of considerable interest to them.

It was decidedthat a report of a meeting of this

Commission with the County Commissioners, that took place just prior to this meeting, should be made a part of these minutes. Said report follows these minutes.

It was further decided that the Chairman should take whatever steps might be necessary to determine the proper course for the Commission to take concerning the drastic cuts that the County Commissioners made in the budget estimate for 1956.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM.

Kenneth G. Trinder
Clerk

STANDARD B & P "NOTEAR"

JOINT MEETING OF THE WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION AND THE WORCESTER COUNTY COMMISSION

March 15, 1956 at the County Commissioner's Office

Present were:

Wachusett Commission - Mr. Morgan, Chairman
Mr. Trinder, Clerk
Mr. Campbell
Superintendent Vickery

County Commission - Mr. Cassidy
Mr. Aspero

Meeting was called for 11:30 o'clock AM and all of the Wachusett Commission was present at that time. At 12:15 o'clock PM Mr. Cassidy invited the Commission into his office and after apologizing for keeping them waiting suggested that the discussion be started. After several minutes Mr. Aspero joined the group, briefly. Mr. Bird did not show up at all.

Superintendent Vickery spoke briefly about the drastic cuts that the County Commissioners had made in the budget estimate of the Reservation and pressed for an answer to the questions in his letter of february 20th.

Mr. Cassidy expressed his disatification over the cuts as made by his Commission but stated that there was nothing he could do as he was the only member who felt that way.

Mr. Aspero then made his appearance and stated that he was in complete favor of the cuts and if it had been possible, he would have liked to have seen the budget cut even further, or preferably, the Reservation taken out of County hands altogether. He further stated that the Wachusett Reservation Commission was remiss in not applying and getting State assistance in the maintenance of its property, citing as an example the Greylock Reservation in Berkshire County.

Superintendent thanked Mr. Aspero for his suggestion and assured him that every effort would be made to follow them up.

The meeting broke up at about 12:35 PM.

STANDARD B & P "NOTEAR"

27 March 1956

Senator Newland Holmes, Chairman
Committee on Counties
State House
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Senator Holmes:

I believe that your Committee regularly reviews County Budgets at a hearing held in April, and I would deeply appreciate information as to the date of that hearing this year so that our Commission may attend. Our current operating budget has been so drastically cut by the Worcester County Commissioners, and without explanation, that we are most anxious for an opportunity to be heard.

Very truly yours,

Paul B. Morgan, Jr., Chairman for the
Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission

PBMJr:lr

c.c. - Mr. Earle R. Vickery, Jr.

C.C. - Mr. Earle B. Atkeler, Jr.

April 3, 1956

Mr. Charles L. Parker, Superintendent
Mount Greylock State Reservation Commission
Dalton, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Parker:

We are at the present time confronted with a problem in the budget department, and it is felt that you may be able to give us some assistance on this matter.

After a most discouraging hassle with our County Commissioners over a cut of 68% in the Supplies and Contractual Services sections of our budget, we were told by them to look to the State for relief, "like the other State Reservations do". When we pressed for specific instances we were told that Greylock was an example that had recieved considerable State help for a number of years. The source of this information, was not forthcoming, however.

Our questions are as follows:

1. Do you people get any State help in your maintenance program?

2. If so, what is the procedure we would follow to obtain a similar set-up?

Any information you can give us on the above will be most helpful.

Very truly yours,

Earle R. Vickery. Jr.
Superintendent

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

EARLE R. VICKERY, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT

MOUNT GREYLOCK STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

154 Pleasant Street
Dalton, Mass.
April 6, 1956

Mr. Earle R. Vickery,Jr., Superintendent
Mount Wachusett State Reservation Commission
Princeton, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Vickery:

Someone is apparently misinterpreting information to your detriment. I will first explain our set-up here so that the explanation will be clear.

We really have two separate entities that are administered by the same Commission. The Greylock State Reservation is set up the same as your Mount Wachusett Reservation and it is entirely maintained by Berkshire County with Berkshire County funds. We also have the Mount Greylock State War Memorial Tower and this is a State entity and is maintained by the State. It consists of the War Memorial Tower and a small area of 212 foot radius about the Tower. We have ana annual budget from the State for the maintenance of the Mount Greylock War Memorial Tower. We have an annual budget from the County of Berkshire for the maintenance of the Mount Greylock State Reservation. They are two separate things and they do not overlap in any way.

