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Herbert Evison's National Park Service Oral History Project, 1952-1999



Edward Dixon Freeland  
October 30, 1962

Interview conducted by S. Herbert Evison  
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EDWARD DIXON FREELAND

REEL LIII

## [START OF INTERVIEW]

Herbert Evison: This is Herbert Evison. I am in the outskirts of Calistoga, California, at a place known as Innisfree, on this afternoon of October 30, 1962. Across from me is the owner of this landed estate called Innisfree, Edward Dixon Freeland, who retired from the superintendency of Lassen Volcanic National Park just - when was it, last year?

Edward D. Freeland: Friday the 13th of October, last year.

Herbert Evison: Friday the 13th of October 1961, and he probably considers that one of the best Friday the 13ths that he has lived through.

Edward D. Freeland: That has always been my lucky day.

Herbert Evison: He is generally known as Dixon, although occasionally known also as Ed. And, Dixon, I think it would be a good idea to just start this off with a kind of a quick run-down of a long and quite unusual National Park Service career, so fly to it.

Edward D. Freeland: Okay, Herb. I have had forty years of government service, Herb, thirty-eight of which was National Park Service. I started out as a temporary ranger in Yosemite in 1923, soon after Bea and I were married. Our two children were born while we were in Yosemite. Chief Ranger Forrest Townsley was the man in charge of the ranger force at the time, and Superintendent W. B. Lewis was our very favorite and kind and thoughtful superintendent.

Edward D. Freeland: We did all kinds of work in those days, the rangers did, and I worked in the wintertime in the museum, which was built with Rockefeller funds and by Herb Maier; and we did that as well as going into the trees around the Old Village and the New Village and trimming out the mistletoe, which saved those fine big oaks which you see in the Valley floor and around park headquarters at the time. I worked with Carl Russell, who was the park naturalist there.

Herbert Evison: Although you were a park ranger.

Edward D. Freeland: I was a park ranger. And I also worked part-time in the winter for O. G. Taylor, who was park engineer at the time. And Ansel Hall was there at the time, you know. He also had something to do with the starting of the first little museum over by Sentinel Bridge.

Edward D. Freeland: And, Herb, I worked for every Director of the National Park Service from Mather down.

Herbert Evison: And knew them all personally.

Edward D Freeland: And knew them all personally, yes. From there I went to Carlsbad in 1929 as chief ranger. At Carlsbad I was fortunate in that when we went there it was a national monument, but it was soon to become a national park. I started the bat talk which is so famous today; I heard it only a few years ago - two years ago, to be exact - and it's almost exactly the same as it was in 1930.

Edward D. Freeland: Carroll Miller and I did a lot of cave exploring during the winter months.

Herbert Evison: Cal Miller? now in charge of a cave?

Edward D. Freeland: No, he isn't; he is retired. We went down to the 1200-foot level below the surface and discovered what we called at the time - and I think it is still called - the Lake of the Clouds. I later wrote an article for the Sunset Magazine in 1931; still have a copy, if you are interested. We had some amusing experiences with Jim White, who is supposed to have discovered the cave when he was supposed to be hunting a bear and it ran into the cave.

Edward D. Freeland: In those days Billy the Kid was still famous around Carlsbad, and there was a lot of arguing about Billy the Kid.

Edward D. Freeland: We also established a nursery for children of the people who were going in the cave and didn't have any place to leave their children and couldn't go unless they could leave their children with someone.

Herbert Evison: Who was in charge of that nursery?

Edward D. Freeland: The people in charge then are still in charge, and their name is - I'm sorry, Herb, but I can't remember that man's name and his wife, who operated that nursery very efficiently. The concessioner, by the way, was kind enough to donate the cribs, highchairs, and other equipment that was needed for the nursery.

Edward D. Freeland: Well, you know, in 1931 we went to Wind Cave National Park up in the Black Hills of South Dakota. I went there as superintendent. It was a little, undeveloped area at the time, with buffalo, elk and antelope, but the Game Preserve part was under what was then known as the old Biological Survey. But soon after that time, it was transferred to the National Park Service and under our charge. But during the period that I was there, which was until 1939, we practically finished the master plan.

Edward D. Freeland: I can remember Tom Vint standing on our front porch and saying, "This is one of the few places in the Service where the master plan is practically complete."

