

Computer Corner

The Technical Information Center (TIC) at the Denver Service Center (DSC) is the result of over 25 years of planning, developing, and refining a microfilm storage system and computerized information system that is used to manage the NPS's technical information. The information database is computerized to provide manipulation and retrieval capabilities and the source document itself is microfilmed for both storage and document delivery. The system is capable of accessing the vast amount of technical information holdings of the Service, and of supplying details of what information is available, what format it is in, and where it is stored. DSC-TIC has been designated by the Service as the central repository for all NPS-generated planning, design, and construction maps, drawings, and reports as well as related cultural, environmental and other technical documents.

Bibliographic data relating to the documents/drawings/maps/aerial photographs are entered into a mainframe computer. Outputs which list entire holdings by park and arranged by subject or location within park are distributed annually to NPS regions, WASO, HFC, park superintendents, archeological centers and other field offices as requested.

Currently, a contract to convert the database to an in-house system which may include a local area network is underway. When the contract is completed, the TIC database will be electronically accessible to the parks, regions, and WASO offices.

Today, the system has a holding of 100,000 data records, which represent about 500,000 microfilm aperture cards of maps, plans, and drawings; 1,000 records of resource and site aerial photography; and 25,000 planning, design, environmental, cultural resource and natural resource documents.

If you are interested in further information, contact Edie Ramey, Chief, Technical Information Center, Denver Service Center, FTS 327-2130 or (303) 969-2130.