I have been here now for seventeen years and in all that time the State has not contributed one penny for the maintenance of the Mount Greylock State Reservation.

I hope that htis information will help you and you may feel perfectly free to use this letter.

Very truly yours,

Charles L. Parker

Charles L. Parker
Superintendent

April 13, 1956

Mr. Joseph A. Aspero, Chairman
Worcester County Commissioners
Court House
Worcester, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Aspero:

Following your suggestion, made at the joint meeting of the Commissions on Thursday, March 15th, that we seek State funds for the maintenance of the Reservation, we got in touch with Mr. Parker, Superintendent of the Mount Greylock State Reservation. His letter, a copy of which is enclosed, is, we believe, self explanatory.

If you have any further suggestions as to sources of funds or people that we might contact for information on this matter, will you please get in touch with us so that we may conduct a follow-up?

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Earle R. Vickery. Jr.
Superintendent

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

23 April 1956

Honorable Jarvis Hunt
Associated Industries of Massachusetts
2206 John Hancock Building
Boston 16, Massachusetts

Dear Jarvis:

Thanks for your help and advice in re. Wachusett Mountain Reservation. You asked for a resume of the current difficulty and I enclose copies of letters sent by us to the County Commissioners, who have consistently ignored our correspondence or made brief, telephone contact through a secretary for the two unsatisfactory meetings we have had with them.

The Superintendent's letter of 1 January accompanied our proposed budget for 1956. Two weeks later, another Mountain Commissioner and I asked for and received an interview with Messrs. Aspero and Cassidy of the County Commission to discuss the budget. We talked of the past year's work and current projects. They questioned a raise in salary for our Superintendent and agreed he should have it. There was no criticism of the suggested budget or indication that cuts were intended.

In February we received the County Commissioner's recommendation to the Legislature which included the promised salary increase, but called for a 68% slash in our operating budget. Mr. Vicker's letter of 20 February went unanswered. I wrote on 9 March and, a week later, learned that the County Commission secretary had 'phoned Mr. Vickery and said that the Commissioners would meet with us that day (15 March) at 11:30 A.M. Fortunately, we were able to round up our group on a minute's notice and arrived on time at the Court House where we were allowed to cool our heels until 12:15. At this time, Mr. Cassidy took us into his office, apologized for keeping us and said that Messrs. Aspero and Bird were tied up all day in Court (both lawyers) but that Mr. Aspero would try to see us for a moment. Mr. Cassidy stated that he was not in accord with the other two Commissioners as to the cut. Mr. Aspero appeared briefly and confirmed this fact. He said that neither he nor Bird believed that Parks and Reservations should come under the County. His only suggestion as to how we should maintain the Mountain this year was that we should try to get funds from the Commonwealth. He implied (without so stating) that he was bringing the matter of jurisdiction to a head through arbitrarily slashing our Budget. Aspero spoke in general terms of Reservations but apparently singled us out for treatment since I am informed that Purgatory Chasm, the only other Park under Worcester County Commissioners, was not so handled.

Copy sent to Hon. Jarvis Hunt 10 May 56

Meeting of the House Committee on Counties,
Chairman, Mr. Mullaly, on Worcester County Budgets,
11:00 A.M., 9 May 1956, Room 436, State House, Boston.

Attended by myself as Chairman of Mountain Commission and by Mr. Vickery, Superintendent.

At shortly after 12 noon, Mr. Aspero, the Chairman of the County Commissioners, asked us if we wished to have the Wachusett Mountain Reservation budget taken out of turn. We assented and the matter was taken up.

In presenting the budget, Mr. Aspero said that this particular budget had been considerably cut and that the County Commissioners were not in agreement on the matter - Mr. Cassidy having one opinion, which was diametrically opposed to his own, and Mr. Bird having yet another opinion.

