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“Happy Days” of the Depression:

The Civilian Conservation Corps in Colorado



Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) men of the Montrose, Colorado, camp pose with their trucks on November 16, 1935. Both the trucks and the men had just had their mandatory Saturday baths; note that some of the men have complied with the off-duty necktie rule.

The Great Depression by its very definition was a stressful and hopeless period for the immense majority of Americans, and those residing in Colorado were not exceptions. In the rural Denver suburb of Englewood, Malcolm Taylor was barely nineteen years old, just out of high school, when he and a friend joined thousands of other unemployed young men across the country in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). You “couldn’t pay for a job,” he recalls today, but he was aware that with the CCC he could earn at least bare wages, and—importantly—gain new skills. After joining the CCC at Camp Morrison, in the foothills west of Denver, Taylor and other new recruits were driven in trucks to Union Station where they boarded trains bound for various CCC camps.

A two-day journey delivered Taylor to the CCC camp designated “BR-23” near Montrose, 175 miles west of Denver. Located in an agricultural valley about thirty miles long, BR-23 was at the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation’s Uncompahgre Irrigation Project which diverted water from the Uncompahgre and Gunnison rivers to some 76,000 acres of fertile land. For the next six months, young Taylor and his hard-working new friends labored in this magnificent ranch and canyon country of west-central Colorado. Although Taylor’s stint with the CCC was but a brief episode, it offered purpose when many people had lost purpose—and hope. Malcolm Taylor’s life was forever changed by the CCC, and later he could even proclaim: “Those were happy days.”

Although remembered nostalgically by Malcolm Taylor and other enrollees, the CCC was born out of desperation. As dry winds and dust storms blew across the western High Plains in the early 1930s, leaving devastated farmers in their wake, newly elected President Franklin D. Roosevelt faced a great challenge. The entire country was afflicted by this “Great Depression” and jobless men everywhere struggled to earn enough money to feed their families. For the country’s youth, the situation was equally desperate. Hundreds of thousands of young men from economically stricken households were unable to find work. Roosevelt hastened in formulating diverse plans for relief. In his inaugural address of March 4, 1933, the president announced his intent to create a jobs program for youth—a program to conserve the nation’s depleted natural resources. He told the American people: “Our greatest task is to put people to work. This is no unsolvable problem if we face it wisely and courageously.”

By the early 1930s, the results of decades of unchecked exploitation of the country’s lands were apparent. Widespread timber harvesting and excessive cultivation had eroded slopes and stripped precious topsoil. Valuable natural resources had been destroyed faster than they could be replenished. As Robert Fechner, the CCC’s first director, later stated: “Prior to the inauguration of the Civilian Conservation Corps, conservation of resources was allied with the weather, in that there was plenty of talk about both and not much done about either.”

Within a month after Roosevelt outlined his ambitious jobs-creation proposal, Congress acted upon the president’s recommendation and passed a law creating the CCC (initially called the Emergency Conservation Works). Probably no other New Deal program instituted by Roosevelt proved as popular and successful. With legislation in place, the president moved ahead. In April 1933, he appointed Fechner as CCC director and established an advisory council of representatives from the departments of labor, war, interior, and agriculture. The council would oversee the program and provide a forum for discussing policy issues. The Labor Department was assigned responsibility for recruiting youths and the War Department (Army) was in charge of enrollee administration, transportation, housing, food, clothing, supplies, medical care, education, discipline, physical condition-

ing, and recreational activities. The departments of interior and agriculture selected the location of the conservation work camps and supervised the actual labor.

At the president’s urging, the CCC enrolled its first 25,000 young men by April 6, 1933. The initial camp, appropriately called Roosevelt, was established on April 17 at George Washington National Forest near Luray, Virginia. Less than three months later, about 300,000 men from throughout the country were settled in almost 1,500 camps. According to Fechner, “It was the most rapid large-scale mobilization of men the country had ever witnessed.”

CCC enrollment was initially limited to unemployed single men between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five who were U.S. citizens. Generally these were discouraged young people, unsuccessful in securing jobs because they had no work experience. They were described by a newspaper as “a weaponless army whose recruits came from broken homes, highway trails and relief shelters . . .” Enrollees were assigned to camps for an initial six-month period but could reenlist for up to two years.

The height of CCC enrollment was reached in the summer of 1935 with over a half-million men scattered in 2,652 camps. Each of these typically housed about 200 men. The youths worked on a myriad of conservation projects all over the country. Most of the recruits were assigned to the Department of Agriculture where they were primarily engaged in protecting and enhancing forests under the direction of the U.S. Forest Service.

