



Civilian Conservation Corps 1933-1942

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was a federal agency created to put people back to work during the 1930s Great Depression. Unemployment in the United States averaged 25%, and in Utah, it was nearly 34%. The CCC eventually enrolled approximately three million young men, mostly eighteen to twenty-five years old, to work on public land conservation projects.



South Campground Amphitheater

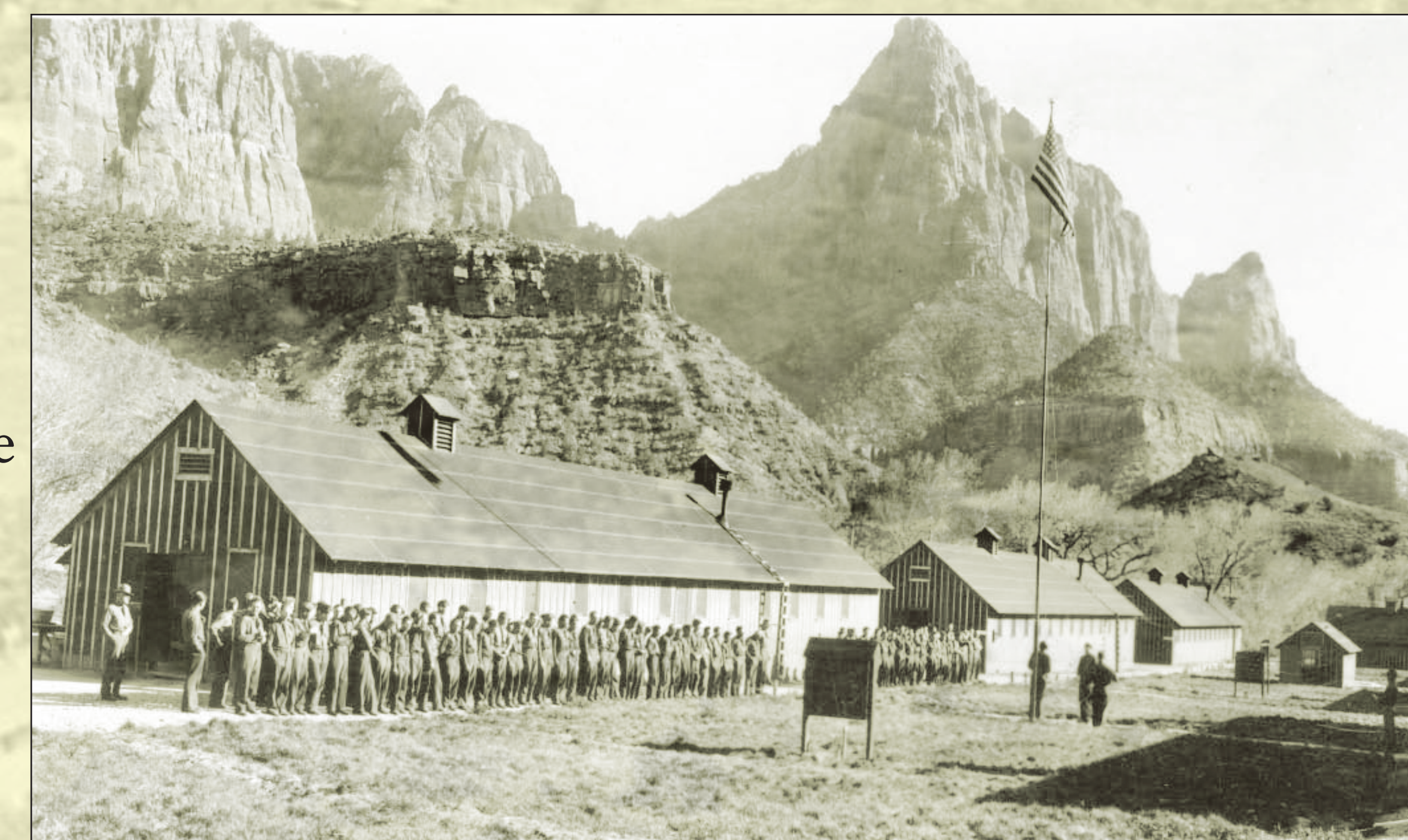
Zion National Park hosted three CCC camps. NP-1 was located thirty miles north on the Kolob Plateau at Blue Springs. NP-2 was near the South Entrance west of the Virgin River, about where the South Campground is now located. NP-4, the Bridge Mountain camp, was located near the current Visitor Center and Watchman Campground.

For nine years, the CCC built trails, roads, campgrounds, flood control devices, and much of the stonework visible in Zion today. The South Entrance pillars, the South Campground Amphitheater, and many of the rock buildings still in use were built by the young men. They also fought fires, planted trees and removed invasive plants. It was strenuous work.

Besides putting them to work, the Zion camps had a night school for the young men with classes taught by park rangers and other CCC workers. After serving in the CCC, many embarked on careers that were connected with their experience and training with the Civilian Conservation Corps.

While much of the legacy of the CCC remains at Zion National Park, the camps themselves have vanished in Washington County with the exception of one in nearby Leeds. For visitors interested in learning more about the CCC, contact the CCC Legacy, the national organization dedicated to preserving the memories and heritage of the Civilian Conservation Corps at www.ccclegacy.org.

This statue was made possible by generous donors and the CCC Legacy.



Bridge Mountain Camp NP-4