Mr. Mullaly then asked if the Mountain Commission was represented and I was asked to sit at the table with the Commissioners. At this point, Mr. Cassidy said that he was in favor of the budget as proposed by the Mountain Commission and that he felt that we needed the entire amount to do a proper job for this important Reservation. The Committee commenced to examine the budget, starting with the first page on salaries, which had been approved by the County Commissioners as submitted. At that point, Mr. Cassidy stated that, from his own observations, we were well served by competent men at low salaries, and that he was satisfied that not only was this first page in order, but that actually we should pay more, certainly in the instance of our superintendent. There was no demure from the other Commissioners.

The Committee then proceeded on an item by item examination of the budget questioning items of carpentry, painting, and other repairs and maintenances, where cuts had been made by the County Commissioners. Mr. Vickery was called upon to substantiate the necessity of these items and it became obvious that the County Commissioners, with the exception of Mr. Cassidy, were not familiar with the Reservation. It was difficult for the Committee to arrive at any conclusion in connection with these items and, in the interest of saving their time, Mr. Vickery suggested that, instead of taking up each one, those be considered which we felt were most important to the maintenance of the Reservation and to which the most violence had been done. Items for consideration were brought up as follows:

#260 - Building Maintenance and Repair -	$1300 requested - $200 approved
#310 - Building Supplies and Materials -	$2250 requested - $195 approved
#330 - Heating Supplies and Material -	$325 requested - $25 approved
#380 - Public Works Supplies and Materials- (for roads)	$2850 requested - nothing approved
#470 - Rentals (Trucks and Equipment)	$1700 requested - $500 approved
#570 - Public Works Equipment -	$400 requested - nothing approved
#590 - Miscellaneous Equipment (furnace for superintendent's house)	$1100 requested - nothing approved

On the first item, after it had been explained to the Committee that these amounts represented the skilled labor necessary for maintenance and repair, which was beyond the scope of the laborers on the Mountain payroll, it was questioned by the Committee whether, in the County Commissioners' opinion these repairs were

justified or necessary. Mr. Cassidy, who stated that he makes many occasions during the year to take visitors to the mountain, said that from his observation and opinion they were proper and necessary. Mr. Aspero, who said that he had made possibly two trips to the mountain, was non-committal. Mr. Bird, who stated that he had made perhaps a dozen trips to the mountain, said that, in his opinion, people went to the mountain to see the view and not to go into houses. He implied that no building was necessary at the summit. Mr. Vickery pointed out that the Mountain House had previously been used as a hotel and that on his appointment to the superintendency, some 12 years ago, he looked into the operation of this particular unit and found that it had been operating for some time at a loss in the capacity of a hotel. (At approximately this time, Mr. Aspero left the meeting.) Mr. Vickery continued that he had found the observation tower, which is also used as a fire lookout, and which is four stories above the ground, was being jammed to capacity by sightseers and that, in his opinion, there were no proper provisions for the safety of the public in case of even a small fire in the building. In view of these two circumstances, the Wachusett Mountain Commission, on Mr. Vickery's recommendation, closed the observation tower to the public and set about converting the bedroom floor into an observation station with adequate ingress and exit facilities. This work has been progressing slowly and out of current funds,

Items #310 and 590 were then discussed and we pointed out that the superintendent has been attempting, through patching, to continue the use of the wood fire, sheet iron, hot-air furnace, which has now reached an irreparable state. We proposed to install an oil-fired furnace and made provisions for its fueling in the current budget. The Committee asked the County Commissioners, who had striken out these proposals, what they expected Mr. Vickery to do to warm his house and no recommendation was forthcoming. Mr. Bird observed that he guessed he could get by somehow. The Chairman of the Committee then asked me why these matters had not been thoroughly discussed and agreed upon by us with the County Commissioners prior to this hearing. I told them that we had had one meeting with the Commissioners on presentation of the budget, at which time Messrs. Cassidy and Aspero were present, and the only item discussed was a $500 a year raise in salary for the superintendent. They had approved this, and had made no intimation to us at this time that they were dissatisfied with any other items in the budget. I further stated that, following the County Commissioners' action on the budget, we had again asked for a hearing and that one was granted at which Mr. Cassidy was present, Mr. Bird was absent, and Mr. Aspero appeared for a short time. Mr. Cassidy had stated himself as heartily in favor of our budget as submitted. Mr. Aspero had stated that he was not in favor of the County continuing to pay for parks and reservations, that he did not wish to discuss their action on our budget, and suggested that we seek financial aid from the State. (At this point Mr. Aspero rejoined the meeting.) I repeated my statement, asking him if this were not correct. Mr. Aspero said that it was 75% correct; that, in addition, he was tired of approving $100 and $500 items on the basis that we had previously received such amounts for specified items.