As elsewhere in the United States, the CCC had a profound impact on Colorado’s depressed economy and assisted greatly in the conservation of the state’s natural resources. It is estimated that the CCC contributed over \$56 million to Colorado’s economy. Over the program’s lifespan, approximately 32,000 young men, most of them native Coloradans or longtime residents, were employed at camps in the state.

Colorado’s first twenty-nine CCC camps were established in the summer of 1933. At the height of the program two years later, that number was at forty-seven. In all, 172 camps spread across mountains and plains. Men performed all types of badly needed conservation work. About half of the camps were assigned to two bureaus in the Department of Agriculture—the Forest Service and Soil Conservation Service. With Colorado’s vast tracts of forests, the CCC provided an unprecedented opportunity to accomplish many badly needed improvements. Among other things, enrollees built roads, trails, and campgrounds; planted millions of seedlings; thinned overcrowded timberstands; removed dead and insect-infected wood; and performed fire suppression. On

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Colorado's eastern plains, camps administered by the Soil Conservation Service completed soil and water erosion control projects resulting from overgrazing and prolonged drought.

Next to the Department of Agriculture, the National Park Service was the greatest beneficiary of the CCC in Colorado. Enrollees achieved an impressive record of accomplishments in national parks and monuments as well as at state and municipal recreation facilities. During the course of the CCC program, up to six camps were assigned to Rocky Mountain National Park alone. Other camps were located at Mesa Verde National Park and at the Black Canyon of the Gunnison, Great Sand Dunes, Colorado, and Hovenweep national monuments.

Probably the best-known achievement of the CCC in Colorado was the construction of the Red Rocks Amphitheater near Morrison. That work was completed over five years by CCC enrollees housed at Camp SP-13-C on Bear Creek just west of downtown Morrison. The camp still survives today and is one of the few intact examples remaining in the United States.

Camps under the auspices of the Grazing Service, now the Bureau of Land Management, were primarily located on the West Slope. Their work focused on the rehabilitation and improvement of publicly-owned range lands. The first of numerous Grazing Service camps was established at Elk Springs west of Craig in the summer of 1935.

The Bureau of Reclamation was the recipient of a small allocation of CCC camps in Colorado. Between 1935 and 1942, seven camps were assigned to the Uncompahgre, Grand Valley, Pine River, and Mancos irrigation projects. Although small in number, the Reclamation CCC camps were important to the rehabilitation and new construction of hundreds of irrigation and water control structures in the state. (See adjacent article.)

The Bureau of Reclamation camp a half-mile north of Montrose to which Malcolm Taylor reported in May 1936 was established the previous summer of 1935. Construction started at the end of June and was completed on August 1. Just a few days earlier, First Lieutenant August Carlson and 189 young men arrived from Ardmore, Oklahoma, to occupy the camp. For them, the grandeur and vastness of the scenery must have seemed worlds away from home. The fresh recruits soon were joined by sixteen local experienced men, often referred to as LEMs, who served as technical foremen on the work projects.

The Montrose camp was similar in appearance to other CCC camps in the United States, because such standardizations were prescribed by the military. Detailed instructions were provided for construction from initial ground-clearing to finish work. Typical camp layouts were also developed by the Army and, not surprisingly, they resembled temporary military installations. Buildings at the Montrose camp were of wood (rather than canvas); were sturdy, multifunctional, and came in panels for easy assembly. BR-23 contained five enrollee barracks with plasterboard interior walls. Accommodations were simple and comforts were minimal. Enrollees slept in bunk beds, forty to a barrack, in one large open room. As at any

military base, cleanliness and order were paramount. The youths washed and swept the floors and kept their beds tidy. Taylor recalls that an Army sergeant patrolled the sleeping quarters with an old pool cue. He swatted at bedding blankets, and if any dust flew up, the responsible enrollee would be written up and assigned to an "undesirable" task such as cleaning out the grease pit.

Other buildings at the Montrose camp included a large mess hall and kitchen, a bathhouse and latrine, and a headquarters building containing offices, supplies, and rooms for Army and technical personnel. With the government emphasis on developing healthy and educated



Young Malcolm Taylor breaking rocks by sledgehammer at the Montrose CCC camp, summer 1936.



An irrigation canal wall being hand constructed by men of the Montrose CCC camp, April 21, 1941. The CCC program of the Great Depression taught skills to men who otherwise would have had difficulty learning trades and supporting themselves in the jobless market.

young men, the camp also included an infirmary and recreation hall/library.