Edward D. Freeland: We put electric lights in the cave, indirect lighting; we built the concession and administrative building, elevator building, put in an elevator into the

cave; with CCC we did a lot of work on cave trails and on truck trails out in the back part of the park. But, as you know, the Public Works program was on then, and Peter Norbeck - Senator Peter Norbeck - who had a home in the Custer State Park, was very much interested in the area, and through his effort he got the money to complete - practically complete - the whole master plan at that area.

Edward D. Freeland: One thing, Herb, that happened at Wind Cave, which was in my opinion a very interesting and important contact with our real Americans - the Indians, the Oglala Sioux. I invited them up to camp in the park, providing they come in with their horses and wagons and not in their old jalopies, and I would give them a buffalo if they would kill and butcher and cure the meat as they did in the early days. I have a movie of that in color, and someday I'll show it to you, Herb. But it was a very successful event, and they came two separate years, and the whole procedure was most interesting; and they spent the evenings dancing around the campfire, and tourists came there by the hundreds to see what was going on.

Herbert Evison: The word was spread in advance; it was advertised.

Edward D. Freeland: That's right, it was. Mt. Rushmore was being built in those days and our friend Gutzon Borglum used to come and see us quite often, and we would go to see him up on the mountainside where he was carving the pictures of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, and Roosevelt.

Edward D. Freeland: In 1939 we were transferred to St. Augustine, Florida, as coordinating superintendent of the Southeastern National Monuments. This historical area was new to me, having been in national parks and having been in the West; but we were very happy and appreciated very much the opportunity to work in the East and in the Southeast.

Edward D. Freeland: It was then known - the Fort there at St. Augustine was known as Fort Marion, and as you know, now called the Castillo de San Marcos. We had seven areas in three States. The most interesting to me was old Fort Jefferson out in the Gulf of Mexico where Doctor Mudd was incarcerated after having set the leg of John Wilkes Booth, the man who shot Lincoln.

Edward D. Freeland: But anyway, the war came on, and Pearl Harbor, just before we left to go to Shenandoah National Park, where we arrived on January 1st, 1942; and we stayed there until 1950. Now these were the war years, and they were lean years. We had no construction but plenty of maintenance.

Edward D. Freeland: One of our interesting activities while we were there was that because of the possibility of damage from bombing that might take place, the Smithsonian Institution under Doctor Wetmore, who was then the Secretary, moved a lot of the valuable materials from the Smithsonian to

our warehouse at Shenandoah. We had there the original Star-Spangled Banner, the original Wrights' plane, many many artifacts that were irreplaceable, and they were left in our care for the duration of the war. Senator Byrd, of course, was always interested in Shenandoah; had a cabin up on the mountain and used to come to see us quite often. Doctor Wetmore, we gave him a small CCC cabin where he came out and helped greatly with the Natural History Association bird book that was prepared for the area. We had a number of very close friends, and being close to Washington and Richmond was a big help in that area, and, Herb, one of the most interesting things I think we did was, during those war years we had a lot of trouble with the mountain folks who, being short of funds and short of food, didn't hesitate to set a fire to our park hills, because after a fire the first thing that comes up is the huckleberries; and as you know, the chestnuts had all died, so they didn't have the chestnut crop, but the huckleberries did make a good crop.

Edward D. Freeland: Now, in order to get in touch with these mountain people and sell them the idea of protecting the area, we went to the school children, and we spent a lot of time with the school children telling them about the National Park Service and what it stood for and why it was necessary to attempt to protect it in every way as much as we could.

Edward D. Freeland: We also had some early attempts at integration, which were very successful; and I can say that the concessioner was very cooperative, and we had almost no trouble at all in those days with the beginnings of integration.

Edward D. Freeland: In 1950 we transferred to Grand Teton National Park in the Jackson Hole country of Wyoming. The big problem there, especially after the Monument was added to the park, was the hunting. Hunting had to be allowed in the park; it was a part of the stipulation made when the Monument was added to the park. There are a lot of very fine people, as you know, in the Jackson Hole country, like the Muries, Doctor McCloud, some of the employees like the Allens, the Lobbans who do the Indian dances. And the dude ranch life in Jackson Hole is fascinating, and one really is not really familiar with the Jackson Hole country until you have spent at least a full year there, which includes a really rough winter.

Edward D. Freeland: The Rockefeller family always came out to Jackson Hole from July 1st to July 10th; it never varied; I think they still do it. The little Church of the Transfiguration down at Moose is still in operation, and where Bea played the organ during the summer and where Mr. Rockefeller came up on numerous occasions and said how much he enjoyed it.