We then proceeded to items 380 and 570, which made provision for the maintenance and repair of our roads, which are subject currently to very heavy traffic during the summer months, and had been badly damaged by two successive hurricane seasons. At this point, Mr. Cassidy again stated that he was heartily in favor of these items as submitted by the Mountain Commission. Mr. Aspero said that our roads were certainly not in as bad shape as those of the City of Worcester and that he could see no reason why we couldn't let them go for a year. Mr. Bird interposed, stating that the roads were there and that they would not go anywhere, even if a year or so of maintenance was missed. He also said that, in his opinion, if we had been granted a budget of $60,000 instead of $23,000, we would want $70,000.

We pointed out, as strongly as we could, that to let these thoroughfares lapse as to repairs for a year or more, would merely mean disproportionate appropriations later to put them in passable shape and that it seemed poor economy to let vital maintenance go.

At this point, the Chairman of the Committee seemed to sense an impasse and told us that unless the County Commissioners agreed to put in something for the items which they had deleted, the Committee on Counties would have no power to put something in themseleves, that, while they had the right to further delete from the County Commissioners' recommendations, they had not the power to add to their recommendations. He suggested that, as it was then nearly 2 o'clock, the Committee on Counties consult with the County Commissioners on this matter, thanked us for our attendance, and adjourned the session to take up other budgets at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Paul B. Morgan, Jr., Chairman
Wachusett Mountain State Reservation Commission

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

Chairman Morgan's Office
Morgan Construction Company
Worcester, Massachusetts

18 December 1956

Present were : Mr. Morgan, Chairman
Mr. Campbell, Clerk pro-tem

The meeting was called to order at 11:10 AM by Chairman Morgan.

Moved and voted to waive the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting.

The Budget Estimate for 1957 was examined and discussed at some length and several changes were recommended. The Superintendent was instructed to incorporate these changes in the formal estimate to be submitted to the County Commissioners.

The Superintendent was also instructed to prepare a letter for Chairman Morgan's signature to be sent to the County Commissioners, stating that the Reservation's budget estimate was complete and asking for an opportunity to discuss it with the County Commissioners prior to submission of the formal estimate.
(Such a letter was prepared and sent. A copy is attached)

The possibility of letting out road maintenance work on a contract basis was discussed and it was decided to bring this matter up at a later meeting, since we would them know approximately how much money we had to work with.

The Superintendent's draft of the Annual Report was read and several changes were recommended. These changes to be included and the report resubmitted at the next meeting of the Commission.

The meeting was adjourned to lunch as Chairman Morgan's guests at the Worcester Club at 12:30 PM.

Charles B. Campbell
Clerk pro-tem

STANDARD B & P "NOTEAR"

December 19, 1956

Board of County Commissioners
County Court House
Worcester, Massachusetts

Gentlemen;

This Commission has prepared a tentative budget for 1957 and now has it in draft form for transfer to the regular budget forms which have not yet been received.

It appears that this would be an excellent opportunity to discuss possible changes and arrive at a mutually agreeable figure for the coming year.

Will you please let us know when such a meeting might be held, so that we may make the necessary arrangements to have our Commission present?

Very truly yours,

PAUL B. MORGAN. JR.
Chairman

rv/

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting with the Corps of Engineers' Representatives
Mr. Hughes and Mr. Messier

Library of the Morgan Construction Company
Worcester, Massachusetts

5 March 1957 11:00 AM

Present were Mr. Morgan, Chairman
Mr. Trinder, Clerk
Mr. Campbell

Mr. Messier read a letter from the Civil Areonautics Authority on the possibility of their joining with the Corps of Engineers in building a radio relay facility at the Summit.

The possibility of replacing the present Summit House with a new structure which could handle the concession, Forest Fire Lookout, Corps of Engineers and CAA was discussed, but the difficulty of obtaining funds and coordinating the project made the outlook rather dim.