By the time Taylor arrived, camp improvements were pushed to give the men a more satisfied feeling as to home comforts. The recreation hall was furnished with big easy chairs; pictures were hung on walls, and present were writing desks, a pool table, magazine racks, window curtains, and plenty of games. Enrollees had planted trees around the buildings, laid out stone walkways, and cleared an area for a baseball diamond.

Although seemingly spartan, life at the CCC camp was a vast improvement for many of the impoverished youth. Taylor recalls that the only essentials he brought along were toothpaste, shaving cream, and razor blades. Running water, electricity, and heat were provided, things unknown at home to many of the young men. Enrollees also received an allowance of thirty dollars a month, of which at least twenty-two dollars had to be sent home to dependents. Taylor supplemented his spending money by

washing other fellows' socks for five cents a pair and hanging them out to dry on a clothesline.

Nourishing food was plentiful and even clothing was furnished. When Taylor first arrived at Montrose, enrollees were issued surplus World War I wool trousers, with wool shirts and neckties to wear at dinnertime. In the summer heat, the uniforms became unbearable and the sympathetic Army captain in charge, Joseph L. Reitch, was eventually able to requisition more comfortable khakis. Work clothes consisted of blue denim pants and wide-brimmed hats.

During Taylor's initial week at the Montrose camp, he and all other new enrollees were quarantined because of a chicken pox case afflicting one of their fellow recruits. During that time, nobody was allowed to leave the camp except to attend to job assignments. Taylor and others spent their time repairing windows until the quarantine was lifted. Thereafter, the work accomplished by Taylor and his fellow enrollees was similar to that undertaken at

many other Reclamation CCC camps. Although of a seemingly mundane and unspectacular nature, it had far-reaching benefits. The rehabilitation of the Uncompahgre Project facilities involved removing weeds and silt from clogged canals, replacing decaying wooden water control structures with concrete ones, riprapping canals and laterals, constructing and improving operating roads, sealing porous canals with concrete linings, and exterminating rodents. Enrollees at BR-23 also provided occasional assistance to nearby Department of Grazing and U.S. Forest Service CCC camps.

For his first three months at BR-23, Taylor was engaged in a variety of tasks. As with all enrollees, he labored five days a week, six hours a day. That time was spent on "project" work overseen by Bureau of Reclamation field engineers and project superintendents in charge of the Reclamation projects on which the camps were located. The field engineers directed surveys, inspections, and other field engineering work. They also supervised and approved the construction of the various physical features. The CCC project superintendents had overall administrative responsibility for the work program and for CCC supervisors and enrollees. On Saturdays, Taylor and the other young men performed "non-project" tasks around camp for the Army such as landscaping or grounds cleanup. The Army also drilled the enrollees in marching, although without weapons.

Among Taylor's first duties was poisoning prairie dogs with strychnine-soaked oats. Although done to aid a Department of Grazing camp, the elimination of troublesome rodents along canal banks and in farm fields was an ongoing endeavor at many Reclamation camps, including BR-23. Damage caused by rodents was twofold: in canal banks their burrowing resulted in canal collapses, and in fields their activities resulted in substantial crop loss. Pocket gophers and ground squirrels were the primary targets and, in cooperation with the Biological Survey, eradication was accomplished either by trapping, poisoning, or both. The work was well suited to the CCC program because it was labor intensive. Small crews performed the task as an adjunct to larger construction projects.

Most of the project work at Bureau of Reclamation and other CCC camps was physically demanding, and the enrollees slowly gained strength. Taylor today recalls one incident that left him too tired to even eat supper. He and his young colleagues had been assigned to unload a boxcar full of 3,000 ninety-pound bags of cement. The heat was intense as they piled bags in a stifling tin-roofed shed. For a young man weighing only 127 pounds, it was strenuous labor; however, the combination of physical exercise and plenty to eat added weight to Taylor's slight frame

and at the end of six months he had gained almost twenty pounds. Taylor occasionally joined other BR-23 men to assist the Forest Service on Grand Mesa, making day trips to clear out fallen timber. The dead logs would be gathered in large piles and burned.