- Edward D. Freeland: In 1953 we transferred to Lassen Volcanic National Park, our home territory, and the circle was complete.
- Edward D. Freeland: I saw the 1915 eruption of Lassen Peak from my family's ranch west of Corning, and I am one of the two superintendents who saw that eruption, the other being Walker Collins, one of the first superintendents of the park.
- Edward D. Freeland: Right after the first World War, after I came back from the Navy, I was a forest lookout, Forest Service lookout, on Turner Mountain, just south of what is now present park headquarters. The park headquarters at that time was a single-room office in the Forest Service headquarters building, and, Herb, that was a mighty nice feeling to come back home to Lassen.
- Edward D. Freeland: Now, I'd like to go back just a little bit, because while I was at Wind Cave I prepared a manual for rangers, and I think it perhaps was one of the first rangers' manuals that was ever written for National Park Service rangers. I have always been interested, Herb, in rangers, having been one, and I have always been interested in their efficient, courteous treatment of our public, because they are the people, as you know, practically the only ones that our visitors see.
- Edward D. Freeland: You know, some of the associates and colleagues that have worked for me are now, some of them, quite high in the Service - Howard Stricklin, Carroll Miller of course is retired, Bob Moore, Bob Gibbs, Granville Liles, Len Volz, Frank Sylvester, Merle Stitt, Paul Judge; and Hugh Miller, who is also retired, started out as a clerk for me in Wind Cave; Spud Persons in the Western Region; Bill Meanerhan; Neil Guse, who is assistant at Crater Lake started out as a CCC boy for me in Wind Cave.
- Edward D. Freeland: And oh, yes, Herb, while I am talking about manuals, I want to mention that I prepared what I think is one of the first manuals or booklets for school children. You perhaps have seen it. And it was revised. I did this while I was at Lassen. It was printed by the Natural History Association - the Loomis Museum Association, to be exact, which is practically the same thing - but it was very popular. School teachers all over send for it. Whenever we get inquiries from schools or school children, we always send them one of those. We have sent them out to teachers, and we have had a wonderful response.
- Herbert Evison: Have you any idea how many of those have been distributed?
- Edward D. Freeland: About 10,000 have been distributed. I was hoping, Herb, that under the National Park Trust Fund, the National Park Service could get this little booklet printed for a wider distribution, perhaps through the National Education Association or other organizations that would distribute it

nation-wide, because, as you know, the children of today are the citizens of tomorrow who will be operating and responsible for our national parks.

Herbert Evison: Dixon, that sort of maps up a general outline of your career, but I want to get a lot more flesh on it before we call it a day on this recording. Now, there is one interesting fact that certainly ought to get onto this tape about your period of service as a superintendent.

Edward D. Freeland: Herb, at the time of retirement in October - Friday the 13th, as we mentioned before - I was surprised to learn from Washington from the Washington office that I had served a longer period as a superintendent - 30 ½ years - than any other person. Now this fact can constitute either a criticism or be an honor, depending on your point of view. I know I chose to remain in the field, not only because I loved it but because I felt I could be of greater service than in a regional office.

Herbert Evison: Now, let's go back to the beginning of things. There certainly must be in your memories of your days in Yosemite and in Carlsbad Caverns and Wind Cave and these other areas in which you served, some events in which you have participated or that you have observed that sort of stick out in your memory; and I would like to get on tape those - some account of those events. Before we do, though, I want to ask you a specific question or two:

Herbert Evison: You mentioned the fact that you originated the bat flight talk. Now, one of the interesting things about that to me is that this was an interpretive type activity but originated by a chief ranger, which is unusual in itself. But I think it would be very interesting to get on here a sort of verbal picture of the conditions under which that bat flight talk originated and under which it is given even today.

Edward D. Freeland: Well, Herb, these bats that live in what is known as the bat cave - a separate portion of the cave not used by the visitors - are supposed to number approximately three million. Now that is an estimate made by the old Biological Survey. After that trip to Carlsbad, Willis T. Lee, then a biologist with the Biological Survey, prepared quite a little booklet on the area, and I turned that little booklet which we had over to a temporary ranger that was a real smart young fellow and asked him to prepare a ten- or fifteen-minute talk on the bats, the Mexican free tailed bats, that lived in that cave.