The meeting then discussed the possiblity of setting the new construction in such a manner that it could be integrated into any future reconstruction or replacement of the existing structure, and it was generally decided that this plan offered real promise. The C of E was instructed to proceed with their plans with this in mind and to set their construction for the north side of the Summit House. A new sketch is to be prepared and submitted to the Commission for consideration.

Some discussion was made of the possibility of having any rentals for space on the Summitt put into a special account that could be appropriated in the future for the reconstruction of the Summit House. No decision was made on this matter.

The meeting with the Corps of Engineers representatives was adjourned at 11:45 AM

At 11:50 AM the Commission went to the Annual Meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.

The corrected draft of the Superintendent's Annual Report to the County Commissioners was read and approved to be sent to the County Commissioners. A Copy is attached to these minutes.

The Budget Estimate, with the County Commissioners

actions thereon was discussed and it was decided that the Commission would plan to appear at the General Court hearing on the County Budget in an effort to have the cuts restored. (A request to be notified of the hearing was left at the County Commissioner's office, but no notice was ever forthcoming.)

Mr. Morgan mentioned that he had a letter from Miss Allen of Princeton concerning the bill submitted by Rep. Howard to set up swimming at Echo Lake. It was decided that this bill was probably a blind to satisfy some of Mr. Howard's constituents, and that nothing would come of it.

There was a general discussion on the Area of the Reservation as a whole with attention being given to mowing, views, and natural shrubs.

Meeting was opened for nomination of officers for the coming year.

Motion was made and seconded that Mr. Morgan continue as Chairman of the Commission. The motion was carried.

Motion was made and seconded that Mr. Campbell be Clerk for the coming year. The motion was carried.

It was suggested that the next meeting be held at the Reservation with dinner at the Harrington Farm. This meeting to be at the time that the Engineers have the plans completed for their building.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:50 PM.

Charles B. Campbell

Charles B. Campbell
Clerk

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

EARLE R. VICKERY, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT

January 1, 1957

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners

Gentlemen:

Ordinarily, one of our major jobs during the year is the maintenance of our tar and gravel road network on the Reservation, During this past year, however, the fact that all noney for road maintenance materials were disallowed made this work impossible. While we still have a usable road net, raveling of the edges is taking place in several areas and some potholes have been noticed. These are conditions which are extremely hazardous to persons using the roads and can only lead to extensive and expensive repairs in the not too distant future,

We were fortunate in not having any severe rain storms after a rather dry summer. One or two areas of the gravel roads were washed somewhat, but prompt action by the Reservation staff prevented any serious damage. It had been planned to replace and enlarge the culverts at these points, but of course, the disallowing of any road maintenance funds in the budget prevented that.

In the absence of material to repair the buildings on the Reservation, the Staff was kept busy mowing brush along the roadsides. All the roads have been mowed back to about five or ten feet, which makes it somewhat easier to pick up the beer cans, bottles and other rubbish which some of our visitors discard.

As mentioned in last year's report, we manufactured another batch of about twenty-five picnic tables and found that they were very well received and heavily used. The placement of our tables at strategic spots on the Reservation has a somewhat controlling influence on our "litter-bug" visitors, since it tends to keeps their efforts in a more limited area, and thus lightens the rubbish collection chores of the staff. We are now putting out about one-hundred tables each spring and are planning to add another twenty or twenty-five to that number this coming year.

The thinning of our woodlots and improvment cutting continues to yield an adequate amount of cordwood, together with lumber for picnic table construction and general use. The cordwood is dried during the summer and resawed and distributed during the early fall. Surplus wood, over and above the requirements of the Reservation, is sold and the demand for this material seems to be increasing, however, wherever possible, these prospective customers are referred to the local farmers who also harvest considerable wood, since it is not the purpose of the Reservation to be in competition with local people or industries

Since we already had the lumber on hand and dried, we continued with the finishing of the interior of the building at the campsite area, and are pleased to report that the interior pine panneling has been completed and two coats of quality finish have been applied. There has been a great deal of interest in this area and it is hoped that we may finish it someday. Even in the unfinished state it has played host to groups of from four to about seven hundred people. The visitor-day estimate for this area alone for the past year is nearly 2000.