Taylor spent his second three months at BR-23 assigned to a twenty-five-man "side camp" in the Black Canyon of the Gunnison River. Side camps, also known as spike camps, were established when project work was sufficiently distant from the main camp. Tents were pitched for sleeping quarters, and a shack with four walls and tin roof served as the camp mess. Bathing facilities consisted of two fifty-five-gallon steel barrels connected together with a shower head. Painted black to absorb the sun's heat, the barrels (or their contents) never warmed appreciably. The CCC men worked widening and reconstructing the steep and twisting twelve-mile wagon road from the canyon rim down to the Gunnison Tunnel. Blasting and drilling were required to shape the road for truck use, and it was successfully accomplished without mishap.

While stationed at the side camp, Taylor served on kitchen patrol duty. Among his chores were firing up in the stove every morning, filling a fifty-gallon bag on a tripod with river water each day, and assisting the cook. In addition to the remarkably scenic canyon surrounding him, Taylor marveled at the wildlife. A mother bear and her two cubs were regular camp visitors and bighorn sheep journeyed down to the river's edge to drink.

As the months passed, men at BR-23 and other Bureau of Reclamation camps learned skills not earlier envisioned. They became expert with trucks, tractors, bulldozers, jackhammers, and draglines, as mechanics, carpenters, masons, lumbermen, and surveyors. From the inception of the Bureau of Reclamation's CCC program, the agency recognized the importance of job training and dedicated increasing attention to it. Building concrete structures involved teaching the young men the fundamentals of excavation, form-building, reinforcement, and concrete mixing, finishing, and curing. Other training included working with rock, both in quarrying and the construction of masonry walls, road construction, the use of burners and chemicals for weed control, and the shaping of lumber for timber structures. In addition to the many construction skills gained, the CCC men learned camp-support skills such as clerical duties, cooking, and baking.

Taylor attended typing classes one evening a week at Grand Junction Junior College (later Mesa College) and after three months was awarded a certificate of proficiency. The CCC program attempted to provide a well-rounded education to the youths by supplying the camp library with textbooks, reference works, and a selection of daily

newspapers. Taylor, a sports fan, used his developing writing skills to produce a camp newsletter on sports.

The education and training paid off for men of the Montrose camp. In the summer of 1936, some enrollees left the camp to accept better jobs, while three former enrollees became camp supervisors. Taylor was no exception; upon returning to Englewood that autumn, he got an entry-level newspaper job on the *Englewood Herald and Enterprise* and later became a sports writer.

Although the CCC's main emphasis was on developing job skills, the enrollees had time off to participate in a variety of recreational activities. Taylor recalls that there was always something going on at BR-23 during free time. Slide shows, movies, and pool games were among the entertainment. Planned athletic events were part of all camp schedules. Enrollees participated in basketball, baseball, swimming, ping pong, or tennis. Teams were formed to play against other CCC camps in the area. In the summer of 1936, BR-23 boasted a winning basketball season as well as fine hardball and softball teams.

Men of the Montrose camp also had the opportunity to go on sightseeing excursions or attend attractions at nearby towns. The Colorado National Guard offered free use of its facilities for boxing matches, basketball games, and dances. For the latter events, the young men would dress in their uniforms and wear ties. The City of Montrose and local civic clubs also treated the youths to entertainment.

The nation's enthusiasm for the CCC program can be attributed in part to successful public relations efforts and to the discipline imposed upon enrollees. Initially, some communities were wary of having large contingents of unemployed young men nearby. The work accomplishments and structured lifestyle of the CCC enrollees gradually assuaged local fears. In order to promote goodwill in surrounding communities, CCC camps often participated in local events such as parades and county fairs.

Taylor recalls the Fourth of July, 1936, when BR-23 men marched in the Montrose parade. That same day, a barnstormer landed his wood-and-canvas airplane on a makeshift landing field near the CCC camp. The pilot offered to take people up for five-minute rides for five dollars, but few could afford such an expense. Instead, the excited crowd started cutting pieces from the plane's canvas siding as souvenirs. The pilot quickly jumped back in his aircraft and took off. Once, a carnival came to Montrose. Among the "cast" was a trained bear which one of the BR-23 men tried to wrestle. He was soon pinned down and had to be rescued, fortunately unscathed.

Although instructed to be on their best behavior when in town, occasionally a CCC man got into trouble. Taylor recalls an incident in which a group of Montrose bullies picked on a Hispanic enrollee who ended up being taken to the county jail. Camp commander Reitch proceeded to the sheriff's office and successfully demanded the release of the harassed enrollee. That night back at camp, the captain informed his men that troublemaking would not be tolerated, and that the good reputation that the CCC had established in Montrose must be upheld. Such occurrences appeared to be rare throughout the CCC, and most communities, including Montrose, came to welcome the young men.

