



**Gateway Arch  
St. Louis, Missouri**

**National Park Service  
U.S. Dept. of the Interior  
Owner**

**Paradise Construction  
General Contractor**

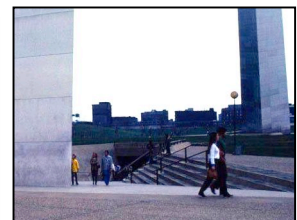


Each year, millions of visitors flock to St. Louis' Jefferson National Expansion Memorial and its centerpiece, the Gateway Arch, our nation's tallest monument, rising a full 630 feet above the banks of the Mississippi River.

More than an engineering marvel, the soaring stainless steel parabola has come to represent the spirit of the City of St. Louis, Gateway to the West, and its role in the country's westward expansion during the 19th century. The park is a memorial to President Thomas Jefferson, who opened the West; to the pioneers who helped shape its history; and to courageous slave Dred Scott, who sued for his freedom in the Old Courthouse, now also part of the park.

Paradise Construction was hired to replace and upgrade the broad, tapering stairways that extend some 310 feet north and south, providing visitor access from either direction to the base of the Arch, where a pair of cable-operated trams is available to carry visitors to the top.

The \$550,000 contract was entrusted to Paradise after the original contractor defaulted, leaving the job unfinished. For technical reasons some of the concrete specifications had to be altered during construction, including specialty admixtures for the stairs' wearing surface.



*To ensure stability and structural integrity of the stairs—which ranged up to 4 x 60 feet in size—an array of epoxy-injection pins was added to the design and installed by the contractor.*