Edward D. Freeland: You know, Herb, the interesting thing about it was, on the evening that we initiated that, he had a wonderful deep bass voice, and he stood up on a rock there near the cave entrance where he could see, because there are always a few bats come out and look around and go back, and a few seconds later the whole cloud comes out, just like a cloud of smoke, to do

their hunting through the night and return in the early hours of the morning. The funny part of it was that he raised his hand and he said, "Now in a few seconds this flight will begin." And as he lowered his hand this flight of bats came out of the cave, and it was so thrilling that the crowd applauded; and he tried many times after, but wasn't successful, but it was a wonderful beginning. And, Herb, that was the beginning of the bat flight talks that are continued today, and I think one of the most interesting and important types of interpretation the Park Service can give.

Herbert Evison: Dixon, I have never been at the entrance of the cave. I have been down to it, but down and out again by elevator. But as I remember it, they come out of the cave and there is a sort of zigzag trail up the slope—

Edward D. Freeland: There are six switchbacks.

Herbert Evison: —and I presume that it is there, with the people assembled along these switchbacks, that—

Edward D. Freeland: Yes. A little higher, though, because the switchbacks were put in there at a later date, - the switchbacks that are there now. It was only - there were only two switchbacks in those days and the trail was much steeper, and there were 99 steps to go down instead of the winding trail that goes down now.

Herbert Evison: Well, that, of course, I think is a landmark in natural history interpretation in the Park Service.

Herbert Evison: Now, let's go back to Yosemite. You spoke apparently with great admiration and affection for W. B. Lewis, much better known among Park Service people of that time as Dusty Lewis. And I wonder if you wouldn't offer a few more observations on him. He seems to have been a very much loved and very much admired and respected person.

Edward D. Freeland: Well, Herb, in those days a superintendent was more of a king than they are nowadays. In other words, if an ordinary ranger wanted to see the superintendent he had to go to the superintendent's secretary and make a date, and it might be in the next few days or it might be a week from then whenever the superintendent had an opportunity and a little time to talk to him about whatever his problem was. Mr. Lewis was a very kind and considerate man. I remember we had a little cabin down at the foot of Bridal Veil where we operated a control. As you know, Herb, the old roads were controlled; the cars went out on the half- hour and came in on the other half-hour, because the all-year highway was not yet built. But when the all-year highway did finally go through, we had no place to live, so I suggested that the little house at Bridal Veil be cut in two and moved up to the Valley and we then would have a house to live in. And he said he

would give it some thought. And a week later O. G. Taylor, the park engineer, said that the carpenter crew was going down to bring that house up from Bridal Veil, which they did and which we lived in for a number of years.

Herbert Evison: Where was it put?

Edward D. Freeland: It was put over in the Lost Arrow area, over just west of the utility area, where it still stands and is still occupied by a park employee.

Herbert Evison: Of course, as you doubtless know, a lot of those pretty elderly housing units are scheduled to disappear from the Valley with the development of El Portal.

Edward D. Freeland: I know what you are talking about, Herb, but you are mainly talking about the row built by the Army in the early days west of the Lodge, of Yosemite Lodge, known as Soapsuds Row, because those folks always had a wash out in front of their houses, not the way it is today, you know, when we hide the wash line behind the houses.

Herbert Evison: You went from Yosemite to Carlsbad Caverns as chief ranger, and you have told something about your having instituted the bat flights, but I think you were the first chief ranger there; weren't you?

Edward D. Freeland: Well, Jim White, who was supposed to be the discoverer of the cave, was considered the first chief ranger. But in those days, Herb, they did not wear the uniform; they had no particular talk as far as the geology was concerned. And we organized a geological talk that we gave these people at various places along the line. Not sure of our geology, we sent it to the University of New Mexico and had it checked for accuracy. When they sent it back, there were very few changes, so we went ahead with our talk. Now, I organized the first ranger force in uniform. Before that time, they wore brown coveralls. I remember there, as one little guy there that took great delight in turning off the lights and screaming - he had a high falsetto voice - in order to panic people; and it really was a scary proposition, Herb, to be down in the cave with the lights out.

Edward D. Freeland: But that first ranger force was a very enthusiastic outfit, and they were on their toes, and they were really a military bunch, because I made them have a clean shave, a clean shirt, and their boots shined, every single day.

Herbert Evison: Well, now, today I think the people who guide the people through Carlsbad Caverns are known as park guides.

Edward D. Freeland: That's correct.

Herbert Evison: Did you have park guides also at that time?