The number of CCC camps nationwide dwindled to 1,500 by April 1939, and World War II ended the agency's activities. Military training had begun to receive a high priority at the camps and reduced the number of hours devoted to CCC projects. Some six weeks after the Pearl Harbor attack, on January 27, 1942, CCC director James L. McEntee advised all CCC advisory councils of the immediate reorganization of the CCC on a war basis. He directed the termination of all CCC camps as quickly as possible unless they were involved in war-related construction activities or in the protection of war-related natural resources. Montrose's Camp BR-23 was discontinued as a CCC facility the following May.

Although President Roosevelt urged continuance of the CCC as a means of accomplishing critical defense work, Congress sealed the fate of the program on June 30, 1942, when it voted to liquidate the CCC and allocated \$8 million to help cover closing costs. Steps soon were taken to release the remaining 60,000 enrollees and to discontinue all work programs. Some camps were transferred to the Army or Navy for military use. Other camps were used to house conscientious objectors, war prisoners, or Japanese evacuees. Where no future uses could be contemplated, camp structures were demolished. On August 17, 1942, Montrose Camp BR-23 was transferred to the Army Corps of Engineers for the duration of the war. Thereafter, the camp buildings were leased to the Uncompahgre Valley Water Users' Association.





A mechanical dragline works alongside men with hand tools in construction of a "pipe siphon" near Montrose, Colorado, February 9, 1940. Within two years, the Civilian Conservation Corps would be shut down, with most of its resources—human and otherwise—transferred to the war effort. Men of the Montrose CCC unit were taught the fundamentals of excavation, form-building, concrete reinforcement, road construction, and quarrying—abilities which many of them later carried into civilian life.

Nearly sixty years later, Malcolm Taylor and other CCC alumni in the Denver area—most of them eighty-something by now—gather for regular meetings. In summertime, they convene for potlucks and camaraderie in the old mess hall at Camp Morrison. They bring memorabilia from their CCC days and reminisce about their shared experiences. They then adjourn to the former recreation hall for the business meeting and program. Before it begins, they proudly stand for the pledge of allegiance to the flag. The business meeting includes a roll call of fellow CCC alumni who have recently been stricken ill or died. Although their num-

bers have dwindled to about forty, the surviving attendees remain noticeably proud of their CCC days, and recall how the program "saved" or forever changed their lives. For the men from Montrose Camp BR-23, as well as other CCC posts, the experience provided invaluable skills and training, and opened new doors for the future. Truly for many, the CCC days during the Great Depression were among the happiest of their lives. Malcolm Taylor became, briefly, a rancher near Delta, and then worked for sixty years as a house painter. He has two sons and resides today in Englewood—the community from which he joined the CCC.

The Bureau of Reclamation and the CCC

As the federal agency responsible for designing and building large-scale irrigation projects in the arid and semi-arid West, the Bureau of Reclamation was very concerned with farmers' welfare during the Great Depression. Beginning in 1902, the federal government had invested heavily in construction of dams and irrigation systems to provide small farms with essential water. Water users benefiting from Reclamation's irrigation works were required to pay back the construction costs over a period of years. Operation and maintenance of facilities were also supported by fees paid by the water users. By the mid-1930s, the Bureau of Reclamation had constructed a network of some fifty small and larger projects across the West.

The combined effect of drought and poor agricultural practices exacted a terrible toll on Western farmers during the Depression. They struggled to meet financial obligations as they helplessly watched their water supplies dwindle, harvest yields drop, and crop prices fall. The financial hardships faced by farmers meant that irrigation systems were not adequately maintained. Many aging water control structures had deteriorated beyond repair, canals were silted and clogged with vegetation, weeds and gophers infested canal banks, and crop yields dropped drastically with the decrease in water supplies. By 1933, it had become critical for the federal government to address the plight of western farmers and to safeguard its hefty investment in irrigation projects. The CCC program provided a perfect mechanism for doing both while meeting its objectives of protecting natural resources and aiding unemployment.

The Bureau of Reclamation was allocated only a small percentage of the total number of CCC camps (see preceding article), yet the program was of tremendous benefit. The assistance enabled the bureau to improve water delivery to farmers by revitalizing deteriorating irrigation projects and constructing new ones. The CCC also allowed the bureau to expand on its primary mission by developing recreational facilities at a number of reservoirs.