Our overall attendance seemed to keep up to all expectations, and while there is no way in which we can accurately state how many visitors we have had during the year or on any given day, with experience and sampling counts, it would indicate that there were probably 120,000 to 125,000 visitor-days at the Mountain this past year.

There is ample evidence that the public is showing ever increasing interest in outdoor recreational facilities and it is hoped that the Reservation will be able to continue to fill its place in this program.

Respectfully submitted,

Earle R. Vickery. Jr
Superintendent

PAUL B. MORGAN, JR.
PRINCETON, MASSACHUSETTS

7 June 1957

Dear Russ:

Enclosed is a great spate of words for our files.

(1) to Miss Allen, who sent me the Herald clipping.

(2) to Miss Parks

(3) to Miss Sears, who read the article.

It is natural & easy to be deeply annoyed with these elderly, maiden ladies and with others who feel that the Mountain is their individual property and who have reached an age that resents all change. But, since in our official capacity we serve them as well as all other citizens, their views and opinions deserve equal consideration. And I sympathize with them & honestly wish we could roll back the years to the time when Wachusett called only for forestry,

PAUL B. MORGAN, JR.
PRINCETON, MASSACHUSETTS

policing and a little road-mending.

I've no idea what Helen Parks' reaction will be. Emotional crusaders rarely like to temper their indignation. But perhaps I misjudge her.

For the record: I have consulted Charlie Campbell as well as yourself & we are agreed to this individual reply rather than seeking rebuttal in press columns. Ken Trinder has not been available by phone & I shall bring him up to date on this matter & on that of the current status of relay station location by letter.

The only subject on which I think we are a little lame is that of view obstruction from the roads — a job which is in the works, to be sure, but which probably merits priority attention.

Sincerely,

Paul

6 June 1957

Dear Miss Allen:

I appreciate your bringing to my attention the article in the Sunday Herald and enclose a copy of my reply to Miss Parks for your information. It is an overly-long letter, but my capabilities don't permit of a more susinct statement, nor are all the problems stated. It seemed to me that Miss Parks was not acquainted, as you are, with the demands and wear and tear occasioned by the general public.

As always your communications are very welcome.

Sincerely,

PBMJr.
Encl.

6 June 1957

Dear Miss Sears:

I must agree with you that Mount Wachusett has changed in the post-war years; in fact, has been changing ever since I first knew it fifty years ago. I read the Herald communication with mixed feelings. The writer did not care for the changes and implied that something should be done. Insofar as the Mountain Superintendent and Commissioners are responsible and concerned, I feel a duty to explain what we have done and are trying to do. Also, it seems pertinent to indicate how physical and economic changes affect our plans.

The Mountain Reservation is set aside as a natural park and recreation area for the public. Being somewhat remote, in the early days it was not too easy for the public to reach and only local people or determined hikers and nature lovers frequented it. The creation of carriage roads and a hotel at the Summit were natural additions as Princeton became a focus for summer visitors who enjoyed the unique (for central Massachusetts) view and cool altitude. Those were gracious, leisurely days and evoked such charming writings as "Hide-&-seek Town." In those days and for some still to come the care of the Mountain presented comparatively simple and clearly-defined problems, which are, in the main, unchanged today, but to which have been added many more.

New road networks today bring thousands of transients to Wachusett in their cars where formerly there were hundreds. The summer colony has dwindled since the transportation ease that brings the mountain within little more than an hour's ride from the major

portion of the State has beckoned the old group to higher and remoter fastnesses. On a summer week-end several thousand motorists cannot even pause at the Summit because of the hoards already there and must content themselves with the ride up and down. One current need is for greater parking area at the top and improved roads if we are to let the public enjoy the view. An alternative would be to arrange for public transportation and to ban private vehicles on week-ends.

There has been criticism of picnic tables and trash barrels. I hate to think of the clean-up difficulties (already acute) that would attend their removal. Man and his offspring are naturally litterbugs and consider eating a nearly continuous accompaniment to a holiday. By providing proper facilities it is possible to keep the strewing of papers and refuse under some control.

There is constant pressure to provide further recreational opportunities such as skiing, camping and swimming. These are proper requests and we are working at them insofar as time and insufficient funds permit.