Edward D. Freeland: We called them all rangers, Herb, but now they are, as you say, they are guides, but there are also rangers and rangers are in charge of the party, but the guides are distributed amongst the crowd of people to give them information and see that they obey the regulations by not collecting souvenirs. As you know, the formations are very delicate and easily broken.

Herbert Evison: Well, now, are there any other events in those years in Carlsbad that stand out particularly in your mind? Was the famous Rock of Ages ceremony carried on during all those years?

Edward D. Freeland: Yes, Herb, all of the time that I was there the Rock of Ages ceremony was carried on. We had a quartet, especially during the summer months when we had temporary rangers - we called them temporary; of course, they are called guides now, as we have said before. But we had a quartet that sang the Rock of Ages. And do you know that even today many of the people will come through the cave and want to know why they don't stop at the Rock of Ages and sing that old hymn that was so popular, because in those days the parties were much smaller, as you can imagine; there were very few dry eyes after that quartet got through singing the Rock of Ages, which they did very well.

Herbert Evison: Well, now, was it invariably the practice of Tom Boles, known as Colonel Tom Boles, to give the Rock of Ages talk, or were there others who occasionally did it?

Edward D. Freeland: There was a ranger who gave the talk as far as the geology was concerned, but Tom Boles always wanted to read the travel report. Now, the travel report would always end up with Texas; he would read the number of states, the number of people from the various states, and he would always end up with Texas, because of course Texas was always the one that had the most people in the party. And invariably that group would start singing "The Eyes of Texas" as soon as he would finish reading his travel report.

Herbert Evison: When I was down there, he also gave the talk, and I am sure that as the years passed, he gave more talks down there at the Rock of Ages or in the cave than anybody else.

Edward D. Freeland: Tom would enjoy giving a talk whenever there were any VIPs in the crowd, but if there weren't, then the rangers could do it.

Herbert Evison: I'm afraid you're a little cynical.

Edward D. Freeland: No, I'm not at all. I liked old Tom Boles. Bless his old heart, he's still alive; I understand Mrs. Boles has passed on, but Tom is still living in Carlsbad, still belongs to Rotary, still goes out to visit the Cave, and when

my boys were there, he used to go and see them and go through with their parties.

Herbert Evison: Were both your boys—

Edward D. Freeland: Both Rod and Dixon were stationed at Carlsbad at one time.

Herbert Evison: I didn't know that.

[END OF SIDE 1]

[START OF SIDE 2]

Herbert Evison: Dixon, I can't think of anybody else who has worked for the Park Service to whom this question could more suitably be addressed, since you had the title of park superintendent longer than anybody else in Park Service history: Do you feel that there is need for any kind of special training that the Park Service should give to superintendents or to people who seem to have what it takes to be a good superintendent; or do you feel that simply the varied experience that a man gets before he gets the title of superintendent is adequate?

Edward D. Freeland: No, Herb, I don't think that the experience alone is adequate. It had to be, as you know, in the old days. But now, with the various types of training schools that we have, like the one that was in Yosemite and is moving to Grand Canyon, is an excellent training school. The Departmental training in Washington that some of our men are getting is excellent training for a superintendent's job. Now the important thing, of course, is that a man start out in a smaller area where he can get his feet on the ground and get really acquainted with the problems before he tackles the larger jobs, and progress slowly to the larger jobs. Now I do think that it's possible that some of our young men have gone ahead too fast. I know that has been expressed before. However, with the training that they get now it might be that perhaps they are not going ahead too fast.

Edward D. Freeland: But, Herb, before I left the Service and since the Service, I have had the feeling that there should be an old-time well-experienced superintendent who could be designated a roving superintendent, who would go around to these smaller areas where a new man was just coming in, and not flit in and out as Regional Office and Washington Office people do, but stay several days and work with that superintendent on his little problems and his big problems, his personnel problems, his maintenance, his construction, and just be a friendly advisor; and before he leaves the area, sit down and write a memorandum to that superintendent or a letter giving him the advice in writing so he can refer to it.