The first Bureau of Reclamation CCC camp opened in May 1934 at the Lake Guernsey reservoir in Wyoming, and a second camp opened there two months later. The CCC men transformed the reservoir shores into a showplace of recreational development. Sturdy log and stone picnic shelters, trails, and a handsome rustic-style museum complete with interpretive displays were built by the CCC.

In July 1934, six drought-relief camps, none of them in Colorado, were assigned to the bureau. These were essentially the same as standard CCC camps but were restricted to states suffering severely under the drought and were authorized for a full year. Additionally, they were financed under different appropriations. The improvements completed on Reclamation irrigation projects by the drought relief camps were of great value in combating the acute water shortages plaguing farmers. One of the camps can also be credited with construction of a unique Reclamation CCC edifice still existing: On a point of land extending into Lake Minatare, Nebraska, the enrollees built a fifty-five-foot-high native rock "lighthouse" containing a circular concrete staircase. From the observation deck at the top can be seen Scotts Bluff and Chimney Rock, both landmarks of the Oregon Trail.

At the height of the CCC program during the summer of 1935, there were forty-six CCC camps operating on Reclamation projects throughout the West. The training and education offered at Bureau of Reclamation CCC camps paid off for the enrollees. Jobs they later obtained included farming and ranching, mining, working the railroads, lumberjacking, roadbuilding, painting, and working in factories. Strong community support for Reclamation's CCC program is evidenced in newspaper articles published in early 1938

when President Roosevelt contemplated closing all Reclamation camps in response to the criticism that they benefited private irrigators rather than the interests of the public. In Wyoming, the *Powell Tribune* wrote:

As to the CCC in reclamation work, we have regarded the camp at Denver as of great benefit to the general farming community there. . . . We need more CCC camps and fewer jails; we need more CCC camps and less unemployment; we need more CCC camps for the improvement in mind, morals, and body of the boys themselves—that is more important and more of value to us than all the work they do.“

In February 1938, to counter the accusations lodged against it, the Bureau of Reclamation restricted CCC activities to federally owned lands and the government had to have a direct financial interest in all work performed, or it had to be developing recreational facilities for public benefit.

Following the entry of the United States into World War II, the bureau justified its continued need for CCC camps on the urgent need for a reliable and adequate food supply, as well as for trained heavy equipment operators. The agency identified twenty-seven camps that were essential to the war effort, and another seven “borderline” camps. During the final year leading up to the total termination of the CCC program on June 30, 1942, Bureau of Reclamation CCC camps dwindled from forty-three to seven.

Numbers illustrate the CCC’s accomplishments for Bureau of Reclamation facilities: more than 60 million square yards of canals and drainage ditches cleaned or cleared; 1.8 million square yards of canal lined and 2.8 million square yards riprapped for erosion protection; 3,000 miles of roadway constructed along canal banks; 39,000 acres of reservoir sites cleared of brush and trees; and 15,800 water control structures built. CCC contributions were summarized in Reclamation’s final report on the program:

The fine work of the Civilian Conservation Corps by 1942 had brought the Federal irrigation projects back to a high standard of physical excellence. The irrigation systems are now in generally good condition, able to deliver required amounts of water and by the permanency of their rehabilitation they are insured against interruptions of consequence.

For Further Reading

Most of this research was conducted at the National Archives’ Rocky Mountain Region Branch at the Denver Federal Center. All of the Bureau of Reclamation’s CCC records are found there under file RG 115. Another source of information was Reclamation’s own monthly publication, *Reclamation Era*, which included many articles on the CCC, copies to be found at the Bureau of Reclamation library at the Denver Federal Center. Two reports, the first detailing the role of the CCC and National Park Service (John Paige, 1985), the second dealing with the CCC and Forest Service (Alison Otis et al, 1986) also provided helpful background information on the national program. Copies of those reports are in the author’s possession. Much of this material is excerpted from a larger report by the present author entitled *The Bureau of Reclamation and the Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933–42*, also at the Reclamation Bureau library. Information on Colorado’s CCC program is from Robert B. Parham’s master’s degree thesis (University of Colorado: 1981), “The Civilian Conservation Corps In Colorado—1933-42.” A copy is at the Denver Public Library. A good general discussion of the Civilian Conservation Corps in Colorado is in Stephen J. Leonard, *Trials and Triumphs: A Colorado Portrait of the Great Depression, With FSA Photographs* (Niwot: University Press of Colorado, 1993). Malcolm Taylor was interviewed; and the author also attended a CCC alumni meeting at Camp Morrison. ★