Three hurricane years in a row put us behind in road washout repairs, restoration of fire water-holes and brush clearance. Although the second largest reservation of its type in the State, our budget is only sixth in size and an unsympathetic county commission has seen fit to cut even this modest requirement in the face of steadily increasing costs.

6 June 1957

I tell you these things not in complaint or discouragement but to acquaint you with the present circumstances we face and the reasons for them. We have no power to restrict or discriminate in the proper public use of the Mountain; we cannot collect fees to meet the expense of protecting and maintaining our charge. All income from the reservation goes to the County Treasury. Our Commission is neither complacent nor satisfied with conditions as they exist on Wachusett - a healthy state of mind that, I'm sure, was shared by our predecessors. We welcome criticism and suggestion and the opportunity to discuss our problems and purposes.

The article in the Sunday Herald says that Wachusett has been forgotten. If it had, our duties would be lighter. Rather, Wachusett has been discovered and is being discovered by an ever-growing throng whom we can neither ignore nor discourage. Some change in emphasis and purpose is inevitable in the face of this invasion. Our job, as I see it, is to meet the situation and keep the Mountain as unspoiled as possible in meeting it. We are currently working with the Governor's office and the State Park Department to this end.

Sincerely,

PBMJr/gj

6 June 1957

Dear Miss Parks:

I read your communication to the papers with the conflicting emotions of sympathy for your love of Wachusett (which I share) and distress that you should think our Commission and Superintendent so unfeeling, unintelligent and disinterested as to merit a portion of such a broadside. Wachusett belongs to the citizens of Massachusetts (many of whom enjoy it vicariously, to be sure) and it is difficult sometimes for those of us who have grown up in its shadow and for whom it has personal meaning to accept this fact. Wachusett has changed, in fact, has been changing ever since I first knew it fifty years ago. For many of these changes there have been, and are, valid reasons; others are unwanted by-products and subject to correction. The former, we and previous commissions have worked for and have combatted the latter - both to the best of our ability and with the means at our disposal.

The Mountain Reservation is set aside as a natural park and recreation area for the public. Being somewhat remote, in the early days it was not too easy for the public to reach and only local people or determined hikers and nature lovers frequented it. The creation of carriage roads and a hotel at the Summit were natural additions as Princeton became a focus for summer visitors who enjoyed the unique (for central Massachusetts) view and cool altitude. Those were gracious, leisurely days and evoked such charming writings as "Hide-&-seek Town." In those days and for some still to come the care of the Mountain presented comparatively simple and clearly-defined problems; problems which are, in the main, unchanged today, but to which have been added many more.

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The caption of your newpaper letter says that Wachusett has been forgotten. If it had, our duties would be lighter. Rather, Wachusett has been discovered and is being discovered by an ever-growing throng whom we can neither ignore nor discourage. Some change in emphasis and purpose is inevitable in the face of this invasion. Our job, as I see it, is to meet the situation and keep the Mountain as unspoiled as possible in meeting it. We are currently working with the Governor's office and the State Park Department to this end.

Sincerely,

PBMJr./gj

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION

Office of Chairman Paul B Morgan Jr.
Morgan Construction Company
Worcester, Massachusetts

10 October 1957

Present were: Mr. Morgan, Chairman
Mr. Campbell, Clerk
Mr. Trinder

This meeting was called at the request of Mr. Humphrey of the Corps of Engineers who brought five copies of the lease, for the area on which their radio station is to be built, to be signed by the Commission.

The copies of the lease were properly signed and the meeting adjourned.

Charles B. Campbell

Charles B. Campbell
Clerk

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION COMMISSICN

Library of the Morgan Construction Company
Worcester, Massachusetts

3 December 1957 11:15 AM

Present were: Mr. Morgan, Chairman
Mr. Campbell, Clerk
Mr. Trinder

The meeting was called tc order by Commissioner Morgan and the minutes of the previous two meetings read, discussed and approved.

The Superintendent's Budget Estimate for 1958 was thoroughly examined and discussed. Some changes in explanatory paragraphs were suggested and the Superintendent instructed to make same.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the Budget Estimate for submission to the County Commissioners. The motion was carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 PM

Charles B. Campbell
Charles B Campbell
Clerk