- Edward D. Freeland: Now, I don't know whether the man has to be under Washington or the regional office; I assume he would have to be under the regional office. But he should not sit at a desk in the regional office. He should be out in the field all of the time helping these young fellows get on their feet and helping them with their problems.
- Herbert Evison: And would you say that - say there were three or four of these people or one to each region - in the intervals between the time they were initiating these men into their jobs, that they still ought to be in the parks and observe park operations and the manner in which a superintendent does his job?
- Edward D. Freeland: That's correct. There should be at least one for every region; perhaps more, if there's a lot of areas in the region.
- Edward D. Freeland: The thing, Herb, I was speaking of in speaking of the training schools: You know, I am sorry to see that we are now going to have a training school for rangers in Grand Canyon and a training school for naturalists back at Harpers Ferry. I think that's a mistake, because I think a naturalist should know how to do ranger work and a ranger should know how to do naturalist work; and if he is going to be an all-around man for the National Park Service and aspires to be a superintendent someday, he should have the experience of both.
- Herbert Evison: I think that's a very fine observation. I agree with it. I have not been aware that the new training school is going to be purely for interpreters. I had thought perhaps that some of the men who would go to Grand Canyon would also get to Harpers Ferry. But I'll admit that I don't yet know enough about what is planned there to say one way or another.
- Herbert Evison: My question was put to you because of instances that I have heard in the last few years of people being placed in superintendencies, people who had quite a lot of Park Service experience, but who had never been even an assistant superintendent before, being placed in charge of a park and finding themselves deficient in certain fundamental knowledge that they ought to have: one, we will say, about personnel management, about personnel procedures, and about finances. Too many, I know, too many superintendents don't have an idea of financial procedures or what the limitations are on their own actions. Now do you agree with that, that there is need for—
- Edward D. Freeland: Definitely, definitely. But a man with well-rounded experience, Herb, can go into this area and help this young fellow out. And that's my point exactly.

Herbert Evison: Now, Dixon, I don't know exactly anything else to ask you. For one thing, we have gotten onto one side of the tape as much, or darned near as much, as ordinarily I'll get on two sides of a tape, thanks to the fact that you had your stuff organized and could answer my questions promptly and didn't have to feel around for your answers.

Herbert Evison: However, I don't want to cut this off without asking you one last question. That is: Looking over your long career - and boy! it was a long one - what are the things in that career from which you feel you take the most satisfaction; that is, as you think back on it, you get a glow out of thinking of this or that event?

Edward D. Freeland: Herb, I think that the most satisfactory and the most pleasure I got from my experience in the Service was as a chief ranger. You know I think a chief ranger is just about tops, in my opinion; and if my boys never get beyond the chief ranger stage in their careers, I'll certainly be happy. You know I have seen a lot of darned good chief rangers in this experience of mine, just excellent chief rangers. And the sad part of it is, Herb, they go and make a damned superintendent out of him. And his abilities that are so necessary to the welfare of the public and the protection of the park are lost. Now you say, "Well, he knows all those things. Why can't he look after them as a superintendent?" But that isn't the case. The superintendent has got other problems on his mind, and he delegates authority to the chief ranger he has, and so he goes on to his job as superintendent and his work and knowledge and experience as a chief ranger is lost.

Herbert Evison: Do you feel that the modern superintendent is too much desk bound?

Edward D. Freeland: He is too much desk bound, Herb, and I'll tell you another thing: You may not want to use this on the records, and you might want to erase it. But I have seen too many superintendents of big parks delegate authority and then forget about that phase of their operation, and you go in and you ask them a question about the naturalist division or the ranger division or the maintenance division, and they can't tell you. "I don't know," they say. I have had that occasion a number of times when superintendents would come to my area, perhaps to interview someone, and I would ask them what they had in the way of an allotment for the naturalists, how many ranger-naturalists he had; they weren't able to answer the question. Well, how is he going to interview my park naturalists if he can't answer those questions? and what kind of a superintendent is he if he doesn't know those things?

Edward D. Freeland: The only other thought I have, Herb, is this: I have seen a number of superintendents - not many, but there are a few - that are getting old and

tired; and I think before they get to the point where they get tired and get disinterested in every phase of park work, they ought to retire.

Herbert Evison: I am glad to have you express that opinion, too, because I have seen the kind of superintendent that you are talking about, who is just so much dead wood for the last several years of his service. I am obliged to you for that expression of opinion. If I ever quote you on it, I will let you know my intention to do so before hand and get you to clear it.

Edward D. Freeland: I think you can quote me, Herb, and I think you have my permission.

Herbert Evison: Okay, fine; I am glad to have it.

Herbert Evison: Well, I think that probably winds us up. And I am immensely obliged to you for—

Edward D. Freeland: Thank to you, Herb, for giving me this opportunity to talk with you about my past experience.

Herbert Evison: Well, it has been a great pleasure.

[END OF SIDE 2]

[END OF INTERVIEW]